

Upcoming Events

Sat Jun 21	Mercer County Cruise
Sat Jun 28	Covered Bridge Cruise
Sat Jul 12	Mountains & Wine Cruise
Sat-Sun Jul 19-20	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix
Sat Jul 26	Knoll Cruise
Sat Aug 2 10:00 AM	Monthly Meeting at Billco Motors and Flasche Cruise
Sat Aug 16	Frontier Cruise
Sat Aug 23	WPMC Picnic
Sat Aug 30	Kissin' & Huggin' at the Drive-In
Sat-Mon Aug 30 - Sep 1	Topless in the Mountains XIV
Sat Sep 6 10:00 AM	Monthly Meeting at Baglier Motors and Wendell August Cruise
Sat Sep 20	McPheron Surprise Cruise

Sat Sep 27	Clark Gable Cruise
Sat-Sun Oct 18-19	Murder Mystery Dinner Train Cruise
Sat Dec 6	Christmas Party

Mercer County Cruise



by Jim Pacillo

Join us on a delightful drive through Mercer County this June 21. I know you'll enjoy yourself for there is a lot to see. The beautiful country side views which include a farm with adorable miniature horses, the last Erie Extension Canal Lock, and Raisch Log cabin. Also the beautiful Buhl Park witch is perfect for walking, running, picnics, and cruising. There will be some nice roads with a lot of curves and some straight ones where we can blow out some carbon build up. We'll have a wonderful lunch at Muscarella's and don't forget the ice cream. All in all this will be an enjoyable day I hope you will join us.

Date and Time. June 21 at 10:00 a.m..
Place. Sheetz across from the Grove City Outlets on Rt. 208.
RSVP: 724-962-5846 or miatajim90@yahoo.com





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

Covered Bridges and Gravity Hill Cruise by Jim and Janet Pfeiffer

The Covered Bridges and Gravity Hill cruise to Bedford County is upon us. The cruise is scheduled for June 28th. We will cruise to Bedford County on back country roads with lots of bends and turns and little hills. We will see some very scenic views traveling to and from Bedford County. Once in Bedford, we'll stop for lunch at the Apple Bin Restaurant and General Store. The Apple Bin Restaurant is sort of in the country. They have a small buffet and/or you can order from the menu if you wish. After lunch we will cruise to the covered bridges. Some bridges can only be viewed from the roadside. Other bridges, we will be able to travel through, get out of our cars and take pictures. There is some interesting history with some of these bridges. And, we don't want to miss Gravity Hill. This is the hill that defies gravity, where cars roll uphill and water flows the wrong way. It's amazing, but it does happen. We'll put the "hill" to the test and see what happens when a Miata is on that hill.

If time permits we may stop at one of the many orchards in Bedford County. This is the season for fresh picked strawberries and they will be ready at this time. Our final stop will be for soft serve ice cream before we depart for home.

Plan to meet us at Smail's Mazda on Rt. 30 in Greensburg at 9:30 am, June 28th to begin our cruise to Bedford County.

RSVP: pjentre@comcast.net or call 724-468-8435 by June 25th.

MOUNTAINS & WINE BY JOE & LINDA ZIMLIKI

It's amazing what you can find when you take a Sunday drive. Last fall we found a winery & last weekend we found another one while doing a route for the cruise. We are going to take you over the mountains where you will enjoy some very nice scenery & views. The roads

will make your Miata happy. The restaurant is located in a very unusual place. As it was described to me, it's like the tornado from OZ lifted it up & placed it untouched in this unlikely place. After eating we will proceed to the wineries. Originally we were just going to do one but the other one is on the way so why not do both? We will finish the cruise with....what else ICE CREAM. Have to keep Joe HAPPY.

DATE & TIME: SATURDAY JULY 12TH AT 9:45 AM
(LEAVE AT 10:00 AM)

PLACE: WALNUT HOLLOW PLAZA PARKING LOT
ON RT 22 IN MURRYSVILLE

RSVP: BY FRIDAY JULY 4TH TO
lzimliki@westpennmiataclub.com or 724-327-1762

JUNE 2008 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

There have been a few changes in the event schedule. I did tell you about July 12th. There has been a switch in cruises. The Clark Gable Cruise will now be September 27th instead of July 12th. Mountains & Wine Cruise has replaced it. The article with details is in this newsletter.

The other change is the New River Gorge Cruise on Aug 16 & 17. The Fuscaldos & Taylors couldn't get reservations at the hotel because hotel is booked two years in advance. They will work on it for a future cruise. Frontier Cruise to Valley Falls & Prickett's Fort will replace it. Instead of a two day cruise it will just be a one day cruise. The cruise will be on Saturday Aug 16.





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

PITTSBURGH VINTAGE GRAND PRIX BY GARRY MATSON

Summertime is here and racing is in the air, vintage racing that is. Pittsburgh and Schenley Park will again hear the roar of racing engines and the scenery will be filled with some beautiful show cars. Our club will be attending again this year, representing one of the all time best sports car shows to date.

The PVGP schedule includes:

Saturday and Sunday, July 12th and 13th with racing at the Beaver Run Motorsports Complex in Beaver Falls. There will be vintage racing, an American ground pounders class (Mustangs, Camaros, etc.), and SCCA Solo II autocrossing.

Monday, July 14th has an invitational Car Show on Walnut St. in Oakland from 5-9 pm. Since this is by invitation, the vehicles attending are some of the best that you may never see at other car cruises.

Tuesday, July 15th, there is a car cruise with live music at the Waterfront in Homestead from 5-9 pm. A \$5 donation is asked from cruisers to benefit the charities. A free gift is given for each donation. In 2007, there were approximately 600 cars in attendance.

Wednesday, July 16th, a downtown parade and car display takes place from 10:30 am - 2 pm. Vehicles will be on display at the US Steel Bldg Plaza, Market Square, and PPG Place.

Saturday, July 19th, British Car Day will be held on Schenley Park Golf Course from 11 am - 4 pm. Preregistration is recommended and a registration form is included. Vintage racing practice and qualifying starts at 8:15 am and continues throughout the day. WPMC WILL HAVE A TENT AT PVGP.

Sunday, July 20th, practice starts at 8:15 am with racing from noon - 5 pm. The Larry Smith car show will be held on the golf course during the day. This show includes some of the most unique and rare vehicles you may ever see.

Entrance to the shows on Saturday and Sunday is at the

main gate at Schenley Drive / Forbes Ave. at 9:30 am. A registration form for the combined car show being held on Saturday and Sunday is included which you can mail in or go online at www.pvgp.org/register. The registration donation of \$25 benefits the Autism Society of Pgh. and the Allegheny Valley School and includes admission to the car shows and races on Saturday and Sunday.

IF ANYONE IS PLANNING ON ATTENDING SAT JULY 19TH OR SUN JULY 20TH PLEASE CONTACT ME AT remsgem@yahoo.com OR 412-653-4066.

Additional information can be found on the PVGP web site at www.pvgp.org.

In, Out, and About East Taylor Co, WV By Paul and Colette Knoll

Saturday July 26, 2008, we will meet at the Wal-Mart off I-68 in Morgantown, WV. Wal-Mart is exit 1 Hwy 119, off I-68. We will be leaving at 10:00am and arriving back at exit 4 around 4:00 pm. Your cruise will take you south on and off Hwy 119 to Grafton WV. We will have a short stop overlooking Tygart Lake Dam, and the Visitors Center. Just a short drive down the lake will bring us to the Lodge at Tygart Lake where we will be having our lunch. After lunch your cruise will continue with a drive around the country side. Coming back to Grafton and then continuing toward Morgantown, we'll have an afternoon stop at the Dairy Queen in Reedsville.

For those of you who would like to arrive early, exit 7 has an IHOP and Bob Evans; also both exits have gas stations.

Please contact us no later than July 19. The menu for the restaurant at the lake is found at www.tygartlake.com, Group Services, Full Service Lakeside Restaurant. When contacting us for the cruise, please tell us what you like for your meal. We can be contacted at: Home 304-268-4006, Cell 651-295-0071, email knollgraft@aol.com.

Hope to hear from you.





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

Topless in the Mountains - XIV

by Steve Lapp

The 14th version of Topless in the Mountains will be from Saturday, August 30 to Monday, September 1. This is an event sponsored by the Trillium Club from Canada with an invitation to WPMC. As always, this event is about one thing - DRIVING. Over the course of two days, expect to take your Miata over 500 miles on some of the best roads West Virginia has to offer.

This year, WPMC has been allotted five spaces. If interested, you are encouraged to book early, but please only make a reservation if you fully intend to come barring some last minute complication. The procedure for registration follows:

1. Contact Steve Lapp at slapp@westpennmiataclub.com or 412-366-3388 to insure open spaces are available.
2. If spaces are available, Steve will send you a registration form which you will complete and send to Bill Olijnyk and Debbie Miller, Trillium leaders for this event.
3. Book your room at the Buckhannon Hampton Inn for August 30 to September 1 by calling 304-473-0900.

At this point, two spots are open as Steve Lapp, Paul and Lulu McCullough, and Dave and Carole McLaughlin have signed up.

MIATAWORLD II UPDATE BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

Registration will go live at noon CDT, Monday, June 16th. at WWW.MIATAWORLDII.COM (and apparently you must include "www"). Registration is \$300 per PERSON and the site will have all of the details as we have them, but more will added as we go.

Once you have completed registration, you will be automatically directed to the hotel reservation page. You will only be able to reserve rooms at the MWII rate after registration.

At this time, we have only 500 rooms available at the MWII rate of \$139 per night, (plus resort fees & taxes). We do not know what rates will be after these are gone. Web site rates for the currently available rooms for that weekend are \$279/night.

Folks... we are doing everything possible to make this the best Miata Event of all time, and based on what we have so far... we should meet our goals.

If you have questions about registration, I'll do my best to answer them here. If anyone plans on attending please contact Linda Zimliki at lzimliki@westpennmiataclub.com.

The Runway Cruise – With Sherry and Wally Swarmer

by Nancy & Bill Willis

The sun was out and 12 Miatas were lined up in the Target Parking lot in Harmarville with their tops down. We were ready for the "Runway Cruise" with Wally.

The roads were fantastic/perfect Miata roads with their twist and turns. We cruised on country roads that took us to Allegheny, Butler, and Armstrong County. When we were on Bonniebrook Road in Butler County, it was like riding the Jack Rabbit at Kennywood. In Armstrong County we passed beautiful picture perfect farms, and in Allegheny County we drove past an Elk Farm.

After three hours of cruising, we stopped for lunch at the Runway Restaurant. We had our picture taken with a helicopter in the background.

Wally told us to order the small size for our ice cream stop at Jordan's Soft Serve because it was equivalent to a large. He was right - they were huge.

Thank you Wally for a great day of Miata Roads!!





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

JOHN & GEORGE IN THE CORAOPOLIS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



by George Kniss

As most of you know, our club has participated in Memorial Day parades in the past, but, due to problems with the physical venue of a recent location, we discontinued this activity. I, being a Vietnam veteran, have felt that this kind of activity by our club was good for our club, good for vets and communities celebrating and commemorating this solemn holiday and I had hoped that we could continue this service sometime again in the future.

Well, in early May I received a call from a friend, a Korean War veteran, who is also a Senior Vice Commander of Post 924 of the American Legion in Coraopolis. He was looking for a couple of convertibles, he said, to drive himself and another vet in the annual Coraopolis Memorial Day Community Parade sponsored by both the Legion and the VFW. I'm a member of both vet groups and I freely offered my 1996, black NA but explained the limitations of allowing only one other person than the driver. He had another vet, from WWII though that still needed a car and driver. I told him that I'd try to get another Moon Township resident who also had a Miata convertible. I contacted our President John Whitmire and explained the need. He was interested, enthused and wanted to join us....and, by circumstances, he was also a vet!

So, on May 26th, John and I met in Coraopolis, decorated

up our Miatas with flags and signs, with some mention of our West Penn Miata Club, and chauffeured a Korean War and WWII vet through the parade for about 16 blocks to the good greetings of the community. It was both John and I's first time in a parade and it was a blast. We met in the VFW building afterward for free food and beer and mingled with other veterans, old and new, and enjoyed a rousing series of Scottish military marches by a college bag pipe band followed by toasts to veterans who have passed and those still with us. We had a good time, the club offered a service to vets and even John said that it was a "hoot"! Maybe next year we can expand our participation, it's an all around win-win and is great fun.....and you get fed!

The Jimmy Stewart Museum Cruise by Shar Whitmire

While a visual scan of the sky would have sent the faint of heart scurrying for their basement, a goodly number of stalwart Miata souls lined up behind Jeff Tai and his co-pilot Dan at they led the May 31st cruise from Harmarville to and through the wonderful back roads of Indiana County. Lunch was found at Roseann's Deli, where we were able to select from a great array of cold and hot dishes, and sumptuous desserts.....all homemade on site. A short drive from Roseann's and we were at the Jimmy Stewart Museum, located in downtown Indiana (city of). The Museum contained many wonderful pictures of Jimmy Stewart throughout his lifetime and an interesting collection of memorabilia that had been given to him by fans. We watched a film of Jimmy Stewart's life, where we learned that he had originally planned to be an architect before stumbling into acting because of unemployment. We also learned that Jimmy interrupted his acting career to serve in the military as a fighter pilot and instructor; and that he was married (only once) to the love of his life for over 40 years. Upon leaving the Museum, we Miata'd a short distance to Varnick's Farm where we found a great selection of fresh (as in still growing) produce and breads. For those of us that enjoyed salad and bread that evening from Varnick's, it just made the day all the better. The roads were great, the temps were perfect, our cruise leader as terrific and our tops were down the entire cruise. All in all, a great day in our Miata.





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

ROCKSHELTER DIGS CRUISE

By John and Herttha
Oldenburg

The group left Moon Mazda parking lot for an invigorating ride on some enjoyable Miata roads. On arriving at Meadowcroft, we viewed a video about prehistoric man's journey to the new world. From there we went to visit the 16,000 year old rockshelter. The guide gave a lecture about the finding of artifacts, bones, plants, and fire pits dating between 17,000 and 12,000 years ago.

We returned to the Meadowcroft center for a visit to an early inhabitants living area. We were shown around and given explanations of how and why things were done. The real entertainment was when the group got to try an ATLATL, a prehistoric spear thrower as used by Meadowcroft's first inhabitants. The target, a dummy elk, was only struck once. You had to be there to enjoy the spear chucking and related laughter.

Leaving Meadowcroft we again enjoyed fine roads on our way to an excellent restaurant which for the life of me I cannot remember the name but I will give Breezy Point a shot. I may not remember the name but the food was excellent and abundant. Leaving there we traveled to Sarris candy and ice cream store.

The day was over and we all went our own way. Many thanks to Tom and Mary Jane Sertik for a well-planned and enjoyable day.

July Deadline

The deadline for articles for the July newsletter is July 7, 2008

Journeys with John by President John Whitmire

One of the most gratifying things for me during my term as President of the West Penn Miata Club has been to see the increase in club membership. As each "new" Miata owner joins us for a cruise, it just confirms my belief that the nicest people in the world drive Miatas.

This Miata season we are fortunate to have many great Miata cruises scheduled. And, we are "doubly blessed" (as Meatloaf would say) to have many first-time cruise leaders. (Those of you that have looked into the hypnotic eyes of Linda Zimliki, our cruise coordinator, know that "no" isn't in her vocabulary of acceptable responses!) Just a couple of reminders for all cruise leaders. Linda furnishes everyone with a list of cruise "tips". Please review them prior to leading your cruise and review them with your cruisin Miata bunch prior to hitting the road. If you need to leave the cruise line for any reason, the most usual reason is that a member is going home a different way than the cruise leader, be sure to let your cruise leader know ahead of time that you are going to be cutting out of the line. Also, try to find out who is immediately in back of you and communicate to them on your radio when you are leaving the line so that they do not follow you. Otherwise, you may pull in your driveway with some unexpected guests for dinner!

Please note that the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix race weekend and car show at Schenley Park Golf Course is July 19 & 20. West Penn Miata Club will have a tent on the golf course and we would like to display as many of our Miatas as possible. Registration is required in order to drive onto the golf course. You can register and pay online at www.pvgp.org or by mail. Mail-in and online registration deadline is July 3, 2008. Anyone who is planning on attend this event either on Saturday (7/19) or Sunday (7/20) is requested to contact Garry Matson at remsgem@yahoo.com or 412-653-4066. This is a great event and for those of us that love cars, and there will be hundreds to walk around and see.

Hope to see you all at our next cruise!





Officers

Founder:
Paul Fronko

President: (412) 262-1813
John Whitmire

Vice President: (724) 468-8435
Jim Pfeiffer

Treasurer: (724) 238-5859
Bill McCullough

Secretary: (724) 443-0834
Sherry Swarmer

Events Chair: (724) 327-1762
Linda Zimliki

Past President: (724) 439-4001
Bryan Bond

e-mail: wpmc@westpenmiataclub.com
web site: <http://www.westpenmiataclub.com>



Editor - In - Chief:
Steve Lapp

Send all editorial contributions to:



WEST PENN MIATA CLUB
c/o Steve Lapp
105 Gadshill Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
e-mail: slapp@westpenmiataclub.com


Legalese

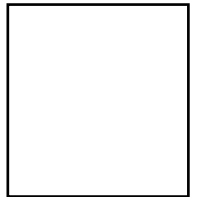
The FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES is published as a service by the West Penn Miata Club, Inc. – a non-profit corporation.

The WEST PENN MIATA CLUB assumes no liability for any information contained herein; or injury or damage resulting from the use of this information. The ideas, maintenance, opinions, or modification tips expressed are to be used at the readers' discretion. Individual contributors and/or editors express no approval, authentication, or endorsement.

THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

WEST PENN MIATA CLUB

c/o Sherry Swarmer 
1022 Arborwood Drive
Gibsonia, PA 15044



Address goes here

leave room for mail bar code to go here