

RAGTOPS TO RIDGES



JUNE 2017

"THE CONVERTIBLE CHRONICLES OF THE UTAH MIATA CLUB"



From the Top Down

Presidents Message

Submitted by: Lou Vredeveld

This is what it's all about! Mid 70s and Sunshine = Miata's and Grins. Looking around I have not seen so many Miata's on the road with tops down as I have this year. Plenty of happy waves and smiles to go around. We are lucky to have this little sports car and are willing to share our excitement with others. In early times with the NA it was a headlight "flip" up and down that showed the pleasure to other drivers. Then in the NB came along and it was the headlight blink. Now the NC and ND are acknowledged with a wave and a big smile. That is the same smile that has followed this little car since its

conception back in 1989. I am one of the lucky or maybe crazy ones that enjoy all the acknowledgements. CL and I have a 1993 LE (NA), 1999 AM (NB) and the 2006 (NC). Maybe we will get a ND in the future and have them all. We (Maybe me) are a little car crazy. As we have Carol Lynn's 1958 Ford Skyliner Retractable Hardtop Convertible which she used to drag State Street and drive the boys crazy in her high school years. Now I am restoring a 1968 Chevelle Sports Coupe it is a lot tougher the older I get. Of course we have our other daily drivers and a truck. So the question is 8 vehicles for 2 people too many? I think not, but CL may have another opinion on that. Moving on to club stuff, what a fun time at the May luncheon. Special thanks to Steve and Kathy Neilson for putting it together. Lunch at Pins and Ales in Tooele was great. At times we did overwhelm the staff with the 40

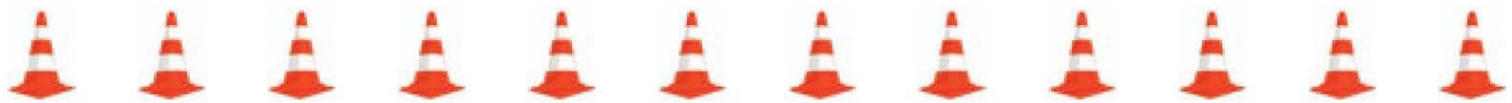


www.utahmiataclub.org

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plus Miataites that showed up. We also had some visitors, the Graham's from San Diego Miata Club, who are serving an LDS Mission in Salt Lake for the next 18 months who will be joining us whenever they can. They actually have their Miata up here with them. The drive up to Johnson Pass afterwards was great and 20 Miata's joined in the curves. You know it is a good drive when there is a group of 2017 Ford GT40s doing it for a advertising photo shoot. The next breakfast / luncheon will be on June 3rd at the Cracker Barrel in West Valley City. It is located over by the Maverick Center. This will be a early start to the day at 9:00 AM. We will follow up with a drive "weather permitting" (hey we are in Utah). Many thanks to Mark and Susan Vaughn for hosting this month's get together. As with previous comment I would invite everyone to check out the club Web Site. Doyle has put a lot of effort into maintaining and updating the upcoming events and keeping everyone informed on the club doings. Also this newsletter is one of the best out in the Miata community due to Mike and Crystal's hard work. Thanks to all the elected and appointed committee for all the efforts to make this club one of the best.



Ragtops to Ridges is the Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club and is the club's official newsletter. It is published monthly and presents information on club news, activities and events. All information and photos are property of the Utah Miata Club.

President:
Lou Vredveld

Vice President:
Steve Beckstead

Secretary:
Jim Newson

Treasurer:
Margie Newson

Directors:
Mike Bailey, Spence Wood, Doyle Sturm
Honorary Director: Gordy Nicholl

Newsletter Editor:
Crystal Miller

Webmaster:
Doyle Sturm





NEW MEMBERS

MARK K. & DEBBIE B. SHACKELFORD
2017RF BLUE

SPENCER MANN
2017RF RED

WELCOME TO THE CLUB
VISIT: WWW.UTAHMIATACLUB.ORG
OR WWW.UTAHMIATACLUB.COM

EXPIRING SOON

NAME	DATE
SHAUNA MILLGATE	2 Jun
CRISTY HEADEY	3 Jun
JANET CICHOCKI	7 Jun
RICH SINGER	9 Jun
MARY McKNIGHT	12 Jun
HANK POND	14 Jun
ROBERT OLSEN	18 Jun
JEFF MOON	19 Jun
KENT HOUSLEY	23 Jun
BILL ANDERSON	24 Jun
DALE RIM	24 Jun
SPENCE WOOD	28 Jun
BRENDA ENCHEFF	30 Jun
LORI STEED	30 Jun

NAME	DATE
AMY BECKSTEAD	6/30/2017
JIM & MARILYN BICKLEY	6/30/2017
JIM & DOROTHY BOWERS	6/30/2017
JOY CARLSON	6/30/2017
ROBERT & GALE KLINSHAW	6/30/2017
HANK & REXANNE POND	6/30/2017
DARWIN & LORI STEED	6/30/2017

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. It is \$25 if you have the newsletter emailed to you or \$45 if you would like a hard copy sent by standard mail. You can also pay your dues online on our website: utahmiataclub.org with PayPal online. This method is \$27 (the extra covers PayPal fees.) If mailing a check, please send it to: 233 West 1550 North, Bountiful, Utah 84010 (Phone 801-295-4563) and make it out to Utah Miata Club. Margie can also be contacted at the following email address: sec.treasurmc@icloud.com



EXPIRING MEMBERSHIPS

NAME	DATE
BENTLEY, EARNEST & NANCY	4/30/2017
CORDILL, CATHY	4/30/2017
RICHARD DELAND	3/31/2017
LOWE, BRADLEY	4/30/2017
MAYFIELD, CHRIS & MICHELLE	2/28/2017
PETERSON, LARRY & KATHY	4/30/2017
PORTER, DAVE & ANA	4/30/2017
RICH & NANCY SINGER	3/31/2017
TEASDALE, RICHARD	4/30/2017
AARON & JALAE THOMPSON	2/28/2017





June Breakfast & Meeting



June Breakfast & Meeting
June 3, 2017
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Where: Cracker Barrel Restaurant
by Mike Bailey



June's luncheon will actually be a Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Restaurant arranged by Susan Vaughn. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. instead of our regular luncheon time at the Cracker Barrel in West Valley City at 2283 West City Center Court over by the Maverick Center. There is a lot of food options to choose from. After breakfast we will plan a drive to be determined by Mark and Susan. Come celebrate our Summer Driving Season. Hope to see everyone there.

2017 Calendar of Events

(Submitted and updated by Steve Beckstead)

- June 3rd:** 9:00 Breakfast and Meeting at Cracker Barrel – Susan Vaughn
- June 24th:** Orem Mazda Car Show, BBQ, Music, Fun, etc. Orem Mazda Dealership
- July 1st:** 11:30 Meeting and Lunch; (TBA) – Steve Beckstead – Drive TBD
- July 8th to 26th:** (Dates Vary) Viking Grand European River Cruise (Mike and Donn)
- August 3rd:** Tuacahn Weekend in St. George – Susan Vaughn
- August 12th:** 11:30 Meeting and BBQ (Mark and Susan's Patio) Monthly Meeting (Lou)
- August 20th to 26th:** Miatas at the Total Solar Eclipse of the Sun (Lou Vredeveld)
- September 9th:** Summer Picnic (Morgan Park) Monthly Meeting (Lou Vredeveld)
- October 7th:** 11:30 Meeting and Lunch (TBD-Mike Bailey) - Monthly Meeting (Lou)
- October 28th:** Halloween Party (Details TBA)
- November 4th:** 11:30 Meeting and Lunch (TBD-Mechlings) – Monthly Meeting (Lou)
- December 9th:** Merry Christmas Party (Catered) - Mike and Lynn Bailey

Orem Mazda Auto Extravaganza:

Saturday, June 24th from 10:30 until 3:00

BBQ Food, Car Show, Live Music, much more. Enter your Miata for a cash prize or trophy or just come to enjoy. (\$20.00 fee to enter your car in show). We may plan to ride down as a group, or come when you want. Details at June Luncheon.

First OREM MAZDA AUTO EXTRAVAGANZA Annual

JUNE 2017 24TH

**ALL CARS WELCOME!
CLASSIC, IMPORT, MUSCLE, ETC.**

**CAR SHOW • LIVE MUSIC • LIVE RADIO REMOTES
FOOD TRUCKS • BBQ • PINEWOOD DERBY
• CASH AWARDS & TROPHIES**

PRIZES:
BEST CLASSIC, BEST IMPORT, BEST MUSCLE, AND BEST OF SHOW. TROPHIES PLUS CASH PRIZES

**LOCATION: OREM MAZDA 55 E. UNIVERSITY PKWY
FOR MORE INFO EMAIL AMANDA MONTGOMERY
AT AMANDAJMONTGOMERY31@GMAIL.COM**

**WHEN: SATURDAY JUNE 24TH, 2017 10:30AM - 3:00PM
REGISTRATION: 9:30AM - 10:30PM**

\$20 REGISTRATION FEE

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
Prevent Child Abuse
Utah**

UMC Miata Challenge

by Todd Christopher & Mike Bailey

The Miata Club Challenge was announced several months ago at our luncheons. Todd has put together a very fun and interesting Challenge for all club members to participate in through the Summer and until the end of this year. *Only 3 things are required of you to participate: Your Miata, bringing any copy of this year's Newsletter (to be used in the photographs taken) and your "desire" to do participate in this event.*

Prizes will be awarded to the winners at the end of the year at our annual Christmas Holiday Party. Print out a copy of the Challenge off the club website found under events at www.utahmiataclub.org. Review the questions and clues on second page and take photos. Most of all, *have fun* while doing this and driving your Miata.

2017 UTAH MIATA CLUB DRIVING CHALLENGE

Instructions

This challenge is intended to get you driving your Miata and increasing your smiles per gallon! Every picture must include your car (enough of it to tell it's your car) and a 2017 newsletter cover page or this form. The required location / object / person must be clearly visible in the picture. In the case of a tie, extra points will be awarded for originality and/or humor. Pictures and this completed challenge sheet must be turned in by the Halloween Party. Winners will be announced at the Christmas Party and receive a special prize. The decision of the judges will be final.

Good luck and Zoom-Zoom!

Destinations

Take a picture of your car at the destination listed. Destinations marked with an asterisk (*) require a sign in the picture.

Roadside Oddities

Take a picture of your car near a 'roadside oddity'. Use the website <http://www.roadsideamerica.com/location/ut/all> as a guide, but other 'oddities' are welcome!

History of the Automobile

Take a picture of your car with an automobile from each decade. Bonus points will be awarded if the other car is also a roadster!

Club Participation

Take a picture of your car at the club meeting location or the associated club cruise group photo. Be sure that the location is obvious and identifiable.

Cities, Counties and States

Take a picture of your car with a sign for a city, county or state starting with each letter of the alphabet. 'Salt Lake City' will count only for 'S', but 'Salt Lake City, Utah' can be used for 'S' and 'U'.

Bonus

Place of Personal Significance – Take a picture of your car at a location of great personal meaning to you. Write a paragraph / short story about that experience. Include as many items / people as possible from your story in the picture.

Twins – Take a picture of your car with another of the same model, body style and color. The more identical the two cars, the more points you earn! Look for similarities in wheels, top color, etc.

Plus 10 – An additional 10 points will be awarded for each of the above five above categories that are completed in full.

Member Spotlight

by: Carol Lynn Vredeveld

Our spotlight couple this month is John and Cindy Cox. I'm sure you have seen them at several meetings and drives in the past. They have the beautiful red 2016 Miata MX and they have certainly been enjoying it. These two are still working even though they could have retired years ago, but they love their jobs and are leary of retiring and having so much time on their hands. I, of course, told Cindy that now that they are members of the club, they could occupy a lot of their time if they participated in all of the great events we plan all through the year. I know Lou and I just wish we had an unlimited budget to travel the world with our Miata family. We had no idea before we joined the UMC how much fun you can have with a bunch of adults having the time of their lives with new found friends that want nothing more than to enjoy this beautiful country that we live in while driving these awesome little sports cars. I know it won't take long for John and Cindy to feel the same way. Believe me, we love our kids and grandkids so much and really enjoy spending time with them, but they are very happy to see us enjoying ourselves while traveling in and out of the country with such great folks.

Cindy gives us a look into their journey in life together and how they became "little car" enthusiasts below:

Ever since the first Miata came out, I wanted one but John said that they were too small. Little did we know that we would ever have one! Before we bought the car, a friend who also works at Tosh, mentioned that she and her husband belong to the Miata Club. I came home and told John about the club and we decided that would be fun, so we started our quest for an automatic, used red Miata which was nowhere to be found. We decided that it's now or never so we bought a new, Soul Red, 2016 Miata MX. We love it! The only down side is that it makes me go too fast! Since we have three red vehicles, we needed some way to distinguish the

Miata from the rest so we started calling it the "little car". We then called it the "little guy" and it stuck. So our license plate says "LITL-GUY". We have a goal when and if we both retire of taking off in the little guy for a couple of weeks and just see where the wind blows us. [Editor's Note: A couple of the photos in this article has the personalized Vanity Plate of FUN 4 2 which was the original plate they had on their new Miata.]

We met in the garden shop at Sears. My girlfriend and I were in there shopping with her Mom and grandma when they wandered in to the garden shop and two cute guys hollered, "Come back when you mom isn't with you" so the next day we went back. That was the beginning of our story.



Look for our new plate: LITLGUY





We both grew up in the Salt Lake area. I grew up in the East Millcreek and John grew up in the Sugar House Area. I graduated from Skyline High School and John went one year to South High School but his parents moved and so he graduated from Highland High School. John attended the University of Utah and also served in the Army.

John worked at Questar, which was at that time Mountain Fuel, for 32 years. He

retired in 1998 and found out that retirement isn't what it's cracked up to be so after trying several jobs he ended up working for a friend at Strong's Porsche and has been there for 16 years. I kept busy helping to raise 4 children and when the last one started school I decided it was time for me to go back to work. I worked at the same elementary school that my kids attended and then decided to try something new. I then went to work at a law firm, Lundberg and Associates, starting in 1999 and worked there until 2012. I left there to take care of my elderly dad but he died 2 months later and after looking around for a while I finally found a job at Tosh in the Same Day Surgery Department and I'm still working there. We are both thinking that we need to retire but we find that it's hard to make the final break.

We are the parents of four children, two girls and two boys and the grandparents of ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren scattered from Lehi to South Jordan to Herriman and Draper. It's crazy and loud when we all get together!

I like line dancing, sewing, volunteering, helping elderly people, photography, country music, traveling and I like to keep my house clean and organized. John is interested in fishing, hiking, and putting in the garage with two cars and a truck. When I can't find him, he is usually tinkering in the basement. I often wonder who is down there that is so interesting. He has the reputation in the neighborhood as the guy that's always out washing his vehicles. He collects knives and loves to drive whether it is in one of the Porsche's at the dealership or his own truck or Rav 4. Since John was 16, he has had over 60 cars or trucks and we have remained married in spite of all the selling and buying. John wanted one more truck so last year he bought a 2016 Toyota Tacoma and said that this is definitely the last truck he will buy. To prove it he bought a license plate for it that says "Lasttrk" (Last truck) " but he reminds me that license plates are transferrable!!



We are enjoying our new car and friends and look forward to many years of fun in the Miata Club!

If you two decide to retire I know we can help keep you busy with some beautiful drives and adventures that will get you excited about having so much time on your hands. Welcome to the club John and Cindy. We are certainly looking forward to sharing time and curvy roads with you whenever you can join us!



MATTSE Trip; Event Shirts

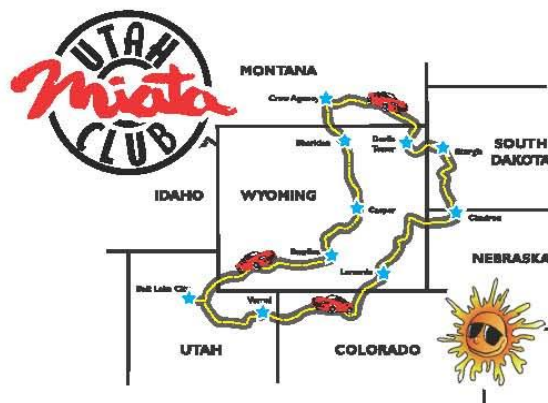
by Mike Bailey, Lou Vredeveld

The **MATTSE** trip organized by President and Vice President Lou Vredeveld and Steve Beckstead respectively, will be August 21 - 26, 2017 to view a phenomenon that has only occurred once in the past 99 years in the United States; the total solar eclipse of the sun. It will have a 70 mile-wide zone of totality in its path which stretches from the Oregon coast to Charleston, South Carolina. For us in the west, it will pass through northern Idaho and Wyoming. I hope everyone has their hotel rooms lined up as this event will be totally booked out. I have heard on the news that the area expects from one half million to one million people to come, just to Idaho and Wyoming. With a year in the planning stages, the UMC will be headed to Rawlins, Wyoming where we will view the eclipse on August 21st. We will then make an additional five day trip through Wyoming and through the southeast corner of Montana, down through northeastern Wyoming and through western South Dakota to take in sites such as Devil's Tower, Sturgis, Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Wall Drug, the Needles Highway and many other exciting places. In all it will be a 1,770 mile trip taking in six states (Nebraska and Colorado included). We have several other Miata travelers from back east joining us on this fun trip.

I will be making up some **MATTSE Event shirts** for this trip. Most likely a breathable Polo with the event logo on the front left chest. They will probably be 100% polyester shirts for the hot drive and will be cool for wearing. We will also have a T-Shirt, most likely black with the logo above on the front side and a Map of our itinerary on the back. All the shirts will be priced per our regular pricing; Polos at \$35.00 each and T-Shirts at \$15-18.00 each. Please order through Mike Bailey as soon as possible as we need to get these printed up in June before we head out for the Viking River Cruise. Any other shirts such as long sleeve T's or sweatshirts are also available. Email mike at mike@mikebaileyprinting.com You can also call me with any questions at 801-597-1456. This will be an exciting trip and lots of fun. Order your commemorative shirts now!



MATTSE
2017 Total Eclipse of the Sun
 1,770 Miles - August 21-26-1017



Candid Camera

by Mike Bailey

This month's Candid Camera features the Red Lobster Award Winners for the 2017 UMC Rally; Joe and JoAnn Leverich for taking last place in the Rally. We also have a few photos from our May luncheon and photos from our April Drive to Antelope Island. We have lots of fun events coming up for the Summer.





2018 UTAH MIATA CLUB: WESTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

8 Days: February 25 – March 4, 2018

Itinerary:

Day 1: Galveston, Texas Port; Sight-Seeing in Galveston
 Day 2: Day at Sea Cruising; Relax, Unwind, Enjoy the Sun
 Day 3: Cozumel, Mexico Day 4: George Town, Grand Cayman
 Day 5: Falmouth, Jamaica Day 6: Day at Sea Cruising
 Day 7: Day at Sea Cruising Day 8: Galveston, Texas



Join us for an exciting 8 Day Cruise to the Western Caribbean on the Liberty of the Seas.



Photos: Outside Balcony Suite



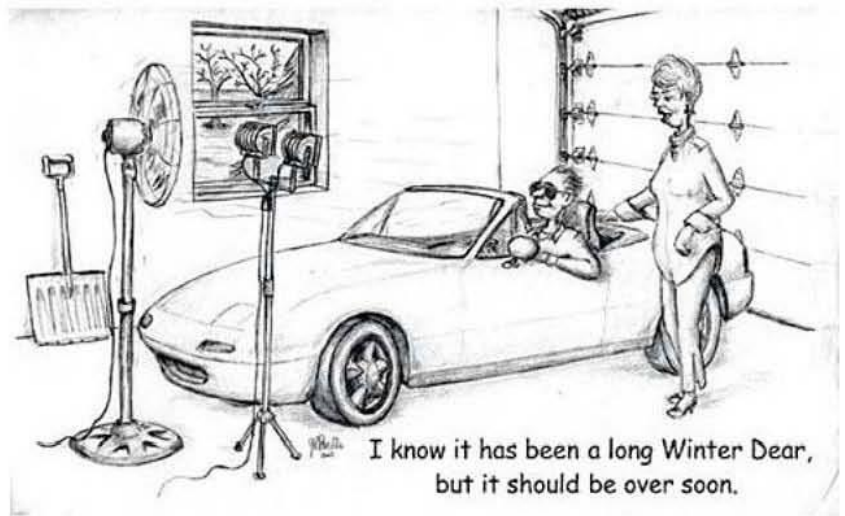
Surfing onboard the Ship



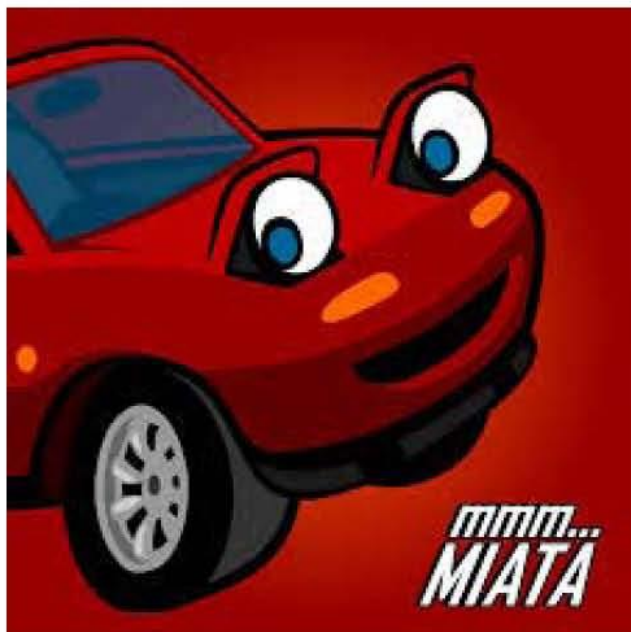
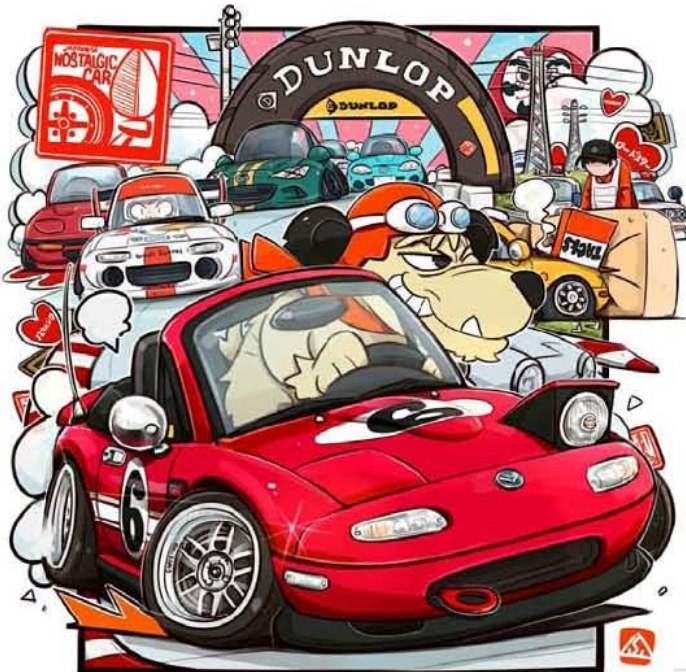
Invite your Miata family and friends. Everyone is welcome. The cruise leaves from the port of Galveston, Texas. You will probably want to get into Galveston a day early to enjoy the city and exciting things to do and also in case of flight delays. This ship features 10 different Dining options, including “My Time Dining” where you can eat at different tables. We have some cabin blocks reserved for our group at discounted prices as follows:

Category N: Inside Cabins starting at \$349.00 per person. **Category PR:** Inside Cabins with view to the Promenade at \$419.00 per person. **Category I:** Outside Cabins with window starting at \$439.00 per person. **Category D3:** Outside Cabins with Balcony starting at \$679.00 per person. **Category D2:** Outside Cabins with Balcony starting at \$689.00 per person. **Category E1:** Deluxe Outside Cabins with Balcony at \$759.00 per person. Larger cabins are currently available and so are cabins with 3rd and 4th person in cabin. Prices above do not include Port Fees of \$190.00 per person and taxes are \$81.70 per person. **Prices subject to change, so please book early.** Prices will increase over time. Check Royal Caribbean website for Deck Plan and details. **Book this cruise through our Travel Group Agent; Amber Lee Johanson at Morris Murdock Travel; 801-483-6314. Email Amber at: ajohanson@morrismurdock.com. Deposit per person is \$250.00. Reserve NOW for \$50.00. When you select your cabin you pay the rest of deposit. **Be sure to also email Mike Bailey so I can keep track of who is going.** mike@mikebaileyprinting.com or phone with questions; 801-597-1456. Refundable deposit if canceled 90 days prior to sailing date. See Amber for details Also you can get other discounts with your “Crown & Anchor” Membership, depending on the category you have. This is an Official Utah Miata Club Cruise! Come Join Us!**

JUST FOR FUN



I know it has been a long Winter Dear, but it should be over soon.



Here's a photo of me driving my Miata. Here's a photo of me washing my Miata. Here's a photo of me waxing my Miata. And here's a photo of me standing next to my Miata. Oh look, heres a photo of my Miata parked in my garage!