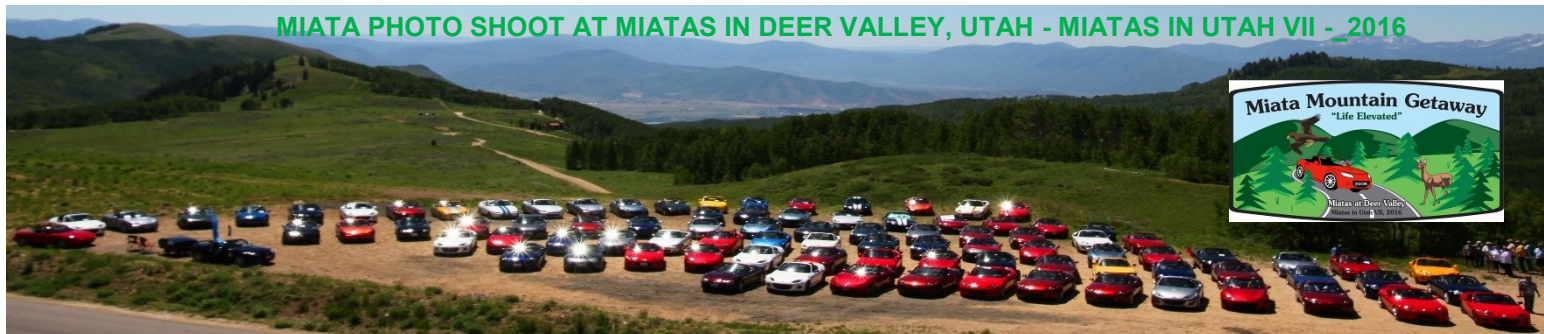




## The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club

MIATA PHOTO SHOOT AT MIATAS IN DEER VALLEY, UTAH - MIATAS IN UTAH VII - 2016



### From the Top Down by Mike Thompson



Is the MX-5 a 'chick' car? (Not to be confused with a chick magnet.) From the beginning this has been said—at times in a whisper, at others, out loud—about our beloved roadster. It's meant as a bit of a put-down. What's behind this?

First, many women buy and love to drive the Miata. Sources say more than 60% of *all* automobile purchases are made by women. And they are a *strong influence* for the 40% of cars bought by men. If you do the math that's 85% of the entire automobile market that is swayed—even driven—by female consumers. The very best of intelligent business and marketing *should* appeal to the distaff side of the population.

Is there something else going on? There are obviously more 'muscular' cars on the market, if horsepower is what moves a car out of the 'chick' category. Looking at just convertibles: Boxster (493 hp) is \$90K+, Corvette (495 hp) starts at \$70K and goes to almost double, BMW Z4 (255 – 382 hp, depending) starts at \$55K, Lexus LC (471 hp) starts at \$100K. I have not listed any exotics, which can cost \$250K, and vastly more. Not one of these cars is more reliable, more efficient, more usable, safer, comes with better fit and finish or gets better gas mileage than the much more affordable Miata. Any of them can blow the MX-5 away in a straight-line quarter mile. Do they provide more fun per dollar? You decide.

The Miata has been on *Car and Driver* magazine's list of the ten best cars 17 times. *Sports Car International* includes the Miata in their list of the ten best sports cars of all time. Well-known English automotive critic Jeremy Clarkson wrote: "The fact is that if you want a sports car, the MX-5 is perfect. Nothing on the road will give you better value. Nothing will give you so much fun. The only reason I am giving it five stars is because I can't give it fourteen." And on, and on. If none of that is manly enough, then go ahead, let the women have all the fun.

We have so many great drives and activities on the calendar. And be honest: Do you think you could find a better group of friends if you joined the clubs for any of the cars I mentioned above? Nah! Come be a part of our Utah Miata Club activities. You will love it!

Mike

### Inside This Issue

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# March Luncheon & Meeting & Drive by Carol Lynn Vredevelde

**Where:** [Jim's Family Restaurant](#)  
1728 W Park Ave, Riverton, UT 84065  
(approx. 12800 So. Redwood Road)

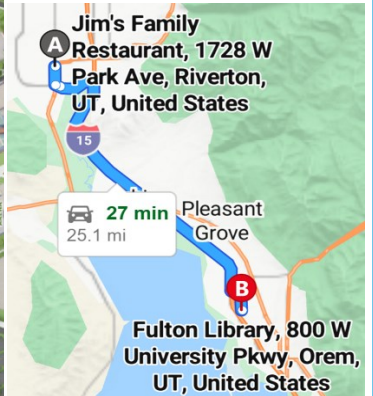


**When:** [11:30 am Luncheon and Meeting](#)  
12:50 pm Depart restaurant heading towards;

**Event:** ["Roots of Knowledge" UVU Fulton Library, Orem](#)  
800 West University Pkwy, Orem, UT  
**1:30pm Guided tour: Admission: Free**



After our luncheon and monthly club meeting we will line up our Miatas outside of Jim's on the west side and head out to Utah Valley University's Fulton Library in Orem. See driving instructions below the maps at bottom of this article. We will turn right at the stoplight by Jim's and go south to Bangerter Hwy. and head eastbound to I-15. The "Roots of Knowledge" exhibit is in the **Bingham Gallery** on the first floor of **UVU's Fulton Library** at the UVU Campus in Orem. We had visited this exhibit once before, in February 2019...those of us that went really enjoyed the experience. The story of humanity from the beginning to the unforeseen future is depicted in beautiful stained-glass panes, and I had never seen anything quite like this before here in Utah.



**Driving Route to Fulton Library and Parking:** As mentioned above, we will turn right on Redwood Rd. and follow Bangerter Hwy. to I-15, and turn right (south) on the freeway traveling south approx. 25 miles to **exit 271** (about 27 min). **Take the University Parkway exit left towards Orem (1200 S.). Stay in left lane and turn at 1st left to College Dr. Go right at roundabout, follow College Dr. to Library.** Parking lot south of library and additional parking west of library. There is plenty of parking since it is a Saturday in the student and employee parking lots.

A "Roots of Knowledge" representative will meet us at the Fulton Library to tell us all about the exhibit. There will even be a scavenger hunt for those that would like to participate. This event is **FREE** to attend.





### 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, or money order.

### Birthdays / Memberships



#### New Members



NAME	YEAR	COLOR
RICHARD LANE	2017	GREY
JORDON & TIFFANY BIGELOW	2006	GREY/BLUE

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

NAME	EXPIRING SOON
JIM & MARILYN BICKLEY	3/31/2024
DOUGLAS KLUENDER	3/31/2024
TRAVIS LAMBERT	3/31/2024
ROBERT & SHARON MECHLING	3/31/2024
LIBBY MOYER	3/31/2024
STEVEN & TERRY MORGAN	3/31/2024
BOB & KIM RICHARDS	3/31/2024

#### Memberships Expired / Please Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRED
ANTHONY BROWNING	1/31/2024
TODD & AMY CHRISTOPHER	2/28/2024
KEN & BELINDA FIERRO	1/31/2024
MARSHAL FOSTER	1/31/2024
SAMUEL & KIMBERLY MCBRIDE	12/31/2023
KAREN MORGAN	2/28/2024



NAME	DATE
TANYA ASHMENT	1 Mar
PATTY CHASE	3 Mar
ROGER NEWTON	3 Mar
DAVE PORTER	3 Mar
ERIC KANKAINEN	11 Mar
TRAVIS LAMBERT	12 Mar
NICOLE LIFSEY	12 Mar
DAVID ORTIZ	15 Mar
ROBERT KLINSHAW	22 Mar
JERRY GROSS	23 Mar
MARSHAL FOSTER	26 Mar



#### Removed From Roster

NAME	EXPIRED
JAMES & HILARY VREDEVELD	11/30/2023

### 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

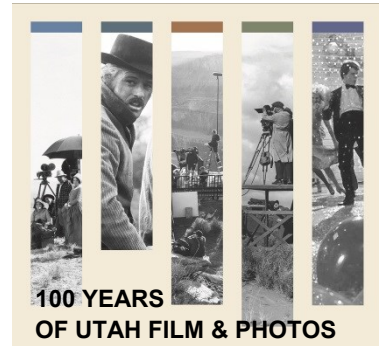
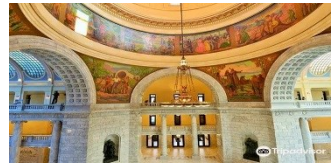
# April Luncheon & Drive by Mike Bailey

**When: Saturday April 6, 2024 Where: Marie Calender's Restaurant 1109 E. 3900 S., Salt Lake City; Meet-Back Room Time: 11:30 a.m. Event / Drive: Utah State Capitol: 4th Floor: "100 Years of Utah Film, TV, Photography Exhibit": 350 N. State Street , Salt Lake City**

## Marie Callender's Restaurant & Bakery



Our April luncheon and drive will be at a restaurant we used to go to back in the mid-1990's-2000's for our monthly club meeting. Maybe a few of you remember this! Meet in back room. Will have the choice of only 5 different menu items off the menu so that they can accommodate our large group and make sure we all get our meals together on time. These choices will be selected by some of the officers/directors in advance. You will like their food and desserts. After the business meeting we will line up our Miatas and head up to the Utah State Capitol for our event which will be a **"Celebration of 100 Years of Utah Film, TV & Photography" Exhibit** located on the 4th Floor of the Capitol building. I'm sure we won't be all together driving up there as there will be traffic to contend with on the way there, but park up at the Capitol and everyone will meet on the 4th Floor. 3rd Floor has Exhibits and so does the Rotunda with art work and sculptures.



# Miata Club Drive / Car Show in Elberta, Utah by Mike Bailey

**Date: Saturday, May 11th; Meet: 9:30 a.m. Car Show, Live Music, Food Vendors, Fun**



We will meet at **Western Springs Park; Riverton at 9:30 a.m.** Park is at 4570 Goshute Dr., off 12600 S. Riverton. We have been here several times for luncheons. Turn left or south at light on 4570 West and take next right, follow road to pavilion. We will have a short driver's meeting and then head out. Will go south down Mountain View Corridor to Saratoga Springs and along Hwy. 68 to Elberta on west side of Utah Lake. At stop sign go straight and we'll park on west side by road by the old Sinclair station. We can park several rows of Miatas next to the road, or in front if there is any room. The station was constructed to serve the town of Elberta and those people who were commuting to and from a nearby gold mine. This Sinclair station on US HWY. 6 started serving early automobiles in 1917 and was in service until 1982. Many people moved out of the area from 1947 on when the Tintic Standard Mine closed down. Photos from some of our previous visits to the station over the past 20 years.



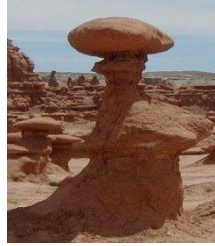


# April Central Utah Canyons Drive by Gordy & Jackie Nicholl; Edited by Mike Bailey

A two and a half day drive with two overnight stays will take place at the end of April, on April 29-30th and drive home on the 31st. This will be spectacular, to say the least. Nicholl's have planned this with several specific stops to check out! First day we will drive to Wellington, Utah just south of Price and go to Nine Mile Canyon. Yes, we have been there with the club several times in 2019 and 2022, and it is always a fantastic drive and place to see. You will get to see close up panels of petroglyphs and can take photos. See the Balanced Rock and other scenic things along the route. We will stay the

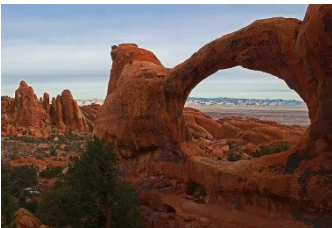
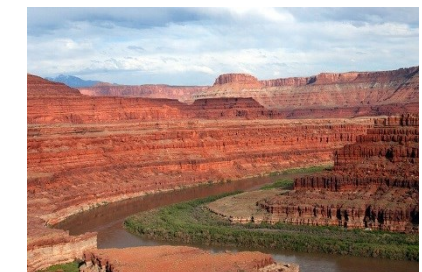
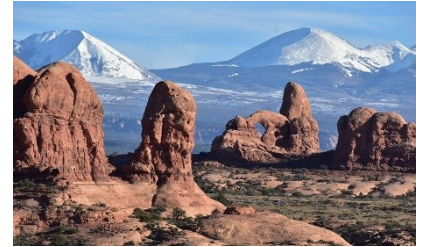


first night at the Green River Terrace Inn in Green River. The 2nd night we'll stay at the Stone Lizard Lodge in Blanding. Or if sold out google accommodations in Green River and Blanding.



We will be going to Goblin Valley and see several awesome rock formations. We will also visit Natural Bridges National Park and be able to hike and view many of the natural arches there.

We have also been there many years ago when we did our Miatas in Moab (and Utah) events. Be sure to bring your State and National Park Passes to get into the parks. Enjoy these photos of the area.





# Miata Tales by Ken Jaworski Edited by Mike Bailey

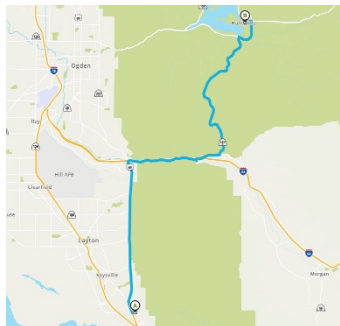
## Cycle Kart Event Details & May Luncheon:

**When: Saturday May 4, 2024 Time: 10:30 a.m. Meet for luncheon at Shephard Park in Farmington. 760 West Shephard Lane Destination after Lunch: Huntsville Town Park: 7355 East 200 South, Huntsville, Utah 84317**



We will have our Monthly Meeting and Luncheon at Shephard Park in Farmington, Utah at 10:30 a.m. located at 760 W. Shephard Lane. Going north on I-15 take Park Lane exit north of Lagoon and follow frontage road north to west Shephard Lane. We have been to this park before. Picnic tables are available on the two pavilions available, but we will not have reservations, so it's maybe a good idea to bring your camp chairs possibly for a lunch picnic and also for the Cycle Kart event in case other people are at the tables. Bring a picnic lunch/ fast food places nearby. Rest rooms are available at the park.

After our meeting we will head out and take Legacy Hwy. and then Hwy. 89 to Huntsville. Approximate time is about one-half hour to get there, about 27 miles. There will be food trucks and various vendors at the event and also several restaurants by the park in Huntsville like Shooting Star Bar, etc. Those who attended last year's event were impressed on how fun it was to see the karts. Just a note, more than 40 karts are registered to participate in this already. Bring your camera and "Have Fun".



### HUNTSVILLE GRAND PRIX



# THE CYCLEKART CLUB





# Reminder for Flyin' Miata Summer Camp (June 14-16) By: Valerie Francis

Details for the trip to the Flyin' Miata Summer Camp will be provided in the April and May newsletters, so this is only a short reminder to block out your calendar if planning on going.

Flyin' Miata has announced their itinerary, but registration will not open until sometime in April. Please let me or Doyle Sturm know if you are planning on going so we can include you in planning the final details. In the meantime, the tentative plans are:



**Friday June 14<sup>th</sup>:** meet up in the morning and head to Grand Junction via Spanish Fork Canyon, Price, lunch in Green River, I-70 into Grand Junction. Arrive mid-afternoon to watch Miatas race at the Grand Junction Motor Speedway. Register at our hotel then Friday evening, drive over Colorado National Monument. (Those wanting to race may need to go down one or two days earlier and we will meet you there).

**Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup>:** Spend the day at Summer Camp at the Flyin Miata facility in Palisade; car show, lectures, catered lunch and BBQ dinner, and awards ceremony. If Saturday is "tech heavy lectures" again, those that want can skip a few lectures and instead visit cute downtown Palisades for a couple of hours.



**Sunday June 16<sup>th</sup>:** Join Flyin Miata on the drive over Grand Mesa, then head home. Or we may skip this drive and head straight home. (TBD based on what we all want to do).

Last year's cost for two: \$182 for the event (included lunch & dinner Saturday), and \$562 for three nights' stay at the Clifton Best Western. This year we will only be staying two nights. Costs for racing, other meals, and gas would be on top of this.

Again, additional details will be in future newsletters, on the club's Facebook page and website as they become available. For the current Summer Camp itinerary and Track Days information visit: <https://flyinmiata.com/pages/summer-camp>





# Peak to Peak Miata Club Event September 2024

By Steve Beckstead; Edited by Mike Bailey

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



We are going to the 'Peak to Peak' Miata Club in Colorado event this year in September. Date of event is September 16-18, 2024. We have at least 5-7 couples from our club going. The event is at the Redstone Inn, however all the rooms at the host hotel are sold out. We are at **Redstone Cliffs Lodge** lo-



cated in Redstone, CO. There are not many rooms left and they are about \$190/night with 1 night's deposit paid in advance which is refundable. **Book NOW if going!**



Link below to the Redstonecliffs Lodge:  
<https://www.redstonecliffs.com/>

If going book dates; **September 16,17,18, 2024** (3 Nights). I emailed the Sec/Treas of Peak to Peak. The event itself is not even open yet. There is a link on our club's Facebook page to register for the event with the Peak to Peak Club. We have not planned details for trip yet (except for the hotel rooms) until we get more information from Peak to Peak club. I do have a route in mind planned. After the event on morning of 19th we will probably plan something for a couple more days. **Register with Peak to Peak:** Here is the event link: <https://www.peaktopeakmiata.org/event-details/30-in-24-celebration>



Info from Mike on Sunday night stay: We plan to leave on Sunday, September 15, 2024. Most everyone who has booked already will stay at the Best Western in Clifton, CO. However, now the rooms are very high priced so a few of us are staying at the Ramada Inn by Wyndham. Price for I have for a room is \$89.00 + tax = \$98.10. with AAA or AARP and includes a free breakfast. It is only 4.5 miles to Clifton so we will hook up with rest of group in the morning in Clifton. Here is a



link to the Ramada Inn: <https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/ramada/grand-jection-colorado/ramada-inn-grand-jection/rooms-rates/> Book your room soon as you can before it fills up. There are also many other hotels in Grand Junction, see my post on our Facebook page.





# Utah Miata Club Memories by Mike Bailey

The Utah Miata Club is celebrating its 33rd Anniversary this year. We have been around since the 2nd year that the Miata first came out (June 1991). This will be the club's anniversary date. The first Miata was shown at the Chicago Auto Show on February 10, 1990 (according to the history research that I have). Of course proto-types of our favorite little sports car were created by Mazda several years before. This page features photos of many events that Lynn and I have attended in the past 27 years that we have been members of the Utah Miata Club. We are celebrating this anniversary this month of March! I hope many of you remember some of these photo shoots and events that we have been on and where these photos were taken. We will be making many more memories this year and in the following years. Please send me some of your favorite group shots or Miata photos and I will add them to my collection of favorite Miata photos and possibly feature in future newsletters! *Keep on ZOMMIN'!!!*



## Miata is Always the Answer!



You've heard this phrase ever since the first Miata was produced. It has been on many signs and T-Shirts as well as in many articles and periodicals about Miatas. Kind of corny, but catchy! But what does it stand for?



The experts about Miatas say the following: This describes this phrase that echoes through car enthusiast circles like the purr of a finely tuned engine. But why? Let's take a closer look at the origins of this automotive mantra. The Origin of this Meme goes back to a universal truth in motoring communities. Whenever someone asks for recommendations on an affordable, fun, manual car, the reflective response is invariably "Miata". Here is a list on items that explains why the **"Miata is Always the Answer!"**.

- Fun:** It's not about raw power, it's about the thrill of carving corners and feeling connected to the road.
- Affordable:** Miatas have always offered exceptional value for the money spent. Insurance costs are also reasonable.
- Reliability:** Miatas are very dependable despite their age. Known for durability, easy to fix issues and low maintenance costs and affordable parts and after market items.
- Stylish:** Looks good year after year, basically the same as when it first was produced. Looks expensive, Always has flair!
- Sense of Community:** Miata clubs are a passionate group of "like-minded" people. Meet-ups foster camaraderie among enthusiasts. Gearhead or a neubie, the Miata community welcomes you with open arms.



Many have seen these T-shirts. If you are interested, I can make you one for \$20.00.



*Miata*





# MIATA SWAG Page by MiataWear Man- Mike

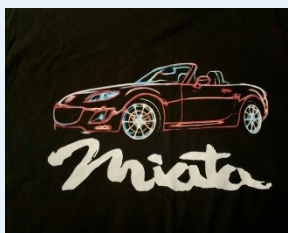


For any club members who want any Utah Miata Club Logo Merchandise you can view the current items like shirts or hats that I currently have available in stock to purchase. These items are available now at the club monthly meeting on the clipboard passed around or by contacting me directly by phone or email. A list of on-hand items are listed on the sheets along with pricing. I'd like to sell the current items I have at 'reduced pricing.' If you'd like to order any custom items, just let me know.

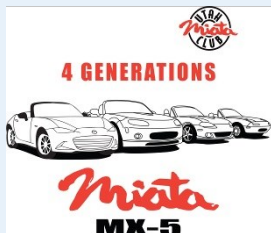
The following are shirts & hats and logos that are on these items along with the color of item and sizes.



Red Miata Car/Tan BG



Neon Miata Image



4 Generations Miata



Lady's Miata Hair



On Beige Shirts \$15.00 On Yellow Shirts \$15. On White Shirts \$15. Red Hat: \$20.00

Custom orders on any color shirts for all these logos. Can put Miata Hair or Miata Girl on any hats.



MIATATUDE LOGOTYPE: Can put on T-Shirts, Sweat-Shirts, Jackets, Hats Screen printed on shirts, embroidery on hats. \$18.00 T-Shirts, Long Sleeve T's \$20.00 Sweat-Shirts: \$30.-38.00. Hats: \$20.00 Imprint on front or sleeve.

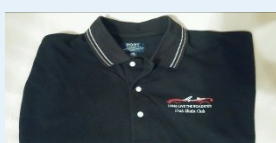


Official Miata Club Logo Embroidery on Hat: \$20.00 Miata Car with "UTAH MIATA CLUB" Embroidered: \$20.00 Hat's with American Flag on bill: \$22.00 Mesh back hats available: \$20.00. Some mesh back hats available in stock with Official Logo: \$15.00.

**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,



"Long Live the Roadster" Logo on T-Shirts: \$15.00. Embroidered on Polo Shirt \$30.00 or Hats \$20.00. Special Mazda Black T's \$15.00 with LLTR or Miata



Outline Image. Only certain sizing available in stock, Men's sizing only. Sign up for one! ZOOM—ZOOM!










# 2024 Calendar of Events



- March 2nd:** Luncheon & Drive; Jim's Rest. Riverton; Roots of Knowledge Drive-Orem: Carol Lynn Vredeveld
- April 6th:** Luncheon & Drive; Marie Calender's; Drive-State Capitol- Film/Art History Tour; Mike & Lynn Bailey
- May 4th:** Luncheon 10:30, Drive Grand Prix Cycle Karts; Huntsville. Details in NL Pg.4: Jaworski's & Baileys
- May 11th:** Car Show at "Old Sinclair" Elberta, Utah; Details in NL Pg. 4: Mike & Lynn Bailey  
- June 1st:** Rat Fink Reunion in Manti. TBA: Time & Details to follow: Steve & Ronda Beckstead
- June 14-16th:** Flyin' Miata Summer Camp; Details in NL Pg.6: Doyle Sturm & Valerie Francis 
- June 22nd:** Erickson Power Museum Car, Time (TBA); Tractor, Motorcycle Show; Wallsburg, Utah
- July 20th:** Summer BBQ Picnic & Elections: Time 2:00; LDS Church Pavilion, Murray; Board of Directors
- August 3rd:** Luncheon & Drive: Midway Restaurant, Midvale; Need Drive Leader & Planner
- August:?:** Summer Drive (TBA): Maybe Mirror Lake or Bear Lake; Need Drive Leader & Planner
- September 7th:** Luncheon & Drive: (TBA) Need Drive Leader & Planner
- September 15-21st:** Peak to Peak Miata Club Event / Redstone Cliffs Lodge, CO.; Steve & Ronda Beckstead
- October 5th:** Luncheon & Drive: Leatherby's Creamery; Local Fall Leaf Drive / Guardsman's Pass / Wasatch Mountain State Park / Cascade Springs on Alpine Loop Drive Road: Mike & Lynn Bailey
- October 26th:** Possible Halloween Party; TBA; Need Event Planner
- November 2nd:** Luncheon & Drive: (TBA) Need Leader & Planner
- December 7th:** Christmas Party: (TBA) Board of Directors

Please let Editor know of any items that need to be added to this Calendar of Events.



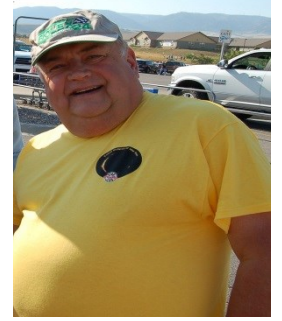
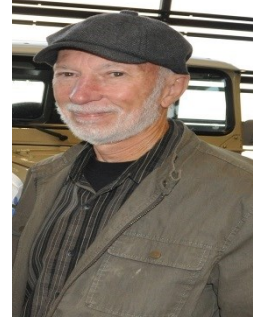
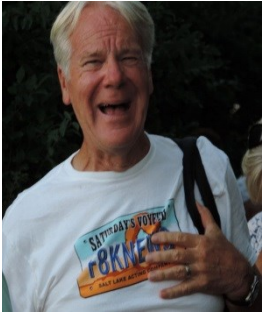
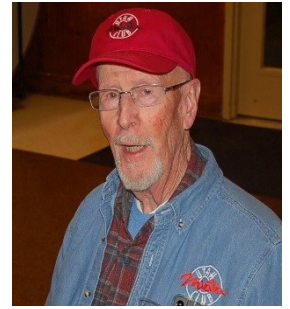
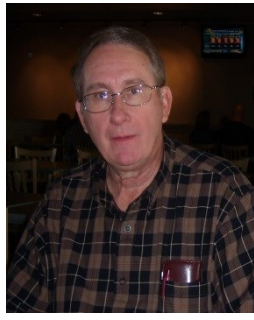
### Editor's Note:

We'd like to have UMC members come up with some ideas for possible places for monthly luncheons and drives for our 2024 Calendar. Refer to open spots on above calendar. You can just 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.





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



LET'S SEE IF WHO CAN GUESS WHERE AND WHEN THESE PHOTOS WERE TAKEN?

