

# RAGTOPS TO RIDGES



September 2017

## "The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club"



### From the Top Down

Presidents Message

Submitted by: Lou Vredevelde

Busy, Busy, Busy that's about all I can say about July and August. We started with our July 1st luncheon at Granny Annie's in Kaysville with over 40 members in attendance. Followed by a fun drive up to Bear Lake planned and lead by our V.P. Steve Beckstead. Most everyone stopped for Raspberry Shakes once we got to the lake. Hank Pond had heard of a gas station just west of the lake that made great shakes and malts. That turned out to be an understatement, they were some of the best.

Then on July 7th a group of club members with friends and family left for the "Trip of a Lifetime". A 15 day, Grand European River Cruise. We visited The Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Hungary along the Main, Danube and Rhine rivers. Many in the group extended the trip with pre and post adventures all over Europe. With the majority of Newsletter contributors on the trip not getting back before the end of July or first of August we did not enough time to get out the August Newsletter. In its place we did a Group email to everyone detailing upcoming events and functions.

August 12th brought along a BBQ\Luncheon and Meeting at the home of Mark and Susan Vaughn with again 40 plus members in attendance. The Vaughn's



[www.utahmiataclub.org](http://www.utahmiataclub.org)

### Inside This Issue:

From the Top Down	Pg 1- 2	Viking River Cruise	Pg 7
Birthdays/Memberships	Pg 3	Mattse Trip	po 8-9
Summer July BBQ	Pg 4	Candid Camera	Pg 10
Fall Club Picnic	Pg 5	UMC Miata Challenge	Pg 11
Dues/Viking River Cruise	Pg 6	Caribbean Crusie	Pg 12
		Just For Fun/Calendar of Events	Pg 13



hosted a tremendous event, featuring Hamburgers, Brats with all the fixings. Thanks again you two for all your support of our club. During the Meeting we voted and pasted a small club dues increase. This is something that has not been done since the club was started in 1992. The increase is \$10.00 per year for a couple making a dual membership \$35.00. Single and Sponsored membership will remain at \$25.00. This small increase will help the club keep up with inflation and remain solvent in the future.

August 20th brought the MATTSE, a week long Miata trip to view the Total Solar Eclipse and visit sites like the Little Big Horn, Devils Tower along with Mount Rushmore and the Bad Lands of South Dakota. This road trip includes some of what I consider the best Miata roads in the Dakotas.

September brings the annual club picnic at the Morgan Park Pavilion. This is a catered event with food furnished by the club and has proven to be an enjoyable get together. My thanks go out to Jim and Margie Newson for setting this up for us again this year. They do tremendous

job as the Club Secretary and Treasurer keeping track of our membership and finances. Kudos also go out to all our elected and appointed club management members, together they make our club the success it is.

The Club is looking for a Newsletter Editor that can layout the pages of the Newsletter. The club will furnish all necessary equipment and training to enable a club member to assemble the Newsletter on a monthly basis. Should you be able to devote a few hours a month to keep our Newsletter going, please contact me and I will answer your questions. Please visit our Web Site ([utah-miataclub.org](http://utah-miataclub.org)) for all upcoming events and club information.



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

**President:**  
Lou Vredeveld

**Vice President:**  
Steve Beckstead

**Secretary:**  
Jim Newson

**Treasurer:**  
Margie Newson

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

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Crystal Miller

**Webmaster:**  
Doyle Sturm





# NEW MEMBERS

**William Payne**  
**1995**  
**Montego Blue**



**WELCOME TO THE CLUB**  
**VISIT: [WWW.UTAHMIATACLUB.ORG](http://WWW.UTAHMIATACLUB.ORG)**  
**OR [WWW.UTAHMIATACLUB.COM](http://WWW.UTAHMIATACLUB.COM)**

NAME	DATE
JAMES VREDEVELD	4 Sep
MATTHEW HARRIS	17 Sep
FRANK HOUSER	22 Sep
KAREN CHRISTENSEN	23 Sep
KAY HATCH	24 Sep
MARY KAPSCHULL	25 Sep
ANA PORTER	29 Sep

## MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED

NAME	DATE
ALI & SHYLO BAZZAZ	7/31/2017
JIM & MARILYN BICKLEY	6/30/2017
JOY CARLSON	6/30/2017
JOHN CARPENTER	6/30/2017
DALIN & KAREN CHRISTENSEN	8/31/2017
DONN & JANET CICHOCKI	7/31/2017
BEN COHEN	5/31/2017
ROBERT CUNLIFFE	7/31/2017
LAUREL & THOMAS DRYSDALE	8/31/2017
RICHARD & JUDY DYSON	8/31/2017
JOSEPH EAMES	7/31/2017
MATTHEW & CHARISSE HARRIS	8/31/2017
KAY & JUDY HATCH	8/31/2017
CRAIG & CANDY HENDRIX	7/31/2017
ROBERT & GALE KLINSHAW	6/30/2017
PAUL & ANN KLOER	8/31/2017
KELVIN & MARY MCKNIGHT	7/31/2017
DANIEL & JOY MITCHELL	5/31/2017
SHAWN SELLERS	8/31/2017
ROBERT SMITH	7/31/2017
DARWIN & LORI STEED	6/30/2017
STEVE TOBIASSON	8/31/2017
JEFF WIGHT	5/31/2017
GARY WILCOX	7/31/2017

## REMOVED FROM ROSTER

NAME	DATE
CATHY CORDILL	4/30/2017
BRADLEY LOWE	4/30/2017
LARRY & KATHY PETERSEN	4/30/2017
RICHARD TEASDALE	4/30/2017

## EXPIRING SOON

NAME	DATE
CAL & DIANNE BLACK	9/30/2017
JOHN & CANDY COX	9/30/2017
WILLIAM & MARY KAPSCHULL	9/30/2017
MARK & SHAWNA MIDGLEY	9/30/2017

## Membership Dues Reminder

If you wish to renew your membership, and we hope you will, please give or send a check to Club Treasurer, Margie Newson, for the appropriate amount. It is \$27 if you have the newsletter emailed to you or \$45 if you would like a hard copy sent by standard mail. A Dual Membership dues of \$35.00. You can also pay your dues online on our website: [utahmiataclub.org](http://utahmiataclub.org) with PayPal online. This method is \$27 (the extra covers PayPal fees.) If mailing a check, please send it to: 233 West 1550 North, Bountiful, Utah 84010 (Phone 801-295-4563) and make it out to Utah Miata Club. Margie can also be contacted at the following email address: [sec.treasumc@icloud.com](mailto:sec.treasumc@icloud.com)



## Summer July BBQ

*by Mike Bailey*

The Summer July Luncheon and BBQ was hosted at Mark and Susan Vaughn's home in Murray. They had their kitchen and back yard all set up for our Miata Club group and we all had a wonderful time. Mark cooked burgers and brats and they had all the trimmings and drinks for us. All we had to do is show up and enjoy! Lou conducted our monthly meeting to discuss our upcoming events. It was a good time for all.





# Fall Club Picnic

by Mike Bailey

When: Saturday, September 9, 2017

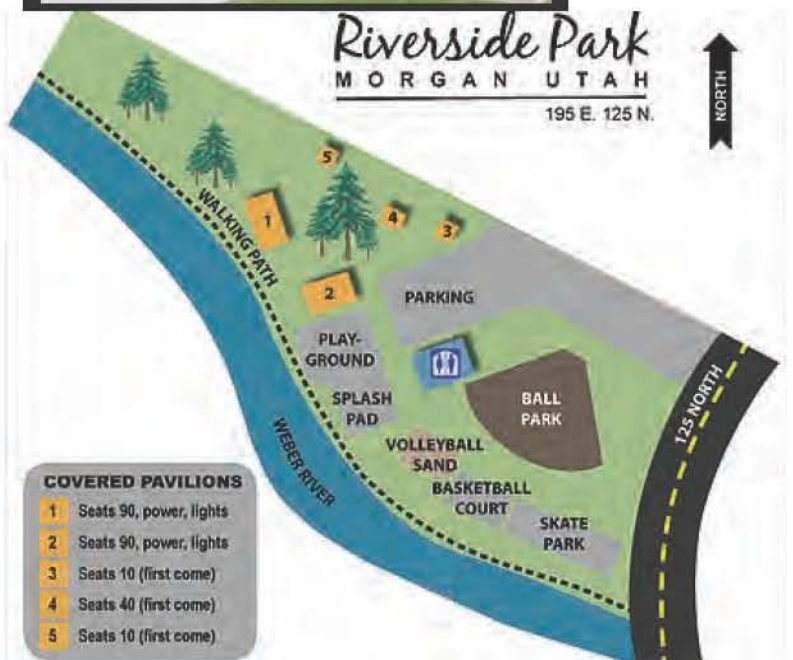
Time: 12:00 Noon

Where: Riverside Park in Morgan, Utah

The Annual Fall Club Picnic will be at the Riverside Park in Morgan, Utah. It will start at 12:00 Noon. We will have the same pavilion as we had in 2015. Food will be furnished by the club. Menu will consist of pulled pork and chicken sandwiches, coleslaw, baked beans and chips and soft drinks. You can bring your own other drinks if you wish. We would like to request a pot luck for any dessert or fruit by club members or any other treats to share. We don't need a lot of them so if you don't bring anything, it is ok.

Those leaving from Salt Lake Valley and South will meet at the Park and Ride Lot off 900 East and I-215 on north side of freeway next to the American Mortgage building. We will leave at 9:45 sharp so please be there

by 9:30 am. Or you can make your own way up to Morgan by the route you choose to take. The group will take a scenic back road drive up Parley's Canyon and drive up East Canyon to get to Morgan. The Riverside Park is located at 195 East 125 North in Morgan. Anyone is encouraged to bring some games to play at the park or bring balls, mitts, fishing poles, etc.. Hope to see everyone there as it will be a good time.



## Notice of Dues Increase

by Lou Vredeveld, President

The directive discussed at the last quarterly Officer's and Director's meeting on a proposal to increase the annual Utah Miata Club's membership dues has been voted on by the membership attending the August luncheon and meeting. It was proposed to increase the annual membership dues by \$10.00 per year for a couple, making the 'Dual Membership' dues of \$35.00. A Single and Sponsored membership dues will remain at \$25.00.

The membership dues has not changed for 26 years. We have found with inflation and increased costs to run the club and provide and pay for meals and activities, that this fee is necessary to keep up with current costs and for the club to remain solvent in the future. Your club has provided many meals and paid expenses for a variety of events in the past years. The vote to increase the dues was voted on and unanimously passed at the August luncheon by members in attendance.

Thank you for your continued support of the club.  
Your 2017 Officers and Directors

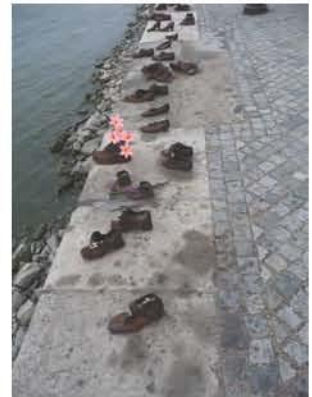
## Viking River Cruise Report

by Mike Bailey

Our 15 day + Viking River Cruise was absolutely fabulous. We all had so much fun. It took three long years to plan it and it was every bit as wonderful as it could be. We all enjoyed each other's company so much. We had 172 Miata people (86 couples) from Miata clubs all across the country participate, from the West Coast to the East Coast and from the Northwest corner to Florida. Photos from our cruise include the Amsterdam Canal, Gordy at Stuttgart, Germany Miata Club event, Miltenberg, Germany Castle, Windmills in Kinderjyk, Netherlands and Royal Palace in Budapest, Hungary. Other photos in Amsterdam. Be sure to send in your 5-10 most favorite photos to Doyle and Mike to put on the club Website Cruise Gallery.



# Viking River Cruise Report Photos Continue





## MATTSE Report

by Mike Bailey

The Total Eclipse of the Sun or MATTSE trip as we called it, was totally awesome. We drove from Rawlins, Wyoming to Casper starting at 5:00 a.m., anticipating lots of traffic. The traffic was fairly mild. We set up in the Walmart parking lot as a group and bought \$5.00 camp chairs there to sit on. We had a blast waiting for the eclipse to start. Robert Mechling set up a couple sets of binoculars for us to look out of. The Eclipse was amazing! A once-in-a-lifetime event that was very exciting for all of us and worth the trip.

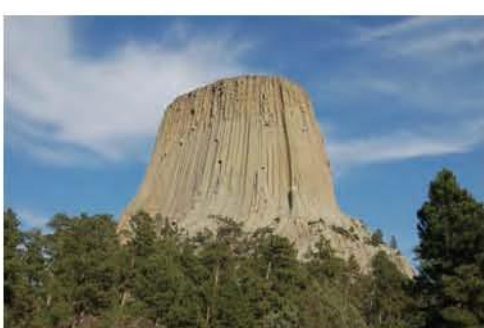






*Mattse Trip, Part 2*

After the Eclipse we drove to Sheridan and Northern Wyoming and into Montana. Then went to Mount Rushmore. We made a stop in Sturgis, South Dakota and drove through Deadwood and Lead. Went through the Needles, an amazing twisty road. Went through part of Custer State Park and to the Custer Museum where the Battle of the Little Big Horn and Custer's Last Stand took place before heading through Nebraska and part of Colorado on our way home through Vernal, Utah. It was a great trip and we had lots of fun together. Several exotic cars like a McClaren and Lamborini's passed us along the way. Joining us were our Miata friends from back east, George and Patty Chase from New Hampshire and Robert and Gale Klinshaw from New York. We had so much fun with them. The Utah Club put on approximately 2,000 miles on our Miatas.



# Candid Camera

by Mike Bailey

Candid Camera photos are from our July or August 2017 Luncheon. We have lots of fun club members and lots of good times!



# UMC Miata Challenge

by Todd Christopher & Mike Bailey

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

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

## 2017 UTAH MIATA CLUB DRIVING CHALLENGE

### Instructions

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

**Good luck and Zoom-Zoom!**

### Destinations

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

### Roadside Oddities

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

### History of the Automobile

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

### Club Participation

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

### Cities, Counties and States

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

### Bonus

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

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

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



## 2018 UTAH MIATA CLUB: WESTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

**8 Days: February 25 – March 4, 2018**

### Itinerary:

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



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



Photos: Outside Balcony Suite



Surfing onboard the Ship

**BOOK NOW with Amber  
for Best Rooms!**

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

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

# JUST FOR FUN



## 2017 Calendar of Events

*(Submitted and updated by Steve Beckstead)*

**September 9th:** Summer Picnic (Morgan Park) Monthly Meeting (Lou Vredevelde)

**October 7th:** 11:30 Meeting and Lunch (TBD-Mike Bailey) - Monthly Meeting (Lou)

**October 28th:** Halloween Party (Details TBA)

**November 4th:** 11:30 Meeting and Lunch (TBD-Mechlings) – Monthly Meeting (Lou)

**December 9th:** Merry Christmas Party (Catered) - Mike and Lynn Bailey