



Miata Miles

The Official Newsletter of the Trillium Miata Club

October 2009

**Objects Are Closer Than They Appear...
So Step on it!**



Miata Miles is published by the Trillium Miata Club Inc.,
860 Boxworth Place, Pickering, ON L1W 2K9



2008 Trillium Central Executive & Staff

President—Liz Burns 519-831-7712 eburns@sentex.net

Vice President—Gary Svoboda 519-824-7456 gs@adventusresearch.com

Treasurer—**Cindy Clark**

Secretary—Brian Woodhurst 519-940-0911 bwoodhurst@sonici.com

Marketing Director—Gary Svoboda 519-824-7456 gs@adventusresearch.com

Tour Captain Director—John Flowers 905-697-7149 jflowers@rogers.com

Monthly Meeting Director—Roy Locke 519-943-1212 rlocke@rogers.com

Membership—Chris Agnew 905-335-8859 chris.agnew@sympatico.ca

Tour Captain—John Flowers 905-260-6650 jflowers@rogers.com

Website—Tom Copeland 905-373-9313 miata@eagle.ca

Editor—John Kajfes 905-428-9034 jkajfes@autoq.com

Club Pins—Doug Dorsey 416-704-0715 doug.dorsey@architect-on-duty.com

2007 Trillium West Executive & Staff

(<http://www3.sympatico.ca/rsorrent/>)

President—Richard Sorrentino (519) 679-2111 rsorrent@uwo.ca

Membership/Treasurer—Valerie Hurst 519-641-4057

Events Coordinator—Todd Servant 519-664-2308

Tour Coordinator—Gord Olmstead 519 438-4527 gholmstead@rogers.com

Website—Richard Sorrentino (519) 679-2111 rsorrent@uwo.ca

The Trillium Miata Club Inc., is a nonprofit organization. The Trillium Miata Club Inc., exists to actively promote the varied interests of Miata owners and enthusiasts in the spirit of fun, friendship and safety. Miata Miles is the official monthly publication of the Trillium Miata Club Inc. Use of articles or stories by other Miata Clubs is hereby granted, provided proper credit is given. Submissions to the newsletter are welcomed and encouraged. **Where possible please e-mail submissions to the newsletter editor jkajfes@autoq.com or mail to: John Kajfes, 1674 Dreyber Court, Pickering, ON L1V 3H9.**

The club assume no liability or responsibility; neither any injury or damage resulting from the use of this information contained herein; unless otherwise stated, none of the information bears the status of "Factory Approval." All ideas, opinions, maintenance or modification tips expressed are to be used solely at the reader's discretion. Individual Contributor and/or the editor express no approval, authentication, or endorsement. All advertisements are to be camera-ready or are carefully prepared by the publisher at additional cost to the advertiser. If there is any errors, the publisher cannot be liable beyond the space involved and the cost thereof.

Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Membership—\$75.00 per year... Newsletter only—\$30.00 per year



The touring season hasn't ended just yet...



There's a certain irony when the weekend weather is better in September than it was during July and August. I know it's happened before, but I never seem to appreciate the irony.

We've had some great shorts runs – these photos are from a Sunday afternoon run which Rod organized (with help from Pat) in the west end. We had a great day – topless with a few layers of clothes to overcome the temperature.

We're a tough group though. Doug Lippay will be leading the annual Muskoka run on October 18th. That run is doubly fun – great roads, and a check to see who can be the heartiest with the top down for the day.

There might even be one or two last minute tours – keep an eye on our website to be sure you don't miss anything.

On the business side of club news, Kirk Benson has agreed to run the Nominations and Elections meetings again this year. Don't be shy – throw your name in the hat. It's the best way to make sure Trillium Miata Club is run the way you would like to see it run.

Hope to see lots of Miatas at our October 4th meeting at Frenchman's Bay Yacht Club.

Liz

Newbies...

The membership of the Trillium Miata Club would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members...

- Peter Gilbert & Lori Knowles Toronto 2000 Mahogany Mica
- Nancy Benedict & Mark Rice Lynden 2009 Stormy Blue
- Christine (Chris) & Dave Jefferson Georgetown 2008 Brilliant Black

The West Penn Miata Club will again host a Miata Regional on **June 24 - 27, 2010**. It will be held at **Seven Springs Mountain Resort** in the midst of the Laurel Highlands. The area offers a beautiful landscape steeped in history with numerous attractions to tour. These include the newly renovated Bedford Springs Hotel, painstakingly bought back to its original splendor, the new Frank Lloyd Wright home, Duncan House, and two houses designed by his apprentices. Your MX-5 Miata will enjoy zoomin all the new twisty, windy, & curvy roads.

Registration is now open. Go to <http://www.westpenmiataclub.com/mania10.html> for the registration form.

You'll need to send a money order in US funds to Linda Zimliki.

Act quickly if you're interested – most of the registrations are already filled.

October 4th Monthly Meeting – 10:00am

Frenchmen's Bay Yacht Club
635 Breezy Dr.
Pickering
Lunch has been arranged at
Lone Star -
705 Kingston Rd.

Trillium West Miata Club

Thanksgiving Weekend Colour Run
Please note there's been a change in the date:...

Sunday October 11, 8:30am

We will head up to the Hockley Valley and check out the trees to and fro.

This one weather contingent, so stay tuned for a final announcement.

Best

Dick Sorrentino



The Road Ahead
**A Darwinian
 tale of survival
 with the most
 cherished 2-seat
 roadster of our
 generation.**



By Matt DeLorenzo,
 Editor-in-Chief

November 2009

Earlier this year, I attended the spring show put on by seniors at San Francisco's Academy of Art University at the invitation of Tom Matano, the chair of the school's industrial design department. As we looked over the student portfolios, Matano, a former head of Mazda design who headed the MX-5 Miata project, casually remarked that the car turns 20 this year.

I was floored. Twenty years. The Miata is as fresh as ever — it seems only yesterday I was taking my daughter Amy, who was 2, for a ride, enjoying her reaction to open-air motoring as much as the car itself. Time surely flies — this past June, she graduated from college. I regard the Miata as something akin to looking in the mirror, acknowledging the changes that time has wrought, but still seeing yourself as the same. The Miata may have matured, but it's never lost its essential nature, and that's the innate ability to make you feel one with the car.

It's no small feat being able to connect on such an intimate level. There are few cars that feel as if the front wheels are your fingertips, sensing

every wrinkle, dip and bend in the road — pure motorized sensory overload. The scenery around you, the smells in the air and the sound of the engine are somehow more vivid. It's the wheeled equivalent of what athletes experience when they're in the zone.

Unfortunately, most cars treat the driving experience as an end to a means — it's more important getting from Point A to Point B rather than enjoying that time in between. Or more important, making that time "productive." As the automobile has evolved as a technological marvel, drivers tend to attain oneness not with the car, but apart from it. The myriad of safety, communications and entertainment systems, from stability control to hands-free Bluetooth connectivity, allow you to get into a different kind of zone, one where the least of your concerns is actually driving the car and more about communicating with the outside world while you rush from place to place.

That's precisely why cars like the Miata should be celebrated. While adapting to the realities of the day (like adding a retractable hardtop), the MX-5 has remained true to its mission of providing an engaging driving experience. That fidelity, along with realistic sales expectations on the part of Mazda, is the key to its longevity. The Miata is a survivor because it was the right car at the right time when it was launched for the 1990 model year.

Proving the point, it has outlived the Alfa Spider, the Lotus Elan and Mercury Capri, the reincarnated MR2 Spyder and Pontiac Solstice/Saturn Sky. Of course, the Alfa was nearing the end of its life

cycle (and the Italian automaker's U.S. presence), but the Elan and Capri, while their hearts were in the right places as open-top 2-seaters, their driving wheels weren't. There's something about a front-drive roadster that just isn't right. And while the Solstice/Sky was a noble effort by General Motors, the width and weight of the Kappa platform didn't have the same lithe athleticism that the Miata has maintained even as it's grown in size and performance.

The other thing I love about the car is its ability to survive as a name in a world that seems hell-bent on using alphanumeric characters for everything. While Mazda has officially tried to shorten its 2-seater's handle to just MX-5, it's still known as the Miata, always has been, and hopefully, always will be. At this year's Frankfurt show, Mazda demonstrated just how much life is left in the Miata concept with a lightweight sport concept designed by the company's European studios. Shedding the windshield and sporting swoopy bodywork, the MX-5 Superlight is a fitting 20th anniversary tribute to a car that promises to keep the thrills coming.

**Trillium Miata Club,
Muskoka Tour
Sunday October 18.**

- Meet a Weber's Hamburgers Parking lot at 10:00 AM (Gas and Coffee available at the adjoining lot.)
- Cars will be placed into groups of 5-6 and each group will select their leader and sweep.
- Driver's Meeting at 10:15 AM First Car away at 10:30. The Trip will travel through Gravenhurst, Bracebridge (Coffee), Dorset, Huntsville, (Lunch), Rosseau, Port Saintfield, Bala, Severn Bridge and return to Weber's southbound parking lot. (Coffee)

Please remember to register prior to the trip, as it was a challenge, last year, to convince the restaurant to feed twice as many people as was originally planned for. Last minute arrivals and participants are welcome, however, we just can't promise that the restaurant can accommodate the larger number of guests.

dlippay@xplornet.com or (705) 357 2229

If members would like to help with the day, or the pre run that would be most appreciated. Please contact me if interested.

Best regards,
Doug



TMC West Virginia tour through the eyes of a virgin

OK, so with 2 children to my credit I guess I am not a virgin in that sense of the word, but I now realize that until you have driven a Miata through the back roads of West Virginia, you have not REALLY driven a Miata.

Since I have never before 'experienced' West Virginia, I was very much a virgin before this tour.

Everyone romanticizes about their first 'experience', and wants it to be perfect and memorable. Well for me, this one certainly was.

I had never been on an over-nighter driving tour before. I had never lead a driving group before. These factors all contributed to the thrill and excitement of 'doing' West Virginia.

Bill and Deb did an excellent job of preparing and organizing this tour. Obviously they and many of the other participants are very experienced.

The scenery and rural landscape we ventured into is second to none. Do I need to draw the comparison between the silhouette profile of those mountains and valleys? Just thinking about the sensuous curves and undulations of the smooth and exhilarating roads that wind their way through the countryside gets me trembling even now. Senses and nerves are heightened and tingling from the first push on the accelerator, and throughout

the rhythmic and repetitive runs up and down through the gear box.

There is an abundance of wildlife that animates the lush green pastures as well as the dramatic rocky forests. Several times we slowed or stopped to marvel at the deer and other critters that ventured onto or alongside our roads.

The pit stops and lunch stops were well positioned and timed, and in interesting settings provided welcomed refreshments and refills for the next round.

The evenings were no less exciting and exhilarating than the days, with wonderful opportunities to share and enjoy the greatest asset of the TMC: its friendly and interesting members!

Perhaps the greatest treat was with the weather. After a less than stellar summer, we all enjoyed the clear blue skies and warm sun, with ample opportunity to be cruising topless.

My only regret was for not being able to 'go all the way' to Deals Gap, so I leave it to other orators to expound upon the virtues and thrills that the rest of the week bestowed upon our Club. For those of us who travelled straight back home together, it was a pleasant and somber journey, and we enjoyed reflecting on the good times we had on the tour.

So there you have it. Yours truly is a Miata virgin no more. And after any good and memorable 'first time', I anxiously look forward to my next and every subsequent 'experience'. I hope whatever roads I might travel on do not get suspi-

cious or jealous if after dishing out their intimate best for me, it is West Virginia that will be on my mind.

Zoom Zoom Zaway!
The Badger





Hello fellow Miata enthusiasts.

It's been awhile since my last article and the recent addition of our first little baby, York, is partly the reason why. He's now just over 4 months old and Angie and myself couldn't be happier. Some of the members got to see him at



the September meeting where he tried to put the disruptive members in place. Here's a picture of the little squirt.

At the recent Sept. meeting a few members had questions regarding upgrades to their Miata's and the subsequent installations.

Since I'm now out of the automotive sales game and back to working on cars I was more than happy to answer these questions.

The most often performed upgrades seem

to be Timing Belt replacements, Power enhancers, Suspension upgrades, soft top replacements, clutch upgrades and roll bar installations.

The most common Power enhancers are performance Intakes and Exhausts which can result in 10-15 additional horsepower at the rear wheels, which can be felt and heard. In such a small car as the Miata even 10 hp can be felt immediately. For those who would like more of a return on their investment the best bang for the buck is a Supercharger.

These return 45-50% additional horsepower and a large infusion of torque to get the little Miata moving. The biggest complaint of the stock Miata is that the suspension can handle so much yet the car really needs a bit more power to fully appreciate it.

A supercharger provides very reliable power and once installed properly can provide decades of smiles per miles. Once you drive a Miata with the increased power delivery you will smile from ear to ear. It's a priceless feeling.

Regarding Soft top replacements I always recommend Robbins tops as they are the best to date. Amazing quality with perfect fit and upgraded materials from stock every time. These tops truly make the car look like new again and the difference from a worn top is dramatic, especially one with a foggy rear plastic window.

Hard Dog roll bars are by far the best in the industry for the Miata. They fit perfectly and are made specifically for the model from a company that has been doing this since the inception of the Miata itself. I've installed a lot of the competitors roll

bars and I have to say Hard Dog is the one to buy.

Roll bars range depending on your own personal style and their intended usage, road or track.

Timing Belts should be replaced at 96,000 kms or every 5 years, whichever comes first.

This is cheap insurance to prevent against being left at the side of the road with a car that's not running whatsoever.

The Water Pump is located directly behind the Timing Belt so I recommend replacing the pump at the same time for reduced labour in the future.

Suspension upgrades also range depending on what the car will primarily be used for.

Upgrades can range from stock replacement parts to full track competition packages.

Stock shocks wear out by 90,000 kms and if yours have not been updated yet you won't believe the difference in the ride when they are changed out.

I've had lots of great feedback from clients who couldn't believe how nice their Miata rode after the upgrade.

If you intend to head for the corners with more vigor you may want to upgrade to some performance springs & shocks or even obtain a set of coilovers that allow full adjustability for ride height as well as control over the shock stiffness.

Clutch upgrades have been a staple of my work since I upgraded my own back in 1999.

Some people will attempt small upgrades themselves but very few will tackle a clutch job and so they often prefer to leave the heavy & dirty work to me, and luckily, I'm happy to do it :D I often recommend the ACT HD clutch as it provides much better feel, a much nicer

"bite" to the clutch engagement point, and will hold over 300 hp for future upgrades, just in case.

Of course stock replacements can also be installed but my clients have reported the biggest satisfaction from the ACT unit. It's worth the additional \$'s.

As with all of the upgrades available for your Miata I recommend contacting me first to find out what you would like your Miata to do better, and we can proceed from there.

In the past I have installed nearly every part available for the Miata on one of my past 13 Miata's so there's a very good chance that we can pick out what parts will match with your intended view of what your Miata should be.

Feel free to contact me at miatas@cogeco.ca or at 905-582-2674.

Also if you know of anyone with a Miata who would like to have some upgrades done feel free to pass on my info and I'll be happy to return the favour.

Thanks and happy motoring.

Dave Biagioni

Miata Specialist Since 1996

~editor:

Ahha... a new wrench in the house or should I say Master Mechanic, opps Miata Specialist that's it! Pass the nuts and bolts please.

Rod & Pat's Run....



THE BADGER'S DEN

Nickname badges are beginning to catch on. Have you come up with an idea for one of your own yet?

MATCH THE NAMES CONTEST

Here is a list of nickname badges, and the members they belong to. Whoever matches up the most names correctly wins a free badge of their own. Send your entries to The Badger at doug.dorsey@architect-on-duty.com.

NICKNAME

The Badger
Cookie
Copper
Master Sweep
The Piddler
Port Hope Ken
Scrambled
T.J.



MEMBER

Liz Burns
Doug Dorsey
Dan Doyle
Terry Fink
Trudy Fink
Bryan Katz
Scott Martin
Ken Watt

TMC Website Assistance

We're looking for a club member who is familiar with Joomla. This the program which was used to develop our current website. There are some aspects of using this program which the current executive is not familiar with.

So, if you're familiar with this program, we would really appreciate your help in learning some of the ins and outs in order to improve the content of the website.

Please contact John Flowers (jflowers@rogers.com) to chat.

Thanks
Liz

Club Pins

Doug Dorsey, a.k.a. The Badger handles our club name tags.

New members (drive and co-pilot) receive their badges within a few week of joining Trillium Miata Club.

You do not have to settle for your boring old name – got a nickname that you are or would like to be known as?

If you're interested in purchasing an additional name tag or a "nickname" name tag, contact Doug Dorsey - [...doug.dorsey@architect-on-duty.com](mailto:doug.dorsey@architect-on-duty.com) 416-704-0715

Additional badges cost \$5.00.

The standard fastener for badges is a spring clip. Pin fastener is available if preferred, or a magnetic fastener can be purchased for an additional \$2.00



eagle.ca

Highspeed Internet
Web & eMail Hosting

Home of trilliummiata.com

905-373-9313

**Now Available...
by Popular
Demand!**



**Available at each
club meeting.**

Trillium Miata Baseball Caps \$15.00
Trillium Visors \$10.00
(Available in all of your favourite colours... so long as you're not particular on colour...)

Club Pins \$5.00

Trillium License Plate Covers \$10.00

Trillium Travel Coffee Stainless Steel Mugs \$10.00

Trillium window stickers \$2.00

Trillium logo patches \$5.00

Thanks, Doug

Please note our new email address..

doug.dorsey@architect-on-duty.com

416-704-0715

Now Available!

Cool Breeze Windscoops
Easy installation that fits Miata NA and NB models in a minute.
Directs ambient outside air into the cockpit at almost any speed.

Contact Doug at (416) 436 3920 or dlippay@xplornet.com

**dent
doctor[®]**
Paint-Free Dent Repair You Can Trust

**DENT
REPAIR**

*Minor Dents *Door Dings
*Hail Damage *Lease Return Repairs
*Same Day *Low Cost

Paint-free dent repair you can trust

www.dentdoctor.ca
(416) 518-DENT (3368)



Happy Birthday!

Co-Pilot		Driver	
10/08	Elaine Laprairie	10/02	Kevin Balgopal
10/13	Lee Farr	10/03	Arthur Donin
10/13	Barb Tocher	10/06	Mark Evans
10/17	Neilly Robertson	10/10	Louise Kelly
10/21	Catherine Martin	10/18	Wayne Ashton
10/21	Cecelia Anderson	10/21	Calvin Kafka
10/23	Sandra Donin	10/23	Jim Rafuse
10/31	Pauline Benson	10/26	Doug McPhail
11/04	Audrey Woolsey	10/29	Al Johnston
11/04	Annette Bagshaw	11/01	Aubrey Rossman
11/15	Mary MacCallum	11/04	Nancy Benedict
11/28	Stephen Aked	11/04	Tony Bagshaw
		11/07	Barry Hiltz
		11/08	Lorraine Blondin
		11/11	Gary MacCallum
		11/14	Alison Bradbury-Aked
		11/24	Ken Watt
		11/25	David Wilson

If your birthday is wrong or not appearing on the list contact Chris Agnew to update the database.



Trillium Miata Club Tours & Events Calendar 2009



Note: TMC Events Calendar may change subject to available venues. Contact Tour Captain

John Flowers 905-260-6650 jflower@rogers.com to Book a Tour.
Contact Club Executive for any other events.

DATE	EVENT DETAILS	CONTACT
Oct 4th	Monthly Meeting – 10:00am Frenchmen's Bay Yacht Club 635 Breezy Dr. Pickering Lunch Location Lone Star 705 Kingston Rd Pickering	Contact Liz Burns 519-831-7712 eburns@sentex.net
Oct 18th	October 18th – 10:00am Muskoka Tour - Meet at Weber's first group away at 10:30. leads and sweeps are always most Appreciated	Contact Doug Lappay (705) 357 2229 or dlippay@xplornet.com This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it
Nov 8th	Monthly Meeting – 10:00am Scarborough Mazda 2124 Lawrence Avenue East Scarborough (Ontario) M1R 3A3 * BYOC = Bring Your Own Chairs Nominations for 2010 Trillium Miata Club executive Lunch Location Swiss Chalet 2130 Lawrence Ave East Scarborough	Contact Liz Burns 519-831-7712 eburns@sentex.net
Decr 13th	Monthly Meeting – 10:00am Grand Prix Kartways (Downsview Park) 75 Carl Hall Road Toronto (Ontario) M3K 1R 2B9 Elections for 2010 Trillium Miata Club executive and Toy Drive Lunch Location Mandarin 1027 Finch Ave West North York	Contact Liz Burns 519-831-7712 eburns@sentex.net

Trillium West Miata Club

CURRENT EVENTS

Our regular meeting place is at the Tim Horton's in the Canadian Tire - Maisonville parking lot. If you would like to attend any of the events please contact the club at rsorrent@uwo.ca . We will be able to let you know if there have been any changes to the posted plans and what to expect from the event you wish to attend.

Event	Date	Time	Tour Information
Thanks-giving Day Colour Run	Monday October 12 th	8:30 a.m.	We will head up to the Hockley Valley and check out the trees to and fro. This one is weather contingent, so stay tuned for a final announcement.
Chat Morn-ings	Every First Sun- day of the Month	9:30 a.m.	Next Door Northwest Corner of Richmond and Fanshawe Park Road

For more information check the Trillium Miata Website
www.trilliummiata.com



TRILLIUM MIATA CLUB PARTNERS

Continental Tire Inc.

6110 Cantay Rd.
Mississauga, ON, L5R 3W5
Service Hotline: 1-800-461-1776
www.conti-online.com



Scarborough Mazda

2124 Lawrence Avenue East
Scarborough, ON M1R 3A3
Tel.: 416 752-0970
www.scarboroughmazda.com

