

Don Miller Mazda Mud Run 6

May 3, 2014

Sunny skies, warm weather, friends, and Miatas with their tops down, created the theme for our first rally of 2014, the “Mud Run”.

The day began with Jack Lemahieu, Sales Manager of Don Miller Mazda, announcing the 2015 MX-5 Miata 25th Anniversary Edition – ONLY 100 limited editions will be made. The only way to get one was to reserve one! Unfortunately, the site has not been up lately – I can only imagine that the first 250 requests were done in the first day the site was up, May 1. So what will it look like? Well ---Soul Red Metallic with black trim; 17-inch dark gunmetal 10 spoke aluminum alloy wheels; almond leather seats and door trim; red stitching on the steering wheel and red on other trim. IF you are lucky enough to get either an HT 6-speed \$33,000; an HT automatic \$33,450; a 6-speed \$28,345; or an automatic soft top \$29,445 – you will also receive a MX-5 Miata 25th Anniversary Tourneau watch, of which only 100 will be made. (Henry Netzinger did get his name in! Did anyone else?)

After that announcement, our President, Toni, thanked Jack & Don Miller Mazda for once again hosting this event. Toni then introduced the BMC Board members in attendance, the new members, and our oldest member – 85 year old Jim who drove from California to join up with our group. She thanked the members who took over Dave Bonfield’s lead in orchestrating the Mud Run rally, and had Lynn Bonfield say a few words. Lynn will continue in Dave’s VP SW roll on the Board and complete his term. We then enjoyed a very nice lunch and refreshments provided by Don Miller and prepared for the drive. Because we were such a large group, we divided into two pods and headed onto the road.

Terry Lucas designed the ride, and he led the first pod, while Hank Netzinger was at the head of the second pod. Terry’s route took us over ridges and valleys and highways of wondering curves, roller coaster hills, and continuous views of the countryside, rocks, and just plain old Spring in Wisconsin. Of course it isn’t a rally without a few U-turns now is it?!? Adding a few clever words to describe the roads to turn on made it even more fun --- “highway J – Juxtaposition” – and “highway A – my Aunt Appellonia” (really, that was her name!). Those members from the northern part of our State exclaimed, “It’s green! We don’t have any green up there yet!” I wasn’t going to tell them we have only had the green colors for about a week ourselves here!

Along the way we graciously shared the road with many bicyclists. I’m sure we were more comfortable sitting in our cars than they were, pumping their legs furiously as they climbed some rather steep hills! But they, like us, were trying to seize the first pleasant Saturday of 2014.

After the second leg of our adventure, pausing for a break in Mt. Horeb, and having already traveled 88 miles, it was decided to cut the last leg and just head to the Roadside Grill in Windsor – it seems we aren't the road warriors we thought we were.

Forty of us ended the day with dinner and drinks. Terry Lucas, Terry Reich, and Henry Netzinger thanked the sweeps: Bruce Gerner and Jim Hotz and all the people who made this day a great ride! We are looking forward to the remaining BMC events!