

Upcoming Events

Fri Jul 19	Victory Cruise - Featured Car: Miata
Sat Jul 27	Penn Shore Vineyard Cruise
Sat-Sun Aug 3-4	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix
Wed Aug 7 7:00 PM	WPMC Monthly Teleconference Meeting
Sat Aug 17	Volant, McConnell's Mills, & Combine Brothers Cruise
Sat Aug 24	WPMC Annual Picnic
Sat Aug 31	Labor Day Weekend Cruise
Fri-Mon Sep 6-9	Watkins Glen International Racetrack Cruise
Sat Sep 14	Castle Noel Cruise
Sat-Sun Oct 5-6	Train Cruise
Sat Dec 7	WPMC Annual Christmas Party

August Deadline

The deadline for articles for the August newsletter is August 10, 2024

Victory Car Cruise by Joe & Linda Zimliki

The MX-5 aka Miata will be the featured car at the Victory Car Cruise on Friday evening, July 19. We would like our Club to show their support by attending this event. There is no admission charge. There are food trucks with a lot of different food items, along with a DJ for entertainment, and a 50/50 raffle. Different makes and models will be there including vintage cars and muscle cars, possibly 600 in total. The cruise is from 5 pm to 9 pm, and I'd like us to meet around 3:30. We will meet at Ehrman Crest Elementary School, and I will need to know the number of Miatas to have an area large enough to hold them.. Please let me know you plan on attending at lzimliki@westpennmiataclub.com. Come out and support our club.

Penn Shore Vineyard Cruise by Bruce & Peg Neeley

The Club will take winding roads to Erie to visit Penn Shore Vineyard. The winery will have a pavilion, entertainment, and food truck. The Presque Isle Miata Club will be joining us. Entertainment will be Andy Davis performing at 5:00 pm. Winery has Wine, Mead, Hard Cider and Beer. Join us to taste what Penn Shore has to offer, and enjoy the company of the Presque Isle Miata Club and naturally the Miata roads.

Date & Time: Saturday, July 27 at 11:00 AM

Meeting Place: Sheetz, 1931 Butler Pike, Grove City, PA
(across from Grove City Outlets)

RSVP: bengw@aol.com or 412-980-3439 by July 24





THE FUN 'N' THE SUN TIMES

McConnells Mill, Volant, & Combine Brothers Cruise by Ron and Pat Hoffman

Please join Pat and I for a cruise on some great western PA roads to a popular Italian restaurant, Combine Brothers, in Hermitage, PA (this one's for you, Joe).

We will be heading first to the town of Volant by way of McConnells Mill State Park (including a covered bridge) for a 45 minute stop. Volant, for those who have not been there before, is a quaint village with lots of interesting shops which sits in the middle of Western PA Amish country.

There is a good possibility the Amish will have booths set up along the Main Street. We will then head to Hermitage for a late lunch (around 2:30) at Combine Brothers Bar and Grille (www.combinebrothers.com). Bring snacks, if you wish, or you may find some tasty offerings in Volant to hold you over. Combine Brothers' speciality is Italian and they serve HUGE portions, so bring your coolers as you may have leftovers for the next few days. We will plan an ice cream stop at a yet to be determined ice cream joint before heading home, for those who still have room.

Date and Time: Saturday, August 17. Meet at 10:30, on the road by 11:00

Meeting Place: Sheetz, Store #277, 12000 Perry Highway in Wexford (North Hills)

RSVP: by August 12 to pat.hof@hotmail.com or 724-392-7932. I am limiting this cruise to a max of ten cars.

Cruise Type: Leisure to Sporty

WPMC Annual Picnic by Larry Shockling

It is time for our Annual WPMC Picnic, which will be on Saturday, August 24th in White Oak Park at the Maple Grove. The Club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, brats and fried chicken, condiments, soft drinks, water, utensils and paper products. This is a time were you can get to know your fellow members. There will be games

to play including horseshoes and bocce ball. Hopefully this year we can bring back a member favorite, Funcana.

Funcana is games played with your Miata in a parking lot. It is a lot of fun with a lot of laughing.

RSVPs are needed to plan for the appropriate quantities of items. When making your reservation, we will let you know what is still needed. It may be an appetizer, side dish, dessert or snack foods. Planning ahead will ensure a variety of choices for everyone. RSVP to Linda Zimiki by August 16 at lzimiki@westpennmiataclub.com or call 724-327-1762.

Directions to White Oak Park – look for a sign “WPMC PICNIC” at Maple Grove:

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
- 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)





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Watkins Glen Cruise by Joe & Linda Zimlik

We head North to New York to visit Watkins Glen for a three and a half day weekend. We will leave from Dubois, Pa. and will drive curvy back roads to Watkins Glen. Night one I have reserved rooms at a hotel in Dubois for an early departure Saturday morning. We will zoom to Watkins Glen where that evening you experience "Drive the Glen", a 3.45 mile circuit course led by an official Watkins Glen International pace car for three escorted laps around this storied road course. During our weekend we will visit the International Motor Racing Research Center and drive the original 6.6 mile circuit which was through the town. You can't visit the Finger Lakes without visiting some wineries. I planned a visit to Keuka Lake which is home to some of the best known and scenic wineries. These are near Hammondsport, a friendly small town with a charming town square. First grapes were planted in the Finger Lakes region in 1829 and the first bonded winery in the region, Pleasant Valley Wine Company opened in 1860. The trip will be limited to 16 cars.

Dates & Time: Friday-Monday, September 6-9, Leave Dubois, Saturday, September 7 at 8:00 AM

Costs: Drive the Glen - \$30, Dubois Hotel - \$125 plus taxes, Watkins Glen - \$139 plus taxes. Plans in place for 3 lunches and 3 dinners.

Cruise Type: Sporty and mostly Zoomin

RSVP: lzimlik@westpennmiataclub.com by August 7th

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



Cars & Coffee Cruise Review

by Dan & Karin Flanagan

With the threat of rain looming, Jim Blok's first cruise of the season on May 18 appeared in jeopardy. Jim's Nickname is now "Rain Man" due to all his past cruises being cancelled due to rain. Thank goodness he chose to continue with this cruise since it turned out to be a Picture-perfect Day. As the sun started to peak through the clouds, we left the Wexford Sheetz parading our 8 Miatas (Including 3 new members) into the Generoasta Coffee and Cafe for "Cars and Coffee" making an impressive entrance causing people to run along side us to film our cars with their phones.

We walked our way through all the car enthusiasts as we enviously admired the Lamborghinis, Maseratis, Porsches, Bentleys, Rolls Royce and the Tesla Cybertruck. (The Cybertruck goes to show how looks are subjective, you can decide on that one). The Star of the Show was the Million Dollar Mira Orange McLaren Senna. I have to say our fellow WPMC member, Walt Dillen looked like a "Kid in a Candy Shop."

After "Cars and Coffee" we drove on fan favorite Route 528, passing by horses, donkeys, and roosters. A goat was basking in the sun on a boulder and we also had to maneuver around the back-end of a calf standing on the road. We wound our Miatas along a rain-swollen creek passing rows of freshly plowed fields which made for an amazing sight. We came upon a picturesque farm for training horses for harness racing as evidenced by the Horse Trotter Zone sign, impressive. The sun was shining on a few boaters as we passed over Lake Arthur, beautiful.

Lunch was at Libation Winery where a large silver elk head with a bowl between its antlers watched over us as we ate. During lunch we all had comments on the favorable roads, weather, and how efficient the service was and delicious the food. Jim Blok's car would not start when we were leaving the Winery. It was discovered that his battery cable became disconnected. As we proceeded to the ice cream stop, a woman next to us at a stop light asked if we were going to a convention. She smiled and commented "It looks FUN!" We agreed. While we were enjoying our ice cream at Katie's Korner, Kenny, Jim Pacillo's 15 year old grandson, described the trip as "Exquisite." Thank you, Jim for a wonderful cruise.





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Eldred World War II Museum Cruise Review

By Steve Lapp

At 331 miles round trip, this was one of the longer cruises I've driven, and it had something for everyone. We began at the Sheetz in Mars on a picture-perfect day. After instructions from cruise leader Vickie Buzzelli and events coordinator Linda Zimliki, eight Miatas started the journey north to our destination. It took no longer than ten minutes to find the first Miata roads after we started. I do love seeing that tach around 5000 RPM and it spent a good bit of time there. We made our way up to northwest PA on a number of different road types and enjoyed the wonderful scenery, highlighted by zooming thorough the Allegheny National Forest, along the way. Upon arriving in Eldred, we had lunch at Munchie's, where the service was quite good and the portions were ample. I don't think anyone left hungry. We then made the short trip to the museum. At first glance, the exterior does not really catch your eye, but that all changes when you enter. Once inside, you find yourself immersed in an incredible collection of memorabilia of all types from World War II. Curator Kyle Quinn gave us an introduction to the museum and answered the question I think everyone had, "Why is this located in Eldred? Why not a larger city where the exposure and traffic would likely be much higher?" The answer is that the museum is a tribute to the women who worked at the nearby munitions plant, where they assembled, filled, primed, boxed, and shipped eight million explosives, fuses, thermite incendiary bombs and grenades during the war. When the museum opened in 1996, it consisted of a one room display highlighting their contributions. It has since expanded to include the contributions of other military branches. We spent 90 minutes at the museum, but really could have spent an entire day there. Following our tour of the museum, we drove to Country Pines Ice Cream Shop for our usual cruise ending treat. The portions were huge and the remark, "I thought I ordered a Small..." was heard more than once. Many thanks to Vickie and Linda for a wonderful cruise to a fascinating destination. I don't think the day could have been any better.

Laurel Highlands Cruise Review

by Jack and Nancy Bartek

Although weather forecast wasn't the best the morning of June 22, 10 cars of the West Penn Miata Club gathered just outside of Latrobe at 9:00AM. We were all looking forward to the cruise Dave and Luanne Kopco had in store for us. Who cares about the weather! The roads were full of twisty curvy roads with a generous helping of switchbacks for an extra thrill. After picking up another member along the way to round out the total to 11 cars, we proceeded to carve our way through Westmoreland and Cambria counties. We stopped for lunch at the Boulevard Grill in Johnstown where parking was reserved for our club. The wait staff was friendly and quick and served the group a great lunch while we all chatted about the morning's drive. After lunch, we were off again with Dave and Luanne leading us on to Somerset and Bedford counties. Each new road provided another promise of spirited driving. The drive ended in Sidman at The Ranger for Ice cream. Thanks to Dave and Luanne for the time and energy it took to put together such a delightful cruise in the country. The pace was absolutely brisk and we all had fun pushing our Miatas as we rounded each bend. This, my friends, was a ZOOMIN cruise of the highest quality.

2024 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON

BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

What a sweltering summer we are having. It seems temperatures in the 90s are the norm. The rain has toyed with us, but we've gotten cruises in anyway. Hope we continue to dodge the raindrops. We are now in the middle of our season with a lot more to come. Check the events out in the newsletter to see what is coming in the next two months.

Zoom Zoomm Zoommm!





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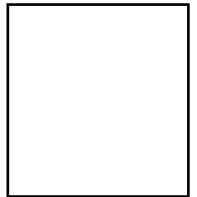
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