



Monthly newsletter of the Seattle Area Mini Owners Association

Vol. XLVI, Number 7, July 2011



Don Dixon's car leads James Thompson's on a stretch of Highway 101 on the Oregon coast. As many as 11 and as few as four Minis were in the SAMOA caravan for the various legs of the journey to Mini Meet.

On the road again

11 SAMOAns make the 1,800-mile trek to Mini Meet West



Lake Tahoe beckoned and 11 SAMOAns — Don Dixon and Marian Boelter; Jim and Karen Younkins; James and Heather Thompson; Jerry Miller; Peter Larsen; Dan Berglund; Greg Birch; and Jeff Van Hurston — traveled to Mini Meet West to celebrate their little cars with about 130 other enthusiasts at the Cal-Neva Resort June 22-24. More photos on Page 4.

LEFT: Don, Marian, Jerry, Peter, James and Heather enjoy the sunshine at the beach at Lincoln City, Ore.

June meeting minutes

Many thanks to Patti Boyd for capturing this month's minutes while the Secretary was attending Mini Meet West.

The June 21, 2011, SAMOA meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Tim Boyd at Chuck Heleker's home.

Corrections to minutes published in the June newsletter: Chuck says Dave Baughman was looking for disc brake sets not S brake sets. He also says kits have been missing stuff since day one, not just missing them as of late. The "semi-fluid grease" is 00 weight on a different scale; it's comparable to 90 weight motor oil.

Secretary's Report

No report. Dan's at Mini Meet. As historian, Chuck commented that he had been reviewing meeting minutes from years past and finds them "dismal." He said not all secretaries took good notes like Dan! [I hope mine are helpful.]

Treasurer's Report

Chuck is e-mailing a copy of the treasurer's report. The Hagerty insurance was paid this month. We were supposed to receive an e-mailed receipt and list of coverage from them but it hasn't arrived. Tim will call Hagerty and remind them to send it. A member asked what kind of insurance we were paying for. It was explained that it's liability insurance in case someone is injured at a meeting or sponsored event and that it is not enough coverage for us to hold a rally. (P.S. Tim has since received the paperwork from Hagerty.)

Membership: Ed informed us the club has 93 current members. Guest Larry Pitts, who used to be a member long ago, rejoined tonight. He told the story of how and where he got his 1967 Cooper S, and showed a photo of the oyster over kelp green car.

He saw his first Mini in Kingston, Tasmania, Australia. The kelp green car was for sale so he went to the owner's house for a test drive. The owner was out with his wife but their teenage son offered Larry the keys and told him he could take it out for a drive. He said he wasn't allowed in the car but Larry convinced him that he should come along and not let a stranger drive away with it. The car was loaded on a ship and Larry took delivery of it in Portland, Ore. It has been sitting in his garage since 1996 and Chuck has been contacted about bringing it back to life.

Tool/Part Library: Kelley reported that the cone compressor is still checked out to Mike Furman.

Events: It was said that Don was having his own event on the way to the meet and a moment of silence was requested!

George Thompson reported 19 minis are signed up for the Greenwood show on Saturday. They're meeting at the Greenwood Market at 85th and 3rd NW at 6:45 a.m.

The Bellevue ABFM is on July 23rd. All cars must be pre-registered. If you haven't done so yet, you may sign up online at ABFM.com. July 17th is the Vashon Strawberry Festival with a lunch following at Peter's house. Mark Hurston says he posted information on the SAMOA website about the Tour de Terrace if anyone is interested. It's a Seafair-sponsored event in Mount Lake Terrace on the last weekend of July (29th and 30th). There is a car show, parade and other events. SOVREN's vintage-racing event is in July also (see previous newsletter).

Regalia: Patti brought a small selection of regalia to the meeting. She'll have a small bit again at the Greenwood show. All available will be coming to the Bellevue ABFM. It was suggested that we

bring ice and lemonade to the show and offer to fill for free any water bottles purchased for the normal \$10 price. We are almost sold out of the baseball caps and it was suggested that we contact Dave Baughman to have more made. A request was made to have the old logo on them.

Chuck says that people should buy a SAMOA mug and take a photo of it with their car at an interesting location and send the "mug shot" to be posted on the Flickr site.

Mini Cooler: Mark Hurston is having the August 16th meeting at his home and invites everyone to have a look at the Mini-cooler while they are there. He says Gordon from Vashon Island has volunteered to do any woodwork for the Mini-cooler if needed.

Photo Site: Chuck requests that any photos posted on the forum be sent to qwickmini@gmail.com so Tim can put them on the Flickr site. Photos on the forum tend to be lost track of and the Flickr site keeps them for posterity.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is at Steve Gay's house on July 16th. Arrive about 10, meeting at 11, lunch at noon. He may be short on chairs; it would be a good idea to bring one.

Website: Kelley had a meeting set up with Rodney to work on the website, but it was cancelled when Rodney was called back to work ahead of schedule (he works as a contractor for Microsoft). A couple of web designers have been interviewed but having Rodney and Kelley fix the existing website to make it more functional would save the club a substantial dollar amount.

Old Business: Mini Mania discount cards expire in about two weeks. Chuck said they are considering issuing new ones with the stipulation that we add a link to their website from ours. Kelley says that wouldn't be much of a

benefit to them since traffic on our site is so light.

Mark brought up the idea of having other suppliers adding connections to our website too. Again, Kelley said there isn't enough traffic on the site to make it worthwhile. Tim said the site is for member use – we aren't in it to sell stuff. Chuck said the site is to inform those interested in the Mini as to how to find the club. And Ryan pointed out that adding more to the website is more to maintain, more cost and more to break.

The club has not heard anything from Bette Miller about her event. So we won't be donating funds yet.

For Sale/Wanted: Mark exclaimed that his red car SOLD to a Richard in Snohomish! Richard brought it to Chuck for a consultation and Chuck talked him out of converting it to an electric car. Mark says he's got a "998 A+" to sell to Don who put a rod through his current one. Chuck mentioned Don didn't bring his car in for the pre-trip inspection that was advised. Ryan is selling left and right full length

floor pans for a saloon. Kelley has Mark I parts for sale.

Technical Discussion/Questions:

There was a discussion as to whether a certain car needed 2 or 4 rings for an intake manifold, the owner is looking to buy the needed rings.

Mark Hurston is looking for a 1275 motor, A or A+ to buy.

Mark's car was drivable but suddenly stopped responding to the gas pedal. Kelley suggested that he change the points and condenser over to an electronic ignition to solve the problem.

Chuck mentioned new items in his "box of shame" including an inner binacle on biscuit Wolsely held together with "everything but stitches."

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Tim's P.S. Ed brought up a notion to raise membership dues to \$50 per year for lifetime members, but couldn't get a unanimous vote among the attending lifetime members! No doubt this will be brought up at a meeting in the near future.

Friends of SAMOA

APT

• www.aptfast.com

Autosport

• www.autosportseattle.com

British Sports Cars and Classics

• www.britishsportscars.biz

ClassicMini.US

• www.classicmini.us

Fairlady Motors

• www.fairladymotors.com

Group 2 Motorsports

• 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

SAMOA officers and volunteers

President

Tim Boyd (425) 868-5033

Vice President

Jamie Mesaros (253) 906-5305

Treasurer

Chuck Heleker (425) 226-2783

Secretary, Newsletter Editor

Dan Berglund (253) 833-7666

Regalia Meister

Patti Boyd (425) 868-5033

Membership Chairman

Ed Sauer (425) 877-1016

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.

Greenwood car show

Twenty-one Minis (and one Honda station wagon) drove to the Greenwood affair, but apparently global climate change got there first and inundated the North Seattle streets with glaciers and montane forests and no one got any photographs except for this image of a car fleeing the blood-curdling scene of the disaster.



Taking the onrushing-glacier evacuation route.

Mini Meet West



ABOVE: The trip south — with six members of Victoria Minis — included a stop for a family-style lunch at the Samoa Cookhouse in Samoa, Calif. ABOVE RIGHT: Later cars line up for the Tuesday morning show. RIGHT: Greg and his car at the group photo shoot. BELOW: Jeff tickles the cones as volunteer Jerry looks on.



ABOVE: At last the cars are arranged for the group photo. The resort parking lot served quadruple duty. It was the site for general parking, tech sessions, car show and group photo. LEFT: The SAMOA/Victoria parade stops at Crater Lake on the way home. Snow still topped the Mini-roof level.





LEFT: The racing Minis of Steve Lilves and Bill Weaver. BELOW: Lilves approaches Turn 9. BELOW THAT: An ex-Jackie Stewart Tyrrell. BELOW THAT: There are always plenty of Alfas to go around. BELOW THAT: Where else (except on the Group 2 bathroom wall) do you get to see a Ginetta? LEFT OF THAT: Greg Birch shoots the big-bore cars on the big straight.



SOVREN nation

Vintage racing corrals the SAMOA herd

What could be better? SOVREN's Northwest Historics featured a double-handful of Minis parked in the thick of some serious sports car racing under the bluest skies you've ever seen in front of adoring crowds of car enthusiasts. Participants at this year's event enjoyed all that and more.

The three-day, Fourth of July-weekend meet featured 10 Minis in the car corral and a couple more on the track. As usual, visitors to the event were mightily intrigued by the SAMOA cars and the SAMOA members were intrigued by the racing Minis of Bill Weaver and Steve Lilves.

The latter cars were beautifully prepared and great fun to watch. Unfortunately, Weaver's car broke a drop gear on Saturday afternoon and spectators had to be content with one brave Mini in the fray for the rest of the meet.

This year, corral cars were given three laps on the Pacific Raceways circuit on Saturday and again on Sunday. It may not be racing, but it's a good, up-close-and-personal look at the track. I'll be back next year for my six laps of the Kent facility.



PO Box 45046
Seattle WA 98145-0046
Phone: (425) 226-2783
E-mail: chelker@aol.com
www.seattleminiowners.com

Seattle Area Mini Owners Association



Coming events

7/17 — Vashon Strawberry Fest
7/23 — W. Washington ABFM
7/29, 30 — Tour de Terrace
8/6 — Hood Canal Run
9/3, 4, 5 — Portland ABFM
10/1, 2 — Maryhill Hillclimb

July SAMOA meeting

Saturday, July 16, at 11 a.m.
at Steve Gay's home,
18619 185th Ave. NE, Woodinville, Wash.

From Highway 405:

Take Exit 23A to Hwy 522/ Monroe.

Go east 1.8 miles to second Woodinville exit, marked NE 195th St/ Duvall.

Turn right at end of ramp, go straight thru light. This is NE Woodinville Way but turns into Woodinville-Duvall Rd.

At 2.8 miles from 522 exit, turn left (north) at the light at 182nd Ave NE.

There is a large "Cottage Lake/Bridle-Trails" sign on corner.

Take the second right (east) on NE 186th St.

Turn at next left (north) on 185th Ave NE to driveway for the second house on the left. House is not visible from the street.

When the meeting ends, the BBQ begins. SAMOA will provide food and drink, but feel free to bring a dish if you'd like. Bring a folding chair if you have one. Park your Mini in the back yard, around the right side of the house.

If you get lost or need more info, call 425-844-4321.