

Ragtops to Ridges

October 2025



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club









From the Top Down

by Robert Olsen

October is one of the most rewarding times to take a Miata out on the road, especially with fellow club members who share the same passion for open-air motoring. The month brings a perfect balance—cool, crisp mornings that wake you up better than any alarm clock, and afternoons warmed by a soft autumn sun that makes a top-down drive irresistible. By October, the relentless summer heat has passed, yet winter's chill has not

arrived. It is the sweet spot of the driving season, and every mile feels like a gift.

One of the great pleasures of an October drive with the Miata Club is the scenery. The roads wind through canyons, foothills, and country lanes lined with trees showing off their fall colors. Leaves in fiery shades of red, orange, and gold frame the roadway, swirling gently in the breeze as the group passes by. With the top down, the crisp air carries the earthy scent of fallen leaves mixed with a faint trace of woodsmoke from chimneys in small towns. It's more than a drive—it's an immersion into the season itself.

Driving in a group adds its own special rhythm. A line of Miatas carving through curves, each one in sync with the next, creates a kind of rolling harmony. The cars may vary in color and trim, but they share the same spirit of lightweight simplicity and joy. October roads seem to invite just the right pace—not too fast, not too slow, but smooth and spirited enough to keep everyone smiling.

Stops along the way often become as memorable as the drive itself. A roadside overlook with sweeping views of a valley painted in autumn tones offers the perfect backdrop for photos. Small cafés and diners welcome the club with warm drinks, hearty meals, and the chance to chat about the day's route or the latest tinkering done under the hood. These moments of camaraderie make the Miata Club more than just a gathering of car owners—it becomes a circle of friends bound by shared adventures.

By the time the sun begins to set earlier in the evening sky, the group is winding its way back, headlights glowing in a tidy row. October has given another reminder of why these drives matter: it's not just about the car, or even the road—it's about savoring the season together, one mile at a time.

Thanks, Robert

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October 2025 Ragtops to Ridges

October Lunch Meeting & Drive By: Valerie Francis and Doyle Sturm

One Last Canyon Before the Snow Flies (And a Pumpkin Patch)

Date: Saturday, October 11th Time: 11:30 AM

Where: Wadman Park, North Ogden. Bring your lunch and camp chairs.

Address: 2700 North 1050 East, North Ogden. From I-15, take Exit 349 (2700 North) and head

straight east.

Details: The meeting will be held at Wadman Park while we enjoy lunch. Bring your own lunch from home or there are several fast-food places on 2700 North right after you exit I-15 East. Bring your camp chairs (in case the pavilion is not available).

Drive Details: After the meeting, we will drive up over North Ogden Canyon Road and down towards Eden. At the 4 way stop in Eden, we will see what our Miatas are capable of as we drive up Powder Mountain Road. "With an average grade of 14% over 5 miles" we will be having fun testing our engine torque on the way up and our

brakes on the way down!









After leaving the canyon, we will head towards Huntsville and end the drive at the Historic Monastery Farm by McFarland Family Farms where there is a U-Pick Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival. At the festival there is an artisan market, food trucks and fresh produce, etc.

Drive time from Wadman Park to Pumpkin Patch (not including any stops) is approximately 1 hr 15 min / 39 miles.

Then on your own, there are several ways home including driving down Ogden Canyon by skirting the south (or even north) side of Pineview Reservoir, or driving over Trappers Loop into Mountain Green. From Mountain Green, head home via Weber Canyon, Morgan & East Canyon, etc.

But wait, there's more: If you go over Trappers Loop, you can go to the Snowbasin Oktoberfest: Cost is \$10 per person, open until 6:00 pm, "This traditional German-inspired beer festival is where visitors can enjoy Bavarian food, live music, a local market, and fun activities. It also showcases local Utah breweries, offering a variety of craft beer."

Editor Note: Photos below of past UMC drives to this area.













Membership Dues Reminder

The Utah Miata Club is a group of friends who promote our common interest in the Mazda MX-5 Miata, by joining in safe, recreational, and social activities. Your dues permit you to participate in club activities, and to receive the newsletter by email. A single membership is \$25 for the year, and a dual membership is \$35. If your name is among the personalized reminders below, at our next activity please hand a check—payable to the **Utah Miata Club**—to Mike or Kelly Thompson. If you prefer you may mail a check to 2468 E. 1950 N. Layton, UT. 84040. If you have questions Mike may be contacted at 530-521-6675, or by email at utahmiataclub@yahoo.com. Payment types accepted for your dues are cash, check, money order or Venmo: username @UMCTreas. Previous Venmo account is now closed.

Please Renew your Membership on the Month it is Due! Thank you!

Birthdays / Memberships







New Members

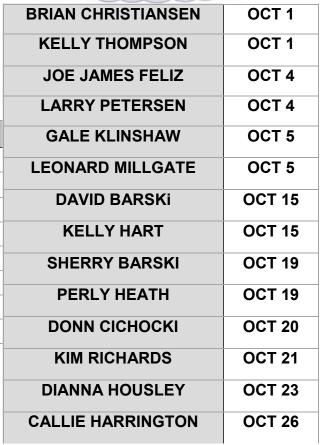
NAME	YEAR	COLOR
LEON & STEPHANIE VISNAW	1993	WHITE

Expiring Soon: \$35 Dual -\$25 Single /Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRED
KIRT & LUZ WARNER	8/31/2025
RICHARD & PATTY ADAMS	9/30/2025
MICHELLE MILLER	9/30/2025
ROBERT & VICTORIA HANSHEW	10/31/2025
KENT & DIANNA HOUSLEY	10/31/2025
JAMES & LAUREN JOLLY	10/31/2025
ROGER NEWTON	10/31/2025
DAVE & KAY SCHEURER	10/31/2025
BRUCE SIMON & MICHELLE WESTOVER	10/31/2025

Memberships Expired / Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRED
ROBERT & GALE KLINSHAW	31 JULY
SPENCE WOOD	31 JULY
MICHAEL FLEMMING	31 AUG
RICHARD SORENSON	31 AUG





Club Officers July 2025—2026

President: Robert Olsen Vice President: Michael Bailey Secretary: Kelly Thompson Treasurer: Michael Thompson Directors: Gordon Nicholl, Valerie Francis, David Scheurer Newsletter Editor: Michael Bailey

Chiristmas Holiday Party by Mike Bailey

The annual Utah Miata Club Christmas Holiday party will be held on Saturday, December 13th at 6:00 pm at the Edison Events Center. This is the same venue as we used last year. Details of the party will be coming in the next couple month's newsletters. Be sure to mark this on your calendar. You will not want to miss this party as it is a fun one and we will have an excellent dinner. We will also be having our "White Elephant" gift exchange so be sure to start thinking on some awesome gifts you can bring for that.









































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Tribute to Tom Matano by Mike Bailey

One of the most prominent figures in the Mazda Miata world was a man named **Tom Matano**. Tom worked for Mazda Corporation for most of his adult life and was the chief designer and engineer on creating our beloved Mazda MX-5 Miata. Sadly he passed away the last week in September and he will be missed by the Miata world. I had the pleasure of meeting Tom almost 30 years ago at a Laguna Seca, California Miata event and also at "Mazda Fest" an event held at the Mazda North American Headquarters for the *Miata's 10th Anniversary*. We quickly became good



friends. I always asked and encouraged him to come to one of our "Miatas in Utah" events since 2003, however he was such a busy person that he was not able to attend one of our events until Summer 2016; Miatas in Utah VII held at Deer Valley, Utah. He was our 'guest of honor' and gave an awesome presentation for our group that year as well as being the main "Miata" Man on our group photo shoot, high atop the mountains above Park City, Utah. Tom was always at many regional and national Miata events across the country and always a guest speaker and expert on the Miata and the design of the Miata.









Tom Matano was 76 years old. He was born in Japan in the 1940's. He graduated in Industrial Design and Art College in Pasadena, CA. He joined Mazda corporation in 1983 in charge of the Mazda MX-5 Miata design studio. He created the MX-5 Miata design and all of it's elements. His design philosophy was "Jinba Ittai" which means in Japanese "horse and rider as one". His philosophy was "lines of a body to driver focused on a clean, uncluttered cockpit". Tom will be missed in the Miata world as he is and has been a very important ambassador for the Miata. He was always around to sign his favorite phrase "Always Inspired" with his trademark signature on the hoods and trunk lids of our Miatas. He had graciously signed most every Miata I've owned as well as many of our club members' Miatas at various Miata events we attended. I will personally miss Tom and his amazing personality! We last met at Miatas in Sonoma, California in November 2023 and talked together!





















All Things Miata by Mike Bailey

Miata Humor & Interest



Miata-Themed Swear-Word Substitutes

By Robert Olsen

Emotion Swear Substitute Usage

Frustration "Clutchbucket!" "Oh clutchbucket, I forgot the meeting!" "That driver just cut me off—son of a "Son of a soft top!" **Anger** soft top!" "Holy Zoom-Zoom, that was a tight "Holy Zoom-Zoom!" Surprise curve!" **Annoyance** "Dipstick!" "Don't be such a dipstick, Dave!" **Disbelief** "What in the redline?!" "What in the redline is going on here?" "That gas station bathroom was a gross "Gross gasket!" **Disgust** gasket!" "Hardtop hell!" Stubbed toe-level pain "Hardtop hell, that hurt!"

Shock or awe "Throttle me sideways!"

"Revsnatch!"

Sarcastic insult "You turbo wannabe."

"Revsnatch! I left the keys inside!"
"Throttle me sideways, that car show

was wild!"

"Okay, calm down, you turbo wannabe."



General expletive

Newson's 35th Anniversary Special Edition



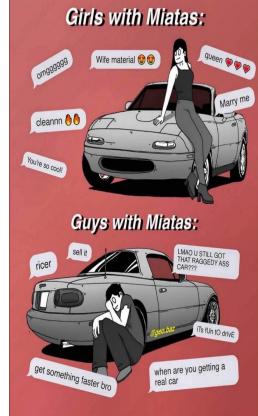






UTAH MIATA CLUB MIATAS BELOW





Favorite Halloween Photos by Mike Bailey

It wouldn't be Halloween in October if I did not post some of our great Halloween photos. The club has had many Halloween parties over the many years and they have all been very fun ones! We have had parties at Paul and Annie Kloers Condo Clubhouse over the years. Also at the clubhouse where Ali and Shylo Bazzaz lived as well as at the home of Ken and Jan Jaworski in Park City. Enjoy the memories of some of our Halloween parties!



HAPPY HALLOWEEN TO EVERYONE IN THE CLUB!





























Halloween Photos (Continued) by Mike Bailey More of our favorite Halloween Photos for your enjoyment!





HAPPY HALLOWEEN TO EVERY UTAH MIATA CLUB MEMBER!





























Enjoy these photos of Utah Miata Club's October Birthdays







KELLY THOMPSON



JOE JAMES FELIZ



LARRY PETERSEN



GALE KLINSHAW













DAVID & SHERRY BARSKI



PEARLY HEATH



DONN CICHOCKI



(ROBERT) KIM RICHARDS

Photos Below of Birthday Members



DIANA HOUSLEY



Photos not Available: Kelly Hart, Callie Harrington





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Miata Swag / Apparel, Car Club Magnets by Mike Bailey



Apparel for Trip to Miataland



New Logo designs for Miataland apparel. Items: Polo Shirt, T-Shirt, Sweat Shirt, Light-weight Windbreaker Jacket, Ball Cap. Round logo on front left for all shirts. No printing on back of Polo shirts. Lightweight Polyester. Large 10" size Logo Image printed on back of other shirts. I have 4 options of photo illustrations: Italy Map, Miataland Resort & Pool, Miatas on Tree-lined Road, 30th AE Miata at Miataland. Back of shirts have same design only large size. You can mix and match designs; please specify. Ball Cap will have the round logo on it. Cost will be normal cost of shirts; Polos; nice polyester shirts and T's & SS are poly/cotton with name brand. Specify items and size and color. Order through me ASAP, contact info is below. You can order these shirts even if you are not going to this event.

Contact me by preferably email mike@mikebaileyprinting.com or by text at 801-597-1456.

Round ogo for Front of Shirts and Hat or Large Square Logo on Back of all Shirts: Polo, Tee, Sweatshirt, Windbreaker Jacket, Other! Iceland Shirt or Hat Logos: Round on Front or Square on Back.

























MIATA SUPPORT VEHICLE CAR MAGNETS **New Magnets feature the Official Utah Miata** Club Logo on them. Same 6.5" Round Size \$25.00 / Set of 2







UMC CAR MAGNETS: \$25.00 / PAIR OFFICIAL OR MOUNTAINS LOGO







Ball Caps: Standard Structured or Soft Caps for ladies & men. Many colors to choose from: \$20.00 Each. **NEW!** UMC Mountains Logo with 30,000 embroidered stitches: \$25.00, Regularly \$30.00. Official Logo: or Long Live the Roadster Logo: \$20.00 each! Ladies "Miata Hair" soft Caps. \$20.00. Close out Hats: \$15.00









2025 Calendar of Events



October 2-13: Miataland Italy & Iceland Trip; Mike & Lynn Bailey



October 11th: Luncheon: 11:30 Drive; Powder Mountain Drive; See Pg. 2 NL: Val Francis & Doyle

November 8th: Luncheon: 11:00: Olive Garden, Am. Fork; Drive Johnson's Pass; R. Olsen

December 13th: Christmas Party: Edison Events, Time 6:00 PM; UMC Board





2026 Calendar of Events



January 10th: Movie: Time & Movie (TBD): Mike & Lynn Bailey

February 7th: Play: Time & Play (TBD): Robert Olsen

March 14th: Antelope Island Drive: Luncheon Place, Time (TBD): Gordy & Jackie Nicholl

April 11th: Luncheon & Drive (TBD): 11:30; Ty & Sue Kiisel

May 9th: Luncheon (TBD) 11:30; Drive Alpine Loop Drive: Mike & Lynn Bailey

June 13th: Luncheon & Drive (TBD): 11:30; Steve & Ronda Beckstead

June ?: End of June 2026: Dark Sky Observation / Photography: Ken J. & Robert M.

July 18th: Annual Picnic & Business Meeting: Time & Place (TBD): UMC Board

August 9th: Mt. Nebo Loop Drive: Luncheon (TBD): Mike & Kelly Thompson

September 12th: Need Location & Member to Suggest and/or Plan.

October 10th: Need Location & Member to Suggest and/or Plan.

November 14th: Need Location & Member to Suggest and/or Plan.

December 12th: Annual Christmas Party: Time & Place (TBD): UMC Board













PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WANT TO PLAN OR LEAD A DRIVE OR ACTIVITY!







Editor's Message; We'd like to have UMC members come up with some ideas for possible places for monthly luncheons and drives for our 2025 Calendar. Refer to open spots on above calendar. You can just suggest, plan it and/or lead it. On lunch places we prefer somewhere with a private room or area so we can conduct our monthly meeting. Also we need to be able to pay for lunch by couples instead of a group. Also please let us know of some local drives or places you'd like to see or visit. We also like to do a few 'overnighters' or weekend trips. Please send your ideas to either the President or another officer or director or to me, the Newsletter Editor. We hope that all members will be active in club activities. This is YOUR CLUB so please help us with plan.

CANDID CAMERA PHOTOS OF THE UTAH MIATA CLUB MEMBERS. SEND ME YOUR FAVORITE PHOTOS OF ANY MEMBERS TO INCLUDE HERE. THANK YOU FOR LETTING US TAKE YOUR PHOTO! TRY TO GUESS WHEN AND WHERE THESE PHOTOS WERE TAKEN

































