



DCMM Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

March 2008

DCMM Annual Meeting—March 15th

Hey DCMMers, it is that time of year again! Time for our annual meeting. This year it will be at Funktion Auto after the MINI of Sterling breakfast.

The annual meeting is where members gather to discuss club happenings from last year, and happenings coming up in the future. It is open to ALL active members (meaning you have paid your dues for this year!) To attend you must RSVP. This is very important, we need to know how many to plan food for! If there is more than one person in your party, please PM MININurse (Stacey). [Please RSVP here.](#)

As well, we will be electing new board members. If you want to be on the board and help make things happen for our club, please PM either Krut or MININurse and let them know you want to run. There will be 4 positions open. If you would like to run, you will be running for the board, not for a specific position on the board. We will decide that as a board once the meeting is over.

Our agenda for the meeting will include:

- Membership numbers
- Financial status of the club
- 501c7 (non-profit) status
- Brainstorm of upcoming events
- Volunteers for events
- Review of DC Metro Mini product launch (flags, badges, hats etc..)
- Ideas for future products
- MINIs on the Dragon dinner plans
- Call for members to be included on the ballot for the board
- Election of new officers

This is THE meeting of the year, and we hope to see you there!

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Gaithersburg Java Run

On February 9th, 12 MINIs gathered at the Java Junction in Gaithersburg before heading out on a great run led by Claymore. We motored through Northern Montgomery County and crossed the Potomac into Virginia. By the time we stopped for lunch, the sun had come out and it warmed up enough for the Convertibles to motor with the tops down.



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Congratulations to MiniPol winner of the 2nd DCMM Photo Contest! The theme was “My MINI”



The next Photo Contest theme is “MINI in Action”. The deadline for submission is March 7th @ 12pm.

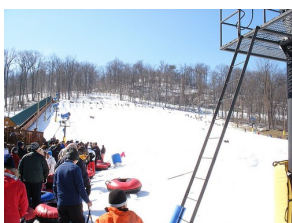
How to enter

Entries must be submitted to Maxicooper via email at DCmetroMINI@aol.com with the subject line reading “DCMM Photo Contest”. When you upload your image you must include a topic of the contest, your name and image's caption.



Snow Tubing Fun & Twisties Run at Liberty Mountain Resort

The weather cooperated for our Snow Tubing Fun and Twisties Run on February 23rd. Most of the participants were able to enjoy 5-6 runs down the tubing hill. Although the lanes were wide enough, no one took a MINI down the hill! We had several members from Carlisle MINIs join us, as well. We hope to have more joint activities in the future. Thanks to Maxicooper (Chris) for putting together this great event!



MINI of the Month

Kdgbly (Katie)'s "MY S"



It was a Sunday in March, 2002. I was reading the Style magazine of the New York Times. There was a spread that included 2 stick figure models, driving around Europe in a very cool looking car. I looked to see what kind it was at the end of the article...MINI Cooper. It gave a site address, which I went to immediately. Lo and behold, there was a dealership not 10 minutes from my house...Tate MINI! Needless to say, I was there bright and early Monday morning. You could still smell the paint in the building...which had been finished less than a week before.

I had always driven Hondas, Preludes for the most part. I took one look and a test drive of the one MINI Cooper S that the dealership had, and I was hooked. I placed my order for the 25th S that would be imported into Maryland. Then I had to wait...and wait..and wait. Finally, the end of the 1st week of August 2002, my car arrived. I was so excited I could barely wait. Tate called me on the 7th or 8th to come and get MY S, which is its name and license plate.

My husband Paul was almost as excited as I. At the time he drove an Integra, so we played a bit on Route 50 on the way home. I was used to soft, cushy Preludes. Nothing prepared me for the racecar I seemed to be driving...it was exhilarating!

Little did I know what was in store for me as I started to drive around the Annapolis area of Maryland. I would come out of stores to find a crowd of people around my car. "What is it?" "Is it electric?" "How much did you pay?" "Is it fast?" Those were the questions most asked at first. It'd take me 1/2 hour or more to get my groceries or whatever loaded into the car, answer the questions and get home. This went on for at least a full year. I got used to it. Where ever I drove, folks were always looking at the car and smiling...all age ranges in all types of cars. I even caused a couple of accidents, as the gawkers weren't paying attention to the car in front of them and there would be contact. Unfortunately, LEOs noticed my car as well and I got 3 speeding tickets in the 1st 2 years of ownership. Erk!

Slowly but surely, more and more MINIs appeared on the roads. We'd wave and flash our lights at each other, laughing like crazy people. I had never had so much fun in a car. I found a tiny group of owners by September/October of '02 and started going on runs. In the spring of '03, about 8-10 of us went to the Smoky mountains and discovered the Dragon. Our group caused quite a stir in Robbinsville, where the entire town came out to look at the "funny cars", parked in the Microtel parking lot. The rest, as they say, is history.

The tiny group of owners soon organized itself into DC Metro MINIs. From the original 20 or so members, we now have over 500 paid members. The waving, unfortunately, has stopped as have the curious crowds. With so many dealerships around, the MINI has become ubiquitous in this area. My car remained bone stock until '05, when I had Behe Performance put in a rear sway bar and lower the car by several inches. In '06 a cold air intake, a 15% pulley and an ECU level one flash. What a difference! A whole new car!

My 2002 MCS is the 1st car I've ever paid off. Usually, I'd trade in my Preludes after 2 to 3 years. I paid off MY S this past August, and plan on keeping it forever. Paul bought his own in '03 and got bitten by the auto-cross bug. He looks forward to March every year now...the start of the season. I, in turn, became more and more involved in DCMM, becoming a board member, a vice president, president and membership liaison...in that order. I have worked hard for the club, hopefully making it fun to be a part of.

That's the history of MY S in a nutshell. I hope to see you motoring....

March 2008 Calendar of Events

March 15th—Breakfast at MINI of Sterling

March 15th—Annual Meeting at Funktion Auto

March 16th—St. Patrick's Day "Parade" Run

Second Annual St. Patrick's Day "Parade" Run

The DCMM Second Annual St. Patrick's Day "Parade" will be held on Sunday, March 16th. The run will start at the Long Gate Shopping Center in Columbia, MD, departing at 10:30am. We will stop for lunch around 12:30pm at Bullock's Family Restaurant in Westminster, MD. We will then return to Columbia around 2:30pm. Adding to the fun this year is a MINI decorating contest complete with prizes!

You can find more details and RSVP [here](#).

Run with the Club, Man!

On Saturday, February 16th Wolf617 (Bill) led the club on another one of his excellent runs. This 65 mile run took us through Baltimore and Hartford Counties and ended with lunch at The Stil. Even though it was quite cold, 22 MINIs joined the run that followed breakfast at MINI of Towson.

