

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat Aug 15	Foxburg Cruise
Sat Aug 22	Amish Country Cruise
Sat Aug 29	WPMC Annual Picnic
Sat Sep 12	Raystown Country Alpaca Cruise
Sat Sep 19	Tech Session
Sat Sep 26	Fall Foliage Leaf Cruise
Sat Oct 3	Zimliki Cruise
Sat Dec 5	WPMC Annual Christmas Party

jumping off area for those coming from all points of the compass. We have scouted the Route and the pit stop is a full bladder away from the BP parking lot, so upload and unload as necessary in preparation for departure promptly at 9:30. Prepare for a spirited run, a circuitous jaunt, ending with our arrival at the Inn at Foxburg, at approximately 11:30. After a lazy lunch on the outdoor veranda, the obligatory ice cream stop will take place homeward bound. Won't you please join us? A good time will be had by all. I know my patience is running thin, but my tires are thick. Let's get on the road fellow members; let's burn rubber, the wait is over! Your Vice President, Bobby Thomas, is your host, and Linda, as usual, is your rudder.

Date & Time: Saturday, August 15th at 9:00 AM

Meeting Place: BP Gas Station, 4630 William Flinn Hwy (Rt. 8), Allison Park, PA - Exit 39 off Turnpike then RT 8 south towards Pittsburgh (NOTE - THIS IS A DIFFERENT LOCATION THAN IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER)

Cruise Category: Sporty

RSVP: by Wednesday, August 12 to bobbyt523@gmail.com or 412-427-9076

FOXBURG CRUISE BY BOBBY THOMAS & DIANE GRASSO

In my dream, Foxburg has never looked sooo good! As I write this, incapacitated by a recent injury and unsure of what else can happen to all of us by August, this beautiful June day brings hope and promise to this Miata maniac and perhaps many of you? My roadworthy old Miatas have sat silently all year. 2020 is not a wash, perhaps merely a rinse. Our committee has forged ahead, planning our events, intending to have them realized. On August 15th, join us for, what to some members might be a familiar event, the Fox hunt to Foxburg! We will meet at 9:00 AM at the BP on Route 8, EXIT 39 off the Pennsylvania Turnpike then take RT 8 south, a perfect

CRUISE TYPES

LEISURE - A NICE DRIVE WHERE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE COUNTRY SIDE - COMBINATION OF BELOW SPEED LIMIT & AT SPEED LIMIT

SPORTY - A SPEEDIER RIDE SO YOU CAN ENJOY THOSE CURVES - AT SPEED LIMIT

ZOOMIN - YOUR MIATA WILL BE MOVIN THROUGH A LOT OF CURVES WITH SPIRITED DRIVING





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OHIO AMISH COUNTRY CRUISE BY Dan Flanagan

We will be driving through Ohio's picturesque Amish Country. First stop is lunch, then the tour will continue to the town of Berlin with many shops and stores. There are also opportunities for excursions to other venues if you do not want to go to the town of Berlin; wineries (Breitenbach), cheese stores like Guggisberg for their award winning baby swiss cheese, markets, antiques and the world's largest cuckoo clock in Sugarcreek. The tour is 110 miles, about 2 and 1/2 hours one way. I hope you find the scenery, food, and places to be memorable. We have an option to stay overnight at the Inn at Amish Door Village Inn, very quaint and has a pool.

Date & Time: August 22, 2020. Leave 9:00 AM

Location: Port Authority Park & Ride Lot (Port Authority Drive) off University Blvd. in Moon Twp. behind the Sheetz (9002 University Blvd. Moon Twp. PA 15108) 2000 feet or so just off business Route 376.

Lunch: Amish Door Village Restaurant in Wilmont, Ohio

RSVP: By August 17 to karinf2@verizon .net

Cruise Type: Leisure *One note of caution as we enter Amish area, we must be vigilant for slow moving farm machinery and Amish buggies throughout the area.

in previous years, from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Maple Grove in White Oak Park. Reservations are required and as in the past, the Club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, fried chicken, condiments in individual packets, soft drinks, and water. In order to minimize handling of food and serving utensils by multiple individuals as recommended by State and local officials, there will be NO covered dishes this year. Instead, everyone is asked to bring his or her own sides (NO SHARING) plus plastic-ware and paper products (plates, napkins, etc.) If you want additional garnishes for burgers such as lettuce, tomato, onions, pickles, etc. then bring those too (AGAIN, NO SHARING).

I need HELP!! If anyone has ideas for games where you don't handle and share balls, bean bags, horseshoes, etc. then please get back to me: 724-392-7932 or rhoffman@westpennmiataclub.com. I would really appreciate any help you can give me including providing and running the game, if possible. Also, games where we drive our cars in the parking lot are out. The last couple of years we had to share the parking lot with a large group at the picnic grove right next to us so there was no room for "car games".

Please RSVP to my wife Pat at pat.hof@hotmail.com or 724-392-7932 by August 22nd along with your head count.

Looking forward to seeing everyone and having "fun". Also don't forget your FACE MASKS!!

Directions to White Oak Park:

From Pittsburgh via the Parkway East (Approx. 11.2 mi. or 20 min.)

- Exit the Parkway at Forest Hills (Exit 8A) onto Ardmore Blvd. (Rte 30 East)
- Continue 8.8 mi. to Carpenter Lane (Sheetz on right)
- Turn right on Carpenter Lane - go 1.4 mi.
- Turn right into White Oak Park
- Continue through the park 1 mi. to Maple Grove (on right)

From Irwin PA Turnpike Exit 67 (Approx. 7.5 mi. or 14 min.)

- Take the Pittsburgh Rte 30 West ramp
- Proceed on Rte 30 west 5 mi. to Carpenter Lane (Sheetz on left)
- Turn left on Carpenter Lane - go 1.4 mi.
- Turn right into White Oak Park

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- Continue through the park 1 mi. to Maple Grove (on right)
- From Monroeville PA Turnpike Exit 57 (Approx. 10 mi. or 23 min.)
- Take the Monroeville Bus Rte 22 ramp
- Merge onto Bus Rte 22 West
- Immediately get into the left lane
- Turn left on Rte 48 south (Mossdale Blvd.) at Parkvale Bldg.
- Continue 5.8 mi. on Rte 48 to Rte 30
- Turn left on Rte 30 East - go 1.7 mi. (Sheetz on right)
- Turn right on Carpenter Lane - go 1.4 mi.
- Turn right into White Oak Park
- Continue through the park 1 mi. to Maple Grove (on right)

RAYSTOWN COUNTRY ALPACA CRUISE BY TOM CYPHER

The cruise will be on back windy roads through the Broad Top Area. We will need to keep an eye out for deer and bear that are abundant in the area. Many of the curves on the road are marked at 15 miles per hour – be ready to downshift. The trip will take us through a covered bridge as we turn toward the town of Cypher. We will have lunch at Kelly’s Korner in Huntingdon at approximately 12:00 noon. After lunch, we will proceed to the Alpaca Farm. The farm has many animals and a store if you would like items made from their fur. An ice cream stop is planned on the trip home.

Date and Time: Saturday, September 12 – Please arrive at the Sheetz for gas and pit stop at 9:30 for a short meeting and we will hit the road at 10:00.

Meeting Place: Sheetz on Route 36 in McKee. From the Pittsburgh Area take Route 22 or 30 or Turnpike to Route I-99. Travel north on I-99 from Route 30 or Turnpike and South from Route 22 – take exit 23 – Roaring Spring – Route 164-36. Proceed through the light on Route 36 about a quarter of a mile to the Sheetz on the right.

RSVP: by Sunday, September 6 to 814-232-7449, 814-635-3619, or tomandkay111@comcast.net

Cruise Type: Sporty



WEST PENN MIATA CLUB TECH SESSION BY VICKIE BUZZELLI

Come one, come all to a great Tech Session the morning of Saturday, September 19, 2020 at Fowler Automotive Street and Track (FAST Company) hosted by Dan Fowler. This is a “command performance” event, such that everyone who comes will walk away most happy they made the effort to attend.

In addition to being able to experience the unique FAST Company environment, arrangements have been made to have Dan Fowler provide a Tech Session where we plan on having him discuss and/or show the following:

1. A Miata will be up on a rack so we can view it from underneath and Dan Fowler can explain “what is what” for those of us who do not know. Dan can share how the suspension is set up and what modifications folks can consider doing to enhance their suspension so the car can handle even better.

2. Dan will discuss the benefit of every car having a proper fire extinguisher on board that is suited for automotive fires. Dan can show us different types of extinguishers. If enough of our members want to purchase one or the other types of extinguishers, Dan can get us a discounted group price.

3. Dan will discuss “maintenance issues” for Miatas. This will include winter storage, performance modifications that can be performed (in addition to suspension modifications earlier addressed), and if questions are posed to him about “misunderstandings” or “misinformation” that people have about what other auto mechanics have said or done, Dan can answer these and hopefully shed light on what honest auto mechanics do as opposed to others that are inclined to take advantage of customers.

4. Efforts will be made to have a Miata race car present so everyone can not only see it up close but get in and “belt up”, hopefully with our having helmets and HANS devices to put on so you can get a sense of how it feels to be so tightly constrained in a race car pursuant to the rules of racing bodies.

5. Question and Answer Session can follow so if you have any topic you are interested in, please let Vickie Buzzelli know ahead of time so she can alert Dan Fowler to be prepared to address it.

The word “unique” often gets over-utilized but it is not

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an understatement to say that FAST Company is a unique place. Check out the web site. Dan Fowler has a shop that performs mechanical work on almost any kind of car or van or truck but depending on the day/week, one can see almost any kind of vehicle there ranging from top exotics in the world to vintage vehicles, to daily drivers, to almost any kind of Porsche or Jaguar or Miata and other marques, to vintage race cars built and/or serviced by Dan Fowler and his staff. A \$10,000 car will be sitting in the bay next to a \$1M car. In addition to getting the vehicles in mechanical shape to run, FAST Company is also a pit crew that supports many vintage racers at the race track. At FAST Company, one can normally see any number of vintage race cars and other sports cars that are stored there or happen to be there for service at the time we visit.

It is like touring a museum where entire cars, or cars in pieces, can be viewed and analyzed and discussed up close. Dan Fowler and his staff are just amazing mechanics; Dan has been referred to by many experts as the best and most knowledgeable mechanic in Pittsburgh. He has been involved with various Miata race cars over the years that he has prepared and serviced for his customers and hopes to have one on site the day of the Tech Session.

Following the Tech Session, arrangements are being made for the Miata Club members to go and have lunch at the Middle Road Inn. We will get the back room reserved for our group but to do this properly, we need to make reservations so you need to RSVP by September 16. Indeed, even if you are not coming to lunch but just coming to the Tech Session, we wish to know ahead of time so we can plan for coffee and donuts accordingly.

DATE & TIME: Saturday, September 19, 2020, 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

PLACE: Fowler Automotive Street and Track FAST Company), 1201 William Flinn Highway (Route 8), Glenshaw, PA 15116

DIRECTIONS BELOW – please read them for an important “safety alert”

RSVP: By September 16 to vjs@zoominternet.com or 724-272-2806. Let me know how many will attend the Tech Session and if you will be going to lunch.

EVERYBODY SHOULD BRING A CHAIR WITH THEM.

DIRECTIONS: Go to www.fastcoproductions.com and pull up the map. However, if you are coming from the south up Rt. 8 going North, there is a trick you need to

follow since one should avoid turning left into the entrance off of Rt. 8 into the FAST Company driveway. The road bends left and often cars exceed the speed limit and you want to avoid getting rear ended. So please read the directions below. And if, upon leaving FAST Company, you intend to go north, do not turn left onto Rt. 8 but use the similar trick to get back more safely onto Rt. 8. Both maneuvers are described below in detail.

Coming from the North: Go South on Route 8. If you are coming from Exit 39 on the PA Turnpike you have some miles to go. Once anyone gets down through Hampton Township to Shaler Township and sees a Giant Eagle food store and Walgreen’s on the right, you are getting closer. At that point, keep going south on Rt. 8. You will pass a McTighe’s garden center and beer distributor on the right, you will see Three Rivers Harley-Davidson on the right (an orange and black building), and then there will be a stop light and this is close to your turn off so start getting ready to turn to the right. When you come to a black building on the right named Woods Werks BMW/Mini, put on your right turn signal. The road is starting to bend to the right. EAS Roofing will be next on your right and you will TURN RIGHT into the driveway to the south end of EAS Roofing but once you have turned in, stay STRAIGHT and go up the hill and you will arrive at the FAST Company site that is on the hill above EAS Roofing.

Coming from the South on Rt. 8: Get to Rt. 8 where it intersects with Rt. 28 to go to Etna. You can come down Rt. 28 South from Exit 48 (Harmarville) on the PA Turnpike or the Highland Park Bridge or you can come North on Rt. 28 from the North Side of Pittsburgh or you can go from upper Lawrenceville/Morningside area of Pittsburgh North over the 62nd Street Bridge. Once on Rt. 8 North at Etna, keep going north. At the third stoplight (Saxonburg Boulevard) there is an Eat ‘n Park on the right. **DO NOT JUST DRIVE NORTH AND TURN LEFT INTO THE DRIVEWAY FOR FAST COMPANY SINCE YOU ARE AT RISK FOR GETTING REAR ENDED AND YOU WILL LIKELY MISS THE TURN AT EAS ROOFING COMPANY SINCE IT IS ON A BEND. INSTEAD,** go .9 miles further north from the Eat ‘n Park where you will BEAR RIGHT onto Old Butler Plank Road that goes to Pannier Company and will pass East Liberty Electroplating. Before you get to this turnoff onto Old Butler Plank Road you will pass Glenshaw Glass on the left ; you will pass Glenshaw Steel on the right just before you bear right onto Old Butler Plank Road. Stay on Old Butler Plank Road as it bends to the left and “T’s” out back onto Rt. 8

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right across the street from EAS Roofing. Now you can see well to your left and to your right for oncoming traffic.

When the road is clear, you will pull across Rt. 8, taking a jog to your left and then to your right into the driveway to the left side of EAS Roofing. Once in the driveway stay STRAIGHT and go up the hill and you will arrive at the FAST Company site that is on the hill above EAS Roofing.

Leaving FAST COMPANY and wanting to go north on Rt. 8: Do not turn left out of FAST Company onto Rt. 8. It is a blind turn in terms of seeing cars coming North on Rt. 8 and the cars often are speeding and you don't want to get hit. Instead, coming out of FAST Company, Turn RIGHT onto Rt. 8 south and immediately get into the left lane. Go just a very short distance (less than 100 yards) and turn LEFT (it is a sharp left turn so swing wide) at the very first turn onto Old Butler Plank Road that is before Glenshaw Steel. This road goes to Pannier Company and will pass East Liberty Electroplating. Stay on Old Butler Plank Road as it bends to the left and "T's" out back onto Rt. 8 right across the street from EAS Roofing.

Now you can see well to your left and to your right for oncoming traffic. When the road is clear, you will turn right onto Rt. 8 and head north, having done an almost 360 degree maneuver that takes less than one minute to enhance your safety.

FALL FOLIAGE CRUISE

BY VICKIE BUZZELLI

Please join me in my first Miata Zoom cruise. It will be too early for Fall Foliage but there will be plenty of curvy, windy back roads with a few switchbacks as we make our way up to Lake Pymatuning. We will cross over the Pymatuning Reservoir to the Spillway, a fun place to feed the fish bread and watch the ducks walk on the fish. Bring plenty of day old bread to feed the hungry fish.

After spending time at the Spillway, we will head in the direction of home for many of us, on back curvy roads not taken on our way to the Spillway. We will stop in Hermitage for lunch at the Hickory Bar and Grill, and will have our own private room, with distancing, and choices from the menu. You will not be disappointed.

The cruise does not end there. After lunch we will head to the Cheese House in New Wilmington. (Still in the

direction of home). There you will find over 100 types of imported and domestic cheeses and meats, pickles, and more, gifts and gadgets galore! What is a Miata Cruise without ice cream?? Next to the Cheese House is a lovely ice cream shop where the ice cream is made fresh daily, the best I ever tasted. I would love to have all of you join me in my first Miata cruise. It will be a fun filled day of cruising and easy access to major roads home.

Date & Time: Saturday September 26, 2020 - 8:15am.
Please be prompt.

Meeting Place: Sheetz #617, 2615 Nicholson Rd (Intersection of Nicholson & Wexford Bayne) Exit 73 off I-79

Cruise Category: Sporty

Rsvp : By September 20 to vjs@zoominternet.net or 724-272-2806, please leave voice mail if I do not answer.

LAUREL HIGHLANDS CRUISE REVIEW BY KAREN NAGEL

Ron and Pat Hoffman sponsored an adventurous cruise through the magnificent, mountainous region of the Laurel Highlands passing through Linn Run State Park and cruising past a lovely lake at the North Fork Reservoir. There were 17 cars with 28 riders attending and we even had 2 new members from Youngstown, Ohio. During our pre-ride meeting, members wore masks and were practicing social distancing by keeping their distance as requested.

The weather was extremely hot that day, and some drivers started off at 10:30am with their air conditioners already on!!! You know it is hot when Joe wears a hat.

The back roads provided spectacular, natural scenery and beautiful old homes for us to enjoy. The road conditions were anywhere from new paved roads to narrow bumpy roads. Riding along the top of the mountain ridges provided

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breathtaking views.

After our ride was completed, the members enjoyed a great lunch at the Gray Goose in Ligonier that provided indoor and outdoor seating choices. After lunch and the group picture, some of the members went to the Ligonier Creamery for ice cream to finish off the day.

Thank you Ron and Pat for providing yet again such a great ride and enjoyable day.

2020 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

We have a few more months of our Cruisin & Zoomin Season left, along with a number of cruises for the rest of 2020 including Pymatuning, Alpaca Farm, Amish County, Tech Session, and our annual WPMC Picnic. Information on all of these is in this newsletter.

Our leaders have followed all requirements for Covid-19, masks, distancing, and outdoor dining when possible if not distancing at tables indoors. We have had good attendance on the cruises.

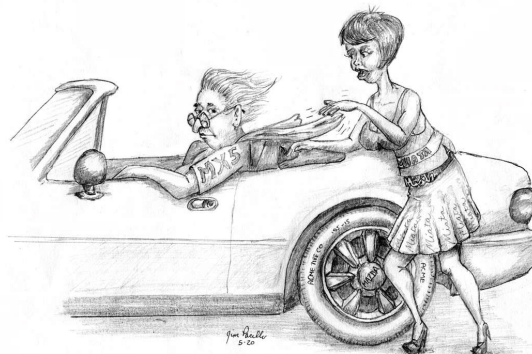
If anyone would like to do a cruise next year, please let me know. I can let you know if we have already been there recently or give you ideas. Hope to see you on one of the cruises and at our Annual Picnic.

Zoom Zoomm Zoommm!

NEED FOR SPEED BY Walt Dillen, President

A lot of us have spent more time in front of the TV and/or computer since the virus came to town. I have really enjoyed "YOUTUBE". The word I see most often is "ELECTRIC". It seems that everything in transportation has gone "E". We all know and some of us love Tesla, the car and the stock. Now, I understand Apple, Sony, and a few other non-auto companies are getting into the act. The big question is will GM and Ford survive the competition. It is my understanding that Tesla is worth more than GM & Ford combined, at least on paper. It also appears the Germans are falling behind. It will be interesting to see if the various tech companies become the new transportation leads. By the way I have also been reviewing electric bikes. Not a big fan of peddling, still like to enjoy the rails to trails, just not on the old style bike. ELECTRIC is the way to go. How long before we can purchase an electric Miata???

I see you're getting ready for the first Miata cruise after the Lockdown. Nice touch with the hair and scarf.



(by Jim Pacillo)

SEPTEMBER DEADLINE

THE DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE
SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER IS SEPTEMBER
5, 2020





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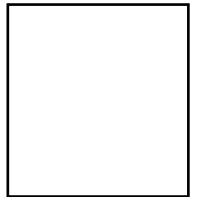
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