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Opposite Lock

by Eric Drumwright, President

A few words about the title of this column: I came up with this title long before I became President. You know, one of those daydream things: if I were to ever write a column, I'd call it..... Well, I never really thought I'd be writing one, but here I am! Something happened since I was elected Vice President, over a year ago. A gentleman started writing a periodic column in Autoweek magazine using that title. I've decided to use it anyway, at least until I get a letter from his lawyer.

Here goes! Happy New Year to all!!! I hope everyone had a great Holiday! Even with winter setting in, I hope we can all look back on a great year gone by, with hopes for an even better one to come!

First off, I have to say putting miles on our Miatas was made a little easier this year, by the lower gas prices. With gas prices hovering around \$4.00 for most of the peak driving season of 2008, we had fun driving but, not so much when it came time to fill the tank (thank goodness for a small tank and good gas mileage!). In 2009 gas prices never went much above \$2.50. I hope gas prices will stay reasonable for 2010!

The Indy Miata Club also had a great year and we need to thank our club officers for all their hard work! Tom Lewis did a great job steering the club as our President, Steve Crouse did a great job watching over our funds as Treasurer, and Mike Selvy gave us another great year as Membership Director. We need to thank Greg Waltz for starting the year as Event Coordinator, and Ken Rabbers for taking over when Greg had to step down. Their work provided info to our members, so they could participate in our many events. Nancy Burrill did another great job this year as club Secretary, culminating in our wonderful Holiday Party (held in a great new venue!). And we can't forget the excellent work done by Sara McBride. She not only puts together our newsletter every month, but she also maintains and oversees our Club Web site. I hope all our members appreciate the work done by this group, and will let them know when they see them during the coming year!

I also need to thank you, the members of the Indy Miata Club! Since I became a member in 1997, I can't remember so many events on the calendar. It also seems we were being introduced to new members at each event! We've had many people step up and host events for the first time. We need to thank all our Rally Masters and Event hosts. We must also thank those who participated in all our events. This club is for our members, and when you become involved, the club is at its best!

It will be hard to top last year. Our leadership has been really strong and I am going to have a hard time living up to that standard. I am going to ask all of you for help in making this another great year. You all have an opportunity to be involved in your club. You can host an event, you can write an article for our news letter, you can come out and drive in as many events as you can. Mainly, just participate and have fun!

The Indy Miata Club once again made a donation to local non-profit organization, following a tradition started in 2008 after hosting the MMG. The club donated \$100.00 to the United Christmas Fund this past December with the majority of the donation coming from the 50/50 raffle held at the annual Christmas Party. Thank you all!

This year my wife Ann and I want our club to try and give back to our communities here in Central Indiana. I'm hoping we can have a food drive at most of our events. Members can bring a non-perishable food item for a local food bank. Rally masters can choose a charity or our Officers will help find the right one. Last year Ken and Joan Rabbers had a collection at one of their rallies and we can use that as a model. It will take some work, but I think it will be well worth it to give a little back to the area in which we live and drive!

Indy Miata Club Officers 2010

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Opposite Lock

...continued from Page 1

This year the Miata, and the Indy Miata Club are twenty years old! I hope we can mark the event in some manner. That has yet to be planned.

Our first event is already on the calendar! Come out on January 23rd and "Meet the Officers" at Rock Bottom Brewery in Indianapolis. See the article below and check the event page for all the info. Be sure to register at the event page on the Club web site! This will be a chance to meet our new officers and talk about plans for the coming year. Bring your ideas and a healthy appetite! Also, be ready to sign up to get the date you want for your rally or event.

I can't end this column with out making mention of our Indianapolis Colts! What a year they are having, as they march towards another Super Bowl Championship! We are so lucky to live in such a great sports city. After all this is the "Racing Capital of the World". I think we are now home to "America's Team", the Indianapolis Colts!

I again, send best wishes to all our members as we enter a new year and a new decade! I hope to see you on the road at one of our events this year!

Meet Your Officers Luncheon

Please come join friends and fellow club members for lunch, as we get to know our new officers and talk about the year ahead.

Join us on Saturday, January 23rd at 1:00pm at the Rock Bottom Brewery at 2810 Lake Circle Drive. Lunch can be ordered off the regular extensive menu; members will responsible for their individual bills.

Be thinking about events you would like to have on our schedule or sign up to run your own event. Remember, our club is most successful when we all participate! So let's all look forward to the year ahead as we share a good meal and fellowship on this winter day.

Don't forget to sign up for this event on our events page at the club web site.

Directions: take 465 then exit south on Michigan Rd. Go .8 miles South on Michigan Rd. to West 86th St. Turn Left onto 86th St. Follow 86th .7 miles to Lake Circle Drive, where you will turn Left into the entrance to Willow Lake Apartments (across from Brebeuf). Follow Lake Circle Drive around to Rock Bottom Brewery.

Since weather conditions can be somewhat "iffy" this time of year, this is a Miata optional event.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a Board of Directors meeting prior to the lunch. The Board meeting will begin at 11:30 am and all members are invited to attend. The Meet the Officers Lunch will follow at 1:00 pm.

See you there.



Time To Renew Your IMC Membership

In the old days, when you walked out to the mailbox to get the latest copy of the Open Road, your mailing label would have a date on it, showing your IMC renewal date. As your club has jumped into the electronic age, we can't do that on your e-mail, so as we ring in 2010, we would like to gently remind you that it's also time to renew you Indy Miata Club membership.

Dues for your membership remain at \$20.00. Please send your check to: Steve Crouse, 7001 Peacock Lake Ct. Plainfield, IN 46168.

2009 IMC Holiday Party Was Fun For All

It wasn't top down weather on December 5th, but there were quite a few Miatas in the parking lot of the Hummel Park Center as IMC members arrived to celebrate the final event of the year, the Indy Miata Club Holiday party.

Over 50 members were in attendance and enjoyed the fine BBQ from Famous Dave's with tasty sides. Oh, the dessert table was full of treats that members had brought for all to enjoy. Several people were seen tasting the fudge, cookies and other goodies before they went through the food line!

After dinner, the first order of business was the election of 2010 officers. Eric Drumwright was confirmed as President for 2010 and Jack Cruse was elected as our President Elect. Steve Crouse ran unopposed for Treasurer and in a close battle, Tom Lewis was elected as our new membership director. Nancy Burrill stays as Secretary, Ken Rabbers continues as Events Coordinator and Sara J McBride will oversee both the Open Road and the club's web site.

Eric then presented Tom with a photo collage as a thank you gift for his work in 2009. He thanked the current slate of officers for volunteering to lead the club for the next year and also thanked the previous officers for their work in 2009.

Then the annual gift exchange began, or as someone called it, "thievery at it's best!". Gift included Snuggies, a club membership, a photo of Castroneves leaving the pits at the Indy 500, car cleaning supplies, a roadside emergency kit, cookie jars, even some wine!

A special drawing was made for gifts donated by Skillman Mazda. There were Mazda shirts, oil change certificates, hats and zoom-zoom stickers.

A 50-50 drawing was also held and was won by Ken and Joan Rabbers.

The last drawing held was for a bag of special candies donated by John "Candy Man" Reba, which was won by Wally Kienzynski.

More pictures may be viewed are at: <http://picasaweb.google.com/indymiataclub>.



Meet Your 2010 Indy Miata Club Officers

Elections were held during the Holiday party on December 5th with a new President confirmed, a new President Elect and several members continuing in their current positions.

Conforming with the Indy Miata Club By-Law, Eric Drumwright was confirmed as our President for 2010. Jack Cruse was then elected as President-Elect.

Tom Lewis moved into the Membership position, taking over for Mike Selvy. Steve Crouse stays on as Treasurer, Ken Rabbers continues as Event Coordinator, Nancy Burrill is our Secretary and Sara J McBride will continue to over see both the newsletter and club web site.

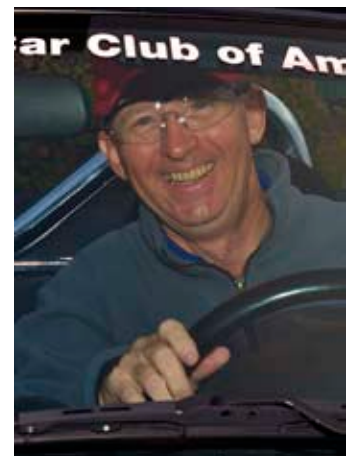
We would like to thank Tom Lewis for his leadership as President in 2009 and Mike Selvy for handling membership duties during 2008 - 2009.

Eric Drumwright - President I was born in Lebanon, In., grew up outside of Chicago, and worked in New York City for 13 years. Moved back to Indiana in '92. I started dating Ann Cole in Oct. '94, and she helped me pick out our '90 red Miata that Dec. Twelve years later, Ann and I married (10/14/2006). Been IMC member since '97. I'm a commercial photographer who freelances as a motorsports photographer. My photos have been published in Road & Track, Car and Driver, Motor Trend, Autoweek, On Track, Indycar Racing, Racecar, Formula, Auto Racing Digest, as well as books and calenders. Our Miata had about 35,000 miles when we got it, and we've driven it over 100,000 since then! Our Miata was born in May of '89. That means it will be 20 years old this year!!!



Jack Cruse - President Elect - I have been a "hands-on" car guy from teenager to now. Started rallies in 1960 in California with time-and-distance events with the San Diego SCC. I had a 1986 RX7 for 17 years and did autocross events and open track running at Mid Ohio. I bought my Stormy Blue Mica "snarly little beast" in 2008 and joined the club at that time. My wife Claire and I enjoy the club's events and I hope to add to all of our fun in the future. Join me for my Mid-Week "Cruse"!

Steve Crouse - Treasurer - After a long history on street and dirt motorcycles, with one accident too many, I decided that a small roadster would be the way to maintain that open-air feeling, in a safer environment. The final choice of brand was a no-brainer. Mazda had the best choice in the Miata, and the local (Gateway) Miata club was very active. It wasn't long before I drove my pre-owned '99 Emerald Mica off the lot, looking forward to my new love affair. (I've now found a Gen. 1 to add to our stable.) Since that time, it's been a story of personalization (It's almost perfect!) and club travels (Five Smokey Mountain trips). I've also been active in the local club, organizing drives and holding offices, in St Louis, and now in Indianapolis. Is this a great car, or what?



Meet Your 2010 Indy Miata Club Officers

Tom Lewis - Membership Director - This is the third office I've held with the Indy Miata Club. After being a member for several years, I became the Events Coordinator, and then stepped up to President-Elect in 2008 and was President in 2009. Am I crazy or what? My first Miata, a 1995 M Edition, was totaled in May of 06 after hitting a deer. I found my 1996 M Edition in Augusta, Georgia. It was a one-owner with factory hard top. Jackson Racing Cold Air Intake and Jackson Racing Catback Exhaust significantly enhance the performance of this great car.

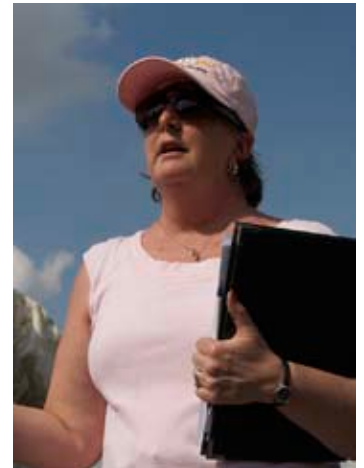


Ken Rabbers - Event Coordinator - I joined the Indy Miata Club in 2007 shortly after purchasing my 2006 MX-5 (Miata) Grand Touring. I had recently been transplanted from New Hampshire and having sold my 2003 Shinsen Version prior to the move, I was anxious to return to the fold. I became a rally organizer in April of my first year helping with the Post Tax Blues Rally and have been active since. Since joining the club, I have been fortunate enough to find a navigator to help keep me on the straight and narrow; of course when we're in the MX-5 it's more like the curvy and narrow. Joan and I organized several rallies. I love getting out on the back roads of Indiana, letting loose and

having a fun spirited drive whenever I can get the opportunity. Hope to see you all on the road.

Be sure to get in touch if you have any ideas for events or if you would like some assistance in organizing an event; it's a lot easier than you might think.

Nancy Burrill - Secretary - After being the 1st Lady and 1st IMC Secretary in 2008 and 2009, I am proud to continue as your Secretary in 2010. Roger and I thoroughly enjoy the club and can not begin to tell you what fun we had during his "Presidential" term in office and every year we've been members. We own a 96 Starlight Mica Blue M Edition Miata. Although I don't drive a stick very well, I enjoy being a proud navigator for Roger when we are out and about in our Miata. It started out to be just something for us to do since we are now empty nesters. We have found it to be the most rewarding and relaxing thing we have ever done as a couple.



Sara J McBride - Publications - I fell in love with the Miata from the day it was introduced and finally grew tired of being a responsible adult. I found my car in 1998 and immediately joined IMC. When I purchased my car, she had 36K miles on the odometer. I turned 100K on the Indianapolis Speedway track in May of 2004 (no, not during the race!) and she's still going strong with over 140K on the clock! Newsletter editor since 2001, I've tried to help the membership keep in touch with each other and the Miata world at

large. I have also taken on the duties of web master for the club. If you see someone with a camera taking tons of pictures at an event, that's me. I try to meet all new members, but just come up and introduce yourself! I'm always on the lookout for articles and pictures for the Open Road, so send them my way at editor@indymiata.org.

Driving Down The Information Highway

Where To Get Latest Club Info? Our Website!

It's once again time to have a quick refresher course on using the club web site. Our web site is the place to get the most current information about upcoming club events as well as see pictures and reports from past club events. In addition, once you have logged in to the site as a member, you can register on-line for upcoming events and participate in discussions in the members only forum area. All in all, it is a useful tool, but only if you are familiar with its use.

When you first visit the club site at "<http://www.indymiata.org/>, at the top left of the page, as well as all the other pages on the site, there is a "Member



Login" link with a "Click Here To Log In" in white type.

When you click on the link, you will go to the member login page where you will be asked for your user name and password. You should have received your user name and password when you joined the club. Enter your user name and password in the appropriate boxes and click the "Login" button. You can also tell the site to remember you on future visits. If you do this, you won't have to log in on your next visit to the website.

After you have entered your user name and password, you should get a message welcoming you back to the site. If you get a message saying that your login was incorrect, try entering your user name and password again. If that doesn't work, either, you can go back to the main login page and click on the red link under the login button that tells you to click if you have forgotten your password. (It's circled in the picture to the right.) On the next page, you will get a place to enter your email address. Enter your email address and click the "Find Password" button. If we have your email address on file, you will receive an email telling you what your user name and password are. If you are unsure of what your user name is, you can use this link to get that information also.

Enter your email address in the box.
We will send your username and password to you via email

Email address:

Enter your email and a message with your password should appear in your mailbox!

After you have successfully logged in to the site, please take a minute to verify and update your member information. We would like to know how to get in touch with you. We use your address information from the site to send your copy of the Open Road. Also, we send out email reminders a few days before each event, and we can't send you a reminder if we don't have your correct email address.

If you haven't been getting these reminders, chances are that we got your reminder back indicating that your email address was no longer valid. When this happens, we remove your email address from the system.

Don't forget that you can personalize your membership listing with information about yourself and a photo!

Another thing, after you login, you may get

Username:

Password:

Would you like us to save your login information on this computer so you won't have to log in every time you visit?
(If you are logging in from a computer other than your personal computer, do not save your login information.)

Yes! Save my login information on this computer
 No. Do not save my login information

[Click here if you have forgotten your password](#)

Forget your password? Click on the red link and help will soon arrive.

a message about your membership renewal. After you have renewed for 2010, this will disappear.

As always, if you have problems with the site, we want to know about them. The site is a good thing only if you are able to use it. Drop our web master an e-mail if you have any problems or questions, we want to hear from you. E-mail us at editor@indymiata.org

<http://indymiata.org>

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Contact us today to set an appointment!

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Indianapolis, IN 46222
317-381-0898

Indy Miata Club members receive a 10% discount off labor, maintenance and OEM Mazda parts.



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

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one car at a time!



You are proud of your car, so 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. And yes, we do black!

We invite you to stop by, take a tour of our new shop, and let's just talk about your car.

Indy Miata Club members receive a 10% discount.

stop by and
say hi!

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

<http://www.jimmybuffit.com>

2010 Indy Miata Club Events

January 23 - Meet the Officers Lunch

March 27 - Down To Upland

April ? - Post Tax Blues

May 15 - Beware The Ides of May

May 29 - The Night Before the 500

June 15 - 3rd Annual Midweek "Cruse"

July 24 - The Night Before the Brickyard 400

August 28 - The Night Before the Red Bull Gran Prix

Oh, look! Open dates!

When is your event going to be held?

2010 National and Regional Events

March 29 - Miatas Doin the Charleston II

<http://www.miatasdothecharleston.com/>

June 24 - Miata Mountain Mania 2010

Sold out but there is a wait list

<http://www.westpenmiataclub.com/mania10>

August 6-8 - Romp Through the Rockies

<http://www.heartlandmiata.com/id57.html>

September 10-12 - Midwest Miata Gathering

Details still being worked out

<http://www.midwestmiatagathering.com/>

Don't forget, your source for up to date information is
the Indy Miata Club web site.

<http://www.indymiata.org>

