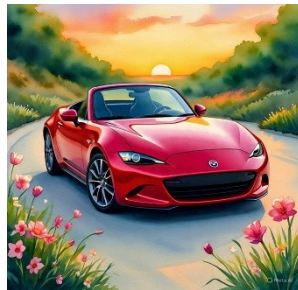


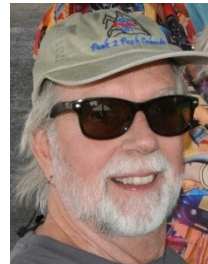


The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



From the Top Down by Robert Olsen

June in Utah is already a perfect backdrop for Miata driving—clear skies, warm mornings, and those long golden evenings that practically beg for a top-down cruise. But what truly elevates the experience in the Utah Miata Club is the incredible contribution of its women members. Their presence isn't just meaningful—it's essential to what makes the club feel vibrant, welcoming, and genuinely memorable.



Women in the club often bring a strong sense of community and connection that turns a simple drive into something more personal. June is full of group outings, scenic canyon runs, and social gatherings, and it's often the women who help shape these into experiences people look forward to all year. Whether organizing meetups, planning routes with scenic stops, or making sure everyone feels included, they help transform events into shared memories rather than just scheduled drives.

There's also a balance they bring to the club culture. Car communities can sometimes lean heavily technical or performance-focused, but the women in the Utah Miata Club help round that out with a focus on fun, relationships, and creativity. June drives aren't just about the road—they're about laughter at rest stops, photos with the mountains in the background, and conversations that carry long after the engines cool down. That balance is a big reason why people keep coming back.

Another important piece is leadership and participation. Many women in the club step up to lead drives, coordinate events, and contribute ideas that keep things fresh. June, being one of the most active months, benefits greatly from that energy. It takes initiative to plan a great route or organize a successful gathering, and the willingness of women to take on those roles strengthens the entire club. There's also something special about representation. Seeing women confidently driving their Miatas, leading groups, and fully engaging in the hobby sends a powerful message—it makes the club more inclusive and approachable. New members, especially women, are far more likely to feel comfortable joining and participating when they see others like them already thriving in the group.

Ultimately, what makes June in the Utah Miata Club so special isn't just the cars or the scenery—it's the people. And the women in the club play a huge role in shaping that experience. They bring warmth, organization, enthusiasm, and a sense of belonging that turns every drive into something more than just a ride.

Robert

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24TH ANNUAL ED "BIG DADDY" ROTH'S RAT FINK REUNION DRIVE

BY STEVE BECKSTEAD

WHEN: SATURDAY JUNE 6, 2026; 9:30 AM MEET IN DRAPER AT HARMON'S GROCERY STORE LOT— 13800 SOUTH, EAST OFF BANGERTEER HIGHWAY TRY AND GET THERE A LITTLE EARLY!

DESTINATION: 404 EAST 300 NORTH, MANTI, UTAH AT THE CITY PARK



The **"Big Daddy" Roth's Rat Fink Reunion** will be lots of fun. Members should eat breakfast before and / or bring a snack to have on the drive. At Harmons take a bathroom break if needed and you can pick up snacks there also. **We will have a short driver's meeting and be on the road by 10:00 a.m.** at latest. We will probably drive via Scofield Reservoir, like we have the past few years which is a scenic drive before arriving in Manti around 1:00 pm or earlier, depending on stops. It is less than a 3 hour drive. There may be some road construction on our route so we'll plan accordingly. The paragraph below about this event was taken from the Rat Fink Car Show website about the event.



"We gather once a year to celebrate the life works and talents of Ed "Big Daddy" Roth. Several Awesome Artists attend the Rat Fink Reunion and share their talents with Car Show Awards, 5K Fun Run Awards and Auction pieces. Come watch the artists at work. Have them create your dream designs. They Airbrush and



Pinstripe on everything! We welcome everyone that has a love for the creations and talents of our "BIG DADDY".

You are welcome to stay as long as you want. We generally leave around late afternoon for home. You can take your own way home or follow the group when time to leave. ***This is a FUN event so hope to see you attend!***



Be sure to support our local Mazda Dealership **BOUNTIFUL MAZDA** for a New or Used Car and for your Service and Parts. (801) 397-2277



bountiful mazda
bmazda.com

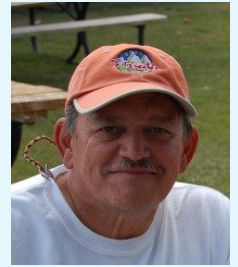


June 2026 Luncheon by Mike Bailey

When: Saturday, June 20, 2026. Time: 12:00 Noon (week later than normal)

**Where: Leatherby's Family Creamery
1872 W. 5400 S., Taylorsville, UT. Private Room**

"A great Summer Treat & Fun" Be sure to come!



Due to June's Rat Fink Car Show event and the Dark Sky event the following weekend at Bryce Canyon, we'll have our monthly meeting this day. You can have lunch or just an ice cream treat. The Elections & Planning Meeting' for next year will be discussed. Be sure to give us some ideas on whom to elect in one of these positions. We have positions of President, Vice President and 3 Board members to elect. After the luncheon / meeting if anyone is interested in doing a short drive please mention it at the meeting and where you would suggest to go.



4th of July holiday Impromptu Drive to Bald Mountain Pass & Mirror Lake: by Mike Bailey When: Saturday, July 4th 2026. Where: Mirror Lake Diner, Kamas, UT.

Time to meet in Kamas: 9:30 – 9:45 AM. Drive Details: Salt Lakers, Utah County members meet at south end of Fashion Place Mall; parking lot at **8:30 AM**. Address is 6400 S. State, Murray. We will drive on I-215 up to Parley's Way on I-80 and take I-40 turnoff to Kamas. Northern members can meet in Kamas at the Mirror Lake Diner; Address: 35 S. Main Street, Kamas, just south of Chevron station where we usually stop. **Breakfast or Brunch here! After Breakfast / Brunch:** Will drive on the road up to Provo River Falls, and if busy there then on to Bald Mountain Pass where we will stop for a moment and take a photo shot and then to Mirror Lake. We'll stop by the restroom there for a break if needed and if there is parking, as the lot is usually full of cars. Usually we can park by the restroom and your passenger can stay in or with car. Drive will officially end there and head own way home. If the Provo River Falls parking lot or area on main road is not packed with cars we will stop there if the group wishes to do that. It's always fun to take the short hike down to the falls and take a group photo if no crowds.



Attention: New Membership Dues Reminder:

The Utah Miata Club is a group of friends who promote our common interest in the Mazda MX-5 Miata, by joining in safe, recreational, and social activities. Your dues permit you to participate in club activities, and to receive the newsletter by email and participate on the club's Facebook Page. Please note that Expiring Soon column now shows your date "Paid Thru". A single membership is \$30.00 for the year, and a dual membership is \$40.00. If your name is among the personalized reminders below, at our next activity please hand a check—payable to the **Utah Miata Club**—to Mike or Kelly Thompson. If you prefer you may mail a check to 2468 E. 1950 N. Layton, UT. 84040. If you have questions Mike may be contacted at 530-521-6675, or by email at utahmiataclub@yahoo.com. Payment types accepted for your dues are cash, check, money order or Venmo: username @UMCTreas. **Please Renew your Membership on the Month its Due!**

Birthdays / Memberships



New Members

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
ANDREW VANTIEM	2025	MACHINE GREY
STEPHEN & MEGAN VANDER HOEVEN	1995	CHASTE WHITE
CHRISTOPHER WONG	2024	MACHINE GREY
CHRIS & MICHELLE MARKARIAN	2014	ZEAL RED
JOE LEVERICH & JOANN JACOBSEN-WELLS	2026	SOUL RED CRYSTAL METALLIC

PATTY ADAMS	14 JUN
DANA BASSETT	21 JUN
JIM BICKLEY	26 JUN
SUSAN CHRISTIANSEN	20 JUN
JANET CICHOCKI	07 JUN
CRISTY HEADEY	03 JUN
MICHAEL HINMAN	07 JUN
KENT HOUSLEY	23 JUN
HEEWON HWANG	15 JUN
DYLAN JENSEN	05 JUN
OBRIST LEIJTEN	10 JUN
MARK MIDGLEY	03 JUN
SHAUNA MILLGATE	02 JUN
JEFF MOON	19 JUN
ROBERT OLSEN	18 JUN
HANK POND	14 JUN
TYLER STARN	08 JUN
MIKE THOMPSON	03 JUN
SPENCE WOOD	28 JUN
RACHEL WOODS	15 JUN

Expiring Soon: \$40. Dual- \$30 Single / Renew Now

NAME	PAID THRU
LETHO & DANA BASSETT	31 JUL 2026
ALI BAZZAZ	31 JUL 2026
AMY BECKSTEAD	31 JUN 2026
JIM & DOROTHY BOWERS	30 JUN 2026
SARAH BURNINGHAM	30 JUN 2026
DONN & JANET CICHOCKI	31 JUL 2026
JOE FELIZ	30 JUN 2026
RULON JENSON & JAGJIT LIDDER	31 JUL 2026
MIKE & GLENDA JOHNSON	31 JUL 2026
TY & SUE KIISEL	30 JUN 2026
TIMOTHY & LISA KING	31 JUL 2026
ANNIE KLOER	30 JUN 2026
DAVID & LORI ORTIZ	31 JUL 2026
RANDALL SMITH	30 JUN 2026
RACHEL & JASON WOODS	31 JUL 2026

Removed From Roster

REMOVED FROM ROSTER	EXP.
BRAD HAMBLIN	MAR 2026

Memberships Expired / Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRED
KAY BARRELL	30 APR 2026
DAVID & SHERRY BARSKI	30 APR 2026
GREG & ALLISON BRIDEN	30 APR 2026
JEFF & KRISTI DURRANT	31 MAY 2026
SAMUEL & KELLY HART	30 MAY 2026
ALEX & SONYA JOHNSON	31 MAY 2026

Club Officers July 2025—2026

President: Robert Olsen Vice President: Mchael Bailey Secretary: Kelly Thompson Treasurer: Michael Thompson Directors: Gordon Nicholl, Valerie Francis, David Scheurer Web Master: Doyle Sturm Newsletter Editor: Mike Bailey, Membership Director: Jackie Nicholl



Summer Picnic, Elections & Planning Meeting;

by Utah Miata Club Board of Directors

When: Saturday, July 18, 2026.

Time: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Lunch 11:45-12:00

Location: Morgan, Utah Riverside Park;

Parkside Bowery #2, 195 E. 125 N. Morgan. Food will be provided by Larry's Spring Chicken Inn, Morgan.



We will be emailing out a google form this month to all members so you can select which meal you'd like to have.

Meal options as follows: 1. **One piece chicken** (white or dark meat selected by member) with potato, roll with butter, and a salad with choice of dressing of Ranch, Blue Cheese, or Thousand Island. 2. **Fish option:** Fish Strips or Fish Burger with bag of chips. 3. **Sandwiches:** Options; Grilled or Fried Chicken, BLT, Grilled Ham & Cheese, Turkey Club or Melt; with bag of chips. 4. **Salads:** Fried or Grilled Chicken, Chef, Tossed Green or Shrimp. Meals will be delivered to the park by Larry's in a bag with your name on it. Water bottles will be provided by the club. You can also bring your own drinks if you wish. Anyone who wants to bring a dessert item or any other picnic item to share with the group is ok to do so. **We plan to have our food delivered by 11:45— 12:00 Noon so please plan to be there on time.**

Drive to Morgan: Northern Members: You can find your own way to the Morgan City Park. **Salt Lakers and Utah County** members can meet at the Fashion Place Mall parking lot on south-east side at **9:00 AM**. We will head up I-15 to Parley's Canyon (I-80) and take the Mountain Dell Reservoir Exit by the Golf Course which is UT HWY 65 and continue to Little Dell Reservoir on right hand side. Will continue straight north up East Canyon. At East Canyon Reservoir we will take the left hand turn onto UT HWY 66 to Morgan. In Morgan we will go directly to the park. If anyone needs anything else to eat there is a grocery store as well as some fast food places for drinks, etc.



Elections & Planning Meeting; 2026: After our luncheon and club meeting we will have our annual Elections. **Positions available are: President, Vice President and 3 Board Members.** Secretary and Treasurer positions will be retained by Mike and Kelly Thompson. **Please let the officers or board members know, in advance, of your desire to serve the club.**

After the Elections we will have our annual Planning Meeting and put on the calendar the dates for our 2027 Luncheons and Drives and hope to assign a club member to plan and execute or volunteer to lead the monthly drive. In addition we will plan other drives and activities for the 2027 year. Let us know during this meeting of any particular drives you'd be interested in having the club do. *Photo: 2019 Elections at Bountiful Mazda*



June Bryce Canyon Dark Sky Nights Presentation

by Mike Bailey



Attention UMC Members going to Bryce in June. I assume everyone participating in this trip have gotten their hotel rooms and accommodations. Itinerary: 4 days (3 nights): Leave Thursday June 11 - Saturday, June 13th coming home on Sunday June 14th.

Most of the group is staying in Tropic except for Steve, Ronda and Amy who will also be staying in Bryce. Lynn and I are staying at the Bryce Canyon Resort in Bryce Canyon City. I know Mark Remington from the Day Tripper's Club is going to make a drive that weekend to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, so we may hook up with him for that. I think it will be on Saturday. Bailey's also plan to stay an extra night (Sunday) and visit with long time members David and Ana Porter who now live in Washington, north of St. George. Haven't see those guys for a couple years now!

We'd love to have more members come join in the fun on this trip as it will be awesome to see the dark night sky without the bright Moon glaring! There are still accommodations in Bryce and Tropic if you'd like to go and the rates are not that bad. I think there may still be some rooms in Bryce on the block I reserved for our group at Ruby's Inn and their properties. I know they have released the block as we had to reply by a certain date. **Please let me know if you are planning to go!** I know Baileys, Mechlings, Nicholls, Durrants and Thompsons are going to Cedar Breaks on the first day on the way down and we'll be taking I-15 to get there quicker. One of us will lead this drive. **We will meet at the Harmon's grocery store parking lot at 13800 S. and Bangerter Hwy. where we usually meet. Time will be 9:00 am.** I know Becksteads; Steve, Ronda and Amy will be going down but may have a different schedule than us as I think they are only staying a couple days. Come and join our group for lots of fun!





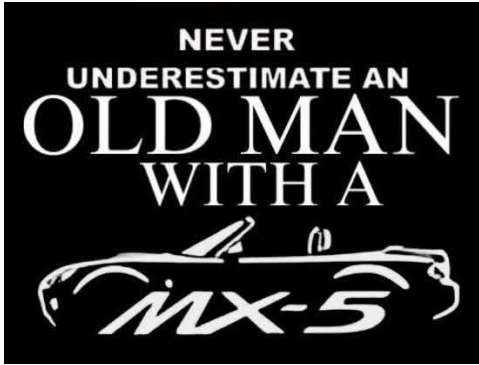
MIATA TIDBITS

by Mike Bailey

Newsorthy Items from UMC Members



Cartoon Jokes and Photos of Miatas



Sign for the Older UMC Members

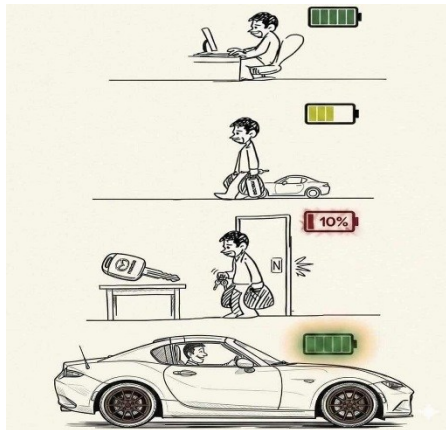
It's so ugly my car can't even keep a straight face!



Photo if you follow a Tesla Truck



Car's Funny Cartoon





MIATA TIDBITS

by Mike Bailey

Newsorthy Items from UMC Members



Aston Martin Look- A- Like: 2007 MX-5 Miata by CarScoops

The Mazda MX-5 Miata has been transformed into an Aston Martin look-alike through custom bodywork by Simpson Design. This unique project showcases the Miata's original 2.0 liter engine and six-speed automatic transmission while adding Aston Martin inspired features such as a long hood, vented front fenders, and Zagato-style wire wheels. The exterior also features 'faired-in' lights and Aston Badges. The interior has been upgraded with beige vinyl bucket seats, woodgrain trim and a wood rimmed Nardi steering wheel creating a luxurious feel reminiscent of an Aston Martin. This custom Miata is sought-after among collectors and enthusiasts.

This body-work was put on a 2007 Miata with 26,000 miles and was sold on BAT (Bring A Trailer) auction site for over \$23,000.00. Question is, would you pay this price for an Aston Martin look-alike Miata?



Editor's note: I think I'd purchase a car like this as the Aston Martin is my next favorite sports car outside of the Miata. Actually most favorite except I can't afford one! (ha, ha) 😊 Just a note; In July of 2008 Aston Martin was promoting its brand downtown at the Grand America hotel and I called Gordy Nicholl to see if he'd like to go downtown to look at Aston's with me and of course he said 'yes'. We went in and the sales guy threw me the keys and said take your pick and you can go anywhere in Utah but be back by mid-afternoon (it was 8 in the morning). I couldn't believe it! We took a brand new Aston Martin Vantage for a half day and drove up Big Cottonwood Canyon after driving by to show it to Lynn. We passed every other car on the road up and down the canyon. I drove up and Gordy drove back down the canyon. We didn't dare drive out to Wendover as we knew we'd probably get a ticket! **It was one of the most fun days we've ever had!**

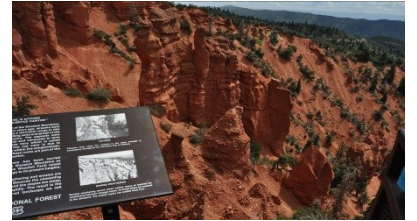


Mt. Nebo Loop August Drive & Luncheon by Mike Thompson



When: Saturday, August 8, 2026 Time: 8:30 AM. Meet: Maverik Store #589 2023 Redwood Road, Saratoga Springs, UT. 84045

In order to beat the August heat we'll meet early in Saratoga Springs and have a short driver's meeting and get on the road soon. We will likely drive south on SR 68 which is the road west of Utah Lake to Elberta, then through Goshen Canyon (our usual way) to the Nebo Market in Nephi where we will take a break (bathroom, etc.) Then we'll get back on the road and drive east out of town on SR 132 to get to the southern end of the Nebo Loop National Scenic Byway. Our drive will end at Payson Memorial Park after driving the Nebo Loop. We will eat lunch and hold our monthly business meeting in the covered picnic area on the east side of the park. There are some fast food places in Payson or bring your own picnic basket. Note: because of road construction we may need to alter our route of travel. *We'll be checking UDOT for updates on the road construction. Note there has also been a wildfire in the Goshen Canyon area because of drought conditions and the dry winter so we may have to make travel route diversions.*



Fall Event Drive with Texas Miata Club In Southern Utah by Mike Bailey

Some of our Miata friends from the Bluebonnet Miata Club are coming to Utah at the end of September this year and would like to hook up with us to see some of our favorite places in Utah, namely some National and /or State Parks. Their dates to be in Utah are from **Sept. 18-24th** with about four days around the Moab area and then



to Capitol Reef and then on to Bryce Canyon and also a drive through Zion before they head back home. I'm thinking we could plan our annual Fall Drive around this schedule and also have some fun with these Miata people who I've known many years!

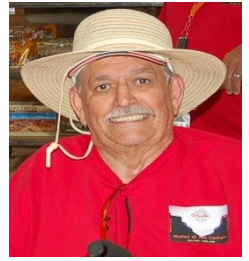
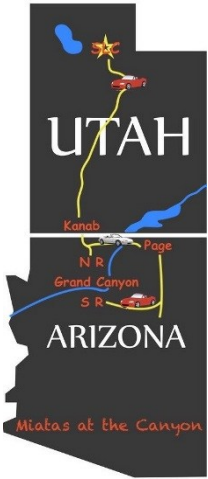


This is the Itinerary of the Texas Club's trip and where they will be on the following days: Friday-Monday, Sept. 18-21: Moab. Tuesday Sept. 24: Capitol Reef NP. Wednesday, Sept. 2: Bryce. National Park. Thursday, Sept. 26: Zion NP. Please let me know if you want to do this event?

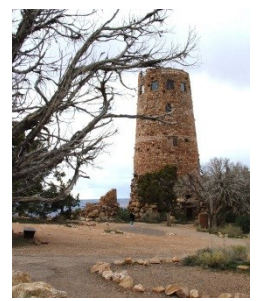


Remembering the North Rim of the Grand Canyon

By Mike Bailey



Exciting news is out this month that the North Rim of the Grand Canyon is now open for visitors after the devastating fire that burned a large majority of the park and including the destruction of the world famous Grand Canyon Lodge. Over 150,000 acres was burned! Fire costs have amounted to over \$135,000,000. Our group went there in 2022 and it was my first Miata trip that I was able to do after my terrible medical problems with Covid related issues. I was in a wheel chair then however with the help of my friends in our Utah Miata Club I was able to go on this adventure and they helped me get around. I really appreciate all the kindness from members of our club! Grand Canyon's 277 miles reveal millions of years of history and has 6,000-foot depths. Most of the roads have been restored however the Lodge has still not been rebuilt as this will take many years, experts say. On our drive this month to Bryce we may go with Mark Remington, a club member with the "Day-Trippers" car club, is planning to drive down there on Saturday. I hope some of us will want to join him in this drive!



Enjoy these photos of Utah Miata Club's June's Birthdays



SHAUNA MILLGATE



CHRISTY HEADY



MICHAEL THOMPSON



MARK MIDGLEY



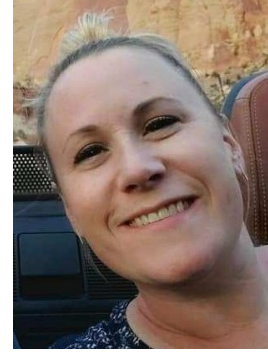
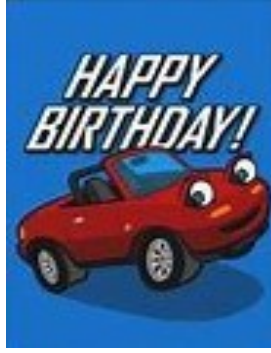
JANET CICHOCKI



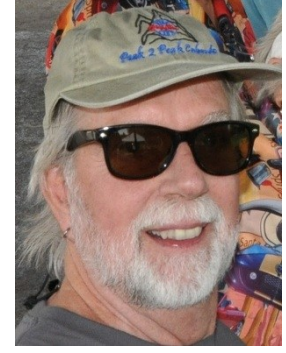
HANK POND



PATTY ADAMS



RACHEL WOODS



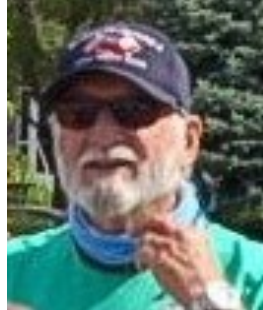
ROBERT OLSEN



JEFF MOON



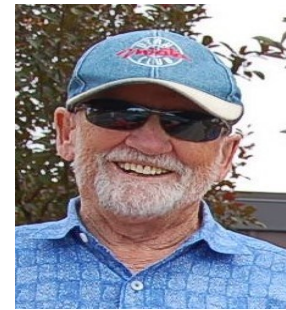
SUSAN CHRISTIANSEN



JIM BICKLEY



KENT HOUSLEY



SPENCE WOOD

Photos not Available: Dana Bassett, Mike Hinman, Heewon Hwang, Dylan Jensen, Obrist Leijten, Tyler Starn Birthdays members photos below at Utah Miata Club events.

Monthly Birthday Celebrations at UMC Luncheons

Monthly Door Prize Give-Aways



New Utah Miata Club Logo Apparel & Merchandise

By Mike Bailey

Denim or Cotton Jackets or Light-weight Windbreaker Jackets or Vests: I can get them for you or provide your own. Large UMC Official Logo or full color Mountains Logo Embroidery or Miata Script font. Name on them if you like and also **"Miata"** font on Sleeve.



Hawaiian Style Miata Shirts: 3 Styles: Lakes, Mountains, Route 66 Desert or Utah Motiefs-Lakes, Cactus, Desert Scenes. All have UMC Miatas on them with UMC Event & Club Logos. Men's sizes only. You will love them. See them this summer on members!



T-Shirts, Sweat Shirts, Yours or Mine! Any logos you want. "Miata" script type on sleeves!

Club Logo Miata Car Magnets: Official or Mountains Logo with color of your Miata! \$25./set of 2. Miata Support Vehicle Mags!



Hats / Ball Caps: Structured, Unstructured Soft-Caps, Military Style Caps Any Logos: Miata Car Image with color options on Miata. Miata Adventure Hats. **"Long Live the Roadster"**. UMC Official logo on any color hat. Hats with USA Flag on the bill. Racing Flames hats! Mountains Logo with color of your Miata. **"Miata" script type font.**

First original UMC Logo: Star with the Miata Logo! Miata American Flag Script type font. **"Miatatude"** font hats. \$20.00—\$30.00 depending on design. Your choice of hat style and logo!





2026 Calendar of Events



June 6th: Rat Fink Reunion Drive; 9:30; See Pg. 2 NL: Steve & Ronda Beckstead

June 11-13: Dark Sky Observation /Starry Night; Bryce Canyon: See Pg. 6 NL.

Mike Bailey & Robert Mechling. Cedar Breaks NP First Day!

June 20th: Luncheon: Ice Cream at Leatherby's 12:00 Noon; Pg. 3 NL: Mike & Lynn Bailey

July 4th: Impromptu Drive: Mirror Lake Hwy. B/F or Brunch— Mirror Lake Diner-Kamas

See Pg. 3 NL: Mike & Lynn Bailey **Happy Independence Day!** 

July 18th: Summer Picnic; 1:00– 3:00 PM; Election & Planning Meeting; Riverside Park / Parkside Bowery #2, 195 E. 215 N., Morgan, Utah; UMC Board of Directors-Pg 5 NL

August 8th: Mt. Nebo Loop Drive; Luncheon Payson Park (BYOL); See Pg. 9 NL: Mike & Kelly Thompson.

September 12th: Lunch at Park in Alpine Time (TBD); Alpine Loop Dr. Mike & Lynn Bailey

September 18th-24th: Fall Drive with Texas Miata Club, Moab / Bryce: See Pg. 9 NL

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

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

December 12th: Annual Christmas Party: Edison Events; 6:00 PM: UMC Board

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



Photo taken at the Bear Lake Rest Stop, June 2024 by Ken Jaworski.



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



CANDID CAMERA PHOTOS OF THE UTAH MIATA CLUB MEMBERS. SEND ME YOUR FAVORITE PHOTOS OF ANY MEMBERS TO INCLUDE HERE. THANK YOU FOR LETTING US TAKE YOUR PHOTO! TRY TO GUESS WHEN AND WHERE THESE PHOTOS WERE TAKEN, IF NOT MENTIONED.

