



Monthly newsletter of the Seattle Area Mini Owners Association

Vol. XLVI, Number 6, June 2011



At the Vashon Winery, the cars waited patiently while their owners were amused by the impertinence of the local rosé.

Beautiful cars. Beautiful weather. Beautiful place to cruise

On what was undeniably the nicest day of the year to that point, 14 SAMOA Minis gathered on Vashon Island for a day of cruising, shooting, showing off and eating the club's second-favorite food. From the inbound ferry ride to the outbound ferry ride, June 4 was all blue water, green trees, red wine and the blacktop twisties of Burma Road. Throw in a little mushroom and Canadian bacon for good measure and you've got the perfect Bash on Vashon.



LEFT: Mark Hurston sprints after Oly Jensen. BELOW: Minis drew a lot of attention parked in front of the island's roasterie.



May meeting minutes

The May 17, 2011, SAMOA meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Tim Boyd at Chuck Heleker's home. Minutes of the April meeting were approved as published in the May newsletter.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Dan Berglund reported no correspondence in or out.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Chuck reported an ending balance from March of \$6,073.77. Expenses of \$53.95 covered a month of web hosting and newsletter postage, there was no income, and the ending balance was \$6,019.82. The report was approved by a voice vote.

Committee Reports

Membership: Chair Ed Sauer reported 93 paid members, but said a number of memberships were about to be renewed. One guest, Chris, brought the Mini we first encountered at the recent Exotics at Redmond Town Center get-together.

Newsletter: Editor Dan reported sending out 21 hard-copy newsletters for the month and thanked those members who get newsletters online and via e-mail for the savings in cost and effort.

Tool/Part Library: Chair Kelley Mascher said the flywheel puller and cone compressor were checked out.

Events: Chair Don Dixon mentioned a few past events: the MG Car Club's Tulip Rallye of April 23, the April 24 All-Italy show at the Issaquah Triple X (Innos are eligible), the Portland Autojumble, and the May 14 Exotics at Redmond Town Center (with six Minis and 24 Binis).

The May 21 Vancouver ABFM/Whistler Run is coming up (be sure to pre-register, says Don. No day-of-event registrations will be allowed this year),

and this year's Bash on Vashon (not a club meeting, but we'll still meet at the Roasterie) will be held June 4. Mini Meet West is scheduled for June 22-24 (SAMOA trekkers leave June 18), and the Greenwood Show is June 25. We have at least 10 cars for the latter and will 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, a July 16 administrative meeting for the Bellevue ABFM, and the July 17 Vashon Island Strawberry Festival car show and parade with a BBQ at Peter's afterward. On July 23, the Bellevue ABFM, a Des Moines car show and a Highland Games someplace will be held. The August 6 Belfair/Hood Canal Run from Carl Barfield's is on, and the Portland ABFM will be held over the Labor Day weekend. The weekend after that, there's a neighborhood car show in Skyway behind the Basket Case drive-in, and on Sept. 25, PS MINI hosts a car show at the Issaquah Triple X. Finally, on Oct. 2, the Maryhill Hill Climb will take place overlooking the Columbia River.

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

Regalia: Other Chair Patti Boyd brought it all: mugs, water bottles, everything.

Website: Website is all good. The web committee will be meeting a couple of designers soon.

Photo Site: Chair Tim said the Flickr site is still in operation. Hi-res images are available there, Tim says. If you have photos for the Flickr site, e-mail them to the Prez at qwickmini@gmail.com.

Mini Cooler: Mark Hurston says it's still there, but there's been little interest shown beyond the team that rescued the thing. Mark welcomes any input

you may have. Should it become a trailer to haul stuff to meets? Maybe we'll talk more about it when we have a meeting at Mark's.

Old Business: Chuck has gone over four of the cars that are headed for Mini Meet. Take him up on his offer to check those trekkers out.

New Business: Bette Miller's Neighborhood Clinic will hold a summer car show. How can we help? Should we pay to rent the LeMay site in Fife? Maybe Bette should come and talk to SAMOAns about what she's planned.

For Sale/Wanted: Mike Prez wants a speedo cable, three-point belts, and 10-inch tires. Mark says he has the cable. Mark would like to find a set of 8.4-inch disk brakes. He's also looking for a standard exhaust system.

Technical Discussion/Questions: Don has leaky gaiters. Do you replace 'em on the car? Yup. Chuck recommends Quinton Hazell examples. Kelley recommends using "semi-fluid grease" in there. It's approximately 90 wt, and he thinks it's available for Toro lawnmowers. Chuck also mentioned that defective clutch slave hoses are showing up with a little regularity. He's using the braided replacements instead. He also invited members to check out the broken bendix spring in his Box of Shame in the garage.

Dave Baughman asked who's selling cheap S brake sets. He was advised to shop for specials. Chuck says unfortunately today's kits aren't as complete as they should be.

Reminder: Pick up free stuff on your way out — calendars, pads, fobs, etc.

Next Meetings: The June meeting will be held Tuesday the 21st at 7:30 at Chuck's. The July meeting will once again be a Saturday BBQ at Steve Gay's.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.



Vancouver ABFM: Soggy Saturday

Rain isn't unusual at the Vancouver ABFM. In fact, you can generally expect a May-morning drizzle that eventually burns off to a reasonably sunny awards presentation.

Not this May morning. The May 21 show at Van Dusen Gardens took place under steady cloud cover that dumped throughout the day. Even amid all these beautiful cars, one couldn't help but wonder what the penalty would be in Canada if one were to coldcock a local for the umbrella he was carrying. Still, the weather didn't keep the crowds away, and the mood was upbeat. If

nothing else, the flower display was more stunning than usual this year.

Six SAMOANs made the trip north, and entrant-voters rewarded four with plaques: Don Dixon won Third Place in Early Cars; Greg Birch took First Place in Later Cars; and Chris Miller took Second Place and Dan Berglund snagged Third Place in Long Wheelbase.



ABOVE: Two First Place winners — Greg Birch's car next to Vancouverite Larry Sutton's Mark I Cooper S. ABOVE RIGHT: Mark Hurston's OZ van and the class-winning '63 Austin Countryman of BC's Grant Biggings. RIGHT: Wet weather, mown grass.



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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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Seattle Area Mini Owners Association



Coming events

June 21 — June meeting

June 22, 23, 24 — Mini Meet
West at Lake Tahoe

June 25 — Greenwood car show

July 1, 2, 3 — NW Historics

July 23 — W. Washington ABFM

June SAMOA meeting

Tuesday, June 21, 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' inter-
section 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.