

THE *M* EDITION

25th Anniversary Celebration

Date: Saturday, July 18, 2020

Meet: 1:00 pm

Place: Otsego Park, 20000 W River Rd, Bowling Green, Ohio

Don't miss our celebration of "25 Years of Top-Down Fun". First we'll meander over some of the roads that have provided us so much fun since 1995. The drive will end at Leisure Time Winery where we'll enjoy the country scene and reminisce about those good times.

Be sure to bring stories to share with your Miata friends. We'll dine on a simple fare of pizza, paninis, salads and pasta and taste the wines and craft beers on offer (see <https://leisuretimewinery.com>).

RSVP to Steve and Pat Dettmer by Saturday, July 11.

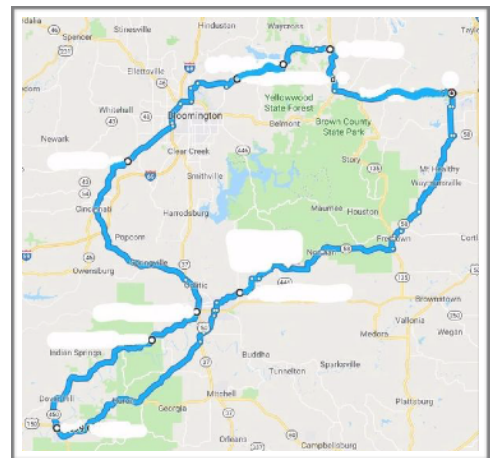
Call 419-350-5986 or email stevepatd@gmail.com

Mille Miglia to the Schweinefiletring

by Bill Potvin

Eight stalwart club Miateers recently made a 1000 mile roundtrip to southern Indiana to compete in Tire Squeal 2020. The event involves driving a 175 mile loop of roads, taking in the scenery and stopping to sample the local cuisine (if that's the appropriate term). The route is named after Germany's 17.5 mile Nürburgring. Since it's Indiana, it's called The Schweinefiletring™ (translation: Pork Tenderloin Ring)!

Steve & Pat Dettmer, Jarvis & Marsha Gamble, Bill Potvin & Linda Myers and Greg & Terri Wilkins took a seven hour scenic route (devised by Greg) from Findlay to Bloomington, the site of Indiana University and situated on the western edge of "the ring." Home for the next three nights was Century Suites, featuring one and two bedroom suites in a cluster of unique houses. The group dined that night at Salt Creek Brewery, one of the sponsoring eateries of the event. It was a fun place, but we were disappointed that they were out of pork tenderloins, the featured meal for Tire Squeal, which would have provided 25 points in the contest.



(see Tire Squeal, page 2)

(from *Tire Squeal*, page 1)



Actually, we were only half-hearted participants in the contest. It involved garnering points for 10 stops on the route, as well as for eating at four restaurants, with extra points for ordering pork tenderloins. There were also points to be had for solving riddles and for contributing to Gleaners food bank, which was the charity benefiting from the event. We played along a bit, but chose to focus our attention on the great roads of Brown County and the surrounding area, as well as enjoying each others' company.

During our stay, we ate at Sgt Rick's American Grill and Nick's English Hut, both of which DID serve pork tenderloin

sandwiches, so when in Rome ... We also had a nice meal at the restaurant at our hotel, the Indian Palace. Being mostly unfamiliar with Indian food, our servers made some great recommendations and we were all very happy with the results.

We drove the entire Schweinefiletring™ route in one day. The organizers provided detailed instructions, so there was no issue of getting lost. Some of the points of interest eluded us, though, and required a bit of backtracking before we found them. The weather was perfect for top-down motoring and, as promised, the roads were interesting and the scenery was beautiful. Brown County lived up to its reputation.

The next day was spent touring the area on our own. We had all heard of French Lick, but besides getting a chuckle out of the name, none of us really appreciated its features and history. It was only a little more than an hour from Bloomington, so we headed south to see what the attraction was. Turns out the town has a lot to offer. In the early part of the 20th century it was a destination for those seeking the mineral springs there. That explains the two huge hotels in town, the nearly 700 room French Lick Resort Hotel and Casino and the West Baden Springs Hotel. We toured the grand French Lick Hotel and enjoyed a nice lunch nearby.

We also learned that the town is semi-famous for a) Pluto Water, the best selling laxative in the early 1900's, b) the place where Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his candidacy for president, c) the hotel where tomato juice was invented, and d) the birthplace of Larry Byrd, basketball great. Who knew?

After lunch, we headed south again, traveling on scenic and twisty IN 145 on our way to and from Tell City on the Ohio River. There we enjoyed the view, followed by ice cream treats at a local soft serve place. It was the end of our Indiana experience, and the next day we each followed our own routes home in continued good weather. We all agreed that it had been a terrific four day adventure.

Adopt-A-Highway - July 25

Our road cleanup will start at 9 am and finishes by 10:30. Our starting point is Nazareth Hall, on SR 65 in Wood County, about a mile south of SR 235.

Please volunteer to help by contacting Karl Schwemley NOW at 419-356-0404 or kschwemley@bex.net so that we can be assured of a good turnout.



Covid-19 Precautions

Dealing with the pandemic is complicated. Ohio seems to be acting prudently, but it is a dynamic situation.

Our anniversary party will be held respecting social distancing, and with face coverings encouraged. Dining will be outside to further minimize contact.

Hopefully, we can start meandering again with these precautions. As always, volunteer hosts are needed.

Tentative 2020 Event Calendar

Saturday, July 18	Club's 25th Anniversary Meander and Party at Leisure Time Winery
Saturday, July 25	Adopt-A-Highway Session organized by Karl Schwemley
Saturday, September 5	Eric Jones Memorial Riverrun Tour hosted by Buckeye Miata Club
September 24-27	Miatas at Margaritaville hosted by Gateway Miata Club
Sun-Sat, Sep 27-Oct 3	Miatas at the Gap hosted by Larry and Jan Sheridan
Saturday, October 17	Adopt-A-Highway Session organized by Karl Schwemley

Even More 25th Anniversary Year Reflections

As we get closer to our 25th Anniversary celebration, relive the commemoration of the fifteenth year after the club's founding. It was another gala event that included a breakfast, a meander, a picnic, and a ride on a canal boat. Enjoy the memories.

We'll end our trip back in time in the August issue of the *M Edition* with a reprint of an article on the club's 20th anniversary event, as well as July's 25th anniversary party.



25 Years of Top-Down Fun

NWOhio Officers

President

Bill Roan 419-345-3076
crescentclr@aol.com

Membership/Treasurer

Steve and Pat Dettmer. 419-350-5986
stevepatd@gmail.com

Editor

Bill Potvin 419-891-9191
bpotvin@bex.net

Technical Editor

Greg Wilkins 419-619-4952
tandgwilkins@earthlink.net

Facebook Group Guy

Terry Koral 419-265-1608
tkoral@bex.net

Adopt-A-Highway Chairman

Karl Schwemley 419-356-0404
kschwemley@bex.net



mazda DIRECT

1600 N. Countyline Street

Fostoria, Ohio 44830

419-435-8131

800-589-8111

Email: nik@mazdadirectsales.com



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.**

Everything Comes Together for 15th Anniversary Event

The club celebrated its 15th birthday in style, combining a number of elements for the enjoyment of the 43 participants who attended the July 17 event.

The big day started at Wagner Mazda in Fostoria, as Rick Wagner hosted coffee, juice and pastries for the group. Interspersed with the slurping and munching was the gathering for a group photo of 22 of the 24 cars who would ultimately join the fun. The starting point also allowed time for socializing, checking out the 2011 MX-5s on display and sorting through the goodie bag provided to each car. Among the contents were the featured souvenirs of the event, nifty caps emblazoned with the club logo on front and "15th Anniversary - 2010" on the back.



There was also a drawing for Wagner coffee mugs, caps and \$50.00 gift certificates, and every car received a commemorative dash plaque of the event. Many thanks to Rick for his generous support of our special celebration.

Following the photo shoot, the group was led to the next venue by President Jerry Bish. The route took us over some curvy roads, as well as passing through beautiful downtown Pemberville and the suburbs of Bowling Green. The destination was Providence Park, near Grand Rapids, where we gathered at the Erie shelter house for lunch. Folks amused themselves along the way with a hysterical historical quiz on the history of the club.

Bishes Lead Parade to Providence Park

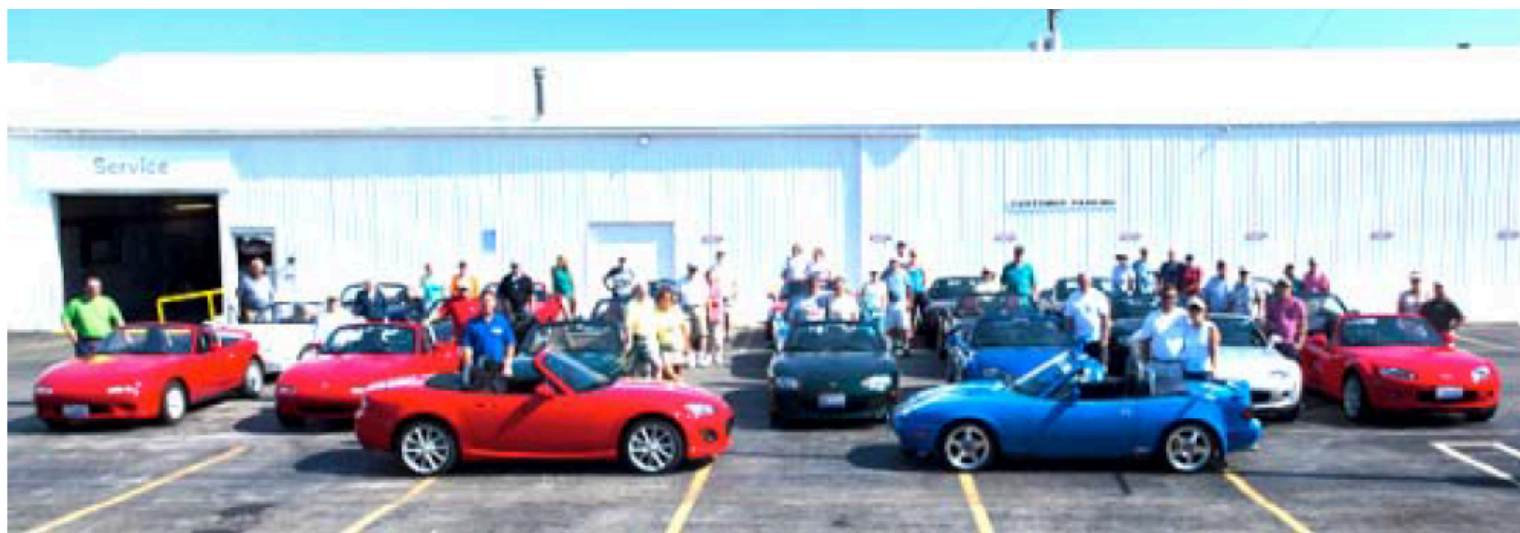
-Photo Courtesy of BG *Sentinel-Tribune*

Lunch was catered by City Barbeque, located on Central Avenue in west Toledo. It arrived hot and on time and there were many compliments on the pulled pork and chicken, baked and green beans and potato salad. As the group dined, they had time to look over the wide array of swag that was provided by Mazda again this year. Included were books detailing the history of the Miata, Zoom-Zoom t-shirts, caps, flash lights, carrying bags, cell phone chargers, flash memory cards, model cars and other assorted treasures. There was so much stuff that a drawing was held in which EVERYBODY won.

Two other presentations were held as we enjoyed the sunny day and beautiful park setting. For besting all others in the historical quiz, Keith and Yvonne Sommers received a gift donated by Teresa and Randy Raymond, a Meanders cooler bag filled with mementos from several past events, as well as copies of the very first club newsletter and instructions for the first meander, held in August 1995. In addition, a surprise award was given to club founder Bill Potvin, which consisted of a wall hanging, skillfully made from Miata event t-shirts by Fran Thayer.

The conclusion of the day's activities was a ride on the mule drawn canal boat *Volunteer*, as it passed through an operating lock on a restored section of the Miami & Erie canal. Folks also enjoyed a tour of the Isaac Ludwig Mill.

Mary Jo Bish had done a great job of promoting the event and our special day was covered in several local news articles, including a front page piece in the Bowling Green *Sentinel-Tribune*,



Miatas from 1990 to 2010 Gathered at Wagner Mazda - Photo By Pat Hart