



Volume 18
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Back Roads....

by Roger Burrill, President

This month's President's message will be a story. We will call this story "The Perfect Miata Club Day" in which in a period of less than 24 hours several significant things happened within our club.

The day began as several other days in March with gray, gloomy skies. It seemed like it has either been raining or snowing for a solid week and was pretty cold outside. This was not exactly the type of weather that makes you jump in the Miata, drop the top and go drive around looking for fun roads.

Around 11:30 that morning, I looked outside my window and noticed the sun was trying its best to part the clouds and brighten up the place a little bit. This little piece of sunshine for some reason prompted me to take a break from work and check my personal emails. There was a message in my inbox from our Vice President Jim Quearry saying that at 10:10am on March 20th, our club was officially incorporated with the State of Indiana as a non-profit organization. Our official name is now Indy Miata Club Inc. For those of you that have been following this saga, this is an important step for our club and actually serves a couple purposes. First, in this day and age of legal litigation where anyone can sue anybody over practically anything you can imagine, it provides a layer of protection for our membership and officers from personal liability. Secondly, the incorporation By-Laws outline a purpose, structure, and guidance for current and future club members and officers. Many thanks go to Jim for pushing this through the government bureaucracy.

Now, on with the story. I again looked outside my around 3:00 and the sun had finally broken through! I had just gotten off a three hour long conference call, so once again I checked my emails. There in my inbox was a message saying that Mazda would help sponsor our MMG event in September. We had submitted the proper forms several months ago and have been in a "wait and see" mode for quite some time, so this is great news. After rejoicing, I went back to work.

Then around 5:30, the sun had warmed things up and it was almost 60 degrees outside. I looked at my email once again and there was a message from Gary Collings saying that the Forever MX5 magazine had arrived and we were in it!

I ran out to the mailbox and there we were on the last couple pages. Our Covered Bridge Rally with Sara's pictures and article, a really nice shot of Bob Wiley's car "Skippy" parked in front of a covered bridge along with the back of PK's head(!), and a shot of Nancy and I handing out directions. On the next page, there was an article about the MMG rally. Our infamous Shane Benson (aka Mr. Boost) of AIM Tuning has a great four page article titled "Building the Perfect Beast" Our club made the first issue of the Forever MX5 magazine, which is a national publication! Now I ask you does it get any better than that?

So that ends my story, the end of the perfect Indy Miata Club day. Many individuals have made significant contributions and worked very hard for that day, and my many thanks go to all of them.

Until next month keep the sunny side up!

Indy Miata Club Officers 2008

President

Roger Burrill
president@indymiata.org

Vice-President

Jim Quearry
vicepresident@indymiata.org

Treasurer

Steve Crouse
treasurer@indymiata.org

Membership Director

Mike Selvy
membership@indymiata.org

Events Coordinator

Tom Lewis
events@indymiata.org

Secretary

Nancy Burrill
secretary@indymiata.org

Publications

Sara J McBride
4249 Springwood Ct.
Indpls., IN 46228
317-291-8993
editor@indymiata.org



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Upcoming Events And News

Rally season starts on April 12 with the Pre Tax Blues Rally. This event always draws a big crowd, so don't miss the fun. Go to page 5 for all the details. Dave Besterman has planned a lot of fun for us!

Two events are on the schedule for May, our 500 mingle and Bob Wiley's rally "Pot Luck Run to the Falls". Look for more details in next month's issue of the Open Road.

At the Board of Director's meeting on March 8, topics discussed were finances, rallies, club merchandise, club banner, and the club website. A final vote was taken on the proposed bylaws and passed. A date for the next meeting was not set, check the news page on the club website for information concerning the next meeting date.

As President Roger Burrill noted in his front page article, the club has become a non-profit organization and is now officially known as Indy Miata Club Incorporated. We, of course, will continue to know IMC as the coolest club in town.

Welcome New Members

Membership Director Mike Selvy reports that as of February 26, the club now has 120 dues paying members. We would like to welcome our newest members to the club: Bill & Virginia Kappner. We hope to meet them in person at a club event soon.

Dave's Miata Tip Of The Month

by Dave Besterman

Here's a simple check that you can make under the hood of your Miata. You'll need two 12mm open end wrenches to make the adjustment. This tip was 'stolen' from the Miata.net garage web site. Our thanks to Gary Fischman for this tip.

A loose throttle cable will cause slow response when you mash on the gas pedal. Conversely, a cable that's too tight will not allow the car to drop to proper idle causing excessive fuel consumption. Fortunately, the throttle cable is one of the simplest adjustments under the hood of your Miata.

Start by locating the cable under the hood. It is on the right side of the engine compartment, bolted to the big aluminum intake manifold. The braided cable is the accelerator cable, or throttle cable. There are two nuts holding the cable to the bracket on the manifold. The nut toward the front is a lock nut. The nut at the rear is the deflection adjustment nut.

Loosen the lock nut. Then turn the adjustment nut one way or the other until the deflection in the middle of the cable is between 1 and 3 millimeters. When you have the deflection where you want it, simply tighten the lock nut.

Go to this site for more info on checking the full-throttle cable tension:
<http://www.miata.net/garage/throttle.html>

The throttle cable on my 2000 Miata had about 3/4" loose play in it. I substituted a Crescent wrench for one of the wrenches. Be sure to check your idle speed setting before making any changes. After adjusting the tension, check that the idle speed hasn't been affected.

The “Fun Starts Here” by ordering exclusive IMC merchandise!

We’re having a Spring Garage Sale!

***Don’t show up at a rally
without the proper attire!***



White cotton short sleeve T-shirts - \$10.00

Red cotton long sleeve T-shirts - \$10.00

Red or Khaki cotton baseball cap - \$10.00

Coffee Mugs - \$5.00

Shipping is \$6.00 per order with checks made payable to Indy Miata Club

Mail your order and check to M. Selvy, 7885 E. County Rd. 200 N., Avon, IN 46123

Questions? Email Mike at membership@indymiata.org

Form **1040** Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service **U.S. Individual Income Tax Return 2007** | IRS Use Only—Do not write or staple in this space.

For the year Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2007, or other tax year beginning _____, 2007, ending _____, 20

OMB No. 1545-0074

Label (See instructions on page 12.) Use the IRS label. Otherwise, please print or type.	L	Your first name and initial Miata	Last name MX-5	Your social security number 123 44 1995
	A	If a joint return, spouse's first name and initial	Last name	Spouse's social security number
Use the IRS label. Otherwise, please print or type.	B	Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see page 12. 123 Carport Lane		Apt. no.
	E	City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, see page 12. Speedway, IN 46224		You must enter your SSN(s) above.

Presidential Election Campaign Check here if you, or your spouse if filing jointly, want \$3 to go to this fund (see page 12) You Spouse

Checking a box below will not change your tax or refund.

Has this long winter season given you the **BLUES**? Are you itching to get out in your Miata for a nice long drive? Well, Dave Besterman, the Rally Master for this year's PTBR, has a surprise for you. This year instead of waiting until after April 15, the traditional 'Post Tax Blues Rally' has been officially re-named the '**Pre-Tax Blues Rally**' and will be held one week earlier than usual.

The PTB Rally will be held on Saturday April 12.

Dave has planned a nice scenic trip with some interesting questions to keep you occupied along the way. Please don't try to drive this rally solo, be sure to bring along your favorite navigator. We will meet at the Tippecanoe Battlefield Park in Battleground, Indiana. Battleground is located north of Lafayette @ I-65 exit #178 at State Rd 43. **Meet at Battlefield Park at 10:30 am EDT (9:30 am CDT).** Driver's meeting will be at 10:45 am EDT. First car will leave at 11:00 am EDT.

Be sure to arrive at the starting point with at least 3/4 of a tank of gas. At the conclusion of the rally we will be eating at a very nice banquet facility which will have a special buffet luncheon prepared. No more ordering and waiting for your food to arrive. The bill of fare will be:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Tossed Salad</i> | <i>Teriyaki Chicken Breast</i> | <i>Dinner Rolls</i> | <i>Potato / Rice</i> |
| <i>Green Bean Casserole</i> | <i>Cookies / Brownies</i> | <i>Coffee / Ice Tea / Water</i> | |

A Cash bar will be available.

Please note that the cost of the buffet luncheon is included in the rally registration fee.

- Registration cost by March 31:** **\$27 per car includes buffet lunch for two**
 \$17 per car includes buffet lunch for one
- Registration cost April 1 and after:** **\$32 per car includes buffet lunch for two**
 \$22 per car includes buffet lunch for one

Preregistration for this event is important so that Dave can give the restaurant a head count for the lunch. A caravan for IMC members to the starting point will be organized. Look for more information in the April edition of the Open Road or on the event page of the club web site.

IMC members should register by filling out the form below and mailing their check for \$27 or \$32 payable to The Lake Effect Miata Club to: **Judy Serwatka, LEMC Treasurer 177 East 750 North Valparaiso, Indiana 46383-8916**

-----Cut here and mail to:-----

REGISTRATION FORM / CLUB DISCLAIMER

I understand that this Pre-Tax Blues Rally is not a speed event and agree to participate at my own risk. I agree to hold the Lake Effect Miata Club and the Indy Miata Club, their officers and event organizers harmless from any claim arising from my participation in this event.

Driver Name: (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

Passenger Name: (print) _____ (sign) _____ (date) _____

PARTICIPANTS MUST SIGN AND DATE THIS WAIVER, PRIOR TO THE EVENT.

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Indy Miata Club

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You are proud of your car. Let us help you to keep your Miata looking great. We offer services ranging from a "Wash and Vac" to a "Full Service Detail". Most importantly, we'll also give you guidance on how easy it is to keep your Miata

looking great after it leaves our shop.

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Indy Miata Club members receive a 10% discount.

**NEW
LOCATION!**

Jim Schliebner
4265 West 96th Street
317-514-2659

<http://www.jimmybuffit.com>

Don't forget to visit the club website for up to date information and more! <http://indymiata.org>

2008 Scheduled Events

April 12 - Pre Tax Blues Rally

May 24 - Indy 500 Mingle

May 31 - Pot Luck Run to the Falls

July 26 - Brickyard 400 Mingle

September 13 - Moto GP Mingle

September 26 & 27 - Midwest Miata Gathering

December 7 - Holiday Party

**Sold
Out!**

<http://www.indymiata.org>