



Monthly

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I've never been much of a heat person. The summer months are generally my least favorite time of the year. Even here in Colorado, the days in August can be most unpleasant for me. I grew up in Riverton Wyoming and have really never lost my acclimation for the cold even after four years in west Texas and eight in Tulsa. I suppose as you grow older you yearn for warmer climates but I guess I'm just not quite old enough yet. I continue to be thankful that I live in a location which can cook me in 100 degree temps, but allow a quick escape to the high altitude coolness in the mountains. No matter how hot it is I can always look to the west and know that within the hour I could be 20 degrees cooler.

I can think of no better place to spend a few hot August days then up in our mountains. Others must agree with me since the summer tourist season peaks about August. The cool nights, warm sunny days and afternoon showers combine to make for a very nice vacation. Toss in about 300 MINIs and their eclectic owners and you have a perfect vacation in my book. We are rapidly approaching the date of our seminal club event, MINIs in the Mountains (MITM). This August, as in the past two, we have the opportunity to host other MINI drivers from various clubs and states as well as a wide assortment of vendors from across the MINI community. This year we will

start MITM on August 6th which is a Wednesday and it will again end on Sunday. The schedule change will provide one more full-day of MINI related activities for our guests and us to enjoy and remember. I am looking forward to the brief respite from our version of heat here in Denver as I am sure others from across the nation are as well.

This is our chance as MINI5280 members to showcase our State's natural resources and to take pride in the envy others will feel while driving our mountain roads, enjoying our scenery and partaking in our local food and beverages. It also is an opportunity for us to take our experiences from other events we have participated in, whether AMVIV, MTTS or MOTD, and apply the good and leave out the not so good. I could argue that we have the most favorable spot in the nation to host such an event and so with a strong club, filled with great people, we should easily have the best event in the United States.

So what can we do to make this event better than last year? How can we assure that those who attend this year's MITM will not only return next year, but bring others as well. Like I said before, we have the location so it must all boil down to atmosphere, activities and attitude. Keeping it fresh will ensure we don't suffer from the "been there - done that" syndrome that seems to be striking MOTD. We need

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your help to prevent this from happening. We need your thoughts, observations and suggestions. We need you to volunteer for the event whether it is setting up, check-in, tearing down, leading a ride or selling raffle tickets; volunteer for something! By the time you read this our MITM website should be active - www.minisinthemountains.com. On it you will be able to register for events, see planned activities and gather lodging information. So check it out, watch for upcoming information and do please plan on a few cool days in the mountains this August. You won't regret it and you might just meet some MINI owners that you have more than one thing in common with.

Chuck Maybee

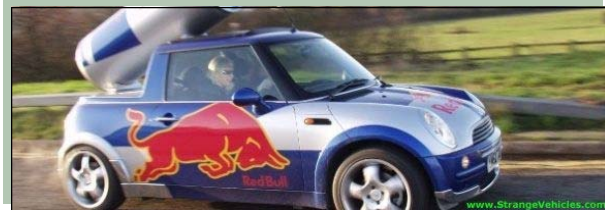
President, MINI5280

IN ANTICIPATION OF MITM3 2008

By Jonathan Souza

I hear a rumor that....

Just as last year at MITM2, the Red Bull MINI Coopers



will be making a return appearance at MITM 3 this year. Watch for them on Saturday, August 9, at the parking structure at CMR...

I hear a rumor that....

This year, in addition to the Red Bull MINIs, there will also be ice cream provided by the Dreyer's Ice Cream MINI. Just a rumor, but rumors often have an uncanny way of becoming truth.....

In order to properly promote its new line of Dibs bite-size ice cream snacks, Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream has sent "The World's Littlest Ice Cream Truck" on a 10-city cross-country tour. The truck the creation of "motor makeover artist" Ron Canyon and a team from his company Canyon Motors, is a transformed



Mini Cooper that presents "the next generation ice cream truck." Dreyer's reports the special craft is equipped with

state-of-the-art technology, including 32- and 23-inch LCD flat panel TVs, a Mac Mini, iPod Mini docking station, touch screen applications, wireless Internet access, an exterior webcam and a freezer drawer that slides out of the back via remote control. The truck also sports 19-inch spinner wheels as well as flared fenders, an extended roof with a rag top and a custom sound system, all contributing to the attention-getting edge Dreyer's wanted for the Dibs promotion.



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN MITM2008

Registration for MITM 2008 is now open via a website created by Rick Gonzales. The site offers information and on-line registering for all events. Payment can be though PayPal or by a mail-in form.

The website provides information on lodging options, group dinners and rides. It gives the participant the option to view maps of Copper Mountain Resort as well as the ride routes.

www.minisinthemountains.com



Come hit the road and enjoy the curves in your MINI or Mini. The roads in Colorado are twisty, curvy and high, some approaching 14,000 feet (paved) unlike anywhere else on the Continent!!

Visit us online at www.NorthAmericanMotoring.com or www.MINI5280.org
E-MAIL for more information at info@MINI5280.org or call 303-807-9483

MINIS ON THE DRAGON 2008

By Mike Gleason

This was my 2nd consecutive year at the Dragon. Both years began with an overnight visit with my Sister in Wichita, KS, then on to Tulsa to pick up my son / co-driver, Brian. Brian opened his home to any MINI's traveling to the Dragon. Our own "Brihyanna" (aka: Abbe) took him up on the offer. We left Tulsa Tuesday AM headed to NE Oklahoma to meet up with the Denver group lead by Jsouz & escorted by the Kernel Of Corn. This group of 3 Minis had met up in Kansas City and had bedded down for Monday night in Disney, OK.

I want to mention here that the trip "TO" is as much fun as "The" Dragon. (You can't go anywhere with Jsouz and not have a blast!) The only objective we had in route to the Dragon this year was to eat BBQ in Memphis! Tuesday PM we pulled into Memphis at "Interstate BBQ". The food was great and their atmosphere was "family". Then it was back in the MINI's to shave off a few more hours. We spent the night in Brentwood, TN, near Nashville. With 4 people in a Holiday Inn and 3 of us at my cousin Don's home (who happens to be a neighbor of Dolly Pardon). Wednesday morning had us back in the MINIs driving past Dolly's house headed to the rest of the group.

Sorry, we were not able to get a glimpse of Dolly (not even a shadow silhouette of her).



We arrived at the Dragon mid-afternoon Wednesday after a group grocery store visit that was a lot of laughs.... My grocery cart driving privileges were taken away after I took out some local lady's ankle.... Well it was one of those long combo carts with a race car in front.... None of our crew could get in the driver seat (several tried and failed) so we should have just gotten a standard cart!!!

Entering the Dragon from the TN side found many a cop pulling people over and/or watching for aggressive driving. We coasted into Fontana Village doing precisely the speed limit (yawning) for check in. The weather was nearly perfect, only rain on Saturday, a repeat of last year. Saturday did have fog along with the rain. After check in we relaxed.



Thursday we drove to Sylva, NC to the Heinzelmännchen Brewery. Tasted all the sample available and bought some to take home. On the way back to Fontana Village we heard sirens coming up on us from behind. We hammered the MINIs to get out of their way staying well ahead. Then as we pulled up to our cabin we realized that a Forest Fire was in progress just 3 cabins up hill from the 5280 cabin. Some 15 minutes later the trucks that were blasting their sirens behind us came rolling in as back up men / equipment. Our cabin was without electric power until 2:00AM.

Friday we took a ride with some of the St. Louis members over Wayah Road. This Rd is as much fun as the Dragon with no cops! Saturday we could hardly see the MINI ahead let alone the incredible scenery of the Blue Ridge Parkway due to thick fog. At times the fog would move lifting up hill which was a unique experience. Each evening of the event were optional dinners at the event which we did except for Thursday night. That night was an exceptional feast for St, Louis, MINI5280 and few guests from elsewhere. The meal was Grilled Pork Chops by Chef "Crazy Dave" from Ohio. Even the people from Indiana called him Crazy Dave. The man can really cook, crazy or not! That evening a few noticed the fire was starting up again so 5 of the guys ran up the hillside and stomped it out!

The most impressive thing about MOTD or MITM is the friendships you make! Being my 2nd year, there was numerous re-unions as we bumped into friends we met last year. It is always sad to have Sunday morning come and the need to head home.... But there is always next year or the Next event!

Respectfully submitted: Mike (aka: intercoolest)

Photos: J.Souza

THE VOTE IS STILL OUT ON THESE MINIS

The production version of Lifan's egregious MINI clone is set to debut this weekend at the Beijing Motor Show. The Lifan 320 as it's called has an 87-horsepower 1.3L underhood that drives the front wheels alone. We're sure that Lifan will point to the car's standard 5-door hatchback layout as evidence that its not a *true* MINI copy, but let's all be serious here. Droopy headlights, fat D-pillars and traditional placement of the extra doors don't temper the blatant rip-offedness of this Grade Doppelganger. Even the wheels are copies. On a more amusing note, who knew MINI's humorous old "counterfeit" ad campaign would wind up being so prescient? BMW lawyers are likely standing by, as is the Counter Counterfeit Commission.



MINI and Life Ball have been synonymous for eight consecutive years now, and this years unique MINI will be designed by cult lingerie label Agent Provocateur, founded by Serena Rees and her husband, Vivianne Westwood's son, Joseph Corre.

The Life Ball MINI 2008 will be auctioned through eBay from 5 to 15 June 2008 in further aid of Life Ball, Europe's largest AIDS charity event to be held on 17 May 2008.

"I love the highly erotic yet stylish pin-up look of Agent Provocateur!", says Life Ball initiator Gery Keszler. The Agent Provocateur MINI will feature a black paint and pink 'police' paint scheme, reflective rear window, prison bars in the side door windows, fishnet stocking roof decal and a black leather interior with 'stimulating' details.

So far, MINI Life Ball cars designed by fashion icons as Missoni, Ferrari and Versace have fetched over Euro 260,000 in aid of the charity.

HPR Update

- * Funds are at \$2.6 of the needed \$2.8 mil to begin work
- * Contracts are being explored for grading, paving, and accessories
- * Oct 18-19 is tentative grand opening. Very tentative.
- * Track site tours are now available.
- * Thanks to MINI5280 for a generous \$1000 donation and a brick purchase

Spotted: Margarita MINI in Denver



Notice

If anyone who participated on the Mt. Evans Ride would care to write-up a little newsletter article with photos we can publish it next month.

MOTR Picnic

When: Sunday, July 13, 2008 3:00 PM-8:00 PM
Where: Kenn's House - 1595 S Hudson St., Denver. 303-758-8846

kennlively@forethought.net

TWEAT ME TO SOME TWISTIES

By Chuck Maybee

This is why you live in Colorado and this is why you own a MINI. The marriage of Colorado and MINI came together for a spectacular ride through the front range on Saturday May 17, 2008.

Twenty MINIs and 70 degrees combined with pines, mountains and twisties created the perfect mix for our first official spring drive.



Starting from a Lone Tree Starbucks (official starting location to MINI5280) the Denver group of 18 headed south to meet up with our southern brethren at Colorado Springs. Now 20 strong we proceeded south through Fort Carson to Florence and Canon City. A quick refueling at a station which had never before

seen so many friendly MINI owners at one time and then on to the west for a brief tour of Sky Line Drive. This one way, one lane road has no purpose other than spectacular vistas and tempting heights.



Back down we drove to the Royal Gorge for a brief stop – we will have a club ride to the Gorge soon to enjoy the bridge and sights.

North up CO 9 a few miles to CO 11, a twisty paved two-lane road which is part of the Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway. Here topping a hill with enthusiasm, we meet a sheriff's patrol car in the optimum spot to generate revenue for the county. Lucky for us it was lunch time and he was too busy pawing at his sandwich to point his radar. The deer by the side of the road enjoyed us zipping past; however there were more than one MINI driver that needed a

change in skivvies due to the proximity of the deer to the highway. A quick stop to gather all drivers and then up to Cripple Creek.

Though now a gambling town of sorts, Cripple Creek was founded on mining with evidence of the town's past scattered amongst the surrounding hills. The



bleary-eyed gamblers barely had time to look up from their games of chance before we were off up highway 67 north to Woodland. There a slight jog and then up to Deckers. The once forested mountain sides are still scarred from the massive Hayman fires seven years ago, but the road is good and winding with nice smooth black top to hold our quick turns.

Finally an enjoyable lunch at an out of the way



mountain restaurant named Zoka's that provided our group with a chance to compare notes and chat. Zoka's is dog friendly and for the four dogs that accompanied their MINI drivers, the sun and breeze was a perfect end to our spring ride.

Photo: Rick Gonzales and Don Suiter

Photos: Rick Gonzales and Don Suiter

The Royal Gorge is often called the Grand Canyon of the Arkansas .



CARS & COFFEE - MAY 3, 2008

By Don Suiter

We have a new venue in Colorado to enjoy our MINIs and other makes of classic and modern automobiles, Cinos Coffee and Cars is held the first Saturday of each month in Lafayette, Colorado at 95th and Arapahoe.

A few MINI owners in MINI5280 ventured out on the first Saturday in May. It was a quiet event, but well attended considering the weather during the week. Saturday morning started out brisk and clear. I thought I would be the first to arrive since I live very close to Cinos. But no, I was late to arrive after Japic (Jacob) and Minimaybee (Chuck) came from the South of Denver with the crack of dawn. J

We were not the first as a nice Porsche and Maserati were already in the parking display area and the owners inside sipping coffee.

Here is a picture of our beginning MINI lineup; we had the most cars in attendance.



Jacob (MCS R53, PW), Chuck (MC Cabrio R52, CR), Don (MCS R56, DS)...

As the Cinos event progressed more people and cars ventured out to have a cup of dark roast or a Latte. I talked with the some of the regulars; this event has been around for a couple of years and was started by members of the local Ferrari club. This F430 was just the right color in my estimation. Of course, those who know I drive a DS/W MINI know I am biased.



Chuck Maybee performed some hard maintenance on BEAN the great MY/B MINI under the watchful eye of BEAN's Guardian.



Here is our MINI lineup, as I stated earlier, we had the best turnout.



So folks, we have another event for MINI5280 members to attend, so spread the word and try to make a few of these during the summer and fall. I understand from the gathered attendees that the car count goes up as the weather turns warmer. This picture only gives a flavor of the Coffee and Cars



Event. I will miss the June session due to travel, but I plan on being at as many as I can for the coffee and the cars. It would be nice to have a few MINIs from MINI5280 at each session.

CLASSIFIEDS

MINI Luggage Trailers

Dear MINI 5280 Club,
We manufacture a luggage trailer for the Mini Cooper and are contacting you to offer your club members free shipping on all trailer orders placed on or before May 1st, 2008. Please check out our website and/or our ad in MC2 and give us a call if you have any further questions.

Thanks,
Jim Fredrickson
Sales Manager
Buckarootrailers.com
731.632.5055 office

If you have any items for our classified section please email a description, price and photo(s) to:

Newsletter@MINI5280.org

Wanted: Seeking Interesting and informative

Desire a member to submit a newsletter article highlighting their MINI. We are looking for photos and a write-up for the feature. Your article should include where & when purchased, what mods you have done and your plans for your MINI's future.. Submit your spread to: Newsletter@MINI5280.org

MINI Cooper for Sale

1980/1996 rover mini cooper, 1.3 LITER electronic fuel injected 4 cyl. 4 spd. rare Japanese model with factory A/C. 48K original miles, aftermarket coil spring suspension with hi-lo adjustments. Almost new Blizzak tires. Right hand drive. No rust, very good condition.

Call Duane at 303-619-4019



MINI5280 Swag

You know, you'd look great in a shirt with MINI5280 on it! If you were wondering how you can show pride in your club with cool MINI5280 apparel check out www.cafepress.com and do a search for MINI5280



MINI5280 MONTHLY MEETING TUESDAY JUNE 10, 2008

This month's MINI5280 meeting to be held at [Ralph Schomp](#) at 7:00 PM will feature the ride selection for the Summer Solstice Ride (SSR) to be held on June 21st. Pizza will be provided so come hungry. Members are urged to come up with a ride they wish the club to do on the longest day of the year and to get in touch with our pagan roots. During this meeting members may present their proposed ride including route, attractions, eating locations and photo stops using any means necessary to persuade the judges. The presentations may include live animals, visual arts, singing (no dancing please), visiting dignitaries, pseudo-starlets of the Hollywood variety, magicians and/or leprechauns. You will be give 10 minutes to present your ideal SSR but you will only be allowed to use half of those minutes.

The selected ride will win from me, your President, **A Full MINI Detail**. I'm talking the whole 9 yards, top-to-bottom, front-to-back, inside & out. I will do said detail before MITM and on a weekend that is mutually agreeable.

This will be 12 to 14 hours of effort plus countless dollars of **Prima** detailing product so make your entry a good one (this is a \$43,097 value).

So put some effort into this people since I will be putting the effort into the lucky winner's car.

Note: *You can be certain that regardless of the number of leprechauns and glitter festooned Vegas showgirls in your presentation, if your ride involves dirt and/or gravel roads it will not be selected.*



[Ralph Schomp](#) is located at 5700 S Broadway in Littleton. We will hold the meeting upstairs in the Honda building. You can enter the Honda building on the west side doors and the stairs to the second floor will be to the right.

Ralph Schomp, 5700 S Broadway, Littleton, CO



Calendar of Events

Here are the upcoming MINI5280 events as well as events from other clubs and organizations. For more details on all events visit the MINI5280 Calendar on NAM. Make sure to check the calendar often because you never know when something



June 10	June MINI5280 Meeting—Ralph Schomp 7:00 PM
June 13- 15	MINI Takes the States, Miami, FL
June 13- 15	Run to the Western Slope, Durango
June 20 - 22	MINI Takes the States, Boston, MA
June 21	Summer Solstice Ride
July 5	Cars & Coffee—Cinos
July 8	July MINI5280 Meeting (Location TBA)
July 12	Castle to Castle Ride
July 25 - 27	MINI Takes the States, Chicago, IL
July 26	Dodge City Days—BBQ Run
August 1 - 3	MINI Takes the States, Los Angeles, CA
August 6 -10	MINIs in the Mountains 3, Copper Mountain
September 5-7	Magical MINI Mystery Tour, San Francisco
September 20 – 21	Colorado English Motoring Conclave, Arvada, Colorado

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