



June 3, 2007

## REME June - July Newsletter

We have had a very busy first half of 2007. If you missed our April, May or June runs, you missed some wonderful drives with fantastic member participation! I encourage you to view [online map routes](#) for the runs missed and the [REME MegaBBS Photo Gallery](#) to see the sites! You can also find many movies produced by Rob, Alice, & Christopher on the new [Miniology](#) web site.

In summary, this is what we have done since January:

- 01/05/07 108 mile run, lunch, & Huffaker Engineering Tour
- 02/03/07 180+ mile run from Healdsburg to Point Arena, Lunch, & Dinner
- 02/23/07 2007 MINI Introduction Party at Niello MINI in Sacramento
- 03/03/07 124+ mile run through the Santa Cruz Mountains, Lunch at Alice's Restaurant
- 03/22-25/07 AMVIV4 – This is a national event hosted by Sin City MINI with over 400 attending MINIs
- 04/07-09/07 530 mile North Coast Lighthouse Tour
- 05/06/07 120 mile run through the Marin Headlands and field trip to the Nike Missile site.
- 06/03/07 Sonoma Wine Country Tour

In addition to the major events listed above, each month the Sacramento Area members have a monthly dinner at diners, pubs, pizza parlors, rib joints, and Chinese Restaurants. These informal dinners prove to be an excellent opportunity for central valley members to meet and socialize between our monthly runs and events. Find out more about the scheduled dinners on the [REME MegaBBS calendar](#).

If you feel that you have missed out on a lot of fun driving and socializing, you are right, you have. Fortunately you have time to sign up for our upcoming events for the remainder of 2007. Many of our upcoming events are extremely time-sensitive, so I encourage you to RSVP and make hotel reservations for our larger multi-day events as soon as possible to guarantee lodging and participation in those events. Additional information regarding upcoming events is discussed later in this newsletter.

We are averaging about twelve new member cars each month! I would like you to join me in welcoming our newest members. As of today, we have 237 members plus spouses.

### May

- |                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| • Lan "Cathy" Yang  | ZhongShang, China          |
| • Everado Valadez   | Fairfield, CA              |
| • Vince Blaskovich  | San Francisco, CA          |
| • David Rowney      | Redding, CA                |
| • Jonathan Dove     | Alameda, CA                |
| • Carol Kinnicutt   | Folsom, CA                 |
| • Zach Park         | Glendale, CA               |
| • Martin Surkis     | Cote-Saint-Luc, QC, Canada |
| • Tristan O'Tierney | San Jose, CA               |
| • Alycia Tornetta   | Anaheim, CA                |
| • Hilary Sreere     | Montara, CA                |
| • Tracy Poole       | Sacramento, CA             |

- Max Siapatco Metro Manila, Philippines
- Jeff Flemining Oakland, CA

## June

- Pete Day Eureka, CA
- Elena Schmidt Nevada City, CA

I want to remind our newest members to sign up on the [REME MegaBBS](#) to keep abreast on all current events. Additionally I would like to encourage all members to sign up on the [REME Frappr](#) map site. The REME Frappr site shows the location of REME members throughout the state (and elsewhere). This is a great place to host your personal web page or photo album at no cost.

## Current Club News:

**04/26/07:**

Norm and I, representing Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiasts, were invited to join representatives from the MINI US design team for an impromptu dinner in Crockett. The dinner party was made up of representatives from MINI USA, BMW (Germany), and Designworks / USA (an industrial design firm now a US subsidiary of BMW). We were joined by representatives from both MOASF and Norcal MINIs at the informal dinner.

To our surprise, we were the only US car clubs the design team was meeting with, and they were scheduled to return to Europe within the next couple of days. Prior to our dinner the team had much on its California agenda including meeting with the Sausalito based advertising company. The car designers were interested not only in our feelings regarding the 2007 model, but also in the Clubman (to be released internationally sometime in late 2007), possible variants of future models for MINI, our feelings of the local dealerships, and our ideas regarding current advertising. I must add that they were very careful not to disclose any information that was not already in the public domain.

There may possibly be an AWD model and/or diesel model coming to USA within the next few years. A diesel MINI (not MCS) is already available in Europe, getting 50-60 mpg. Although not high in horsepower, the diesel MINI produces as much torque as a gasoline powered MCS. I tried to encourage them to produce a MINI Triumph roadster. I can assure you that a roadster is not on their short list, because every time I brought it up questions were directed to different subjects, although they were interested in seeing the article in MC2 showing an artist's design of what a Triumph MINI may look like.

This was not only a very fun and exciting dinner, but was also a very memorable one. I know for me at least (I don't want to talk for Norm), this was my only opportunity to date, talking to car designers where they seemed interested in my opinions; possibly influencing the direction for future models of a very popular car. While we talked, members of the design team were jotting down notes in their note pads either because they valued our ideas and opinions or to make us think they did. I added a couple of pictures in the [REME MegaBBS gallery](#) just to prove that we were there.

I feel honored to have joined this group for dinner, proving the significance of our "little" (now not-so-little) car club. Thanks everyone for making our club a major player in US MINI car clubs.

**05/22/07**

I was first contacted by San Jose resident Annie Yan representing the Beijing Car club on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007. After nearly a month of planning, exchanging email messages and schedules; Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiasts hosted a breakfast on Tuesday morning, May 22 where six REME members met 5 members from the Beijing Car club at Sam's Roadhouse in Novato, CA. Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiasts were represented by Bay Area, Sacramento Valley, and Northern Central Valley members Leeta Bell, Jerry Del Castello, Norm Nelson, Corey White, Vic White, and Peter Ziedrich. We also invited Gary Anderson from MC2 magazine to chronicle the event.

The Beijing based car club was in the Bay Area with about 40 members, touring San Francisco, the Napa Valley, and Monterey Coast. Then they were off to Yosemite, Las Vegas, and the Grand Canyon before heading back home after about 10 days of touring.

We had little problems communicating with the young and energetic representatives from China. They were very capable of communicating in "American" English and surprised all REME members present with their enthusiasm for both their interest in cars as well as cultural exchange with Americans. We were thankful that formal interpreters were not required and that we could hold informal conversations across the table while dining. I know I feel like we have made 5 new Chinese friends.

Although the Beijing Car Club with over 55,000 members is government sponsored and closely resembles AAA in what it offers its membership, we enjoyed comparing the differences of our style of an Enthusiasts' Touring Club to their auto club. We hope to have a group run with the two clubs in either China or California in the near future. Plans are being discussed for a possible REME MINI China Tour in 2009. I believe we could get about 30 REME members participating in the event if planned far enough in advance. I also anticipate that we will be asked to participate in one of their future runs in California.

### **Club Attire:**

We have a limited supply of shirts available in a variety of styles. I ordered two graphics on the shirts, our standard black shirt with the yellow MINI and red Mini in a Redwood grove, and our new summer "lighthouse shirt". Please refer to the [Fall 2006 Shirt thread](#) for available shirts styles and sizes. [Email](#) or PM me with your shirt requests.

I also placed an order for [embroidered sweatshirts, jackets, vests, and blankets](#) on February 2. The apparel was ordered and delivered to members who have attended recent runs or paid for shipping. No extra items were purchased. Our next large jacket order will not be until September, 2007.

### **Important information:**

We have four upcoming multi-day events that require making reservations for hotel accommodations soon if you plan on attending these events.

06/15/07 thru 06/17/07 REME Mini Mountain Tours Part One – see the [REME MegaBBS thread](#).

- Friday, Saturday & Sunday nights (Monday night optional): [Best Western Tree House](#) in Mt. Shasta 111 Morgan Way, Mount Shasta, CA 96067 530-926-3101 (same motel as last year)
- We have blocked 20 rooms. The rates are Queen \$111.60+tax/night and \$120.60+tax for King

08/03-05/07 REME A MINI Weekend in the Motherlode – see the [REME MegaBBS thread](#).

- Friday & Saturday nights (08/03-04/07): [Holiday Inn, Auburn Way](#), 120 Grass Valley Hwy., Auburn, (530) 887-8787 (No group rates have been arranged so negotiate your best rate)
- Sunday (08/05/07): Jackson Rancheria Hotel/Casino, Jackson, Ca. 12222 New York Ranch Road, Jackson California 95642 (800) 822-WINN (No group rates have been arranged so negotiate your best rate)

08/31/07 thru 09/02/07 REME Mini Mountain Tours Part Two – see the [REME MegaBBS thread](#).

We will be starting our trip on Friday morning, August 31 returning on Monday, September 3, 2007. Make reservations for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights (Monday is the driving day back home). Because this is a holiday weekend, you have to make reservations early.

We have reserved a block of 20 rooms at [Yosemite Gateway Inn](#), 40530 SR-41, Oakhurst, CA for Friday, Saturday & Sunday nights (08/31 thru 09/02) departing Monday morning, September 3. [This is a nice Best Western Motel](#) not part of the Bates chain.

Rooms are non-smoking with 2 queen beds (smoking rooms available by special request. Cost \$98 per night Reservations must be made by July 1. Call 800-545-5462, let them know you are with Redwood Empire Mini Cooper Enthusiasts, and make your reservation in the "Redwood Block".

10/20/07 thru 10/21/07 [California Classic in San Juan Bautista](#) – refer to the [REME MegaBBS thread](#) for details.

- Posada de San Juan (these rooms will go fast)
- 310 Fourth Street
- P.O. Box 820
- San Juan Bautista, CA 95045
- (831) 623-2378

Room rates run from \$108-\$185 per night. These are luxury rooms with fireplaces and whirlpool tubs. For less expensive rooms, here are a couple of additional options:

- San Juan Inn : 831-623-4380
- Hilton Gilroy Garden Inn : 408 846-7600

## MINI CLUB EVENTS, RUNS and ACTIVITIES 2007

**June 8-10, 2007:** Golden Gate Austin Healey Club again hosts Open Roads British Car Show in Stateline, Nevada. ([INFO](#))

**June 15-17, 2007:** [REME](#) - 2007 MINI Mountain Tour Part 1- 2nd Annual Shasta Run - This will be a modified repeat of last years Trinity-Shasta-Lassen run. We will be taking different routes and seeing different attractions. ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#)) ([MAP Day 1](#)) ([MAP Day 2](#))

**June 24, 2007** (Saturday): [SV-REME](#) - Sacramento Valley area members' dinner (RSVP) (FORUM) (MAP)

**July 10-12, 2007:** Mini Meet West at the Columbia River Gorge, Oregon ([INFO](#))

**July 14, 2007** (Saturday): [REME](#) - Giants Day at AT&T Park - Giants vs. Dodgers. Last year we had 50 attend this popular event. Hope to have that and more this year. Who knows, Barry might be at 754 or 755 by this time. Plan to take the Golden Gate Ferry Boat and make a day of it. ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#)) (MAP)

**July 27-29, 2007:** San Jose Grand Prix Champ Cars, San Jose CA.

**August 4-5, 2007 :** [REME](#) – A MINI Weekend in the Motherlode ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#)) ([MAP Day 1](#)) ([MAP Day 2](#))

**August 17-19, 2007:** Monterey Historic Races, Laguna Seca CA

**August 19, 2007** (Sunday): [SV-REME](#) - End of the Summer BBQ ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#)) ([MAP](#))

**August 31-September 3, 2007:** [REME](#) - 2007 MINI Mountain Tour Part 2 in Yosemite ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#)) ([MAP Day 1](#)) ([MAP Day 2](#)) ([MAP Day 3](#)) ([MAP Day 4](#))

**October 6, 2007** (Saturday): [REME](#) - Pack Saddle Pass Sierra Foothills Run ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#)) ([MAP](#))

**October 20-21, 2007:** Autumn Classic British Car Show San Juan Bautista ([INFO](#)) ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#))

**October 18-21, 2007:** ALMS (American LeMans) Sport Car Races Laguna Seca CA.

**November 4, 2007** (Sunday): [REME](#) - Sonoma-Lake-Mendocino Run ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#)) ([MAP](#))

**December 8, 2007** (Saturday): [REME](#) - Christmas run and Dinner ([RSVP](#)) ([FORUM](#)) ([MAP](#))

## Clubs & Organizations

- [REME](#) = Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiasts (<http://redwoodempiremini.com>)
- [CSRG](#) = Classic Sport Racing Group (<http://www.csgracing.org>)
- [MCM](#) = Mid Cal Minis (<http://www.midcalminis.com>)
- [MOASF](#) = Mini Owners Association of America - San Francisco (<http://www.moasf.com>)
- [MM](#) = Maverick Minis <http://maverickminis.com>
- [NorCal Minis](#) = NorCal Minis (<http://norcalminis.com>)
- [PDX](#) = PDX Minis of Oregon (<http://www.pdxmini.org>)
- [PSMINI](#) = Puget Sound Mini, Washington (<http://www.psmiini.org>)
- [SCMM](#) = Southern California MINI Maniacs (<http://www.scmm.org>)
- [SFR](#) = SF Region of SCCA (<http://www.sfrscca.com>)
- [SNMC](#) = Sierra Nevada Mini Cooper Club (<http://www.northamericanmotoring.com/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=140>)
- [UBSCC](#) = the United British Sports Car Club of Sacramento (<http://www.ubsc.org>)