



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



GROUP AT PEAK TO PEAK COLORADO EVENT



GROUP AT RANGELY AUTO MUSEUM

From the Top Down

By Mike Thompson



It's October already! During this month it's *possible* we will witness a celestial event unlike anything else in our lifetimes. Personal background: I first heard about Halley's Comet as a child. In 1910 its orbit around the sun had been absolutely spectacular, even frightening to some. And, we were all going to see it's return in 1986. Do you remember it? Most likely you do not. The comet was on the far side of the sun, swallowed up by city lights, and, visible mainly in the Southern Hemisphere. For something I had been anticipating for more than 20 years, it was a big disappointment.

The (*possible*) redeeming experience is in front of us. By name it is Comet C/2023 A3 - Tsuchinshan-ATLAS. The name convention is: "C" for a non-periodic or long-period comet—orbit calculated to be 80,660 years—"2023" for the year it was discovered, "A" means January and "3" indicates it is the third object discovered in the same period. That designation is followed by the names of the two observatories that first spotted it.

Comets are very unpredictable. There is always room for surprise, or disappointment. C/2023 A3 has a very good chance of being a "great" comet, so bright that even a casual observer who is not looking for it will notice it. Already behind us, on 27 Sept the comet came closest to the sun. By the time you read this we may already know that it broke apart, putting an end to the anticipation. But if the stars align (get it?) on 12 Oct the comet will be closest to the Earth, at the point of maximum brightness. Just possibly, maybe, it will be visible without magnification. On the 12th, in the evening after our Fall Leaf Drive, as much as you can, get away from city lights. Look to the west, after sunset. Each day thereafter the comet will rise further above the horizon, and get dimmer at the same time. Comets do not streak across the sky like a meteor. It will appear stationary, with a fuzzy tail pointing (more or less) straight up from the horizon. Hoping for the best!

The Utah Miata Club is a group of friends who enjoy getting together to socialize and share our common interest in the Mazda Miata. Please come join us, and don't forget to send your payment for the Christmas dinner to Margie.

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2024 UMC CHRISTMAS PARTY

RESERVE NOW & Make Payment by OCTOBER 15th. \$30.00 PER PERSON TO MARGIE OR JIM NEWSON.

See details on page 7 of NL.



October Luncheon & Fall Leaf Drive

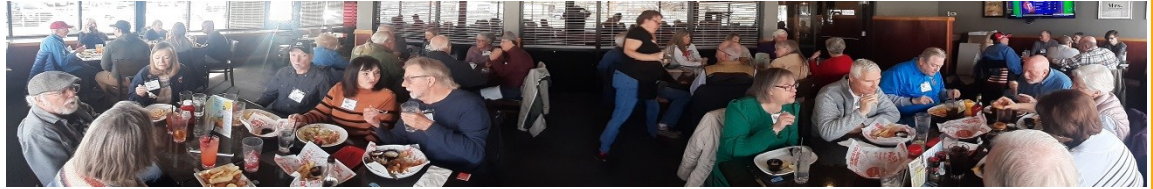
When: Saturday, October 12th at 11:30 am.

Where: Red Robin Restaurant, 316 E. Winchester Ave. (6400 S.) Murray, Utah Meet in Private Room.

Drive: Guardsman's Pass up Big Cottonwood Canyon to turn off to Wasatch Mountain State Park to Midway, to Cascade Springs then drive to the Alpine Loop up American Fork Canyon.

We will have our monthly meeting and then line up in back of Red Robin parking lot. We'll proceed to I-215 and get off the road to Big Cottonwood Canyon.

by Mike Bailey



We'll then take the turnoff at top of canyon to Guardsman's Pass and then the turn off to Wasatch Mountain State Park. We may get a little separated on the pass and if so will stop at bottom of road to Wasatch Mountain State Park for cars to catch up. **Bring your FRS Radios!** After arriving in Midway, we can stop at the restroom by the small pond at golf

course for a bathroom break if necessary. We'll then take the road in Charleston to Cascade Springs where we can stop again if necessary at the rest rooms there. We will take the road to the Alpine Loop and go north to American Fork Canyon. Another option is to turn south for those wanting to go to Sundance and Provo Canyon. The official drive will end there to make our way home. We hope to have a good turn-out on this drive. ***Lynn and I did this drive last year and it was awesome with all the Fall Colors! These photos taken on this drive last year or in past 15 years. You don't want to miss this drive! Best Fall Colors in our local canyons!***



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. A single membership is \$25 for the year, and a dual membership is \$35. If your name is among the personalized reminders below, at our next activity please hand a check—payable to the Utah Miata Club—to Margie Newson, Club Treasurer. If you prefer you may mail a check to 233 W 1550 N, Bountiful, UT 84010. If you have questions Margie may be contacted at 801-295-4563, or by email at sec.treasumc@icloud.com. You may also submit payment by cash, money order or Venmo @ utahmiataclub. It will show Marjorie Newson@utahmiataclub. If prompted for confirmation, last 4 digits of phone # are 1596. [Please Renew your Membership on month it is due!](#)

Birthdays / Memberships



New Members

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
MICHELLE MILLER	2024	AERO GRAY

Expiring Soon: \$35 Dual -\$25 Single /Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRING SOON
FREDERICK ECKSTEIN	10/31/2024
KENT & DIANNA HOUSLEY	10/31/2024
BRUCE SIMON	10/31/2024

Memberships Expired / Please Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRED
TOM ARNETT	7/31/2024
JOSH & TANYA ASHMENT	7/31/2024
SCOTT & CHERYL ATKINSON	8/31/2024
TYLER & SHARIE BECKSTEAD	7/31/2024
RICHARD & MELISSA CHESTER	6/30/2024
KAREN & DALIN CHRISTIANSEN	8/31/2024
LUKE & CHEVONNE DAWSON	6/30/2024
ROBERT & KATHI FACKRELL	9/30/2024
JOSEPH FOWLER	9/30/2024
SABRINA HANSEN	9/30/2024
MARK & SHAUNA MIDGLEY	9/30/2024
CAROL LYNN VREDEVELD	8/31/2024
KIRK & LUZ WARNER	8/31/2024



NAME	DATE
BRIAN CHRISTIANSEN	1 Oct
KELLY THOMPSON	1 Oct
JAMES FELIZ	4 Oct
LARRY PETERSEN	4 Oct
GALE KLINSHAW	5 Oct
LEONARD MILLGATE	5 Oct
DAVID BARSKI	15 Oct
PHILLIP LIFSEY	16 Oct
SHERRY BARSKI	19 Oct
PERLY HEATH	19 Oct
DONN CICHOCKI	20 Oct
KIM RICHARDS	21 Oct
MELISSA CHESTER	23 Oct
DIANNA HOUSLEY	23 Oct



Removed From Roster

NAME	EXPIRED
TERRY BLACK	5/30/2024
PEGGY CORWELL	5/30/2024

UTAH CLUB BOARD & OFFICERS:

President; Mike Thompson -VP; Ken Jaworski Secretary; Jim Newson - Treasurer; Margie Newson - Directors; Robert Mechling, Sue Christiansen, Carol Lynn Vredeveld; Newsletter Editor; Mike Bailey—Assistant Editors; Susan Christiansen, Steven Beckstead



Mt. Nebo Loop Drive Report

by Mike Bailey

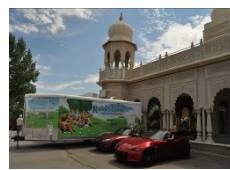
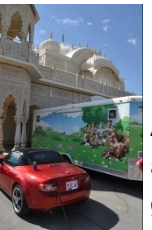
The Mt. Nebo Loop Drive is always a fun drive to take and is not that too far away for us to get there. This year's drive on Saturday, August 10th was excellent. We started off by doing something new which was meeting at the Shri Shri Radha Krishna Temple in Spanish Fork, located just off south Main Street. We had a chance to gather together as a group and visit



the temple, both outside and inside. They had an area with domestic animals that you could see and pet. Inside was a gift store and tables where we ate lunch at Govinda's Vegetarian Buffet which served Thai food. Everyone seemed to enjoy the lunch. We met outside on the patio



before lunch for our monthly business meeting and to discuss the drive. We had a good turn-out of members and a couple new people that wanted to do the drive. When Steve Beckstead was speaking I noticed a bat on the wall behind him up by the ceiling. That was weird!

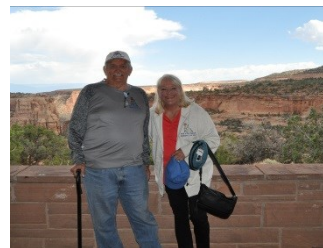


After lunch we lined up and headed onto UT-132 via the Nebo Loop Road. We stopped at Devil's Kitchen and took the small walk to the overlook which reminded us of being at Bryce Canyon. There we took a group photo before heading back to the Miatas. It was a well planned day and drive led by our club President, Mike and his wife Kelly Thompson. After coming off the mountain we went into Nephi to the grocery store and got some ice cream and headed home by way of the Goshen Canyon Road. Several departed via I-15 home to Salt Lake and north while some of us turned off to Elberta to take Hwy. 68 on the west side of Utah Lake. It was a very fun day! Thanks to everyone who participated.



Peak to Peak Colorado Event Report by Mike Bailey

We had 9 Miatas with 17 members attend the Peak to Peak Colorado event. We had a great time with our fellow Colorado Miata friends. There were also a few people from Wyoming and a couple from Kansas. They had some great drives planned for everyone and they were lots of fun. The mountains and scenery is so beautiful there. A thank you goes mainly to Steve and Ronda Beckstead for planning and leading this trip. The Colorado club does not use FRS radios for communications, however we used them for our group. We did not have cell service or wi-fi available to us in the small town of Redstone so that was hard in a way. We played Do-Over card games in the evenings and that was fun. On the way home we stopped at an awesome auto museum in Rangely, Colorado. It was great fun for all! Thanks again for all the members who attended this event and as Steve said "It's been the best trip of the year." I certainly am in agreement with that comment! I know now to never forget and leave my meds at home as it was difficult for me to breathe in the 10,000—12,000 feet elevations. Enjoy these photos of our trip!



Happy Halloween / Miata Life by Mike Bailey

Miata Life is a new feature in the newsworthy Miata related items month features our fun, exciting the club almost 28 year ago.

UMC Newsletter which is the Editor's take on some that may be interesting to club members. This Halloween parties we've been having since I joined I hope we are able to continue to do parties!





Christmas Party Details

By Michael Thompson

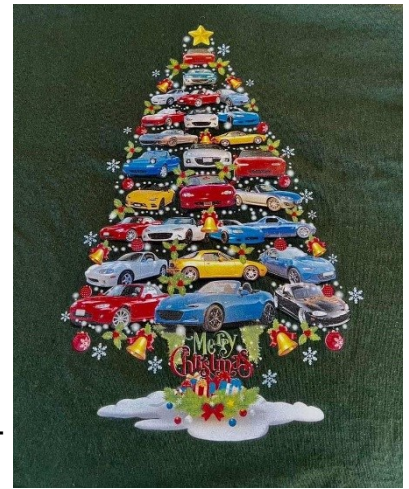
Date: Saturday, December 14, 2024 **Time:** 6:00 pm **Edison Street Events**
Location: 3331 E. Edison Street (145 E.) Salt Lake City (formally the Organ Loft) **Buffet Dinner provided.**

New this year: We will have our buffet dinner catered professionally. We voted on at the Summer picnic to pay for most of the cost by the members, with a portion paid by the club. Currently we have 31 members signed up who have paid for their meal. We need at least 50 members as the club has paid a deposit for this many. Please send your reservation and payment to Jim or Margie Newson.

Cost for Member: \$30.00 per person, \$60.00 per couple. Price includes sales tax & gratuity. The club pays a portion of the regular price for your dinner as the meal prices are higher than what you are paying.

Reservations Needed ASAP by October 15th. Please send reservation to Jim / Margie Newson with pre-payment: Cash or check or Venmo account: *If paying by Venmo* type in **utahmiataclub**. It will show **Marjorie Newson@utahmiataclub**. Or you can pay at next club meeting or mail to 233 W. 1550 N. Bountiful, UT. 84010. Put 'Christmas Party' on your payment if Venmo. **Please commit NOW.**

We will have our "White Elephant" Gift Exchange so please bring one gift per person for exchange.



November 9th Luncheon & Drive

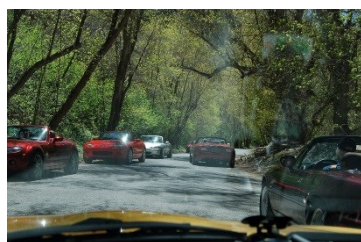
by Mike Bailey

Location: Jim's Family Restaurant, Riverton, Utah
(approx. 12750 S. Redwood Road). 801-446-7670
Saturday, Nov. 9th Time: 11:30 am. **Private Dining Room**
Drive Information: Drive will be led by Gordy & Jackie Nicholl.

JIM'S

Family Restaurant

After our monthly business meeting we will meet in parking lot on west side and line up our Miatas. We will go south on Utah Hwy. 68 (Redwood Road) to State Hwy. 73 turning right past Eagle Mountain and drive past West Mercur to the East Ophir Canyon Road to Ophir. We'll be touring part of the old pioneer town and the drive will end in Ophir.



MIATA TIDBITS BY MIKE BAILEY

Ever wonder if a part from another year Miata will fit your Miata? Are most parts interchangeable from a NA to a NB to a NC (first, second or third generation) Miata? And then there's the ND (fourth generation). Find out by going to



Miata.net Garage. Check out almost any category of parts or service items. You will find information on the following: Maintenance, Engine & Drivetrain, Power, Handling, Tires & Wheels, Interior, Exterior, Lighting, Handling, Car Care, Tops / Windows / Tonneaus / Rear Boot Covers, Audio/Electronics, Parts, Links to other things, and Care for Winter and other seasons. **Miata.Net is a great source for anything Miata related so be sure to check it out!**

Here is a link to it: <http://www.miata.net/garage/>

A couple photos for Halloween courtesy of Miata.net. Don't let your Miata get the Best of You!



Roadtrippin' Over Memorial Day May 24th – 26th, 2025 By Roger Heath

Two night, three day roadtrip over Memorial Day weekend traveling through the red rock area in southeastern Utah. After meeting up at the Chevron Gas station, 3601 E Powerhouse Rd, Spanish Fork, we'll head out on Hwy 6 to the junction of Hwy 89. Turning south we stay on 89 until we get to Salina. Depending on the weather we can jump on I-70 and head east for a few miles and drive over Hwy 72 into Loa, otherwise we'll head to Torrey and then to Hanksville for the first night. Day 2 we go southeast out of Hanksville and through Hite then up to Blanding and Moab before stopping in Green River for the second night. Coming home on Monday there are various routes you can take, quickest is Hwy 6 back to Spanish Fork. Or, I-70 to Salina then north to Nephi and I-15. Another possibility is Hwy 6 to Price, then over to Duchesne towards Beaver or Kamas and home.



Possible side trip would be Goosenecks State Park on the way to Blanding. This would add about 50 miles to the drive from Hanksville to Green River.

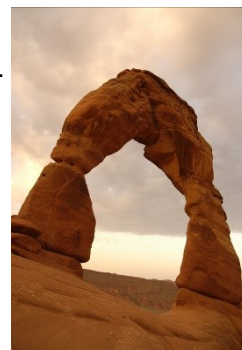
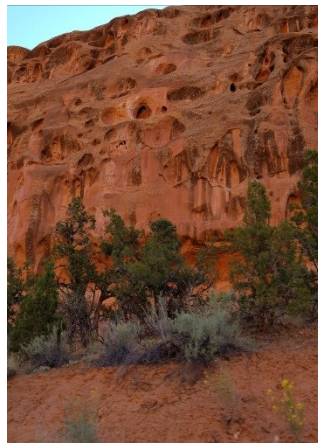


Suggested hotels:

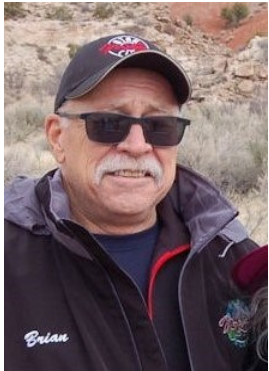
Hanksville, May 24th, Whispering Sands Motel – [hotels.com](https://www.hotels.com) (you can book directly on the hotel website however you will be charged for the night's stay as a deposit and 10% penalty if you cancel. If you book on hotels.com there is no upfront payment nor penalty if you cancel)

Green River, May 25th, River Terrace Inn - <https://river-terrace.com>

*There is other lodging in Hanksville however they are more expensive and are cabins. Please check the event on the Utah Miata Club Facebook page for all details and updates.



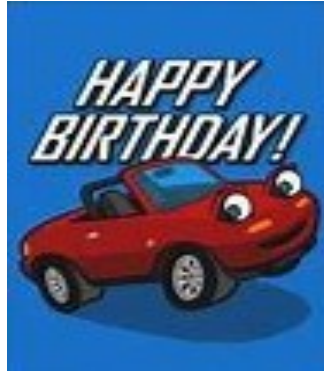
Enjoy these photos of Utah Miata Club's October Birthdays



BRIAN CHRISTIANSEN



DAYNA KISER



DIANA HOUSLEY



PERLY HEATH



DONN CICHOCKI



LENN MILLGATE



DAVID & SHERRY BARSKI



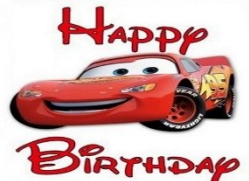
JAMES (JOE) FELIZ



LARRY PETERSEN



KIM RICHARDS



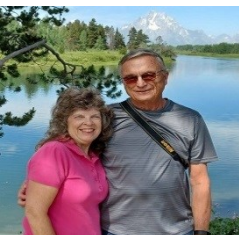
GALE KLINSHAW



KELLY THOMPSON



MELISSA CHESTER

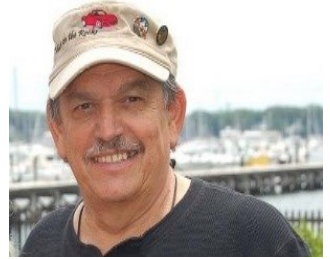




Miata Swag —Apparel, Car Club Magnets

By MiataWear Man: Mike Bailey

Club Jackets: Wind Breakers or Jackets or buy your own and I'll put any UMC Logo on it for you. Prices depend on Jacket. Many colors to choose from. Lightweight and fits behind your seats. Great for cooler mornings and evenings.



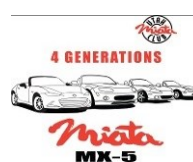
Roadster
Miataitude
Miata

Beanie Knit Hats: Many colors and styles to choose from with MX-5 or logo on them. **Club Magnets:** Official Club Magnets or Mountains Logo Magnets with color of your Miata on them. Cost is still \$25.00 per pair of two. **Hats:** All kinds of Miata type Logos: Ladies Hats also.



Ball Caps: Standard Structured or Soft Caps for ladies & men.

UMC CAR MAGNETS: \$25.00 / PAIR. OFFICIAL OR MOUNTAINS LOGO





2024 Calendar of Events



Please Note: Our 2024-2025 year we will have our Monthly Luncheon, Meeting and Drive on the Second Saturday of each month which is a change from our previous calendar schedule. Some exceptions apply such as Holidays or other events that may affect this schedule.

- October 12th:** Luncheon & Drive: Red Robin Restaurant; Local Fall Leaf Drive (Pg 2 NL) / Guardsman's Pass / Wasatch Mt. State Park / Cascade Springs on Alpine Loop Drive Road: Mike & Lynn Bailey
- November 9th:** Luncheon & Drive: Jim's Restaurant; Drive to Ophir; See Pg. 8 NL: Gordy & Jackie Nicholl
- December 14th:** Christmas Party: 6:00 pm; Edison Events / Organ Loft; See Pg. 7 NL: Officers & Directors

PLEASE LET EDITOR KNOW OF ANY ITEMS THAT NEED TO BE ADDED TO THIS CALENDAR

2025 Calendar of Events



- January 11th:** Luncheon: 11:30 (TBD) Need Location & Member to be in Charge
- January 7th or 11th:** Megaplex Movie; "Wicked" Time: (TBD) Jordan Commons; Mike & Lynn Bailey
- February 8th:** Luncheon: 11:30 (TBD) Need Location & Member to be in Charge
- March 8th:** Luncheon: 11:30 (TBD) Need Location & Member to be in Charge
- April 12th:** Luncheon: 11:30 (TBD) Need Location & Member to be in Charge
- May 10th:** Luncheon & Drive: Cycle Karts; Huntsville; Ken Jaworski -Time & Date (TBD)
- June 7th or 14th:** Rat Fink Show-Manti: Need confirmation on date: Steve & Ronda Beckstead
- July 5th:** Impromptu Holiday W/E Drive & Luncheon (TBD): Mike & Lynn Bailey
- July 19th:** UMC Summer Picnic / Annual Elections-Planning Meeting (TBD); Board of Directors



PLEASE SIGN UP WITH EDITOR TO SUGGEST, PLAN OR LEAD A DRIVE FOR 2025



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 planning events!**



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR DEALER SPONSOR BOUNTIFUL MAZDA



CANDID CAMERA— BELOW: PHOTOS OF THE UTAH MIATA CLUB MEMBERS: TAKEN AT PEAK 2 PEAK, COLORADO EVENT. SEND ME YOUR FAVORITE PHOTOS OF ANY MEMBERS TO INCLUDE HERE.

