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SECRETARY:

JIM NEWSON

TREASURER:

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APRIL 2016

THE CONVERTABLE CHRONICLES OF THE UTAH MIATA CLUB

FROM THE TOP DOWN

SUBMITTED BY MIKE BAILEY



It's April. It's almost Tax Time, of which I dread paying my taxes. Some of you may be getting refunds so you are happy about that. I think this year is going by fast. I hope I am not saying that in the middle of Summer as I hope that it will be the "lazy days of Summer" this year and go by slow, as I have (or want) to do a lot of Miata 'Top Down' driving this year. I guess you notice this new, strange looking Miata above this article. Is that what I think it is? Yes, this is the **NEW ND Miata for 2017 called the Mazda MX-5 RF**. It just had its debut at the New York International Auto Show on Tuesday, March 22nd at a 'live stream' unveiling event. **RF stands for Retractable Fastback** and this is exactly what it is. It has all the good looks of the 4th Generation Miata and then some, with its Targa Fastback look. It is what Mazda is calling the 'best of both worlds' with a convertible sports car that converts into a stylish coupe with the retractable hard top up. Sorry, it won't be available until next summer, so you will have to wait. Word out is that Jim Newson has, or will be ordering one. Mazda is not taking orders yet but by way of a good source he is #1 on the Order List. (Go figure!) How come he is always the guy with the new toy! Read more about this new Miata edition in this month's Miata of the Month article!

Back to talking about the Summer driving. Soon we will have all the good weather upon us, and I can't wait for that. We have our **ReCon drive up to Deer Valley on the 23rd**. This will be a lot of fun as we get to finalize most of our event plans with The Chateaux that day for Miatas in Deer Valley.

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From the Top Down (Continued From Page 1)

Of course, aptly named **"Miata Mountain Getaway"** it will truly be that as we spend 4 wonderful days in our own mountains hanging out in the Park City area. Gordy has taken time to plan, and will execute five of our best mountain drives to take our out-of-state guests on. We will have about 200 people signed up by the time you read this newsletter. 15 Miatas or about 30 people just from the San Diego Miata Club. Inside information tells me they are getting together to decide which drives to take, so I know the Buzz is going on our event. We get to show those wonderful friends of ours that we can put on a great event, like they did for us last October. We have over 2,900 hits on Miata.net Forum on this event! We have people coming from all over the country and several from Canada and it will be fun to renew our friendships with all of them. Several will be new people who have never been to a Miata event like this, so we will also show them what 'Miata Fun' is all about. If you want a room on the night of the ReCon, The Chateaux is giving us a real good deal on the rate at \$124.00 for the night. This drive is for all Utah Miata Club members, so be sure to plan to come.

It seems like we are getting new members all the time and we want you to know how Welcome you are to be in our club. Last month two new couples came the luncheon, both with brand new ND's. One a Soul Red and another a Ceramic White with a custom red stripe on it with an embossed MX-5 Logo on it. They are Joe and Carole Nieman with the Ceramic White ND and actually joined last August, but was their first time out to join us. The other couple is Rich and Nancy Singer who just joined and they have the Soul Red Limited Edition. Another surprise was seeing an old friend of ours and past President of the UMC for a couple years, Richard Teasdale, from Springville, Utah. He just showed up at the luncheon at Legend's Motorcycle Museum. He took his white first generation Miata out of the garage after not being driven for 10 years, cleaned the dust off it and drove it to meet with us. I am hoping that Richard will re-join the club and he will see what fun he has been missing for years. It was real nice catching up with him. This is exactly what our Miata does for us. Besides driving and all the activities we participate in we get together a lot to visit and have fun with each other. Whether it is a local play, a weekend drive around the valley, or an overnighter to Wendover to pull a few handles on slot machines, we have lots of fun together. Our Miata family is like having a second family. We hope to meet many more new people throughout this year who join the club. After all they are new 'life blood' to the club and it is fun getting to know and expand our Miata Family. Here's to a great year to Top Down driving! ZOOM - ZOOM!



MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER

To prevent interruption of your club benefits, such as receiving your Newsletter, dues for the year are to be paid by the 1st of the month enrolled. Club benefits will stop 3 months after a membership expires at which time their name will be removed from the roster and they will need to re-apply for membership.

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 emailed to you or \$45 if you would like a hard copy sent by standard mail. We will also have a new method on our website, utahmiataclub.org, to pay your dues 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

RECENTLY EXPIRED

MICHAEL J. FOX LYNN & ALEXA MALAND G.STEVEN & LISA SULLIVAN	12/31/15
JIM & PAT VAUGHN	1/31/16
DAVE SHARETTE HANK & REXANNE POND	2/29/16
ANNETTE NIELSEN NADIA J. KENNEDY	3/31/16

EXPIRING 4/30/2016

ERNEST & NANCY BENTLEY
CYNDEE BOYVEE
AL BROWN
DAVE & ANA PORTER

TO BE REMOVED FROM ROSTER : ROBERT & LAUREN THOMPSON

NEW MEMBERS

RICH & NANCY SINGER	2016	SOUL RED
FRANK & VICKIE HOUSER	2008	RED MICA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DOUGLAS KLUENDER 8TH
WILLY GERLACH 11TH
SUSAN VAUGHN 14TH
ANNETTE NIELSEN 24TH
JOE NIEMAN 29TH



CHARISSE FURGUSON 10TH
LAUREL DRYSDALE 12TH
JOE LEVERICH 16TH
SHARON MECHLING 25TH
LOU VREDEVELD 30TH



UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

APRIL LUNCHEON & CLUB MEETING:

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2016 AT 11:30 A.M.

WHERE: RED ROBIN GOURMET BURGERS

ADDRESS: 316 EAST WINCHESTER STREET (6400 SO.)

MURRAY, UTAH PHONE: 801-266-9410



We will meet at our regular time at the Red Robin Restaurant in Murray just southeast from Fashion Place Mall. We will have the private room reserved for our group to the left as you enter front entrance. Order off the menu. We will also have our Monthly Meeting at this time.

After lunch we plan to take a drive out in Tooele County to Johnson Pass and along the familiar roads out there. Mark and Susan Vaughn are in charge of this event and will most likely lead the drive. The details will be discussed at the luncheon meeting. If you have an FRS Radio please bring it as it will be helpful to have since we do not have a direct route planned out in advance. We will monitor Channel 5.5.

We hope to see you all there.

Zoom -- Zoom

2016 Calendar of Events

(Submitted and updated by Steve Beckstead)

- March 5th:** Monthly lunch and meeting at Legends Motorcycle
- April 2nd:** Monthly lunch and meeting at Red Robin Murray
- April 23rd:** Park City Recon for Deer Valley event planning
- May 14th:** Monthly lunch and meeting Location TBD
- June 4th:** Monthly lunch and meeting Location TBD
- June 22nd -26th:** Miatas in Deer Valley Event
- July 9th:** Monthly lunch and Shunpike Drive Location TBD
- July 17th to 23rd:** To Pike's Peak and back (Mark Vaughn)
- August 13th:** Annual Summer picnic in Morgan (Mike, Jim)
- Aug or Sept:** Alpine Sundance Moonlight Lift ride (Tentative Steve)
- September 10th:** Monthly lunch and meeting Location TBD
- October 1st:** Monthly lunch meeting probably Nebo Loop (Steve) TBD
- October 20th to 22th:** Sun Valley Dixieland jazz Festival? (Lou, Steve)
- October 29th:** Halloween Party (Tentative, location TBD)
- November 5th:** Monthly lunch meeting possible Lava Overnighter (Lori)
- December 10th:** Annual Christmas Celebration (Mike and Lynn)

25TH ANNIVERSARY PIN UPDATE

BY MIKE BAILEY

FREE 25TH ANNIVERSARY PIN TO ALL UTAH MIATA CLUB MEMBERS!

THE UTAH MIATA CLUB IS CELEBRATING IT'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2016.

In connection with our club's 25th anniversary we will be making a special lapel Pin to commemorate the anniversary. The official Date of the club organization was around the 3rd week of June in 1991. As stated at last month's luncheon, we will offer each member a choice of one of 7 Miata Colors that you can have on your personal pin. Miata colors choices are: Yellow, Red, White, bright Green, Teal Blue, Medium Grey, and Orange. The Miata Colors will be bright and vibrant on each color pin. I have a list going around so be sure to sign it for the color of Miata you want on your pin. If you miss the list, call or email me with your color choice as pins will be ordered in early May. A specific amount of pins will be ordered of each color. If you do not specify a car color choice you will receive a pin color chosen by the club.



In addition to the pin a Static Cling Decal of the 25th Anniversary Logo will be made and given to each member. Be sure to read the article in this month's newsletter 'History of the Club' which has more details on history of the club. It is a very interesting read about the club beginnings. I will continue to have more information in months to follow.

As mentioned previously we plan to commemorate the club's 25th Anniversary this year with a few specific activities centered around the anniversary occasion. A special mention will be made at Deer Valley event and the Club Summer Picnic. In addition we may do a certain ride or drive or some other activity that has not been decided on yet.

We plan to tie this in and honor some of the long time members of the club who are approaching their 20th - 25th anniversary of their membership in the club. I would like to invite all club members to think of something, or come up with some ideas they would like to include, on what we can do to celebrate the club's 25th Anniversary.



HISTORY OF THE UTAH MIATA CLUB

BY MIKE BAILEY

This month I have some 'Tid Bits' of information about the History of the Utah Miata Club and it's early beginnings. From my research it seems like some things back 25 years ago in 1991 were a lot like we do things today. Below is some information on the first activity held the following month after the organization of the Utah Miata Club, mentioned in last month's article. This was what occurred on the second meeting with the club. Here are some interesting items I have found out:

Joining the Utah Miata Club back in 1991 required some "Membership Maintenance". The local dues for the Utah Club was \$20.00 per year, per couple. This meant that all Utah Club members in "Good Standing", as they called it back then, had to join the 'National Miata Club' called the "Miata Club of America". The MCA had a post office box in Lilburn, Georgia that you had to send your \$25.00 yearly membership dues to. With that dues you were deemed an 'official' Miata owner and member in which they sent you a monthly Miata Magazine, and gave you a car window decal, official membership card and some other Miata goodies and stuff (whatever that means).



Mazda Dealership Discounts: There were four local Mazda dealers back then that offered **UTMIA-TA CLUB** (as they termed it in 1991) a 20% discount on Miata parts, service, and accessories. (double the discount they offer us now. It must be an inflation thing). These dealerships were Bountiful Mazda, Rick Warner Mazda, Cline's Mazda (all in SLC) and Campus Mazda in Provo. At that time when the club first started the dealerships sent out 400 membership applications to all people who purchased Miatas at their dealerships, and encouraged them to join the UTMIA-TA Club. Miata sales were hot in 1991. Again, this is a testament to the loyalty of our dealerships in helping the Miata club out. Bountiful Mazda has been a very strong supporter of our club every since.

The second club meeting was held at Wood's Drive-In in Murray (yes, it is still there at 6172 S. 1300 E.). **The meeting had a theme of "Beach Boys Endless Summer" get-together.** Dress for the occasion was in 'beach clothes only' and vote for your favorite Surfer Girl or Surfer Dude (not called guy) outfit and was touted as an event to come in your "Little Duce Coupe" and celebrate with some "Good Vibrations". This was exactly the way it was worded in the newsletter. It was an evening event. It was reported in the August 1991 newsletter that our very own Dorothy Bowers was awarded for the Best Surfer Girl for the cutest beach wear attire. Bill Bedore (who we don't know) received the award for Best Surfer Dude. After dinner at Woody's the group took a drive up Big Cottonwood Canyon and had dessert at the Blind Miner Restaurant up there. There was no rain or bad weather and the event was touted as a "Miata Good Time"

Note photo of Jim and Dorothy Bowers (other person unknown) at the dinner.



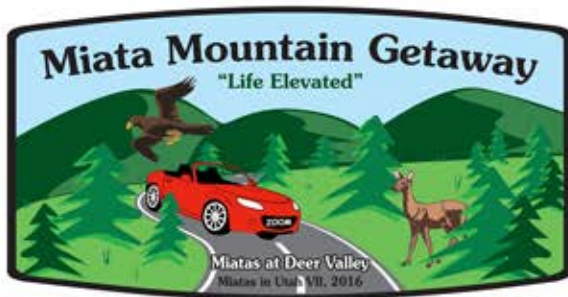
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UTMIATA CLUB HEADLIGHTS: 25 years ago the club started putting in an article in their newsletter called UTMATA CLUB Headlights. Not sure why they always had name of the club in all caps. This article was our current day version of our "Member Spotlight" article that Carol Lynn Vredevelde has been doing now for several years. I also can remember this article being in our newsletter, off and on, for the last 19 years that I have been associated with the club. In fact at one point and time I used to be the editor of that for a few years. The first 'spotlight' article was September 1991 and highlighted the Keith and Jean Crookston family who owned a green Miata, and their daughter Kerrie had a white Miata. Obviously it was the first "M" Edition or Special Edition Miata at the time which was the BRG or British Racing Green model.

Stay tuned next month for more 'History of the Utah Miata Club' information and interesting tid bits.





Miatas at Deer Valley, 2016

MARCH UPDATE

June 22-25, 2016

by Mike Bailey

ONLY 3 MONTHS TO GO

Register NOW for Miatas in Deer Valley if you have not done so yet!

Registration Fee is \$145.00 per person.

Come with us on the ReCon trip on April 23 to see this fabulous resort venue. You won't want to miss this. Spend a great day and night if you like at The Chateaux.

Rooms are special priced for this night at \$124.00 per one bedroom or share a Suite (sleeps 4) for \$224.00. Book your room NOW!

We have 200 Registrations for Deer Valley. They represent 28 Miata Clubs from 22 different states in the USA and two Canadian Provinces. The Registration Form is on our Club Website which you can download the pdf, print, fill out and mail with your registration fee to our club secretary and treasurer, Jim and Margie Newson. The address is on the form. Or you can send in your event fee by payment on-line. Go to www.utahmiataclub.org for all the details. Also Book your Room at The Chateaux NOW for best selection. Only \$149.00 per night for a 4 Star Deluxe Bedroom or Studio Suite.

Over 2.960 hits on Miata.Net Forum on our event"
another 400+ since last month

APRIL RE-CON TRIP TO DEER VALLEY

BY MIKE BAILEY

When: Saturday, April 23, 2016

Time: Meet at 9:45 a.m. Engines start and leave at 10:00 a.m.

Where: Meet at Fashion Place Mall, East Parking lot by Dillard's on 6400 South.

Who is Invited: All Utah Miata Club Members and especially Deer Valley Event Committee Members.

Route: We will get on I-215 Eastbound and head up to Parley's Canyon and take I-80 to Kimball Junction Exit to Park City. Once in Park City we will take road that leads up to The Chateaux Lodge in Deer Valley.

We can park in the private enclosed parking at The Chateaux. Other parking is available across the street from the lodge.



Our Committee meets at 11:00 a.m. with Nancy Liepmann, our Event Planner contact at the resort. We will probably do a walk through at the **Check in Area** and the Conference Room we will be using during the event, which is located on the lower level. We will discuss our needs with Nancy during this time. We will also discuss the layout of our tables, etc. **Note:** Not everyone needs to be involved with the details of the discussions unless you want to. You have option of walking around Chateaux Resort area and check it out. ie; lobby, restaurants, bar, patio, pool area, and courtyard areas, etc.

If some want to view one of the Bedrooms or Suites, we can do so at that time or after our discussions with Nancy. **Rich Green will be handling anything to do with the Bedrooms, Suites or Rooming needs.**

We will also discuss the following with Nancy:

1. Menus for Welcome Social and Saturday Evening Buffett Dinner and possibly meet with the Head Chef.
2. Display of our Signs, banners, posters, white boards, etc. and details concerning Audio/Visual needs, storage rooms for Goody Bags, Hospitality Room options, etc.
3. Discuss any information she has obtained for us from Park City Chamber, Travel Council or Merchant's Association in regards to other activities going on during our event, such as Wednesday night Concert, etc.
4. Discuss Group Photo Shoot and Car Show & Shine and car wash station areas, additional parking needs, etc.

After our meeting we can have lunch in Park City. Some suggestions is the Boneyard where we ate before last Fall's ReCon trip or somewhere else in Park City. Place will be determined by majority vote before we leave The Chateaux. If we have time and if some want to go on a drive in the area, we can also do that.

Staying the night option: Rooms available for Special discounted rate of \$124.00 for a One Bedroom. \$224.00 for the night for a Suite, which sleeps 4 people. It is suggested to make arrangements in advance. Mention this special price when booking a room and you can mention Nancy's name if necessary. You can also take a chance on booking one there on day of ReCon.

If anyone else has any suggestions or ideas please call or email me.
Thank you, and see you then.

MIATA OF THE MONTH

BY MIKE BAILEY



First photos are out of the new **Mazda MX-5 RF (Retractable Fastback)**. As mentioned in the Top Down article it was on show at the New York Auto Show March 22nd. Some say it looks like the Porsche 911 Targa, only sleeker and you could buy 5 of these or more for what the 911 would cost. It looks almost like a Super Car! The styling is fabulous! Mazda has had lots of inquiries about putting out an ND with a PRHT (power retractable hard top). They also want to appeal to more people such as those who like a two-door coupe. This has that appeal with it's Fastback styling. The top retracts by push button with three pieces, and the back window also goes down also. It has an acrylic plastic Wind Blocker also on the back window area to keep the wind out of the cockpit. Also trunk space is not sacrificed with the folding top, same as with the rag-top. The black trim on the sides of the back edges of the top are not blacked out windows. The style is very aerodynamic and the top can actually be lowered while driving at a speed up to 6 mph. The weight difference is about 150-200 lbs. heavier than the rag-top and the cost is about \$2,000.00 more. I'm told the base mode is \$27K. The design is in keeping Mazda's Kodo Design elements. I have heard that it is only in one special color now, which is "Machine Gray", a very special paint color that Mazda has developed. It will be out for production as a 2017 model for Summer next year. Not sure if they will have a Sky-active Turbo M-Speed, but maybe that is next!





VIKING RIVER CRUISE APRIL 2016 UPDATE

BY MIKE BAILEY



New Morris Murdock Web Site Page:
<https://mmi.cvent.com/GrandEuropeanTour2017>

Check out the **"NEW"** web page on **"OUR"** Cruise created by the Morris Murdock Travel team. We have a NEW Viking Longboat Ship as our ship was reassigned to a different itinerary. New ship's name is the VIKING SKIRNIR. It is also one year newer, built in 2015, a few months ago. It has same layout on rooms and same number of cabins only it has the latest Viking Upgrades. Also our Sailing Departure Date is one day later; July 10, 2017.



Details on the cruise on our UMC Website: www.utahmiataclub.org Click Viking Logo Ship for Details. Put the word out to family, friends, and other Miata people for "the Trip of a Lifetime!". Also keep tuned in on our Viking River Cruise Facebook Page about our cruise.

Over 1,090 Hits on Miata.net Forum

Join us for a 15 Day Grand European River Tour:
 Sailing Date is July 10-24, 2017
 Our ship is called the Viking Skirnir



LEGENDS MUSEUM REPORT

BY MIKE BAILEY

March's luncheon and meeting was something that we have not done before so it turned out to be a lot of fun for everyone. We had lunch in Springville, Utah which is somewhere we usually just pass through or by on usually on a trip down south. This time we stopped at the Side Car Café, which is part of the Legend's Vintage Motorcycle Museum. Lunch was great and the food was real good.

We pretty much took the entire café with almost 30+ members there. We started to have our monthly meeting there and when our food came out we took a break and ate and continued the rest of the meeting in the museum. The motorcycle museum was a very unique place with a hundred or so vintage antique motorcycles with such brands represented of Indian, Harley Davidson, Excelsior, Pope, Henderson, and Thor. Only Harley and Indian are still around today. Interestingly enough I am told that all these motorcycles run and are in operating condition, no matter what shape they are in and how old they are. Most are Vintage, meaning unrestored and are displayed in the condition that Mr. Salisbury (owner of the museum) purchased them in. Inside the museum is a Gift Shop, Barber Shop, and a Parts and Accessories department where they manufacture and sell custom motorcycle parts and accessories.



After lunch Todd and Amy Christopher (by the way she announced, or rather I announced for her, that she is pregnant and expecting another child) took the lead on a drive up Hobbie Creek Canyon. At the country club and golf course we came to a fork in the road and decided to take the Right fork which went up a twisty road and eventually leads past a Hot Springs and on to Hwy. 6, however a couple miles up the road there was still snow on the road and it was getting quite wet and slushy and when we reached the gate, we realized the road was still closed for

the winter. We turned around and took the Left Fork and after a ways pulled off the road for a scenic shot of the snow covered mountains in the canyon with our Miatas in front. From there we went the rest of the way up the road which eventually dead-ended at a turn-around and then headed back home

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LEGENDS MUSEUM REPORT

BY MIKE BAILEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

We had a few new members there, Joe and Carole Nieman and Rich and Nancy Singer who just joined in March. Both had their new 4th Generation ND Miata. I don't think Singer's came on the drive but Nieman's did. We took some photos of them with their new Miata, a Ceramic White with a cool looking red stripe on the hood and trunk with MX-5 embossed beneath the paint. It was a real striking design element. I also liked their Red line painted on its wheels. That was a nice touch. As mentioned in my 'Top Down' article, Richard Teasdale an old member back in the NA days and former club President showed up for the meeting and drive also. We always like to have new members join us for our get-togethers. This was a real fun event and we hope we can do more events this year like this.



CANDID CAMERA

BY MIKE BAILEY

