

THE *M* EDITION

Spring Meander Enjoyed by All

It has been a long, long winter, and Pat and Steve Dettmer took a leap of faith in volunteering to organize the club's first 2018 meander in April. In fact, the weather just the previous Saturday was so cold, windy and rainy that our Adopt-A-Highway session for that day was postponed.

Fast forward to April 21 and the climate had improved to give the assembled group near 60 degree temperatures and partly sunny skies. That meant that the most stalwart of the meanderers did the whole day with tops down.

As usual, the 12 participating cars represented a wide range in age, from Walt & Linda Beham's 1990 to the two 2017 RFs of Greg & Terri Wilkins and Jarvis & Marsha Gamble. As it was the first outing this year for many of the cars, there was a lot of checking out new bits and comparing features of the four generations of Miatas. Of particular interest were the splendid body repairs and repaints of the cars of Sandy Tapola (rear ended) and Greg and Terri (contact with a deer). Pat Dettmer then brought the chitchat to an end, passing out the route instructions and recapping some of the highlights to be seen.



The route followed the Maumee River through Texas, Ohio, then turned north, then west for a few miles, finally heading southwest on County Road AC, a nice curvy treat in an area where the roads are generally linear and flat. The convoy made a comfort stop in Ridgeville Corners, which was good timing since Bill Potvin had been driving on a slowly deflating tire. Four quarters and 15 psi quickly solved that problem.

A rambling course then took the group through Adams Ridge, around Defiance, through Evansport, Stryker and West Unity, before ending in Bryan at the Union Street Grille. It was there that the travelers partook of the variety of food and beverages on offer. Of course, a lot of conversation took

place over a range of topics. Alas, neither Sue Greeley nor Kathy Guiberson were there to conduct a 50/50 raffle, the good news being that Sue and John could not possibly win again. The crowd was pleased to see that Fran Thayer filled the entertainment void by graphically displaying a large french fry.

Terry Koral announced the birth of a new club Facebook page (see article on page 3) and President Himmelein recognized the Dettmers for a great job, and the entire gang joined in on the thanks. He also noted that our calendar is devoid of any other planned meanders. Let's hope some volunteers step up, so that we can continue the kind of fun we all had on this event.

Tentative 2018 Event Calendar

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

2018 Riverrun Set for Saturday, May 26

The Buckeye Miata Club, North American MGB Register, and the Central Ohio British Car Club Council have again combined forces to sponsor Riverrun, a 240 mile driving tour, using some of Ohio's most interesting and challenging roads.

Eric's Riverrun was created by Eric Jones 25 years ago, for the enjoyment of motoring down fun roads and to share the camaraderie of driving enthusiasts who feel the same way. Since Eric's passing 10 years ago, the event has continued as a benefit for the Mesothelioma Research Fund.

Cars will leave the Bob Evans at Stringtown Rd and I-71 (Grove City, southwest of Columbus), between 8 and 9 am, arriving at the Ohio River around noon, depending on time spent sightseeing. The finish will be about 6 pm. This is a tour with no fixed schedule nor any assigned speeds. The route will pass through West Union, crossing the Ohio River at Maysville, KY, then to Augusta for a ferry crossing back to Ohio. The route then heads north, passing the boyhood home of U.S. Grant, and ending in Mt. Sterling. All driving enthusiasts are invited, so those from our club can invite non-Miata sports car friends to join us. There are usually 90+ cars, including many other Miatas, as well as Corvettes, Porsches, MG's, Austin-Healeys, Triumphs, Mini Coopers, etc. Photos of the great roads and scenery on the route can be seen at <http://tinyurl.com/Riverrun18>



There is a \$20.00 per car fee which covers organizational expenses and a nifty magnetic event badge. All profit will be donated in Eric Jones' memory to The James Cancer Hospital for Mesothelioma Research Fund. Since 2008, the event has raised over \$13,000 for research.

The aging NWOHio Miata Club population has found that doing the whole run in one day is a little much, so here's the plan: We'll head south Friday night, get together for dinner, and stay at the Red Roof Inn - Grove City, 4055 Jackpot Road, Grove City, OH 43123 (614-871-9617). Option A is to do the entire drive and head home Saturday night. Option B is to go only as far as the river, do some sightseeing in Maysville, KY, do dinner, spend the night at the Super 8 Maysville, 550 Tucker Drive, Maysville, KY 41056 (606-759-8888) and finish the route on the way back home on Sunday.

If you are planning to go, make your hotel reservations and contact Bill Potvin at bpotvin@bex.net or 419-891-9191 **ASAP**, since the organizers have asked that we provide names and contact info for each member of our group. I think most of us will be doing Option B, so I'll get back to you with the details of the travel arrangements.

Facebook Page Debuts

The club has had a little used Facebook page for several years. That page has been deactivated and Terry Koral has started a new and improved version. Facebookers should go to **NWOHio Miata Club** and become a friend.

Terry emphasizes that this is a work in progress, but he has already posted lots of event pics, including our April meander. He will continue to post club info periodically, but any member can use the page to communicate. You may want to feature your car, or report on a nice drive you have had.

This is a supplement to our website for more immediate communication. Since many of us are new to Facebook, please give Terry any feedback on ways to use this as a forum for our members.

For Sale

Dress up your ND Miata with stainless steel exhaust tips that slide tightly over the original.

Like new and I will do the five minute install if you don't want to get your hands dirty. \$20.00. Contact Bill Potvin at



bpotvin@bex.net or 419-891-9191.

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Spring Adopt-A-Highway



Nice weather and a team of 11 volunteers made the first session of the year go quickly. After the cleanup, most of the gang headed home to mentally prepare for the meander that was to start later in the day.

Many thanks to Karl Schwemley, Marv Himmelein, Jarvis Gamble, Bill Potvin, Steve Dettmer, Robert Reitzel, Walt Beham, Gloria Bracken, Frank Bracken, Tom Thayer and Gary Koerner.



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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.