

# Ragtops to Ridges

**July 2024** 



# The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club







**SUMMER PARTY** 

**UPDATE ON 5TH GENERATION MIATA (NE)** 

### From the Top Down by Mike Thompson

We lift our eyes to the heavens, a particular interest of mine. What follows is from our perspective in the northern hemisphere. Below the equator things are reversed.

The summer solstice has passed. Because the earth's revolution around the sun is not precisely 365 days (see Leap Year), the solstice varies from 20 - 22 June. We speak about the solstice day, which is okay. But the solstice is a point in time.



What is the solstice? The word has Latin roots, and means *the sun stands still*. The solstice is the moment when the sun points directly at the northernmost point on the earth, stands still for a heartbeat, and then reverses course. What is the northernmost point? It is along the Tropic of Cancer.

The Tropic of Cancer lies south of the continental US. For perspective, the line passes through the southern tip of Baja California. In the east, it passes between the tip of Florida and Cuba. Hawaii is the only state that lies within the tropics.

Is the solstice the "official" first day of summer? Sort of. There is astronomical summer (marked by the solstice) and meteorological summer, meaning the weather. Summer weather is generally measured from June 1 to August 31, but there is much weather variability around those dates.

We say that summer weather happens because the north pole is pointed towards the sun, providing the most direct heating. In the winter the north pole is pointed away from the sun, and indirect rays warm the earth much less. A quote illustrates-

**Inside This Issue** From the Top Down ..........Page 1 Elections-Planning Meeting . Page 2 **Board Mtg.- Incorporation . . Page 2** Memberships-Birthdays . . . . Page 3 Erickson Antique Show . . . Page 4 Cycle Kart Report . . . . . Page 4 Peak to Peak Event-CO. . . . . Page 5 July 6 Impromptu Drive . . . . Page 6 Next Generation Miata . . . . . . Page 7 Let's Take A Roadtrip . . . . . Page 8 Miata Vanity Plates . . . . . . . Page 9 Peak 2 Peak Apparel . . . . . Page 10 Miata Club Swag . . . . . Page 10 Calendar of Events . . . . . . Page 10 July Birthdays . . . . . Page 11 Candid Camera . . . . . . . Page 12

"the official beginning of summer occurs when the north pole is at its maximum tilt toward the sun." But describing things in this way might mislead us.

If you are on the sun looking at the earth, the tilt of the axis does not change. It is a constant 23.5 degrees from the vertical. As the earth travels around the sun, half of the time the north pole is pointed towards the sun, and away from the sun the other 6 months. Midway between the solstices, the axis is still 23.5 degrees from vertical.

But neither pole is pointed towards the sun. Those are the spring and autumn equinoxes.

This journey of the earth around the sun is how we get our seasons. The Miata is made for the Summer. Enjoy! Mike







Utah Miata Club's Election & Planning Meeting by Mike Bailey Date: Saturday, July 20, 2024 Time: 2:00 pm Monthly Meeting & Elections Luncheon & Annual Event Planning Meeting to follow.

#### Location: Picnic Pavilion behind LDS Church at 6410 South 725 East, Murray, Utah



The club has decided to have small sandwiches of a variety of meats and cheeses and assorted condiments and items for the sandwiches like lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, etc. We will also have some pot luck items such as salads and desserts to go along with the meal, provided by club members. We will make

some decisions at a club Board meeting on July 10th about some menu items that we would like to include for the picnic. We will also be eating right after we arrive, a change from the past several years. **Plan to arrive at 2:00 pm and choose your seats.** After you get your food and we have eaten, we will proceed with our regular monthly meeting and discussions concerning our upcoming activities and events.



Then we will have a club discussion by President, Michael Thompson concerning club business proposed at the last board meeting on April 10th.

We intend to take a vote and ratify the proposal below concerning the club. See information below about this. We will then have our annual Elections to vote for or retain new officers and directors for the coming year. A sample ballot was in May's newsletter on page 9. After this we will proceed with our annual planning meeting to discuss and put on the calendar the major events for the following year. We would like to have a good attendance to discuss



these things. The Summer party is always a good event and enjoy each other's company. Please come out and join us!

#### SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM CLUB OFFICERS AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS by Mike T.

The club's annual business meeting will be held Saturday 20 July 2024 at the pavilion after we have eaten lunch and after the July monthly meeting. This year we will have the opportunity to conduct very unusual business. The Utah Miata Club was first organized in 1991. That's 33 years of great activities. In the course of events the club was legally incorporated, for good and sufficient reasons. However, as the years passed by, the club's status lapsed. The corporation was dissolved by the state, without a decision or vote by the members. In the eyes of the law, the Utah Miata Club is no longer a thing.

Those good and sufficient reasons that led the club to incorporate in the beginning still exist. Consequently, the Officers and Board of Directors of the Utah Miata Club will bring the matter before the members for a vote during the annual meeting. To participate, you will need to be present. Should the Utah Miata Club register and incorporate as a nonprofit entity in the state of Utah, followed by obtaining status as a 501(c)(7) tax-exempt social club under the Internal Revenue Code? There will be a Board Meeting on Wed. July 10th at 6:00 pm.at Midway Restaurant in Midvale. Information is on the Calendar on page 10 f any members would like to attend.

We will use the legal event of incorporating the club as an opportunity to update our bylaws. The proposed new bylaws will be made available to all members before the July Summer Picnic. You will have opportunity to offer your improvements to what is being proposed.

This event is not a power play. Incorporation offers distinct legal protections to the members, Officers and Board of Directors of the Utah Miata Club. The club has always been and remains a group of friends who like to get together, enjoy good company, and drive our Miatas. It is important that you be present and vote. Please watch for additional news, and plan to

#### **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**





#### **New Members**

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
RICHARD SORENSON	1999	GREEN

# E REPORT

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

NAME	EXPIRING SOON
TOM ARMETT	7/31/2024
JOSH & TANYA ASHMENT	7/31/2024
BRET & ROXANNE BAGLEY	7/31/2024
ALI BAZZAZ	7/31/2024
TYLER & SHAREE BECKSTEAD	7/31/2024
DONN & JANET CICHOCKI	7/31/2024
DAVID & LORIENA ORTIZ	7/31/2024

NAME	DATE
RICHARD LEE	9 Jul
DAVID LANGLIE	12 Jul
VAL FRANCIS	14 Jul
JASON WOODS	15 Jul
JORDON BIGELOW	20 Jul
VICTORIA HENSHEW	23 Jul
GREG WHITE	29 Jul
RICHARD SORENSON	31 Jul

### **Memberships Expired / Please Renew Now**

NAME	EXPIRED
KAY BARRELL	4/30/2024
AMY BECKSTEAD	6/30/2024
TERRY BLACK	5/31/2024
RICHARD & MELISSA CHESTER	6/30/2024
PEGGY CORWELL	5/31/2024
SHELDON & GEORGIA COX	4/30/2024
LUKE & CHEVONNE DAWSON	6/30/2024
JAMES FELIZ	6/30/2024
RICK & DAYNA KISER	3/31/2024
TRAVIS LAMBERT & LIBBY MOYER	4/30/2024
RICHARD LEE	4/30/2024
BOB & KIM RICHARDS	3/31/2024



#### **UTAH CLUB BOARD & OFFICERS:**

President; Mike Thompson -VP; Ken Jaworski Secretary; Jim Newson - Treasurer; Margie Newson - Directors; Robert Mechling, Sue Christiansen, Carol Lynn Vredeveld Newsletter Editor; Mike Bailey -Asst; Val

#### **Removed From Roster**

<u>NAME</u>	EXPIRED
TODD, AMY CHRISTOPHER	2/28/2024
KAREN MORGAN	2/28/2024

#### Erickson's Antique Power Show Event by Mike Bailey



The Erickson's Antique Power Show Event in Wallsburg, Utah was attended by several Utah Miata Club members who met

at the Heber City I got some photos Jaworski and Bob mented on how a whole lot of



Park on June 22nd. sent to me by Ken Richards who comfun it was. There is antiques and things





























# Cycle Karts in May Event Photos by Mike Bailey

Our May 4th Event Drive and luncheon was very nice. We met at the Bountiful City Park and had our meeting and then headed northeast to Huntsville, Utah for the Cycle Kart event. We had a good turnout of members come to this and it was exciting to watch all the cycle karts race around the park streets. These cars are handmade and unique to each of the owners. Some had late lunches or snacks at the park and we had a good visit. Photos take by myself and Ken Jaworski as well as Mark Midgley and others. Thanks for everyone who came out and enjoyed

































#### 2024 Colorado Peak to Peak Miata Club Event

By Steve Beckstead Edited by Mike Bailey

Trip will be from Sunday, September 15 – Friday, September 20, 2024





PEAK TO PEAK CLUB VANITY PLATE







**New information available now about this event:** For all those registered you can now pay for your Registration and Event Dinner online at Peak to Peak website: <a href="https://www.peaktopeakmiata.org/event-details/30-in-24celebration-2">https://www.peaktopeakmiata.org/event-details/30-in-24celebration-2</a>. Registration: \$30.00 per

person. Dinner Ticket: \$60.00 per person. Dinner is on Tuesday, 9/17. See details on cancellation. Must register by July 21. Dinner registration by Aug. 26. Monday evening 9/16 will be a Welcome Reception. Sign up sheets available for drives that will be available. Online optional drives on 9/17 & 9/18 with details and costs for them. **Here is the event link:** <a href="https://www.peaktopeakmiata.org/even.../30-in-24-celebration">https://www.peaktopeakmiata.org/even.../30-in-24-celebration</a>. There is a link on our club's Facebook page to register for the event with the Peak to Peak Club. **Here is the link to the lodge for accomodations:** 

https://www.redstonecliffs.com/.









We have at least 12 Miatas from Utah Miata Club going. The event is at the Redstone Inn, but most of us are staying at **Redstone Cliffs Lodge** located in Redstone, Colorado. **Registration is still open for this event if you want to go! If so, get registered now as the event is quickly filling up.** Call Steve Beckstead for any questions.

Book hotel for Sunday, September 15th in Grand Junction (one night stay) and on return home hotel in Vernal for Thursday, September 19th at the Dinosaur Inn and Suites for one night.

#### **JULY 6TH IMPROMPTU DRIVE**

#### By Mike Bailey

Happy 4th of July to everyone! We are proud to be an automobile club in this great country that we have and live in! It has been a tradition for many years for our club to go on a local drive on this holiday, or the weekend after. In some years we have actually driven through snow on this date! I'd like to announce an impromptu drive this next weekend up East Canyon Reservoir for those who would like to join Lynn and I to do this. In past years we've gone up to Brighton Ski Resort and had their annual breakfast or had a breakfast either before this drive or lunch after. We've usually gone up Mirror Lake Highway to Bald Mountain Pass and on to Mirror Lake. We will meet at the west side parking lot at the Fashion Place Mall



at 10:00 am. We'll take I-215 up to I-80 and Parley's Canyon and take the Mountain Dell Reservoir turnoff and go up East Canyon to Morgan. Then we will head over to Taggert's for lunch. After lunch you can make your own way home. If you'd like to do the lunch at Taggerts, I need a tentative head count by Friday the 5th by 3:00 pm so I can make reservations. It will be a fun afternoon!





























#### SUPPORT OUR LOCAL DEALERSHIP SPONSOR!

BOUNTIFUL MAZDA OFFERS UTAH MIATA CLUB OWNERS A 10% DISCOUNT ON SERVICE & PARTS AND ALSO DEALER INCENTIVES FOR NEW CAR PURCHASES!









# **Update on 5th Generation (NE) Miata MX-5**

by Mike Bailey

If you like to read or go online to read about our beloved Miatas, you can find many articles and information about the best selling affordable sports car available today. . . Yes, it's the Mazda Miata! There has been a lot of speculation about when the next generation Miata will be coming out. The first generation, NA, was available for nine years. The second generation (NB) for seven years. The third generation (NC) was out for ten years and now the fourth generation has been out for eight years. A couple years ago there was talk in automotive circles about the 5th generation (NE) coming out in 2024, but that did not hap-



pen. Now it seems that 2025 will be the year for the NE. That still remains to be seen. Many sources say it will not be until 2026. There have been a lot of Concept Miatas that have been featured online and in auto magazines. It has also been mentioned that Mazda may "Electrify" the next generation. They say that the next-gen Miata is slated for arrival in 2026, with electrification! This will be exciting times ahead for Miata enthusiasts! The fifth-generation Mazda MX-5 is eagerly anticipated, and it's set to bring some exciting changes. Here's what we know so far:



1. Design Formula: Mazda has maintained the Miata's classic sportscar proportions over successive generations. The upcoming model is expected to feature a design inspired by the "Vision Study Model," which includes butterfly doors, a wraparound windshield, and muscular rear haunches (fenders). While some of these elements may not make it to production, the overall design promises to be impressive!



2. Premium Interior: Mazda aims for a more premium experience in the cockpit. Expect richer materials, improved occupant space, and an overhaul of the infotainment system. Features like a customizable digital instrument cluster, a larger infotainment screen, and wireless charging are likely to be included.



**3. Electrification:** For the first time, the Miata will incorporate electrification, but it is more likely that rather than a full battery-electric setup, it will likely use a 48-volt mild-hybrid technology alongside a reworked 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine. Power will continue to be sent to the rear wheels via a six-speed manual or an 8-speed multi-clutch automatic borrowed from the CX-90. Of course, there is



always lots of 'hype' about what is to come and most of us are looking forward to new features on our beloved Miata. Most of us are happy with the Miata(s) we now have and as we get older (speaking from experience), we are satisfied for our Miata the way it is. Until recently I have had 3 Miatas continuously for over 20 years and enjoyed each of them as they performed and were all different. I just love what Mazda is doing to continue to make Miatas as an exciting car to own and drive! Check out these Concepts!













## Let's Take a Roadtrip by Roger Heath

#### Anyone up for roadtripping in 2025?

If so, you can have your choice of 3 different states, do one, two, or all three. Pack the trunk and let's go.

**First up is the Mighty 5.** A weeklong adventure running from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>. Dust off your America the Beautiful Pass as this trip visits the Mighty 5 national parks in Utah. We'll start with Zion then head to Bryce Canyon. After Bryce Canyon we make a quick stop in Capitol Reef before heading to Moab. Moab will be our base camp while visiting Arches and Canyonlands. Nightly stays will include La Verkin, Mt Carmel, Bryce Canyon City, Torrey, Moab and possibly Green River.









Next we head to Colorado for a 5 night roadtrip. The Heart of Colorado trip will begin on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and end on July 27<sup>th</sup>. We'll drive over several high elevation passes to include Independence Pass as we head into Aspen and Red Mountain Pass as we wind our way along the Million Dollar Highway. There's a one night stay in the highest incorporated city in the U.S., Leadville at 10,158 feet. We'll visit Steamboat Springs, Telluride and Durango. And finally, on our last full day in Colorado, we'll drive over Grand Mesa before retiring in Fruita, CO for the night before we head home the next day.







Last, a change-up to the Fall Leaf Drive. Instead of central Utah it's the Fall Colors in the Black Hills, Sep 27<sup>th</sup> to Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. Seven nights of exploring Wyoming and the Black Hills in southwestern South Dakota. First night we'll be in Thermopolis, WY where you can soak your sore muscles in one of their hot springs. Day 2 we go alien hunting at Devils Tower with a stay in Hulett, WY. Leaving Hulett we wind our way through scenic drives and historic towns before stopping in Hill City for the next 4 nights. A perfect spot to explore Mount Rushmore, Custer State Park, Badlands NP or one of the many famous old west towns. There's also a couple of good wineries in town. Then it's home after an overnight stop in Rawlins.







Events for all 3 trips have been created and can be found on the Events tab on the UMC Facebook page. Maps, suggested hotels and other details are loaded there or will be as necessary.

## Miata Vanity Plate of the Month by Mike Bailey

Most everyone in the club has a personalized vanity plate on their Miata. This month's Vanity plate goes to Roger and Perly Heath for their plate that says **CRZN BY**, which means Cruzin' By. It pretty much says it all when we are on the road. I encourage everyone to get their own vanity plate as it is a good way to express yourself on your Miata.

Below are Vanity plates owned by members of our Club. See if you can guess who they belong to. Some are expired and you can probably get them as your own unless you have an idea of your own.





#### **UTAH CLUB VANITY PLATES**

















































# Peak 2 Peak Utah Miata Club Apparel: Shirts & Hats by Mike Bailey

I have designed a new logo for this event for some shirts, ball caps and Event Car Magnets. As you know I like to have event logo items to remember our trips by. The logo symbolizes the "Peak to Peak" event and is not an official Colorado logo, in fact I'm not sure if they even have a logo for their event. We've changed it to "Peak 2" Peak". The logo to the left will be put on a special light grey Polo shirt and I know members love the polo shirts. This logo will also be on the front left chest of T-Shirts and will also be on ball caps. The apparel will be reasonably priced. The back of T-or Sweat Shirts will feature a Utah-Colorado Map of our route we'll be taking. Shirts will be light grey or light blue as well. Polos \$25.00. Hats \$20.00. T's: \$20.-22. Embroidered Logo on Polos and Hats. See Hat logo below. Car Magnets: 2 for \$15.00 or 1 for \$10.00. 5.5" round size. Order your commemorative shirt or hat through me and sign up on the monthly list or call or email Mike Bailey at 801 -597-1456 or mike@mikebaileyprinting.com. We all look great in our matching shirts on group photos and drives!







**EMBROIDERY ON RONT OF POLO SHIRT CAR MAGNETS SCREEN PRINTED 5.5" ROUND**  **BACK OF SHIRTS** 



**EMBROJIDERED LOGO ON HAT** 



# Miata Club Apparel & Swag

# By MiataWear Man—Mike

Hawaiian Miata Shirts with UMC members Miatas on them. 3 design options: Route 66, Utah Desert Motiefs, Lakes & Mountains. Polyester, light weight button up. \$42.00 + \$5.00 shipping. Add pocket for \$5.00. One month for deliv-

ery, men's sizes only. Very Nice for Summer! 2 new waiian Miata shirts in stock: Route 66 and Lakestains Size Medium; Discounted Price \$35.00

The following are shirts & hats and logos that are on items. Monthly sign up lists has colors & sizes.











Club Jackets with UMC Logo Embroidered





Red Miata: \$15.00

Neon Miata: \$15.00 4 Generations Miatas \$15.00

Miatatude Shirts Long Live Roadster Shirts















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# **2024 Calendar of Events**



July 6th: Impromptu Holiday Drive: Time 10:00 am. East Canyon, Lunch Taggarts; See Pg. 6; Mike & Lynn B.

July 10th: Board of Director's Meeting: 6:00 pm. Wednesday. Midway Restaurant; 7178 South 900 E. Midvale, Ut. Location: Outside Patio. Discussion on Incorporation of the Utah Miata Club and Club By-Laws. All members invited to attend but cannot vote on discussed items.



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

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 15-20th: 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 Mt. 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** 

Please let Editor know of items that need to be added to this Calendar of Evemts









#### 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 2024 Calendar. Refer to open spots on above calendar. You can just 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 planning events!

# 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

#### Enjoy these photos of Utah Miata Club's July Birthdays







**JASON WOODS** 

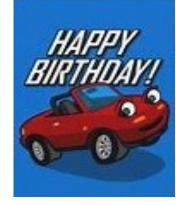


**REMEMBERING: SHYLO BAZZAZ** 



**JORDAN BIGALOW** 







**GREG WHITE** 

**VICTORIA HANSHEW** 

NO PHOTO: RICHARD LEE, DAVID LANGLIE, RICHARD SORENSON



CANDID CAMERA— IMPROMPTU PHOTOS OF THE UTAH MIATA CLUB MEMBERS: LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN GUESS WHERE PHOTOS WERE TAKEN! SEND ME YOUR FAVORITE PHOTOS OF ANY MEMBERS



















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