

Upcoming Events

Sat
Jun 7
Frick Mansion + Car & Carriage
Museum Cruise

Sat
Jun 21
Tour-Ed Mine Cruise

Sat
Jun 28
Swigart Antique Auto Museum
Cruise

Wed
Jul 2
7:00 PM
WPMC Monthly Teleconference
Meeting

Sun
Jul 6
PVGP Start-Up Rallye

Sat-Sun
Jul 12-13
Miata Gathering at PittRace -
PVGP

Sat-Sun
Jul 19-20
Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix -
Miata is the Spotlight Car

Wed
Jul 30
7:00 PM
WPMC Monthly Teleconference
Meeting

Sat
Aug 2
Railroaders Memorial Museum
Cruise with the PACE Club

Sat
Aug 23
WPMC Annual Picnic

Sat
Sep 13
Explore Washington County Roads
Cruise

Sat
Sep 20
Vineyards at Pine Lake Cruise

Sat
Sep 27
Covered Bridges of Greene County
Cruise

TBD
Cass Railroad Cruise

Sat
Dec 6
WPMC Annual Christmas Party

Cruise to the Frick by Jim Blok

We are looking forward to cruising back in time and reliving the GILDED AGE. We will visit the well-manicured grounds of the Frick. This 10-acre facility includes a first-class Art Museum, Buggy and Automobile Museum, Cafe where we will enjoy lunch and more. A highlight of the day is a guided tour of Clayton (The Frick's home for many years). The Artwork, Furniture and other Personal Purchases are said to be 90% original to the home. Being an Industrialist in many parts of the country, Pittsburgh was home.

Our plan is to have lunch at the Café, and go for Ice Cream at the end of our tour. There is a \$18 Senior fee, but I am trying to get a group rate.

Date & Time: Saturday June 7th, meet at 8:30, depart 9:00 sharp

Meeting Place Sheetz 1000 Dori Drive Valencia, PA 16059

RSVP: Jameslblok@yahoo.com or 412-287-9954

July Deadline

The deadline for articles for the July newsletter is July 7, 2025





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Tour-Ed Mine Cruise by Vickie Buzzelli

The earliest record of mining activity at the site of Tour-Ed Mine was in 1850. Known later as the Avenue Mine, it was operated by Allegheny Steel and mined by the Leechburg Mining Company. The coal extracted during this period was used locally at the Allegheny Steel Plant in Brackenridge and also shipped by rail throughout the nation

Ira Wood acquired the mine in 1964 and provided coal to many local concerns, including Tarentum Power, PPG, and the Allegheny County Workhouse. Ira Wood then decided he wanted to share the history of coal mining and began plans to create one of the most unique Pittsburgh attractions.

Put on your authentic Tour-Ed Mine hard-hat and climb into a real coal mine car for a 1/2 mile journey Experience what it was like to be a coal miner in the 1850s and today. Your guides are real coal miners who will treat you to an amazing educational coal mine tour 160 feet below the earth's surface. It's one of the most unique attractions in Pittsburgh.

Coal Mine Tours are approximately 30 minutes underground A light jacket is suggested with a coal mine tour temperature of 52 to 55 degrees year-round.

Depending on the time we arrive, there is a museum, souvenir shop, and a reproduction of a coal miner's home. This will not be a real early day since the Mine is only 20 miles from Pittsburgh. We will be driving sporty/leisure back roads.

Date & Time: Saturday, June 21 - 9:00 AM, leave at 9:30 AM

Meeting Place: 206 Seven Fields Blvd, Mars, PA Giant Eagle Side Parking Lot

Tour at Noon (\$9.00 Senior Citizen Cost) then lunch at 1:30 PM

RSVP - June 16 - vbuzzelli@westpennmiataclub.com



Swigart Museum Cruise by Dave & LuAnne Kopco

Luanne and I invite you to join us on a cruise to the Swigart Antique Auto Museum in Huntingdon on June 28th. According to the museum website, they are America's oldest automobile museum and have 30 to 35 mint condition masterpieces on display along with numerous other pieces of memorabilia. The entry price is \$10.00 per person or \$9.00 for senior citizens. The PACE Club will be joining us at Tops for lunch and the Swigart Museum.

Please note that this will not be a typical "Kopco Driving Cruise" but rather a destination cruise where we tried to find fun roads to get us there. The drive itself will be approximately 3 hours before stopping for lunch at Tops Diner, which has quite an expansive menu. From there we will go almost next door to the Swigart Museum, and lastly to the Meadows for ice cream. This will leave you on Rt. 22 in Huntingdon mid afternoon. Luanne and I will take a few back roads to get home from there and you are free to follow for more driving or head west on Rt. 22 to get back to your own homes.

Date & Time: Saturday June 28th 9:00. Leave 9:30

Meeting Place: 4375 RT 22, Ebensburg, Pa. Just past intersection of Rt 22 & Rt 219

Category: Sporty

RSVP: By June 23 email dlkopco@gmail.com or text (814) 421-0857

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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PVGP Kick-Off Rallye by Joe & Linda Zimlik

PVGP starts the 10 day event with a Kick-Off Rallye on Sunday July 6 at Dual Devil's Garage in Houston, Pa. The competition consists of a combined Monte Carlo/Gimmick format requiring no prior experience. There will be multiple check points early in the rallye. The idea is to cross these checkpoints at specified times. You can download Richta Rally Competitor which acknowledges as you pass each electronic check point. Rallye starts at 11:30 am with cars leaving every minute. You must have a navigator. The course is a secret and instructions will be given during driver's meeting at 11:00 am. It will take approximately 3 hours to complete the course. After you return, a deluxe cookout lunch will be served.

Before and after the Rallye, you can enjoy the collection of cars located on the upper floor of the former dealership. There are race driving simulators you can try. It is a day of fun. Special awards will be given for Miatas finishing 1st, 2nd & 3rd. Registration for Rallye is \$80 and includes meals for 2 people.

Register here:

<https://vivenu.com/event/2025-pvgp-kick-off-rallye-copy-8qk8jo>

Contact me at wpmc@westpennmiataclub.com with any questions.

The funds raised support residential care, treatment, and ongoing support for individuals with autism and intellectual/developmental disabilities. They have donated \$7 million to charity since 1983. Come join us and have some fun. Let me know once you have registered.

Date: Sunday July 6, 2025

Place: Dual Devils Garage: 101 W Pike St, Houston, Pa 15342

Registration: 9:30 – 11:00 am

Mandatory Drivers Meeting: 11:00– 11:15 am

Rallye Cars Start Departing: 11:30 am (one leaves every minute)

Meals will be served once you return, starting at 2:00 pm

Historics at Pitt Race by Joe & Linda Zimlik

Legends of the 60s & 70s, including Mustangs, Corvettes, Jaguars, BMWs, Porsches and Alfa Romeos, to name a few will be racing. You can see list of racers for Historics here:

<https://www.motorsportreg.com/index.cfm/event/event.status/uidEvent/F87F37DB-0B79-F359-5A7B9284454DCD99>

The Host Club, West Penn Miata Club, will have a place set aside for us at the Water Tower parking lot. We will have a pop up tent, and ask that you bring a dish to share.

Race is Friday, Saturday & Sunday. We will be there Saturday. Cost is \$50 per car which includes parking at the Water Tower. You are getting a \$10 discount. We have invited PIMC and Northcoast Miata club to join us.

There are other events, at lunch time where they will have Charity PVGP Track Riders. Your \$50 donation benefits PVGP charities. Rides are limited to 50 minutes each day, so get your tickets now. Timing depends on track conditions and race schedule – rides are scheduled from noon until 12:50 PM. You will be a rider not a driver.

Also karting is available on the world class .83 Wilson Karting Circuit, where you can reach speeds of 45 MPH! The kart, gas, and all safety equipment are included. Closed-toe shoes are required. The drivers must be between 5'0" and 6' 2" tall.

Date: Sunday July 12, 2025 at 9:00 am

Place: Pitt Race: 201 Penndale Road, Wampum PA 16157





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Register here:

<https://pvgp.org/car-show-overview/miata-2025-spotlight/>
Once you register please contact Linda Zimlik at lzimlik@westpennmiataclub.com and let me know who is coming and what you will bring.

Pittsburgh Vintage Gran Prix by Vickie Buzzelli

This year, the PVGP is celebrating the 43rd annual race through the streets of Schenley park. The festivities start on Sunday July 6th with the Kick Off Rally. This is a combined driving tour and scavenger hunt, starting and ending at Dual Devils Garage in Houston Pa.

This year is a ten day venue leading up to the International Car Show Saturday July 19th and Sunday July 20th. You can find details of all the events by clicking on the PVGP web site which is listed later in this article.

The marque car for this year is the Lotus with the Miata being the spotlight car. It is important to note that all the proceeds of all the events year go towards the Autism Society of Pittsburgh and the Allegheny Valley School.

The West Penn Miata Club will host other clubs and Miatas on Saturday July 19th. We will all meet in the Spotlight Tent to enjoy our Miatas and the camaraderie of others and watch the only remaining Vintage race still run on city streets. Also the new event this year is the Hill climb where Miatas entered. Please go the registration web page located at <https://pvgp.org/car-show-overview/asian-car-show/> The rate for the weekend is \$70 this rate is available until July 1st which at that time the rate increases to \$80. Deadline for online registration is July 17th after that you must pay at the gate. Please use the web site to register for any of the events you would like to attend. This is the first year Miata is able to attend additional events and we would love to see a great turnout.

The entrance to the International Car Show is at the top of Schenley Drive where it intersects Forbes Avenue in Squirrel Hill, just below the Schenley Park Golf Course

Clubhouse. You will enter at Gate D, but actual instructions will be given on race day. Please note that your receipt will contain a QR code that will be scanned upon entry to facilitate a quick and touchless process. So please print your receipt or save it in your phone and bring it with you. The car show runs from 9:30am-5:00pm.

WPMC's main day will be Saturday July 19th We will have a tent and tables set up. Food will be provided by John Marshall Catering. Cost is \$20/person. Go to the Forum in our news letter to sign up for lunch. Lunch is to be pre paid. The tent and tables will remain in place for both days for anyone who wishes to attend on Sunday which is the featured Vintage Race which begins at 11:00am with opening ceremonies. Food will only be available in our tent on Saturday.

We also need folks to take turns staffing the information and merchandise table during the day. Please take a bit of time to help promote our club and to meet prospective members. Please mingle with the other clubs and make them feel welcomed. Hope to see you all in Schenley park on July 19th and 20th.

Miata – Spotlight Calendar

Miata Spotlight Car Show at Schenley Park – July 19/20 Weekend

The Miata Spotlight Show on the Bob O'Connor Golf Course will be adjacent to the traditional Asian Car Show. Registration is for the entire weekend. Park your Miata on the golf course in the middle of the International Car Show with a weekend view of the track. There are plenty of food vendors and Helltown Brewing nearby.

Your \$70 Entry Donation includes:

- * Weekend Parking spot
- * PVGP Race Program and sticker.
- * Two wristbands to enter the event and browse the International Car Show and the Start/Finish Line.
- * Entry into Auto Show with trophies for 1st place NA, NB, NC, ND AND Best of show
- * Gift from Mazda (one per car)

Garden Party at Phipps Conservatory – Thursday, July 17





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The Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix planted the seeds for a fabulous new event in Schenley Park at the Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens alongside the race track. The party showcases a variety of cars and vehicles. Any registered Miata owners will be displayed in a special area in front of Phipps.. This Garden Party features palate-pleasing food stations, wine, Helltown Beer and bar cocktails throughout one of the nation's oldest and largest Victorian greenhouses. It promises to be an elegant and entertaining evening. Tickets are \$295 per person.

Tune-Up @ SouthSide Works – Wednesday, July 16
The PVGP Tune-Up was started in 2006 and has become a highlight of our Race Week Car Shows. Participation in this year's Tune-Up Party is just \$50. You get a reserved parking spot within the Automotive Showcase on the streets of the SouthSide Works. You will receive a PVGP Race Program and car decal. Also included are two drink coupons for the driver, redeemable at one of the drink stations. You can also register any guests for \$20 each to receive two complimentary drink coupons.

Downtown Car Display – Wednesday, July 16
If you work downtown, Wednesday of Race Week is a great day to take a long lunch break. The Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix hosts a car display among the skyscrapers at downtown's most prominent address at PPG Place and the plaza surrounding the fountain. Any Miata that registers will be parking together. The cost is \$25 per car to participate in the Downtown Plaza Display. All vehicles must stay in place until 1:45 pm and depart plazas by 2:00 pm.

Waterfront Car Cruise – Tuesday, July 15
Join 600 other auto aficionados for a vast car show at the Waterfront Shopping Center in Historic Homestead. Check out classic and modern vehicles from all makes and years. Enjoy a day of automotive fun and fellowship with food, music, vendors, and giveaways. There will be a special area for Miatas. Bring your friends and family—\$ 10 charity donation per car.

Walnut Street Car Show – Monday, July 14
Nestled on Shadyside's charming Walnut Street, you will see 135 rare, classic and exotic cars the length of the street. This is a glimpse of what you will see that weekend at the PVGP International Car Show, which will occur a few days later. This popular long-running show features some of the region's finest and most unique vehicles. Cars are carefully selected for the show by invitation only – so this promises to include show cars rarely seen at other car

shows and cruises. The Miata Spotlight is assigned two display spots – held for the most notable examples. This is invitation only.

Miata Gathering at Pittsburgh International Race Complex – July 12/13 Weekend - Details in previous article - will be participating as Club

Kick-Off Rallye – Sunday, July 6 - Details in previous article - will be participating as Club

#1 Cochran Cars and Coffee of Monroeville by Jim Blok

We all gathered on a great Saturday morning to show off our Miatas, and gather some inside information. On hand we had Nick, a Mazda Technician, Andrew Hegerty, General Sales Manager, Andrew, and Lincoln, Mazda area Service and Sales Manager respectively.

We started off, getting the latest of what is in store for Miata. Things look good with several things on the burner for the next couple of years. We moved on with questions we had for our personal Miatas with four experienced Miata experts, and what one may not know the other did. It was very informative and I would encourage those that did not attend, be sure to do so next time.

Smail Cruise to Seven Springs by Pat Hoffman

Our first drive of the season started at Smail Mazda in Greensburg with 16 cars eager to start out on our drive. The weather was a little cool, but the partly cloudy, no rain day allowed us to travel tops down. Welcome to our newest members, Bob and Colleen Radsmaker, Tom and Lynn Meyers, Mike Pagnotti, and John and Deb Felix, who joined us on their first drive. After a quick meeting, we set out on some great roads, including a club favorite, Route 259. We arrived at the Pie Shoppe in Laughlintown to take a break and purchase sweets. Back on the road,





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we traveled through beautiful scenery in Ligonier Valley to Seven Springs. We had a buffet lunch in the dining room with a view of the slopes. After lunch, a drawing was held and the lucky winners were Dave and Luanne Kopco. The prize was a bucket of cleaning products and other gifts courtesy of Smail Mazda. Dave will have the cleanest car in the club! We saddled up again for a spirited drive, thanks Joe, on Route 711 to the Ligonier Creamery at the town square. Yes, some of us still had room for ice cream after lunch. Thank you to JD and family from Smail Mazda for sponsoring the drive and to Linda for all of the planning. A great day with great people to kick off the 2025 season!

Memorial Day Parade by Linda Zimlik

Memorial Day started out cool and turned into a beautiful day. We arrived at Baglier for donuts and coffee before the Parade. Chic arrived to lead us to downtown Butler. Once we got to downtown Butler we had the opportunity to decorate our cars. We decorated our cars for the occasion with flags and garland. We had our new mascot Zoomie the Bear prominently displayed in our Miata. After the Parade, Chic took us for a zoomin ride back to Baglier dealership for a catered lunch. We do the Parade every year and it is an honor to recognize the men and women who gave all for our Country. Thanks to Baglier for giving us the opportunity to be a part of this event. A video of the Parade is on YouTube. We appear at 16 minutes. Here is the link:
<https://youtu.be/IArft2MdoDs?si=mdbJuGvB-VyGvv74>

is a month filled with events from PVGP. Hope you are planning to attend. Registration goes up JULY 1 TO \$80 INSTEAD OF \$70 SO REGISTER BEFORE JULY 1.

Zoom Zoommm Zoommm!

Miata Musings: Blessed to be Cruising in Western PA By Joel Starr, President

It is easy to take our location for granted. Western Pennsylvania is an ideal location for cruising in a Miata. It offers interesting destinations, winding well maintained roads, and great scenery. Yes, the weather is fickle and often our cruise dates need to be postponed, but the rain makes the grass grow and the flowers bloom.

I often have to travel west through Ohio and beyond as well as visit the Gulf states, where the roads are flat and straight. Don't get me wrong, there are neat places to visit in these locations but getting there is not nearly as interesting as in Western Pennsylvania. I hope you all get to take advantage of our unique region and join us on as many cruises as your schedule allows.

2025 CRUISIN & ZOOMIN SEASON BY LINDA ZIMLIKI

We have had a rainy season so far this year but we managed to get all but one cruise in without being canceled. We were able to reschedule the Greene County Covered Bridge for Sept 27. The Tara Cruise has been canceled for August 9th. There are some great cruises for June so check out their articles in the newsletter. July





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