

MiataTalk

August 2020 Volume 31, Issue 8

Newsletter for the Lone Star Miata Club LSMiata.org

http://internetcarclubs.com/Clubs/LoneStarMiataClub.aspx

Facebook: Lone Star Miata Club

Next meeting



Spring Creek Barbecue 315 W. State Highway 114 Grapevine TX 76051

Don't forget, members can look up contact information for other LSMC members on the <u>internetcarclubs.com</u> website. Click on the "Club Members Only" button to get to the directory.

Lone Star Miata Club Officers for 2020 (LSMCofficers@gmail.com)

President

Joe Quisenberry President@LSMiata.org

Vice President

Richard Rogers

VP@LSMiata.org

Secretary

Craig Woolheater
Secretary@LSMiata.org

Treasurer

Mary Wharton

Webmaster Doug Dodgen

Membership

Doug Dodgen

Membership@LSMiata.org

Newsletter

Julia Kuhn

In case you missed it — August

8/13/20, Zoom meeting, President Joe Quisenberry, presiding

Guests/New Members: Chris Soignier, Lydia Marruffo, Marcy Tamez, Larry Truesdale, Julie and Chris Cherry, Brenda and Bill Milum, Rod Morrez

Birthdays: Rod Morrez, Suzanne Sauls, Stan Beckham

Wedding anniversary: Gerry and Suzanne Sauls

Lone Star family: Dan Koen died suddenly in Illinois. Our sympathies to Lisa Koen.

Club anniversaries: Lynne Perler, Mike and Carol Maglione, Stan Chambers

Texas Miata Challenge

The 2020 Texas Miata Challenge is still on, and it has a Ghosts and Legends theme. You can visit the sites on your own or as part of a club activity. Final deadline to complete your runs and have pics to Bruce has been extended to Dec. 1, 2020. Email is brucegibson5@gmail.com, or you can check in on the website and upload your pictures. Several spots are within a day trip from DFW, but only the first 10 on the list qualify for completing the challenge. Richard Rogers has demonstrated how to register your pictures on the club website. Instructions included in the newsletter.

Old Business/Events:

- Donation button online for North Texas Food Bank
- July 25: Celina run, led by Joe Quisenberry. 21 cars. Split up for lunch at burger, barbecue places.

New business/Events:

- Aug. 17: Ice cream social at Kilwins in Grapevine. Meet at 6 pm. Store closes at 7 pm.
- · Sept. 19: Saturday meeting at Streetside still on for now
- Oct. 3: Club picnic still on for now. Part Park in Grapevine. Meat provided. Bring a side to share. Bring your own drink. No alcohol.
- Oct. 10: Car show at Parker's Square in Flower Mound. We are invited guests for North Texas Mustang Club.
 Meet at 2:30 pm and enter park together at 3 pm. Cost is \$15 per car, with proceeds to charity. Nearby BYOB pizza restaurant.
- Nov. 8: Marathon drive, led by Richard Rogers, still on for now. Slow drive following route of Dallas Marathon, followed by lunch. Includes public art viewing stops.
- Roundup 2021 plans have not been announced yet. The Houston Club had been scheduled to host.
- Bruce plans run near Oklahoma border in October
- Christmas party TBA
- Officer election will be in November. Nominations due in October.

News from other clubs

- Sept. 25-27: Miatas at Margaritaville, hosted by Gateway Club, at Lake of the Ozarks, MO. Still on for now. Runs planned for Friday and Saturday. No large dinner events will be allowed.
- Nov. 13-14: Miatas at the Sisters, hosted by members of the Bluebonnet Club. Still on for now. Reserve your
 hotel room at the YO Ranch at
 https://reservations.travelclick.com/12007?groupID=2791395&fbclid=lwAR1A_aWM3FIAyfEfe99vjjpcyOBTEvs

grgQKpGmGGQn2WGqyIs WDkmZIT0#/guestsandrooms

In memorium: Dan Koen

It is with sincere regret and sorrow that I have to announce one of our longtime members, Dan Koen, passed away August 3rd in Lemont, Illinois. There was a family memorial held last Sunday in Lemont, Illinois. We will all miss Dan; he was always a joy to have around at the meetings and the events we did. Our heart goes out to Lisa and her family.



Events & Items of InterestDon't forget the LSMC website

http://www.internetcarclubs.com/Clubs/LoneStarMiataClub.aspx

Doug Dodgen maintains our website to make it the best place to check information about the club. He has added the yearly calendar so you can plan for upcoming rides. Keep in mind that dates are subject to change. Members can log in and modify their contact information as well as add a profile picture. If you have questions about editing your information, please contact Doug. The main page of the Lone Star Miata Club part of the website contains a link to our www.LSMiata.org blog site where links to newsletters are published.

Check us out at http://www.internetcarclubs.com/Clubs/LoneStarMiataClub.aspx!

If you have not renewed your membership for 2020, please do so ASAP. You will be removed from the club roster and from Evites after March 31. Dues are \$40 for couples who both want to join, and \$30 for singles. Your dues go toward door prizes, club insurance, and supplementing costs for annual events such as the Christmas party and picnic.

From your editor

When you lead a drive, please print participant waivers from http://lsmiata.org/events/. It's a good idea to have maps with your phone number printed on them for a trip. Also be sure to bookmark the blog page http://lsmiata.org and the website at http://www.internetcarclubs.com/Clubs/LoneStarMiataClub.aspx to get all the latest information about us.

A note about Evites...

Evites now go to all emails on file. One person responding can change the number of attendees to an event if both people in a couple don't want to respond. ALL members should be getting emails generated by the website, and all members can access the Evites from the website event listing and, in most cases, from Facebook (members only events are not publicized on Facebook).

If you are not getting emails generated from the website, please see Doug Dodgen to verify your membership information.

Evites always contain the phone number of the person leading the drive/event. If you have questions or are running late, please contact that person.

Julia Kuhn 4





Sponsored by the Lone Star Miata Club and Classic Mazda

Drive to each of the designated points in Texas.

Take a picture of you, your Miata, and the specified destination.

If both driver and co-pilot are participating, both can appear in the same picture or a picture of each person, your Miata, and the destination. Group pictures are also allowed as long the picture clearly shows all participants and all their cars.

Participants must drive to locations 1 through 10, locations 11 & 12 are optional but not required. Entries with the 10 destinations will receive a specially designed Pin & T-shirt.

Shirts and Pins will be presented Texas Miata Roundup or mailed after the Roundup.

Pictures can be submitted electronically, online, or prints that are no larger than 4"x6" on photo quality paper.

Mail or turn entries in to Bruce Gibson by September 11, 2020, see address below

Deadline extended: Dec. 1, 2020

Sites are shown on Next Pages

2020 Texas Miata Challenge Ghosts and Legends

Name	Email	
Address		
City	Zip	

Questions: Bruce Gibson

1020 Mesa Ct.

Shady Shores, TX 76208

Phone (940) 999-3334

Email: brucegibson5@gmail.com

 Ever since Bragg Road has existed there have been reports of mysterious lights seen along its course. Usually these are either red or white in appearance, and in one instance a mysterious light form is said to have buzzed the occupants of a car, showing that close encounter cases do exist in connection with the location. To reach the Ghost Road, take U.S. 69 at Kountze to FM 326, from there take the turn onto FM 770 which will take you diretly to Saratoga. Go through Saratoga and at a right on FM 787 turn, the Ghost Road is not far off the beaten path.



Bragg Road (South end of Bragg Road where FM787 bends left, 1.7 miles North of Saratoga intersection FM 787/770), Picture of Blue Sign.



 Jefferson was declared the Bigfoot Capital of Texas by town proclamation on February 12, 2018, by the mayor, Carey Heaster Jr. Jefferson has been the host city of the Annual Texas Bigfoot Conference, organized by the Texas Bigfoot Research Center, since 2001.

Jefferson Bigfoot Statue - Located on the South side of E Austin Street, Jefferson, at the entrance to the Port Jefferson History & Nature Center Picture of Bigfoot Statue.

3. Just east of Marfa lies another engaging attraction for visitors to the Davis Mountains area. The Marfa Lights confound thousands of people each year who flock to the site for a chance to see the elusive ethereal orbs suspended in the air with no apparent source. There are many theories about the unexplained phenomenon, from Apache Indian folklore to UFO sightings; however, a scientific explanation has yet to emerge. First documented in 1883, the lights' explanations range from static electricity to swamp gas to St. Elmo's fire or even flying saucers. Although it is elusive, many believe the truth is out there.



Marfa Ghost Lights - Picture of Marfa Lights Viewing Center Sign. Located on US-90 west of Alpine.



4. It's said to be a dark, black thing; a thing that can blend so well into the murky bog that it's virtually invisible. Known locally as the "Ottine Swamp Thing" or simply "The Thing," this alleged cryptid falls somewhere between a Skunk Ape and something far more unexplainable. The creature has long been on my radar, but only recently did I get an opportunity to visit Ottine Swamp and delve more deeply into the details of this intriguing legend. Ottine Swamp itself is a 198-

acre wetland located along the San Marcos River in South Central Texas. It sits on the edge of the small, unincorporated community of Ottine, and is part of the larger Palmetto State Park. Like the park, the swamp offers a unique habitat not typically found in Central Texas. This is due to the presence of dwarf palmetto (Sabal minor) and Spanish moss (Tillandsia usneoides), which are more commonly found further east along the Gulf Coast. Sulphur springs – known regionally as "Mud Boils" – were also present in the area until they dried up in the 1970s. But even today, the place oozes with a spooky, primordial atmosphere like a forgotten remnant of the Jurassic age. During daylight hours, it would not seem surprising if a dinosaur walked out of the thick palmettos. As nightfall approaches, the swamp takes on an even more mysterious appearance as the pointed fronds of the alien plants crouch among shaded bogs of standing water.

Palmetto State Park- Ottine Swamp thing, Your Friendly Neighborhood Bigfoot, Picture of Sign.

5. During the 1896–1897 timeframe, numerous sightings of a cigar-shaped mystery airship were reported across the United States. One of these accounts appeared in the April 17, 1897, edition of the Dallas Morning News. Written by Aurora resident S.E. Haydon, the alleged UFO is said to have hit a windmill on the property of a Judge J.S. Proctor two days earlier at around 6am local (Central) time, resulting in its crash. The pilot (who was reported to be 'not of this world', and a 'Martian' according to a reported Army officer from nearby Fort Worth) did not survive the crash, and was buried 'with Christian rites' at the nearby Aurora Cemetery.



(The cemetery contains a Texas Historical Commission marker mentioning the incident.)

Aurora Fly Saucer Crash - Picture of the Historical Marker located on cemetery road off Hwy-114 west of US-287, or the Aurora Sign, Spaceship, and Alien at the entrance to town. The grave marker may have been stolen.

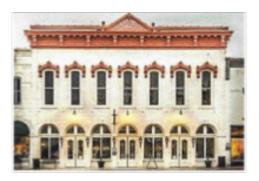


6. The White Sanitarium (aka the Old Insane Asylum, aka Hotel California) is one of the most notorious haunts in Wichita Falls. For years, people have claimed to have heard voices coming from within and there have even been reports of apparitions wandering the grounds. On one account, a group of ghosts were spotted playing cards in the old recreation room. The sanitarium has proven to be a hit for ghost hunters. In 2008, local ghost hunters T.R.I.P.P. Paranormal Research spent some time at the asylum and captured some EVP's (electronic voice phenomena) as well as chilling footage of

what appears to be flying insects in the room, except the crew claims there were no insects present at the time.

The White Sanitorium, 508 Olen Street, Wichtiga Falls, TX 76301, picture of the Sanitorium from the street in front of the building. This is a private residence now but they do allow pictures.

7. Just a block from the Hood County Jail Museum, a tour stop at the Granbury Opera House reveals a local link to one of the worst crimes of 19th-century America. Originally built in 1886, the theater was renovated four years ago as the new home of the Granbury Theatre Company. Inside, twin curved staircases lead from the redesigned lobby to the balcony level, where there's one particularly notorious seat. The seat reportedly belongs to the ghost of John Wilkes Booth, the actor and Confederate sympathizer who assassinated President Abraham Lincoln in 1865. According to local actors who work in the Granbury Opera House, the haunted seat sometimes folds down on its own accord.



Granbury Opera House, 133 E Pearl Street, Granbury, TX 76048, picture of the Opera House.



8. The Devil's Backbone Tavern, built on the site of an ancient Indian campground, is widely believed to be haunted. An entire Civil War battle is said to have occurred on the Devil's Backbone limestone ridge. "Oh, there are ghosts, I guaran-goddamn-tee you," said Robert Kelly, a tavern regular who said he sometimes sees shadowy figures on a steep nearby ridge called the Devil's Backbone, for which the tavern is named. Stretching from Wimberley to Blanco, the ruggedly scenic area known as Devil's Backbone resulted from an earthquake that

occurred in the region more than thirty million years ago. The powerful earthquake helped separate the land into two different regions, the Edward's Plateau to the west and the lower Gulf Coastal Plains to the east.

The Devils Backbone-The Most Haunted Stretch of Texas Highways, Farm Roads 12, 165, 2325, and 32, along with U.S. Highway 281. Picture of Devil's Backbone Tavern.

Every great hotel must have its ghost, and the Hotel Galvez has
one who has been around at least a half century. According to Jan
Johnson (a fifth-generation Galvestonian and the author of Walking
Historic Galveston), the Galvez ghost could be a bride-to-be-named
Audra. Legend has it that was about twenty-five years old and
stayed in Room 501. Then tragedy befell her.

Hotel Glavez & Spa, 2024 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77550.





10. Near the south bank of the San Antonio River, a fortress stands out against the local backdrop of anaqua trees and warm blue skies. Through two revolutions, countless skirmishes, and untold hours of everyday life in times gone by, Presidio la Bahia has stood on this spot since 1749. Now serving as a museum, church, and occasional hotel, La Bahia holds centuries of history both on its grounds and beneath them, in forms

ranging from monuments in honor of its heroes to mass graves of the unknown departed.

Although the cannons on its parapets have long been silent, many believe that the hundreds of souls to leave this plane on the grounds of La Bahia have left behind a goodly number of unquiet stragglers.

Presidio La Bahia, 217 US-183, Goliad, TX 77963, Picture of the building.

Other sites of Interest - Optional/Not Required



'Those of you that don't believe, I'm glad you're on this tour', Angela Morgan tells a crowd of about 150 ghost-seekers one Saturday night a couple of weekends before Halloween. 'Because as long as you're taking photos, at the very least you're going to leave here with orbs, apparitions, fogs, mists.

Baker Hotel, Mineral Wells. Picture of Baker Hotel

The Goat Man of the Lake. The Island Monster. What else would you name a 7-foot-plus tall being that could hurl car tires like they were mere child's play toys and appear sailing from the treetops to land with full force on the hood of passing cars? So goes the legend of the Lake Worth Monster.

Lake Worth Monster (aka Goat-Man) Picture of sign in Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge





Committee of Section Section (Section Section Section

2020 TEXAS MIATA CHALLENGE PRESENTATION

Open Browser

Two web sites:

Ismiata.org

Click on website:

http://internetcardlubs.com/clubs/LoneStarMiataClub.aspx

Or go directly to:

Internet Car Clubs site (set Bookmark)
Note that at the "Ismiata.org" website:

Click on Newsletter "202001" to see good write of Challenge sites.

At Internet Car Clubs site; See Events:

First Event is "Challenge"

Click on "Select"

Click on "Additional Information"

See: 2020 Texas Miata Challenge Page

(Good idea to bookmark page)
Can click on "Official Entry Form"

"Map"

Login to register and Check In

"Login" Button at Top Right Comer

Enter email and password

After Login:

Click on: "Sign Up" to register

Click on: "Show Details" (to check in and upload Photo and enter comments)

Note: Look for location in Google Maps to see where each challenge site is

located.

Click on: "Check In"

Click on: "Choose File" to upload Photo file

Click on: "Upload" to do the upload Enter optional comment and Click on:

> "Upload Comment" to save the comment Note that your own comment can be edited

Photo Image: To see large image of Photo:

Right Click on image and select: "Open image in new tab"

Do the same for each Challenge Location and Enjoy exploring the GHOSTS & LEGENDS of Texas



Miatas@Hallett 2020 on Sep 4 and 5

Registration for Miatas@Hallett 2020 is open!

Miatas@Hallett is an annual track day at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit, just outside of Tulsa, OK. This casual event is about having fun in a safe environment on a track that is virtually tailor-made for Miatas. There are separate run groups for novice through expert, with instructors available, so you do not need to worry about previous track experience. Novices are welcome! If you have never taken your Miata on the track or you have never been to Hallett Motor Racing Circuit, this is the event to attend. It is a friendly atmosphere of fellow Miata enthusiast who are willing to help you with any questions or issues. Hallett Motor Racing Circuit is truly a gem that you should experience in your Miata.

The official Miatas@Hallett event is Saturday September 5th and uses the counter-clockwise course, but there is a bonus event on Friday September 4th that uses the clockwise course. You can register for one day or both days, but previous experience at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit is required to attend on Friday. Going in opposite directions each day makes for two different courses, so it is worth attending both days.

Register online at https://hallettracing.com/pd/2763?code=N1VIw5c3vc. \$210 for a single day or \$380 for two days. \$20 early bird (per day) discount applies until August 4th. Look for ~100 minutes of track time (usually more), depending on how smoothly things go. The entries are limited, so register early and often.

Rental helmets are available.

Transponders are available for rental if you want to track your lap times.

You can park on open areas around the track or rent a covered race port. Contact hallettracing2@cimtel.net to reserve a race port.

Roll bars are not required with street tires (200+ treadwear rating).

Contact Hallett Motor Racing Circuit via http://www.hallettracing.net/contact/ for more information. See you there!

Miatas at Margaritaville September 25-27, 2020



EVENT REGISTRATION AND ROOM RESERVATIONS ARE BOTH REQUIRED

Attendees must register for the event AND make a room reservation. You can do both at https://miatasatmargaritaville.com/.

A few people have assumed that by making a room reservation, they are automatically registered for the event. Both actions are required!

Group room rates are available until July 29. Rooms may be available after that date, but at a much higher rate.

Event registration closes August 15, 2020.

Our event planning committees continue their work through virtual meetings and our route planners went out earlier in the year and made several test drives around Margaritaville. They mapped out many great fun drives and some that take in interesting sites around the area. We'll post them on the website soon.

We look forward to seeing you at Margaritaville this fall. Stay safe and stay healthy!





Miatas at the Sisters, hosted by members of the Bluebonnet Club

NO UPDATES HAVE BEEN POSTED ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE REGARDING CANCELLATION

The 2020 MATS will be Friday and Saturday November 13 &14. Come join us for a couple days for driving the best roads in Texas, seeing some awesome scenery and catch up with friends from last year. We will have guided runs to the Twisted Sisters and lots of maps and run sheets for self guided runs with your own smaller group.

This year the YO Ranch Hotel is the host location. We have a block of rooms available. You can call the hotel directly to reserve, 830-257-4440. To get the group rate of \$93.00/night, tell them you are with the MIATAS AT THE SISTERS group. This event is not associated with the Texas Miata Roundup.

Reserve online using this link: Miatas at the Sisters

Classifieds:







FOR SALE!

DON'T FORGET TO SEE OUR VICE PRESIDENT, RICHARD ROGERS, FOR CLUB LOGO ITEMS!



Items are excellent quality and only require a very reasonable donation.

Richard orders the magnets in batches. They are great to show off when we drive as a group. Magnets are \$15 for a set of 2. If you don't want to wait for the next batch, be sure to purchase them when he has them on hand. Bruce also has round magnets for sale.

Pins are still \$2 each or 10 for \$15. Great for trading with other groups!

Richard can also order coffee mugs and T-shirts with the club logo. The logo can be positioned anywhere on the shirt, in small or large size.

Mugs are available for about \$12, and shirts are available for around \$10-15. Contact Richard for details.



Embroidery

Embroidery is available at Panda Embroidery in Grapevine and at Embroidery Plus in Grapevine Mills mall. The club logo is on file at both stores, so you can take any item you would like to have embroidered.



LSMC Logo Stuff

Contact our Vice President, Richard Rogers at VP@Ismiata.org for LSMC Logo merchandise being offered through the club. You also can buy merchandise at Panda Embroidery, 351 East Huggins, Grapevine, TX 76051 (817-488-4151). Panda can embroider items in a thread color of your choice including one that matches your Miata!

Newsletter Submissions & Distribution

Ads, announcements, articles, trip reports and other contributions to the newsletter are **encouraged**. Email submissions to Newsletter@lsmiata.org. Attachments may be in .pdf, .txt, Word or WordPerfect format. Pictures may be in any of the usual formats such as .gif, .jpg, png, etc. If I have any problems with document or picture format, I will contact you. Don't worry about spelling, grammar, artwork, layout, etc. I'm just pleased to receive input and will take care of the editing and cosmetics! Also, if you find something interesting online, please send me the link. Input is welcome anytime, but must be received prior to the publishing deadline (usually the first of the month) to be in the next issue.

NOTE: If you want the newsletter sent to more than one email address, your secondary driver, or anyone else, please send your name (so I know you're a member) and the email address(es) to Newsletter@lsmiata.org.

ANOTHER NOTE: Member in Good Standing (you've paid your dues) may submit ad copy or info on their business. Does *not* have to be a Miata- or car-related business, but it must be *your* business. Others may advertise, too, for a fee. Contact the President@lsmiata.org for details.

Two-Way Radios

For more fun on drives, if you don't have a two-way radio, get one. Without one, you miss out on a lot of chat and decision making as to stops, etc. Most importantly, should you get separated from the group or have car trouble; it makes it much easier for us to find you and assist you! LSMC uses GMRS/FRS radios for better range and reception. An operating license is not required when used in the FRS range.

Stuff for Sale and Announcements

LSMC permits all members in good standing to place a free ad or event announcement in the LSMC Newsletter. The item should relate to the Miata or Club activities. This includes activities hosted by other clubs, Car-related events of general interest are also welcome. Contact the editor at Newsletter@lsmiata.org to place an ad or announcement.

Change of Address & Member Info

Be sure to keep your contact information and particularly your email address up-to-date; you don't want to miss anything! Submit your email address, snail mail address, new car info and any other contact information changes to the Membership Officer at Membership@lsmiata.org. A form also is available on our website. Just click 'Membership' and select the text 'update' to update your information.

Blogsite and Facebook

Check out our **blogsite** at <u>Ismiata.org</u> for various information. For up-to-the-minute events information, member input and other stuff, visit our **Facebook** page at <u>Lone Star Miata Group</u>. You may also consult the newsletter, which is published more or less monthly.

LONE STAR MIATA CLUB

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Time to renew your membership! Annual dues are \$30 for singles, \$40 for couples. After March 31, 2020, add \$5 late fee. If your dues have not been paid by the April meeting, your name and number will be dropped from the membership roll. Make checks payable to Lone Star Miata Club. Please complete this form, even if no information has changed, and return it along with your check to:

Doug Dodgen

Lone Star Miata Club

508 Chaffee Drive

PRIMARY DRIVER	R:				E	Birth Date _	
SECONDARY DRI	VER:				E	Birth Date _	
ADDRESS:							
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		(city)		(ST)	(zip)		
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Copilot email:							
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LONE STAR MIATA CLUB

NEW MEMBER FORM Please provide the following information. To avoid errors, please print legibly. PRIMARY DRIVER: _____ Birth Date ____ / ____ SECONDARY DRIVER: ______ Birth Date / ADDRESS: (apt #, number, street) (ST) (city) (zip) HOME: (____) _____ WORK: (____) ____ CELL: () EMAIL ADDRESS #1: EMAIL ADDRESS #2: Club notices and correspondence will be sent to all email addresses listed. YOUR MIATA'S NAME (if it has one): COLOR: YEAR: _____ (Color) (Year) (Name) Please list additional cars and any other information on the back of this form. Did a member of this club tell you about our club and if so, who? Annual membership fee is \$40 per year for couples, \$30 for singles . If you want to purchase a club nametag, add \$10 per nametag (price is higher if purchased later). Dues for members joining after June 30th are prorated. <u>Please make checks payable to</u>: **Lone Star Miata Club** Return this form and your check to: Doug Dodgen For more information, please contact: Doug Dodgen Lone Star Miata Club Membership Chairman 508 Chaffee Drive 817-475-7004 Arlington TX 76006 Membership@Ismiata.org DATE AMOUNT CHECK CHK. TO **D-BASE** RENEWED PAID NUMBER TREAS. **UPDATED**