

# MINI 5280.org Newsletter

January 2014

Who's ready for Spring? I know I am. But, with Spring comes spring cleaning. I am currently going thru our membership information and cleaning up old email and phone numbers, etc. I would like to ask you to please send me an email to [secretary@mini5280.org](mailto:secretary@mini5280.org) with your updated contact information. If you have recently renewed or become a new member within the last 4 months, no need to send me anything I already have your most current information.

Thanks for your help!!

Happy Motoring!  
Stephanie Nelson  
**MINI5280 Secretary**

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## Club Links

[MINI5280.org](http://MINI5280.org)

[Minis in the Mountains](#)

[MINI5280 Group Me Page](#)

[MiniCOW - Coopers of Wyoming](#)

## President's Message



### President's Message - April 1, 2014

Welcome to the monthly lotto winnings, congratulations, you all have won a Million! April... (fools day)

As we start off spring in the Rockies, we will surely have more snow to deal with, but even with the one of the coldest winters in a long time, we have gotten several rides under our belts for the year thanks to Jamie and a few others. April is starting off being busy for the first few weeks. There is Cars & Coffee this 1st Saturday of the month, then the Club Meeting at Waffle House an hour later this Saturday at 9am with a ride to follow. Also going on this week is the Denver Fashion Week sponsored by Schomp MINI starting Thursday April 3rd going thru Sunday April 6th. Then the following week we have the Denver Auto Show starting Wed. April 9th going thru Sunday April 13th. If anyone is interested in the Auto Show, respond to the post on FB. The next weekend is Easter, look for those eggs and then a relaxing end of the month, whew. Like I said a busy month.

Be MINI!  
Mr. President, Rich Craighill (BLU-BY-U)

## 2014 F56 MINI Hardtop Review



**Article by Don Suiter (photos too) and Rich Craighill**

The new MINI F56 Hardtop has had many comments made about the new style, shape and its interior features on the Forums and in many magazine articles. I stated on the forums I wanted to see and drive it before I made any good or bad comments other than my thought the nose/bonnet was not styled well and did not present well in the many pictures posted online.

This last week of March, I got a personal invitation via email from Stan Ricker of MINI of Loveland to come up and take a drive. I asked Rich Craighill (you know him, he is your MINI5280 Mr. President) if he wanted to meet up and drive the spot out of the new MINI. It seems we were able to make it happen on Thursday afternoon, March 27, 2014.

When I arrived I ran into Kenton Dawkins, MOL - Owner and General Manager of the Loveland dealership, we had a good talk and talked MINI. Since he was headed to a quick lunch I went in search of Stan R and the keys to the two nice F56 Hardtops sitting out front.

The MINI F56 models we had to drive was a Blazing Red Metallic F56 MINI Cooper with the 3cyl. 1500cc and Thunder Gray metallic F56 MINI Cooper S 4 cyl. 2LTR. Both MINIs were well appointed, full sunroofs and many options. The Cooper 3cyl. Turbo was a real surprise, it was a good performer, the Cooper S was fast and had all the go fast you like in a MINI.

Rich did some performance captures, I will let him recap, these were not ideal conditions, but will give you a feel for how both of these MINIs performed.

Picture of the fully loaded up MINI Cooper over by the Constant Contact Offices - fully optioned but under \$30K, lots of MINI and features for the dollars.



Picture of the MINI Cooper S in the old greyhound track area, fully optioned and around \$36.5K, there was not much left to add to this one.



The engine compartments are tight in both F56 Hardtops, the 3cyl. in the Cooper has a bit more open space to the left, after market modifications will be interesting for these models. It should be noted these are BMW engines.

Engine compartment F56 Cooper



Engine compartment F56 Cooper S



The wheels on both the F56 MINIs are 5 lug.



The Cooper was on 16s 195x65x16 all-season and the Cooper S was on 17s 205x45x17 runflats. Both MINIs needed more tire (read that as stickier) and possibly a bit larger to get the MINI to corner better. I would suggest a rear rollbar upgrade on the base Cooper and the Sport suspension on the Cooper S or at least get the new adjustable suspension system which is an option.

The interiors of both hardtops are very nice, I felt interior space was a bit larger than my R56 Hardtop, I have heard folks say they feel smaller, it might be stature dependant. I think the sport seats are a major step up from the R56 and R53 seats, very like a Recaro option.

That is my input, Rich will provide his in a section of his own.

And now for Rich Craighill's commentary:

Hello, I would like to add that the non S turbo engines a ton more grunt than I was expecting and pulled more out of a corner. Now the non S might have more power the brakes might be smooth, but they are very scary when combined with the tire and suspension option Don mentioned.

The S is awesome. Lots of power and great brakes. Power that reminded me of a JCW, but needs better shift points and brakes that keep you going straight as you test the limits of antilock braking. Both are very Green and when you come to a complete stop, the engines shut down.

This fact causes a slow 0 to 60 times, so bad that the non S did better. The S though in manual mode keeps the engine from shutting down. We could not do more testing as we drew the attention of the Loveland PD. The seats hugged you the best I have seen so far in the MINI and have an adjustable seat pan. Over all I give the new F56 2 thumbs up!

-\*Rich\*-

## *Calling All Volunteers!*

Mini Committee MITM 2014

All, as you probably know Minis In The Mountains (MITM) 2014 pared down to a linked on-the-road trip and promotional trip with Mini Takes The States (MTTS). Basically we

will sponsor an event in Grand Junction with MTTTS and promote MITM 2015 along the whole way. With that I am putting together a small committee to put together our plan. I am looking for 3-5 Committee members to work promotion, sponsored event, etc for the MITM 2014. If you would like to serve on the committee please email me at [info@minisinthemountains.com](mailto:info@minisinthemountains.com) or PM on Facebook with your name, contact info (phone/email) and we will get started. Look forward to working with you.

Ray G.

## *Want your MINI to be featured in the Newsletter?*



**Is your MINI wanting a chance in the spotlight? Show it off!**

**Send over a few pictures of you and/or your MINI along with a description to [secretary@mini5280.org](mailto:secretary@mini5280.org) & they will show up in the following month's newsletter! If you'd like a survey to fill out, just ask! One will be sent your way!**

## *Upcoming MINI5280 Events*



- April 5, 2014 MINI5280 Monthly meeting and drive - 9:00am Waffle House then drive to follow after. Waffle House, 201 E County Line Rd, Littleton, CO
- April 12, 2014 "Group Trip" to Denver Auto Show, please respond to the post on MINI5280 in Facebook

## *Upcoming Non-MINI5280 Events*



- June 14th 2014 - "Scavenger Hunt" style adventure to Winter Park. Sponsored by Ferney's Lube and Auto Repair Send Ferney's a message thru Facebook if interested for a head count.

- July 26 - Aug 9, 2014 - MINI Takes The States - [Website](#) \*\*Registration is now open!\*\*

## Motor On!

We happily welcome articles and pictures! If you'd like to submit a story, photo, event, ride, or anything else MINI to an upcoming newsletter, please send an email to [secretary@mini5280.org](mailto:secretary@mini5280.org).

## Company Ads



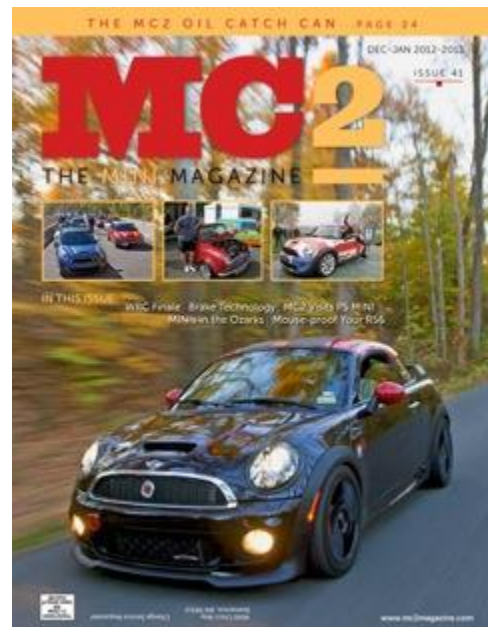
Each issue of MC2 Magazine features news and information on current model and classic Minis, their owners, coverage of major Mini & MINI events, Mini history and heritage, technical articles and how-to information, product tests, profiles of MINI-related businesses, car features, and more! If it concerns Minis, MC2 -- The Independent American MINI Magazine for ALL Mini & MINI owners around the world -- has it handled!

MC2's app and e-zine is available in the Apple Newsstand. [Click here!](#)

Price for 6 issues, 6x yearly is \$24.95. MC2 also has a general store with T-shirts, mugs, GoBadges, and their exclusive oil catch can.

Thoughts? Input?...  
[MC2magazine.com](http://MC2magazine.com)

Barry at MC2  
360/ 698-7926 Seattle



Dear Mini enthusiast,

We are pleased to announce that work on the third issue of love:mini magazine is well underway and should be published in the coming weeks. After an 18 month break due to personal reasons, things are back on track and I'm confident that together we can produce the best community magazine for Mini owners.

We already have a number of plans to help us produce a dynamic and fresh reading product for Mini fans all over the world, but we need you and your Mini friends' help, by contributing and sharing your knowledge and opinions. If you want to contribute by writing and taking photos for us, please get in touch - there's plenty of ways to get involved. Likewise, if you have information about an event or product that we're not aware of, or just want to show off your car and/or club, then drop us a line too.

Changing times - There's going to be some exciting changes to the way we produce love:mini in the future, and your first port-of-call for all Mini news is [our blog](#) - bookmark it now and subscribe to the RSS feed.

Essential Resource - The website will continue to be our timeless one-stop shop for resources and information. We've already updated the website with this year's club and motorsport events and there will be lots more useful information appearing in the future. [www.love-mini.co.uk](http://www.love-mini.co.uk)

Look forward to hearing from you in 2013.



**VELOCE PUBLISHING**  
THE PUBLISHER OF FINE AUTOMOTIVE BOOKS

Named after the faster Alfa Romeo models, and with a pleasing nod to the manufacturer of Velocette motorcycles, Veloce has a simple philosophy. It is our mission to provide books of the highest quality in terms of content, accuracy, presentation, subject range and reader satisfaction to discerning automotive enthusiasts around the world.

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## MINI5280 Member Discounts



**Save 5%**

Craven Speed has informed MINI5280 that they will be extending a year-long discount to all MINI5280 club members off any product ordered from them. Use code M528013 for a 5% discount. The code will work any number of times and is good all year long. [Visit their website here.](#)



**Save 10%**

MINI Motoring Graphics has extended MINI5280 members a 10% discount on all purchases. Just use the code MINI5280 at checkout or mention MINI5280 when you place your order by phone. [www.minimotoringgraphics.com](http://www.minimotoringgraphics.com)



**Save 10%**

Through 2013, Peak Eurosport is extending MINI5280 members a 10% discount. It is good on all parts and labor as well as Prima detailing products. Just mention that you're a MINI5280 member. [Check out their website](#) or visit their store at 4465 Garrison St., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033. 877-616-PEAK

CARBONMINI.COM

**Save 10%**

MINI5280 members save 10% on premium carbon fiber parts and accessories made exclusively for MINI Coopers. These guys also give a percentage back to the club when you order! Visit them at [www.carbonmini.com](http://www.carbonmini.com)



**Save 10%**

MINI5280 members get a 10% discount at [defendersofspeed.com](http://defendersofspeed.com). Enter the code MINI528@10% at checkout. This discount can only be applied to orders being shipped to members living in CO, no exceptions.



**Save 10%**

Mini Mania is offering our club a discount on all orders. Just use code 5280MINI at checkout, good for 10% on all orders except sale items.

Their website: [www.minimania.com](http://www.minimania.com)



**Save 10%**

GoBadges is giving MINI5280 members a 10% discount on items in their online store. Just use code 5280 when placing your order. Check them out here: [www.gobadges.com](http://www.gobadges.com)

GoBadges can be reached via email: [contact@GoBadges.com](mailto:contact@GoBadges.com)

EYESHADES

Custom designed Sunshades



**Save 10%**

Artistic Reflection is offering MINI5280 members a discount toward custom Eyeshades, stickers, decals, and badges. Eyeshades are folding sunshades with eyes and are made from scratch each time to fit your MINI, designed to your color and expression specifications.

10% off code: IMWITH5280

Email: [info@artisticreflection.com](mailto:info@artisticreflection.com)

Shop: [www.artisticreflection.com](http://www.artisticreflection.com)



**Only \$1 Above Cost!**

Represent MINI5280! The club's shop contains tshirts, hoodies, magnets, stickers, wallets, coffee mugs and lots more, all bearing the MINI5280 club logos. Many items are available in multiple styles and colors.

Club store website: [www.cafepress.com/mini5280](http://www.cafepress.com/mini5280)





Getting in an accident is stressful enough. Looking for the right place to have your Mini repaired shouldn't be. At Rallye Coach Works, our goal is to provide you with the best service from the moment you walk in the door. Whether it's repairing a couple of dings, a fender bender or major collision repair after a serious accident, we'll take care of your car as if it were our own. We also promise that you and your insurance company are kept in the loop every step of the way. No stress. No Hassles. No Kidding. That's our promise. We're a Ralph Schomp approved vendor and MIMI 5280 members get a free Mini detail with \$1000.00 or more of bodywork. Call us at 303-761-4401. Visit our website at [www.rallyecoachworks.com](http://www.rallyecoachworks.com)

## MINI5280 Member Classifieds

(To list your MINI parts for sale, email [secretary@MINI5280.org](mailto:secretary@MINI5280.org))

### For Sale

List your MINI item/s for sale here! Just send an email to [secretary@mini5280.org](mailto:secretary@mini5280.org) with a description and photo of what you're selling and it will appear right here!

### For Sale



2012 Mini Cooper Coupe, for sale. Only 2000 miles. Retail was \$25,850 with leather interior, xenon headlights, alloy wheels, cold weather package and more. \$22,500.

Contact Georgia (303) 818-3007



Try it FREE today.

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