



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



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From the Top Down “Oh, the Places We’ll Go!” By: Valerie Francis, President

I think you would agree that August was another great month to get in some fun driving... starting with the drive over Guardsman Pass to Wolf Creek Pass, and the trip that included Bear Lake, Alpine WY, and Idaho Falls. This newsletter also has a recap of the Colorado trip in July, which actually covered several segments of the **Dinosaur Diamond National Scenic Byway** mentioned in my article last month. Additionally, the upcoming September drive to Torrey will include driving the **Nebo Loop National Scenic Byway, Scenic Byway 12 – Utah’s All American Road**, and sections of **Energy Loop National Scenic Byway**, which I also mentioned last month. These roads are not to be missed!

I promised to cover the State Scenic Byways this month and challenged you to try and list them off the top of your head. How many of the twenty do you think you could list? Most of them we know, and have probably driven on. But I have to admit that there were a couple I didn’t know were scenic byways. **Here they are:**

Alpine Loop Scenic Byway - up American Fork Canyon through the Uinta National Forest to Provo Canyon.

Bear Lake Scenic Byway - from Garden City to Laketown following the western shore of Bear Lake.

Beaver Canyon Scenic Byway - from Beaver to Elk Meadows through the Tushar Mountain Range.

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Big Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Byway - from Salt Lake City to Brighton.

Capitol Reef Country Scenic Byway - from Loa through Hanksville, through Capitol Reef National Park, Goblin Valley State Park, the San Rafael Swell and part of Canyonlands National Park.

Cedar Breaks Scenic Byway - East of Cedar City through the Dixie National Forest and along the edge of Cedar Breaks National Monument (only 6 miles long).

Dead Horse Mesa Scenic Byway - SR-313 nine miles north of Moab to Dead Horse Point.

Fishlake Scenic Byway - SR-25 to Fishlake and Johnson Reservoir.

Great Salt Lake Legacy Parkway - Utah's newest scenic byway, opened in 2008, the 14-mile long route travels from North Salt Lake to Farmington near the east edge of the Great Salt Lake.

Indian Creek Corridor Scenic Byway – south of Moab/Arches area, it leads to Canyonlands National Park.

Kolob Fingers Road Scenic Byway - 18 miles south of Cedar City this takes you into Zion National Park's Kolob Canyons section.

Little Cottonwood Canyon Scenic Byway - from Salt Lake City to Snowbird and Alta.

Markagunt High Plateau Scenic Byway - from Cedar City to the junction of US-89 via Cedar Canyon and the Dixie National Forest.

Mirror Lake Scenic Byway - Heading east from Kamas into the Uinta Mountains.

Monument Valley to Bluff Scenic Byway - from the Arizona border, this Byway travels northeast through Monument Valley.

Mount Carmel Utah - from Kanab to the junction of Highway 12 near Panguitch.

Ogden River Scenic Byway - up Ogden Canyon, past Pineview Reservoir, and on to three ski resorts ... Snowbasin, Powder Mountain and Wolf Mountain.

Potash/Colorado River Scenic Byway - from its three miles north of Moab it follows the Colorado River.

Provo Canyon Scenic Byway - from Provo to Heber, via Provo Canyon, Bridal Veil Falls and around Deer Creek Reservoir.

Zion Park Scenic Byway - Highway 9 from I-15, past Zion National Park to Mt. Carmel Junction.

Which of these Byways have you enjoyed driving? Do you have any favorites? Or which have you or the Miata Club **not** been on? If we have not been on some of these Byways we will have to remedy that. Oh the places we have to go Zoom Zooming!



Utah Miata Club Facebook Page By: Steve Beckstead

Hey Miata Club Members,

I would like to strongly encourage all members to take advantage of the Facebook Utah Miata Club page. I will say that I am not a fan of putting my whole life out there and Facebook is not perfect. However, it is by far the fastest and easiest way to get information out to the membership. It is also the easiest to edit if a correction needs to be made. I try with the emails, but there is a chain of events that takes some time to navigate.

Just sign up for Facebook and set your privacy settings high. You don't actually ever need to post anything, just use it to read news and updates. Lastly, if you already have Facebook, make sure you have been set up to see the Utah Miata Club page. Contact any officer if you have questions. It is a private page and only club members see what you post there.

Thanks, Steve—Utah Miata Club Vice President



September Monthly Lunch Information "Octoberfest" BBQ

Date & Time: Saturday, September 7, 2019 **11:30 AM**
Location: Mark and Susan Vaughn's home
Address: 5792 Walden Glen, Murray UT 84123

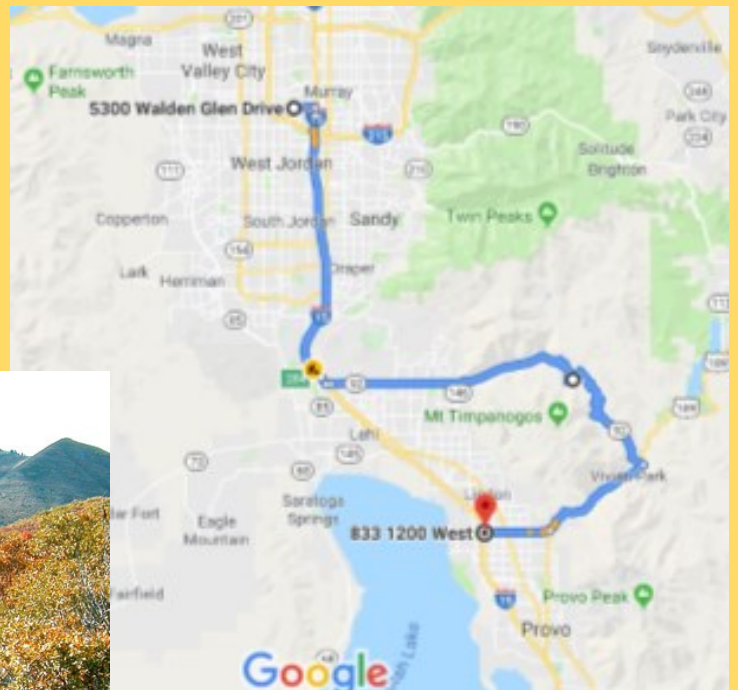


Mark and Susan Vaughn will be hosting an "Octoberfest" BBQ at their home. They have hosted BBQ's in previous years, and their hospitality is always wonderful, and the food delicious!

The club is requesting a \$5 per person contribution towards the food.

After Meeting Drive Information

After stuffing ourselves with great food and enjoying each other's company, a drive is planned to the Alpine Loop. We will leave the Vaughn's heading north to 5300 South, then right hand turn east to catch I-15 at 5300 South, also a right hand turn. At Exit 284 we head east towards Highland and Alpine on Hwy 92. This takes us right onto the Alpine Loop. There is a pay booth at the entrance of the canyon for campers, picnickers, etc. Because we are just driving through, we can bypass the pay booth. When we reach Provo Canyon the guided ride is over and everyone can head home however they want. Depending on the group, we can take a side tour to Cascade Springs and/or stop at Sundance Resort.



Birthdays & Memberships

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

NAME	EXPIRING
ROBERT & KATHY JO FACKRELL	9/30/2019
MARK & SHAUNA MIDGLEY	9/30/2019

New Members

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
RICHARD & GAIL KELLY	2019	RED
RICHARD & CHRISTINE MACKERELL	2019	CERAMIC

REMOVED FROM ROSTER

NAME	EXPIRED
PAUL & CINDY ASHCRAFT	5/31/2019
JAMES & SHANA BULLOUGH	5/31/2019
BRYAN & JOY MASTERS	5/31/2019
ROBERT OLSEN	5/31/2019
DREW & LISA WILSON	5/31/2019



Membership Expired: \$35 Dual /\$25 Single Membership

NAME	EXPIRED
NITAYA CHIV	6/30/2019
KAREN CHRISTIANSEN	8/31/2019
DONN & JANET CICHOCKI	7/31/2019
THOMAS & LAUREL DRYSDALE	8/31/2019
RICHARD & JUDY DYSON	8/31/2019
JUSTIN & CHRISTA JACKSON	7/31/2019

NAME	BIRTHDAY
GAIL KELLY	4 Sep
JAMES VREDEVELD	4 Sep
MERLIN JUDKINS	7 Sep
CHRISTA JACKSON	15 Sep
MICHAEL FOSTER	17 Sep
KAREN CHRISTENSEN	23 Sep
AIJAZ BILAL	25 Sep
ANA PORTER	29 Sep

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. **A Dual Membership (for yourself and a spouse, sibling or significant other) is \$35, and \$25 for Single. It is \$35 dual/\$25 single if you have the newsletter e-mailed to you, or \$45 if you would like a hard copy sent by standard mail.** You can also pay your dues online with PayPal on our website; www.utahmiataclub.org. This method is \$35 / \$25 (plus PayPal fees). If mailing a check, please send to: 233 West 1550 North, Bountiful, Utah 84010. Make your check payable to the Utah Miata Club. Margie can also be contacted by phone at 801-295-4563 or by e-mail at sec.treasumc@icloud.com.

August Meeting and Drive Report By: Valerie Francis

We enjoyed another great meeting and drive last month, starting with a breakfast at Golden Corral. We had about 40 or more in attendance and it was easy to get our fill of delicious food and visiting before the short meeting.



Afterwards, we had 14 cars head out for the great drive Amy Beckstead planned. A last minute change was incorporated so that we avoided driving up Parleys Canyon. Instead we went up over Guardsman Pass, past Wasatch State Park, and the south side of Jordanelle before going over Wolf Creek Pass. We drove as far as Hanna then turned around and returned over Wolf Creek, ending up in Kamas for our fritters. From there everyone headed home various ways, some getting a little rain and others that returned via Guardsman getting pounded with a downpour and hail.

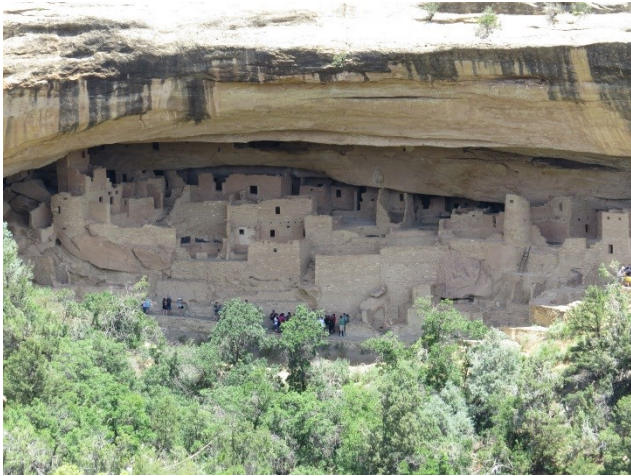


I am still amazed at how beautiful Heber Valley looks when coming down Guardsman and at the wonderful green forest areas when driving Wolf Creek Pass. Thanks again for Amy's plan and for Steve and Ron-da's being the drive lead.



Colorado Trip Report By: Mike Bailey

The Colorado trip planned and executed by Amy Beckstead was wonderful. It was five days packed with fun each day and we had a great time with wonderful weather. We left early on July 24th while Utah was celebrating Pioneer Day. We headed down Hwy 6 to Moab, our usual route, and had lunch there at the Moab Diner before heading down to Cortez, Colorado for our first night's stay.



The next day we went to Mesa Verde National Park and sort of split up into different groups and headed to different parts of the park to explore the archeological ruins of the Ancestral Pueblo people, Cliff Dwellers, Basket Makers, and other ancient peoples. The Cliff Dwellers ranged from AD550 to the year 750 AD while the Pueblo People occupied the area for 700 years until the 1200's. It was amazing to see everything. We toured the Visitor's Center and places like the Spruce Tree House, Square Tower House, Balcony House, Cliff Palace and the Long House. Some club members who were in good shape climbed ladders and had special tour guides take them through these places. Some of us went to Wetherill Mesa and hiked the short trail to the Step House and Long House and took photos. This was an amazing day and thanks to Amy for setting this all up!



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The next day we traveled to Durango and checked into our hotel for two days there and took the old Silverton Steam train from Durango to Silverton. It was a half day trip on the train to get there through the rugged San Juan mountains, but it was very fun. We had a couple different groups; one group went to the Gold Mine by bus and train back, and the other group went up on the morning train and back on the bus and hanging out in Silverton for lunch. We did see each other in Silverton as both groups were heading back to Durango. We had a good time in Durango.



The next day we went to Ouray and visited the Box Canyon Falls, an awesome place with a short hike and unique waterfalls at the end of a box canyon. Then we headed homeward bound in the direction of Vernal, Utah stopping in Gateway, Colorado for a quick break, and then overnight in Fruita. A few cars even detoured through Colorado National Monument on the way to Fruita.



We had our friends from the east join us, Robert and Gale Klinshaw, and George and Patty Chase. It was great to see them as it has been awhile since our trip to the Total

Solar Eclipse in August 2017 when we were with them last. We also had Dave and Michelle Anderson along with us on their first over-nighter since they joined the club. Dave had his drone with him and took some awesome videos of our Miatas and us at different locations along the way on this trip. Thanks to Dave for doing this and posting them on our Miata Club Facebook page. This was one of the best trips of the year and thanks to Becksteads; Amy, Steve and Ronda for taking charge on this trip and leading us on this awesome adventure!



Bear Lake, Alpine Wyoming, Idaho Trip Report By: Mike Bailey

The Utah Miata Club trip to Bear Lake, Alpine, Wyoming and Idaho started early in the morning with a meeting up Weber Canyon off I-84 at the rest stop. We assembled and had a quick driver's meeting led by our club President, Valerie. Then we were in our Miatas headed past Mountain Green, up over Trapper's loop, past Pineview Reservoir and Huntsville, up Monte Cristo Canyon, and to Bear Lake.



It was a very beautiful day and the weather was excellent for 'top down' driving. We had 12 Miatas starting out on the drive. We made a stop at the Monte Cristo campground for a break and then headed to Bear Lake and Garden City for lunch and raspberry shakes. It was a fun group. Val and Doyle led for most all of the trip with Steve and Ronda as Sweeps. For those who had lunch at the Chevron it was disappointing as it took a really long time to get our food, and then it was not that good. But the shakes were excellent!



Four cars headed back home after lunch and it was 8 cars going to Wyoming. We then headed to Wyoming and got to Alpine late in the afternoon. The car show was small but they had nice cars there to look at and it was a good break after driving most of the day. After the car show we went past Palisades Reservoir, which was very beautiful and the air was cool in the Idaho mountains. We arrived at the Driftwood Inn in Idaho Falls around 5:00 pm. It was right on the river by the falls and very scenic. We had dinner at a good Mexican restaurant and then headed back to the motel to play Do Over, our favorite club card game.

In the morning the Vredevelts, and Sturms left to spend another night in St. Anthony's while the rest of us headed home. We passed by one of our favorite places, Lava Hot Springs, but did stop in Soda Springs to check out the old hot springs there and for a quick break before heading home through to Logan and down through Sardine Canyon. It was a great trip! Thank goes to Robert Fackrell for suggesting this trip to us early in the year at the planning meeting!





Member Spotlight By: Carol Lynn Vredeveld

Our spotlight couple for September is Richard and Gail Kelly

It is my pleasure to welcome Richard and Gail Kelly to the Utah Miata Club! They just joined the club recently, but I don't believe they have had a chance to attend any of our meetings yet. I saw their names listed on the current roster as new members and invited them to be our spotlight couple for the month. They kindly replied back to me and sent me their article shortly after that. I am excited to get a chance to meet them both and I'm pretty sure they will enjoy getting to know all our very friendly Miata Club members! While reading through Richards article I can tell they will fit right in. If they are looking for adventure, enjoy friendly conversation, a good laugh or two and like to play cards as well...they have certainly found the right group of likeminded folks.

Enjoy reading Richards article below as he tells us how he ended up moving to Utah and a little about his history with Miata's.

Our current Miata is a 2019 MX5 RF Grand Touring Red Crystal. Our first Miata was a 2008 MX5, GT, copper red, powered hardtop, it was cute!



We first joined the Little Rock, AR Miata Club in 2008, then moved to Southern New Mexico. I was not aware of a club there. We sold the 2008 Miata before moving to Utah.

My wife and I grew up in Longmeadow Massachusetts. We were high school sweethearts. I joined the Air Force shortly after graduation and served for nearly 21 years. We lived in Italy, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Maryland, Nevada and New Mexico. My job took me around the world, and I deployed many times.

I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Aeronautics. Gail started with an Executive Secretarial degree in 1978 (when there was such a thing) from Bay Path University. This was a beneficial career for as many times as we moved! She now has been a biofeedback specialist for 15 years.

I am currently a Systems Engineering Analyst for the F-22 Raptor at Hill AFB. My wife, Gail, is currently a licensed and certified Biofeedback Specialist working out of our home office in Clinton.

Gail and I met when our best friends introduced us in high school.

We've been married for 41 years, dated for 4 years before that. We have two grown sons both living in California (Mike and Dan). Our dog children are two Huskies (Skye and Yukon) whom we walk two miles daily.

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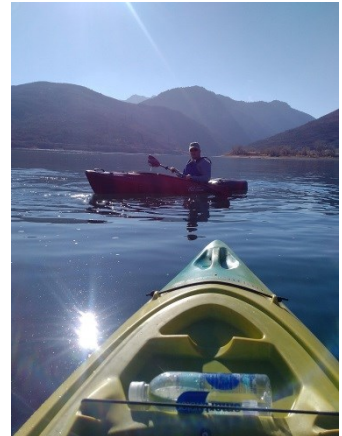
We have tons of stories about our travels, our children growing up while ignoring the wisdom of their elders (smirk), just joking around or swimming with the dolphins. During one vacation in Mexico, we took our boys Mike, age 11, and Dan, age 7, to swim with the dolphins, an educational eco program. We donned our snorkel gear and waited at the end of the dock in the ocean for our instructor. Michael, the oldest by 5 years, always had to be first. So, under the water he went. A few seconds later, he popped up and exclaimed, "There's fish under there!" Dan, the younger one, said matter of factly, and quite simply, "Duhhhhh Michael!"



We like to travel, explore new places, and try new foods. We like to stay active and try to take our kayaks out as often as possible. We enjoy hiking, skiing, biking, and camping. We also like to have dinner and game nights at the house or just get together with friends and playing cards, talk and laugh.

I've been to Front Sight training and enjoy going to the target range. I like to work with my hands to build things. We have lots of fruit trees in our yard, so we share our harvest each year. We also like to go to the movies.

We can't wait to get together and meet everyone.



Please join me in welcoming Richard and Gail to the club and be sure to say hello the first chance you get. I'm sure they will enjoy driving their new Miata on some of our scenic Utah roads especially with a whole bunch of their new Miata Club friends... many of whom also enjoy talking, laughing and playing cards!



Miata Plate of the Month By: Valerie Francis

Any guesses on which Utah Miata Club members this plate belongs to?

It is Eric and Kathy Kankainen and is on their 1995 "wine" colored Miata. Eric tells me that it took three tries with the Utah DMV to agree to issue a plate with the name of a wine on it. The first two times were rejected but over time, by adding the "95" and dropping the "t" in Merlot, the DMV finally consented.

I remember reading a newspaper article years ago about the request for a personalized plate "Merlot" being rejected by the stodgy DMV. Eric confirmed that it was his request. I am glad Eric and Kathy finally got their "Merlo" plate because it certainly fits their car!



Halloween Party in October By: Valerie Francis

Heads up: Ken and Jan are hosting our Halloween party on October 27th. As in the past, this will be pot luck and costumes so start planning your costumes. Watch for details in next month's newsletter!



September In Torrey Drive by Eric and Kathy Kankainen

SCENIC BYWAYS to BRYCE and CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARKS

Itinerary for Sept 27-29: Target - Peak Fall Foliage for Aspens

Happening this month! Hopefully everyone planning on going on this fantastic drive has their hotels reserved!

Friday: leave SLC at 9 am from Harmon's in Draper – take I-15 to Payson, then Mt Nebo Loop to Salina for lunch at Mom's Café, then Gooseberry to Fish Lake to Bryce Canyon (approx. 7.5 hrs + lunch (320 mi)). Check in to Motels, then optional (on your own) park drive before dinner at Ruby's Inn 7:30 pm.

Saturday: Meet 9 am at Ruby's Inn. Drive through park to end and back for lunch at Bryce Canyon Lodge. Next All-American Highway 12 thru Escalante to Boulder (optional Burr Trail Drive) to Torrey (approx. total 4.0 hrs + overlooks + lunch) (160 mi); early dinner (5 pm) at Rim Rock then Capitol Reef Scenic Park Drive for 1.5 hrs.

Sunday: Meet at Junction of State Road 12 & 24, take State Road #24 west to State Road #72 to Fremont Junction on I-70 then up State Road 10 to scenic, side trip to & back Sufco Mine, then to Ferron for lunch at Millsite Golf Course, then Huntington Canyon to Fairview, then State Road 89 and I-15 to SLC (approx. 5.5 hrs + lunch (260 mi)).



Miatas at Leguna Seca 2019 By: Tonya and Josh Ashment

Dates: October 11-13, 2019

Please contact the Newsletter Editor or Tonya and Josh Ashment if you are interested in traveling with them!

Josh and I have designed a 'budget friendly' route for this event, however the cost for this trip will be \$1,500+. See below for our travel itinerary.

Day 1. October 9th, 2019

8:00 – Rally at I-80 Exit 99 Flyin J Parking Lot (Lake Point, Tooele). Hotel in Reno: Best Western Plus Boomtown Casino Hotel (\$98/night) 2100 Garson Road

Day 2. October 10th, 2019 8:00/8:30 – Reno Breakfast (location TBD), 9:30 – Museum tour: National Automobile Museum (Cost = \$14/each), Hotel in Monterey: Hotel Abrego (~189-239/night) 755 Abrego Street

Day 3-5. October 11-13th, 2019 Event – Miatas at Leguna Seca

Day 6. October 14th, 2019 9:00/9:30 – Monterey Breakfast (Location TBD), 10:00 – 17 mile-drive at Pebble Beach (Cost = 10.25/car), Hotel in Reno: Best Western Plus Boomtown Casino Hotel (\$98/night) 2100 Garson Road

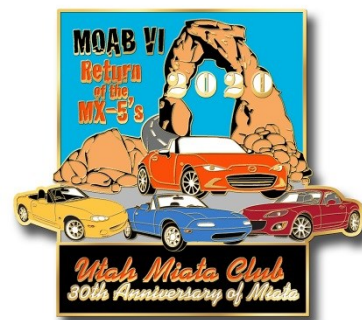
Day 7. October 15th, 2019 8:00/8:30 – Reno Breakfast (location TBD), 5:00 – Arrive back in Tooele

For more information on the event, visit: **Website** – <https://miatareunion.com>, Facebook – Miatas at LS, Forum – Miata.net. **Registration begins: 15 June at 9AM Pacific Time** (Event agenda will be released at this time as well)



Miatas In Moab VI - April 30-May 2, 2020

Register Now and book your room! Rooms are sold out at Red Cliff's lodge but other accommodations are available. [See Accommodations Page on Moab VI Website](#). 216 registered guests as of end of August with a limit of 250 people, so [Register NOW](#) if you are planning on coming!



Go to www.utahmiataclub.org. Click Moab link to Register \$140.00/person Fee.

Check Accommodations Page for your Lodging! Your registration fee includes the following: Participation in all event activities and drives, Event lanyard & name badge, Event Goodie Bag, Event Pin commemorating 30th Anniversary of the Miata and Commemorative Logo T-Shirt, Welcome Social, Grand Prime rib Dinner Buffet banquet Saturday night, participation in Miata photo Shoot and Car Show & Shine, Event Prize Drawings, etc.

Experience Scenic Drives in beautiful Red Rock Country, State & National Parks, Fabulous Meals, Group Photo Shoot, Car Show, Games, Parties, Pin Exchange, Prizes, Give-Aways, Commemorative Logo Apparel for Sale, Goodie Bags. Thursday Evening Welcome Party & Socializing. Make new Miata Friends

____Recognizing Miata's 30th Anniversary at this Event with a Special Moab VI / 30th Anniversary Pin____

Miatas In Miataland, Italy: August 20-26, 2020 + 8 Day Italian Sojourn Cruise + 3 Days in Rome, Italy Experience!



Relax and Enjoy Miataland. Drive Miatas in Italy's North Central Scenic Mountains.



MIATALAND: The "Trip of a Lifetime" See our Miataland Facebook Page



October Monthly Luncheon Information By: Valerie Francis

Preliminary information for next month's lunch meeting and drive: Just in time for fall colors, the planned drive is "Gordie's Special" along the west side of Utah Lake, Goshen Canyon, and Nebo Loop. Lunch before will be at Jim's Restaurant in Riverton. I know that those going on the Torrey Drive will be going over Nebo Loop on the way to Bryce Canyon the week before, but hopefully it was beautiful enough that they want to go again. Final details will be in next month's newsletter.



2019 Calendar of Events



Monthly Lunch Meeting Schedule and Additional Drives/Events:

- Sept 7th:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am BBQ at Vaughn home, drive Alpine Loop, Refer to page 3 (Doyle & Val) – Mark & Susan Vaughn
- Sept 16-27:** Fall For New England, Mass Miata Club - Mike Bailey, Donn Cichocki
- Sept 20-22:** Texas Miata Roundup, Bluebonnet Club - Mark & Susan Vaughn
- Sept 27-29:** Torrey and Bryce Canyon drive, Refer to page 11 - Eric & Kathy Kankainen
- Oct 5th:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, Jim's Restaurant Riverton, Nebo Loop) – Doyle & Val
- Oct 10th:** Laguna Seca, Miata 30th Anniversary, Monterey, CA, Refer to page 11, –Tonya & Josh Ashment
- Oct 26th:** Halloween Party— Ken & Jan Jaworski
- Nov 2nd:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, TBD) – Mike & Lynn Bailey
- Dec 7th:** Holiday party and meeting (Time TBD, Jim & Marilyn Bickley's home) – Mike & Lynn B.

2020 Events


- Miatas in Moab VI (April 30—May 2, 2020)** —Mark Vaughn
- Explore Oregon 2020 (July 16—19, 2020)** Info to come, Willamette Miata Club <http://www.oregonmx5.com>
- Canada's Capital Miata Meet—2020 (August 13—16, 2020)** - <http://ottawamiata.net>
- Miataland Italy (August 20—Sept 2, 2020)** —Mike Bailey, Karen Christiansen
- Buggies & Bridges III (Sept 24—27, 2020)** Refer to UMC website or www.pacemiataclub.org - Pace Miata Club



Candid Camera

By Mike Bailey

This month's are photos from Alpine WY/Idaho trip and also the Colorado Trip. Enjoy!


**SMILE
YOU'RE
ON
CANDID
CAMERA**

