

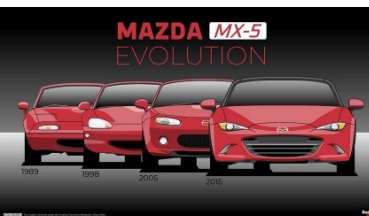


The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



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From the Top Down “SAYAAHH” By: Hank Pond, Acting President

If you aren't aware, "SAYAAHH" is my license plate. Being a dentist, many people think they understand what the license plate is about...

It's actually a double entendre (has two meanings). First and foremost is the "AHH" I feel when I put the top down and drive. It's that moment of relaxation, of Zen.

I think we all know that feeling. Here's my point; as life continues on toward our "new normal", this is our opportunity to hit "reset". To exhale, relax and smile. By leaving behind whatever is currently frustrating us and allowing the warmth of the sun and the breeze on our face to enjoy a moment of calm.

You see, my Miata is therapeutic. I'll bet yours is too. I'm in the moment and the last thing I want is conflict. I smile. I like the world around me.

The Mazda MX-5 may not be the solution for world peace, but I've found it to be an integral part of MY peace....

Perhaps over time I'll be able to feel that same "wholeness" when I'm not driving. There are so many things that make me "SAYAAHH", and you, my Miata nerd friends are part of that...

Keep zoom-zooming! Hank



May 1st Luncheon Meeting & Drive (Smith-Morehouse Shuffle) Steve & Ronda Beckstead

Date & Time: Saturday, May 1st 11:30 AM

Location: Sugarhouse Park

Address: 2100 South 1300 East, SLC
(Hidden Grove Pavilion)

Information: Hidden Grove Pavilion is $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way around the one way outer loop.
Bring your own lunch and chairs as we've been doing as we are not reserving a pavilion.
Meeting will be help by Hank Pond at 11:30.

Drive Information: Full route is 3.5 hours and 130 miles (includes Exxon snack stop).

After the meeting we'll go East on 2100 South to I-80 Parley's Canyon.

Exit 145 Kimball Junction, then to Kearns Blvd.

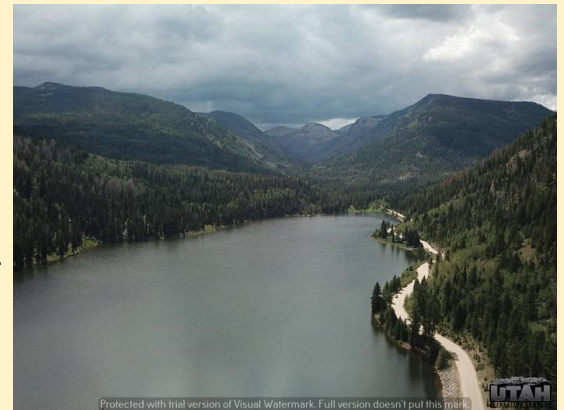
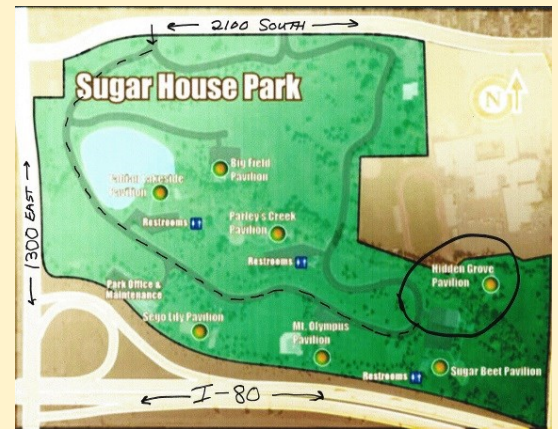
Zoom under highway 40, then Brown's Canyon Road. Right turn at its end.

Left at Road Island Diner to Smith Morehouse Reservoir turnaround.

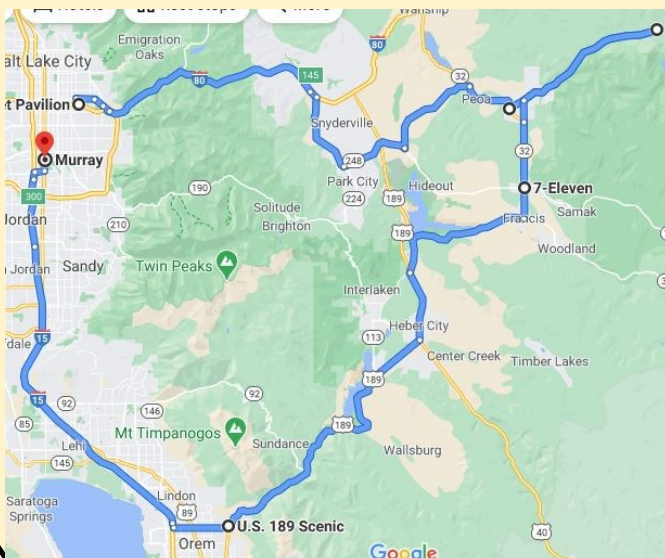
Rest stop and a treat at Exxon 7-11 in Kamas (nice store and restrooms).

2.9 Hours drive time for Full Route around Jordanelle, Heber City, Deer Creek, I-15 north to SLC.

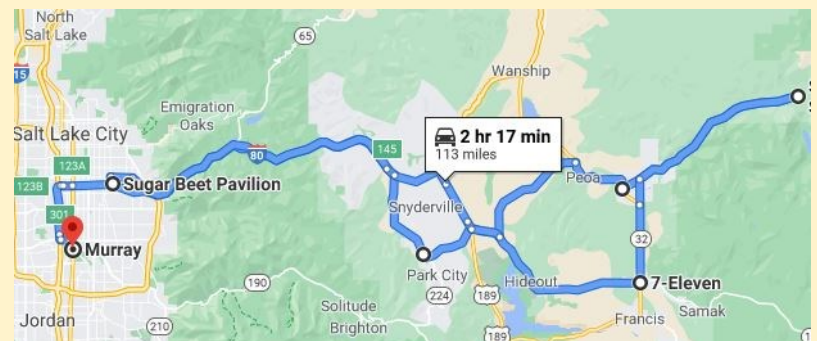
2.3 Hours drive time Fast Return back over I-80 to SLC



FULL ROUTE



FAST RETURN ROUTE



Head's Up on June 5th Meeting & Drive (Wasatch Back)



The Wasatch Back Drive will be in reverse from years past. On Saturday, June 5th, we will meet at 11:15 at the same park in Midway where we met last year (Midway City Park behind Ridley's grocery store). How you get there is up to you. Bring your picnic lunch as there are very few takeout options near by. Bring your radios and camp chairs. After lunch we will drive the back roads to Coalville. From Coalville you can decide what to do next as there are several options. Full details in next month's newsletter. 🌀

Birthdays & Memberships

NEW MEMBERS

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
SHAUNA EDSON	2020	GREY
LARRY & CHARLENE PETERSON	2016	RED
RON DISHAW	2021	RED
ANDREW WADE	2021	BLACK

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

NAME	EXPIRING
TERI BLACK	5/31/2021
CLAUDE & ERLINE BROWN	5/31/2021
DAVE & BRENDA ENCHEFF	5/31/2021
RICK & DAYNA KISER	5/31/2021
MICHAEL & KELLY THOMPSON	5/31/2021
JEFF & ANDIE WIGHT	5/31/2021

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

NAME	EXPIRED
BILAL AIJAZ	2/28/2021
BILL & JANET ANDERSON	3/31/2021
MARSHALL DING	3/31/2021
SONNY & CORA LEE JCKOWSKI	4/31/21
GARY LAMBERT	3/31/2021
RICHARD MUELLER	3/31/2021
MICHAEL ROLLINS	3/31/2021

REMOVED FROM ROSTER

NAME	EXPIRED
ERIC ACHTER	1/31/2021
DARWIN & LORI STEED	12/31/2020



NAME	BIRTHDAY
TODD CHRISTOPHER	5 May
JEFF WIGHT	5 May
RONDA BECKSTEAD	6 May
SCOTT HADLEY	6 May
JIM BOWERS	9 May
ROXANNE BAGLEY	10 May
JUDY DYSON	10 May
STEVE TOBIASSON	17 May
MARILYN BICKLEY	20 May
SCOTTY MEDINE	22 May
BRET BAGLEY	23 May
GAGE LAMBERT	25 May
REBECCA JEPPSON	26 May
REXANNE POND	28 May
GARY LAMBERT	29 May
GERALD JEPPSON	31 May

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.

Club Officers

President: Mike Bailey

Vice President: Hank Pond

Secretary: Jim Newson

Board Members: Valerie Francis, Brian Christiansen, Ken Jaworski

Treasurer: Margie Newson

April Lunch & Meeting Report By: Valerie Francis

It was a dark and stormy night. Oh wait, that's a different story! It was a sunny and beautiful day, with just the right temperature for a nice drive over Trappers Loop, through Huntsville and Eden, then over North Ogden Canyon.

But first we met at West Bountiful park for our lunch and meeting. It was exciting to see several new members and some members that had not been to a meeting in a while. There was a great turnout as we are probably all ready to enjoy visiting and going on a top-down drive. Hank held the meeting due to Mike still being in the hospital recovering. The bowery was available but was a little chilly in the shade so almost everyone enjoyed their lunch in the sun sitting on camp chairs.



With a total of 25 cars we started our drive by catching Legacy highway just a few blocks from the park. We then drove along Hwy 89 past Farmington, through Fruit Heights, east Kaysville and Layton, then up Weber Canyon and over Trappers Loop at Mountain Green. We stopped for a break at Huntsville City Park then carried on through Eden and up over North Ogden Canyon. At this point the drive officially ended and everyone made their way home via Harrison Blvd in Ogden or catching the freeway.

There was a small incident with an Ogden police officer pulling over a Miata for rolling through a stop sign as we came out of North Ogden Canyon, but no ticket was issued—Whew! See the related article in this newsletter.

We hope everyone enjoyed the ride as much as we did!



Member Spotlight: Tom Moeglien

By: Carol Lynn Vredeveld

Please join me in welcoming one of our newest members, Tom Moeglien, that kindly agreed to be featured in our spotlight article for May. For years now our friends at Bountiful Mazda have been referring Miata enthusiasts to our club by providing them with a Utah Miata Club membership when they purchase their Miata's from them. This club makes owning our Miata's so much fun and we are always happy to share those experiences with new friends. Sounds like Tom has had an adventurous life with the love of his life and their family.

Thanks, Tom for sharing your story with us...

I currently own a 2021 Grand Touring, Soul Red.

I got my first Miata one year ago, a 2020 Sport model. I have always wanted a two-seater roadster and due to family circumstances that opportunity came to me last year.

I learned about the Miata Club at the Bountiful Mazda Dealer. Took my last 2020 model there for service and Scottie told me about the club. Then, when I bought the new 2021, I received a free membership.



I was born and raised in central Minnesota. At 17 I joined the Air Force and for the next 30 years served around the world. Have been stationed in Mississippi, Japan, Taiwan, Viet Nam, Illinois, Florida, Colorado, Germany, Turkey, and Utah. My family traveled and lived in these places with me except for in Nam and Turkey.

My only career was the Air Force. After retirement at age 48 I did 12 years of volunteer work doing Meals on Wheels and teaching computers to the seniors in Davis County Aging Services senior centers. Also, for 9 years I worked for the State during the Legislative Session. I was the Sergeant at Arms for the House of Representatives for 8 of those 9 years.

My wife, Lois Jean, is from my hometown of St. Cloud, Minnesota and lived six blocks from my family home. I paid for her to fly to Taipei where I was stationed at the time, and we were married in downtown Taipei in a Chinese Court in 1965. We didn't understand a word that was said. I kept telling her all the years of our marriage, that maybe we weren't really married! She stayed with me the rest of the tour.



Lois and I were married for 54 wonderful years. She died a year ago. Sudden. Devastating. She was just terrific, followed me wherever I was sent, always my support.

We had two great sons, Brian, and Scott. Brian was born in the Navy Hospital in Taipei, in fact, he only had one tattoo on the bottom of his foot that read "Made in Taiwan".

Sadly, my son Scott died ten years ago at the age of 38, and my son Brian died three days before his mother who died just last year. That was my family.

Had two granddaughters. One, Kaitlyn, lives here near Ogden and has two terrific great-grandsons, Phoenix and Maverick. No better boys. The other, Jennifer, passed away also last year.

Lois and I had a magical 54 years together. We have been places and seen things that most people will never see or do. My sons were so good to us. Proud of both of them; proud of the men they became. All of our vacations for all 54 years were back to the families in Minnesota. After retirement we did 29 years straight. Great fishing back there!



(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

I am a biker and I have ridden motorcycles for around 57 years. Have had a motorcycle all of my adult life except for Viet Nam. My Lois and I rode all over the Western States and I've ridden all over the entire country. In fact, when I received the assignment to Germany, I sold our family car and shipped the bike to Frankfurt. For three years I was able to ride all over Europe on the motorcycle. Still have my Harley and I ride it every chance I get.



I also love music. When in the Air Force there was no way to ship a heavy piano all over so never learned to play. Sure, wanted to learn though. While here in Utah, I was able to fulfill that dream and for the past 20 years I have taken classes and I play a large home Lowrey Organ. I try to play some each and every day.



I really appreciate the opportunity to spend some time with the club and getting to know folks. I have a serious lung disease so can't be away from oxygen tanks so long drives and overnights are not possible. I will contribute where I can.

We are glad to have you aboard Tom and hope to see you on some of our upcoming drives in your beautiful brand new Miata. Hope to bring you some joy and new friendships and lots of fun winding roads!



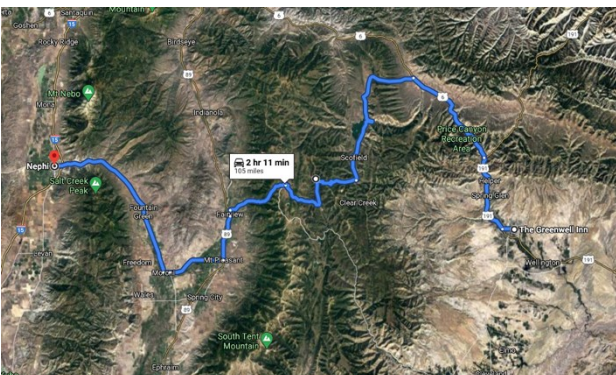
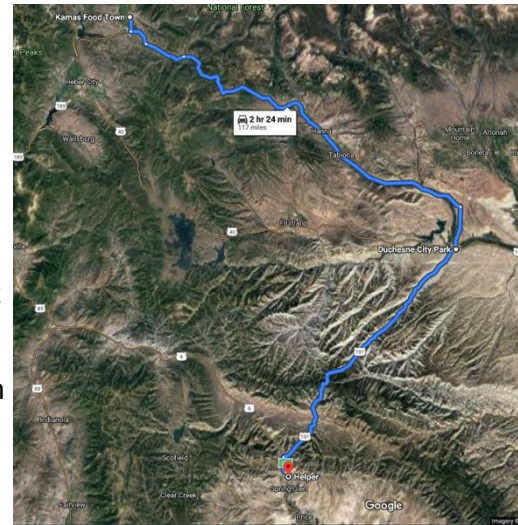
Helper/Price UT Overnighter By: Roger Heath

Saturday, June 26th to Sunday, June 27th

Meet: Kamas Foodtown, 145 W 200 S, Kamas, UT, on June 26th @ 9:00 AM

Hotel: Greenwell Inn, 655 East Main, Price, UT (Single Queen Rooms \$55/nt, 2 Queen Rooms \$65/nt if you call @ 435-637-3520 and mention you are with the Utah Miata Club). Greenwell Inn in Price has offered a slightly lower nightly rate if you call. They do have an onsite restaurant with a 15% discount for breakfast and dinner if staying a night. However there are other hotels if you choose.

Short trip to explore Helper with an overnight in Price. If you can't stay the night you can do an out and back day drive to Duchesne for lunch with the group. Or to Helper, then drive home that late afternoon/evening. We travel to Helper on Hwy 35 and Hwy 87 to Duchesne and stop at the Duchesne City Park for lunch (corner of Center St and 400 S). After lunch we continue to Helper on Hwy 191. In Helper we may get a radio tour (stay in our cars and use our radios) of the history of the area and maybe visit the museums there. Later that evening we'll head to Price for the night. Price also has a nice Natural History Museum, and Nine Mike Canyon is nearby.



Sunday we have several options for the drive home, backtrack through Duchesne and Kamas, take Hwy 6 all the way to I-15 or the scenic route past Scofield Reservoir, through Fairview, Mt. Pleasant, Maroni and pick up I-15 in Nephi. We could also jump on the Nebo Loop however it may be crowded with campers going home.



Rocky Mountain Road Trip - Glacier Park Ticket Requirement

By: Roger Heath

For those going on the RMRT, I just found out that Glacier National Park (along with others) are now requiring pre-reserved tickets to enter the park at Saint Mary, West Glacier and Camas Road, as well as the normal park pass.

Tickets go on sale 60 days prior to our planned entry date and have to be purchased on recreation.gov or the app. Our planned date to enter Glacier is August 3rd. Everyone needs to create an account in recreation.gov, if you do not already have one, and plan to buy your ticket on June 4th beginning at 8:00 AM MST. The time will be confirmed prior to June 4th. Tickets are free but there's a \$2 service charge.



If everyone does not get a ticket we'll need to decide as a group to either split up, with some going through the park, or stay as a group and take an alternate route. We can still get into the park without a ticket, the Two Medicine area in the southeast corner and the Many Glacier area further north on the east side. However we would not be able to go through the heart of Glacier as we all have hoped to do.

For more information please go to <https://nps.gov/glac/index.htm> and click on the link for Going-to-the-Sun Road Ticketed Entry. We will discuss this at the May meeting and also keep everyone informed via our Facebook page and email.



Reminder: Rocky Mountain Road Trip: 7/31- 8/7 By: Roger Heath



For those who have not signed up yet (like new members) the Rocky Mountain Road Trip is still on for late summer 2021. For those contemplating on going make your reservations soon as hotels are filling up or nearly full. The trip begins in the Harmons parking lot in Roy, UT on July 31st. Driving the backroads through Logan and Soda Springs we spend the first night in Jackson, WY. With an early morning start we drive north into Yellowstone, past Yellowstone Lake on our way to Cody, WY. After passing Cody we jump on the Chief Joseph Scenic Byway then turn on to the Beartooth Hwy, finally ending up in Red Lodge, MT. Day 3 is a casual drive to Great Falls, MT. Aug 3rd finds us heading towards Glacier NP. We enter Glacier on the east side and drive over the Going-to-the-Sun Road. We exit the park on the west side

and head to Bigfork, MT along Flathead Lake for the night. Leaving Montana, we head south along Flat Head Lake and into Idaho for the 4th night in Salmon. On the morning of Aug 5th we leave Idaho and head back into Montana on our way to West Yellowstone. Before we get to West Yellowstone we drive through two Ghost Towns, Virginia City and Nevada City. Virginia City would be a great place to stop and do a little site seeing. West Yellowstone will be the final stop for some, others we'll spend the day in Yellowstone NP and the final night in Jackson again. **Please let me know if you are going so I can add you to the contact list I am compiling.**

National Park entrance fees: Teton NP (only if we drive through on the way to Red Lodge, MT) \$35.00, Yellowstone NP \$35.00, Glacier NP \$35.00. Or use the America the Beautiful Annual Pass \$80.00. Or for Veterans and Gold Star families entrance is free with your ID card

Hotels: (this list is only a suggestion and where most have already booked)

- July 31st, Jackson: Ranch Inn, \$200/nt and up, or Antler Inn, \$250/nt
- Aug 1st, Red Lodge, MT: Red Lodge Inn, \$150/nt
- Aug 2nd, Great Falls, MT: Best Western Plus Great Falls, \$96/nt (military rate) and up
- Aug 3rd, Bigfork, MT: Bridge Street Cottages, one cottage left as of Jan 18th, \$425/nt
 Alternatives In Bigfork Travelodge by Wyndham, \$131/nt and up, or Swann River Inn, prices vary by room.
 Alternatives In Woods Bay (few miles south of Bigfork) > Mountain Lake Lodge, \$259/nt and up.
 Alternatives in Polson (south end of Flathead Lake) > Red Lion Inn & Suites, as low as \$96/nt
- Aug 4th, Salmon, ID: Super 8, \$90.00 and up
- Aug 5th, West Yellowstone, MT: Hibernation Station, \$189/nt and up
- Aug 6th, Jackson (optional night): Ranch Inn



Utah Miata Club July Picnic By: Hank Pond



I love This picture. It reminds me that ***change is the only constant.***

Mark your calendars; July 17th 4:00 PM for the UTAH MIATA CLUB PICNIC. Details to come but picnic will be provided by “South of the Border” food truck.

Please plan on attending. The picnic will be very much like this picture... How?

We will be voting as individuals on what to change and how, including...

1. **CLUB OFFICERS ELECTION**; president, vice president, directors, etc.
2. **CLUB BYLAWS**; as with the original Miata NA, we have learned from last year’s COVID experiences that we may also need to evolve to better survive/thrive...

Please plan on taking an active part to ensure that we consider your thoughts and concerns as well.

If you feel that you would like to serve as a club officer, don’t be shy, let us know. **See you there! Thanks! Hank**



Following Traffic Laws By: Valerie Francis

Whew—we had a near miss at the end of the April drive. Coming out of North Ogden Canyon there was an Ogden police officer waiting around the corner from a two way stop sign. Our group was making a left hand turn from the stop and a few “rolled” through the stop without completely stopping. As it turns out, the Miata he pulled over did a full stop so did not get a ticket. Anyway, this is a good reminder to follow traffic laws on our drives. I am sure some long time members remember other times that one of us actually got a ticket... usually for speeding.



Also, there is a phenomenon when driving in a large group that I call the “slinky effect”. Even when the lead car is doing the speed limit, other cars further back are sometimes driving over the speed limit to catch up with the group. This can happen especially after stop signs or red lights, etc. Please feel free at any time to radio for the lead car to slow down a bit so the group can catch up without speeding (too much ;-)). We want all members to feel safe on our drives, and to make sure the drive is enjoyable.



2021 Calendar of Events



May 1st: Monthly lunch & meeting (Sugarhouse Park to Smith Morehouse) Refer to page 2, Steve & Ronda

June 5th: Monthly lunch & meeting (Midway Park to Wasatch Back roads), Refer to page 3

June 26th: Overnight (or day) trip to Helper/Price Utah, Refer to page 6, Roger Heath

July 17th: 3rd weekend due to scheduling issues, Summer Picnic and Elections meeting, Refer to page 8, Hank Pond

July 31st—Aug 6th: Rocky Mountain Road Trip, Refer to page 7, Roger Heath

August 14th: 2nd weekend due to conflict with Rocky Mountain Road Trip, Monthly lunch & Meeting (TBD)

September 11th: 2nd weekend due to Labor Day, Monthly lunch and meeting (TBD)



Photos this month are from the April lunch meeting... some new members, some long time members, and everything in between members.

