



Volume 4 Issue 4

April 2004

All about the people . . . and the car that brings us together

DMC Email Contacts:

[Larry Mensch, President](#)

[Larry Meek, VP/Secretary](#)

[Connie Kellner, Treasurer](#)

[Mary Diamond, Membership](#)

[Graeme Kinsey, Newsletter/Webmaster](#)

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NEW

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[Click here to go to our Delta Miata Club web homepage](#)

Notes from the Prez

We had wonderfully warm weather for the Niles Canyon Run. Thank you to Gaylon and Connie for putting the run together and leading us along some great trails.



In April Delta Miata Club is putting on the Berkeley Hills/Tilden Park run on Sunday April 18th. We hope other club members will attend since this weekend was planned by DELTA and BAMA(Bay Area Miata Association). On April 17th BAMA has planned a run through San Francisco and you can check their website for more details about this self tour type run.

The Board is meeting at Connie and Gaylon's on April 10th. These meeting are open to anyone.

We are looking at logo's and to put on jackets and shirts etc. Larry Meek is putting in a lot work on this one.

Our General Meeting will be on April 13th at Mia's in Brentwood at 7:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Larry Mensch at www.endlssmr.sbcglobal.net if you are planning to attend so I can tell them how many are attending.



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**Happy Birthday to
Leni Metro, April 2
Gwen Cotter & Betsy MacDonald, both April 15th
Cathy Spooner, April 20th &
Dale Carstensen, April 27th!!!**

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Membership Report

Mary reports that we have 29 Memberships & 44 Members. If you don't get your membership card yet, contact her! Remember, you get discounts at local dealers and parts vendors.

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Event Highlights: Recent Events

10th Annual Clovis Poker Run

March 20th, 2004



Several of us intrepid Delta Miata Club wanderers got together to go straight down to the Clovis Poker Run – straight, as defined by Miata drives, that is! -- John & Mary Diamond, Ken & Shirley Christensen and me in our Blue, Red and Red cars. We wandered along Hwy 33 and had a great lunch in Los Banos, where we found – to our horror! – a CHP driving a beautiful Chrysler with no hint of antenna, lights, anything! John asked if this is what we had to The officer was pretty nice and

watch for now on the highway, and said it wasn't fair! explained it was his boss' car, not a cruiser. (Pheh!) During lunch Michael Wright of RCMC caught up with us and now we were four.

Promising to avoid Fresno Friday afternoon traffic, Graeme led the group on an absolutely beautiful loop around to the north of Fresno, which took us through wildflowers and lush green hills. It also took us into a private residential area but the guard



was every bit as friendly as the CHP and showed us the route to Hwy 41. (Which was good, for that would've broken Graeme's account for U-turns, with which we had a lot of fun!)



Party time in the usual 3rd floor hostess suite, arriving just in time for margaritas, wine, water . . . and more snacks than we could handle, as folk kept bringing beverages and nibbles to the party. We stood out on the

The Bay Area Caravan had a great lunch in Los Banos.

balcony and welcomed cars into the parking lot below, then finally broke for another one of our favorite Miata Club activities – dinner – on our own.

Ten o'clock the next morning found a record number of Miatae – somewhere around 47



but don't quote me on that – rarin' to go. Everyone wandered around in a daze, looking for the familiar rain that often greets this annual springtime event, but it was clear skies and even warm! Off we went in ones and twos wandering through the beautiful foothills and meeting for lunch at a restaurant with great food but kinda clumsy hands (which dropped the stack of food orders so the delivery became random).

Fortunately, everyone was in a good mood, even sharing food for the

starving folk whose names had slipped down in the stack. Then back to the hotel over more beautiful twisties (sigh! Tough job but we had to do it!) in time to rest, clean up and get ready for --- of course, dinner!

SJVMC outdid themselves this year with an amazing number of high-quality raffle gifts which found happy homes amongst the guests after dinner, then off to wander around the streets (great ice cream shop discovery!) and finally hitting the sack after a fun day.



Sunday morning it was off on the road again, heading home in the usual straight line and joined by our BAMA friends Al & Peggy Fung in their silver M2. Through a marvelous combination of advance research using a computer mapping program and a really skillfully executed turn to the right when we should've turned left, we found ourselves wandering through some wonderfully isolated countryside with lots of cousins. . . finally ending up by Bass Lake and on

into Yosemite. Graeme decided to meet everyone at the bottom of the long twisty, FUN road as his passenger never complained about the speed (well, after all, the passenger was actually Shirley's framed picture she'd bought in Clovis).



Yosemite was Yosemite. What more can I say? It is such a beautiful place that I get emotional about it, and we were greeted by perfect weather. That prompted us to – of course – think of a meal so we had lunch at Yosemite village and finally headed back home across the Valley. A wonderful weekend and one that – if you missed it – I'd recommend highly for you to try next year!



[Check here for more pictures of the Clovis run...](#)

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Berkeley/Oakland Hills Run

April 18, 2004

Miatas from both Delta Miata Club and BAMA, totaling 12 in all, brightened an otherwise overcast day on April 18 on the Berkeley/Oakland Hills Run. Larry and Barbara Mensch led the 12 cars from Danville through Moraga and along the redwood lined, dense foliage of Canyon and Pinehurst Roads. The sweep, Cathy Spooner and Dave Mallow, kept all the cars together through some heavy traffic.



Ken and Michele Freeze showed us the details of Michele's new 2004-178 horsepower, supercharged red Miata at the Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve.

Raindrops greeted us as we cruised Grizzly Peak and Skyline Roads. The fabulous views were somewhat occluded by the low clouds. After a while photo stops shifted to a "tops up" stop.



The run meandered through the U. C. Berkeley campus with Graeme and Larry reminiscing about years gone by.

The run ended at the Berkeley Marina where we enjoyed lunch surrounded by panoramic views of the Bay and our Miata friends.

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Event Highlights: Events Coming Up

Don't forget these neat events coming in the near future:

Coastal Hills, Forest and Mountain Run Sunday May 2nd, 2004

Our DMC member Graeme Kinsey will be leading an event for our sister club BAMA on Sunday May 2nd. This will be a run over to the coastal hills including lunch on the Coast itself and a cruise through the forests of Big Basin. Be prepared for twisties but the pace will be easy.



This is not a Delta Miata Club run but Graeme assures us that all Delta folk are welcome!

The run will begin in Redwood City but a caravan from 580/680 Chevron will be held if there is interest.

[Click here for more info on this run](#)

2nd Annual KC Stewart's Point Run May 22nd, 2004

Our DMC member Graeme Kinsey will be leading an event for our sister club SAMOA on Saturday May 22nd. This event is a FULL DAY of driving awesome roads through scenic vistas in the wine country, coastal hills and Hwy One itself! It starts in Davis with pickups in Napa area and finishes in Vallejo area on I-80 for a straight trip home (with drop-offs in the North Bay area).



This is not a Delta Miata Club run but Graeme assures us that all Delta folk are welcome!

[Click here for more info on this run](#)

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Website Notes

I'm getting good feedback about the Events Pictures – I'd like to hear from someone who is using a modem (not high speed) – are they loading quickly enough? Please let me know – call or [email me](#). Thanks!

Graeme

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MEMBERS CORNER

Hey everyone – just to let you know, we will publish certain articles at a members request even if it is not related to club events or news. These articles can be either items for sale (generally Miata related) or they can be for other important events. If you, as a Club member, wish something published, please send it to the newsletter editor.

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