



## The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club

### The Journey is the Destination

by Mark Vaughn, President

It's time; the adventurous journey to explore western Canada is getting underway. I am sure there will be many things for the group to share when we return. This starts the busy time of the year for Miata journeys. September and October will have the Club members making journeys to Monterey, California (Laguna Seca), Torrey, Utah, and Granbury, Texas.

The Club has also started its journey to Moab VI in May of 2020. A group of Club members met on June 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss the options for the event. We had a good conversation about

the options. There is still much work to do for the planning of the event. A decision to limit the size of Moab VI to 125 cars was reached and agreed to. I would like to thank all of those who attended: Hank Pond, Lou Vredeveld, Mike Bailey, Robert and Sharon Mechling, Joe and JoAnn Leverage, Valerie Francis, Susan Vaughn, and Jim and Margie Newson.

It will have been eight years since Moab 5, and Moab 6 will be a great event as we can celebrate:

- Thirty years of the Mazda MIATA MX-5
- Thirty years of the Utah MIATA Club
- Four generations of the Mazda MIATA MX-5
- Thirty years of MIATA fun

As always, whether it is rain or shine, daylight or dark, top up or down, in a Miata MX-5, the journey is the destination.

#### August Meeting Date Changed!

The August meeting of the Utah Miata Club has been changed to the second Saturday. On August 11<sup>th</sup>, the meeting will be at Mark and Susan Vaughn's home, where we will have a cook out. Lunch will be provided for everyone. Please make note of this change in date. The address will be in the August newsletter.

#### Annual Dues Reminder!

Please remember that although a single membership is still \$25, a dual membership for a couple is \$35. Thank you!



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## July Breakfast & Raspberry Shake Run

by Steve Beckstead, your drive host

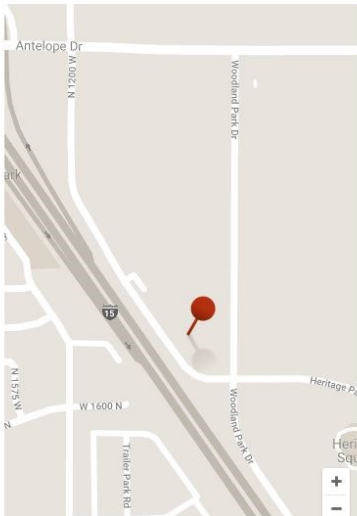
**When:** Saturday, July 7th, at 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Golden Corral  
1624 N. Heritage Park Blvd.  
Layton, UT



Okay, convertible people, our monthly meeting for July will be on the 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. After all the talking is done, let's get down to why we bought these cars – a nice LONG SCENIC drive! We'll go up through Logan Canyon to Garden City. By then, we'll be craving a shake made with those famous Bear Lake raspberries (or other flavor, if you wish). We'll repeat Hank Pond's idea of the Chevron gas station, which was much less crowded and every bit as delicious as the "other place" we've been to. Then, we'll hit the road south to Woodruff and across the twisty Monte Cristo drive to Huntsville. This is a 4.5-hour drive, not counting stops, but it is summer – so let's do a nice top-down, unhurried drive! We have a reservation for a private room for our meeting at Golden Corral at 10 a.m., and it's easy to have everyone get their own breakfast (served until 11 a.m.). SEE YOU THERE!

golden corral OUR STORY NUTRITION GIFT CARDS JO

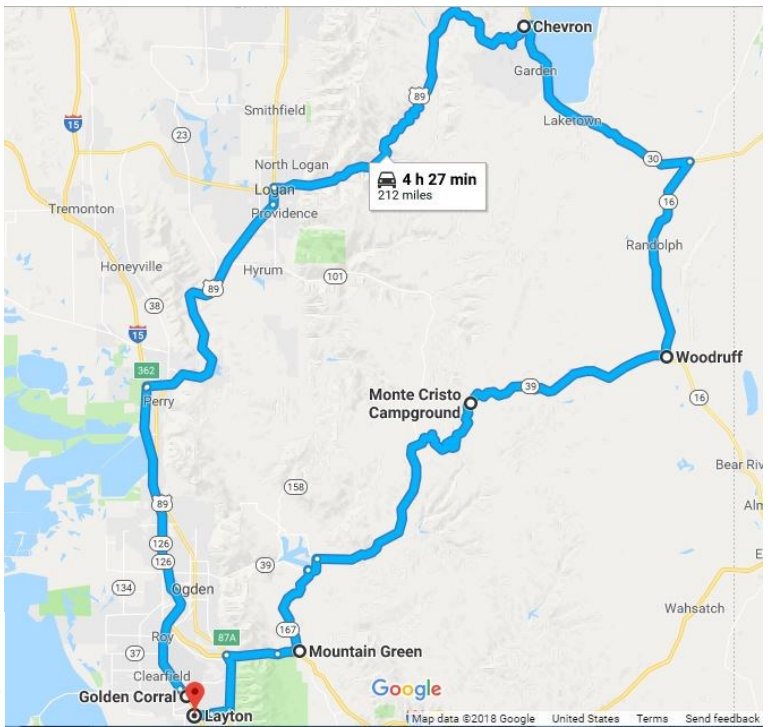


1624 North Heritage Park Blvd.  
Layton, UT 84041

GET DIRECTIONS  
801-775-9535

Sunday	7:30 AM - 9:00 PM
Monday	9:30 AM - 9:30 PM
Tuesday	9:30 AM - 9:30 PM
Wednesday	9:30 AM - 9:30 PM
Thursday	9:30 AM - 9:30 PM
Friday	9:30 AM - 10:30 PM
Saturday	7:30 AM - 10:30 PM

- ✓ ToGo Available
- ✓ Group Friendly
- ✓ Banquet / Party Room



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 the property of the Utah Miata Club.

**President:**  
Mark Vaughn

**Vice President:**  
Robert Mechling

**Secretary:**  
Jim Newson

**Treasurer:**  
Margie Newson

**Directors:**  
Lou Vredeveld, Ali Bazazz, Joe Leverich  
**Honorary Director:**  
Gordy Nicholl

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Doyle Sturm

**Webmaster:**  
Doyle Sturm

**Zoom-Zoom**  
MOO-MOO



# Birthdays & Memberships

## New Members

Joy &amp; Bryon Masters

2017 Gray

## Expiring Soon

Ali & Shylo Bazzaz	07/31/2018
Donn & Janet Cichocki	07/31/2018
Joseph & Jennifer Eames	07/31/2018
Mark & Charisse Furguson	07/31/2018
Jared & Kristi Smith	07/31/2018



## Membership Expired

Amy Beckstead	06/30/2018
Gaston Cizinsky	03/31/2018
James Feliz	06/30/2018
Chuck & Diane Graham	06/30/2018
Michael & Francis Hutton	04/30/2018
Spencer Mann	05/31/2018
Mark & Debbie Shackelford	04/30/2018
Jeff Wight	05/31/2018

Valerie Goebel	July 4
Wayn Herget	July 14
Shylo Bazzaz	July 16
Francis Hutton	July 23
Ellen Collette	July 29

## 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 \$25 if you have the newsletter e-mailed to you or \$45 if you would like a hard copy sent by standard mail. A Dual Membership (for yourself *and* a spouse, sibling or significant other) is \$35. You can also pay your dues online with PayPal on our website; [www.utahmiataclub.org](http://www.utahmiataclub.org). This method is \$27 (to cover 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](mailto:sec.treasumc@icloud.com).



# Member Spotlight

## Dick & Judy Dyson

by Carol Lynn Vredevelde



*Dick and Judy Dyson, our spotlight couple this month, are two very special people that have been members of the Club for over 15 years. They love being members of the UMC, and they have always been such great supporters of the Club's events and its members. Judy and I worked together for many years and have been close friends for almost 30 years now. They are the reason that we joined the Club and met all of you wonderful people! If you enjoy a man that is not afraid to wear a lampshade on his head to make you smile and a sweet, fun-loving lady that is a delight to be around, you will love these two individuals. Enjoy the story below as only Judy can tell it.*

We've owned two Miatas over the past 15 years. We bought our first Miata in 2003. It was a 2001 Crystal Blue NB, which we enjoyed driving until 2015, when we were in an accident.

Unfortunately, the Miata was a total loss. We currently have a beautiful 2012 Copper Red MX5 that we bought from our



good friends, the Newson's, when Margie bought her brand new 2016 Red Special Edition MX5. We did personalize the plates for our 2001 – "SUMERLOV" – and we kept the same plates for our 2012.

Dick actually bought the Crystal Blue Miata without consulting me. He was driving by the Bountiful Mazda dealership and saw this beautiful little car on the lot and had to check it out. It



was love at first sight for Dick, and he decided he couldn't live without it – so he brought it home. I soon fell in love with it, too (lucky for Dick!). The dealership told us about the Utah Miata Club and paid our first year's membership. We went to

our first UMC Luncheon at a park in Layton for a BBQ and have been going to all the events ever since.

We both grew up in the Salt Lake area. Dick went to High-

land High School and graduated in 1960. I went to South High and graduated in 1963.

Dick and I met in June of 1961. We were introduced to each other by mutual friends. Since we were hardly apart afterwards, we figured it was a pact made in heaven. And I guess after 56 years of marriage, it must have been so.

Dick was in the Navy, went active duty just three months after we were married, and was stationed on the USS Kitty Hawk Aircraft Carrier. I stayed home, finished school, and worked at the new ZCMI at the Cottonwood Mall. When the ship was in port (San Diego), I went to live there each summer when he was home.



After finally getting out of the Navy, we made our home in Orem, Utah, where Dick worked for his brother-in-law at Birrell Bottling Co. All five of our kids were born there. Everyone was wondering what was in the water, as these 5 kids were born in 6 1/2 years. We said it wasn't the water but the Pepsi!



One day, Dick got mad at his boss at Birrell (hard to believe, huh?), threw his keys at him, and walked out. Boy, was I mad. We spent the next 4 months struggling to get along. Finally, Dick got a job at the Keebler Company. The only drawback at the time (we thought) was, we had to move into his sales area, which was Layton to Ogden. We decided to move to Bountiful, but it was a very hard move for us, as we had to leave many

close friends behind. The subdivision in Orem was called Morningside Heights, but it was nicknamed Morning Sickness

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Heights. There were lots of young families and lots of kids. But, we were soon very happy with our new home in Bountiful, and the kids made many new friends.

I worked at the Newspaper Agency with Carol Lynn Vredevel, and we became good friends. I would come to work and tell Carol about all the fun we had that weekend with the



Miata Club and kept telling them that they needed to buy a Miata, so they could come and have fun, too. Finally, they did buy one, and then another, and then another. We created monsters... but, we are so glad they did. It is so much fun having them enjoy it with us.

Dick retired from Keebler in January, 2002, and I retired from the Newspaper Agency in June, 2007. We enjoy each other's company, as well as everyone in the Miata Club. Dick loves to build models of ships and airplanes and reads a lot. I enjoy crafts, crochet and knitting, and just being home. We are both currently crossing guards for the North Salt Lake schools. It's fun, and the kids have been really nice (so far)!

We have both really enjoyed being members of the Utah Miata Club. We have so many favorite Miata adventures, cruises, weekend adventures, etc., that it is hard to choose just one.

We do have a memorable story to tell about the Canadian Trip we took with the Club in 2015. We had been on a week-long adventure through some very beautiful country and were on our way towards home through Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. We had stayed overnight and headed out the next morning to drive around the lake. We were just outside the city on the twisty road just past the lake, when Dick missed a turn, went off the embankment, and rolled the 2001 Crystal Blue Miata down a steep hill. Thank goodness we both survived, but Dick had a serious head injury and was taken to the hospital. Dick survived the injury, but the Miata did not. Dick was more upset about me and the car than he was about himself. It was a long road to recovery for him, but he is doing much better now.

*You learn how dear your friends and family are when you have a close call like this one. Those of us that were on the trip with them are so grateful that they are doing so well. I know many of you already know and love the Dyson's, but if you haven't had a chance to enjoy them, I hope you take the opportunity to do so. You'll be so glad you did!*



## Canada II Adventure by Mike Bailey

We are having a great time on our Canada II Adventure trip. We left June 22nd and are in the middle of the trip, expecting to be home on July 4th. Adventure seekers include the Vaughn's (who planned this adventure), the Bailey's, the Mechling's, the Sturm's, the Pond's, the Leverich's, and the Bickley's. As of this writing, we are currently in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, on Vancouver Island. I'm including a photo of all of us

at Buchart's Gardens, a fabulous place – if you are not allergic to flower gardens. We have had a great time so far. We went on a hike of about 2 miles round trip yesterday in Port Angeles, Washington. We saw some magnificent waterfalls. The rest of the group is getting ready to head out to Port Hardy and to take a very long, 15+ hour ferry boat ride up the Inside Passage to Prince Rupert. Lynn and I will be headed back to Washington to Leavenworth, and then to Coeur de' Alene, ID, and then back home, while others travel to northern Canada. I will be writing more about this trip in the next newsletter.



## 2018 Calendar of Events



by Steve Beckstead



- July 7th**      **Monthly Meeting & Breakfast (10:00 a.m.) - Golden Corral, Layton - Bear Lake Raspberry Run - Steve Beckstead**
- August 11th**      **Monthly Meeting & Luncheon (11:30 a.m.) - Mark & Susan Vaughn's home - Mark Vaughn**
- September 8th**      **Annual Picnic/Meeting (Time TBD) - Morgan Park - BBQ (Jim Newson) - Mark Vaughn**
- September 20th**      **Hot Lava Event - Hood River, OR - Mount Hood Miata Club**
- September 28th**      **Torrey Weekend Scenic Drive (3 Days) - Eric & Kathy Kankainen**
- October 6th**      **Monthly Meeting & Luncheon (11:30 a.m.) - Location TBD - Mark Vaughn**
- October 11th**      **2018 Texas Miata Roundup - Lone Star Miata Club (see Mike Bailey for info.)**
- November 3rd**      **Monthly Meeting & Luncheon (11:30 a.m.) - Location TBD - Mark Vaughn**
- December 8th**      **UMC Christmas Party - Time & Location TBD - Mark Vaughn**