



# *Miatatudes*

January 2026

## WELCOME

For 2026, **SAMOA is making some big changes with the goals of increasing club member participation and attracting new members.**

One of the first changes is what you are now reading, the club newsletter—***Miatatudes***. It has been many years since the club has produced a newsletter. ***Miatatudes*** will bring you articles on what SAMOA members are doing, information about upcoming events, and basic club information.

While I will do my best to create interesting content, **I will also have to rely on you, the club members to send in pictures and stories about events.** This newsletter is for you, the members, so if there is information you would like to see, do not hesitate to let me know. If there are things you do not like, let me know that, too.

In addition to the newsletter, **we are going to improve our social media presence and enhance the club website.**

It is going to be an exciting 2026 for SAMOA!

Bob Paauwe

*Miatatudes* editor

[newsletter.samoa@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.samoa@gmail.com)

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## Christmas Tree Trimming at the California Automobile Museum



Ten members helped out with the California Automobile Museum's 34th annual Christmas tree trimming on Sunday, November 30.

Arlene Hendersen collected photos of member's Miatas and SAMOA events. She used those to create unique photo-decorations for the tree.

Mike and Arlene also donated the tree.

Barb and Bob Castelli, Frank Rinaldi , Debbie Yeamans, Gene Hernden, April Halliday, and Norm and Virginia Swanberg all helped decorate the tree.

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## The 2025 SAMOA Holiday Party

Last month the club held it's holiday party at the [California Automobile Museum](#) for the sixth year in a row. The catered dinner by The Old Spaghetti Factory was enjoyed by all and many toys were collected for the [Children's Receiving Home](#).



## **December Meeting and Officer Elections**

The December general member meeting was held after the holiday dinner. The agenda included a review up coming events and an update on name badges. Our secretary, Michele, has been researching suppliers. She passed around a sample but then later found out the supplier was no longer able to make them. She has found a new supplier and has ordered them to satisfy the current demand. She may also be able to get plastic badges similar to what's shown below.

**If you are interested in a new name badge, [contact Michele](#) and let her know what type of badge, the type of attachment (magnetic or pin), and what you want it to say.**



### Wood Sample

### Plastic Sample

Next up were elections. All those nominated were running unopposed, and all were unanimously elected. Your 2026 SAMOA club officers:



#### President

Martin Boersma



#### Vice President

April Halliday



#### Secretary

Michele Nanjo



#### Treasurer

Clay Cowan



#### Events

Bob Castelli



#### Webmaster

DT Nguyen



#### Newsletter

Bob Paauwe



### Porsche Club Turkey Run TSD Rally

The Sacramento Valley Region of the Porsche Club holds an annual Time-Speed-Distance (TSD) rally series. November was the last event of the season. These events are open to the public and SAMOA members made a strong showing with multiple members attending.

A TSD rally is a timed driving event where teams of a driver and a navigator follow a set route at specific average speeds, aiming to arrive at checkpoints at exactly the designated time. Scoring is based on how closely a team matches the target times, with penalties for being early or late at each checkpoint. The event is not a race and emphasizes navigational skills, teamwork, and precision driving on public roads, rather than speed.



Chris Malysiak and his navigator took third place in the beginner class in his custom-wrapped, yellow 2020 Miata. He's looking forward to attending more of these events next year.

SAMOA members Frank Rinaldi and Debbie Yeaman attended the event with their copper red mica 2010 Miata. They are looking forward to next year's TSD events.



## Upcoming Events



### Poker Run

When: Sat., January 10, 2026

Each driver and passenger will select the first of five playing cards in the Home Depot parking lot. Follow the instructions to three more designated stops to select three more cards along our way to Cameron Park. Your fifth and final card will be drawn at the [Moonraker Millhouse](#). The best hand wins!

[RSVP](#) by January 3 to Bob.

**Add to Calendar** [Apple](#) [Google](#) [Office 365](#) [Outlook](#) [Yahoo](#)

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Where: Home Depot, 2756  
Sunrise Blvd., Rancho Cordova

Meet: 9:30 a.m.

Depart: 10 a.m.

Length: ~2 hours

Host: [Bob Castelli](#)



### **Amadorado Drive & Dine**

A leisurely drive through Amador and El Dorado counties. We'll stop and regroup a number of times before having lunch at the [Strings Italian Cafe](#) restaurant in Jackson. You might even learn some local history along the way. The event is **rain or shine**.

[RSVP](#) by January 25, 2026

**Add to Calendar** [Apple](#) [Google](#) [Office 365](#) [Outlook](#) [Yahoo](#)

**When:** Sun., February 1, 2026

**Where:** Moonraker  
Millhouse, 3501 Robin  
Lane, Cameron Park

**Meet:** 8:30 a.m.

**Depart:** 8:45 a.m.

**Length:** ~3 hours

**Host:** [Genny Paauwe](#)



## Finding Photos Rally

You'll be given a set of photographs and a pre-determined route to follow. Your challenge is to find the objects in the photographs along the route. Record your mileage for each one you find. Closest to the official mileages wins. Finish will be at a Round Table Pizza.

The event is **rain or shine**.

Limited to 40 people.

[RSVP](#) by March 7, 2026.

**When:** Sat., March 14, 2026

**Where:** El Dorado Hills Park & Ride, 4640 Post St., El Dorado Hills

**Meet:** 9 a.m.

**Depart:** 9:30 a.m.

**Length:** ~2 1/2 hours

**Host:** [Bob Paauwe](#)

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## Non-SAMOA Events of Interest



The [Miata Monday Meets](#) group has meetup events every Monday that rotate between various locations around Sacramento.

They meet at 7 p.m. See their [Instagram](#) site for more information.

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**CALIFORNIA  
AUTOMOBILE  
MUSEUM**

# DOCENT TRAINING 2026

## SIGN UP NOW!

Love cars? Want to join a community that celebrates and enjoys cars as much as you do? It's signup time for the **2026 Docent Class** at the **California Automobile Museum!** Join a community of close-knit car lovers and share your love of history and automobiles with the community. Docents are the core of the museum, and everyone who loves cars is welcome. It's perfect for people of all ages who want to volunteer in their free time and have fun to boot.

Being a docent also comes with opportunities to be part of our different crews -- Detail Crew, which keeps our cars shiny and beautiful, Pit

Crew, which keeps cars in running condition, and Road Crew, which brings out cars to the local community.

Interested? [Register now.](#)

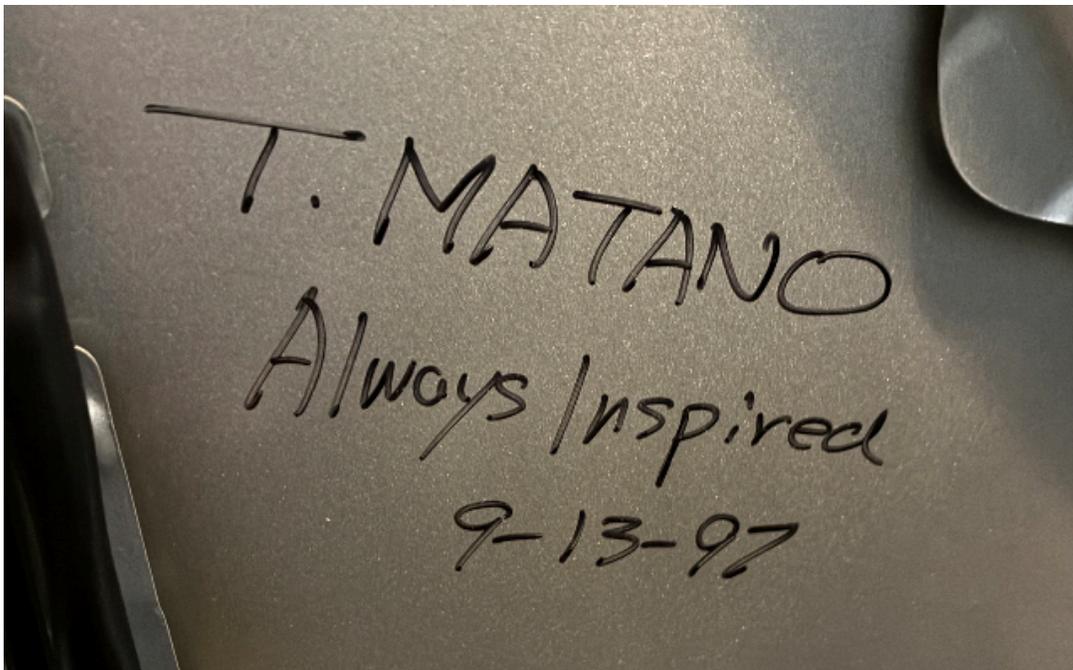
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## Miata Community News

by Bob Paauwe

Sad news for the Miata community. On September 20, 2025, Mazda Miata designer Tsutomu "Tom" Matano passed away at the age of 77. He was known as the "Father of the Miata." He inspired a global community of Miata enthusiasts, attending events and connecting with owners.

If asked, he would gladly put his signature on a Miata. Here's my Miata's trunk lid that he signed before I owned the car.



### Send in Your Photo

If you have his signature on your car, [send in a picture](#) of the signature and the story behind it. We'll publish those in the next newsletter as a special tribute.

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## Membership December Update

77 memberships and 122 members

### New Members

- Dennis Brandt / 2010 Copper Red Mica

### Member Services

Most of our communications happen via email. If you need to make changes to your email, contact our [secretary](#) with the updates.

**How can I join SAMOA?** Information on joining the Sacramento Area Miata Owners Association is available on our web site at [Join Us](#).

**Club name badges** can be purchased by contacting our [secretary](#).

**Our general member meetings** are held on the **second Tuesday** of the month. We meet at the **Mountain Mike's Pizza**, 2220 Gold Springs Ct., Gold River, CA 95670 (916-917-5511). The meeting starts at **7 p.m.** but come early to order food and chat.

### Submitting Material to *Miatatudes*

*Miatatudes* is produced online for our members. Contributions are always welcome.

Email contributions to [newsletter.samoa@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.samoa@gmail.com)

Submissions in plain text or Word are preferred. Photos should be in JPEG or PNG format and should be sent separately from the text (no embedded photos). You may also send a downloadable link to the photos.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month prior to the month of publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for spelling, grammar and clarity. Any significant changes will be reviewed and approved by the submitter.

All material in this newsletter is protected by copyright.

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## **SAMOA Event Publicity Notice**

You and those accompanying you may be photographed, videoed and recorded while attending any SAMOA event.

By entering the event area, you hereby irrevocably grant the Sacramento Area Miata Owners Association (SAMOA) the right to use your image, voice and likeness obtained at this event anywhere for any purpose, in any media, without payment, right of approval or right of action against SAMOA and those acting on its behalf for any claim of damages or violation of rights. If you do not agree and do not wish to be videoed, photographed or recorded please refrain from entering the event venue.



**SAMOA**

3707 Witt Road, Auburn, CA 95602

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