

Ragtops to Ridges

April 2024



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club







From the Top Down by Mike Thompson

Many of you missed the Utah Miata Club's drive and visit to Utah Valley University on March 2nd. We viewed the 'Roots of Knowledge', a permanent exhibit in the campus library.

The *Roots of Knowledge* is 200 feet from beginning to end, comprised of 26 columns. Each column is 10 feet tall, and contains either 3 or 4 separate, stained-glass windows (80 in total). The colors are exquisite, and the artistic journey through human history is expansive. Mike B. put a report and current photos on our FB page.

It took a small army of artists 12 years of labor and love to complete the exhibit. I have always been amazed at the artist's ability to envision, craft a multitude of separate pieces, then bring them together into a beautiful picture, with depth, detail and three-dimensional perspective. I am totally lacking in such abilities. I found the whole thing enchanting, and believe a person could return many times without fully grasping everything represented as the *Roots of Knowledge*. (Did you know: Utah Valley University has the largest student enrollment in the state, by far. The U and BYU are neck-and-neck for second place, with a few hundred students separating them. UVU is 25% larger than second place, with a current enrollment of just over 43,000 students.) There were several who joined the March activity for lunch at Jim's Family Restaurant, but (wisely) chose to forego the drive to Orem and the exhibit. You see, the weather forecast was for nasty wind and accumulating snow, expected to start just about when we hit the UVU library. UDOT's message boards over the freeways were warning of the coming severe weather. The forecast was spot-on. The snow be-

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gan while we were enjoying the exhibit. By the time we started for home, the accumulations were 2 – 4 inches of heavy, wet stuff, and the snow was still coming down hard. Let's call the drive home an "adventure," made better than it might have been by the fact that no one (I believe) who made the trip was driving their Miata. All were in SUVs, and I was grateful for our all-wheel drive. When we pulled into the garage we had a coating of ice about an inch thick covering the front bumper, headlights, grill, and a fair bit of the hood. I don't recall that ever happening to me before. Good times!

Please make note of the club's calendar of upcoming events. With car shows, red-rock country, Cycle-karts and more, we look forward to many great drives and memorable times. Mike

Editor's Note: About 3 of us drove our Miatas and I had just washed my car and it was very dirty and icy when we got home. It was not a good day to drive the Miata! Tons of tumbleweeds going home in Eagle Mountain, Herriman and Riverton.

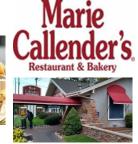


www.utahmiataclub.org Page 1

April Luncheon & Drive by Mike Bailey

When: Saturday April 6, 2024 Where: Marie Calender's Restaurant Time: 11:30 a.m. 1109 E. 3900 S., Salt Lake City; Meet- Back Room Event / Drive: Utah State Capitol: 4th Floor: "100 Years of Utah Film, TV, Photography Exhibit": 350 N. State Street, Salt Lake City Our April luncheon and drive will be at a restaurant we used to go to back in the mid-1990's—early 2000's for our monthly club meeting every month. May-





be a few of you remember this! We'll meet in the back room as it is reserved for our group. We 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. The following meal choices have been selected by some club officers in advance. Items are: Chicken Pot Pie Combo (includes Ceasar or House salad and slice of pie), Freshly Roasted Turkey Dinner, Callender's Cheeseburger with fries or coleslaw, tater tots or fresh fruit, Classic Cobb Salad, or Chicken & Broccoli Fettuccine. You can order drinks and desserts if you like along with your lunch. Checking on a Gluten free.







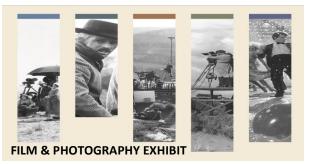






After the business meeting we will line up our Miatas and head up to the Utah State Capitol for our event which will be a "Celebration of 100 Years of Utah Film, TV & Photography" Exhibit located on the 4th Floor of the Capitol building. I'm sure we won't be all together driving up there as there will be traffic to contend with on the way there. Park at the Capitol and everyone will meet on the 4th Floor. Additionally the 3rd Floor has Exhibits and so does the Rotunda with art work and sculptures that you may want to view while there. You can leave at your own convenience to travel home.























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



NO NEW MEMBERS

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

NAME	EXPIRING SOON
KAY BARRELL	4/31/24
SHELDON & GEORGIA COX	4/31/24
LARRY & CHARLENE PETERSEN	4/31/24

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
KAREN MORGAN	2/28/2024
STEVEN & TERI OLSEN	3/31/2024
BOB & KIM RICHARDS	3/31/2024

Removed From Roster

NAME	EXPIRED
SAMUEL & KIMBERLEY McBRIDE	12/31/2023



NAME	DATE
LINDA GROSS	6 Apr
ROBERT FACKRELL	7 Apr
DOUGLAS KLUENDER	8 Apr
CHARISSE FERGUSON	10 Apr
SUSAN VAUGHN	14 Apr
JOE LEVERICH	16 Apr
KEN FIERRO	18 Apr
MARK FERGUSON	19 Apr
GARY COLLINGS	21 Apr
ANNETTE NIELSEN	24 Apr
JOSEPH FOWLER	25 Apr
ALEX JOHNSON	25 Apr
SHARON MECHLING	25 Apr
LORIENA ORTIZ	26 Apr
TERRY BLACK	27 Apr
ANGIE WHITE	28 Apr

Club Officers (July 2023 - July 2024)

President: Michael Thompson Vice President: Ken Jaworski *Sec*retary: Jim Newson Treasurer: Margie Newson Directors: Robert Mechling, Susan Christiansen, Carol Lynn Vredeveld Newsletter Editor: Mike Bailey, Asst. Val

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

When: Monday, April 29—May 2, 2024 Meeting Place: Harmon's Parking Lot; off Bangerter Highway & east of I-15 in Draper. Leaving Time: 9:00 a.m. Be here several minutes early for a Driver's Meeting. We will travel south on I-15 to Spanish Fork Highway 6 Exit Stop at McDonalds for bathroom stop and to get snacks or breakfast if you like for the road. Bring your FRS Radios!

Details: A two and a half day drive with two overnight stays in Green River and Blanding. First day we will drive to Wellington, Utah just south of Price for a potty break and then head to **Nine Mile Canyon.** This is always a fan-



tastic 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 other 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. Be sure to bring your State and National Park Passes to get into the parks. Enjoy these photos!





































Cycle Kart Event Details & May Luncheon by Mike Bailey, Ken Jaworski

When: Saturday May 4, 2024 Time: 10:30 a.m. Meet for luncheon at Shepherd Park in Farmington. 760 West Shepherd 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 the Shephard Lane exit north of Lagoon and the Park Lane exit. Turn right onto Shephard Lane. We have been to this park before. Pic-



nic tables are available at the two pavilions, 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. Bring your FRS Radios to communicate with during the day.

After our meeting we will head north on Hwy. 89 to Weber Canyon then 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 carts are registered to participate in this already. Bring your camera and "Have Fun".



















May Miata Club Drive / Car Show in Elberta, UT. 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 of 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 years!































Erickson Antique Power Museum Event by Mike Bailey

When: Saturday, June 22, 2024 Where: Wallsburg, Ut. 84082 Time: We will plan to be there by 11:00 am. Open 8 am-3 pm.

The 22nd Annual Richard Erickson Foundation's Antique Power Museum is held in Wallsburg, Utah. Several of us members have been here before several years ago and it is a fun place to visit and see all the antiques they have there. Wallsburg is located south of Heber City past Deer Creek Reservoir and is a 30 minute drive from either Heber or Orem. Cost of Admission is \$15.00 to attend. There will be food trucks and live entertainment. More details in next couple newsletters. We will decide where to meet at a later date. This is lots of FUN!















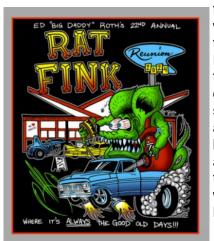
23RD ANNUAL ED "BIG DADDY" ROTH'S RAT FINK REUNION

By Steve Beckstead

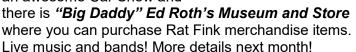
WHEN: SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024; 9:00 AM

WHERE: 404 E. 300 N. MANTI, UTAH

The "Big Daddy" Roth's Rat Fink Reunion will be lots of fun. We plan to meet at 9:00 a.m. at Wheadon Park in Draper, which is 140th South Bangerter Parkway (see map). Members should eat breakfast before and/or bring a snack to have in the park or on the drive. We will have a short business meeting and be on the road by 9:30 a.m. The other map is the route from the park to Manti. We will drive via Scofield Reservoir, a scenic drive before arriving in Manti around 1:00 pm or earlier, depending on stops. It is less

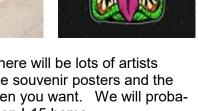


than a 3 hour drive. If the weather is bad, we will adjust the route by going down Hwy. 89 and to Thistle. After arriving in Manti we'll be on our own or break into small groups. Food trucks and restaurants available for lunch or dinner. There will be an awesome Car Show and





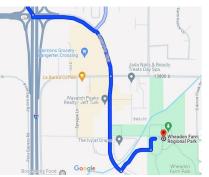


















Park Address: 200 N. 300 W. Rat Fink Museum & Store: 404 E. 300 N. Manti. There will be lots of artists there who can put pin-striping on your Miata or any customizing you like. There will be souvenir posters and the official Rat Fink T-Shirts, etc. for sale. You can stay as long as you like and leave when you want. We will probably go home via Hwy. 89 or a quicker way is Hwy. 132 north to Moroni / Nephi and then I-15 home.









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 May and June 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 14th: 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 Junc-



tion 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 15th: 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 16th: 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.









Just a note from Newsletter Editor that some of these photos below are going back to August 2003, 21 years ago when we first started going to the Summer Flyin' Miata open house. Some photos in 2012., etc Photos taken by Mike Bailey. Mike Foster in Crystal Blue, Ian Grangier in 2001 British Flag, Mike in Lava Orange. They used to have an annual town parade in Palisade, CO. We would display our Miatas at the Peach Day Festival. It was lots of Fun!



















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 11 fun 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 located 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 dates September 16, 17, & 18 **Book NOW if going!** (3 nights).

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

The Peak to Peak club is in final planning stages and details will be coming out in April. 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 event link:

https://www.peaktopeakmiata.org/event-details/30-in-24-celebration

Info 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 under \$100, with AAA or AARP. It is only 4.5 miles to Clifton so we will hook up with rest of group in the morning. Here is a link to the Ramada Inn: https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/ramada/

grand-junction-colorado/ramada-inn-grand-junction/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. Photos below of our trip to Pike's Peak, CO. in July 2016. Notice we had Blue, Yellow, Purple & Red Miata

Shirt days on certain days we were in different Colorado towns. It was FUN!



























DRIVES ON CLIFFS ON MOUNTAIN SIDE

"Warriors Over The Wasatch" Air Force Show by Mike Bailey

When: June 29-30, 2024 Time: 10:00- 4:30

Where: Hill Air Force Base Event is FREE of Charge! See website for information: https://theutahairshow.com.

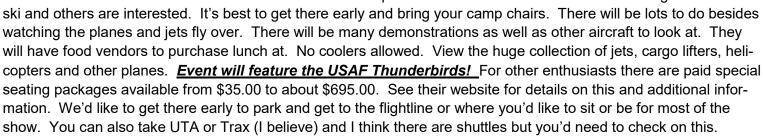
Address is 7981 Georgia St. Hill AFB, UT. 84056 Located off I-15 at Clearfield Exit #335.

Go right on M Street to West Gate to Parking area. Parking is Free.



This will be a great event to attend if you like Air Force Jet fly-overs! I'd like to take

a vote at the next couple luncheons to see who would be interested in going to this. I'm sure the airplane enthusiasts in our club like Mark Vaughn Ken Jawor-































Spring Into Action by Mike Bailey

Spring has officially arrived and temperatures are expected to rise and so will the Miata rides and activities. We will be expecting our sports cars to "deliver on demand" and to take us on various road trips without developing any mechanical problems whatsoever. Even though Mazda MX-5 Miatas are one of the most reliable sports cars on the planet, they will eventually have a problem or two. The trick is to provide preventative maintenance and ward off as many problems as we can, especially during a longer road trip. We will be heading down to Southeast Utah the end of this month on a trip planned by the Nicholl's. The Flyin' Miata Summer Camp is in June and we've got several overnighter's planned like the Peak to Peak event in Colorado in September.

We need to make sure our Miatas are in 'ship shape' for these trips and drives. There are several things we should do to prepare our 'babies' for a busy season of warm weather and 'top down' driving. Some of these things are listed below:

- Check tire pressure and adjust to specs.
- Check cooling system (radiator, hoses, antifreeze, thermostats at least once per year).
- Check drive belts for tension and signs of cracking.
- Check air filters (usually good for 30,000-60,000 miles).
- Check your battery & make sure it is holding a good charge. Winters are hard on them.
- Check tire tread for wear and condition and replace if necessary.
- Check brakes especially if making a grinding or squeaking noise. If so replace if bad.
- Treat soft tops and interiors with appropriate products for cleaning and preservation.
- Wash and vacuum your Miata regularly and clean your interior and engine bay.
- Check all fluids and condition of things like the timing belt or shocks, etc.
- You can also stop by our Dealer Sponsor, Bountiful Mazda for any service or parts needed. They give members a 10% discount! Your driving experience will be much improved and more worry-free if you just do a little preventative maintenance and eliminate potential problems before they occur. Keep on Zoomin'























MIATA SWAG Page by MiataWear Man- Mike



Utah Miata Club Logo Merchandise you can view the current items like T-shirts or Hats that I currently have available in stock to purchase. These items are available now at club monthly meetings and on the clipboard passed around or by contacting me directly by phone or email. A list of on-hand items are listed below and on the sheets with discounted pricing. I'd like to sell the current items as "CLOSEOUTS". 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: \$15.00 LG: White, LG Beige 2XL: Beige: \$20.00



Lg: Yellow, XL Yellow



2XL: Dark Grey



Neon Miata: \$15.00 4 Generation MX-5 \$20.00 Hawaiian Miata: \$35. Lg: Route 66 Style Hawaiian Shirt: Lakes/Mountains: Med



Miatatude: L/S Lady's MD; Black Lady;s SM: Blue \$15















Ghosts & Legends: Front Logo Beartooth Hwy: Back & Front Moab VI Logo Deer Valley Hat: \$15.00 Back Print: Lady MD ,Men LG Grey Cost: \$15.00 Lady: XL, XL, SM Cost:\$10.00 LadyXL,,MenXL SM,MD,Lady Long Live the Roadster: Black T's: \$15.00 White XL:\$10.00





Specify Design Must Order on List. **\$15.00 ea.**

Hats: \$20.00







Deer Valley Hat: \$15.00













Red Miata ND Car Official UMC Logo, Many Colors **Utah Miata Club Ball Caps: \$20.00**









Miata Girl and "Miata Hair Don't Care" Ladies Hats & Miatatude Hats: \$20.00







2024 Calendar of Events



ANTIQUE POWER MUSEUM

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.5; Jaworski's & Baileys

May 11th: Car Show at "Old Sinclair" Elberta, Utah; Details in NL Pg. 6; Mike & Lynn Bailey

June 1st: Rat Fink Reunion in Manti; 9 a.m. Details See Pg.7 in NL; Steve & Ronda Beckstead

June 14-16th: Flyin' Miata Summer Camp; Details see Pg.8 NL; Doyle Sturm & Valerie Francis

June 22nd: Erickson Power Museum Antique Cars, Tractors, Motorcycles Show; 11 am; See

Pg. 6 NL; Wallsburg, Ut.; Need drive leader or Mike & Lynn Bailey

June 29-30th: Utah Warriors Over Wasatch Air Show: 10:00 am; Hill AF Base; Details Pg. 10 NL.

July 20th: Summer BBQ Picnic & Elections: Time 2:00; LDS Church Pavilion, Murray; Board Officers

August 3rd: Luncheon & Drive: (TBA); Possible Mt. Nebo Loop; Need Drive Leader & Planner

August ?: Summer Drive (TBA): Maybe Mirror Lake or Bear Lake; Need Drive Leader & Planner

September 7th: Luncheon & Drive (TBA); 11:30 am. Leatherby's Creamery; Mike & Lynn Bailey

September 15-21st: Peak to Peak Miata Club Event / Redstone Cliffs Lodge, CO.; Steve & Ronda Beckstead

October 5th: Luncheon & Drive: Midway Restaurant; 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

If anyone wants to plan a drive with luncheon this summer please let us know.

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









Editor's Message: The UMC's Quarterly Board Meeting will be Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 5:30 PM in the Board Room Upstairs at Bountiful Mazda. Any members are invited to attend. We will discuss some club business and also details of the Summer BBQ Picnic. Any proposed items of club business may be voted on at this meeting by Board members; the club Officers & Directors. Members can suggest items for discussions but are not able to vote. Any new proposals pertaining to the club or club's Bylaws will be ratified at the next club meeting and approved by members by majority vote.

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



























































