



Update

October 2000

The Official Newsletter of the Sun Riders Miata Club of Tampa Bay

As you can see by the accompanying photo, we had a bunch of folks show up for our Dine & Drive. We had dinner at the Paradise Restaurant in Safety Harbor the drove to Blue Mountain Cakes for some of the yummiest looking (and tasting) desserts... And custom-brewed coffee. Thanks Paul Shaffer. The evening was beautiful, Dianne & I took the long way home...

We had a busy meeting last month. Two big milestones for the Club... First; we now have a Constitution; and second, we had our 5th Birthday. Having a Constitution is important, because we now have a formal charter, rules to guide our club as it continues to grow, and service it's members. In keeping with the Constitution, we will be holding elections during our November Monthly Meeting, for Officers and Board of Directors, to serve in 2001. We need candidates to be finalized during our October meeting. Please contact Ballot Chairperson Kathy Davis (727/586-5111 or davka62000@aol.com) to nominate a person for a Club position.

The list of officers needed are:

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary

and we will need at least 3 nominations for Club Directors.

Now the Birthday... Pam brought a big birthday cake for everyone at the meeting to share. Some of the long-time members reminisced about the days of yore (did you know the Club was a match-maker for Dewaine & Molly Norris-She was Molly Green when she joined the Club).

Willie Bullinton brought a binder filled with Horizons Newsletters (from issue #1), and has allowed me to peruse each issue at length. Very interesting reading...

Our Club is second to none in having a



Getting ready for the run to Safety Harbor. Dine & Drive September 23.

rich history, even in it's 5 short years. The very first event was a scavenger hunt (as reported in the first newsletter), then came a "Drive in the Country", a Dine & Drive, a Halloween Costume Party, and a "Weekend in Savannah" all in the first 4 months of existence!

When our Club was only 10 months old, we hosted the very first Sunshine State Sizzle! What an achievement! Looking over the early newsletters (very well done, by-the-way, with lots of photos), there have been a wide variety of events for members to partake in:

Poker Run, Sea Kayaking, White Water Rafting (in Georgia), a Funcanna, a Fifties Party, Key West Trip, A Mystery Day, Scenic Sight Bingo, Trip to North Carolina (the first Deal's Gap run), a St. Augustine Weekend, a Blue Ridge Parkway Drive, a Trip to the Space Center, and any number of Autocrosses and Northern and Southern runs.

Some of the events sound like they would be fun to do again. Any volunteer event coordinators?

A couple last notes: Is everyone aware of our Club web page;

www.sunriders.com

This is a *very nice* site put together by our webmaster, Keven Morrison. I don't think Keven get the praise he deserves for his efforts on this, but I would like to personally thank him for all the work, and the great site! Please check it out!

On the internet subject, is everyone (with e-mail) aware of the Club List at www.egroups.com. Check the Club web site (very bottom of the main page) for information on how to join this Club "party line". It's lots of additional information and fun "e-chat"

See you at the events!

Dave Tietz

Monthly Meeting Notes

September 19, 2000

Nice turn-out, with 26 attendees . Brand-new member Mike Benishek from Ellenton recently purchased a Miata to replace his Mustang and attended his first meeting at the invitation of Don Reese. And Sue and Arnie Anderson and Scott Luleff are prospective members who seemed to enjoy their first encounter with the Sun Riders. Both the Andersons and Scott found out about the club through our internet site: www.sunriders.com.

We voted on the club Constitution and By-Laws which had been included in the September newsletter and these documents were adopted on a vote of 30 to 0. We will be needing someone ASAP to volunteer as Nominating/Ballot Committee Chairperson as we will need to present a slate of officers at our October meeting in preparation for club elections in November.

We also reviewed a few upcoming club events:

* The drive to Howie-in-the-Hills on October 22nd will include a deluxe champagne brunch at 1:00 pm which will cost \$22.99 per person plus tax and tip. This will be a gourmet meal with lots of extras like an omelette station, carving station with roasts, fresh seafood, and many other goodies. We'll also enjoy a lovely twisty drive in the rolling hills of central Florida. Ilona and Joe Wessling will be checking out the route this weekend.

* More calendar news will be available in the October Update which will be mailed the first week of October.

There is still available space for both Miata 2000 and the Beyond event in Daytona Beach. This is an extraordinary opportunity to attend a national Miata event right here in Florida and at the historic Daytona International Speedway. Check www.miata2000.com for more information.

Molly and Dewaine shared a few stories of some of the early club days and told us



We had the "back porch" of the Paradise restaurant all go ourselves for the Dine & Drive. Members in the foreground are: left to right: Dianne Tietz, Iiona Wessling, Mark Jones and Joe Wessling.



At the dessert place, making coffee was exciting (or at least drew the most attention). In the foreground, the Wesslings again, and Dave Tietz, in the background: Dina Jones, Ed Simon, Doro Anderson and Paul Shaffer (adjusting camera).

how their Miatas and the Sun Riders helped Molly and Dewaine meet and later marry.

We had a 5th Anniversary cake for the club and everyone helped in celebrating 5 wonderful years.

Our last activity of the evening was to draw for the lucky 50/50 winner — Don Reese took home \$25 tonight and the other \$25 has been added to our "Toys for Tots" fund.

Pam Barker

Coastal Clean Up 2000

The Sun Riders first community service activity, Coastal Clean Up 2000, turned out very well. Despite a bad start due to

inclement weather (Hurricane Gordon) the event was quite successful.

Tampa Bay Watch was on hand to supply us with tally cards to record our trash data and bags to collect it in. There were approximately 300 or so volunteers from various organizations on hand to comb the beaches and roads of Fort De Soto for litter and trash.

Our group, represented by Lloyd Davis, Pam Barker and myself scoured the beach for debris. We found tennis balls, a football and even a 50 lb piece of lumber to add to our tally sheet. We recorded that our group alone picked up about 70 lbs of trash (imagine what the larger groups collected!).

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Though the weather started the day off a little poorly it did hold off for most of the event and actually helped us "keep our cool" while we did our work. We even had a couple of dolphins swimming just offshore to entertain us as we walked and worked. They also serve to remind us why this type of event is beneficial to the community and our planet.

Kathy Davis



Kathy Davis tallying trash

Trip to Phoenix

Since an old friend of mine recently moved from Chicago to Phoenix, I decided to pay him a visit to see how he was doing and to get a taste of Phoenix and Arizona.

I had been to Arizona before, but only to the Grand Canyon, so I was curious to see what Phoenix had to offer. Unfortunately, my girlfriend is a teacher and is more available for vacation in the summer, so we got to see Phoenix in 110 degree heat.

Let me just say, in retrospect, Phoenix, is not on my list of places to live. Phoenix itself is okay, but it seems smaller than Tampa, and does not have the advantage of other areas close by, as we have Orlando, St. Pete, etc.

The cactus are remarkable, as is some of the scenery, especially in Sedona. Sedona had gorgeous formations of red stone and had the advantage of being about 20 degrees cooler than Phoenix. I was up for a jeep tour of the Sedona area, but my companions were reluctant, so I will leave it for my next visit, this time in the winter.

While in the Sedona area, we also visited

the old mining town of Jerome. Jerome was set on the side of a hill with a great view. The town has a variety of arts and craft shops and makes an interesting half day stop.

The best excursion we had was to Tuscon to visit the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum which is actually more of an outdoor zoo. Since we have two pet Prairie Dogs, we especially enjoyed seeing the Prairie Dog exhibit which was as natural a habitat as they could make it.

We spent so much time at the museum, we did not have enough time to spend at the aircraft graveyard, which was a short ride from the museum. You may have seen this graveyard in movies. Row after row of obsolete government aircraft of all generations are stored here. Probably better for me to save it for a winter trip as well. It surely takes hours of walking to cover it.

One of the things that impressed me in Phoenix was the Biltmore Resort Hotel which was designed by Frank Lloyd

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Horizons

Premier Issue

A PUBLICATION OF THE SUN RIDERS MIATA CLUB OF TAMPA BAY
AUGUST 1995 - VOLUME 1 - NUMBER 1

How it all started

I purchased my 1993 Miata as a Christmas present for myself December 27, 1993. I worked hard all year and I deserved the fun the car would bring me. I had owned a 1970 Opel GT and enjoyed driving it very much, even though I had to make sure my membership to AAA was current. A breakdown on the old Howard Frankland bridge taught me a lesson. Surely the Miata was to bring me the same kind of fun.

I don't usually believe all the advertising I read, but after the first few nights in my Miata I was convinced. The salesperson at Mazda Village told me to keep it under 55 for the first 500 miles, but that was like putting chocolate ice cream in front of a seven year old. The temptation was so great. I resisted, but found myself driving to Oldsmar for a gallon of milk. I live in Tampa. I had to rack up the first five hundred miles in a hurry.

After the break in period, or probationary period, as I referred to it, I was ready for some fun. The car is nothing like the Opel. The heater and air conditioner worked every time, the brakes could be counted on and the horses under

See START page 2

Our Champion Hunters



Rose Ott and Andee Hidalgo drove their 1990 red Miata to the finish line with the most points.

The day began with overcast skies and humidity so thick you could cut it with a knife. That was not going to stop the team of Rose Ott and Andee Hidalgo from making a concerted effort in the first Sun Riders Miata Club scavenger hunt. The two recently moved to Tampa, and are somewhat unfamiliar with the area. "We loved the rally," explained Andee "we learned so much about this area." The team was able to accumulate 615 points.

See WINNERS page 3

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The very first issue of the Horizons - August 1995

Wright. I can't say why, but it just gave me a good feeling to walk around the hotel and its grounds.

One day, I decided to track down some car related points of interest so I visited a car collector/broker named Harley Cluxton of Grand Touring Cars, Inc. For those of you who don't know (I certainly didn't), Harley Cluxton bought the old Mirage racing team (remember the Ford GT40?) in the mid-seventies and owns the rights to the name, so he gets paid a little for every Mitsubishi Mirage that is sold! Harley was not there but his assistant graciously took me for a tour of his small (but expensive) showroom, his restoration shop and his office.

His showroom had among a few others, a 1960s Ferrari P4 race car (mint) and an original Cobra Daytona Coupe (also mint) worth in excess of 4 million dollars! His office was filled with metal die cast cars, fighter plane models (he was a pilot during Vietnam) and old issues of Road & Track magazine. His shop was in the midst of restoring two birdcage Maseratis (60s vintage race cars). The shop area also held a variety of Ferraris as well as his personal, real, 427 Cobra. I asked his assistant what other cars Harley personally drove. I was not surprised to find it was a Ferrari 550 Maranello and a little surprised, a Hummer! I guess that is the best of two worlds.

In the near future, I'll tell you about my trip to Bowling Green, Kentucky and the tour of the worlds only Corvette factory and the National Corvette Museum.

Vinnie Lucido

Missing Miata Magazine?

If you haven't received your last issue of Miata Magazine, please contact Paul Shaffer 813/231-5025 to see about getting your copy... Or better yet, come to our next meeting!

From an e-mail Paul Shaffer sent to sunriders@egroups.com:

"Miata Magazine sent a bulk package of issues for distribution among MCA members within the Sunriders. Looks like there are quite a few copies so we can spread them around after our MCA members get theirs. Anyway, I'll bring them to our next gathering."

Paul Shaffer

Autocross Clinic

Ok, guys, this is it. You asked for it and now we're going to do it. The Sun Riders Autocross Series 2001 will begin on Saturday, January 20, 2001 at the SPJC Allstate Campus with a low-cost, no frills, lots-of-runs autocross clinic.

This event is limited to 25 participants (including me, so there's really 24 spots left). Registration is only open to SunRiders Club members until December 15, at which time it will open to others if all 25 spots are not filled. The cost of the clinic will be \$20. That's right - twenty bucks, but lunch will not be included. The format will be such that there will be lots of seat time. We will have some instructors, but at this time I can't say for sure who that will be.

To sign up for the clinic - go to:

<http://www.sunriders.com/asp/autoxschool.asp>

and fill out the form, or call me at 813-222-0509. After you fill out the form, you have to mail in a check to secure your spot. Registrations without checks received are not guaranteed spots. I will start a waiting list if we exceed 25 registrants. If I receive a check from you and find that your club membership is not in a "paid" status, you will go on the waiting list.

And More...

There will be a regular autocross the next day, Sunday, January 21. If you plan to participate in that, do not send me your money - save it and pay the morning of the event. That's too much for me to keep track of. ;-)

Any questions, contact me at this e-mail address or the phone number above.

Kevin Morrison

Indy Trip & More

The time had finally arrived. Mike hadn't slept in days, the blue '92 was loaded up and ready to go and Charlene graciously gathered tickets, maps, and other sundries to ready the trip. Our destination: Indianapolis Motor Speedway (Mike's dream finally came true) to witness the inaugural USGP F1 race and cheer Shuey on to victory.

The blue '92 ran flawlessly all the way to Crawfordsville, Indiana where we spent 4 days at a bed & breakfast built in 1812; it was a little rough around the edges but we did enjoy ourselves. Half of the people in the house were from Florida (Daytona, Orlando) and ALL of the guests were there for the F1 race. We enjoyed conversation from race fans around the country in the evenings and felt like we had made some new friends.

The day we arrived in Crawfordsville we did some antiquing and cruised the countryside finding 6 covered bridges built between the 1800's and the 1920' s. We were actually able to drive through some of them! All of the roads were ideal for Sun Rider's Sunday morning runs!!

On Friday we arrived at the track at 7:30 am. It was the largest practice day crowd in F1 history. Mike had goosebumps all day long. (He was also having "cargasms"

all day as well). We watched the practice of the Porsche Cup with Al Unser, Jr. and Mario Andretti followed by the Ferrari Challenge Practice (a bunch of rich guys who drive their Ferrari's like there's no tomorrow) and finally the Formula One cars. Their cars and their driving abilities are not done justice by the television set, and the sound they make in person was totally overwhelming. We spent the day walking the track finding good vantage points to observe the teams readying their cars. The pit stalls were totally immaculate, Ferrari actually painted the floor on Thursday and hung wallpaper. Each team is first class all the way. And Charlene faithfully followed Mike around the track and actually seemed to enjoy herself (at times).

We returned on Saturday morning for qualifying, the crowds again were overwhelming. The drivers could not believe that we Americans even knew who they were. The place was full of Ferrari flags, BMW flags, and Mercedes flags, along with Germans, Brits, Italians, and Finns painted from head to toe with Finnish flags. The Indianapolis facility was awesome, to actually stand where so much history had happened! The food service, however, is another story... How do you run out of beer Saturday morning???

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2001 A Sports Car Odyssey



Monthly Meeting at Lindell Mazda - "2001: A Sports Car Odyssey"

Tuesday, October 17th - 6:30 PM kick the tires - 7:00 PM dinner and meeting. This will be a special meeting at club sponsor Lindell Mazda in St. Petersburg to celebrate the arrival of the 2001 model year Miatas. We will have a delicious lasagna dinner, many door-prizes donated by Lindell, club friends, and Miata vendors, and other special activities. At this meeting, we will also be accepting nominations for club officers and directors for the upcoming calendar year with elections to be held in November. Cost of dinner will be \$8 per person (either member or guest) and will be collected at the door.

Club Goodies

Iiona Wessling is the person to see about Club Regalia (T-shirts, hats, etc.).

She will be at the Club meetings ready to sell! Do you have one of our neat hats?

Also Ed Simon is the guy to see about name badges. He will sell you one with somebody else's name (he's got a few) for a discount!

From: Spykster <ragtop@t...>
Date: Wed Aug 2, 2000 10:32am
Subject: How'd you choose your Miata?
Just a couple fun questions...
How did you choose your Miata, it's year, and color?
Is it your first Miata?
What were you driving before the Miata?

I bought my '99 late last year. I had a '95 M (Merlot and Tan) prior to the '99. I really loved the '95, however, I'm really hooked on autocrossing and track events. Consequently, rollbars and other performance enhancements are necessary (not required) for somewhat serious competition. Well, I wanted to make the enhancements to the '95, but after looking at some modified '95Ms, I really didn't like what I found. That model, like the other special editions, M editions, etc... In my opinion should be left alone. I don't mean totally alone... Wheels, tires, brakes, are fine but not a roll bar or other serious appearance altering modifications... They're special Miatas!

So, I decided to look around and find a Miata that I could make into a hot little road monster (no street mullets for me ;-). After looking a ton of cars and thinking it over, I decided to buy new. I really preferred the M2 body style over the M1 and really disliked the barn door lights on the M1. The decision was made. A '99 Sport. Now, what color? I looked for days and really like the Emerald Mica and Tan the best (like Maggie's 'old' one). But that's not a Sport option. So now what? Well I'm not too nutty about white (sorry Doro, Skip, & Bill), I think red is a tad cliché (sorry Pam, Susan - flame away! =)), Silver would be great if there was a red interior option, otherwise, nah (sorry Paul W., Kat, & Sue H.). The 10AE was too special (sorry Eric). Black was left. But I had a black truck before and vowed never to have a black vehicle again. Dang! But triple black was the one that suited me best. Dang. Well, I enlisted the help of Sonny at Lindell to help me find a triple black sport. After a few weeks of looking around the state, including the port at Jacksonville, and South Georgia, not one was to be found.

I stopped by courtesy in Tampa and found a '99 triple black... But it was a touring package. I opened the door and took a seat. Hmm. Power windows... I can live with that. Power steering... Not bad either. No ABS... Cool. I didn't want ABS. No limited slip differential... Ouch. I wanted the Torsen... And the sport suspension. I went home and thought about it and decided I could easily add the sport suspension and if I really wanted to, I could add the Torsen LSD.

I went back to Courtesy the next day and took another look and a drive... That was it. I called Sonny at Lindell and told him about the car and it was the one I wanted... He had the car on his lot the next day and the deal was done.

I took a picture of Ruby and Spykster at Lindell. Ruby looked sad, but had a new home in St. Pete within a few days.

Prior to the Miata I drove my '92 Ford F150. I still have the truck. There's no way I could have only a Miata. It's really hard getting those sheets of drywall and two-by-fours in the Miata's trunk...

Before the truck I leased a '92 Nissan Maxima SE. That was a fun car. It was a to-self college grad present. Had it three years and trashed only one transmission.

That's enough for me... How 'bout y'all?

Jim & Spykster

'99 "Custom" Touring Triple Black - Team Roadster Rage, Team KOSH, Team Harddog, Team Monster Flow, Team Konig, Team Toyo, Team Just Miata

*Jim Poehlman recently issued this challenge to the Club List, more to come...
Want to add your story? Please e-mail me with the story in the body of the message at: dave@sunriders.com I have a bunch, but will print all I get.*

From Page 4

Sunday finally arrived and because our tickets were lost in the mail we had to get there early. Going for a cup of coffee was a surprise at 7:30 as they were now out of coffee cups (can you believe it?). And the food service only got worse from there. However, the race was the most unbelievable thing you could see in your life. To hear 27,000 horsepower leave the line at one time is something you will never forget. Two hundred and fifty thousand people were on their feet and all eyes were on the first turn. The screaming engines and tire smoke is something you must experience at least once in your life. This racing makes all others pale in comparison. If you hadn't heard the results, the Ferrari's came in first & second followed by a Jordan. Now on to Ohio.

It seems Indiana had no clue there would be so many people in town (even though the event was sold out since May). It took us 6 hours to go 100 miles; leaving the city of Indianapolis was quite simple, however the Indiana DOT decided to set steel for a bridge with 100,000 cars heading east. Needless to say we crashed (not literally) as soon as we got out of the traffic jam.

We visited some family in Madison, Ohio (near Lake Erie) the following day, then drove some beautiful winding back roads south into Amish country (Deal's Gap with waterfalls). You could tell we were getting close because we kept seeing horse poop on the roads! Spent some time shopping in the Amish village, ate wonderful food, and even went for a ride in a horse and buggy. From there we went to West Virginia where we drove over the New River Gorge. The distance from the bottom of the bridge to the bottom of the gorge is equal to the Washington Monument and 2 Statue of Liberty's stacked end to end. This was quite a site! This bridge is used every October to sky-dive off of.

Still heading south, we stopped at the Fenton Glass factory and took a tour of their facility, learning how their products are made. This was quite impressive, we never realized how many craftsmen it takes to create one piece of glassware. Of course Charlene was very happy now, there's shopping involved. Added one bell to her collection and picked up a few gifts as well. We spent the night in the Raleigh-

Durham area and headed home the following morning. This was when a problem arose.

Did we mention construction? It should have been every other word, even on the back roads. Everywhere we went we were inundated with "road work" signs. As we were leaving NC, the blue '92 was traveling with a pack of trucks going 78 mph. A bridge expansion joint standing 6" above the highway caused us to severely bottom the car out. No damage was noticeable at that time, however we now had a vibration (and it wasn't a cargin' any more). It looked to Mike like a wheel weight had fallen off, so we carried on to Savannah, Georgia (for more shopping!) The town wasn't as nice as we had expected, it will be some day but right now it's still being worked on. Should have gone to St. Augustine instead. So we headed home to Safety Harbor.

A beautiful ride through the Ocala National Forest and the blue '92 was humming along at 85 mph. Approaching the junction of 314 & Rt. 40, Mike noticed as he was making some turns the back end of the car was getting squirrely, so he pulled into the next gas station to discover our left rear tire was all eaten up. Seems the alignment was knocked way out and of course there was no tire store open at that time of night so it was a call to AAA. This brought us an

80 year old tow truck driver who gave us the ride of our lives. We thought we'd never make it home. It turned into a 3-1/2 hour ride from Ocala at 40 mph and we almost went off the road several times, narrowly missing 3 bridges and cut off 4 tractor trailers that were doing 80 mph. Somehow we "Arrived Alive" and our vacation had come to an end, 3400 miles later (147 of them on the back of a flatbed trailer!).

So what's up for next year? We're thinking New England. Seems there are a few race tracks there plus lots of shopping as well!

Pictures haven't been developed yet but we'll have them with us at the next meeting. See ya there.

Mike & Charlene Emmett

ABOUT OUR LOGO...



Since we are based on the sun coast, it was only appropriate to use the sun. In our logo appears to be setting in the water. This ties in with the name of this newsletter, Horizons. The design was produced by Kimball Stadler.

From Horizons Issue 1, Vol. 1

Sun Riders Miata Club Calendar of Events

* The November autocross has been canceled due to difficulties in site scheduling. Our next autocross will be on Sunday, January 21st and will be preceded by a one-day autocross school on Saturday, January 20th.

* Though we have enjoyed our monthly meetings at Jimmy Mac's, we are outgrowing this location and need a new location for our meetings starting in January, 2001. Please contact Pam if you have suggestions for other local restaurants with private meeting rooms.

* We are always looking for fun activities and events. If you have an idea, don't be bashful! Something that you enjoy is likely to be enjoyed by other club members also. Contact Pam if you have suggestions for events or would like to volunteer to organize an activity.

* A big "Thank You!" to Kathy and Lloyd Davis who organized the Coastal Cleanup outing, to Paul and Andrea Shaffer who led the Dine and Drive, and to Ilona and Joe Wessling, John and Karen LaVigne, Paul Williamson, Ed and Eileen Simon, Kevin Morrison, Jonathan Skinner, and Paul and Andrea Shaffer who are planning upcoming events.

* All events are open to all Sun Riders Miata Club members, their guests, and prospective members unless otherwise noted.

* If you have questions about any of our activities or events, please contact the event organizer if one is named or Pam Barker at 727-415-3217 or pam@sunriders.com. You may also call the Sun Riders Miata Club Event Hot Line at 813-225-4240 for the latest updates or to leave a message.

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Upcoming Events

Dinner and a Movie

Saturday, October 7th - 5:00 PM - When was the last time you went to a drive-in movie? We'll meet at the McDonald's parking lot located just north of the intersection of Highways 41 and 54 in Tampa and drive over to Zephyrhills for dinner at John's Steak and Seafood Restaurant followed by a drive-in movie at the Joy-Lan Drive-In Theater and Swap Shop (gotta love it!). John's is a family-style restaurant with great food reasonably priced. Movie admission is \$1.50 per person. Be sure to call the Sun Riders Event Hotline at 813-225-4240 on Thursday, October 5th for information about the movie double-feature being shown and other late-breaking details.

Directions to meeting location: From south Tampa, Pinellas County, and other southern points, take the Howard Franklin bridge over to Tampa, take the airport exit, and pick up Veteran's Expressway heading north. Follow it to the very end at which point you will exit onto Dale Mabry. Take a left (towards Lutz) and head north for about 2 miles. Bear left onto US 41 and head north for approximately 1/4 mile, cross 54 (there is an Eckerd's drug store on the south-east corner of the lighted intersection), and the McDonald's will be on your right.

Street Car and Hot-Rod Show at Burger King

Saturday, October 14th - 6:00 PM. Cars of every description, disc jockey, contests, and door-prizes at a weekly gathering at Burger King at 3911 Van Dyke Road (immediately west of North Dale Mabry on Van Dyke) in Tampa. Restaurant phone number is 813-269-0667. We will be entering our cars as a group in the car show which will be great opportunity to both show off our cars and to let folks know about the Sun Riders Miata Club. \$5 registration per car which will include a coupon for a free burger/drink at Burger King and a dash plaque for your car. Be sure to bring a folding chair. A cooler with beverages and snacks might be nice. Car show concludes promptly at 10:00 PM.

Monthly Meeting at Lindell Mazda - "2001: A Sports Car Odyssey"

Tuesday, October 17th - 6:30 PM kick the tires - 7:00 PM dinner and meeting. This will be a special meeting at club sponsor Lindell Mazda in St. Petersburg to celebrate the arrival of the 2001 model year Miatas. We will have a delicious lasagna dinner, many door-prizes donated by Lindell, club friends, and Miata vendors, and other special activities. At this meeting, we will also be accepting nominations for club officers and directors for the upcoming calendar year with elections to be held in November. Cost of dinner will be \$8 per person (either member or guest) and will be collected at the door.

Directions to meeting location: Lindell Mazda is located in St. Petersburg at 3300 Tyrone Blvd., west of Tyrone Mall. Take I-275 into St. Petersburg, exit at 22nd Avenue North and head west for approximately 5 miles. Turn right on Tyrone Blvd and head north-west for approximately 1 mile. Lindell will be on the left. Their phone number is 727-344-3344.

Sunday Drive to Howie-in-the-Hills

Sunday, October 22nd - 11:30 AM - A pleasant drive in the rolling hills of Central Florida followed by a gourmet brunch at the mission-style Howie-in-the-Hills golf resort. Meet at Highways 41 and 54 in Tampa (directions are listed above) for a scenic drive to our dining location. Brunch will feature a number of specialty islands serving made-to-order omelettes, carved meats, salads, breads, luscious desserts, fruits, seafood, and many other goodies. This all-you-care-to-eat buffet is \$22.95 per person plus tax and tip. Dress is casual. As we will need to reserve the correct number of tables, please RSVP to Ilona and Joe Wessling at 727-376-2484 by October 17th. If you would like to take in a round of golf after brunch, contact Howie-in-the-Hills at 352-324-2024.

Daytona 2000 - Miatas in Paradise

Tuesday October 24th - Friday, October 27th - National Miata event sponsored by the six Florida Miata Clubs, Miata Club of America, and Mazda North America. A limited number of spaces are still available for this annual Miata gathering. There will be many activities from which to choose and literally hundreds of Miatas and their owners from all over North America and beyond

gathering in Daytona Beach. See www.Miata2000.com for more information or contact Jonathan Skinner at 727-784-5529 or jonathan@sunriders.com.

Evolution Performance Driving School at Buckingham Field in Fort Myers

Friday, October 27th - This one-day autocross school put on by Evolution Performance Driving School will feature nationally ranked autocrossers as instructors. For more information, contact Darrin DiSimo at 954-757-2298 or ddisimo@gate.net. (non-club event)

Halloween Tricks and Treats

Saturday, October 28th - 6:00 PM - You're never too old for Halloween tricks and treats. Join the Sun Riders for a fun evening as we head up to Dunedin for "Halloween Hauntings", the city's annual haunted house and Halloween carnival. We'll meet in Pinellas County at the south-east corner of Ulmerton and 49th Street N (the former Jumbo Sporting Goods, now closed) at 6:00pm and caravan north together.

International Auto Show at Tampa Bay Convention Center

Saturday, November 4th - 9:00 AM - Meet for breakfast in the private dining room at First Watch Restaurant at 520 North Tampa Street in downtown Tampa (phone number is 813-307-9006) and then "ooh" and "aah" over the 2001 models and concept cars at the auto show.

Fall Fuel-Up Antique Engine Show in Ft. Meade

Saturday, November 11th - Leave first thing in the morning for a pleasant drive to Ft. Meade and the Fall Fuel-Up Antique Engine and Tractor Show. Interesting things to see, musical entertainment, and good food.

For more information, contact John LaVigne at 727-526-6695 or jaxton@tampabay.rr.com or check the event web site at www.old-engine.com/fallfuel.htm.

Monthly meeting at Jimmy Mac's

Tuesday, November 21st - 6:30 PM kick the tires - 7:00 PM dinner and meeting. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Jimmy Mac's Marina restaurant in Tampa. This casual eatery is located 1/2 block south of Tampa's Gandy Blvd at Bridge Avenue which is one block west of Westshore Blvd. Look for the large Imperial Marina sign on Gandy Blvd, turn south onto Bridge Avenue, then right into the marina parking lot at the small Jimmy Mac sign, and bear left into the restaurant parking lot. The restaurant phone number is 813-839-3449. At this meeting, we will be voting for officers and board members who will lead the club during the next year.

Holiday Lights Tour and Holiday Party

Saturday, December 9th - 6:00 PM. Tour holiday light displays followed by dinner and a party at a local restaurant. Bring an unwrapped toy for "Toys for Tots" as well as a small gift (under \$5) for our club gift exchange.

Monthly meeting at Jimmy Mac's

Tuesday, December 19th - 6:30 PM kick the tires - 7:00 PM dinner and meeting.



Our 5th anniversary cake

First Class Mail

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P.O. Box 26071

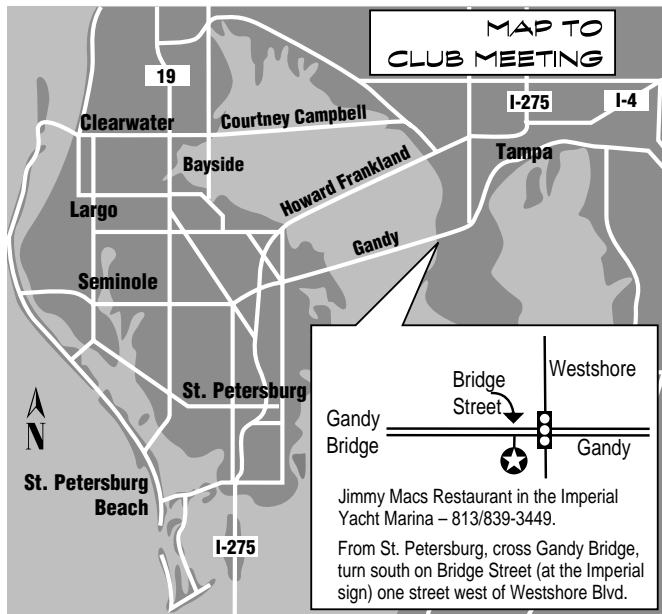


Join Us at Our Club Meetings

We meet the third Tuesday of each month at Jimmy Macs Restaurant, tire kicking starts at 6:30 pm, the meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Visit the club's web page at: www.sunriders.com

Call the Event Hotline at 813/225-4240 for the latest event information.



If you received this newsletter and are not a member of our club, please consider this an invitation to join.

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Vice President	Paul Shaffer	(paul@sunriders.com)
Past President	Jonathan Skinner	(jonathan@sunriders.com)
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