

Performance Parts Buyer's Guide!

MC2

THE MINI MAGAZINE

Crossover Revealed!

• Latest Info Inside



Beachcomber Concept



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Issue 24

Mini Calendar

An up-to-date version of the calendar can be found on our website: www.mc2magazine.com. Be sure to check the organizer's website for last-minute changes. If you'd like to have your event listed on our website or in MC2 Magazine, email the details to: editor@mc2magazine.com

February 14-15

Thunder Hill Raceway, Willows, CA

MINI Thunder

www.redwoodempiremini.com

February 14-15

Cocoa Beach, FL

Spring Thing XV

www.flamemini.net

March 25-28

Las Vegas, NV

AMVIV7

www.amviv.com

April 28 – May 2

Deals Gap, NC

Minis On The Dragon

http://minisonthedragon.info/2010_template.html

May 21-24

Neumarkt in der Oberpfalz, Germany

International Mini Meet 2010

<http://imm2010.de/>

June 5

Cleveland, OH

The Pub Mini Event 2010

gregzito@zitoinurance.com

June 6

Perrysburg, OH

The British Return to Ft. Meigs

<http://lakeeriebritishnews.home.att.net>

June 25-26

Mt. Washington, NH

Minis On Top

<http://minisonontop.com/>

June 18-20

Mosport Raceway, Toronto, CN

Mini Meet North/VRAC Vintage Racing Festival

www.minimeetnorth.com

June 28 – July 1

Penticton, BC Canada

Mini Meet West 2010

www.minimeetwest.com

July 1-3

Fairborn, OH

Mini Meet East 2010

www.mme2010.com

Ryan's MINI Adventure

Ryan Marie Boykin was a vivacious, beautiful, three-year old girl in love with a Chili Red Matchbox MINI Cooper. Sadly, she was taken from us almost three years ago by leukemia.

Unlike other girls of her age, who were playing with Dora the Explorer and My Little Pony, Ryan loved her toy cars. Her most prized possession was a, red Matchbox MINI Cooper that went everywhere with her. She could often be found racing it around her house. She was so enamored with her Cooper, that when Ryan passed away, her parents, Julie and Bruce, laid her to rest with her toy MINI Cooper in her hand.

As you would expect, Julie and Bruce were grief stricken at the passing of their daughter and tried several avenues to maintain their closeness to Ryan while working through that grief. As they explain, "It didn't take long for us to have the urge to purchase a life-size version of the red MINI Cooper she loved so much." Adds Julie, "How could one not feel close to Ryan sitting in her favorite car?" In the ensuing months after Ryan's passing, the family was led to Sterling MINI in suburban Washington, D.C. where they placed an order for a real life 2009 Chili Red MINI Cooper S. They christened their new MINI "Nako," the name given by Ryan to her favorite Disney Princess.

With their new MINI in hand, Bruce and Julie often lamented the experiences they would never share with Ryan and the things she would never see. And while on a trip to Nevada and Hoover Dam, Julie discovered a replica of Ryan's MINI tucked into her suitcase by Bruce to help her deal with the



first anniversary of her daughter's passing. Removing the toy MINI from her bag at Hoover Dam, Julie felt an immediate connection to Ryan. As she photographed it in front of the dam, the idea for Ryan's MINI Adventure was born. They set up a website with the hope of encouraging others to share their experiences with Ryan through her MINI. Thanks to friends, family, and total strangers, who were

touched by Ryan's story, donations of red Matchbox MINIs started pouring in. The family had some of them customized to represent Ryan's MINI Adventure and use several as "lenders" to travel the world.

When Jack Rowland, of MINIBee's Motoring Merchandise, learned of Ryan's MINI Adventure he made arrangements to bring Ryan's MINI to the 2009 MINIs on the Dragon. He was so touched by Ryan's story that he got together with MINI artist, Craig Burkett, to design a logo for t-shirts and other products to generate awareness of Ryan's MINI Adventure, with profits going the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in Ryan's name.

MINI USA took an interest in Ryan's MINI Adventure when one of their team members read a post about it on NAM. They asked the family if they could take one of Ryan's MINIs to autoshow around the country.

Towards the end of November 2009 Jack was overjoyed to report to the family that he had sold over \$1000 worth of RMA products. This meant that he would donate over \$200 to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in Ryan's name. But everyone wondered who had purchased all these items and why. The answer came shortly before Christmas. MINI USA again contacted the family and asked to meet with them. Three days before Christmas, the family

clubs & events

drove to Sterling MINI where they were met by Jim McDowell, VP of MINI USA and Trudy Hardy, Manager of MINI USA's Marketing Department, along with several others. They had been so moved by Ryan's story that they held a week long fundraiser asking their employees to donate to a fund they had set up for the Boykin family. In exchange for a donation, employees would receive an RMA product from MINIBee's Motoring Merchandise. The employees raised nearly \$5000 and BMW kicked in another \$1000. In the end, MINI USA donated more than \$3000 to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in Ryan's name. They also made arrangements, with help from Continental Airlines, who donated airfare, to send the family to Oxford to visit the MINI Plant. And, to make their big MINI look more like Ryan's little MINI, they arranged for Original Wraps to create a special wrap to transform Nako.

It was all quite wonderful, of course, especially when the Boykins returned home to find photos of Ryan's MINI in space! Julie's cousin, Diana, had crossed paths with Astronaut Leland Melvin and shared Ryan's story with him. Leland has devoted his career



With Mike Cooper at MINI United.

to encouraging and educating children about space and science and after visiting the RMA website, agreed to help out. He carried photos of Ryan and Ryan's MINI on the space shuttle, Atlantis!

So far, Ryan's MINIs have traveled to 29 countries on seven continents. Two of her MINIs were at MINI United in England for MINI's 50th Birthday Celebration last summer and one of her MINIs has traveled to Antarctica. As it says on the RMA website, "It doesn't matter if it's to a backyard picnic or to one of the Seven Wonders of the World," if you'd like to share your travels with the spirit of a special little girl, they'd love to lend you one of Ryan's MINIs.



On board the space shuttle, Atlantis.

For more information on how you can participate in Ryan's MINI Adventure, visit the RMA website: www.ryansminiadventure.com. To see the Ryan's MINI Adventure photo album go to <http://174.120.63.124/~minibee/minibee/RMA/> **MG**

Thanks to Janet Ford of Sunshine Minis

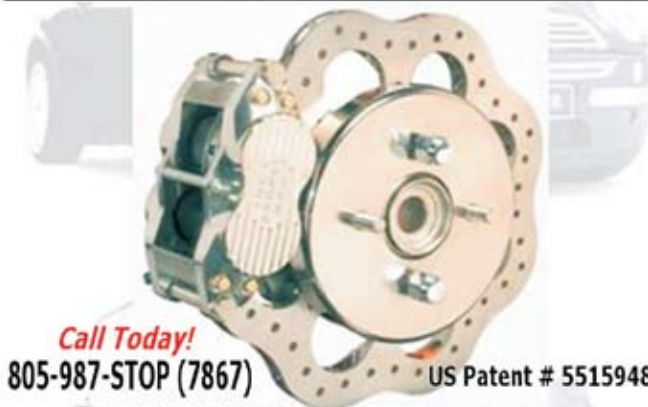


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