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Skid Marks....

by Rick Booe, President

Hi troops! I hope you all had a nice Thanksgiving. It's now time to start my exercise program to work off the Thanksgiving Day feast. I always look forward to the big meal, but then pay for it the rest of the afternoon. I'm sure none of you do that. Christmas is right around the corner now, and of course, everybody needs to get registered for the club's Holiday Party. It's on December 9th, at 5:00pm at the Old Spaghetti Factory. Please be sure to sign up as early as possible because I have to give them a final number on the 5th.

It's hard to believe this is my last front page. Has it been a whole year already? It has been fun, but I am ready to pass the baton on to John. Then I can go back to just showing up and enjoying the ride. Maybe next summer we will have more of them to go on. I sure hope so. I didn't plan a rally this summer, but I'm promising right now to plan a rally for next year. So you all remember that and hold me to it.

We have had some great Miata weather the last couple days. If we had only known that November 25th would be such a beautiful day we could have had a rally today. Days like this are pretty rare in November. Susie and I took a little ride ourselves, we hope some of you did too.

I have a little technical information that I would like to share. It's about Redline oils. A little over a year ago I replaced the transmission oil and differential oil in my Miata with Redline products. I used MTL in the tranny and MT-90 in the rear end. Right away I could tell the difference in the transmission. The shifts seemed easier and smoother. It wasn't a big difference, just a little one. And I couldn't really tell what it done for the rear end. Now this last weekend I changed the transmission oil in my Jeep Wrangler to Redline MTL. It made an unbelievable difference in the Jeep, especially when I get in it cold and just drive off. Before I replaced the fluids, it was very difficult to shift into 2nd gear until the tranny was good and warm, now it shifts very smoothly even cold. I wish I had done this a long time ago. Maybe it is not the brand as much as it is the synthetic oil difference. Whatever it is, I'm a believer in synthetic oil in all my manual transmissions.

Since it's that time of year, let's talk a little bit about winter driving. Be careful and be safe. Watch out for the other guy because he probably won't watch out for you, especially all you winter Miata drivers. The big guys on the road can't see you very well. I drive my Jeep all winter and leave the baby covered up in the garage, but I know that some of you drive your Miatas year round. Since I don't drive mine in winter I don't really know what to do to make it go in the snow. I think Chuck Wills could tell you, as I've seen him plowing snow with his. I suppose winter tires and some weight in the trunk would be a big help. Like I said, Chuck would know and maybe he'd like to share his knowledge with us!

I guess I'll be signing off for the year now. It has been a pleasure being your president this year. Thank you for picking me. I hope that most of you think I have done a reasonably good job. I tried to do my best. I have gotten a lot of help this year from past presidents and long time members. I won't try to list them because I'm sure I would leave someone out, but you know who you are and I thank you.

Let's have a party and get ready to start a new year of fun in our special cars. People who don't own Miatas don't know what they are missing. The cars and the camaraderie of the special people who drive them.

Happy Holidays to everyone and always remember... One Miata is fun, but a whole bunch of Miatas is a whole bunch of fun!