



The Convertible

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From the Top Down “Celebrating 30 Years of the Miata” By: Mike Bailey, President

This is our last month of 2020 and this year has not gone according to our club plans. When we had our annual Event & Planning Meeting on January 18th we got excited for all the events and drives we had planned. As it turned out, it is undoubtedly the most uneventful year the Utah Miata Club has ever had, what with cancelling three major planned events; Miatas in Moab VI in May, Miataland/Italy Cruise and Land Tour in October, and of course our Great Western Adventure II trip in July. We were still able to do most all of our monthly luncheons, meetings and drives, albeit under much different situations and circumstance as we are used to, so we were all blessed to be able to do that. We actually were able to do our one overnighter to Torrey, Capitol Reef, and Bryce Canyon, which was a huge success. It was the best weekend of the year for Lynn and I.

Mainly, we have all been very blessed as I don't know of any club members that have not come down with the Corona-virus throughout the year or been seriously ill. I think our club members have done an exceptional job of social distancing and wearing our masks at any of our gatherings. The Covid-19 cases are going through the roof and some days recently have reached over 4000, but we have persevered and stayed strong.

We are thankful that we will be having some sort of a Christmas Holiday party, with being able to reserve the entire theater at the District in South Jordan for a movie on December 5th. Thanks to those who signed up to go as it sold out fast, and we will have a good time at this. We also have another December event on the 18th with our Miata drive through the Christmas Holiday lights at Christmas in Color, also in South Jordan.

As we close out this year, we do have 2021 to look forward to. We will be playing things by ear for at least the first half of the year to see where it will take us. It won't stop us from making plans and doing some trips. We have the tentative Rocky Mountain Road Trip planned first week in August to Glacier National Park by Rodger Heath, with details mentioned in last month's NL. Also the Miataland Adventure has been rescheduled for October 2021.

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Last month we also mentioned the cancellation of our 2021 Elections & Planning Meeting until late Spring or early Summer, depending on how things go with the virus. All current club officers and directors will retain their positions until we can schedule the Elections & Planning Meeting. Thanks to all the officers and directors and those with appointed club positions, for being willing to continue in your positions during this trying time. On behalf of the club we want to wish everyone a very happy and meaningful Holiday and wish you and your families the best during this time of the year. Please be safe and continue to take care of your families. **Zoom - Zoom.....Mike**



Christmas Movie (by RSVP) By: Mike Bailey

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5th, 2:00 PM

Location: The District Megaplex Theater (off 3600 West and south of 11400 South)

Address: Exact address: 3161 W. Parkway Plaza, South Jordan.



Information:

Our UMC Christmas Holiday party this year will be in the form of a movie instead of a dinner party with our traditional white elephant gift exchange. For those who have been to a Utah Miata Club Christmas party before, I know how much you will be missing doing that, as we always have fun and it is the best way to cap off a fulfilling year of events and activities. For those new members this year that have not been to our party before, you don't know what you are missing, but maybe next year we can have it again, hopefully!

For those who have signed up, we will be going to a movie at the District Theater in South Jordan. **The date will be Saturday, December 5th. The time will be 2:00 pm.** Please be there 30 minutes before this time so we can get the group together. After entering the front door of the theater, stay on the left hand side and walk to the back left-hand side by the concessions. This area is located to the left of the main ticket booth. There should be a sign with our logo on it in this area. We will have a few announcements, pass out a ticket for your soft drink, popcorn and candy item, and check you in from the list of RSVP'd attendees. We will then line up as a group and the snacks will be passed out as we start to head into the theater. There are about 20-24 Luxury seats that are available (depending on theater we get) that will be assigned to each couple, based on the sign-up list (first come-first served basis on when you reserved your ticket). A gold ticket or sticker will be given to those getting the luxury seats. I figured this would be the only fair way to do this. We must wear our masks at all times except when eating. Social Distancing is also a requirement so we will sit together only as couples with several seats spacing between each other. We can occupy each row in the theater, but the spacing has to be as such so that no one couple sits directly behind or next to another couple. In other words, spacing has to be staggered. Regular concession items will also be available for purchase as well.

The movie we have chosen is a comedy called "The War With Grandpa". It should be a fun comedy to help us relax and enjoy ourselves with a good laugh. We had a limit of 43 seats available, which filled up fast. We had 4 people on the waiting list after a few cancellations. The theater has allowed all those on the waiting list to be included so we will have a total of 47 in attendance. The club is paying for this event so please thank Margie Newson next time you see her for allowing this in our Christmas budget for this year. This will be a fun event to kick off the Christmas Holiday season. 🌀



Birthdays & Memberships

NEW MEMBERS

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
MICHAEL PATTERSON	2020	BLACK
RACHEL CARTER	2007	COPPER RED
DAVID LEWALLEN & RICHARD ALVERADO	1999	BRILLIANT BLACK
REBECCA & GERALD JEPPSON	2020	POLYMETAL GRAY
SCOTT HADLEY	2008	BURGANDY

REMOVED FROM ROSTER

NAME	EXPIRED
DEVIN & KELSEY BROWNING	7/31/2020
HEIDI THORNOCK	7/31/2020

Expiring Soon: \$35 Dual / \$25 Single

NAME	EXPIRING
JOANN JACOBSON-WELLS	12/31/2020
JOE LEVERICH	12/31/2020
DARWIN & LORI STEED	12/31/2020

Membership Expired: \$35 Dual / \$25 Single Membership

NAME	EXPIRED
LYNNE AOYAMA	10/31/2020
MARK CRABBE	10/31/2020
RICHARD & CHRISTINE MACKERELL	8/31/2020
SCHUYLER WHITE	10/31/2020



NAME	BIRTHDAY
KATHY NIELSEN	1 Dec
LYNNE AOYAMA	2 Dec
MIKE BAILEY	6 Dec
DOROTHY BOWERS	6 Dec
HILLARY VREDEVELD	7 Dec
ALI BAZZAZ	11 Dec
ROBERT MECHLING	12 Dec
GORDON NICHOLL	15 Dec
RICHARD DYSON	17 Dec
HARRIET HODGSON	19 Dec
DEB MOON	19 Dec
KATHY KANKAINEN	27 Dec
DAVID ENCHEFF	28 Dec
RICK KISER	29 Dec
DANETTE DAVIS	30 Dec

Membership Dues Reminder

If you wish to renew your membership, and we hope you will, please give or send a check to Club Treasurer, Margie Newson, for the appropriate amount. **A Dual Membership (for yourself and a spouse, sibling or significant other) is \$35, and \$25 for Single. It is \$35 dual/\$25 single if you have the newsletter e-mailed to you, or \$45 if you would like a hard copy sent by standard mail.** You can also pay your dues online with PayPal on our website; www.utahmiataclub.org. This method is \$35 / \$25 (plus PayPal fees). If mailing a check, please send to: 233 West 1550 North, Bountiful, Utah 84010. Make your check payable to the Utah Miata Club. Margie can also be contacted by phone at 801-295-4563 or by e-mail at sec.treasumc@icloud.com.

Club Officers

President: Mike Bailey

Vice President: Hank Pond

Secretary: Jim Newson

Board Members: Valerie Francis, Brian Christiansen, Ken Jaworski

Treasurer: Margie Newson



November Lunch and Drive Report By: Mike Bailey



Our November club luncheon and drive turned out pretty good for the start of the 'cold' season here in Utah. We had a pretty good sized group show up, which was awesome. We each brought our own fast food lunch or a sandwich from home as we have become accustomed to doing this year with the Coronavirus going on. We had our meeting to discuss items going on for the rest of the year and into the first of next year; making announcements of the cancellation of the annual Christmas Holiday party dinner as well as putting off January's Election & Planning meeting until sometime next spring, or even close to summer if this is the case. Amy Beckstead also gave out two months of birthday gifts for those who had birthdays that attended.



We announced and awarded Steve Tobiasson and Ron Steckler their 25th Anniversary Pins for being members of the club for 25 consecutive years, since May 1995. Congratulations to Steve and Ron! Also it was fun to see two *NEW* 2020 Miatas, the 100th Anniversary of Mazda, Miata Editions. They were just purchased by Jim & Margie Newson (RF PRHT) and James & Hillary Vredevelde (Ragtop model).



We also had to change our intended drive up Butterfield Canyon by Herriman because they closed the canyon for the Winter on November 1st. I didn't know about this closure until I made a trial run on it on December 3rd, a couple days before the luncheon. Instead we hopped into our Miatas and took a substitute drive along the Bacchus Highway to Magna. I thought I would show everyone who had not been to Magna since the 5.3 (or something) Earthquake that happened last March, the damage to the buildings that was done. I went there right after the earthquake and viewed all the bricks and other damage that came off some of the buildings in the old downtown area back then. Most of it has been repaired since then, so there was not much to see.



We hit a real hard rainstorm going into Magna where it was raining like 'cats and dogs'. Enough for my very clean and washed Miata to get very dirty by all the dirt on the roads. Sorry about that, but as you know we can't control the weather! We then departed our own separate ways home. Thanks to everyone who showed up. There is not a meeting or luncheon scheduled for December, but we do have the Holiday Movie on the 5th for those signed up for that, and also another event on December 18th for Christmas in Color. It is always fun to drive our Miatas (or OTM's) through the holiday lights. Get your tickets for that as it is a fun thing we like to do before Christmas.

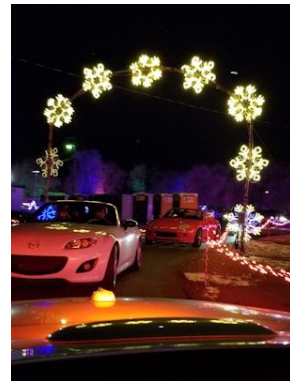


Christmas In Color Event By: Susan Vaughn

Christmas Tradition, December 18, 7:00 pm



For about five years now the Utah Miata Club has made a tradition of viewing Christmas lights together. "Christmas in Color" has a spectacular display of lights synchronized to music. With Covid-19 spreading widely in our community, we will not plan dinner. We will meet at: an LDS Ward parking lot at 1570 West, 11400 South, West Jordan. This is on the north side of the street. Meeting time is 6:30 pm. At 6:45 p.m. we will caravan over to the Equestrian Center for the show and ride through the light display together. So don't be late! Many in the club will drive their Miata, yes tops down for the brave of heart. The rest will stay warm and comfortable in their car.



You may still be able to find discount tickets. Go to the Christmas in Color web site <https://christmasincolor.net/> to order your tickets for Friday, December 18, 2020. If tickets are sold out for the 7:00 pm slot, you can order for the 6:30 or 7:30 slots and will be able to still drive through with the group. You will pay per car, so you have as many people in your car as you have seats for. Bring the whole family!



Miatas of the Month By: Mike Bailey

Miatas of the Month features **Mazda's 100th Anniversary of the MX-5 Miata edition**. We not have only one, but TWO of these beautiful 2020 Miatas owned by club members, and purchased last month from our dealer sponsor, Bountiful Mazda. Congratulations to **Jim and Margie Newson** who bought the **PRHT RF version** and traded in their white RF ND for it. In addition, **James and Hillary Vredevel** purchased the **Rag-top version** featuring the red canvas top, and they sold their white ND to Carol Lynn Vredevel, James' mother, who now has 5 Miatas. What is a girl going to do with all those Miatas? (Drive them, I hope!) Carol Lynn also owns a 10th Anniversary Edition as well. The 100th Anniversary only comes in one special edition color called Snowflake White, and is a very limited production run. The interior has Red Napa Leather seats and red carpet. Both of these Miatas are 6-speed manual transmission and navigation systems. The soft top version has a red canvas top. There is a 100th Anniversary Name Badge on the outside, and the center caps on the wheels also have this anniversary insignia. The carpets inside have the name badging as well, and the top of the seats have the logo embossed into the leather. Very cool in my opinion.



On another note, Scotty Medine from Bountiful Mazda wanted me to mention that he is able to get another Snowflake White 100th Anniversary MX-5 Miata from another dealer if anyone is interested in one. It will be a Rag-top with the same red top and red leather seats and carpets. It has a 6-speed manual transmission and identical to the one Vredevel's have. Note: They do not want to bring it in unless someone is seriously interested as they do not want to have it sit over the winter. They want to sell it right away. **Contact Scotty Medine at Bountiful Mazda at 801-390-7560** or by email at smedine@bountifulmazda.com. This is a very limited Special Edition production Miata.



Remember When? By: Mike Bailey

This article is the last in the monthly series of this year's "Remember When". With over 20+ years of Miata club memories, I wanted to do something each month that brought back some fond memories of different events, members, and activities. Most of you (the current members) have been part of these events and memories. We continue to make new memories within the club, of events and activities that we participate in. I hope many of you smiled as you read the articles each month about some of the activities that you participated in. This year will also become a memory to everyone who has been a member of the club during this year.



Some time in the future we will remember how Covid-19 has affected and impacted our lives, particularly in relationship to being members of the Utah Miata Club. We will think back about how much our monthly meetings and luncheons have changed and how we had to cancel most all of our overnight trips and major Miata Club events. Hopefully, next year we will be able to get back some semblance of normalcy once we have a vaccine for this dreaded virus. We can all remember that last year we were able to travel back to the east coast and enjoy Fall for New England with our east coast friends, and attend a fun regional Miata event in the process. We were able to do cruises and visit other places, and enjoy other Miata events in our travels. The year before in 2018 we ventured to Texas and did the Albuquerque Balloon Festival. In 2017 was the Viking River Cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest, Hungary, among other things that we did. That has all changed for us now.



Since it is the Christmas Holiday season, this month I would like to 'remember when' we had the most amazing Christmas Holiday parties. The club has had a holiday party since it first began, usually in a member's home. It has always been a fun time to get together, at the end of the year, and remember the fun we had all year and socialize with our best friends, as well as enjoy a good dinner all together. It has always been the highlight of the year, at least for me. Lynn and I were happy to host it in our home in Cottonwood Heights for 12 consecutive years. Unfortunately our new home in Riverton will not accommodate the 60+ people we usually have attend.

I have attached some fond memories of past holiday parties and particularly the fun 'white elephant' gifts that members come up with. We have had different contests each year for best Christmas Sweater, Christmas Hat, Socks for ladies and men's, etc. You may remember

back in 2005, fifteen years ago, the Snowman Pillow that got past around. This is a gift my wife, Lynn innocently purchased at her favorite grocery market, Dan's. This white elephant was an instant hit! You can ask anyone about the snowman pillow that was at that party. Others have also come up with some creative gifts like the Miata air filter hat and several different lingerie items! Mike Foster was even dressed up like Santa back then! Eight years ago in 2013 Steve Beckstead dazzled us with a bunch of Christmas melodies by playing his piano! Enjoy other photos here from 2005, 2013 and 2015.



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We are going to miss this party this year, sadly enough! I want to thank everyone in the club who has contributed in any way to the success of the Utah Miata Club, and those who step up to the plate to plan our major Miatas in Utah events that we have held every couple years since 2003. The members are what makes this club so much fun. I wish everyone a very happy holiday season and may we all have a prosperous New Year, next year!



Vanity Plates By: Mike Bailey



This month's **Personalized Vanity Plates** featured is **DINGO -8** from **George and Patty Chase**, who live in Contoocook, New Hampshire. They are some of our very favorite friends from back east and have been club members since January 2018. We have been together with them for several years before they joined our club and on several Miata trips. The most recent one was at Fall for New England last year, in September 2019, and before that on our Wyoming trip in September 2017 for the Solar Eclipse. We miss hanging out with those two rascals, as they are lots of fun! George's new vanity plate is in reference to a Seinfeld episode... can you figure it out?



Another Club plate is **OSO ROX** owned by **Bret and Roxanne Bagley** who have a 1992 Black NA Miata. This Miata is in pristine condition. They live in Lehi and joined the club in July 2020. They purchased this Miata from long time member Steve Tobiasson, which he has owned since 1992 and sold to the Bagley's when he bought his new 2020 RF this year.



Member Spotlight Volunteers Needed

By: Carol Lynn Vredeveld

Would you like to be featured in our next Member Spotlight Article?

As the Spotlight editor for the last 8 years, **I would like to invite you to participate** in our quest to get to know each and every one of our members and what made them want their Miata's. I have found that all of our members have one thing in common.... they love to drive the countryside top down enjoying the beautiful scenery up close and personal. The spotlight articles are a great way to get a little insight in to the lives of our fellow club members that just might become our traveling partners and closest friends in the future.

Participating couldn't be easier...

- Simply fill out a questionnaire designed to tell your story in as little or as much detail as you would likein your own words.
- I will email you the questionnaire to be filled out and returned at your convenience...by the 20th of the month. In addition, we would like to get 4 or 5 photos to compliment your article.

I would love to hear from you at: Carolynn1@msn.com / Text or call my cell: 801 647 0486

I will also have questionnaires available at the monthly meetings for your convenience. Both new and long time members are welcome to volunteer. Looking forward to hearing from you soon! *Thanks, Carol Lynn*




4 Generations Miata Shirts By: Mike Bailey



I have come up with a new shirt design for 2021 that we originally made up for the club back in March of 2012, when Mazda only had 3 Generations back then. This shirt is called the '4 Generations of the Miata' shirt as it features each of the four generations of the Miata. The shirt will also feature the club's Official Logo on it. I can make these up in any colors that any member would like, but the screen printed inks will be in red and black, so any color that will go with this will work. I'm also contemplating printing some black shirts with the cars in white and red ink, if I have enough people order them.



These shirts were very popular back then and were sold for \$15.00 each (+ \$2. for each size over XL). I want to have my first production run on them, probably sometime in March before the start of our driving season for 2021. If you would like to get one, or a couple, please see me or let me know by text or email. I can also do this design on Sweatshirts or any other type of shirt if you are interested. 

2020 Calendar of Events

Dec 5th: Christmas Movie (refer to page 2, RSVP only) – Mike Bailey

Dec 18th: Christmas in Color light show (refer to page 5, advance tickets required)

2021

January 9th: TBD

January Election & Planning Meeting postponed to April, May, or June

February 6th: TBD

March 6th: TBD

Apr 3rd, May 1st, June 5th, etc: TBD at postponed Election & Planning Meeting

July 31st—Aug 6th: Rocky Mountain Road Trip (refer to page 8 & 9) - Roger Heath



Candid Camera

By Mike Bailey

Most of the Candid Camera photos this month were taken from events through 2020 this year. See if you can identify those with the masks on.


**SMILE
YOU'RE
ON
CANDID
CAMERA**

