



Monthly newsletter of the Seattle Area Mini Owners Association

Vol. XLVI, Number 5, May 2011



Break out the shades, brothers and sisters, it's show time!

Summer's comin'

Get your Mini outa mothballs. It's show/cruise season!

Time to hose off the winter crud and slap on some wax. The time of year we frostbit SAMOANs wait all winter for is about to rev up. Show season is finally here.

Canada's Victoria Day weekend means only two things to us south-of-the-border Miniacs: First, for some reason, people all over Canada throw a holiday to celebrate the capital of British Columbia, and second, **IT'S TIME FOR THE VANCOUVER ABFM!**

May 21 will find a mess of Minis (and other Brit rides) at 37th and Oak Street — beneath the beautiful boughs

of Van Dusen Gardens. I can already smell the azaleas and rhododendrons and Castrol.

And after we've enjoyed the hospitality of Canadian fans of the LBC, we're on to sample the hospitality of the Vashon Islanders on June 4. The annual Bash on Vashon will collect SAMOANs from all around Puget Sound to cruise the back roads in a place where even the main roads are back roads. And while we're there, we'll sample some fine island cuisine.

And then we face the Great Dilemma of the Year: Mini Meet West or the Greenwood Car Show? Club members

April meeting minutes

The April 19, 2011, SAMOA meeting was called to order at 7:36 p.m. by President Tim Boyd at Chuck Heleker's home. Minutes of the March meeting were corrected to include a comment from Chuck — that the club's liability insurance may not cover a driving event at the Pacific Raceways go-kart track — and approved.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Dan Berglund reported no correspondence in or out.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Chuck reported an ending balance from March of \$6,093.72. Expenses of \$19.95 covered a month of web hosting and SAMOA's non-profit filing fee, and the ending balance was \$6,073.77. The report was approved by a voice vote.

Committee Reports

Membership: Chair Ed Sauer couldn't make the meeting so there was no report. We had a guest, Collin McCoy, who lives only about three miles from Chuck and for years has wondered if he was the only Mini owner in the area. Welcome, Collin.

Newsletter: Editor Dan reported sending out only 22 hard-copy newsletters for the month and thanked those members who get their newsletters online and via e-mail for the savings in cost and effort.

Tool/Part Library: Chair Kelley Mascher reported little activity in the library.

Events: Chair Don Dixon and Stephen Jones were the only Mini drivers to horn in on the MG club's April 16 tour of the phone museum in Georgetown. Don said it was fascinating. Don also reported the MG Car Club's last Tulip

Rallye was coming up April 23. Rumor has it PS MINIs will be taking over organization of the event. Also approaching: the April 24 All-Italy show at the Issaquah Triple X (Innos are eligible), the May 14 Exotics at Redmond Town Center (featuring Minis/Binis), and the May 21 Vancouver ABFM/Whistler Run (pre-registration is imperative, says Don. No day-of-event registrations will be allowed). The we'll see the June 4 Bash on Vashon (not a club meeting this year), Mini Meet West June 22-24 (SAMOA trekkers leave June 18), and the June 25 Greenwood Show (not

*...the June 25
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(not many have
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many have signed up and we need at least 10 cars to get our club parking spot. Make checks payable to SAMOA). After those, there's SOVREN's NW Historics and Car Corral over the Fourth of July weekend, the July 17 Vashon Island Strawberry Festival car show and parade, the July 23 Bellevue ABFM, the August 6 Belfair/Hood Canal Run from Carl Barfield's, and the Portland ABFM over the Labor Day weekend. The weekend after that, there's a neighborhood car show in Skyway behind the Basket Case drive-in (win big money, says Chuck). On Sept. 25, PS Minis hosts a car show at the Issaquah Triple X, and on Oct. 2 is the Maryhill Hill Climb.

Watch the club's Web forum for more info on these and other events.

Regalia: Other Chair Patti Boyd brought stuff to sell after the meeting. Thanks, Patti.

Website: Website is working fine.

Photo Site: If you have photos for the Flickr site, e-mail Tim at qwickmini@gmail.com.

Mini Cooler: Mark Hurston says there's been no progress on the project and little interest expressed. The go-kart fundraiser at Pacific Raceways generates a lot of discussion, as does the question of whether we title the trailer to Mark or to the club.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: Chuck says Al Beebe called him to suggest that dues be raised to \$50 per month. Generally, paying members seem to understand that life members will come up with these hare-brained schemes on a fairly regular basis.

For Sale/Wanted: Mike Prez is selling a two-core rad, a grille, and several other parts. James is selling 12-inch wheels with lug nuts, center caps and tires. Mark is selling the red Heritage shell, now with drum brakes. Jeff Van Hurston is looking for a late A+ motor.

Technical Discussion/Questions: Chuck will clinic your car for free if it's Mini Meet bound. Mark says RH gas tanks are available in Oz. Priscilla Woods says Paul is afraid of her car. They may have to call for a work party to fix the thing. Lloyd Hawley asked about titling a car that's been assembled from pieces in Washington.

Next Meetings: The May meeting will be held Tuesday the 17th at 7:30 at Chuck's. It'll be Photo Day, so stack your cars on Chuck's lawn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26.



Summer's comin' continued

who regret missing Greenwood will leave for Lake Tahoe and those who regret missing Mini Meet will head for Phinney Ridge.

Then there's the car corral at SOVREN's NW Histories over the Fourth of July weekend, the Back-on-Vashon Island Strawberry Festival on the 17th, another ABFM — the Western Washington version in Bellevue — on the 23rd, and the Bellfair/Hood Canal Run the first weekend of August.

All that sets the stage for the biggest of the Pacific Northwest ABFMs, the Portland show over the Labor Day weekend. And when we catch our breath after PDX, we can kick back with the BINIs at the Issaquah

Triple X. New on the social calendar this year is (may be) the Maryhill Hill Climb in October down along the Columbia River. Only the hardest of SAMOAns will last this deep into the season.

Don't forget, in the land between all this automotive glitz and glamour dwell the various hotrod and import shows that welcome anyone with a cool car. And every neighborhood these days has a summertime civic festival with a car show just begging for your Mini.

It's common knowledge that Minis left too long in garages tend to disappear into the detritus of our lives. The cars are social animals and do their best when allowed to roam with others of their kind. So do your car a favor — get it to a show now!



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ClassicMini.US

• www.classicmini.us

Fairlady Motors

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• www.group2inc.com

Heritage Garage

• www.heritagegarage.com

Hunter Classic Sports Cars

• www.hunterclassicsportscars.ca

Mini City

• www.minicityltd.com

MiniGuy

• www.miniguy.com

MiniMania

• www.minimania.com

Seven Enterprises

• www.7ent.com

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Dues are \$20 per year. Make checks payable to SAMOA. Send to: SAMOA dues, 24112 Brier Rd., Brier WA 98036. Newsletter submissions are welcomed. E-mail articles or classified ads to: mininewsletter@yahoo.com.

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Mini Owners
Association**

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Coming events

May 14 — Exotics at Redmond Town Center, featuring Minis/BIs (weather permitting)

May 21 — Vancouver ABFM

June 4 — Bash on Vashon

June 21 — June meeting

May SAMOA meeting

Tuesday, May 17, at 7:30 p.m.

at Chuck Heleker's home

13422 80th Ave. S., Seattle

From Southbound I-5:

Take Exit 157, Highway 900/Martin Luther King Jr. Way S.

Go through both the 129th St. and the 68th Ave. S. intersections.

Keep an eye open and take 135th St. on your left.

Continue down 135th to the 'T' intersection and turn left.

Chuck's is the house on the right with all the Minis parked at the bottom of the steep driveway.

From Northbound I-5:

Take Exit 154, I-405 N./Highway 518.

Keep right at the fork in the ramp.

Take Exit 2, Highway 167, toward Renton/Auburn.

Keep left at the fork in the ramp, then keep right at the next fork.

Merge onto the Valley Freeway and go straight on Rainier Ave. S.

Turn left onto Sunset, then right onto Naches Ave. S.W. (80th Ave. S.). Look for Chuck's house on the right.

If you lose your way, call (425) 226-2783.