

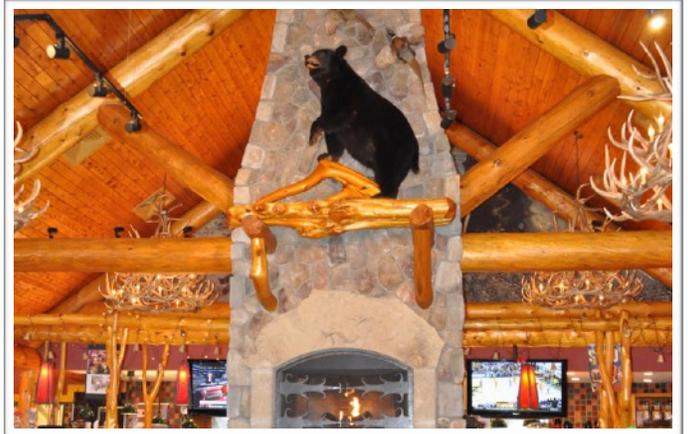
# THE *M* EDITION

## Big Bear Lodge a Hit with Miateers

by *Walt Beham*

For those who have visited or stayed at a genuine log cabin style lodge in Northern Michigan, the Smoky Mountains, or perhaps the Colorado Rockies, our club's recent luncheon at Big Bear Lodge in Brownstown, Michigan may have seemed like a mini vacation.

On Saturday March 10, hungry diners were treated to beautiful rustic architecture, huge stone fireplaces, stuffed bears, a cozy atmosphere, excellent food, and of course, good company, all in a private room. Since Saint Patrick's Day was only a week away, several members were donned in Irish apparel and St. Paddy's Day cheer seemed to abound.



Hosts Sue Greeley, John Puszczewicz, and Charlie and Kathy Guiberson did a wonderful job of selecting menu items in advance, greeting guests, and conducting tours of the building. All of us enjoyed choosing

(see **Big Bear Lodge**, page 2)

## Swing Into Spring Meander

**Date:** Saturday, April 21, 2018

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Place:** Shawn's Irish Tavern, 105 S 3rd Street, Waterville

Winter is over! Time to start meandering. Winding our way through the backroads of Henry, Fulton, Defiance, and Williams counties, we will end at the Union Street Grille, 122 S. Union St. Bryan, Ohio.

Our meal will consist of either a buffet with 2 meats, 4 sides, soup and salad bar, rolls, and nonalcoholic beverage for \$ 17.99 or just soup and salad bar for \$ 9.99. Let us know your choice when making your reservation.

Deadline for reservations is April 14. Contact Pat Dettmer at [stevepatd@gmail.com](mailto:stevepatd@gmail.com) or call 419-350-5986 after 4:00 pm.

## Tentative 2018 Event Calendar

Saturday, April 14	Adopt-A-Highway Session organized by Karl Schwemley
Saturday, April 21.	Spring Meander hosted by Steve and Pat Dettmer
Sun - Sat, May 13-19	Miatas at the Gap hosted by Steve and Pat Beam
Saturday, May 26	Eric Jones Memorial Riverrun Tour, Buckeye Miata Club
Weds-Sun, June 6-10	Zoomin' the Mountains in East Tennessee, Tri-Cities Miata Club
Saturday, July 14	Adopt-A-Highway Session organized by Karl Schwemley
Saturday, October 20	Adopt-A-Highway Session organized by Karl Schwemley

(from **Big Bear Lodge**, page 1)



from a variety of soups, salads, sandwiches, and a delicious whitefish entrée, not to mention "to die for" desserts including a creampuff covered in rich chocolate and a multi-layer cake large enough for two.

Sue Greeley, Kathy Guiberson, and Gloria Bracken conducted the 50/50, the pot of gold being won by Pat Dettmer. Other prizes included miniature cars (thanks, Charlie) and a giant leprechaun hat awarded to Carol Himmelein who, fittingly, quickly ceded it to husband Marv.

Following lunch and the raffle, President Marv Himmelein reminded the

group of the April 14th highway cleanup and the need for people to step up and plan our summer meanders. Steve Beam spoke about the annual Miatas at the Gap coming up on May 13-19.

Upon leaving Big Bear Lodge, it was nice to see a blue sky and feel warmer temperatures, reminders of nicer days ahead. Reinforcing this was the sight of several Miatas in the parking lot, as well as Greg and Terri Wilkins' new Miata based Fiat 124 Spider, a beautiful addition to their collection of roadsters.

Thanks to all who planned this event and also to Terry Koral who once again provided great pictures.



## 2018 Spring Miatas at the Gap

Don't miss all the fun to be had at the spring "Miatas at the Gap" tour. Pick your days any time during the period of Sunday May 13 through Saturday, May 19. This adventure is all about driving the "Dragon" at Deal's Gap: 318 curves in its 11 mile length. In addition, the group will drive to many other sites in and around the Great Smoky Mountains. See the details in the February M Edition on our web site. Make reservations with Highland Manor (800-213-9462) or email [office@highlandmanor.com](mailto:office@highlandmanor.com) and indicate that you are with the "Miata group." Visit the Inn's website at: [www.highlandmanor.com](http://www.highlandmanor.com). For questions, call Steve and Pat Beam at (419) 822-4156.

## Meander Calendar in Need

Do the following names seem familiar?

**Steve and Pat Beam**

**Walt and Linda Beham**

**Steve and Pat Dettmer**

**Tony and Mary Jo Geise**

**Sue Greeley and Kathy Guiberson**

**Bill Potvin and Linda Myers**

**Randy and Teresa Raymond**

**Karl Schwemley**

**Tom and Fran Thayer**

They should, because these are the people who deserve our thanks for having organized meanders for our club in the past three years.

If your name is not on this list, but you have been enjoying the fruits of their labor, you should really consider volunteering to do an event this year.

The calendar is wide open for May through October. No need to get fancy: a nice easy tour ending with dinner is just fine. And remember, for folks who haven't planned an event before, our more experienced members will be happy to help. Just ask.

It's important to pick a tentative date NOW, so we can get it on the schedule. Details can come later. Contact Marv Himmelein or Bill Potvin.

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## Adopt-A-Highway - April 14

As usual, our first session of the year will start at 9 am and likely take less than two hours. We'll probably do a little drive afterwards and have brunch in Grand Rapids We'll meet at Nazareth Hall, on SR 65 in Wood County, about a mile south of SR 235.



This is our community project to help keep the roads we love to drive on a little nicer. Please volunteer to help by contacting Karl Schwemley NOW at 419-356-0404 or [kschwemley@bex.net](mailto:kschwemley@bex.net) so that we can be assured of a good turnout for this first outing of 2018..



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Mazda6



Mazda3



CX-5



MX-5 Miata

**Stop in and talk to Nik, Mark or Bill,  
 and check the club web site for  
 the latest special deals.**