

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat Jul 9	Penn Alps Cruise
Sat-Sun Jul 16-17	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix
Sun Jul 24	Wendell August Forge & Root Beer Cruise
Fri-Sun Jul 29-31	Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum Cruise
Thu Aug 4 7:00 PM	WPMC Monthly Teleconference Meeting
Sat Aug 6	Drivers' Cruise
Sat Aug 27	WPMC Picnic
Sat Sep 10	Micro Brewery Cruise
Sun Sep 18	Flight 93 Memorial Cruise
Sat-Sun Oct 8-9	Zimliki Cruise
Sat Dec 3	WPMC Christmas Party

## AUGUST DEADLINE

**THE DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER IS AUGUST 8, 2016**

## Penn ALPS CRUISE BY JACK BARTEK & NANCY GALVIN

**P**lease join us on Saturday July 9th for a cruise which will take us through the heart of the scenic Laurel Highlands on our way to have lunch at historic Penn Alps Restaurant. On our way, we will experience the beautiful scenery of Rt 653 and Rt 281 as they take us through quaint farmlands, and the pristine forest of Laurel Ridge State Park, passing by Mount Davis and on to Western Maryland. We will make a brief photo op stop at Kings Covered Bridge, and then on to the Springs Farmers Market and quaint Springs Country Store in Springs Pa. Over 80 local farmers and craftsmen provide a wide selection of fresh picked produce, home baked goods, quilts and plants. You will enjoy an hour of browsing among the antiques, tools, and flea market items. We will then take a short drive through Grantsville for lunch at 12:00PM in the Livingood Room in the original section of Penn Alps Restaurant. A buffet Lunch will feature Fried Chicken, Ham, Roast Beef along with vegetables and salad, all for \$16.99. After lunch there will be time to explore the Spruce Forest Artisan Village, The Casselman River Bridge, and Stanton's Mill which is an operating grist mill dating back to 1797. Our return trip will take us once again through the winding scenery of the Laurel highlands on our way to Shepherd's Farm Ice Cream Shoppe just outside of Confluence.

**Date and Time:** Saturday July 9th - Meet at 8:30 AM.

**Meeting Place:** Sheetz #503, 101 Ronda Ct, Irwin, Pa. Located right off the turnpike. At the exit, take the 30 west fork toward Pittsburgh. The Sheetz is located on the hill on the left opposite Kohls.

**Cruise Type:** Leisure to Sporty

**Cost:** Lunch approx. \$20 per person, pay at Penn Alps, plus Ice Cream

**RSVP:** by July 1 to [ngalvin@westpennmiataclub.com](mailto:ngalvin@westpennmiataclub.com) or text only to 330-717-6335





# THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

## PVGP 2016

BY MIKE LEONE

Once again, we will be participating in our largest group function of the year. The Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix will be held July 8 through July 17. The highlight will be the practices Saturday July 16 and races Sunday July 17 held on the roads in and around Schenley Park. Check the pvgp website for maps, schedules, and other activities occurring in the week prior to the races.

We had over 50 Miatas participate last year in the Asian car show infield parking area. In recognition of our past support and strong showing, the PVGP has designated Miata as the "spotlight" car of this year's program. Beside recognizing and promoting Miatas, this gives Miata owners the opportunity to participate in the opening parade lap prior to the start of official races on Sunday the 17th.

Registration for parking and participation in the parade lap is done on line at the PVGP web site <http://www.pvgp.org/>. Click on "car shows", spotlight Mazda Miata. In the middle of the page is the "click here to register and pay" icon. While you can register at the gate, you can only get the PVGP packet (program, dash plaque, and a few other goodies ) by preregistering. Cost is \$35 for parking and optionally, \$25 to participate in the parade lap or a total of \$60 for both. Parking is for both days and is in the same location as last year. Please note! The parade lap is on Sunday the 17th officially starting the race.

We will have a tent and tables available. Bring your own chairs & drinks. As in previous years, food is pot-luck. Keep it simple. Snacks such as cookies, cakes, chips, pretzels, cheese, and other non-perishable treats work the best. If everyone brings a little, we will have a lot to go around. Try to avoid anything that requires refrigeration. Food sitting in the hot sun for an afternoon is an invitation for an active and very unpleasant evening! We could also use a couple of volunteers to help man the club information and merchandise table during the day. After spending all day getting your 10,000 steps by trudging up and down the golf course in the hot sun, an hour sitting in the shade, sipping a cool drink while talking to prospective new members and catching up with current ones isn't a bad way to pass some time.

Rain or shine, the Grand Prix has always been a grand time. Exotic cars, exotic people, and while not always exotic, food! What more could you ask for? It is Miata's year. Lets make it a banner one with a banner turnout. See you there!

## WENDELL AUGUST FORGE & ROOT BEER TOUR BY ANNE AND STEVE KISAK

Who doesn't like beer, root beer that is? Join us for a leisurely drive north as we travel to Mercer County. We will cruise through farm country on our way to Wendell August Forge's Flagship Store and Factory in Grove City. During our stop there, you will have the opportunity to go through their store, the history room, and walk through the production area of the plant. From there we will continue through farm country and end up in Slippery Rock for lunch at the North Country Brewing Company, which is a microbrewery/restaurant that also makes great root beer and cr me soda. Please check the forum posting for updates.

**Date & Time:** Sunday, July 24th - Meet at 9:00 AM

**Meeting Place:** Exxon Station at the Route 910 and I-79 interchange in Wexford, PA

**Cruise Type:** Leisure to Sporty

**RSVP:** By July 10th to [steve.kisak@gmail.com](mailto:steve.kisak@gmail.com) or 412-302-9382

## WRIGHT PATTERSON AIR FORCE MUSEUM CRUISE BY MIKE & SANDY BUTLER

Please join us on Friday, July 29 - Sunday, July 31 for a weekend top down adventure as we travel from Pittsburgh, PA to Dayton, OH. The majority of the trip will be on the twisty curvy roads of Route 22 with scenic country settings. Lunch on Friday will be in Lancaster, OH at a restaurant to be determined.

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**O**n Saturday, we'll be touring the National Museum of the US Air Force, 1100 Spaatz Street, Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433, 937-255-3286. The Museum is the world's oldest and largest military aviation museum in the world.

"The National Museum of the U.S. Air Force galleries present military aviation history, boasting more than 360 aerospace vehicles and missiles on display - many rare and one-of-a-kind - along with thousands of historical items and powerful sensory exhibits that bring history to life and connect the Wright Brothers' legacy with today's stealth and precision technology." Within the museum you can visit the following exhibits: Early Years Gallery, World War II Gallery, Korean War Gallery, Southeast Asia War Gallery, Cold War Gallery, Missile Gallery, Presidential Gallery, Research & Development Gallery, Space Gallery and Global Reach Gallery. There is also an air park, memorial park, and several other exhibits throughout the museum. All of this comes with FREE admission and parking! For those interested, tickets can be purchased to view various 3D movies at an additional cost. For additional information please visit their website at [www.nationalmuseum.af.mil](http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil). There is so much to do and see with something to intrigue everyone and definitely well worth the visit!

**W**e will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Dayton/South I-675, 7701 Washington Village Drive, Dayton, OH 45459. Please call 937-938-9550 to reserve your room. We have 15 rooms on hold until June 26, 2016 at a reduced rate of \$101.00/night. The Holiday Inn may still have rooms available but you might not get our group rate.

**M**eeting Time & Place: 9:00 AM - Depart at 9:30 AM Sharp, Shop & Save Parking Lot, 600 Market Place Drive, Oakdale, PA 15071

**C**ruise Type: Leisure

**T**his cruise is limited to 15 cars and we still have 3 spots available

**R**SVP to Michael, if you have not yet done so, at 412-498-0962 or [mwbutlerdjb@yahoo.com](mailto:mwbutlerdjb@yahoo.com)

## Let's Go Zoomin BY Walt Dillen

**I**'m ready to go Zoomin and have changed the venue for my cruise from a destination cruise to a pure driving twisty, curvy, country roads cruise. The date has also been changed to Saturday, August 6. Please join me as we zoom the roads of Southwest PA and WV. Since this is a last minute decision, the details, meeting place, and time, will be sent by email. We will follow twisty roads to WV for lunch at Oglebay Resort then more curvy roads to ice cream. At the end of the day, there should be a smile on your face. This cruise is rated Sporty/Zoomin. Please check the rating system listed in newsletter. Contact me at [wldillen@comcast.net](mailto:wldillen@comcast.net) or 412-751-5752.

## WPMC Annual Picnic BY LARRY PIETROPAOLI

**I**t's time for a picnic - food, games, brain teaser competitions, prizes, more food, old & new friends. Make a reservation and mark your calendar.

**T**he 2016 WPMC annual picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, August 27, 2016 at the Maple Grove pavilion in White Oak Park from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Reservations are required and your "signature dish" or your "world famous" food contribution will be appreciated by all (while great in theory, an "all desserts card" will not fill the food pyramid). As always, the club will provide burgers, dogs, soft drinks, condiments, and plates. Requested donated categories are: snacks, salads, veggie dishes, and covered dish.

**P**lease RSVP with your food selection by August 22 to [larrydep@msn.com](mailto:larrydep@msn.com) - Price: N/C, just a happy face.

**D**irections to White Oak Park: From Pittsburgh via Parkway East: exit at Forrest Hills onto Ardmore Boulevard (Rt 30 E) to Carpenter's Lane (at Sheetz), turn right on Carpenter's Lane 1.4 mile to park entrance on right, then find Maple Grove pavilion on right. See you there!





# THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

## ZTMOET Review BY SCOTT COATSWORTH

**Z**ooming the Mountains of Eastern Tennessee was a blast! I drove to Johnson City, TN early to see a friend from high school. Unfortunately, she broke her arm Monday evening and we couldn't get together Tuesday. Instead, I spent the day exploring roads around Mountain City, Laurel Bloomery, and Dasmascus, including Rt. 421 - "The Snake". On Wednesday I put on 430 miles so I could drive "Tail of the Dragon" (twice) and the Cherochala Skyway. By the time I got back to the hotel, the parking lot was full of Miatas, and the rally was in full swing for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

I'd like to thank Lori and all the folks at Tri-Cities Miata Club for all their work to provide us with a great time. Second, I'd like to thank the weatherman for spectacular weather throughout the week. (Small nit - next year can we keep it closer to 80 than 90?) Third, I'd like to thank the Transportation Departments from Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia for some incredible roads. Their engineers must be as twisted as the roads.

My special thanks are reserved for Joe and Linda Zimliki. Linda choreographed wonderful days for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The roads were unbelievable, some of them better than Tail of the Dragon and worthy of more than one pass. In addition, she included some interesting sightseeing stops and kept us well fed at a variety of restaurants. Saturday morning's breakfast included the most beautiful omelet I have ever seen. There was a lot of flavor in that little diner. Joe did such yeoman duty as a spirited lead driver that he only shows up in a few of the videos I took from the sweep position with my new GoPro - I couldn't quite keep up. Dennis and his son Scott were with us Thursday and Friday, and Ken and Karen were in the group Friday and Saturday. (Linda, correct me if I got that wrong.)

Some of the roads Linda picked were known only by route numbers; others had names (The Snake); one or two had names for both the road and the curves. The most understated was probably Rt. 66, where we definitely "got our kicks", and I think Joe named several of the curves "Oh, sh&t".

I have definitely marked my calendar for next year.



## West Virginia Penitentiary Cruise REPORT



### BY JERRY AND CANDY SPEHAR

**F**ather's Day was one of those rare beautiful days that are all too uncommon in Western Pennsylvania. The skies were clear and the temperature perfect for a day of tops down cruising. Sixteen Miatas gathered in Washington, (known to some as "Little Washington, I guess so as not to confuse it with DC where all of our tax dollars are squandered) to celebrate Father's Day with our fellow Club Members.

Dennis and Ruthann Weber led the group from the parking lot right on schedule. Our destination was the West Virginia Penitentiary at Moundsville West Virginia. Remember the commercial that said "Getting there is half the fun"? Well that was certainly the case for our morning journey south. The Webers selected some of the excellent curvy roads that we all love. Over hilltops and through valleys the scenery was great, as the John Denver song played in our heads, "Almost heaven West Virginia."

We arrived at the prison, where we were met Maggie, our escort for a guided tour of the facility. Maggie was a guard when the prison was operational. She turned out to be a real character, who shared many stories about the many incidents in the penitentiary's colorful history. Some of the stories were gruesome, but then the people incarcerated there were not a bunch of nice guys. One of

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our first stops was to see "Old Sparky" the electric chair used nine times for executions. There were 43 other executions carried out, all by hanging. Over 900 deaths are recorded to have occurred at Moundsville, many from prisoner on prisoner violence. We visited cell blocks that were for the worst prisoners as well as the blocks for the general population. The recreation yard and visiting areas were additional highlights of the tour. In addition, there was a museum of sorts in which displays of prisoner artwork, various weapons which were confiscated through the years, and most interestingly, a letter from Charles Manson. It seems Manson wanted to be transferred to Moundsville from California to be closer to his family. Turns out his mother was an inmate there at one time. The prison, which was built over an Indian burial ground, is said to be haunted. However, we didn't run into any poltergeist during our ninety minute tour.

**A**fter we completed the tour it was a quick ten minute drive to Young's Cafeteria, our lunch stop. A huge selection of home style meals is offered there and, as usual, we had our fair share.

**A**fter lunch it was back on the road for a two hour return trip to Washington. Again, many twisting curvy roads were enjoyed by the group. The sun continued to shine brightly on us all the way along the well-chosen route. Many thanks to Dennis and Ruthann for planning this Father's Day treat for us. The Webers' cruises are always super organized and set a standard for all of us to follow.

## 2016 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON

BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

**H**alf of our season is over. We have had some great cruises and events, but there is a lot more to come. We have a change in the schedule for August. The winery cruise on August 6th has cancelled. The Zippo Cruise on August 14th has also been cancelled and has been replaced with a driving cruise. The date has been changed to August 6th. Since the cancellation was last minute and a substitute cruise is planned, the meeting place and time will be emailed once it has been established.

You can still sign up for the cruise. It will be a sporty/zoomin cruise. The cruise outline is in this newsletter.

**M**embers please remember to check the level rating for the cruise you choose. The 3 different level ratings are always published in the newsletter.

**M**ake sure you sign up for the PVGP ceremonies on Sunday July 17th since we are the Spotlight car this year. I sent out an email with the information you need to sign up. It's great that the MX-5 is finally being recognized. You will be able to participate in the Opening Ceremonies on Sunday morning and do a parade lap of the track. The cost is \$25. You need to be registered for Saturday in order to register for Sunday.

**Z**oom Zoomm Zoommm!

### 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



Put up the top, who cares what your Miata Nuts think.

by Jim Pacillo





# THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

## TOP DOWN ADVENTURES BY PRESIDENT MIKE BUTLER

**H**APPY BIRTHDAY USA! It's time for picnics, barbecues, cold drinks and best of all more Miata cruises. It's hard to believe that July is upon us already and we have two full months of our cruising season behind us with many great Top Down Adventures to look back on. Hope everyone had an opportunity to enjoy some of these cruises. But if not, we have plenty more planned for the remainder of our cruising season. Be sure to check out the upcoming events and reserve your spot for the ones that interest you.

I'd like to thank all of our cruise leaders for their hard work in coordinating their adventures. It takes a lot of hard work and effort planning the routes, finding spots to rest, good restaurants, and of course ice cream stops. Much time goes into this and is much appreciated by everyone. Leaders are the backbone of our Club since cruises are what our Club is all about.

As a Club, we try to accommodate all of our members by scheduling a variety of cruises - Saturday cruises, Sunday cruises, and weekend cruises. Since our cruises are ranked as Leisure, Sporty, or Zoomin', we also appeal to our vast membership. It is important to read over the details of the cruise as well as the cruise type to ensure that it appeals to you. Our Leisure cruises are below or at speed limit to allow everyone to enjoy the scenery on the trip. On the other hand, Zoomin' cruises are focused on speed and twisty turns for our adventurous drivers. In between, we have our Sporty cruises which are at speed limit allowing passengers to enjoy the scenery at time and twist/turn at other times. So as not to be disappointed, please keep these cruise types in mind when making your event selections. We have members who enjoy the "need for speed" and others who enjoy leisurely "Sunday" drives. Please be courteous to your fellow members and recognize that everyone has different likes and dislikes for Top Down Adventures.

The 4th of July is here, and it's time to celebrate! Bring out the grill and get ready for a great cookout. Watch big,

loud and colorful fireworks brighten the night sky with a dazzling spectacle of lights! But with all the fun and festivities, be sure to take some time to remember why we celebrate this momentous day - it's the day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of our Country as an independent nation. It's officially summer -- get out, put the tops down and enjoy the summer solstice while it lasts!

See you soon! Get ready, get set, ZOOM!

## WPMC FORUM PASSWORDS BY STEVE LAPP

For some time now, I've been looking for an option to encrypt passwords when we log into our online forums. This would be the familiar HTTPS connection that is used with pretty much all financial websites. Unfortunately, this does not appear to be an option with our current forum software, or any forum software for that matter. This is largely due to the fact that our forum publications are available to anyone and we are not doing something sensitive, like e-commerce, which involves credit card numbers or other financial information. As a result, when you send your login information to our forum software, it is sent over an unsecured (HTTP) connection vs. a secure encrypted (HTTPS) connection. If a malicious user was able to monitor your connection, he might be able to see your password. As a result, I strongly encourage everyone who uses our forums to use a password that is DIFFERENT from the one you use for your other activities such as e-mail, banking, and anything else which involves sensitive information.

I have no evidence that anyone is actually monitoring our forum connections but want to err on the conservative side. In the mean time, I'll continue to look for options to increase the security of our website. Please e-mail any questions to me at [slapp@westpennmiataclub.com](mailto:slapp@westpennmiataclub.com).





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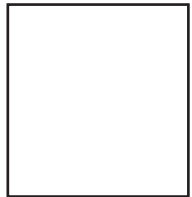
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