

MINI NEWS

Mini Owners of America - Los Angeles

One of the conceptual problems I often have in putting out this periodical is photographs. Of course there are the practical difficulties: getting photos taken in the first place; getting them processed in time; trying to get them to reproduce recognizably. But I'm thinking of a more abstract puzzle -- how to come up with photographs that really convey how it was at the time. You've probably had the same feeling: when the roll comes back from the printer and you leaf through, you think "How ordinary this looks ... these could be anyone's photos ... it sure was more exciting to BE there." And the envelope goes into the box on the shelf.

That's a problem I encounter in trying to show here what it looked like, and felt like, to be in a conga line of Minis snaking around the speed bumps of haute Pasadena, or raising dust on Jackrabbit Trail. Photos give a long-distance, third-hand, anesthetized view of what was a quintessentially first-hand sensation. Group shots in the parking lot, or even grab shots through the windshield, lose the feeling. Video comes a little closer, but it's still through-the-glass-darkly.

So there's not much I can do. If you weren't there, and the pictures just leave you with a ho-hum, well, that's why; there's more than shows up on paper. And if you were there, the pictures make a nice memento, but you already have a more persuasive reminder as a permanent part of your mental Mini log -- one more foggy morning, or sunny afternoon, that showed you again what fun the Mini can be.



Our motto:
"Ride to eat,
eat to ride!"

Idyllwild '88

MOA-LA
Annual Idyllwild Run
March, 1988

How's this for
a new collective
noun:

a rainbow
of Minis

Pasadena to San
Marino



IDYLLWILD

Then too, words don't always seem to do the job. I tend to like them a little better than the photos, maybe because reading is more participatory than viewing, maybe just because I can manipulate the words better. Maybe it's simply that the words come after reflection, don't have to be made up on the spot. Anyway ...

We had a beautiful day for the St. Patrick's Day Idyllwild trip, and a decent turnout too (though certainly not the record 16 cars once logged); and I think it's safe to say that everyone had an unfair amount of fun. Jackrabbit Trail was clear, with lots of gravel at the end for spectacular loops and handbrake turns (for those so undignified as to indulge in these). The trip up into the mountains was smooth; the trip back down, clear and quick. (Well, I did lose my brakes coming down, but made it home OK; I don't recall any other problems unless you count Rod's shifting subframe.) And -- how could I forget -- the food was good. But as usual the best part was being able to do it as part of a string of Minis.

A DAY AT THE LIBRARY

Eob ("Now NOBODY will ride with me") Amaral has voiced the complaint that most of our outings consist of driving somewhere, eating, and driving back. While this is not exclusively the case -- we do have the occasional swap meet, beach party, Christmas do, tune-in, winery tour, etc. -- it can be admitted that driving Minis and eating are among our most polished skills. Plus of course arguing about where to do it next time. At any rate, this past month we had an event for those who actually wanted to walk around for a while: a trip to the Huntington Library in San Marino.

It began with a short jaunt through selected neighborhoods of Pasadena and environs; a sampler of roads and residences that would almost make the smog bearable. (And we had one Mini in each color: green, blue, white, red, yellow, and, um, exactly what would you call that, Bruce? We be STYLIN'!) Then we debarked with picnic lunches before entering the grounds and making a too-quick swing through the offerings of the Library. For those who don't know, this includes not just a world-class collection of printed

material and a decent collection of paintings but also a fantastic (no exaggeration) variety of gardens containing unrivalled variety in trees, flowers, landscaping styles, even a desert garden that could be from a science-fiction film. Certainly not boring.

So next time, Bob, can we just EAT?

IDENTIFY YOURSELF

Something we have needed for quite a while is now in the works. By the next meeting (see below) we should have some new membership cards, like the sample below (but in color). There will also be "courtesy cards," useful for handing out to those unfamiliar Minis we all see from time to time. The new logo and graphics are by John Meza.



Further along these lines, the battle continues over the subject of club jackets. One issue to be settled is the choice of a logo/design to be used on them. (Also to be determined is the style and color of jacket.) Some ideas were presented at the last meeting; the next (May) meeting will be your last chance to have a say in the selection, including presenting a design of your own if you like. Maybe we can give a prize to the creator of the design chosen; in any event, here's your chance to get on our backs. "If we're going to all look alike, we should all look alike." -- M.F.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the third Wednesday of the month at Fullerton Savings and Loan, 12860

Euclid (at Acacia -- next to the Black Angus) in Garden Grove. May meeting date is the 18th; June, the 15th; and so on.

One nice touch has been the awarding of door prizes at the meetings. The first prize, a six-pack of color film, was taken home by yours truly; the second, a case of Castrol GTX, went to new member James Clark. Another example of your dues at work! Thanks to Debbie Fazzi for the idea and the execution.

COMING EVENTS

"Don't ever race with Mike Fazzi. No matter what you're driving, it will blow up." -- T.P.

Bearing the above in mind, we have quite a selection to choose from this month. Coming up first, on Sunday the 15th, is Mark Smith's running of the Long Beach MG Club's Great Western rally/poker run. This will start at the Safeway Market at the corner of Sunset Blvd. and Pacific Coast Highway; registration at 8:00 AM, first car out at 9:00 AM. Entry fee is 5 buckaroos. Looks to be a good run through the foothills.

Appearing next is the Official Designated MOA-LA Event (THAT should guarantee a huge turnout!): a run down to Temecula and vicinity on the 22nd. Good roads, good food (sorry, Bob). We won't be in time for the launching of the hot-air balloons in Temecula (that should occur just after dawn) but what the heck. Gathering point: COCO'S restaurant, 91 freeway at Green River Drive (just west of Corona). Departure time: 8:00 AM.

And if you still want more, make your way to Riverside Raceway on Memorial Day weekend for the third-annual-last-ever SCCA races there.

Tuning the old crystal ball farther into the future, I find:

June -- a dyno tuning session; get those cars in shape for the summer!

June 19-20* -- vintage races at Willow Springs

July -- beach party

August -- Pie in the Sky Rally II

* I was quoted these dates, but they're not a weekend. Stay tuned.
correction: June 11-12.

Labor Day weekend -- Mini Meet West '88, Portland
.....oops, better switch it off, my crystal ball is over-
heating. Doggone Lucas anyway!

And, finally, I have reproduced the Southern California
Motorcycling Assn. calendar of events in this issue. These
folks sure know some fun roads -- and they tell me that cars
are welcome on their runs.



Dean Deeds



FOR SALE: Tony Pearson's woodie.
Many overall and 1st place con-
cours awards. Serious inquiries
only. evenings

FOR SALE: '67 Morris Cooper S
vintage racer. Completely re-
stored, very fast, all the right
parts, cage, fuel cell, etc.
\$6700 OBO. Also NEW pickup body
shell with lots of hard-to-find
new parts. \$3500 OBO. Call Mike

FOR SALE: '67 Austin Mini Moke. Rare, restored, 2 seat
shortened Moke (looks more like a baby Jeep). No rust, low
miles, great condition, roll bar, 6" mags. A real attention-
getter! Dick Newton
(eves).

FOR SALE: One pair Mk I/II doors, Mk I hood, front subframe
(dry), glass, lots of small misc. parts. Make offer. Tony.

FOR SALE: '68 Austin Cooper 998 (LHD). Sliding soft sunroof.
Original, 68K miles. Phil Safford.

Southern California Motorcycling Association (SCMA) — 1988 Calendar of Sanctioned Events

SCMA ALPHABET TOUR — January 15 through November 15 — (818) 882-2667

SCMA "FOUR CORNERS TOURS" — "All Year" — (805) 463-7252

● Travelers Award

| | | | | | |
|------|-------|---|--------|---------|--|
| Jan. | 10 | ● SCMA Poker Run (714) 971-1615 / (213) 927-3123 | July | 10 | ● Goldenwest Annual Benefit Run (714) 891-1192 |
| Feb. | 13 | Four Corners Banquet (805) 463-7252 | | 17 | Ironhorse Poker Run (805) 734-3760 |
| | 14 | ● Area B Valentine Run (805) 466-5948 | | | |
| Mar. | 13 | ● Area A Soup Run (213) 328-9525 | August | 7 | ● Falcons Bingo Run (805) 463-3349 |
| | 20 | Triple "C" Riders — Go for the Grapes (805) 466-5948 / (805) 461-3482 | | 13,14 | Partners Overnight (213) 868-1698 |
| Apr. | 9,10 | ● California Pleasure Riders 500 Road Tour (714) 998-3529 / (213) 834-2204 | | 20,21 | Area B 650 Tour (805) 466-5948 |
| | 24 | Santa Maria Saddlelites Annual Poker Run (714) 971-1615 / (805) 922-8831 | Sept. | 2,3,4,5 | 13th Annual 3 Flags Classic |
| | 30 | Area A Outriders 66 Tour | | 25 | ● Area B Poker Run (805) 466-5948 |
| May | 1 | Area A Outriders 66 Tour (213) 328-9525 / (818) 960-0215 | Oct. | 9 | ● Huntington Park Elks Road Riders Benefit Run (714) 625-1028 |
| | 8 | Area B Mothers Day Run (805) 466-5948 | Nov. | 5 | Convention and Calendar Bidding |
| | 15 | Taft Rig Riders Poker Run | | 13 | ● Area A Turkey Run (213) 328-9525 |
| | 26,29 | ● SCMA Grand Tour (714) 971-1615 / (213) 927-3123 | | 20 | Area B Toykey Run (805) 466-5948 |
| June | 4,5 | Falcons Las Vegas Hope House Run (805) 462-3105 / (805) 467-4619 | Dec. | 3 | Area A Christmas Party (213) 328-9525 |
| | 11 | Huntington Park Elks "On the Road Again" Dance (714) 625-1028 | | 4 | Hope House Benefit Run (714) 971-1615 |
| | 26 | ● Nevenready's 9th Annual Poker Run Installer of Officers (714) 529-4209 / (714) 971-1615 | | 10 | Area B Christmas Party (805) 466-5948 |

● Runs marked thusly are SCMA TRAVELERS AWARD runs, selected partially by random drawing. A requirement of seven (7) of the eleven (11) events listed are necessary to receive the 1988 Travelers Award. A special award will be given for completion of all eleven of the above designation events. You must be an SCMA member to participate for these Awards.

NOTE: The monthly Area meetings, listed below, are open to all members and prospective members.

AREA "A": Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego area — the first Monday of the month. Call (213) 328-9525 for information.
AREA "B": Bakersfield, Santa Maria and Ventura areas. see Area "B" minutes in the Newsletter or call (805) 466-5948 for information.

**TO PROMOTE THE CAUSE OF FAMILY MOTORCYCLING,
THROUGH GREATER PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE AND
UNDERSTANDING, AND TO ENJOY ALL THE REWARDS OF
GENTLEMANLY COMRADESHIP.**

Classifieds

INSIDE:

a mini Mini Moke

a '68 Austin Cooper 998cc

a pile of parts

so tear out that staple
and tear into this issue!

- Calendar of Events -

May 15: LBMG Great Western
poker run

May 18: monthly meeting

May 22: Temecula

Memorial Day weekend: SCCA
at Riverside

June ?: dyno day

June ??: vintage races at
Willow Springs

June 15: monthly meeting

July ?: beach party

August ?: Pie in the Sky
Rally II

Labor Day weekend: Mini Meet
West '88 (Portland)

See inside for more info!

MOA-LA
P.O. Box 26121
Santa Ana, Ca 92701

