



DCMM Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 5
May 2008

First Annual Summer Kickoff Picnic and Run

Join us for a day of food, fun and MINI! It's the 1st Annual Summer Kickoff Picnic and Run. This is the ONE event of the entire year that will bring together all DCMM members to one location!

Where: Black Hill Regional Park - Boyds, Maryland

When: Sunday, June 1st (rain or shine)

Morning MINI Run: Driver meeting around 9:30, photos at 9:45 and we leave exactly at 10am!

Picnic: We have rented the shelter for the full day so arrive at will. The running party is expected to arrive between 12:30 and 1:00 and food is scheduled to be served at 1:00pm

A registration desk should be in place by noon so be sure to check in to get your food pass.

Food: Burgers, hot dogs and other typical summer fare will be catered by Hard Times Café. Vegetarian options will be available.

Cost and RSVP Information:

Members: \$15/person

Guests and Non-Members: \$26/person

Kids 6-17: \$15/person

Children 5 and under: FREE

RSVPs must be received by Wednesday, May 21st and will be limited to the first 100 people. This is due to capacity restraints at the picnic shelter.

Payment Procedure:

RSVP by emailing dcmmpicnic@gmail.com with a complete list of DCMM members with full names and NAM identities. Also include the number and names of non-members and guests. Lastly, include the names and ages of any children attending.

Include in the email if you need vegetarian food options and how many.

Also include if you'll be attending the MINI run in the morning.

During the week of May 13th you will receive an invoice from us with instructions on how to pay via Paypal. If you do not wish to pay via Paypal, we can accept other forms of payment. Please indicate your preference in your RSVP email and we'll do our best to accommodate you.

ALL payments must be received by Wednesday, May 21st.

NOTE: You are not considered registered until you are paid in full. The registration fee is non-refundable.

Charity: Any profit made from this event will be donated to a charity called Second Chance Wildlife Center (<http://www.scwc.org/>).

Awards: Come get your DCMM Golden MINI Award!!! We plan on having a fun little award ceremony for the attendees in such categories as:

- Most Head Turning MINI
- Best Personalized Plate
- Best Run of the Year

Route: The run route will center around the roads of Upper Montgomery County and Sugarloaf Mountain. We'll alternate between slower rural roads and twisty secondary roads. Distance of the route should be just under 80 miles and will take two hours to complete with an additional half hour break in between legs.

Inside this issue:

Photo Contest

Upcoming Events

MINI of the Month

Event Recaps

May Event Calendar

Edited by: Laura (GreenCactus)
cactus1995@gmail.com

Congratulations to SSallykat winner of the 5th DCMM Photo Contest! The theme was “Wet and Wild”



The next Photo Contest theme is “Shiny”. The deadline for submission is May 10th @ 12pm.

How to enter

Entries must be submitted to Maxicooper via email at photocontest@dcmrominis.org 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.

MINIs by the Bay V—May 18th

On Sunday, May 18th, Ed (Hypnohealer) will lead the parade of MINIs through southern Anne Arundel County and northern Calvert county. You can also count on stretches of the Patuxent River and Franklin Gibson. The run will end in Chesapeake Beach where you can choose to have lunch at either Smokey Joe's or the Rod 'N Reel. Be sure to [RSVP!](#)

Memorial Day Weekend—“We All Scream for Ice Cream Run”—May 25th

Staying in town for Memorial Day Weekend? Be sure to join Bill (Wolf617) on the We All Scream for Ice Cream Run on Sunday, May 25th. The run will start at Wegman's in the Hunt Valley Mall at 10am. The route will go through northern Baltimore County, Hartford County, Cecil County and little bit of Pennsylvania. The run will end at a dairy store outside of Belair. They serve soup, sandwiches and incredibly delicious ice cream. Be sure to start the day with a full tank of gas, this run is 168 miles!

[SIGN UP](#)

MINI of the Month

Tom and Carol's (T&CMCSa) Clubman



So how do a couple of older folks end up with two MINIs? It really started about three years ago when I thought it was time for us to get a fun car. A couple of friends had purchased new MINIs and loved them. I was having a little difficulty convincing Carol that it was a good idea, since we would be replacing her low mileage Passat with a MINI. She felt that it was just not a practical idea. She was completely correct, of course, but we finally agreed that maybe it was time to be less practical and start doing things that were just fun. We decided soon after that to go ahead and order our 2006 Dark Silver/Black MCSa. The car is fantastic. We both love it. I even had a 15% pulley installed and had it tuned. That turned out to be a bit of a mistake because Carol said that every time she got in the car it "pulled" her to the mall. There was one serious problem with the car -- I only got to drive it on weekends. I was jealous.

In the meantime, BMW was diligently working on a solution to my problem. I wanted a fun car too, but I knew that another coupe or cabriolet was not the answer. We needed something larger in case we wanted to transport the grandchildren or take our turn driving friends to the pub. The more I read about the new Clubman, the more I felt that this would be the perfect cure for my jealousy. So on November 17, 2007, while other members of DCMM were enjoying the monthly breakfast at Mini of Towson, Carol and I were in the office with Tony. She thought we were just there to get information. She did not realize I was intent on placing the order. We ended up working with the Euro configurator on the internet, since the dealer computer system was not yet working. We had pretty much firmed up the details by the time we had to leave for one of Jeff's famous runs. The only question was what color?

You would think that, after sifting through 10,000,000 options to build your perfect car, picking the color would be easy. I thought I had a solution to the problem. I suggested that we get Dark Silver/Black again. I was just trying to avoid another four or five hours of indecision about which color looked best. Carol did not like that idea. Her comment was, "I won't be able to tell them apart." We went from Lightning Blue/Silver to BRG/B and finally to Nightfire Red/Silver. Just about the time we were getting use to our choice, we found out that the Clubman S is not available in Nightfire Red. Back to the Euro configurator. After two nights of playing with various combinations, we finally fell in love with the Hot Chocolate/Silver. I think what really sets it off is the Hot Chocolate leather interior with the crème color line. Everything just comes together so well! We finalized the order and put down our deposit on the first Clubman order at MoT. Tony thought our Clubman would arrive around the date of the official launch, February 15th. The long wait began.

The next three months were filled with second guessing. It is very difficult to order a car without first seeing what one looks like in person. All we had to go on were pictures. Even the color was not available on another model for us to see. To help pass the time, I started the Official Hot Chocolate Owners Club thread on NAM and grabbed member number 001. I promised myself I would not get sucked into checking the OL every day like I did with our first order. That lasted until about the second day of production. I got hooked again and tracked it from the factory to the dock, onto the ship, and then tracked the ship across the Atlantic. Finally, on February 27th, we took delivery. I even took three days off from work to get a good start on the break-in mileage. We drove to St. Michael's and back for dinner one night. On one of my tours to put on miles, I stopped at an Irish restaurant between Frederick and Thurmont looking for decorations for the St. Patrick's Day run. I picked up the magnetic ribbons that were on the barn doors that day. Break-in is over. We took it on its first run, the Cumberland Valley run. It handles great. It has far exceeded our expectations. We love everything about it. (We were even able to get the vanity plates we wanted.) Carol has not driven it yet. She says she can't drive that great big thing.

As I write this, we are packing for the Dragon. We'll see you when we get back. (Probably at the June 1st picnic. May is pretty much shot for us.) Happy motoring!



May 2008 Calendar of Events

May 17th—Breakfast at MINI of Towson

May 18th—MINIs By The Bay V

May 25th—Memorial day weekend, Scream for Ice Cream Run

Spring Fling 2008

On April 6th and again on April 20th, Haemish (Edge) led the Spring Fling 2008 run. While the route was the same on both days, two different wineries were visited. On April 6th, the Club stopped at Rappahannock Cellars and on the 20th we stopped at Naked Mountain Vineyard and Winery. The lunch stop was at the Griffin Tavern where many DCMMer's enjoyed a tasty Shepard's Pie. The turnout on both days was excellent, despite rainy weather on both days.



Photo taken by SpitfireMKI



Photo taken by FD3SDriver

Cumberland Valley “Mountain to Mountain” Run

Rab (MINIRab) led a run through the Cumberland Valley on April 13th. The run started near Hagerstown and continued through the Fairview Mountain, past Whitetail Ski Resort, across the Cumberland Valley, up to the top of South Mountain to High Rock. The route continued up to Catoctin Mountain Park, past Camp David and on to Thurmont for lunch at the Cozy Restaurant. A great time was had by all who attended. Not so amused were the Secret Service when Chris (Maxicooper) drove past the sign saying “don't go any further”.

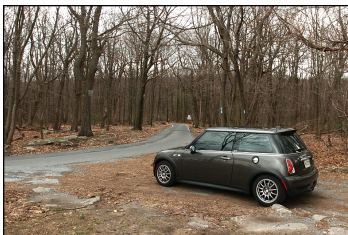


Photo taken by Maxicooper



Photo taken by Maxicooper