



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



VIKING RIVER CRUISE; JULY 2017; MIATA MEMBERS

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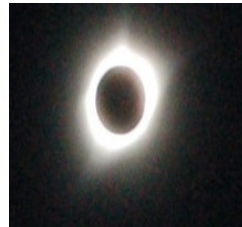


From The Top Down by Robert Mechling

With all this solar activity and the aurora borealis seen from Utah and Texas and our weather, it's just not what we normally expect. It has been an abnormal spring. But it looks like spring is trying to come. I just hope we don't go right into the heat of summer without remembering spring. We don't need the extreme heat.

As everyone is making plans for the summer - Birthdays/Holiday/Vacations, etc. I hope all are including most of our Miata events, Monthly Luncheon/Meeting, Bear Lake Loop, Huntsville Grand Prix, Ice Cream Luncheon, Picnic/Election & Planning, Beartooth Hwy, Fall Leaf Drive. Be sure to check the newsletter calendar for details. But let's add two more trips to the calendar 1) Sept 6-7, for an overnight loop, let's call it the North West Ghost & Legends Loop, up through box elder county with an overnight in Wendover. It's a part of the state that I don't recall the club ever going through. I'll talk more about it at the May Luncheon. 2) Then there's the annular solar (not total) eclipse, October 14th, 2023. Yes it's going to be a busy summer - just what we've been waiting for.

Hope to see all May 6, 10:00 am in Roy, Utah at the Wahlen Park. NOTE, the time change to 10:00!
Robert



May Luncheon & Drive by Steve Beckstead

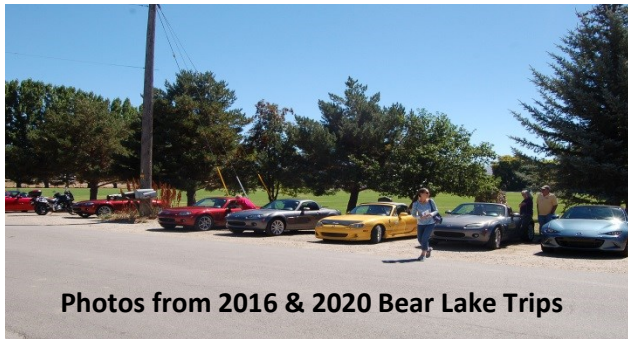
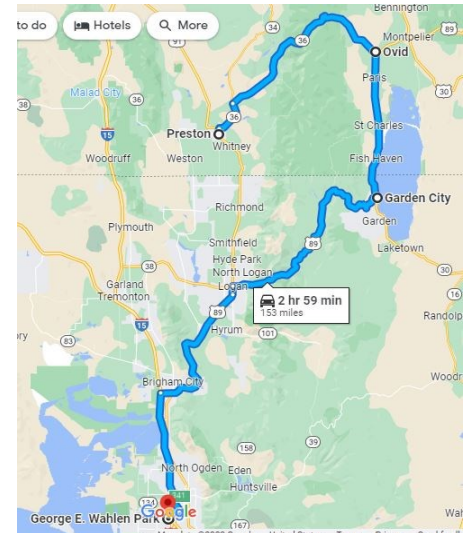
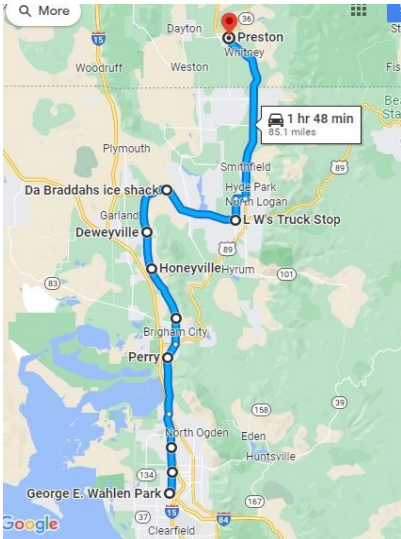
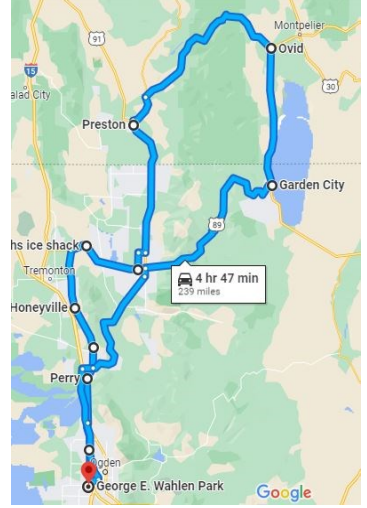
May 6, 2023: Idaho Loop Bear Lake Drive

We'll meet just before 10 am at George E. Wahlen Park, 4200 South 2175 West, Roy, Utah. We will try to get on the road quickly. (This is about a 55 minute drive from Draper for reference).

Business meeting will be in Preston at the lunch stop. It's a 2 hour drive to the Preston Community Park in Idaho. We should arrive about 12:30 pm for a short meeting and lunch stop. There is a Wendy's, Subway, or Arctic Circle nearby or bring a picnic basket.

We then hit the Highway 36 after the meeting and loop through Idaho to Ovid. Then we'll take Highway 89 South to Bear Lake and Garden City. (This stretch is about 90 minutes). The Chevron here is a likely bathroom break/gas stop.

Continuing West is the fun drive through the canyon to Logan and we may just stop for an Aggie's Ice Cream cone there? Then it's down to Brigham City. (This leg of the journey is about 90 minutes). There is a Walmart right on Highway 91 almost to the I-15 freeway where we will pull off for a goodbye (restroom there if needed). Groups of people or on their own head home from there at their choice.



Photos from 2016 & 2020 Bear Lake Trips



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, and includes the newsletter e-mailed to you, or \$45 if you would like a hard copy sent by standard mail.** 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.

Birthdays / Memberships



NAME	YEAR	COLOR
RICHARD C. LEE	2006	GALAXY GRAY

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

NAME	EXPIRED
KAY BARRELL	4/31/23
JIM & MARILYN BICKLEY	3/31/2023
ELMER JORDAN	3/31/2023
DOUGLAS KLUENDER	3/31/2023
ROBERT & SHARON MECHLING	3/31/2023
BOB & KIM RICHARDS	3/31/2023
ZAKE SNOUNOU	3/31/2023

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

NAME	EXPIRING
GEORGE AYALA	5/31/2023
TERRY BLACK	5/31/2023
CLAUDE & ERLINE BROWN	5/31/2023
RICK & DAYNA KISER	5/31/2023
MIKE & KELLY THOMPSON	5/31/2023



NAME	DATE
TODD CHRISTOPHER	5 May
RONDA BECKSTEAD	6 May
SCOTT HADLEY	6 May
JIM BOWERS	9 May
ROXANNE BAGLEY	10 May
STEVE TOBIASSON	17 May
GEORGE AYALA	18 May
MARILYN BICKLEY	20 May
COLLEEN REILLY	22 May
BRET BAGLEY	23 May
REXANNE POND	28 May

Removed From Roster

NAME	EXPIRED
TOM & CAROLINE BRACKEN	2/28/23

Club Officers (July 2022-July 2023)

President: Robert Mechling Vice President: Joey Fowler Secretary: Jim Newson Treasurer: Margie Newson
 Directors: Roger Heath, Ronda Beckstead, Susan Christiansen Newsletter Editor: Mike Bailey

April Meeting & Drive Report By: Mike Bailey

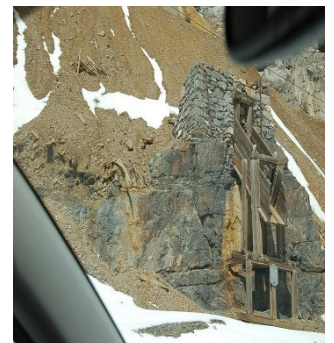
We had a great luncheon and meeting at Chubby’s Restaurant in Riverton. We had a pretty good turnout, but not as many members as the previous months. Robert talked about what was coming up on the calendar for the next several months. I wanted to mention the Miata Reunion Event which is going to be held the third week of October of this year, but forgot to mention it as there was a lot going on. Hopefully we can get a few club members to participate in this event as I know it will be lots of fun!

We then lined up on the street outside the parking lot for our drive to the Kennecott Copper Mine, but not knowing that Main Street in Herriman, which is the main road to the Mine was closed until we got there. It seems no matter how much we plan to do things, something happens to change our plans. I had made a recon trip there about 10 days before and the road was fine then.



The mine happened to be closed because of the weather and all the snow we have been having. That was disappointing, but we will plan to do this sometime in the future. We did drive by the “UP” Disney House, which was fun, and took some photos driving by. We did take a detour along Mountain View Corridor for my alternate plan to go to a couple ghost towns of Mercur and Ophir, in Tooele County. Some dropped off at this point, but those that went had a pretty good drive there and the weather was quite nice. On the road to Mercur, the gate was closed at the top of the hill and we couldn’t get through to drive to the old Mercur town. We did however, take a couple group photos up there. This drive did check off a couple boxes for those

that went, on this year’s 2023 Utah Miata Club Challenge; the Ghosts & Legends event. Thanks to everyone who went on the drive and participated on this.



Huntsville Grand Prix 4 Races

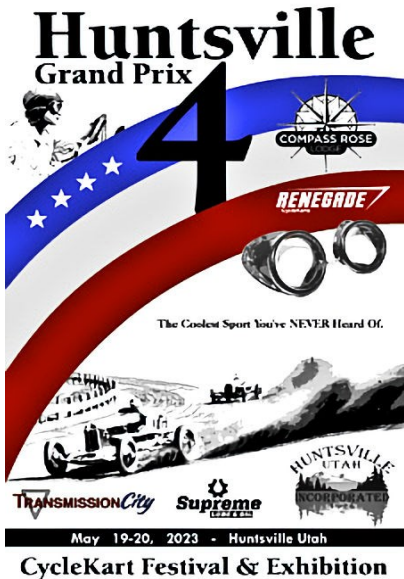
by Valerie Francis

Final Reminder for Huntsville Grand Prix 4 Races:

This is the final reminder for those interested in meeting up to drive up to Huntsville for the Cycle Kart Grand Prix. Information about this event has been in the last two newsletters but here are the meet up details:

Saturday, May 20th 11:30 AM

West Bountiful Park: 550 W 1600 N, West Bountiful (we have had meetings here before)



Bring your own lunch, and camp chairs (chairs for lunch in case the park pavilion is in use, and for watching the races in Huntsville). There are lots of fast-food restaurants in Centerville and Bountiful or bring from home. After a quick lunch, we will head up Legacy Highway and Hwy 89 to Weber Canyon, exiting at Mountain Green, and then over Trappers Loop to Huntsville.

Once in Huntsville, everyone can explore the event at your own pace, heading home whenever you want. You can watch the CycleKarts race and/or walk around the pits and talk to the drivers at your leisure.

Since this is a first time for us, we don't know if this is going to be an amazing time or a flop. But, in any event, it will be fun driving up to Huntsville. Everyone is invited to tag along!

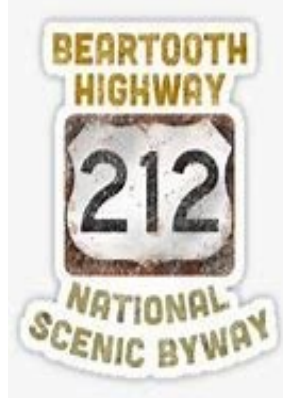
For more information on the event (racecourse, Karts registered, photo galleries, etc.) here is the Huntsville Grand Prix website (just click the tabs at the top for all the info): <http://www.huntsvillegp.com/>



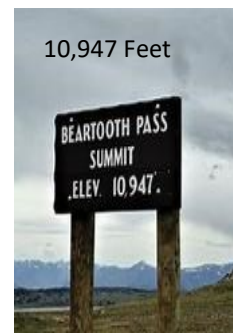
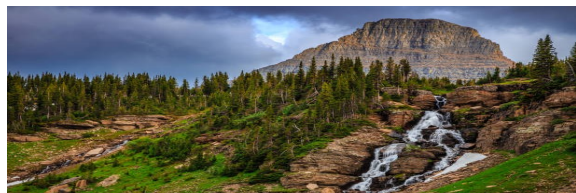
HUNTSVILLE GRAND PRIX



Beartooth Highway Miata Trip: July 20– 23, 2023 by Roger Heath

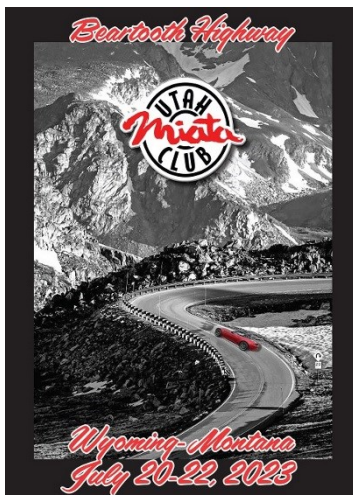


It's only 1 1/2 months until our exciting 3 day long weekend trip the middle of July to Beartooth Highway. We will cruise along the Teton Mountain Range in Wyoming and twice through Yellowstone National Park. The main drive will be one of America's most thrilling and scenic drives —the Beartooth Highway. We will stay over night in Afton, WY., Red Lodge, MT., and Yellowstone, MT. with an afternoon in Yellowstone National Park. **Notice: Due to repairs at the Red Lodge Motel, we may lose our rooms so please plan to book an alternate room in Cody, WY. On that day for Friday, July 21st. We will keep you posted on our Facebook page on any of these changes** See our club website or FB for details. Come part way if you don't have time for the 3.5 full days. **ZOOM ZOOM**



Miata Shirts for Beartooth Highway Trip

Last chance for event T-shirts for this trip. The Beartooth Shield logo will be on the left front chest and Beartooth Highway Photo with red Miata large on the back of shirt. Shirt cost is \$16.00 for Tees SM –XL and \$18.00 for 2XL and larger. The Car Event Magnets will be similar size 5.5" as other event magnets and cost 2 for \$12.00 or 1 for \$8.00, same cost as always. Hats with Shield Logo \$16.00. Contact Mike Bailey for the order and I will have a pass-around list at monthly club meetings. Be sure to get your rooms if you don't have them yet. Details on UMC Facebook Events page. Thank you for your support! **Zoom - Zoom**



Miata Reunion - 2023 Updated Information by Mike Bailey

The National Miata event called **Miata Reunion 2023** will be held **October 20-22, 2023** in Sonoma, California. Sonoma is located just northeast of San Francisco and southwest of Sacramento. It is basically a two day Saturday thru Sunday event, but it is advised that you arrive Friday, October 20th and check into the hotel. It is also advised that you check in for your 'Event Registration' on Friday because of how busy it will be on Saturday.



Several UMC members have booked a room at the Days Inn by Wyndham in Navato, CA. Which is a town located southwest of Sonoma as it is \$100.00 less per day than the host hotel in Somoma. Navato is only 10 miles from Somoma, so a short drive. Call 415-897-7711 to book your room. Cost for a double queen room will AAA or AARP is \$120.13 + taxes.

Registration for the event is \$25.00 per person and includes admission to the events which include the following information below on Saturday and Sunday. Registration opens on May 27, 2023 starting at 9:00 a.m.

Admission to the Sonoma HPDE Track to drive Parade Laps at slow speeds in your Miata around the track. This is a very fun event for everyone! Admission to the Vendor Alley, which is open from 8 am-4pm both days. Moss Motors Car Show will be held Friday from 3:30-7pm. You can enter your car in the show, or just view the Miatas at the show. There will be Group Photos and Videos of you and your Miata driving the Parade Laps! Photos and videos will be taken by Botbluemilk.com Motorsports Photography and photos will be for sale of you and your Miata if you wish to purchase them. On Sunday, the BAMA (Bay Area Miata Club) will sponsor a cruise and drive through Marin County to many scenic places around the area. This is limited to 50 Miatas and you must sign up to do the drive. I will probably do this as we've done it before. Marin County has many scenic areas, and it is Napa Valley wine country.

Registration opens on May 27, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. for the event and Bama Drive, etc. You are welcome to also participate in Track Racing, which runs both days. The cost is \$340.00 per driver and includes admission and a T-Shirt. This is for any novice to experienced drivers. Track rules apply to all participants and information and rules and regulations can be found online on the Miata Reunion website: [www. Miatareunion.com](http://www.Miatareunion.com). I personally will not be doing this, but it is open to everyone if they'd like to participate in this. Also is the Flyin' Miata Auto-X Challenge, which is an autocross event sponsored by Flyin' Miata. Awards and trophies will be given to participants. Cost for this is \$80.00 per day and includes 10-15 runs. There will also be Car Autographs signed both days; lunch time on Friday and 9-10 am Saturday by Tom Matano, Norm Garrett, and Ken Saward. Also hourly seminars by MX-5 executives.



Optional Hotel Reservations are at Four Points Sheraton in San Rafael. Pricing per room is \$179.00 per night. Phone is 415-479-8800. All these details can be found on the website including all the detailed information about each day's events. Events for Saturday and Sunday are pretty much duplicated so you can decide what you'd like to do each day. I would suggest making reservations for the hotel room right away



Remember When by Mike Bailey

This month's 'Remember When' article is on one of the very best events the Utah Miata Club has ever put together. It was the Viking River Cruise in July 2017 to Europe. We took a river cruise from Amsterdam, Netherlands to Budapest, Hungary for 15 days. This was called the "Trip of a Lifetime" because it was so much fun! We had 86 Miata members from many different Miata clubs across the USA participate in this. Most were good friends we've made from doing our 'Miatas in Utah' events. There was only room for 99 people (besides the Viking crew). This event was planned by myself and Donn Cichocki, a Utah club member from New Hampshire. It took us 3 years to plan this trip. We ended up chartering an entire Viking River Ship for our group through Morris Murdock Travel.



We travelled through Amsterdam, and many cities and towns in Germany and through Austria and Hungary. We made many excellent memories on this trip with those who attended. The group photo on front page of this newsletter was taken in Germany. We celebrated Donn & Janet Cichocki's 50th Wedding Anniversary on this trip. Many group members made additional plans to visit other countries on their way back home. Photos on this page are from this event and a few in Candid Camera.



Ice Cream Luncheon by Mike Bailey

When: Saturday, June 3, 2023 Time: 11:30 a.m.

Where: Leatherby's Family Creamery

1872 West 5400 South, Taylorsville, UT.



We will be meeting at Leatherby's Creamery for our June Ice Cream Luncheon and drive, following our monthly meeting. You can have lunch there or just enjoy a bowl of delicious ice cream which Leatherby's is famous for (or both, if you have a large appetite!)



We will conduct our monthly business meeting and then take a drive to: **'This is the Place' State Park** up by Hogle Zoo and the University of Utah Research Park. Address is 2601 E. Sunnyside Ave., SLC 84108.

We will be on our own at the park and you can enjoy whatever things you like or are interested in. They have the following: Heritage Village. Pioneer Center. Gift Shop & Huntsman Grill. Free Parking. You can stay as long as you want as they are open until 5:30.



The Village Tour is a self-guided tour. It starts at Smoot Hall (Bldg. 4). It includes the Pratt Observation, Telegraph & Cabinet Shop, Blacksmith Demos, North American Village Tour, the 19th Century Sugar Mill, Art Gallery of Utah Artists, Mormon Battalion Museum. Other sites include the Hooper Bank, Boot Shop, Drug Store, School House, Tinsmith, a Barber Shop. You can purchase gifts at the Gift Shop like Cox Honey or Pioneer Jam. Entrance Fee: Seniors \$16.95. Adults \$18.95. Children age +3 and older \$14.95. Hours 9:00-5:30 For an at home virtual tour go to:

[https:// www.thisistheplace.org/heritage-village/virtual-tour](https://www.thisistheplace.org/heritage-village/virtual-tour)

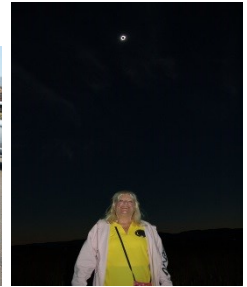
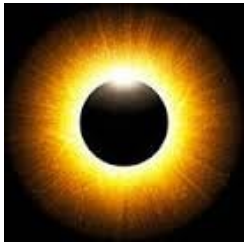


October 2023 Solar Eclipse by Mike Bailey / Roger Heath

I'm looking forward to the Annular Eclipse on Oct 14th, 2023. We will be heading south on Friday, the 13th, as the eclipse is early Saturday morning and come home after the eclipse is over. We will be staying at the Super 8 by Wyndham Motel in Salina, Utah, in the Scenic Hills Area. Address is 375 East 1620 South. Phone is 435-529-7483. Price is \$78.30 + tax for a room with 2 Queen beds. Continental breakfast is included. Cancellation is free as long as you cancel at least 24 hours prior to your stay.

We will hit the road early in the morning as the Solar Eclipse begins at 9:00 am in Richfield and lasts until about noon. We will head back home after the eclipse. All the hotels in Richfield are fully booked for the 13th. Be sure to book your room soon as possible as rooms are filling up quickly. You can also get rooms at the Quality Inn & Suites in Salina.

You can see more information on the club's facebook page about the event. Be sure to bring your binoculars and camera. Photos below taken at our 'Total Eclipse of the Sun' trip (MATTSE) back in August 2017.



Ghosts & Legends Northwest Overnighter by Gordy Nicholl



A one night 'overnighter' event is planned on September 6-7th in which we will stay in Wendover, Utah/Nevada on the 6th and drive to Box Elder County in northwest Utah to a few ghost towns. We will come home late the next day. Hotel to be determined at a later date. This will be something to check off on your 2023 Utah Miata Challenge! **ZOOM—ZOOM**



May 6th: Preston / Bear Lake Loop. 10:00 Wahlen Park, Roy, Ut. Steve & Ronda Beckstead

May 20th: Huntsville Grand Prix, 11:30 Luncheon; Bountiful Park Val & Doyle Sturm

June 3rd: Ice Cream Luncheon, 11:30 Leatherby's, Taylorsville; This is The Place St. Park- Mike - Lynn Bailey

July 8th: Picnic / Elections & Planning (Time and location TBD), Executive Board

July 20 - 23rd: Beartooth Hwy Trip (Info this NL, refer to website, Facebook page) Roger & Perly Heath

September 6-7th: Wendover Overnighter; Ghosts & Legends, Box Elder County, Gordy & Jackie Nicholl

September 22-24: Fall Leaf Tour (Time and location TBD),Tropic, Ut. details on UMC website, Roger & Perly

October: Luncheon: Complete Ghosts and Legends Challenge (details to come), Mike Bailey

October 19-22nd: Miata Reunion; Sonoma, CA. (See NL, FB for info), Mike & Lynn Bailey

November 4th: Luncheon & Drive: TBA (Need planner & leader)



Editor's Message by Mike Bailey

Upcoming Summer Picnic & Elections & Planning Meeting: Date: July 8th Time: (TBA)

As you all know, for the past several years we changed our Elections & Planning Meeting to coincide with our annual Utah Miata Club Summer Picnic. I want to give everyone a "heads up" on this early in the year so we can prepare for this event. This message is for the purpose to promote our annual elections of new club officers and directors. It seems like the Club Board has nominated me to put this information out to all club members. I am happy to do this job as I have been involved through many past years in helping to come up with nominees for club officer positions. We have been grateful as a club to have had many wonderful club members volunteer to be a club officer through the years! If you volunteer for this, you will find that it's not a very hard job, but a fun one, and you can get to know the members better. Also there are plenty of us 'old timers' who are happy to help out at anytime.

I'd like to pass around a list at the next few monthly club meetings for nominating members to be a club officer. Usually the offices needed to fill are President, Vice President and 2 Directors positions. Trust me, it is not a bad job to do this. The simple duties are easy to perform and I have duties listed below and they are also published in the club Bylaws. Any questions on this, ask a club officer.

DUTIES OF ELECTED CLUB OFFICERS for UTAH MIATA CLUB:

PRESIDENT:

Chief responsibility is leading and directing the club. Conducting monthly meetings and overseeing them. Helping with making arrangements with restaurants and/or places for monthly club luncheons. Communicating with other club Officers to make sure they are on top of any assigned duties. Conducting quarterly Board Meetings. Being a public relations person related to Mazda Miata activities, sponsors and groups. Helping other officers if need be. Duty to write "From the Top Down" article for newsletter.



VICE PRESIDENT:

Chief responsibility is to coordinate and handle Public Relations on Club events. Coordinate, help members with, and plan club drives, activities and events. Keep event calendar up to date and get articles and information on activities to Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. Help President conduct club meetings and help other officers be on top of their assigned duties.

SECRETARY:

Responsible for collecting club membership dues, keeping track of membership expiration dates, home addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses and keeping Newsletter Editor and/or other Board Members supplied with current mailing lists, new member lists and birthday's list.

TREASURER:

Responsible for managing club funds, checking account, debit card and for making financial reports as required.

DIRECTORS (3):

Three Director's positions: Past President assumes one of the Director's positions. Act as consultant or advisor for club operations and activities. Help assimilate newer club members into the club and what the club is all about. Can act to take charge of a club meeting or luncheon if President or Vice President is not available.

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

We have several appointed positions in the club: Webmaster. Newsletter Editor. Birthday Coordinator for Monthly birthday gifts. **Scribe;** person to keep track of monthly notes from club meetings and get together. **Email Coordinator;** person to email club members on important issues pertaining to club matters. **Historian;** person to take photographs and keep photos of club drives and activities. **Facebook Administrators:** Persons to regulate and keep track of posts on club Facebook page. **Other Appointments as needed.**



Photos of May's Member's Birthdays. See Birthdays on Page 3 for their Date.
Some photos from Viking River Cruise Event. Enjoy!




**SMILE
YOU'RE
ON
CANDID
CAMERA**

