

RAGTOPS TO RIDGES



October 2017

"The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club"



From the Top Down

"Presidents Message"

Submitted by: Lou Vredevelt

Here we go Zooming into autumn. This is a great time of the year to take a drive and see the beautiful fall colors that Utah's mountains have to offer. We are fortunate to be able to drive less than 30 minutes to witness some of the best foliage colors in the country. September started with the Club Picnic on the 9th at the Morgan City Park. This year we had 49 members including new

members Roger Heath and his wife attended the club furnished event. The catering was done thanks to Jim and Margie Newson, by Moon Dog Catering. We enjoyed BBQ Pork, Chicken, and Baked Beans along with Salads and Chips. Club members brought many desserts for all to enjoy. There was way more food than we could eat. After the Picnic members went all different directions. Some went home around East Canyon Reservoir and Emigration Canyon. Several went to Brigham City for the Peach Days Car Show and activities. Others headed straight



www.utahmiataclub.org

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From the Top Down Continued

home. The picnic and drives to and from where a great success.

Then on September 22nd came the Torrey Drive. This drive has been in the works for quite some time and was the brain child of Eric and Kathy Kankainen. There were 10 cars on the trip that lasted 3 days and included drive to Mt. Nebo, Gooseberry, Capital Reef along with the Burr Trail, Devils Backbone and many sites along Highway 12. The fall colors were amazing. Thanks Eric and Kathy for all you're planning. This trip may need to be included on my yearly must do list.

October's Luncheon is on October 7th by Mike and Lynn Bailey. We will meet at Billy Blanco's Restaurant at 11:30 a.m. off Hwy. 80, Exit 141, Park City. Details on Website. Weather permitting we will go on a Mirror Lake drive. This may be our last chances to see this beautiful area before the roads close for winter, and also see some fall leaf colors. Those that have done this drive before know how much fun it can be. Don't forget the apple fritters and pastries at the Kamas Chevron. Mike will let us know the luncheon location later on in this news letter. And, don't forget the annual Halloween Party on Saturday, October 28th, which

is always fun!

Again I would like to thank all those that help make this club one of the best in the country. We offer many outings and excursions and trips that would not be possible without the planning and efforts of our members. We always look for recommendations for fun things we can do driving our Miata's. If you have an idea for a day trip or longer adventure, please don't keep it to yourself. Share your ideas and we will try to make them a reality. **THIS IS YOUR CLUB!!** Check out the club website (thanks Doyle)



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 Vredevelde

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





NAME	DATE
JAMJAMES FELIZ	4 Oct
WILLIAM KAPSHULL	4 Oct
LEONARD MILLGATE	5 Oct
MICHELE RIDING	5 Oct
CINDY COX	10 Oct
DAYNA KISER	14 Oct
DAVID R. CHRISTENSEN	16 Oct
VICKIE LYN HOUSER	17 Oct
PERLY HEATH	19 Oct
DON CICHOCKI	20 Oct
CRAIG HENDRIX	20 Oct
DIANNA HOUSLEY	23 Oct
DARWIN STEED	28 Oct

REMOVED FROM ROSTER

NAME	DATE
BEN COHEN	5/31/2017
DANIEL & JOY MITCHELL	5/31/2017

EXPIRING SOON

NAME	DATE
KENT & DIANNA HOUSLEY	10/31/2017
CHEYRYL SHAEFER	10/31/2017

NEW MEMBERS

Roger and Pearly Heat
2016 Soul Red Miata
Roy, Utah



WELCOME TO THE CLUB
VISIT: WWW.UTAHMIATACLUB.ORG
OR WWW.UTAHMIATACLUB.COM

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED

NAME	DATE
ALIALI & SHYLO BAZZAZ	7-31-17
JIM & MARILYN BICKLEY	6/30/2017
CAL & DIANE BLACK	9/30/2017
JOY CARLSON	6/30/2017
JOHN CARPENTER	6/30/2017
DALIN & KAREN CHRISTENSEN	8/31/2017
ROBERT CUNLIFFE	7/31/2017
LAUREL & THOMAS DRYSDALE	8/31/2017
RICHARD & JUDY DYSON	8/31/2017
MATTHEW & CHARISSE HARRIS	8/31/2017
KAY & JUDY HATCH	8/31/2017
CRAIG & CANDY HENDRIX	7/31/2017
WILLIAM & MARY KAPSHULL	9/30/2017
KELVIN & MARY MCKNIGHT	7/31/2017
MARK & SHAUNA MIDGLEY	9/30/2017
SHAWN SELLERS	8/31/2017
ROBERT SMITH	7/31/2017
DARWIN & LORI STEED	6/30/2017
KIRK TANNER	7/31/2017
GARY WILCOX	7/31/2017

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 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

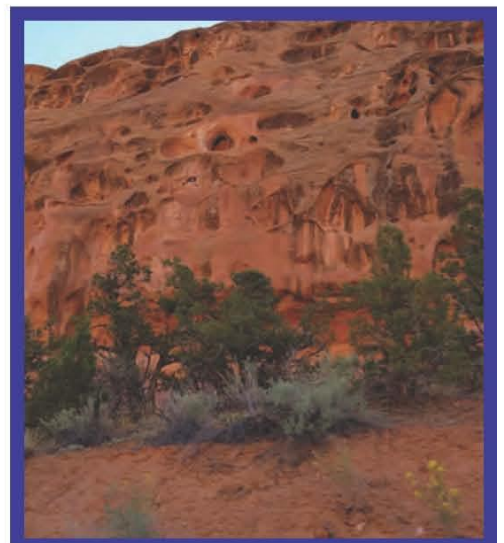
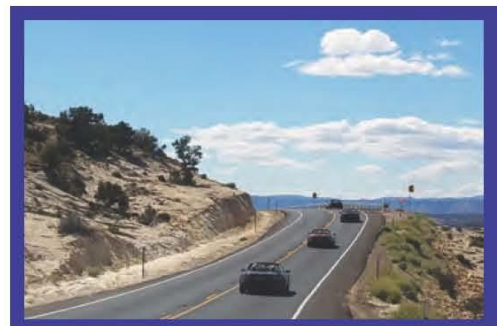


Torrey Drive

By Lou & Carol Lynn Vredevel

The first day of fall was the first day of this great trip which was planned and lead by Eric and Kathy Kankainen. It was a fantastic way to view the fall colors. We started off at the Harmons grocery store on Bangerter Crossing with 9 cars. As we headed out it was rather rainy and dark. However, the further south we drove the bluer the skies became. After making a quick stop in Payson at McDonalds for breakfast, we started up the Nebo Loop. What a surprise to find that we were driving right into the clouds. All the way over the loop we drove in and out snowflakes, clouds and sunshine. The views were absolutely amazing and we managed to get a few really good photos!

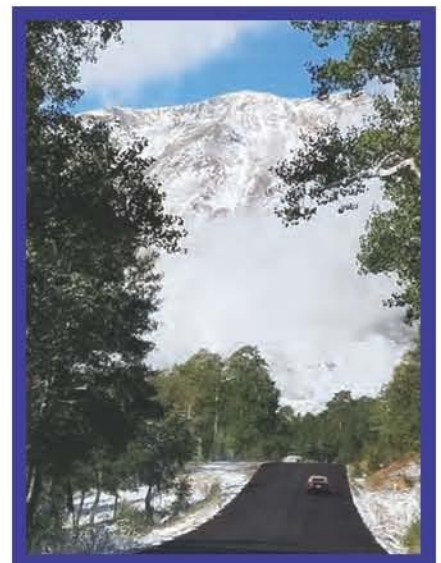
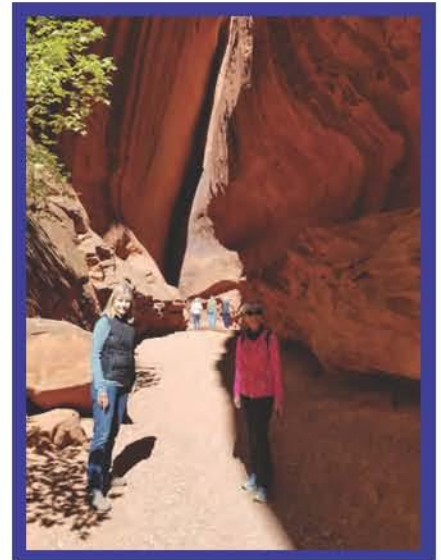
We drove on to Salina where we stopped for lunch at Mom's Cafe. The food is always good and the scones are fantastic. After lunch it was off again to the Gooseberry road and Johnson Reservoir. The foliage colors were beautiful ranging from green to bright yellow, orange and brilliant red. There was even a red group of trees that formed what looked like a "U" on the mountain side that brought out several comments from the U of U fans in the club. The road had just recently been paved all the way from I-70 to Highway 72, which made for a very nice drive. From there we headed on to Torrey. Eric lead us all to the Rim Rock Restaurant so we knew where to meet for dinner later, then we all checked into our hotels. The



Torrey Drive Continued

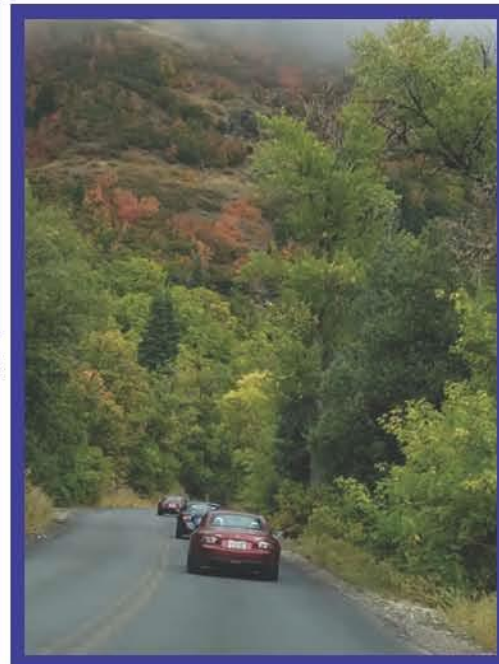
Saturday morning proved to be a little brisk so no one had their top down. We all met at the junction of highway 12 and 24 and headed up over Boulder Mountain. Once at Boulder it turned out to be a nice warm top down day. We took advantage of it while we went down the Burr Trail. We went all the way to the start of the dirt road which is 14 miles past the summit. Those of you that have done this road before know how great it is! On the way back down, we stopped for a walk in to a slot canyon then headed off to the Hells Backbone Grill for lunch. After lunch it was on down the road over highway 12 to the Hole in the Rock Memorial. From there, half of the group decided to head back over Hells Backbone even though it was a steep dirt road. Unfortunately, they missed a turn, got lost and had to go over the mountain top in a snow storm to Bicknell. The rest of us headed back to Torrey to visit Eric and Kathy on their farm and Doyle & Val went for a hike in the park. We met for dinner that night at the Diablo Restaurant which is very upscale with wonderful food choices and the presentation is a work of art. Eric had planned another evening drive into the park after dinner and it proved to be very beautiful with the dark clouds overhead and the sun shining on the cliffs making them almost look florescent. It had got a little chilly by the end of the drive. Some of the couples got together at their hotel that evening and played Du Over and apparently Susan Vaughn won 3 out of 5 games.

On Sunday morning after cleaning a little slush of the cars we met again at the junction and headed off to highway 72 to start the trek back east. By this time the roads up above 8000 feet had some slush and ice on them so the going was a little slow. At the bottom of the road the sun was out again. We headed up highway 10 on the way to Huntington Canyon. After taking a side trip on a great mining road we headed to the Millsite golf course for lunch. From here we headed off to highway 31 and it started to snow again. We stopping at the Mammoth discovery site briefly and by the time we reached the summit the roads were snow packed. Eric did a great job leading us up and down the canyon at a safe pace that kept us all from sliding off the road. We had previously seen a lot of cows on the



Torrey Drive Continued

road and Doyle commented that he thought we at least got all the cow poop off the bottom of the Miata's driving on these snowy roads. Our little caravan of Miata's got some strange looks from the vehicles that had their 4-wheel drive in gear to make it over these snowy roads. Although Miata's were not exactly designed to drive on snow packed roads, we did quite well! The going was pretty slow until we got back down to 7000 feet in elevation. Once we made it past Fairview the snow had turned to rain and it was freeway speed the rest of the way home. Thanks Eric and Kathy for a fantastic weekend drive!



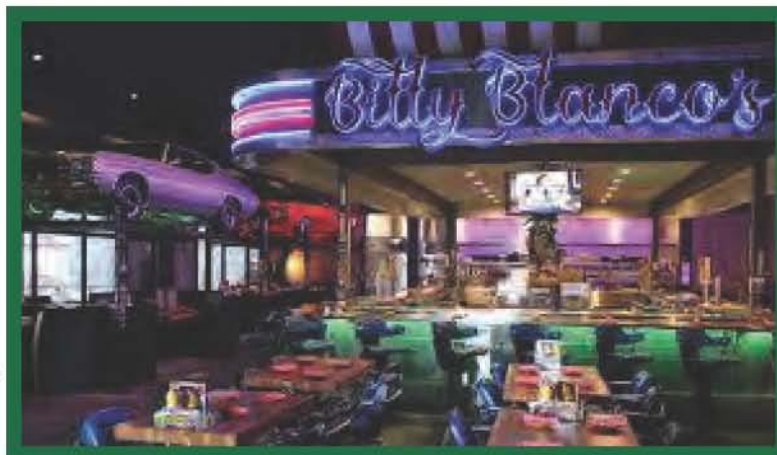
October Luncheon & Drive

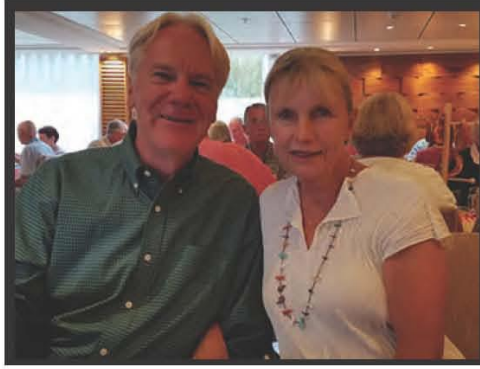
Saturday, October 7, 2017

Time: 11:30 a.m.

This month's luncheon will be at Billy Blanco's Motor City Grill; a Mexican Restaurant and Cantina on the way to Park City. Meeting time will be at 11:30 a.m. It is located off I-80 heading to Park City at 8208 Gorgoza Pines Road, off the Pinebrook Exit 141 just past Jeremy Ranch. It is on the right side of the road. Phone; 435-575-0846. Plenty of good food including Mexican fare, BBQ ribs, chicken, burgers, wings and salads. Exciting décor including classic cars and motorcycles. The club has been here on a couple occasions and the food and service are excellent. We will have our monthly meeting.

After the luncheon we will head up past Jordanelle Reservoir to Frances and Kamas and go up the Mirror Lake Highway to Mirror Lake. Our destination will be the Mirror Lake Parking lot where you can stay and visit the area for as long as you like or just head back home at your leisure. Hopefully we will see lots of Fall leaves while up there and the weather will cooperate with us for a nice fall drive. If the weather is not so good then we will make other plans or decide at the luncheon on what or where to go. Hope to see everyone there.





Welcome New Member; Eric and Kathy Kankainen

Member Spotlight by: Carol Lynn Vredeveld

Our spotlight couple for October is Eric and Kathy Kankainen.

Eric and Kathy have been members for several years. We had a chance to get to know them better on our summer Viking Cruise. These are two of the most fun and friendly people we have had the privilege to spend time with. Needless to say..we had an awesome time on the trip! They are a handsome couple with the ability to make you feel like you have known them for years. They keep themselves busy with family and community involvement not to mention keeping up on their home and acreage in Torrey, Utah.

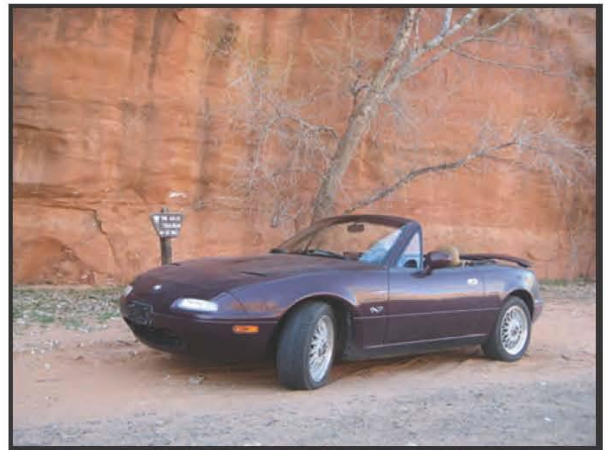
Eric also put together a drive to Torrey for the club in September which was a perfect time to see the beautiful color changes of the seasons on the scenic drives in the area. We are certainly glad they find the time to participate in and contribute to some of our Miata events.

Enjoy Eric's story as only he can tell it below:

We have a 1995 M (Merlot). I tried to get personalized license plates but the State would not allow us to use "Merlot".

I decided to buy our Miata in January, 2013. As a teenager, cars were of interest and I worked on several including a go kart, Plymouth's ('32, '33,'48), MG-TD, and built a dune buggy. In conclusion, I wanted a car that was older, that I could work on with parts and upgrades available. I researched sports cars; in particular BMW Z3-4 and the Miata's. The Miata was easily the best choice.

I became aware of the Miata Clubs and the Utah Club while searching for a Miata online, Kathy and I became members soon after we purchased the 1995 M Merlot which I found through KSL Classifieds in Idaho Falls.



New Member; Eric and Kathy Kankainen Continued

I was born and raised in the small town of Kingfield, Maine (population 800. High School class of (13). I played sports Basketball, Baseball and Ski raced. I was best at alpine skiing and went on to study engineering and ski for Dartmouth College. After college I wanted a city that had jobs for engineers and skiing was close by; Salt Lake was by far and still is the best choice.

I am a retired consulting structural engineer. I was a partner in two different firms before going the last 12 years solo. My work was primarily designing the structure to support buildings to withstand the environmental forces of nature (gravity, wind, snow, earthquakes) in addition to the occupants and uses. The buildings ranged (literally) from outhouses to high rises (12 stories). The most memorable project was being responsible for the design of all the structures provided by the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the 2002 Olympics, ie, grandstands, buildings, bridges, tents, trailers, signs, etc.

I met Kathy and her sisters in 1973 at DB Coopers in SLC. We dated for several years and have been married for 38 years. Kathy was born in Logan and is a true Utah native with ancestry back to the hand carts and Gordon B. Hinkley as a great uncle. She attended the U of U and Westminster College from which she graduated with a degree in Art and minor in business. We have two sons and six grandchildren. Over the years cats and dogs have come and currently are gone.

Kathy and I are avid outdoor people. One of our first extended dates was a camping trip to Canyonlands National Park. I came to Utah for the mountains and skiing but quickly became in love with the desert. My interest in photography was stimulated by the colors and landscape of southern Utah. Kathy was interested in weaving images of Rock Art and I in photographing them, so we spent considerable time researching and finding these rock art images. When I met Kathy, she had (with her sister) one of the first stores in Trolley Square (Inter-twine) selling fiber arts supplies and offering classes; she moved on to being a full-time professional fiber art artist and then on to being the Anthropological Collections



New Member; Eric and Kathy Kankainen Continued Manager at the Utah Museum of Natural History.

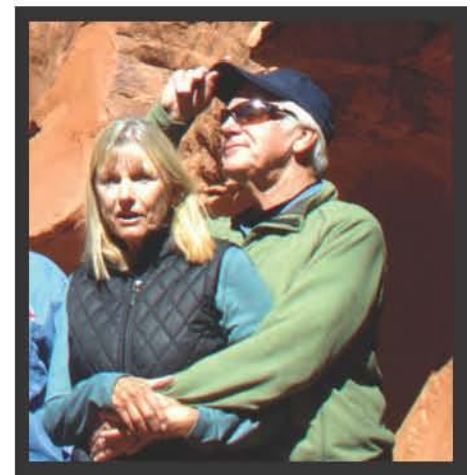
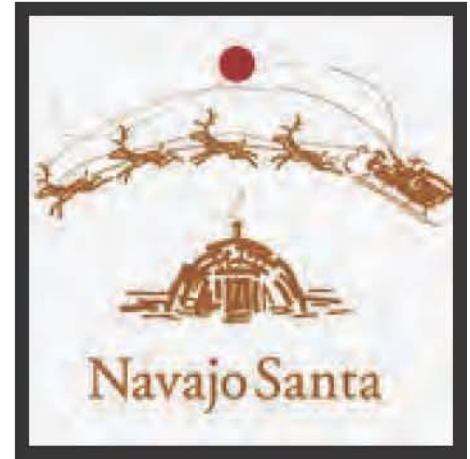
We continue to do a lot in the outdoors. Camping is now in a RV, skiing, hiking and traveling are still important. I spend a lot of time farming and some time fly fishing in the summer and skiing in the winter. Kathy prefers hiking, golf and traveling. Grandkids are a priority

Maybe our most important and time consuming passion is Navajo Santa, a non-profit dedicated to helping the Navajos on the Utah Strip of the Navajo Nation. NS has several programs – Santa Goes to School, Adopting Sub for Santa Families for Christmas and funding Sustainable projects. Having third world living conditions in Utah is shocking; we are trying to make a difference.

We recently enjoyed vacationing with some of the members on the the Viking River Cruise this July. It was a great way to get acquainted with many Miata owners.

It is always fun to learn more about our Miata family members. Sounds like Eric would be a good man to know if you have any structural issues and we could certainly benefit from Kathy's artistic and creative experience and her knowledge of Utah's archeological and ethnographic collections! I really enjoyed hearing that Eric and Kathy met at D.B. Coopers. When I worked for the newspapers downtown, that was one of our favorite places to relax and unwind if you had the time, after a long week of deadlines. They had an excellent chef on staff and made the best Chinese Chicken Salads in the State of Utah.

I hope you will take the time as members to get to know and enjoy Eric and Kathy as much as we do. We're looking forward to sharing more fun adventures with them and all of our Miata Club members!



2017 Calendar of Events

(Submitted and updated by Steve Beckstead)

October 7th: Billy Blanco's Restaurant 11:30 a.m.

October 22nd: Ali & Shylo's Condo Clubhouse: 6:00-10:00 pm

October 28th: Halloween Party (Details TBA)

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

Halloween Party

by Mike Bailey

When: Saturday, October 28, 2017

Time: 6:00 p.m. until 10:00

Where: Ali & Shylo's Condo Clubhouse

Our Club Halloween Party will be the last Saturday in October, the 28th, from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm at Ali & Shylo Bazzaz's condo clubhouse in South Jordan located just off Bangerter Highway by the District Shopping Center. This is at the same location that we had last year. Address is 11239 River Heights Drive, South Jordan, 84095. If you get lost phone Ali at 801-309-5574. Our hosts will be Ali and Shylo. Bring a Pot Luck item for something to eat. We always have good Halloween treats to eat. Be sure to wear your best Halloween costume and dress up as this make it all the more fun. It will be a fun evening to socialize with your Miata friends and kick back and enjoy yourselves. If you don't have a costume this year, just come as you are as this will be scary enough? Most of these photos are from last year and a couple from past years.



Viking River Cruise Candid Camera

by Mike Bailey

We had a great time on the Viking River Cruise for the Miata Club. Here are a few candid camera shots from the 3,425 photos that I took. I hope you remember these times.



Candid Camera

by Mike Bailey

All of this month's Candid Camera photos were taken at events during 2017. See if you can remember what event these were taken at. Enjoy your club members! Remember that you can be caught at any time with the 'secret' camera shot of you, so be sure to look good at all times.



