



# ROBIN'S NEST

ROBIN GEORGE



Happy New Year Everyone. Yip-pee... The New Year is upon us and we start another wonderful one with great expectations and lots of stuff to do. We have some new members on the Board and some new thoughts and ideas. I personally want to thank the outgoing Board members Jennifer Sipe and Pam Hunt for their stellar service, keen wit, and the ability keep me on a straight path. I could always tell when I was going overboard or getting to long winded by their stern looks and me being ignored. Thank you so much, you were and continue to be a great asset to the club. And most of all, good friends.

We are starting off with our annual Hangover run on January 1<sup>st</sup>. We actually have a run immediately after the

night of so called revelry. Most of us use the convenience of cable to watch the ball drop at midnight (9 pm our time) then call it a night. It has the same excitement only earlier. We are starting the run later 11 am so those with cobwebs may clear them and those with a guilty conscience can seek forgiveness. It's all good. The run will be nothing exciting like bunches of twisties or speeding but a time to actually sight see. The only problem on this run is that you will not have anything to see and may actually have to converse with your passenger. Or if that is uncomfortable, count the birds. You will see lots of birds. Just enjoy because we are driving the finest sports car in the world, the Mazda Miata.

I need your ideas. Let's do lots of things this year. Let the Board know and we will work on setting it up. We have already commissioned a member to start planning a

big event for later this summer, but we need more things to do and places to go in the meantime. Did someone say GO-Karts? January 10<sup>th</sup> is the date. We also have started to plan for the Auto-cross Championships this spring. That is just a start.

Again I reiterate, this is your club and you make it as exciting as you want it to be or not. My objective is to make sure we are solvent and within the guidelines on a non-profit organization. To have fun and be safe. Simple guidelines for all to follow while enjoying ourselves in wonderful Northern California. See everyone at this month's general meeting.

## Welcome 2012

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### NEXT MEETING

Thursday, Jan 12<sup>th</sup>

**BLACK BEAR DINER**

2700 El Centro Rd, Sacramento  
(near I-80 and W El Camino Avenue)

916-641-2327

Come early for dinner, 6pm

Meeting at 7pm

## We welcome our Newest Members

Michael and Martha Haisten  
Cameron Abbott  
Chris and Ryan Trapp

## Memberships renewed in December

Paauwe, Bob and Genny  
Selman, Nancy and Chuck

## Memberships Expiring January 1

Auyeung, Tak  
DeLaurentis, Mike and Helen  
Lakin, Justin  
Mc David, Lonnie and Barbara  
Moe, Ron and Linda  
Rainbolt, Joe and Carol  
Schleeter, Scott and Mary  
Thurston, Jill and Matt  
Walsh, John and Bonnie Spencer  
Williams, Will  
Wilson, Mike and Marlaina  
Zicker, Wes and Paula  
Zillioux, Judd and Diva

**SAMOA stats: 127 Memberships, 216 Members, 137 Miatas**

2011 brought an influx of members with varied backgrounds but a common interest-the Miata. We added 38 new memberships consisting of 62 members. In addition, we had 81 memberships renewed.

The income from memberships is what keeps the club going. It provides for the basic operations: insurance, auto club membership, web hosting, office supplies, corporation fees, member recognition awards, autocross awards, support the troops postage for 2

packages each month, Birthday picnic, and to support other events.

I would also like to thank all of the members that get their renewals in on time. It saves us work.

Lastly, I would like to wish all members a Happy New Year in 2012 and you can sleep soundly knowing that the Club is financially sound.

## January Birthdays

Tak Auyeung - Jan 32nd  
Cat Black - Jan 24th  
Bob Carter - Jan 1st  
Denise Correia - Jan 19th  
Thomas Kroger - Jan 9th  
Ed Long - Jan 19th  
Donna Carlson - Jan 26th  
Sheryl Carlson - Jan 14th  
Kathleen Doe - Jan 1st  
Paula Douglas - Jan 14th  
Susan Gust - Jan 26th  
Rita Johnson - Jan 15th



## Ron Petrich





Maureen Morris - Jan 23rd  
DT Nguyen - Jan 1st  
Sally Parker - Jan 32nd  
Jon Somplack - Jan 21st  
John Taylor - Jan 7th  
Judd Zilloux - Jan 31st  
Paula Zicker - Jan 32nd  
Wes Zicker - Jan 32nd

# The Road Ahead

## A look at upcoming events

by Diana Loo

The following is a list of upcoming events. If you have any ideas for a run, please contact me or anyone on the board. Also, if you have not done so, please contact the person organizing the event to confirm you will be attending.

DATES	EVENT
<p data-bbox="180 443 363 470"><b>January 1, 2012</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="440 443 1117 470"><b>Hang Over Run</b> – Start the New Year with our Hangover Run</p> <p data-bbox="440 485 1435 667">Join us and other Miata owners for the first Miata Run of the year. Our Hangover Run will be held on Sunday, New Years Day. We will meet at 11:00 AM at the Starbuck’s located at 2121 Natomas Crossing Drive (corner of Truxel Rd &amp; Natomas Crossing), Sacramento, CA 95834 (<a href="tel:916-515-0837">916-515-0837</a>) and will depart at 11:30 AM. After a leisurely drive around the area we plan to have a late lunch at 1:30 PM. This will be a rain or shine event. If you have any questions, contact Robin George (<a href="tel:916-359-2627">916) 359-2627</a></p>
<p data-bbox="180 695 380 722"><b>January 10, 2012</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="440 695 630 722"><b>Go Kart Racing</b></p> <p data-bbox="440 728 1435 1031">Go Kart Racing at RPM Motorsports at Hwy 50 and Bradshaw Rd. (Indoors, next to the Drive in movies). On Tuesday we get two twenty lap sessions for the price of one- \$20.00. We each need to buy an annual membership for \$10.00, so the total cost is \$30.00, but then we get the \$20.00 Tuesday two-fer for the full year. You don't have to be the fastest to have fun. It's a lot like a track day. We get a green flag at the start and a checkered at the end, but each kart is timed individually so the fastest lap is the winner even if that is not the first Kart to finish. There is a Subway Sandwich place inside the building too. You can arrive at 6PM to eat or visit. We will sign in to race at 6:30PM. More info about Kart Racing at their website <a href="http://www.raceplacemotorsports.com">www.raceplacemotorsports.com</a>. Or you can call me at <a href="tel:916-515-0789">916-515-0789</a>. RSVP appreciated but not mandatory. We will sign in at 6:30 sharp.</p>
<p data-bbox="180 1073 412 1100"><b>January 28-29, 2012</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="440 1073 1127 1100"><b>San Joaquin Valley Miata Club 18th Annual Coastal Cruise</b></p> <p data-bbox="440 1115 1435 1272">Meet at Denny’s on Jensen at Highway 99 at 8:30am on Jan 28th for the drivers meeting. This year the run will be going from Fresno to Carmel and then south on Highway 1 to San Simeon. RSVP to Richard Johnson at <a href="mailto:rjohnsondds@comcast.net">rjohnsondds@comcast.net</a> or Tom Jarvis at <a href="mailto:kg6kyu@comcast.net">kg6kyu@comcast.net</a>. Contact the Courtesy Inn in San Simeon at <a href="tel:805-927-4691">805-927-4691</a> for room reservations.</p>
<p data-bbox="180 1400 347 1428"><b>May 3-5, 2012</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="440 1400 651 1428"><b>Miatas in Moab V</b></p> <p data-bbox="440 1444 1435 1724">Events and activities begin on Friday. Event registration opens at 5:00 PM Thursday. Welcome Social Thursday Evening. Cost of the event will be \$65.00 per person and includes the Event Cowboy Dinner Buffet &amp; Program Sat. night (\$35.00 value) and Event full color Logo T-Shirt, Misc. Handouts for Drives, Event Schedule and Goodie Bag. Download the Event Registration Form to register for the event. Look for details on how to register on our website in the near future. Other details about the event will also be posted. Now is the time to make your room reservations for our Miata's in Moab 2012. Event will be held at the Red Cliffs Lodge Resort. Located at Mile 14, Hwy. 128, Moab, Utah 84532 on the scenic Colorado River. See the Utah Miata website <a href="http://www.utahmiataclub.com">www.utahmiataclub.com</a></p>



SAMOA December Annual Business Meeting

Jeanne George



With all the decorum he could muster, President Robin George opened the Annual Business Meeting with a pound of the SAMOA gavel (which comes out of hiding once a year). The

room was packed with anxious spectators wanting to hear what vital words would be released and awaiting the results of the night's Election. Suddenly the back doors swung open, and a loud chanting group of seven SAMOA members with signs began circling the room. With protests of their own, they drowned out the President and "Occupied" the meeting. They were not to be quieted until their concerns were heard! Members were stunned. The President was shocked at the total disregard for his authority to maintain order in a setting of this importance.



Once the laughter subsided and the Occupiers found seats, the Officers gave their reports. It was explained to members that while we were working with Mazda North American Operations to obtain funding for the 2011 SAMOA Scrabble Scramble that there was a mix-up with their staff. As a result, Mazda sent SAMOA several boxes of goodies for our distribution. A holiday give-away of the items to members included: T-shirts, Miata pens, Miata books and other items.



Next, Robin explained the election process to the members as ballots were distributed. It was asked at that time for any nominations from the floor. There were none. It was announced that several positions had unopposed individuals running for those Offices. Robin stated that the incumbents for President, Treasurer, and Media Director were unopposed but would require a waiver of the two-year term limits for those individuals. A motion from the floor was made and approved.

The following are SAMOA's 2012 Board of Officers: President Robin George, Vice President Ellen Frosch, Secretary Renee Araiza and Margie Jurach, Treasurer Jeanne George, Events Diana Loo, and Media Director Ron Petrich. Technical is vacant, if you would like to volunteer, please contact Robin. In addition, Jenn Sipe has volunteered to organize the *Miatatudes* newsletter and will start those duties with the February edition.

Meanwhile, Ellen Frosch finished 2011 with the January 2012 edition. We would like to thank Ellen for volunteering to take over the newsletter duty earlier this year when the previous editor resigned. She will now concentrate her full attention to the demanding duties of Vice-President and the overwhelming responsibility of keeping Robin in line and being a heartbeat away from the Presidency.

WHAT ? →



## SAMOA Christmas Dinner

Jeanne George

This year's SAMOA Christmas gathering was organized by Vice-president Jenn Sipe and probably with some help from Mike as well. It was held at Vince's Ris-



torante in Elk Grove, where they provided our group of 44 with a private room, dance floor, good food and service.

Jenn acquired an entertainer, Jason Carmel who sang the oldies much to the delight of the group. Many were singing along with him when they weren't dancing. Several Officers entertained the group with various antics. Robin dressed in a wolf mask and hands sang "Little Red Riding Hood" by Sam The Sham and the Pharaohs while I posed in a red cape. Jenn sang and entertained with "My Guy", and Ellen led a group of four to sing and dance to "YMCA". Pictures and video can be found [www.sacramentoareamiata.org](http://www.sacramentoareamiata.org).



Jenn, sponsored by SAMOA, designed and created 5 Christmas Wreaths which were used for table decorations. Two were awarded to the Best Christmas Sweater contest winners, Helen DeLaurentis and Margie Jurach. The others were given to lucky attendees by random drawing.



Our dessert was a selection of 3 cheesecakes purchased from John and Jill's Cheesecake in Novato; delivered to us by SAMOA member Paul Y'Barra who works there. (Thank you Paul for delivering them, in addition to donating one of the cheesecakes to us)

The party ended around 10 pm. Mike and Robin helped Jason pack up his equipment while Jenn and I helped the staff clean up the remnants of a good evening.



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## 2011 Member Recognition Awards

Jeanne George

At the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, 29 individuals were recognized for their contributions to the Club throughout 2011.

### **Events**

Kathi Bell and Vince Weis: Greenhaven Estates Car Show and the Fort Bragg Weekend

Denise Correia: Feather River Run and Chairperson for 2011 Scrabble Scramble

Adi Damania: Run to Upper Clear Lake and numerous Miata/tude articles

Helen and Mike DeLaurentis: Historic Folsom Run, Forestiere/Yosemite full moon/Castle AFB Musuem Run, Wreaths Across America Run, and Support the Troops organizer.

Ralph Gingrich: Drive Around Lake Tahoe

Sharon Howe: Wild Flowers Run

Jackie and Jim McClure: Washington Fun Run

Skip Noyes: Audubon Canyon Ranch

Jack Parker: SAMOA Autocross, Kirkwood Pancake Run, and 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Teddy Bear Run

Dennis Strassburger: Brunch at the Air Museum

Mike Wilson: Show and Shoot

### **Other**

David DeNuzzo: Monthly meetings Tech help and donations

Rod Gonzalez: Finance Committee

Maureen and Randy Morris: monthly raffles

Wes Zicker: Finance Committee

### **Officers**

Ellen Frosch: Feather River Run, Birthday Party helper

Pam and Randy Hunt: Castello di Amorosa Winery Run, Birthday Party Run leader and helpers

Ron Petrich: Ferrari Challenge Run, Lassen Volcanic Park overnight trip, Birthday helper

Diana Loo and Chris Christainson: Pre Super Bowl Run, Bodega Bay Whale Watching trip, Charles Mitchell Winery

Jenn and Mike Sipe: Christmas Dinner, Birthday Party Run leader and helpers

Jeanne and Robin George: Hangover Run, Pre Super Bowl Run, SAMOA at the State Fair, Birthday party

Some individuals weren't at the meeting and will be given their awards in the future.



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THE ORIGIN OF SOME WORDS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND OTHER TRIVIA

Adi and Parvin Damania

1. FORTNIGHT comes from 'Fourteen Nights' (Two Weeks).
2. POP MUSIC is 'Popular Music' shortened.
3. MOPED is the short term for 'Motorized Pedaling'.
4. BUS is the short term for 'Omnibus' that means everybody.
5. DRAWING ROOM was actually a 'withdrawing room' where people withdrew after dinner. Later the prefix 'with' was dropped..
6. NEWS refers to information from all Four directions - N, E, W, and S.
7. AG-MARK, which some products bear, stems from 'Agricultural Marketing'.
8. QUEUE comes from 'Queen's Quest'. Long back a long row of people as waiting to see the Queen. Someone made the comment Queen's Quest..
9. JOURNAL is a diary that tells about 'Journey for a day' during each
10. Day's business.
11. TIPS come from 'To Insure Prompt Service'. In olden days to get Prompt service from servants in an inn, travelers used to drop coins in a Box on which was written 'To Insure Prompt Service'. This gave rise to the custom of Tips.
12. JEEP is a vehicle with unique Gear system. It was invented during World War II (1939-1945). It was named 'General Purpose Vehicle (GP)'. GP was changed into JEEP later.
13. Coca-Cola was originally **green**.
14. The most common name in the world is Mohammed.
15. The name of all the continents end with the same letter that they start with Asia, America, Australia, Europe, etc.
16. The strongest muscle in the body is the TONGUE.
17. TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.
18. Women BLINK nearly twice as much as men!!
19. You can't kill yourself by holding your breath.
20. It is impossible to lick your elbow.
21. Wearing HEADPHONES for just an hour will increase the bacteria in your ear by 700 times.
22. It is physically impossible for PIGS to look up into the sky.
23. The "sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep is sick" is said to be the toughest tongue twister in the English language.
24. Each KING in a deck of playing cards represents a great king or leader from history:  
Spades - King David  
Clubs - Alexander the Great,  
Hearts - Charlemagne  
Diamonds - Julius Caesar.
25. What do bullet proof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers all have in common?  
Answer - All invented by women.
26. A CROCODILE cannot stick its tongue out.
27. A SNAIL can sleep for three years curled up in its shell.
28. All POLAR BEARS are left handed.
29. BUTTERFLIES taste with their feet.
30. ELEPHANTS are the only animals that can't jump at all.
31. In the last 4000 years, no new ANIMALS have been domesticated.
32. STEWARDESSES is the longest word typed with only the left hand.
33. The human HEART creates enough pressure when it pumps blood that a squirt of blood could land 30 feet away.
34. RATS multiply so quickly that in 18 months, two rats could have over million descendants.
35. People say "BLESS YOU" when you sneeze because when you sneeze, your heart stops for a millisecond. If you SNEEZE too hard, you can fracture a rib. If you try to suppress a sneeze, you can rupture a blood vessel in your head or neck and die. So it is good to bless a sneezing person, "God Bless You".

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Personal Income Tax Dilemma - The Rich Pay More Taxes?  
forwarded by Adi Damania

Suppose that every day, ten men (incl. perhaps Warren Buffet and Bill gates) go out for a beer and the bill for all ten comes to \$100. If they paid their bill the way we pay our taxes (i.e., according to our income), it would go something like this:

The first four men (the poorest of the 10) would pay nothing.  
The fifth would pay \$1.  
The sixth would pay \$3.  
The seventh would pay \$7.  
The eighth would pay \$12.  
The ninth would pay \$18.  
The tenth man (the richest) would pay \$59.

So, that's what they decided to do. The ten men drank in the bar every day and seemed quite happy with the arrangement, until one day, the owner of the bar threw them a curved ball. He said, "Since you are all such good and regular customers, I'm going to reduce the cost of your daily beer by \$20. Drinks for the ten now cost just \$80."

The group still wanted to pay their bill the way we pay our taxes, so the first four men were unaffected. They would still drink for free. But what about the other six men -- the paying customers?

How could they divide the \$20 windfall so that everyone would get his "fair share"? They realized that \$20 divided by six is \$3.33. But if they subtracted that from every body's share, then the fifth man and the sixth man would each end up being paid to drink his beer. So the bar owner suggested that it would be fair to reduce each man's bill by roughly the same amount, and he proceeded to work out the amounts each should pay!

And so:

The fifth man, like the first four, now paid nothing (100% savings).  
The sixth now paid \$2 instead of \$3 (33% savings).  
The seventh now pay \$5 instead of \$7 (28% savings).  
The eighth now paid \$9 instead of \$12 (25% savings).  
The ninth now paid \$14 instead of \$18 (22% savings).  
The tenth now paid \$49 instead of \$59 (16% savings).

Each of the six was better off than before. And the first four continued to drink for free.

But once outside the restaurant, the men began to compare their savings.

"I only got a dollar out of the \$20 the bar owner gave us," declared the sixth man. He pointed to the tenth man, "but he got \$10!"

"Yeah, that's right," exclaimed the fifth man. "I only saved a dollar, too. It's unfair that he got ten times more than I!"

"That's true!!"shouted the seventh man. "Why should he get \$10 back when I got only \$2? The wealthy get all the breaks!"

"Wait a minute," yelled the first four men in unison. "We didn't get anything at all. The system exploits the poor!"

The nine men surrounded the tenth and beat him up badly (!@#%\$%^&\*).

The next night the tenth man didn't show up for drinks, so the nine sat down and had beers without him. **They had brought with them the same money that they had paid the previous day.** But when it came time to pay the bill, they discovered something was fishy. They didn't have enough money between all of them for even half of the bill!

And that, boys and girls, journalists and college professors, is how our tax system works. The people who pay the highest taxes get the most benefit from a tax reduction. Tax them too much, attack them for being wealthy, and they just may not show up any more. In fact, they might start drinking overseas where the atmosphere is somewhat friendlier.

Courtesy

David R. Kamerschen, Ph.D.

Professor of Economics, University of Georgia

For those who understand, no explanation is needed.

For those who do not understand, no explanation is possible.

**SACRAMENTO AREA  
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*Celebrating  
the finest,  
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**MEMBERSHIP BADGES**

Any member may purchase a personalized SAMOA membership badge. An order form and complete order instructions can be found on our [website](#)

**PERSONAL WEBSITE**

Each SAMOA member is entitled to a personal page on our web site. You can include up to a full page of biographical or other personal information, and up to three (3) color photos. Contact the [webmaster](#) to set up and/or update your page.

*Happy New Year*

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**SAMOA NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS**

1. KEEP MY MIATA IN TIP TOP SHAPE
2. TRY A NEW SAMOA EVENT (OR TWO)
3. COME TO SAMOA MEETINGS WHEN POSSIBLE
4. IF I AM TOO BASHFUL TO LEAD A RUN, I WILL POST A SUGGESTED RUN AND HOPE THAT INTERESTED PEOPLE WILL TAKE THE LEAD
5. GET TO KNOW MORE SAMOA MEMBERS
6. EAT, DRINK, AND HAVE FUN
7. ENJOY THE WIND IN MY HAIR AND ON MY SKIN
8. CELEBRATE THE FINEST, MOST AFFORDABLE SPORTS CAR IN THE WORLD!

