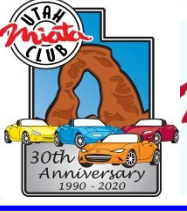
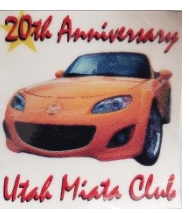




## The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



### From the Top Down by Mike Thompson



From time to time our friend (and current VP) Ken Jaworski has contributed to this newsletter and to the club by writing about how to care for your Miata. Ken and Jan live where the snows can be quite heavy, so they store their Miata for the winter, and then re-awaken YGROWUP in the spring. Those of us who do not store for the winter, might nevertheless face extended periods during which we do not drive our convertibles. Let's talk about that.

Power can "leak" out of batteries, they discharge. Brake rotors can become rusted, even pitted, then the brake pads get clogged and coated with rust when you drive. Tire pressure depends on the ambient temperature, including the temperature of the tires themselves. (That is why we gauge tire pressure when the tires are "cold.") Tires can form a flat spot at the area of contact between the tire and the parking surface. The refrigerant in the AC compressor chills the air from the vents, but also lubricates the entire system, keeping seals and gaskets moist and flexible.

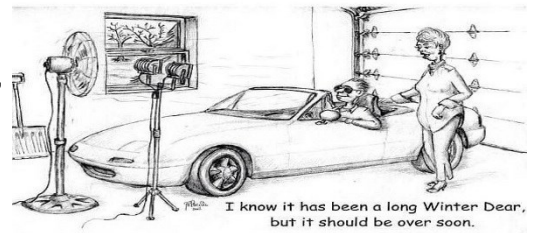
If you have not prepared your roadster for lengthy non-use, the simplest way to address the potential problems listed above is to start and drive your car. You might come across various recommendations about frequency. In my opinion...Normal wear and tear items—tires, engine oil, cabin and engine air filters, engine coolant—should be monitored frequently, routinely. I try to start and drive the Miata at least once a week, year round. A 20-mile drive is adequate. I make a round-trip to work, so my car is started and driven at least

50 miles every week. I leave the AC on full time, year-round, adding warmth as needed. Wash frequently when the roads are sanded and salted. Sure enough, you won't drive with the top retracted during the winter. But it's still fun, and needful to keep your Miata in good running condition. Perhaps 'tis a strange thing to write about in the midst of the holiday season. But it came up in a recent conversation.

I hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving with family and friends. In this time and place we have so much to be thankful for. "It is not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them that is the true measure of our Thanksgiving." (Attributed to W. T. Purkiser) And I wish a very Merry Christmas to you and yours. Please see Editor's Note on bottom of page 13 for a January 2024 Movie we are planning and let us know if you are interested!

**Inside This Issue**

- From the Top Down . . . . . Page 1
- December Holiday Event. . . Page 2
- Birthdays-Memberships . . . Page 3
- Annual Christmas Party . . . Page 4
- Member Spotlight. . . . . Page 5
- Miata Challenge Winners . . Page 6
- Ghosts & Legends Rep. . . . Page 7
- Peak to Peak Event . . . . . Page 8
- Board Meeting Report . . . . Page 8
- Business Met. Report . . . . Page 8
- Miata Swag / MiataWear. . . Page 9
- Anniversary Pins . . . . . Page 10
- Miata Reunion Report . . . . Page 11
- Remember When . . . . . Page 12
- Event Calendar- Jan. Movie .Pg. 13
- Editor's Message . . . . . Page 13
- Candid Camera. . . . . Page 14



# Utah Miata Club Christmas Holiday Party by Mike Bailey

**Date: Saturday, December 2, 2023**

**Where: Lone Peak Pavilion; Lone Peak Park; 10140 South 700 East, Sandy, Utah 84094 Time: 5:30**

The Utah Miata Club's Christmas Holiday Party will be held on December 2nd, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. **See page 4 for all the details.** A Honey Baked Ham & Turkey will be provided by the club and Potluck Dishes provided by club members. Be sure to bring a "White Elephant" Gift for exchange. This is the best party of the year.



**Yankee Swap Heads Up: To avoid confusion this is White Elephant gift exchange information: All Participants who brought a gift will be given a Ticket for the "Yankee Swap"**

1. After dinner, we clean up, place chairs in a big circle and move all the gifts to center of the circle, then return to a seat.
2. When directed—**ALL**—will go to the gift pile, select a gift, and return to their seat.
3. When instructed, everyone **OPENS** their gift, places it on floor in front of their chair, for all to see.
4. Host will go around and everyone will **"Show & Tell"** what they picked. He will try to be quick, but please LISTEN; this is your chance to really see what's there.
5. Now comes the "Yankee Swap" (**Gifts stay in plain view in front of each person**). A. Host will pull a ticket from the basket and call the number B. That person may keep their gift, **OR** swap their gift with ANY OTHER GIFT (**There's no limit to the number of times a gift may be swapped**). 1. This individual has one minute to make the swap to keep things moving. Tickets are called only once. 2. This round is over. The person whose gift was taken does NOT "re-swap" and keeps the gift they were given. 3. Host pulls next number. (Repeated until all tickets have been drawn).
6. Once all the tickets have been drawn, the "Yankee Swap" is over, and you keep the gift you have! Yes—those that yhavfe their ticket drawn last will have an advantage for the best gift. But, we all had an equal chance of a later pick. This should keep the gift exchange relatively short. One minute (or less) per swap for each ticket/gift. That one special gift could be swapped all night. This was so fun last year! Special thanks to Robert Mechling for this White Elephant variation!



### 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.** 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. Check Membership Expiring lists below and if your name is on list please send in your dues for the next year. . **Renew Now!**

### Birthdays / Memberships



NAME	YEAR	COLOR
FREDERICK ECKSTEN	2023	SAND

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

NAME	EXPIRING SOON
JERRY & LINDA GROSS	12/31/2023
JOANN JACOBSON WELLS	12/31/2023
JOE LEVERICH	12/31/2023
SAMUEL & KIMBERLY McBRIDE	12/31/2023

#### Memberships Expired / Please Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRED
HANS CLASSEN	9/30/2023
ROBERT & KATHY JO FACKRELL	9/30/2023
JOSEPH FOWLER	9/30/2023
SABRINA HANSEN	9/30/2023
ROBERT & VICTORIA HANSHEW	10/31/2023
MARK & SHAUNA MIDGLEY	9/30/2023
MARK & COLLEEN REILLY	9/30/2023
TYLER STARK	8/31/2023
CAROL LYNN VREDEVELD	8/31/2023
KIRK & LUZ WARNER	8/31/2023
ROSEANN WHITAKER	10/31/2023

NAME	DATE
KATHY NIELSEN	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
DEB MOON	19 Dec
LUZ WARNER	20 Dec
KATHY KANKAINEN	27 Dec
RICK KISER	29 Dec
DANETTE DAVIS	30 Dec
TERI OLSEN	31 Dec

#### Removed From Roster

NAME	EXPIRED
TYLER STARK	8/31/2023
KIRK & LUZ WARNER	8/31/2023



### Club Officers (July 2023-July 2024)

President: Michael Thompson Vice President: Ken Jaworski Secretary: Jim Newson Treasurer: Margie Newson  
 Directors: Robert Mechling, Susan Christiansen, Carol Lynn Vredevelde Newsletter Editor: Mike Bailey, Asst. Val

The Utah Miata Club

invites you to our

## Annual Christmas Party

Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

5:30 pm

Lone Peak Pavilion  
10140 South 700 East  
Sandy, Utah 84094



**Dinner served:**

Honey Baked Ham & Turkey (provided by club)

Potluck Dishes (club members) \*

**will include:**

Scallop Potatoes, Green Salads, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Fruit Trays,  
Vegetable Trays, Chips & Dips, Rolls & Butter, Casseroles, Cupcakes, Cookies,  
Brownies, Gluten Free Dessert, and a few surprise dishes.

**drinks include:**

Water, Coke, Diet Coke, Root beer, Sprite

**Just for fun we have our:**

### White Elephant Gift Exchange

Please bring a gift for each person that wants to participate in the exchange.

Gifts can be something fun, amusing or impractical you would like to pass  
along.....if purchasing a gift, please limit to no more than \$25

Please come join in the holiday spirit with your fellow club members!

We look forward to this every year and hope to see you all there.

If anyone that is not signed up for a potluck dish would like to donate \$5 towards  
party expenses, it would be appreciated, but not expected.. (donation box at party)

Questions? or RSVP to [carollynn1@msn.com](mailto:carollynn1@msn.com) or text or call:

Carol Lynn at 801-647-0486 or Ronda at 801-864-0159



# Member Spotlight by Carol Lynn Vredevel



*This month's spotlight couple Lori and Dave Ortiz*

*are definitely lovers of cars of all kinds...I guess you could say, they are a classy couple with a passion for classic cars. Their most recent purchase just happens to be a brand new Miata from Bountiful Mazda that came along with a membership to the Miata Club. Sounds like these two have had some experience with other car clubs and really enjoy being involved in the events and drives that the clubs provide. It will be fun to see what Lori and Dave bring to this club and I for one can't wait to see their own personal line-up of classic cars. Thanks, Lori, for telling us all a little about you and Dave and how you came to be members of the UMC in the following article:*

Dave and I purchased our 2023 Soul Red MX-5 Miata in July. It was sitting on the showroom floor.

We were introduced to the Miata club by our salesperson, Tim May at Bountiful, Mazda. Dave and I had just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on June 30. We decided that we wanted a convertible for our gift to each other. Of course, his first choice was a classic car. I wanted a brand-new car. The Miata fit our budget perfectly, has an excellent warranty and is a great looking car.



Our first adventure in the Miata was a trip to Evanston, Wyoming to attend a classic car show at the local park. We really enjoyed the ride there.

Dave and I both grew up in Magna, Utah. We met at a church dance. He was a junior and I was a sophomore at Cyprus High school. We enjoyed dragging State Street, parking at the dry farms, drive-in movies and car racing with our friends.

We got married in 1973. I was barely 19 and he was 20. We have three children, two boys, and a girl, seven grandkids and one great grandson.



Our family has always had a lot of pets over the years. Right now, we have goats, chickens, ducks, two dogs, and one old mean goose.

Dave and I have always had a passion for cars, especially old cars. Dave started restoring cars at the age of 17 and continues to do so. He has done some amazing work.



We succeeded in our goal to buy property and build our own home here in Magna. Dave started immediately building his garages and workshop. (The rule is, you can have as many cars, as you have garages to store them in!)

We are both retired. Dave worked for the phone company for over 37 years and I was a realtor for 30. Dave spends most of his days in his garage. I keep busy taking dance classes, yoga, and I exercise several days a week. I also teach craft classes and volunteer at the local Magna Senior Center.

We both love working in our yard, restoring cars going to car shows, hiking and spending time with our kids.

Dave and I are both looking forward to spending more time and having new adventures in our Miata.

*Welcome to the club Lori and Dave..... We are so glad to have you as members and that you decided a Miata was the way to go for now. 2024 will be a great year and maybe some of our newest members will have suggestions for potential drives and events for the new year!*

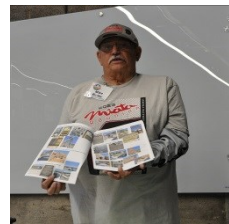
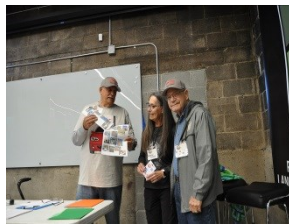


# 2023 Utah Miata Challenge; Ghosts & Legends Contest Winners

The 2023 Utah Miata Club Challenge ended on October 28th of this year, for 10 months beginning in January. The Challenge was titled **"Ghosts & Legends"** in which club members could go throughout the state of Utah and other states to discover and document places of historical interest like a "ghost town" or a "legend" of historical relevance. We had about 20-25 couples initially sign up to plan to do this event throughout the year, but only several couples seemed to take it seriously. We have done several different Utah Miata Club challenges throughout the years, mainly Road Rallies that involved scavenger hunts and things like this. They have always been fun and challenging, at least to me and many others. We may plan something similar for this next year if the interest is there.



This year we had three top place winners of the Challenge. First Place went to Robert & Sharon Mechling who completed or went to 115 places and documented their adventures with photos and descriptions of the places they went to. Second Place went to Gordy & Jackie Nicholl who went to 100 places. Third Place went Valerie (Francis) & Doyle Sturm who went to 49 places. Each couple received a Gift Card as appreciation for doing this, and the Mechlings also received the **"coveted" Red Lobster Award**. In the past, the Red Lobster Award was given to the loser or last place finisher in the rally's, however this year the status of the Lobster was raised to the "First Place Finisher".



The reports that everyone provided were very detailed and included photos of the couples and their Miatas at points of interest. Thanks to those who participated in this event and I hope everyone had a good time doing this while learning a lot about our state's history!

The **Red Lobster Award** has been around since the first years of the club. It has gone through several transformations with "Utah Miata Club Bling" added to the trophy. We hope the Mechlings will take care of the Lobster until it is returned to the club for use in another future event. Below are photos of the Lobster Award through its transitions!



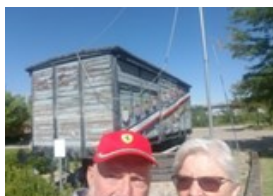
# 2023 Ghost and Legends Memories by Robert & Sharon Mechling

Our “Ghost and Legions” submittal was heavy in the history of mining, and railroading in Utah. Let us share some memories and photos:

**Ghost & Legends # 5. May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Photo** - The old Garfield and Western Railroad bed, at Saltair. I remember riding home from Saltair, in the early 1950’s, on the Garfield and Western Railroad. My Dad told me that it was the longest day of the year (Summer Solstice), I didn’t understand why one day was longer than another, but I was glad that I spent the longest day at Saltair. Did you know the Garfield and Western Railroad had an Orem Line? This photo shows the railroad bed, end of the line, at Saltair.



**Ghost & Legends # 40. Aug 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 2:40 pm.** Utah Southern R.R. Ore from Alta Utah to Mingo Smelter in Sandy Utah. This monument is located In Sandy’s Bicentennial Park.



**Ghost & Legends # 41. Aug 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 11:10 am.** Ogden’s UP Depot, 25<sup>th</sup> and Wall Ave, - WW1 French Boxcar used to transport troops/horses.

**Ghost & Legends # 62. September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 3:50 pm.** 1869 the 1<sup>st</sup> train crossed over the Bear River, in Corinne Utah. This is what’s left of the bridge. It’s still a pretty river.



**Ghost & Legends # 98. Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 4:05 pm. South Jordan**—City Cemetery, Monument to the Dec 1, 1938, Jordan High School Bus, and a north bound Denver & Rio Grande freight train accident, killing 23 children & the bus driver. 15 children survived, only to relive the accident for the rest of their lives.



**Ghost & Legends # 81.** Seeing all three signs, that over the years, commemorated the 10 miles of track Laid in one day. On Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 1:20 pm we visited the Site, west of promontory summit, where the Central Pacific Railroad made the 10-mile record on 4/28/1869. Photo looking East on the old transcontinental railroad bed (it’s a one-way road that all can drive). This is the 3rd sign at this site. (signs not in date order).

**Ghost & Legends # 78. Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 9:40 to 11:00 am.** At the Promontory Visitors Center Museum. The 2<sup>nd</sup> “10 Miles of track laid” in one day, marker.

**Ghost & Legends # 112. Oct 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 11:50 am. At the Daughter’s of Utah Pioneers Museum.**

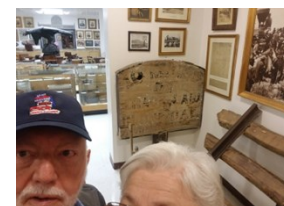
The original “10 Miles of Track Laid” in one day, marker from Promontory Utah.

**Ghost & Legends # 100. Oct 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 3:55 pm.** 1120 E Pioneer Rd. Draper Utah. Monument to Milk White Egg & Poultry. Besides eggs, there was Chicken and Turkey meat production, all in support WWII.



**Ghost & Legends # 115. We ended our Ghost and Legions tour, Oct 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 11:55 am** at the Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum with a photo of the Replica “Golden Spike”.

Did you know there were five other historical items besides the Golden Spike? All 6 items competing for a place in history? Google - The Original Golden Spike and its Promontory Summit Companions. Or visit <https://www.up.com/aboutup/community/great-race/golden-spike/index.htm>. To see what they were!

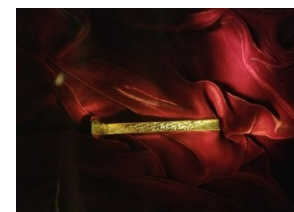


FYI - Late in the search for sights, I caught on to a web site called “Historical Marker Data Base . org” <https://www.hmdb.org/>. This site will give you Historical Markers that are “Near you.”

“Series”, by “Topics”, by “Location (County, State, Country) or just “Searches” a name. Check it out on your next road trip. You may be close to a marker of interest.

As Bob Hope would say;  
“Thanks for the Memories”

Robert and Sharon



# Peak to Peak Miata Club Event 2024 by Steve Beckstead

Trip will be approximately from Sunday, September 15—Saturday, September 21, 2024

We are tentatively going to the Peak to Peak’s Colorado event next year in September. We just got a room reservation as have 4 other cars. It is NOT the Redstone Inn their website links to as those rooms are gone. We are at Redstone Cliffs Lodge. There are not many rooms and they are about \$190/night with 1 night's deposit taken which is refundable.



Link below to the Redstonecliffs Lodge:

<https://www.redstonecliffs.com/>



If going you need to book September 16,17,18, 2024 (3 Nights). I emailed the Sec/Treas of Peak to Peak. The event itself is not even open yet. The rooms are all gone at the host hotel (Redstone Inn) except for 2 big suites at \$360+ per night.

Here is the event link: <https://www.peaktopeakmiata.org/event-details/30-in-24-celebration>

Hope it's clear. I'm not planning the trip yet but have a route in mind. The dates are probably Sunday 15th through the 21st, Saturday? The only thing needed for now is find a room if going. There are other B&B's or maybe hotels nearby. EVERYONE IS ON THEIR OWN TO GET RESERVATIONS.

Let's go!  
Steve



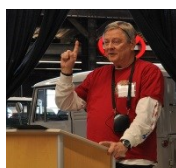
## UMC Business Meeting Notes from Quarterly Meeting by Mike Thompson

Our Board of Directors quarterly business meeting from Saturday November 4, 2023 are noted here.

Thanks go to Susan and Mark Vaughn for selecting the venue and making arrangements for the Landcruiser Heritage Museum tour. The following items were discussed before the group attending:

- 1.) In the meeting it was ratified by a majority vote of club members attending that we “End the dues-free memberships” previously given to Lifetime Members (members who have been in the club continuously for 20 years). We will and do, however, plan to continue to recognize lifetime members by issuing them a ‘Lifetime Anniversary Pin’ for their continued membership in the club.
- 2.) Club Dues & Expenses: There were many excellent and heartfelt comments about the club, its purposes, and how we might spend the club dues to accomplish those purposes. Everyone in attendance was encouraged to think about how they would like to see the dues spent, and to provide ideas and input to the board.
- 3.) Volunteers were assigned to take the lead for each of the months in 2024, leading up to the annual ‘Elections & Planning Meeting in July. A list of the assignments from member volunteers is on the 2024 Calendar on page 11 of this newsletter.
- 4.) “Taking the lead does not mean do all the work. Planning and leading is shared by members. Also coming up with different ideas suggested by club members is recommended, especially for winter months. Activities are not limited to just driving our Miatas. Please see “Editor’s Note on bottom of page 11 for more information in organizing a club luncheon, meeting and drive.

Warm Regards,  
Mike Thompson, President





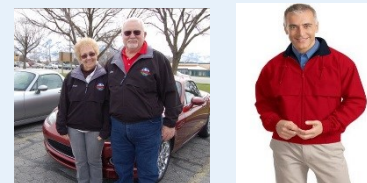


# MIATA SWAG Page by MiataWear Man- Mike



It's Christmas time and if you are thinking of ordering your "better half" something nice for the holidays, let me recommend some items that they might like or could use. Of course as you read this I will be off on our December 3-week Miata Cruise to the Hawaiian Islands with 5 other couples from the Utah Miata Club. It's too bad you are not going with us as Karen Christiansen, our Miata club Travel expert has gotten us excellent pricing and itinerary for this trip. Be sure to call Karen for all your travel needs, as she has booked some awesome Miata cruises for our group like the MiataItaly trip in 2021.

Back to Miata Wear. **Club Jackets:** If you don't have an Official Utah Miata Club Jacket, now is the time to order one. They come in handy all year long. Many different colors available in all sizes. Several logos to choose from embroidered on front left chest: Official Logo, Mountains Logo, Long Live the Roadster Logo, among others.



**NEW: Knit Hats** also Available! Logos are embroidered on these hats. This is a new item, but are popular in the cold driving months! Order one NOW!

**Sweatshirts:** Many styles to choose from: Pullover with Hoodie/Pockets, Crew Neck, Full-Zip with Hoodie/pockets, 1/4 Zip with pockets. Print front and/or back



**Please Note:** As most of you know, I pass around a 'Sign-up' Sheet on a clipboard at the monthly club meetings. The club is trying to keep the meetings at the luncheon a little shorter, so we can spend more time visiting with each other. I will be limiting my speaking about club MiataWear apparel. The sign up sheet will list all items (shirts, hats or other UMC logo items) that are in stock. If you want an item, please sign your name on the list and see me at the meeting, as I usually have those items with me, which you can get that day. If I don't have the item, you can sign your name on a line under that item, or put your name on the list on another page and I will order it

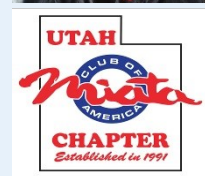
I also have **Miataitude** shirts and hats which are very nice and simple. Display your "Miata Attitude"! You can get them in any color and price is \$20.00. We can also put the 'Miataitude' or 'Miata' script logotype on the sleeve of any long-sleeve Tee or Sweat Shirt. Can also put "Miata" or "Roadster" script font on shirts or sleeves.



**NEW!** The 'old design' of our very first Utah Miata Club shirt which came out in 1991 and featured the "Miata Club Of America" logo on it, as that logo was used by most all the early Miata clubs in the country. Miata clubs identified themselves as part of the national **Miata Club of America**. Ours was the "Utah Chapter". This shirt item was mentioned briefly last month. Anyone can purchase one for \$20.00. (\$22.00 for size 2XL). They print best on an Ash, or light Grey, but if you'd like any light color shirt, that's ok.



**Club Magnets:** Get your official **Club Car Magnets**. The most popular ones are with the Official Logo (red Miata script with black outline). You can also get them with different color backgrounds. I've done orange color to go with the 30th Anniversary edition Miata or any other Miata edition and also other colors. Magnets with the Mountains Logo which can feature the color of your Miata on them. Car magnets are \$25.00 per set of two magnets. Specify which ones you like! **Ball Caps** are in stock and you can order with Official, Long Live the Roadster, ND Miata. Lady's hats; Miata Girl or Miata Hair-Don't Care. Flames caps available now! Sun-Shade Caps also by request.



# Anniversary Pins by Mike Bailey

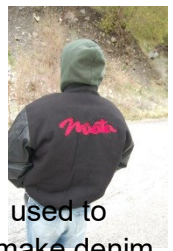
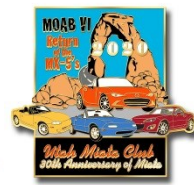
Starting in January 2024, we will be giving out our Anniversary Pins to all members who have reached the following milestone for membership in the Utah Miata Club. The membership pins are for years 3, 5, 10, 15, and 20 years which is represented by the Lifetime Member Pin. This program was started back around 2016 and was planned to last 5 years. After the initial 5 years ended we still had some pins left so in 2021 the club decided to renew the program for another 5 years. At that time, we dropped the 20 and 25 year pins and made a "Lifetime Membership Pin".

Initially we handed out the pins for the first five years at the monthly meeting of when a particular member joined the club. I volunteered to keep track of the pins and to distribute them to club members. With Jim Newson's help, who sends me the monthly membership roster, including when they joined, I calculate the members' anniversary years. It got to be a lot of work handing the pins out each month to members with anniversaries, so we decided a couple of years ago to hand them out at the January meeting. Now we give them out annually at the first of the year no matter what month a member's anniversary falls on.



I plan to have the list tallied up for the January 2024 meeting and will distribute the anniversary pins then. If someone is not at the meeting, then I will have the member's pins bagged up and bring them to monthly meeting and distribute them to members qualified to receive their pin.

I do not know any other Miata club in the country who awards members Anniversary Pins. In fact in wearing my "pin vest" or wide brim straw or outdoor canvas hat where I wear my Miata pins. I have had several people from other clubs see my anniversary pins and want to trade a pin for one of mine. I tell them they are NOT for sale or trade and only for Utah club members.



I used to make denim

vests for members who wanted to wear their pins on them, but they are now hard to get. I am happy to embroider one of our club logos on a vest you provide. I can also get fleece vests and check some other of my suppliers for the denim ones. The pins work great also putting them on summer Wide Brim Hats. I can get them in cotton-canvas material or other ones similar to Mexican or Hawaiian style hats. Just let me know.. Here are some samples of these style hats. I can also put the Official Club Logo on a vest or Jacket or "Miata" logotype on it.

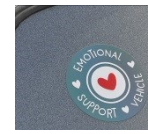


# Miata Reunion 2023 — Sonoma, California by Mike Bailey

Last month's Miata Reunion report at the event in Sonoma, California was brief and mentioned some things we did going to and after the event. We had such a great time with Valerie and Doyle. For me it was fun to get to meet new Miata friends and reminisce with old Miata friends whom we have known for many years. As you can imagine it was quite hectic at the Sonoma Race Track. People were buzzing around doing lots of things from showing their Miatas at the Friday Car Show & Shine, to participating in very well organized racing laps around the track. We were also enlightened by Mazda Miata executives in seminars and group discussions which featured video and slide show presentations of how the Miata was designed and created. This page will feature photos of our time at the Miata Reunion.

I got a chance to get a hug from Tom Matano, after one of the presentations and we got a chance to talk 'one on one' for several minutes and reminisced about some of the events and places, including our own Miatas in Utah 7 event in Deer Valley back in 2016 where he was our event "guest of honor". I met a couple others couples who owned a 25th Anniversary Edition Miata at the reunion. Both were from California. I made friends with Greg Suzuki who was excited because he got his 25th Anniversary MX-5 hat signed by Tom Matano.

One of my favorite moments was being able to do the Parade Laps on the track. It was so much fun seeing hundreds of Miatas at once. I especially liked the car show on Friday. So many Miatas that were quite exotic and many with lots of after-market parts and accessories as well as beautiful stock Miatas. I love these national and regional events as there is always so much to do and see and especially for making new friends! The "Vendor Alley" was a strip of tents where many



One of my favorite moments was being able to do the Parade Laps on the track. It was so much fun seeing hundreds of Miatas at once. I especially liked the car show on Friday. So many Miatas that were quite exotic and many with lots of after-market parts and accessories as well as beautiful stock Miatas. I love these national and regional events as there is always so much to do and see and especially for making new friends! The "Vendor Alley" was a strip of tents where many



Vendors were selling Miata accessories and parts. Everything you could imagine was there. Moss Motors and Flyin' Miata were showing off new parts and accessories. We were talking to Keith Tanner of Flyin' Miata about the new Turbocharger specifically for the NC. I'm interested but it's starting at about \$5,000.00. There was a toddler about 2-3 years old in his white Miata scooting around. We ran into Rick & Dayna Kiser who now live in California. Fun to see them.



Original Miata designers; Bob Hall, Norm Garrett, Ken Saward and Tom Matano were a highlight as they spoke about the Miata's design and creation.



# Remember When by Mike Bailey

This month's Remember When article is about 2011's Concours 'de Elegance that the UMC went to at Thanksgiving Point, and also at Laguna Seca Mazda event in October 2002 and some photos from the Classic Car Museum in Salt Lake City we did back in 2014. I have separated sections of the photos for these particular events.

We have been to several of these types of auto shows, here in Utah, Wyoming, Montana, California and other states through the years. This coming summer we are planning to go to the Rat Fink Show in Mantoloking, NJ like we did many years ago. I think most all Utah Miata Club members like exotic car shows. One time when we were in Laguna Seca back in 2002 we went to the Pebble Beach Concours 'de Elegance. That was an awesome show with rare vehicles worth over one million dollars each. I lost most of my photos from the Pebble Beach event when my computer crashed back in the mid 2000's. Back in late 2002 I first met Tom Matano at a beach BBQ sponsored by MNAO (Mazda North American Operations). This is where I got to know some of the Mazda executives who pull the strings on supporting Miata events around the country. Also Lynn fell in love with the 2002 Blazing Yellow that Bob Retzer, photographer of the national Miata Magazine owned. I asked him if he sold it, that I'd like to be first in line. Six months later I owned this Miata, which I had for 18 years.



At the Concours 'de Elegance show at Thanksgiving Point in 2011 several UMC members attended, namely Craig and Candy Henricks and Dave and Brenda Encheff among others. I didn't get many photos of people, but lots of photos of cars! I saw a 1953 Pontiac Chieftan, which was my very first car in high school, and owned by my father. I loved that car! Wish I still had it. Two photos on right are of one of these cars.



I'd like to point out that my good friend Phil Hoopes who owns Hoopes Vision in Sandy/Draper has quite a few classic British cars; MG's, Triumph's, Austin Healey's, etc. He has agreed to let us come sometime this Spring and host us at our own personal car show featuring his vehicles. I'm trying to set this up for sometime this next Spring or early Summer. This will be a rare treat for us as he has some very special edition British cars. I went to high school and grew up with Phil and we both went on missions together to England. This is where he fell in love with British cars and started collecting them. He has an awesome collection! See photos below of Phil's cars



Photos below are at the Classic Car Museum in SLC taken in 2014. Note Ainsley Heady when she was very young.





# 2024 Calendar of Events



- January 6th:** Luncheon Meeting; Red Robin Rest. Murray: Gordy & Jackie Nicholl
- January 20th:** Movie at Megaplex Theater; See Details below in Editor's Note: Mike & Lynn Bailey
- February 3rd:** Lunch, Meeting Red Robin; Possibly a play or ?, weather permitting: Robert & Sharon Mechling
- March 2nd:** Luncheon & Drive TBA (weather permitting on drive): Carol Lynn Vredeveld
- April 6th:** Luncheon & Drive TBA ; Val Francis & Doyle Sturm
- April 13th:** Car Show at "Old Sinclair" Elberta, Utah; Mike & Lynn Bailey
- May 4th:** Luncheon & Drive: Grand Prix Cycle Karts; Huntsville. Time to TBA; Bailey's & Jaworski's
- June 1st:** Rat Fink Reunion in Manti. TBA: Time & Details to follow: Steve & Ronda Beckstead
- June: 2nd Week Approx:** Exact date TBA; Flyin' Miata Summer Camp; Doyle Sturm & Valerie Francis
- July 6 or 13th:** Date and time TBA. Summer BBQ Picnic and Elections: Board of Directors
- August 3rd:** Luncheon & Drive: TBA; Need Drive Leader & Planner
- August or September:** TBA; Fall Leaf Drive to Southern Utah; Need Drive Leader & Planner
- September 7th:** Luncheon & Drive: (TBA) Need Drive Leader & Planner
- September 16-18th:** Peak to Peak Miata Club Event / Redstone Cliffs Lodge, CO.; Steve & Ronda Beckstead
- October 5th:** Luncheon & Drive: (place TBA) Local Fall Leaf Drive / Guardsman's Pass / Wasatch Mountain State Park / Crystal Springs on Alpine Loop Drive Road: Mike & Lynn Bailey
- November 2nd:** Luncheon & Drive: (TBA) Need Leader & Planner
- December 7th:** Christmas Party: (TBA) Board of Directors



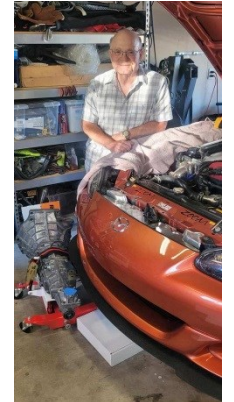
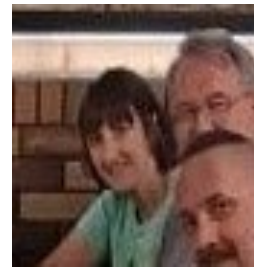
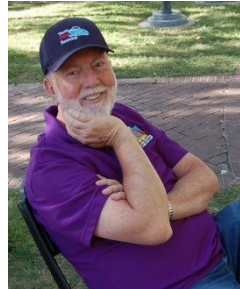
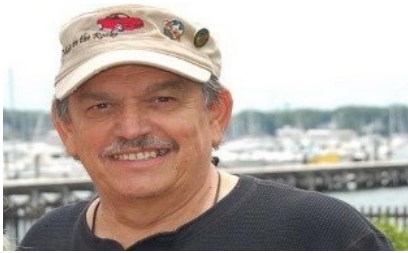
## Editor's Note:

Tentative date: Saturday, January 20, 2024

**Mega Party Movie at Megaplex Theater:** Matinee around early afternoon. Cost will be in the neighborhood of \$21.00 per person which includes movie, boxed popcorn and a drink in Luxury recliner seating. Movie title will be selected during December and announced either by group email or at the January 6th luncheon and meeting. Suggestions for movie are invited. Movie location pending. For all that want to go, please RSVP to Mike Thompson at [matkct@gmail.com](mailto:matkct@gmail.com) or via text message to 530-521-6675. Advanced payment to collect still to be determined.



Enjoy these photos of some December Birthdays and Candid Camera photos at various Miata events!



Future Miata Owner

