



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



WHAT'S UP FOR THE FUTURE OF THE MX-5 MIATA: SEE PAGE 10

From the Top Down by Mike Thompson

Unlike many of you, I had never visited the HAFB Aerospace Museum prior to our March 2025 Utah Miata Club event. Wow! From the gigantic B-52 Stratofortress, to the F-15A Eagle and F-22 Raptor fighters, to the high-altitude SR-71C Blackbird spy plane, to the little Cessna O-2A Skymaster, and many, many others, it was amazing.



What made the day even more enjoyable was chatting with several of the veterans in our club. I won't name names, certain I would overlook someone. Many of our club members have served in the military. I am familiar with the concepts, though I have never before heard the informal description "tooth to tail ratio." It's the comparison of the number of persons it takes to supply and support (tail) each combatant (tooth). It's a significant amount of work to keep an army rifleman (for example) fed and clothed, with a rifle and ammunition nearby, backed by vehicles that are fueled and ready, plus doctors, nurses, etc. Multiply the army's support numbers (tail) when it comes to keeping a modern, single-pilot (tooth) jet fighter in tip-top working condition. Tooth and tail, all efforts are honorable and necessary service.

My grandfather served in the American Expeditionary Force during WWI, under General John J Pershing. Not yet married, grandpa was drafted and (after training) shipped off to the front lines in France, where he was wounded in action. He was a lovely man, who died when I was just 11 years old. We never had a chance to speak of his experiences. My father enlisted in the Utah Air National Guard, which was activated during the Korean War. He served as an aircraft welder and mechanic at Clovis AFB, where combat pilots trained. Between hot wars, Kelly's dad enlisted in the Navy Reserves and later in the Utah Air Guard.

Young men my age moved towards the Vietnam war from a great distance. I recall news reports in the mid-1960s—when the U.S. first put soldiers in the conflict—and wondering if I would see the day. I was aware of the "days of rage" at the 1968 Democratic Convention, and many other war protests. Such times!

The war in Vietnam eventually wound down, as they all (thankfully) do. No one was drafted from my birth year, and I have not served in the military. Nevertheless, I salute you club members—and all veterans—for your honorable service to your country.

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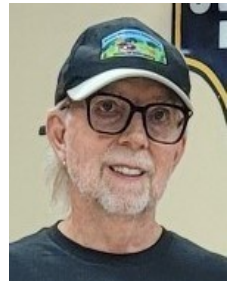
April Drive & Luncheon

by Robert Olsen

When: Saturday, April 12, 2025 Time: 9:15 am.

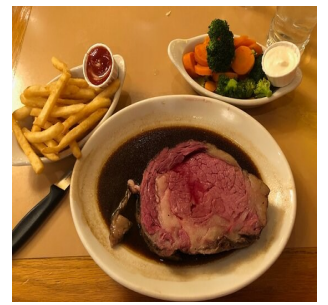
Where: Wheeler Farm 6351 South 900 East,
Murray, Utah 84107

Destination: Maddox Family Restaurant
in Perry, Utah 84032
1900 South Hwy. 89. Exit 362 off I-15 North.



This month we will do a reverse to our regular schedule and meet in Salt Lake Valley in Murray as a group and then drive to Perry, Utah south of Brigham City for lunch at the Maddox Ranch House Family Restaurant.

We will all meet at Wheeler Farm. Please get there on time as we will leave at 9:30 a.m. to our destination in Brigham City, Utah which will be Maddox Family Restaurant. The drive will end at Maddox. We should arrive at approximately 11:30-12:00. We'll go into the restaurant for lunch and have our monthly meeting probably after we order our meals. After lunch you are welcome to find your own route home or explore other places in the area. If you wish you can take a drive up Sardine Canyon to Logan or to Mantua Reservoir. Not sure if the poppy flowers are starting to bloom yet, as they usually bloom sometime in May. There are also things to see in Brigham City, or go to the Aggies Ice Cream store in Logan. Event officially ends after lunch.



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, money order or Venmo @ utahmiataclub. It will show Marjorie Newson@utahmiataclub. If prompted for confirmation, last 4 digits of phone # are 1596. [Please Renew your Membership on month it is due!](#)

Birthdays / Memberships



New Members



NAME	YEAR	COLOR
BRAD HAMBLIN	2014	SILVER

Expiring Soon: \$35 Dual -\$25 Single /Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRING SOON
MIKE & LYNN BAILEY	4/30/2025
KAY BARRELL	4/30/2025
MIKE HINMAN	4/30/2025
RICHARD LEE (See Removed)	4/30/2025
LARRY & CHARLENE PETERSEN	4/30/2025

NAME	DATE
BRENT PALMER	3 Apr
DOUGLAS KLUENDER	8 Apr
CHARRISE FERGUSON	10 Apr
MICHELLE MILLER	14 Apr
SUSAN VAUGHN	14 Apr
JOE LEVERICH	16 Apr
MARK FERGUSON	19 Apr
GARY COLLINGS	21 Apr
LORIENA ORTIZ	24 Apr
ALEX JOHNSON	25 Apr
SHARON MECHLING	25 Apr
ANGIE WHITE	28 Apr

Memberships Expired / Please Renew Now

NAME	EXPIRED
JORDON & TIFFANY BIGELOW	2/28/2025
RICHARD LANE	2/28/2025
CHRIS & LINDA LEWIS	1/31/2025
PHILLIP & NICOLE LIFSEY	2/28/2025
RICHARD PLUMB	1/31/2025



Removed From Roster

NAME	EXPIRED
RICHARD LEE	Deceased

Club Officers (July 2024 -- July 2025)

President: Michael Thompson Vice President: Ken Jaworski Secretary: Jim Newson Treasurer: Margie Newson
Directors: Robert Mechling, Susan Christiansen, Carol Lynn Vredeveld Newsletter Editor: Michael Bailey



Miata Tales by Ken Jaworski

British Racing Green just might be the colour of the year. I have to assume because we drive the Miata MX5 that we enjoy the small car feeling, but might YOU want to go smaller. Join me on Saturday, 31 May 2025, to go to Huntsville, Utah for the best in small cars. Further info about what you will see will be presented in future Miata Tales. First of all here is the map of the route we will take to get there. Having a little fun, too. Let's gather at Emigration Canyon Monument just past Hogle Zoo. We will go east on Emigration Canyon until we hit Utah State Hwy 65 and proceed past East Canyon Res. We will turn left on Utah State Hwy 66 and proceed to Morgan. North on I-84 to Utah State Hwy 167 to Mountain Green. North on Trapper's Loop (167) and on to Huntsville. Timing TBD. Stay tuned.



CycleKarts at 2024 Huntsville, Utah When: Saturday 31 May 2025



May Luncheon & Activity by Mike Bailey

When: Saturday, May 10, 2025 Time: 11:30 AM. Arrive by 11:15 AM

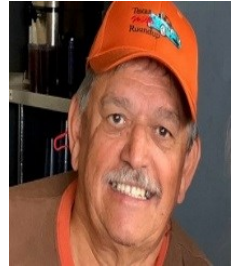
Where: Garage Grill in Herriman Private Dining Room by Check In Desk

Address: 12547 Herriman Auto Row, Herriman, Utah
84096 Phone: 801-666-7767



We need reservations and a head count for our luncheon one week in advance. Please sign a pass-around sheet at the April luncheon or contact Mike

Bailey by text or email or by posting on the UMC Facebook page on an upcoming post about this luncheon. Confirm to 801-597-1456 or mike@mikebaileyprinting.com.



We have a selected menu we need to order from for this luncheon which has been prepared by the head chef at the Garage Grill. Pricing will be \$13.—\$18. per person depending on item ordered. Menu items include: Cadillac French Toast, The Garage Breakfast, Gun Rack Chicken Fried Steak and Eggs, Chop Shop Burger, Route 66 Cobb Salad, Top Gear Mac & Cheese. Soft drinks, Pepsi products, lemonade, iced tea and water for drinks. Garage Grill's Salt Flats beer and spirits are available for an extra charge. Please do not drink and drive however! Item details will be provided on our special menu. Each person to pay for own meals. We will have our monthly club meeting here. Please let Mike Thompson know in advance of any items or future activities to be discussed.



After Lunch Activity: Dr. Phil Hoopes' Private British Car Collection

Location: 1 Trendland Cove at Pepperwood Estates. Address: 11000 S. 2000 East, Sandy, Utah. Inform gate guard that we are here to see the 'Hoopes Car Collection' to get in and they will direct us. Phil Hoopes is owner and CEO of Hoopes Vision Clinic. He has been a good friend of mine since high school and we grew up together. We served a mission in England together in the late 60's. That's where he got his passion for British sports cars and he owns a massive collection including the very unique VIN #1 first Triumph made. He also has many collectible MG's that are fully restored. He has won many awards for his extensive collection. This will be a fun collection to see! Our club has been to car shows like one below at Thanksgiving Point where Phil has displays his fine automobiles!



ROADTRIPPIN' *After* MEMORIAL DAY-2025

By Roger Heath

DATES: Friday, May 30, 2025—Sunday, June 1, 2025

Two night, 3 day Roadtrip after Memorial Day weekend, May 30th - June 1st, 2025, traveling through the red rock area in southeastern Utah. After meeting up at the Harmon's Bangerter Crossing store in Draper we'll head out on Hwy 6 to Price, Utah. From Price we'll turn south on Hwy 10 until we reach I-70. We'll drive under the freeway and join Hwy 72 into Loa, finally stopping in Torrey for the night.

Trip at a Glance:

May 30th: Meet at the Harmon's Bangerter Crossing store, 125 E. 13800 South Draper, at 9:00 AM and travel to Torrey. (220 miles).



May 31st: Drive from Torrey to Green River (298 Miles). **June 1st:** Drive home after breakfast. Maybe over to Huntington or Fairview Canyons or alternate routes around the area. Several options are available.

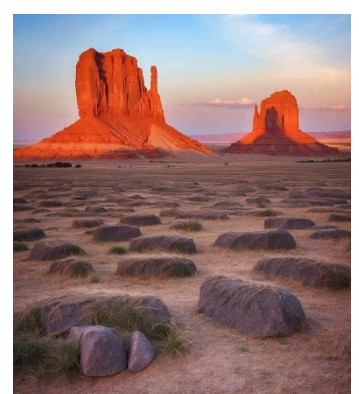
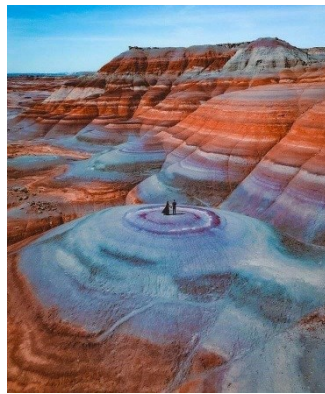
Please Book Rooms NOW for this trip as rooms fill up quickly.

Suggested Hotels: May 30th: Broken Spur Inn, Torrey: Phone 435-425-3775 <https://brokenspurinn.com>

May 31st Green River - River Terrace Inn, Phone 877-564-3401 <https://river-terrace.com>



Day 2: Head to Hanksville and through Hite then up to Blanding, Moab before stopping in Green River for the night.



Day 3: Coming home on Sunday there are various routes you can take, quickest is Hwy 6 back to Spanish Fork. Or, I-70 to Salina then north to Nephi and I-15. Another possibility is Hwy 6 to Price, then over to Duchesne towards Beaver or Kamas and home.

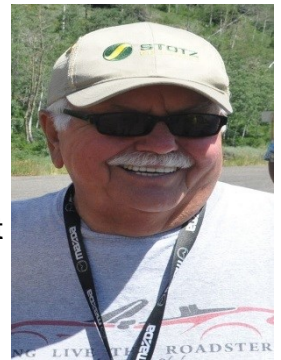
24TH ANNUAL ED "BIG DADDY" ROTH'S RAT FINK REUNION

By Steve Beckstead

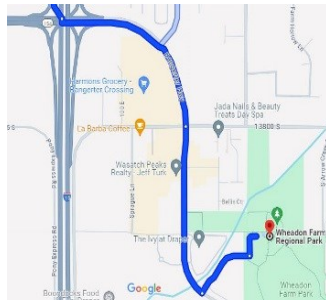
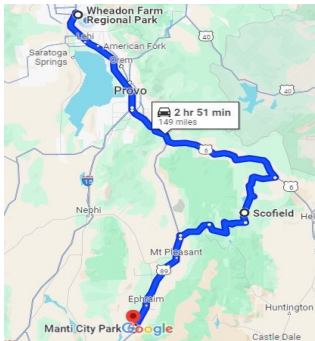
WHEN: SATURDAY JUNE 7, 2025; 9:00 AM

WHERE: 404 E. 300 N. MANTI, UTAH

RAT FINK™



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 there is **"Big Daddy" Ed Roth's Museum and Store** where you can purchase Rat Fink merchandise items. Live music and bands! More details next month! **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. Stay as long as you want if you like! This is *a/ways* a FUN event!



Idaho Summer 2025 Trip by Roger Heath

July 9th—July 13th 2025

A 4 night / 5 day midsummer cruise through central Idaho's National Forests. Taking a clockwise route we'll stop in Challis, McCall, Missoula and Idaho Falls. Daily drives are 300 miles or less so we should have time to sightsee or wander around the towns we're staying in. On Saturday, July 12th, those that wish can take a detour out to visit Big Hole National Battlefield on the way to Idaho Falls.



The Dates:

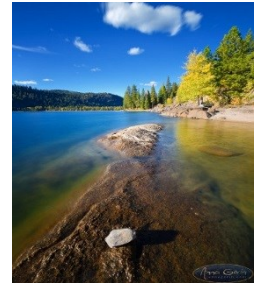
July 9th - 9:00 AM, meet at Beez Cafe in Roy, 5410 S 1900 W, Roy, UT. Drive to Challis- 293 miles

July 10th - 9:00 AM, drive from Challis to McCall 213 miles

July 11th - 9:00 AM, drive from McCall to Missoula 263 miles

July 12th - 9:00 AM, drive from Missoula to Idaho Falls 300 miles

July 13th - Leave at your leisure as this is the day to drive home



Suggested Lodging: Book Hotels NOW for best rates!

July 9th Challis - Red Rock Lodge 208-879-4936

<https://rrlodge.net>, hotels.com, [Expedia.com](https://expedia.com)

July 10th McCall - Super 8 by Wyndham McCall 800-454-3213

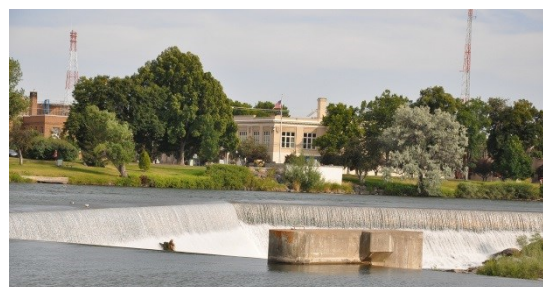
<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/super-8/mccall-idaho/super-8-mccall/overview>

July 11th Missoula - Super 8 by Wyndham Missoula / Reserve Street 800-454-3213

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/super-8/missoula-montana/super-8-missoula-reserve-st/overview>

July 12th Idaho Falls - Best Western Driftwood Inn Direct: 208-523-2242 Toll Free: 800-780-7234

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-idaho-falls/best-western-driftwood-inn/propertyCode.13005.html



March Drive Report to Hill AFB Museum by Mike Bailey

We had our first significant activity for 2025 with lunch at the Golden Corral in Layton in a private room for our group which was nice. After a good meal with plenty of food items to choose from we had our monthly meeting and then drove about 5 miles up the road to the Hill Air Force Base Museum. The museum was awesome and there was a lot of knowledge distributed to our group from some of our military members such as Ken Jaworski, Roger Heath and Roger Newton as we toured the museum. There's lots of air planes to see both new and vintage aircraft.



2025 Utah Miata Club Challenge by Mike Bailey



I'd like to know who is interested in doing the 2025 Utah Miata Challenge? We will discuss this at the April monthly meeting. This week while passing through the small town of Magna on my way to Tooele County for business, I stopped to take these two photos on buildings in downtown Magna. Murals like these are everywhere around the state. It is fun to drive by and see them and stop to take a photo of them. I'd like to encourage everyone in the club to participate in this activity!



You can travel all over our beautiful state and find some amazing art work painted on buildings or statues or objects with custom designed art work painted on them! **This year's challenge will be to see whom in the club can visit and take photos of some amazing artwork around the state.** Also included in this challenge would be visiting and

taking photos of artwork around the state featured in almost any city or town, both large and small. You've seen art-work painted by local artists on the sides of many buildings. These artworks can also include any interesting or amazing sculptures which can be seen on roundabouts or in cities or towns, such as the buffalos in Tooele. This will also give each of us an opportunity to get out on the road and have some fun 'top down' adventures! This challenge will be fun just like the last 'Ghost's & Legends' two years ago! There's so much "Street Art" to see around our state!



The Challenge will last until September 30, 2025 and need to be submitted by October 11th. Awards will be given in October or November of the year based on the total number of places visited and documented by furnishing a photo of yourself or couple in front of the sign, painting or sculpture. Also photos of your Miata in front of them are fine.

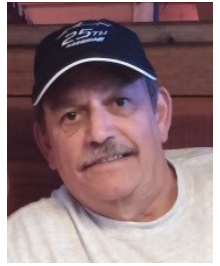
What's Up For The Future Of The MX-5 Miata

by Mike Bailey



I've been reading several popular automotive magazines and online posts the past couple months as they are filled with articles about our beloved Mazda MX-5 Miata.

There are so many articles written about what 'they' think will become of the next generation, or NE Miata. In the automotive world many 'Concept' Miatas are made or envisioned in these articles.



Electrification is also on the minds of many groups in the Miata world. Even Mazda people that I've talked to don't have any concrete information to pass on to the public. They can't even tell me what 'new' colors will be available! Below are some of the designs that have been displayed to generate interest in the 'next' MX-5 Miata. I guess we will have to wait to see what really does happen to our beloved Miata!





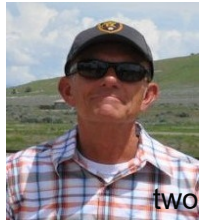
BRYCE CANYON INN

EST. 2006



Fall Leaf Drive: 2025 by Roger Heath

September 26-28, 2025 2 Nights/3 days



After skipping a year it's time for another fall overnighter to check out the changing colors of central Utah. Once again we'll spend nights in Tropic located in Southern Utah. Saturday will be a free day to check out the local attractions - Bryce Canyon NP, Kodachrome State Park or Cedar Breaks. Go on your own or with several others in the group!

For those that have gone in the past, the route will be familiar. A change to this year's drive will be the choice of an alternate route home. We can choose between what has been done previously - driving to Fish Lake then taking Gooseberry Road to Salina and north on Hwy 89 to Nephi. Or, we can take a backroad to Cedar Breaks, head through Brian Head ski area and into Parowan then I-15 home.

Itinerary:

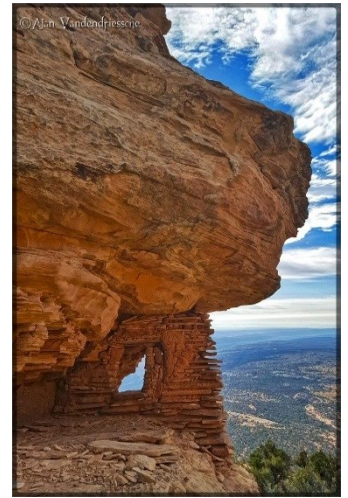
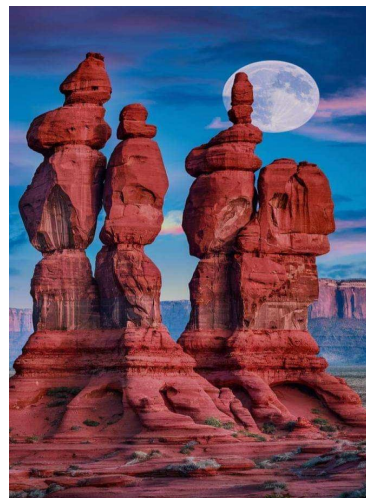
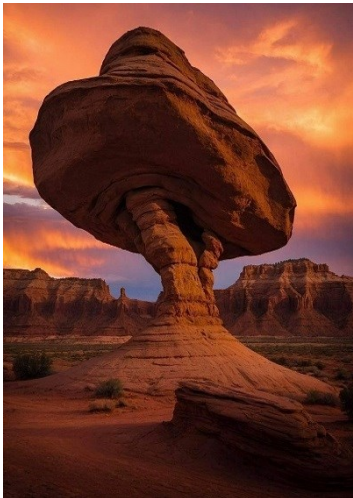
Friday, Sept 26th, 8:30 AM - Meet at Harmon's Bangerter Crossing, 125 E. 13800 S., Draper, Utah. Drive to Tropic.

Saturday, Sept 27th, free day - Do what you like and drive to several options of places or points of interest around the area that you'd like to see!

Sunday, Sept 28th, head home - Several options for the drive home.

Suggested lodging - Bryce Canyon Inn brycecanyoninn.com Phone: 435-679-8502 or Toll Free: 1-800-592-1468. Some large double room cabins available. Destination Address: 21 North Main St., Tropic, Utah 84776

Book NOW: Accommodations fill up fast. Other lodging in Bryce Canyon City.



Enjoy these photos of Utah Miata Club's April's Birthdays



CHARRISE FERGUSON



SUSAN VAUGHN



JOE LEVERICH



MARK FERGUSON



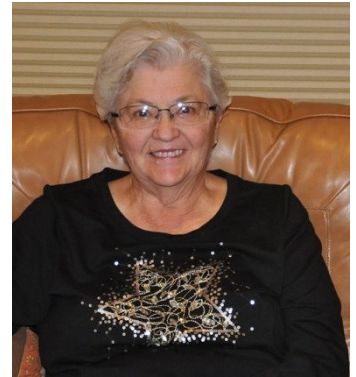
GARY COLLINGS



LORIENA ORTIZ



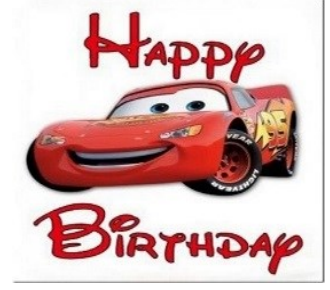
ALEX JOHNSON



SHARON MECHLING

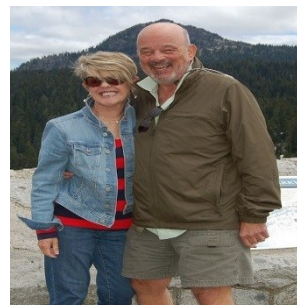


DOUG KLUENDER



Photos not available for Brent Palmer & Michelle Miller

Photos below of Birthday Members at Miata Events

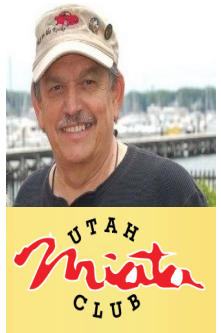


Miata Swag / Apparel, Car Club Magnets

By MiataWear Man: Mike Bailey



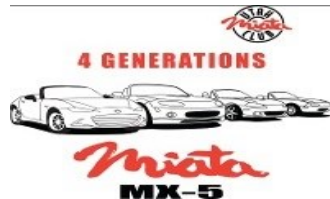
Please Note: I will be giving away for **FREE** some of Lynn's Sweat Shirts and T-Shirts that no longer fit her. All are in good condition and have been cleaned and laundered. I consider these 'collector' items from our from our many past 'Miatas in Utah events.' First come, first served on all these items. items. Sizes SM-LG.



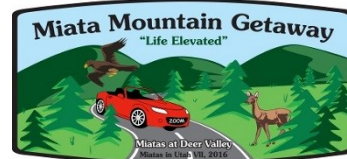
Close out on all

Utah Miata Club Logo shirts and logo merchandise. All shirts and past event items will be reduced to low prices during first few months in 2025. These include events from the last couple of years! Beartooth Highway Trip, Ghosts & Legends, Miatas in Utah events and other trips and events.

First come, first served basis. Get yours now for discounted prices. Prices starting at \$10.00.



Some 'Miatas at Deer Valley Miata Mountain Getaway' new apparel, never worn, is available at above discount. The T-Shirt designs on the items above or below that are in stock are on Sale! "Long Live the Roadster" Logo on some Black Mazda Shirts: Limited Sizes available or any other shirt you may want to supply. I will put club logos on them for you. LLTR logo below can be put on any color Tee Shirts or your provided shirt. If I purchase the shirt cost is \$15.00 Sizes SM-XL. 2XL is \$3.00 more.



Recreated 'Original Miata Club Of America Logo' Utah Edition Tee Shirts: \$15.00. See logo at top right.



Club Jackets: Wind Breakers or Jackets or buy your own and I'll put any UMC logo on them! Prices depend on Jacket. Many colors to choose from. Lightweight and fits behind your seats. Great for cooler mornings and evenings. and on all our drives and over-nighters!



Beanie Knit Hats: Made to Order. Yours or I can get them for you!



Club Magnets: Official Club Magnets or Mountains Logo Magnets with color of your Miata on them. Miata Support Vehicle Car Magnets are now available!



UMC CAR MAGNETS: \$25.00 / PAIR.

Ball Caps: Standard Structured or Soft Caps for ladies & men. Many colors to choose from: \$20.00 Each.

NEW! UMC Mountains Logo with 30,000 embroidered stitches: \$25.00, Regularly \$30.00. Official Logo: or Long Live the Roadster Logo: \$20.00 each! Ladies "Miata Girl" soft Caps. \$20.00. Close out Hats: \$15.00





2025 Calendar of Events



- April 12th:** Drive to Maddox Restaurant Lunch- Meet at 9:15 AM. See info on Pg. 2 NL; Robert Olsen
- May 10th:** Luncheon: 11:30 Garage Grill, Herriman, After-British Car Collection; See Pg. 5 NL: Bailey's
- May 31:** Cycle Karts; Huntsville; Drive, time (TBD); See Pg. 4 NL: Ken Jaworski
- May 30-Jun 1st:** Roadtrippin' After Memorial Day; Central Utah: See Pg. 6 NL; Roger H.
- June 7th:** Rat Fink Car Show-Drive to Manti: See Pg. 7 NL: Steve & Ronda Beckstead
- June 14th:** Club Luncheon & Drive (TBD): **Need Location & Member to Suggest or Plan**
- July 5th:** Impromptu Annual Holiday Canyon Drive (TBD): Mike & Lynn Bailey
- July 9-13th:** Idaho Summer Trip; Idaho-Montana Scenery: See Pg. 8 NL; Roger Heath
- July 19th:** UMC Summer Picnic / Annual Elections-Planning Meeting; Park City; Jaworski's
- August 9th:** Luncheon: 11:30 (TBD) **Need Location & Member to Suggest or Plan**
- September 13th:** Luncheon: 11:30 (TBD) **Need Location & Member to Suggest or Plan**
- September 26 - 28th:** Fall Leaf Drive: Bryce Canyon, Utah; See Pg. 11 NL; Roger Heath
- October 11th:** Luncheon: 11:30 (TBD) **Need Location & Member to Suggest or Plan**
- November 8th:** Luncheon: 11:30 (TBD) **Need Location & Member to Suggest or Plan**
- December 13th:** Christmas Party; Edison Events, Time (TBD); UMC Board of Directors



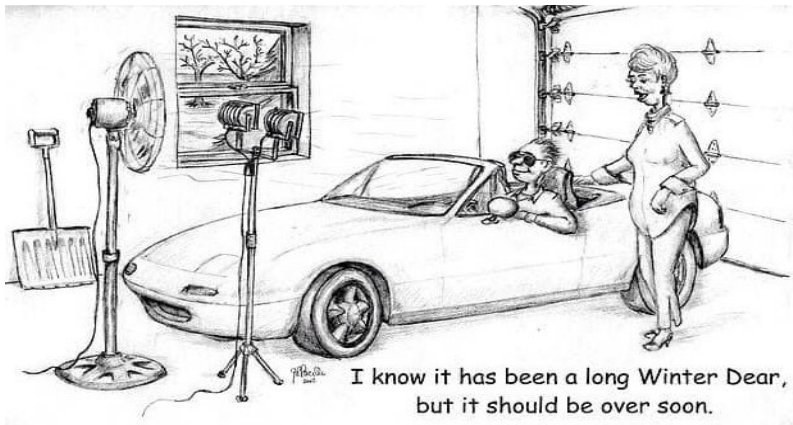
Be sure to support our local Mazda Dealership. **BOUNTIFUL MAZDA** for a New or Used Car and for your Service and Parts.



Editor's Message; We'd like to have UMC members come up with some ideas for possible places for monthly luncheons and drives for our 2025 Calendar. **Refer to open spots on above calendar.** You can just suggest, 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. **This is YOUR CLUB so please help us with plan.**



CANDID CAMERA PHOTOS OF THE UTAH MIATA CLUB MEMBERS. SEND ME YOUR FAVORITE PHOTOS OF ANY MEMBERS TO INCLUDE HERE. THANK YOU FOR LETTING US TAKE YOUR PHOTO!
TRY TO GUESS WHEN AND WHERE THESE PHOTOS WERE TAKEN



Remembering Dick Dyson

