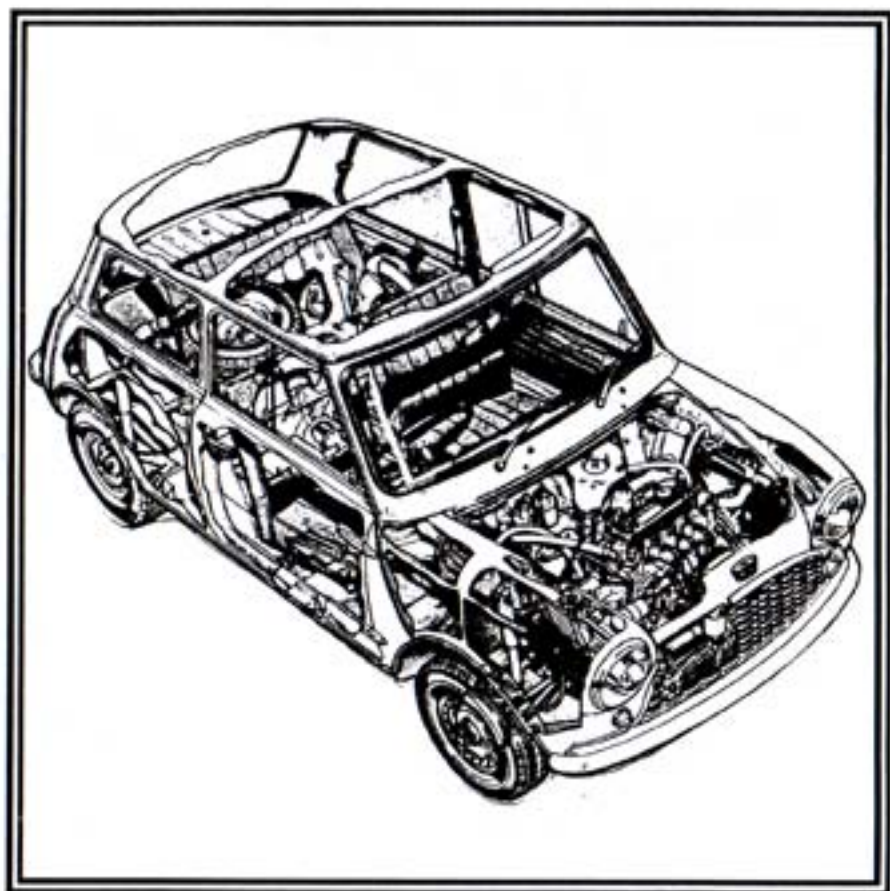


# **MINI**

## **NEWS**

*Official Publication of.*

**MINI OWNERS OF AMERICA, LOS ANGELES Inc.**  
*Established 1964*



**VOLUME 31-1**

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1995**

# THE PREZ SEZ

Has it really been a year already? I have truly enjoyed my first year as president. I have been told by several new members that M.O.A.L.A. is one of the nicest groups of people they have met, and I couldn't agree more. Having been to a few Mini Meets including the East Meets West Mini Fest in Nebraska, I now know that Mini owners are the same everywhere.

1994 was a good year for M.O.A.L.A. We had approximately 20 new members sign up, bringing our membership to 93.

Our 1st annual British Car Parts Swap Meet turned out to be a big success. Maria Wohlsiegel organized a "pot luck" at Del Mar British Car Day that was fantastic. Willy Hugron hosted the annual Pool Party. What a Housel What a great day. We spent an afternoon at Carson Slick Track -- A lot more fun than I had expected it to be. Plus all the exciting runs. Palos Verdes, Idyllwild, Mt. Pinos (a new one - thanks to Tony Pearson) Topanga Canyon, just to name a few. And who could forget Peterson's Auto Museum. If you haven't been, I highly recommend it.

And of course, we brought the year to a close with our annual Christmas party. Once again Tony Swisler opened his beautiful home to us. Great food and great conversation seem to be the winning combination among Mini Owners.

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the various Mini related suppliers that generously donated door prizes for the party:

Laurie at **Mini City**, Pam at **Avonbar**, Phil at **Triple C Enterprises**; **John Cooper Garages**; Chris at **Mini Sport**; Graham at **British Auto Specialists**; Kim at **Seven Enterprises**; Bill at **Mincomp Racing Services**; Don at **Mini Mania** and last, but not least **Rob McKeown**.

Thanks to all of you for your generous donations. All of the gifts were greatly appreciated by the membership.

So how do we top that in 1995? I don't know that we can, except to do more of the same.

Mini Meet West will be in Portland, Or. this year.

Speaking of Mini Meets, planning has already begun for Mini Meet West '96 which we are planning to host. A site has not been chosen yet so if you have any suggestions I would love to here them.

We will be going through a few changes this year. Pete Agle is getting married and moving out of state, so Bob Amaral will be taking over the newsletter and Jeanne Ross is moving to Northern CA, and my daughter Jennifer has agreed to take the job as secretary. Thanks go to Pete and Jeanne for jobs well done and I'm sure I speak for everyone when I wish you both the best of luck.

One more thing in closing. As we all know, dues are due in Jan. Which means that Feb. 1 they are overdue. Please don't make me beg: It's not a pretty sight!

*Phil Dawson*  
President, M.O.A.L.A.

**PRESIDENT**  
**Phil Dawson**  
**(714) 894-9585**

**SECRETARY**  
**Jennifer**  
**Dawson**

**Mini Owners**



**of America**  
Los Angeles  
**Established 1964**

**NEWSLETTER**  
**Bob Amaral**  
**(714) 892-9888**

**MOALA**  
**24 Hour Fax**  
**(714) 894-9585**

## **CLUB NOTES**

Welcome to the first Mini News of 1995! This issue of the Mini News is dedicated to Pete Agle for his past efforts as Mini News editor. Thanks Pete!

Be sure to pick up the latest issue of American Mini -- one of our premiere cars is featured in a veritable "centerspread" along with a neat story written by its owner Curt Owen. Check it out!

If you have not already done so, please send your membership fees in to the club so that you can continue receiving this newsletter and remain up to date on club activities. PLEASE!

The Mini News is always in need of stories, pictures (black & white or color), clip art, cartoons, etc. If you have something you think deserves publication, silly or serious, please send it in and I will do my best to find room for it.

The year ahead (if it is anything like our past year) will be filled with fun events and outings -- as long as the club has YOUR participation. Come to meetings and take part in all of the fun. We look forward to another GREAT year and want everyone in the club to participate and ENJOY IT !!!



## **MINI COOPER PARTS AND ACCESSORIES**

America's premier mini parts specialist  
Largest Mini restoration/competition parts  
inventory in North America  
The only Mini parts company with toll free  
order lines  
Same day UPS shipping  
Informative EZ reference catalogue

**800-992-7007**

**SEVEN ENTERPRISES LTD.**

716 BLUECRAB RD., NEWPORT NEWS, VA. 23606  
804-873-0007 - FAX 804-873-327

# CALENDAR

## JANUARY

Wed. Jan. 18 - 7:30 p.m. MOALA Reg. Meeting.

*Sunday Jan. 22, 1995 - Palos Verdes Run. Meet 9:00 a.m. at Ann's Village Bakery, Berth 76, Port's O' Call Village; for a "tour de force" through the scenic hills and finish with a picnic lunch (about noon) . Roadmaster: Willy Hugron.*

## FEBRUARY

Wed. Feb. 15 - 7:30 p.m. MOALA Reg. Meeting.

*Sunday, Feb. 19. Meet at high noon at the Carson Slick Track alongside the 405 Freeway at the Carson Blvd. exit for a "slip-pin and slidin" good time!!*

## MARCH

Wed. Mar. 15 - 7:30 p.m. MOALA Reg. Meeting.

*Sunday, March 19. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Coco's Restaurant, 91 Fwy at the Green River Drive exit for the Idyllwild Run. A twisty ride up the hill and maybe even a "snow sighting". Roadmaster Bruce Brewer.*

## APRIL

Wed. April 19 - 7:30 p.m. MOALA Reg. Meeting.

*Friday/Saturday, April 21-22. The Unique Little Car Show held this year in Tucson. Details to come.*

*Woodley Park this month - ?? - More info at a later date.*

***Please Note: The calendar is not carved in stone and dates and times may change. Any changes will be printed in later newsletters or you will be notified by postcard. If you have any event questions you can call Phil Dawson***

***-- or Bob Amaral***

# **RACING SCHEDULE**

## **VARA**

PHOENIX INTERNATIONAL -- February 25-26

WILLOW SPRINGS -- April 1-2

POMONA -- April 22-23 (tentative)

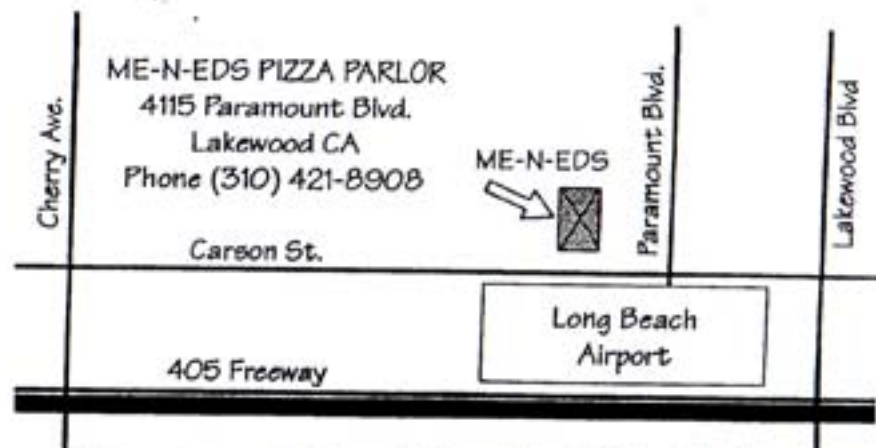
## **SCCA**

DOUBLE POINTS NATIONALS

PHOENIX INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY

January 14-15-16

**Don't forget our get-together each month on the third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Be there to share stories and set the course of the club in the coming year. Come join us and participate!**



Mini News is a collection of information published for the enjoyment of Mini enthusiasts worldwide. Read at your own risk, we accept no responsibility for the joy, sorrow, or anger that it may induce. The views expressed within are that of the authors and editor and do not necessarily represent the views of the Mini Owners of America - Los Angeles.

# TOPANGA TURKEY RUN

## November 20, 1994

This run always manages to bring out a good number of cars -- Eight Minis this time around -- all enthusiastic and anxious to run some twisty roads. The day was perfect -- except for a little chill breeze in the shade here and there. The sun was bright and the air brisk giving the A Series engines a chance to breathe cool air and keeping the running temps well down.

The run itself could be described in just a couple of words -- "Short but Intense" -- but then, that would not take up much space in the newsletter, would it?

When called on to map out this year's run I wanted to avoid the long ride down PCH from Sunset to Deer Creek Rd. and thought I would experiment with turning off PCH on Topanga Canyon Road. Not knowing the southwest end of Topanga -- I sort of ran amok and backtracked my way around the canyon (with the help of Phil Dawson as navigator and all-around right hand man) and tried to incorporate the best roads I could find with our time constraints.

As it worked out -- we could have spent a little more time on the roads -- but then, what we did run were some of the best twisties that Topanga has to offer. Everyone I talked to said they enjoyed the ride and that is what we were there for!!

As roadmaster for this one I had every intention of leading a casual Sunday drive through the great scenery and wonderful roads -- but the roads were just too wonderful! I could not resist some "hard running" through a few of the sections. It really is hard to resist getting on the throttle just a bit. It was (for the most part) a relaxing ride, with the exception of a few "Mr. Toad's Wild Ride" thrown in from time to time.

After the Topanga fires it was rumored that the Rock

Store had been burned to the ground with no hope of revival. Nothing could be further from the truth. As a matter of fact, the place is undergoing a major renovation and remodeling. We asked one of the waitresses when they would be done with the construction and she said: "in a couple of years, at this rate!" The construction in no way hampered the Rock Store's generous breakfast fare and everyone seemed to enjoy the meal. We arrived at 11:00 a.m. (just in time for the tail-end of breakfast). Handy hint here -- make sure you are REAL HUNGRY when you order the pancakes!!

One final note: I did not get lost once -- Hard to believe EH??!!

Another Topanga run is in the books -- another year is coming to a close. The Thirtieth year for our club -- time sure flies when you drive a Mini!

By the time this newsletter comes out the Christmas Party will be history. So for those of you I do not get to see there -- I hope that you and yours had a very happy Holiday season.

Drive Safe:

Bob Amaral

## **CARPETS & HOODS FOR**

OPEL - PANTERA - MG - TRIUMPH - JENSON - MERCEDES - PORSCHE - VW - LOTUS - ROLLS ROYCE - BRISTOL - JAGUAR - TOYOTA - ASTON MARTIN - RANGE ROVER - ROVER - MINI - FIAT - MASERATI - FERRARI - LAMBORGHINI - BMW - 4X4 VANS - DATSUN - SUZUKI - FORD - ALVIS -

LANCHESTER - MAJESTIC MAJOR

MOST MODELS AVAILABLE

WORLDWIDE MAIL ORDER SERVICE

from **£45** plus postage for full set

also Interior Headlinings and Vinyl Roofs

## **MOTOR UPHOLSTERY SUPPLIES**

14 ANNE ROAD, WELLINGBOROUGH,  
NORTHANTS, ENGLAND, NN8 2HH

Telephone: (0933) 223602 - U.K. Time

Fax: (0933) 441298

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday to Friday - 8 a.m. - 12 Noon Saturday

**We accept American Express, Visa and Master Card**

Enquiries are invited from other Club Magazines with reference to advertising

# **MINI MEET WEST 1995 BULLETIN**

Vol. 1, 11/94

**The Oregon Mini Society  
is happy to bring you the first  
latest-breaking news on**

## **MINI MEET WEST 1995**

The honour of hosting the Annual West Coast North American Mini Meet has been granted to the Oregon Mini Society, of Portland, Oregon, USA.

**WHEN;** August 2 - 4, 1995, That's a Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.

**WHERE;** The Resort at the Mountain, located about an hour east of Portland on the slopes of Mt. Hood, our resident volcano and scenic signpost.

The Resort has a Scottish theme and a video available for showing by your Mini club. There is also a championship golf course and tennis at the Resort with close by fishing, boating, hiking etc.

There are a few telephone numbers available if you desperately need news, want more information or want to make a suggestion or two.

Evenings 6-9:30 p.m. - Steve Wittkop

Evenings 6-9:30 p.m. - Mike Hamilton

Evenings 6-11:00 p.m. - Chris Pegues

Day FAX number

This meet is being put on in close cooperation with the Seattle Area Mini Owners Assn. and the Vancouver Mini Club. More news as it evolves!





# MINCOMP

## Racing Services

\* STILL HERE TO SERVICE YOUR MINI NEEDS  
WHILE THE OTHERS HAVE COME AND GONE

- \* STREET MINI SERVICE, REPAIR & MODIFICATION
- \* SCCA & HISTORIC RACE DEVELOPMENT & PREP

6-F West 17th Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 (714) 650-3058



*A long ago photo (40-  
years or so) of MOALA  
President Phil Dawson  
on his "first Mini". A  
conglomeration of  
lawnmower parts  
made into a tractor of  
sorts. Phil's love of  
"Mini" vehicles may  
have bloomed here!  
(OK so it isn't really a  
Mini - but it leaked just  
as much oil!)*

Quality



Integrity

**BRITISH AUTO SPECIALISTS**

**GRAHAM REID**

1760 Monrovia Ave.  
Unit C10  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

(714) 646-8802  
Fax (714) 646-6977

## SKINNERS UNION CARBURETOR FACTS

You may have read recently in Mini World about SU carbs being replaced with fuel injection. Well; that is in Merrye Olde England. Here in the colonies we are still (almost exclusively) utilizing that gem of British workmanship – the venerable SU plumber's valve to feed our A-Series. Following you will find facts that may (or may not) help you to understand the mysterious workings of your British gas meter.

If your carburetors do not leak – you are out of gas. (This rule is similar to the Mini "test for oil").

The only time your carburetors will operate properly is when a qualified mechanic occupies the passenger seat during a "test drive".

SU carburetor parts are completely interchangeable. You can replace a faulty part with a new one and the carb will run just as it did before the replacement.

When you finally get ready to adjust your carbs, the Uni-Syn will not be where you thought it was.

When replacing needles, the only place you will find the correct one is on the furthest edge of the continent you presently occupy (if you live on the East Coast they will be either in Coventry or on a ship floundering in an Atlantic storm).

When you finally do get the proper needles – one of them will be bent.

The Universal SU repair Kit will work on all carburetors – except yours.

No two repair books will recommend the same fluid for the dampers.

Tightening the jet nut will automatically move the jet off center.

All levers, springs, jets, needles and floats will move smoothly if (and only if) the carburetor is sitting on the kitchen table.

Mini carburetors are infinitely adjustable. That is, they can be set anywhere from "not quite right" to "totally wrong".

Despite the above, a weekend working on the Mini carburetors is preferable to fixing the oil leak.

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

*Well -- it is January again -- that month of white sales and new beginnings. What could be so important in January that it can not be put off until a later, warmer and more comfortable month ?? In a word; DUES! yes it is M.O.A.L.A. dues time once again. I know that it has been mentioned elsewhere in this issue -- but it is important enough that I would like to make every effort to bring it to your attention.*

*What you really need to do is -- get up off the couch and grab that checkbook! If you wait, you will forget. (It works something like "If you build it; they will come!). It happens every time.,*

*Each year the membership drops off in January because of unpaid dues (sometimes it drops to 1/2) and then; slowly picks up again through the year.*

*This year closed with 93 members! We want to get up over that 100 mark in 1995! Make it happen -- send in your dues!*

*We are also going to be saving as much money as possible -- looking ahead to 1996 and our hosting of the Mini Meet that year. Do you think that 1996 is far away?? Think back to 1993 -- not so far away, is it? The years are slipping by quickly, folks and '96 will be upon us in the wink of an eye!*

*I hate to be commercial about it -- I know that the Mini club is not about bucks -- I know that it is about friends and food and exciting runs and good old memories and stories shared by members. But -- to support that -- we need the bucks.*

*Hopefully -- dedicating a page of the newsletter to this plea to just remember to send in your dues will help.*

*Nuff Said!!*

# **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Our 30TH year is complete -- a good year indeed.

The traditional runs were, as always, loaded with fun and good food and good people! However -- some of the new adventures really made 1994 special.

The Peterson Museum comes to mind -- Also the new Mt. Pinos Run led by Tony Pearson (a real blast) -- thanks Tony. The Del Mar "Potluck" was fabulous -- thanks to Maria Wohlsigel (and all those who brought the delicious goodies!).

This year will -- I am sure -- work out to be another fun experience for MOA-LA. We just cannot seem to help ourselves when it comes to having fun with our passion. I look forward to more great runs and events for 1995.

We will, however, be losing some dedicated Miniacs in 1995. John and Maria Wohlsigel, Pete Agle and Jeanne Ross are moving on to (hopefully) greener pastures. Their participation, hard work and dedication to MOA-LA will be sorely missed by all of us.

I have come up with a new idea for the newsletter and hope that it will be successful. I would like to feature club member's cars on the front cover of each edition. If you would like to have your car grace the front cover of the Mini News please send me a picture (color or black and white) of your pride and joy -- along with a description of any modifications etc. -- and I will get it done. The picture can be any snapshot but must be clear and sharp due to the limitations of copy machines to produce dark, dim images.

I am happy to announce another new feature of the Mini News. Each issue (with the exception of this one) will carry an article written by Mark Smith covering the inside scoop on the latest racing news. Mark has generously volunteered to supply us with a bi-monthly article. So you can all look forward to more racing news -- from someone who definitely knows the racing scene. Thanks Mark for volunteering.

Hoping the year will be filled with new ideas, proposals and suggestions. I will sign off for now! Lets make our thirty-first year a grand success with more new ways to enjoy the best small car in the world -- and the best group of car enthusiasts I know!

Drive Safe!  
Bob Amaral

## MINI OWNERS OF AMERICA - LOS ANGELES NAME BADGE ORDER FORM

We ask MOALA members to obtain a namebadge and wear it to all MOALA events, including meetings, to make us more approachable to new acquaintances and members alike.

These clip-on badges have the MOALA logo on the left side with member's name on the right. The cost is \$5.50 per badge.

MEMBER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

COLOR OF BADGE: RED \_\_\_\_\_ GREEN \_\_\_\_\_ BLUE \_\_\_\_\_ BLACK \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill in the appropriate information and bring this form to the meeting or mail it in with \$5.50

TO:

Phil Dawson  
13611 Suffer Drive  
Westminster, CA. 92683

# MiniMania

31 Wrenor St.  
Milpitas, Ca. 95035  
(408) 942-5595  
FAX (800) MANIA01

Ask your club about our:

**Club Support Program**

- ▣ 10% Discount!
- ▣ Free use of special tools!

Restoration &  
Maintenance

**BMC**  
Competition

**FREE MONTHLY CATALOG**

- special offers
- maintenance parts
- technical articles



# MINI MARKETPLACE

---

ADS IN THE MARKETPLACE ARE FREE, AND RUN FOR 3 ISSUES, UNLESS YOU SPECIFY OTHERWISE. DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 20, 1995 AND SHOULD BE FAXED TO US AT (714) 894-9585 OR YOU CAN SEND IT TO US AT:

MOA-LA MARKETPLACE  
P.O. BOX 26121  
SANTA ANA, CA. 92799-6121

**1961 AUSTIN MINI** - 1340 cc Cooperized Motor Built by Fortech's Mike Kearney (Owner/builder of the Multiple Time National Champion SCCA Fortech Mini) Black Interior with Rokee Dash/Door Strips. Upgraded with Cooper Parts, Four Core Radiator, Oil Cooler, Adjustable Spax shocks, Disc Front Brakes, 1 1/2 SUs, 4 Sync Trans. Hand Crafted Stretched, Blended Fender Flares. AM/FM Cassette. Minilites with Yokohama Tires. Beautiful Black Iron Paint by Ray Newton. FTD Trophy at the Mini Meet West in Orange. \$7500 OBO Call Tony at

**1967 MORRIS COOPER S SPRINT** -- Red/Black, Complete Restoration. 1275 Hollowell Engine, 4 Sync Trans, Original Minilites, Rectangular Quartz Halogen Headlights, Corbeau Seats, Hi-Lo Suspension with adjustable Spax Shocks, 4 core Radiator with External Electric Fan. \$10000. OBO. Call Bob at

**FOR SALE** -- J.A. Pearce Wheels, set of four with lug nuts 5x10 inch size. \$200.00 or trade for a good 12G940 non-smog head with no cracks. Have extra J.A. Pearce 5x10 wheel for someone who has a set of three for best offer or trade. Call Dan at (818) 764-8765 or fax at

**FOR SALE** -- Rare First Edition: Austin Mini Cooper (includes Morris) Service and Parts manual. Best offer. Call John at

**1970 MARK II 'S'** -- PRISTINE, Ferrari Red under a Midnight Blue Gold Flaked Roof. Wait !! you see it! Matching Striped Corduroy Interior, All the Wood. Restored from Wheels in '91. 40,000 Original Miles, Wet Suspension, Big Brakes, Radiator, 1300cc. Truly Trouble Free. Driven Since '86, Quality Sound system. Complete History, Downtown Conversion when new -- Quick, of course. Luxury Mini, Hate to get rid of Her. No Room anymore. Cost Me \$14,000. Call Ken Chapman at

**WANTED** -- Flange drive out of a damaged or broken Cooper transmission. I need all parts to convert a yoke drive transmission. Call Dan at

**WANTED** -- Austin Mini, Complete with Title, No Rust, in Running Condition. Prefer 1275cc Call Slavek at

**WANTED** -- Restored Mini or Mini "S" with stock appearance, Left hand drive, Restored or in Good Original Condition. No Rust. Will Pay Cash. Serious Buyer. Call Curtis Paul at

**WANTED** -- Rebuildable 1275 Engine. Call Jerry Muro at

# MINI OWNERS OF AMERICA-LOS ANGELES

## OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### ***MINIS OWNED***

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Make \_\_\_\_\_

Model \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: You do not have to own a Mini to join You just have to love them*

### **MEMBERSHIP DUES**

***\$20 annually for individual Membership***

***\$25 annually for Family membership***

Dues are required during the month of January every year. New members joining after January may prorate their membership fees as follows:

Individual - \$1.70 a month

Family - \$2.10 a month

Please list the names that you would like included for the Family membership.

---

---

---

### **MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES**

A bi-monthly newsletter (The Mini News), monthly meetings, club rallies and other events, and the opportunity to meet other crazy Mini enthusiasts like yourself. There are no conditions or requirements for membership in the Mini Owners of America - Los Angeles. Our membership is open to Mini enthusiasts worldwide and we would enjoy having you as a member. Please send check or money order, payable to MOALA to:

MOA-LA  
P.O. Box 26121  
Santa Ana, CA. 92799-6121