



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



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

The summer is winding down and the fall leaves are starting to change our driving landscape, especially in the mountains. I noticed a little change in the leaves in Fairview Canyon on 'Amy's Scoot Around Scofield Reservoir' drive the second week in September. Our October drive by Val and Doyle will be up the Alpine Loop in American Fork Canyon. This should be a crowd pleaser, especially if the fall leaves are changing there, which I hope it is. The local weather reports that the fall leaves this year are sort of muted and not as vibrant as they have been in years past, and not sure why. Maybe it is because of all the smoke in the air from all the western wild fires and extreme weather patterns. I for one, am really looking forward to Eric and Kathy's drive to Bryce Canyon, Torrey and Canyonlands the end of September, which will be reported on next month. This will be a great one, with spectacular scenery for that weekend. We have over 40 members signed up to go on this one.

We have been enjoying our outings during this Coronavirus Pandemic, and have been social distancing and eating a lot in the parks. We will continue to do this until things get better. It is just part of what our life is now. I must say that we have had some pretty good drives this summer and it has been fun. We have lots of new members, and especially young people joining our club who want to have fun in their Miatas. We welcome all of you! This club will not disappoint any of you! I want to mention that some of our new members, Adam Gergetz and his girlfriend Micaela Sierra got married August 29th in the Payson Utah Temple. Congratulations to this young couple and we want to wish them the best! Read a little story about them in this newsletter. Speaking of weddings, Lynn and I will be celebrating our 20th year wedding anniversary this month and we had a very special 'Miata Wedding' in the year 2000 which, if you don't know the story, it is also in this newsletter.

(Continued from Page 1)

I want to wish everyone a Happy Halloween this month, and my thanks to Donn Cichocki for his photos of the 30th Anniversary Racing Orange with the Halloween teeth in it's grill. This color is certainly appropriate for Halloween. We don't seem to be having a Halloween party this year, which I am kind of sad about as we have had many, many great Halloween parties through the years with the club. They have been as long as I can remember, on and off for over 20 years. Look for my article this month which show some of the awesome Halloween costumes that members have come up with over the years. I hope you enjoy looking at the photos! Here's to wishing everyone a great Fall season with safe driving and looking forward to more Fall and Winter events that the club will be participating in. **Zoom - Zoom.....Mike**



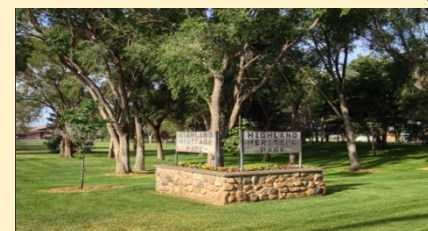
Alpine Loop Fall Leaves Drive By: Doyle & Val

Date & Time: Saturday, October 3rd, 11:30 AM

Location: Heritage Park

Address: 10400 Alpine Way (Corner of 10400 N and 5300 W, Highland)

This park is just south of Hwy 92 and there are lots of fast food places to grab your lunch in this area. The bowery is not reserved so bring your camp chairs or blankets. Weather permitting for the drive!



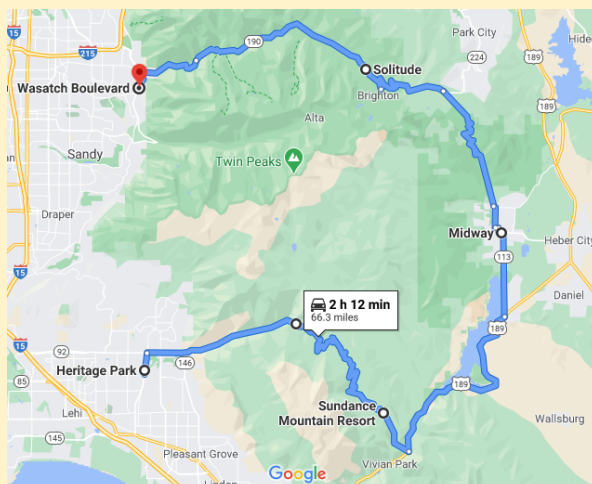
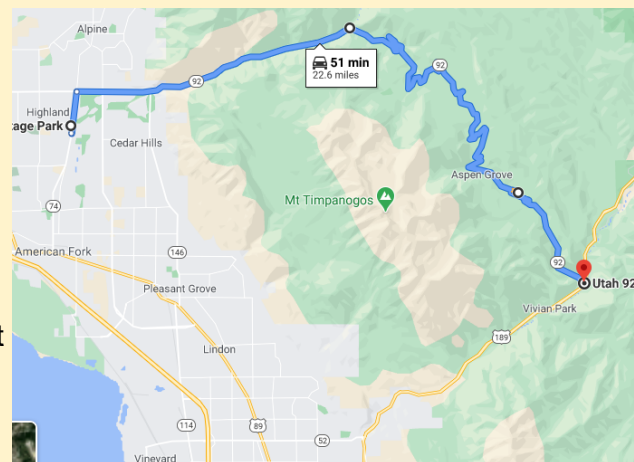
Drive Information:

After the meeting, we will drive back north to Hwy 92 then turn right following Hwy 92 through the Alpine Loop. Soon past Sundance Resort we reach Hwy 189 (Provo Canyon) and the official end of the drive. At this point it is decision time on how you want to return home. Drive time to this point is 51 minutes.

Options include:

1. Turn right to follow Hwy 189 West to Orem and I-15 home. When leaving Provo Canyon take the exit (right) onto Hwy 52 for quickest straight shot route to I-15.
2. Turn left onto Hwy 189 heading to Heber Valley. Be extra careful at this left turn! Can go to Heber, then follow Hwy 189 past Park City and home via Parley's Canyon. Or after passing Deer Creek Reservoir go through Midway, past Wasatch State Park and home over Guardsman Pass. This last route will add 1 hr and 20 minutes for a total of 2 hrs and 12 minutes. If the weather cooperates, the drive leader plans to take this way home.

*Note: Re-con test drive has not been completed yet so option 2 route may need to vary due to possible road construction near Midway. Details will be reviewed at drivers meeting.



Birthdays & Memberships

NEW MEMBERS

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
RICHARD & PATTY ADAMS	2004	SILVER
STEVEN & McKENSEE SPACK-MAN	UNK	UNKNOWN
ROBERT & HARRIET HODGSON	2002	RED

REMOVED FROM ROSTER

NAME	EXPIRED
MICHAEL McFARLAND	6/30/2020
GREGORY & NANCY VANZWEDEN	6/30/2020

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

NAME	EXPIRING
LYNNE AOYAMA	10/31/2020
MARK CRABB	10/31/2020
KENT & DIANNA HOUSLEY	10/31/2020
ROSEANN WHITAKER	10/31/2020
SCHUYLER WHITE	10/31/2020

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

NAME	EXPIRED
DEVIN & KELSEY BROWNING	7/31/2020
DICK & JUDY DYSON	8/31/2020
RICHARD & CHRISTINE MACKERELL	8/31/2020
MARK MIDGLEY	9/30/2020
HEIDI THORNOCK	7/31/2020



NAME	BIRTHDAY
BRIAN CHRISTIANSEN	1 Oct
SEREI PANH	1 Oct
KELLY THOMPSON	1 Oct
ANNETTE GARNER	3 Oct
JAMES FELIZ	4 Oct
GALE KLINSHAW	5 Oct
LEONARD MILLGATE	5 Oct
MICHELE RIDING	5 Oct
TRACY YOUNG	7 Oct
BOB GARNER	10 Oct
DAYNA KISER	14 Oct
RICHARD MUELLER	15 Oct
DAVID CHRISTENSEN	16 Oct
PERLY HEATH	19 Oct
DONN CICHOCKI	20 Oct
KIM RICHARDS	21 Oct
DIANNA HOUSLEY	23 Oct
CORA LEE JCKOWSKI	28 Oct
DARWIN STEED	28 Oct

Membership Dues Reminder

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

Club Officers

President: Mike Bailey

Vice President: Hank Pond

Secretary: Jim Newson

Board Members: Valerie Francis, Brian Christiansen, Ken Jaworski

Treasurer: Margie Newson

Scofield Reservoir Drive Report By: Mike Bailey

We had a great September meeting at the Riverton Western Springs Park with a good turnout of members. The ride for the day was called **"Amy's Scoot Around Scofield Reservoir"**. Since we had a fairly long day with this drive we met a little earlier than usual and didn't do our normal 'lunch in the park'. We instead had a quick meeting to discuss current club business, gave out door prizes, and did the monthly birthdays. We then got in our Miatas and hooked a left turn on the Mountain View Corridor in Riverton. We then headed down Utah Highway 68 on the scenic route past Saratoga Springs and followed the west side of Utah Lake to Elberta.

We started with 21 Miatas, which later turned into 23 cars by the time we got to Nephi, picking up a couple Miatas on the way! We went through our favorite short canyon drive of Goshen Canyon to Mona, and then Nephi for a restroom break. We drove past the turn off to Mt. Nebo Loop, to Fairview Canyon on Hwy 132. Then it was off to Scofield on Hwy 264. I must say that the scenery was spectacular as Steve, Ronda, and Amy Beckstead led us on this journey. (No, they all didn't fit into one Miata if you are wondering!)



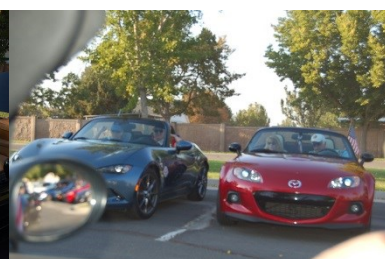
We stopped for a photo op off the side of the road just after passing Scofield Reservoir. Greg White got his drone out and took some video and photos of the group. We then caught Hwy 6 over Soldier Summit and went back home through Spanish Fork Canyon. Several of us took backroads all the way home by taking Hwy 89 in Spanish Fork, thru Mapleton, Springville, Provo, and up and over Suncrest on our way home. Thanks to the Becksteads' for planning this and also doing the pre-trip Re-Con to check out the roads for us. Also thanks to other members for providing some photos for this article. Thanks to everyone who came along and participated.



Patriots Day Parade By: Mike Bailey

Our club was invited to be a part of the **Riverton City Patriot's Day Parade** celebration on September 11th. This was to commemorate the 9/11 terrible tragedy that hit America. I put out the call for Miatas from our club to participate and we had 13 Miatas in the lineup. There were also a couple of Miatas that showed up from my post on our Miatas in Utah Facebook page. These couples are now planning to join the club as they had so much fun with the parade! I was told by the parade committee that over 600 vehicles participated in this drive through the Riverton community.

We arrived about one hour early and spent some time at a church parking lot staging area visiting with many other people and groups, like the Corvette Club and other sports car people. It took about two hours to wind through the parade route amongst the regular traffic as the city did not block off the streets for parade participants. Our group got separated from each other several times. It was a fun parade and I had our 8' club banner flag in between my seats the entire time. After the parade, several of us enjoyed fireworks set off by the city at 9:11 p.m. in various parts of the city. A few of us had good seats on our street at Greg and Angie White's home, our next door neighbors. Thanks to those who came out and participated.



Member Spotlight By: Carol Lynn Vredeveld

Our Spotlight couple this month is Roxanne and Bret Bagley

Once again, we have two new members, Roxanne and Bret that recently joined our Miata loving group of friends ...thanks to their son's enthusiasm for his Miata. He had a friend that was selling one that just happened to be a great fit for his parents. This friend was Steve Tobiasson, one of our long time members that told them about the club meetings and drives.

Brett tells us a little more about the two of them and how they came to join the club below:

Roxanne and I own a 1992 Black Edition Miata with Option "C" package. We do have a personalized license plate; it reads, Oso Rox. I have used the name OsoLot since "creating" it for a license plate on my 1977 Datsun pickup back in high school.



We became Miata fans because of our oldest son Chad. He currently has a 1990 Miata that he had been trying to find a hard top for. One of his co-workers Steve Tobiasson (also a Utah Miata Club member) had mentioned he might be selling his Miata at some point. Chad told him if he ever did want to sell it, to let him know and he'd have cash ready. Steve had bought a new ND and told Chad he was thinking of selling his NA. Chad jumped at the chance to get us to quit taking his car. He took the hard top and gave us "the rest." Steve was a member previously and told us about the Club. We went on our first drive with the Club to Mirror Lake on July 4th and joined right afterwards.



I grew up in Southern Orange County in California. Roxanne grew up in Ashland Oregon. I am a Customer Care Specialist at Purple and Roxanne is a clothing designer/consultant for a Utah based Women's clothes line. She also is a consultant for Perfectly Posh.

We met at a Young Adult LDS Ward in Southern California. We went on several group dates before I got the guts to ask Roxanne out for a date to see Phantom of the Opera. We just celebrated our 27th anniversary on August 13.

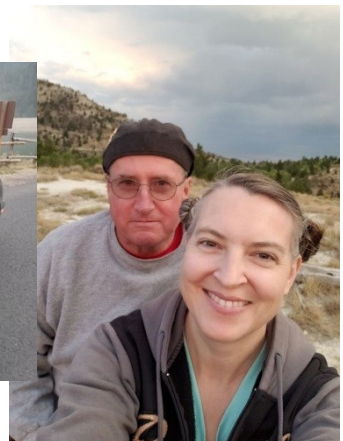
Our whole family is a bunch of computer nerds. We enjoy Age of Empires, Nintendo, and Pokemon Go.

We frequently took our son Chad's Miata out for drives whenever he'd let us, and even "stole" a few drives. It got to the point that Chad was looking for a Miata for us, so we wouldn't be taking his so often. We have a neighbor that was selling one earlier, but we just couldn't pass up the one that Steve had. Steve took immaculate care of the car we have named "Betty." (We name all of our cars.)

We've thoroughly enjoyed the company of the Miata club group and are slowly getting to know everyone. We look forward to going on as many drives as we can and are now understanding the dread our son has when Winter rolls around.

We also dread Winter because we have to garage our fun little sports cars...but the good news is...the fun goes on! We still have monthly luncheons, holiday partys and sometimes even a trip or two, but most important of all, we plan new drives and adventures for the next Miata season. Who knows...maybe your son will come along on a few drives and decide to join the club. Stranger things have happened!

Welcome to the club...we're very glad to have you!

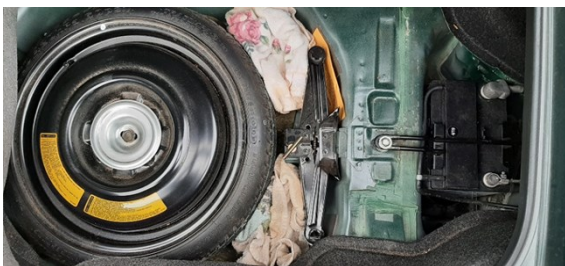


Miata Tales Part 4 By: Ken Jaworski

OK! I actually had someone ask....."Where is the spare in my Miata?"

Well, as we have found out some of you don't have a spare. Sometimes you may wonder where is my spare??

Yep! It's in there somewhere....I think. Really big hint is if you know where your battery is, you will surely find your spare. Just like your tires are the lowest part of you Miata, guess what, so is the spare. After removing multiple layers of masks, gloves, jackets, blankets, owner's manual (see I told you I have it somewhere near by somewhere maybe) and other stuff Jan just has to have with her.



Lifting the hardboard covering the battery it reveals the spare as well. It's a good hiding place for more junk. Make note of the jack, the donut spare, and under one of the rags is a lug nut wrench.

The first thing you want to do is jack up the flat tire so you can replace it quickly.....**not so fast pit crew**. Your best bet is to loosen all your lug nuts while the wheel is on the ground. **REMEMBER** your locking lug nut on your fancy wheel requires a special keyed socket to go over it before loosening it. See the lug nut in photo at the four o'clock position. I've already placed the special keyed socket on the locking lug nut and now it looks just like the rest of the lug nuts. Now, just slightly loosen all four lug nuts. (Righty tighty. Lefty loosie.) If you just had it to the tire shop, they just might have used an air impact gun to tighten on your wheels and this will require mighty muscles to loosen your lug nuts. If necessary, place your lug wrench horizontally and step, yes, I said step on the handle to break them loose. Jump up and down if necessary. Remember when you have your Miata tires rotated or replaced make sure they just use a ratchet and torque wrench to install them.



Now that the lug nuts are loose, it's time to jack the flat tire off the ground. The jack in the Miata is called a scissor's jack. It has a notch in the top that should be placed at the lifting point on the frame and a flat base placed on the ground. Turn the jack handle (not shown) until the flat tire is off the ground.



Replace the flat tire with the very small donut spare, tighten the lug nuts, lower the jack and tighten the lug nuts again. Put your flat tire in the wheel well. Make sure you replace all that stuff back into the trunk before you go cruising at break neck speed to your destination.....not so fast because your donut is speed limited. Look in your owner's manual, or look on your donut to see what the limited speed should be. Mine says 80kph. Go google that up.

For all you other drivers of this great Miata, if you get a flat, follow what you owner's manual says for speed and distance of your run flats.

For all you other other drivers of this great Miata, if you get a flat make sure your AAA card is current or your insurance addendums covers this failure.

Oh yah! and also stay within your telephone coverage for all the above.



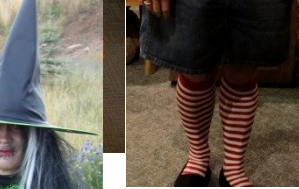
Remember to check your tire pressure because AIR is what you are really driving on.



Miata Club Halloween Costumes By: Mike Bailey

It has been a tradition in the Utah Miata Club for members to plan, host, or go to a Halloween Costume party. We have been doing this for well over 20 years and even before I joined the club 23 years ago. It has always been a very fun event and something we have looked forward to doing at the end of the year when the driving season is over and we start to prepare for Winter. We used to do a lot of Halloween parties at Paul and Annie Kloer's condo clubhouse and have also used Ali & Shylo's condo clubhouse when they had their condo. We have also hosted it at other member's homes as well, namely Ken and Jan Jaworski's home.

This article features many of the great costumes that members have come up with through the years. Way too many to post in this article, but here are some of my favorites. I think I will miss the tradition of going to a Halloween party this year unless someone steps up to host one!



Remember When? By: Mike Bailey



08.29.2020
Payson Utah Temple

This month's Remember When article is about "Miata Weddings". We have had a couple of them that come to mind. First off, I thought of this topic because two of our newest members, Adam Gergetz and Micaela Sierra got married just a little over a month ago on August 29, 2020 at the Payson Utah Temple. Congratulations to Adam and Micaela! We are so happy for you both and wish you the best. This was a surprise to me when they told me the evening on the Patriot's Day Parade, when they arrived in their 2000 Mahogany Mica Miata. They are such a cute couple! Adam and Micaela's first date was to a Miata luncheon and drive in the spring of this year. Can you believe that a first date would be to take your date to a Miata club meeting and luncheon at a park, especially during the Coronavirus! They both live in Provo and attend BYU. Be sure to congratulate them next time you see them.



When Lynn and I first met I had just leased my first Miata, a bright shiny brand new 1997

red Miata in March of that year. I had joined the Miata Club that same month. I asked her out on a blind date set up by a good friend of hers, who was a business client of mine. We went to a 'brew pub' in Cottonwood Heights for dinner, and I picked her up in the Miata. She absolutely loved it, and I'm sure she thought that I was a 'sporty guy'. She was already a fan of convertibles as she previously owned a 1967 convertible Mustang, blue with white top, while growing up. Both her brothers had MG's, and her dad fixed and restored vintage Jaguar's. Needless to say the Miata was a real hit with my date! The Miata lease was for one year for a cost of \$99.00 per month. What a steal, yeh! A year later, after keeping the Miata in the garage for the entire long and cold winter, it was time to get it out. But by then I had to turn it in to the dealer. The day I did that I ended up purchasing a brand new red Mazda 626 right off the showroom floor that caught my eye. When I took it back the next day to get a few accessories added to it there was a car hauler unloading Mazda's off the truck. I saw a 1995 Merlot "M" Edition roll off, which was beautiful. I had researched Miatas all year long and knew what I wanted; which was a special edition with all the accessories, and a color that no one else in the club had. Back then most Miatas were red, white, blue, black or silver. After driving the Merlot, I knew I had to have it, but I just bought a brand new car the day before, so what does a guy do in that situation? I called Lynn at work and asked her to meet me at the dealership for her opinion, but didn't tell her what I was going on. She came down and I said "look what I found" and we took a drive. On her approval, even though I didn't need it, I bought that Miata after the test drive. The rest is history!



Now, to the wedding part. In October 2000, on the 4th day of the month we had a 'Miata Wedding'. We had our entire Miata group meet at the University of Utah Research Park and we drove in a Miata procession up to the Red Butte Gardens. All our guests and family and friends were waiting outside at the entrance and we led the group up the hill with a long line of Miatas. Lynn's flowering veil which stretched down to her waist flowed in the wind as we drove top down up the hill to get married. Our guests marveled at all the Miatas following us with horns honking. It was truly a sight to see!

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(Continued from page 9)

It was an amazing wedding celebrated by all our Miata friends. Many of the older members of the club like Steve Tobiasson and Ron Steckler, Spence Wood, Annette Nielsen, the Moon's, Porters, Kloers, Bowers, Carlsons, and Fergusons will remember it. Another funny thing about that night is that I forgot my tuxedo pants for the wedding... that is another story for a later date!



Another Miata wedding, or engagement, was when Victor and Michelle Ortega, past members of the club, got engaged at Miatas in Moab V in 2012 in Moab. Victor proposed to Michelle during the dinner banquet where over 500 Miata people from all over the country and Canada were present. Victor had a special haircut that night with "Zoom-Zoom" on the back of his head. It was a real fun time for everyone, and many current members were there when this took place. I

know several other romantic stories told by members of other Miata clubs too. Here's to "Remembering When" all those fun events happened. I've tried to keep this year-long article going with something that happened during that particular month of something to remember.

After all, our memories are very precious to us, especially for all of us who are getting older.



Vanity Plates By: Mike Bailey

This month's personalized Vanity Plate is **MX5 RF** which is on a 2020 Poly Metal Grey RF Miata owned by Steve Tobiasson and Ron Steckler. Steve and Ron have been long time club members dating back to May of 1995. They are celebrating their 25th year with the Utah Miata Club and will be receiving their coveted 25th Anniversary Pin. Steve owned the pristine 1992 Black Miata since he first purchased it, and that Roxanne and Bret Bagley just purchased.



2020 Calendar of Events

By: Steve Beckstead

- Oct 3rd:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, Heritage Park, Alpine Loop) – Val & Doyle
- Oct 24th:** Halloween Party (Pending, nothing set up)
- Nov 7th:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, Lunch TBD) – Mike Bailey
- Dec 5th:** Annual Christmas Party (Jim & Marilyn Bickley's, other Details TBD) – Mike Bailey



Candid Camera

By Mike Bailey

Attached are photos of club members from September 2020 events at the Patriot's Day Car Show in Riverton and the Scofield Drive. If anyone wants a photo they have taken of a member to be featured in this monthly article please send it to our Newsletter Editor, Valerie, or to me.


**SMILE
YOU'RE
ON
CANDID
CAMERA**

