



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



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From the Top Down “Celebrating 30 Years of the Miata” By: Mike Bailey, President

We are working our way through the Summer of 2020, enjoying it as much as we can due to the situation with the Coronavirus still going on. Although our major events and trips, such as our Miatas in Moab VI, Great Western Adventure II, and our trip to Miataland, Italy and cruise have been cancelled for the year, we are still not letting that get us down as a club. We have managed to have our monthly luncheons and meetings, albeit with social distancing and wearing our masks to prevent the spread of the virus. I must say that I am very proud of all our club members for taking precautions, wearing masks when necessary, keeping our distance, and mainly for being safe when we are together. We are not letting this virus stop us from our monthly drives. We have become used to using our camp chairs and sitting around in circles to eat our lunches and talk with each other. Our drives have been excellent so far this year and we have been having fun on them. We have had record numbers of 23 -25 Miatas on drives this summer.

This past week I sold our Blazing Yellow Miata. It was Lynn's favorite color of Miata and has been her favorite since the day we got it. It is sad to see 'Blaze' leave our family, as this Miata has been part of us for 17 years now. It is like marrying off one of the kids or having your favorite pet pass away (well, maybe not that dramatic). It will be an empty hole for awhile and we will really miss this Miata. But it will be in good care with Gary and Sandy, and I couldn't let it go without giving them an application to join the club as part of the paperwork, which I hope they will! (You all know how I am!). Gary and Sandy Goerig are a couple who live in St. George.

Our Summer Picnic was excellent with 54 members attending. We had a great time at the park and the *South of the Border Food Truck* was excellent again and took good care of us. Be sure to check out the photos in the picnic article.

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Thanks to Steve and Ronda for hooking us up with them and for also providing ice cream for dessert. We have such great members in this club who always take care of our 'Miata Family'! We still have a lot of fun things planned for the rest of the year. Our first over-nighter will be at the end of this month to Bryce Canyon and Canyonlands (Torrey), a trip not-to-be-missed. So if you are planning on coming get your motel reservations now! Details are also in this newsletter, and on our website and Facebook page. Be sure to check out our calendar of events for more activities and drives coming up, and keep being safe. ZOOM - ZOOM !!!



Amy's Scoot Around Scofield Reservoir *By: Steve & Ronda Beckstead, and Amy Beckstead*

Date & Time: Saturday, September 12th, 10:00 AM

Location: Western Springs Park

Address: 4570 Goshute Dr, Riverton, UT 84096

Meet at 10am: this is a 4.5 hour drive (220 Miles)

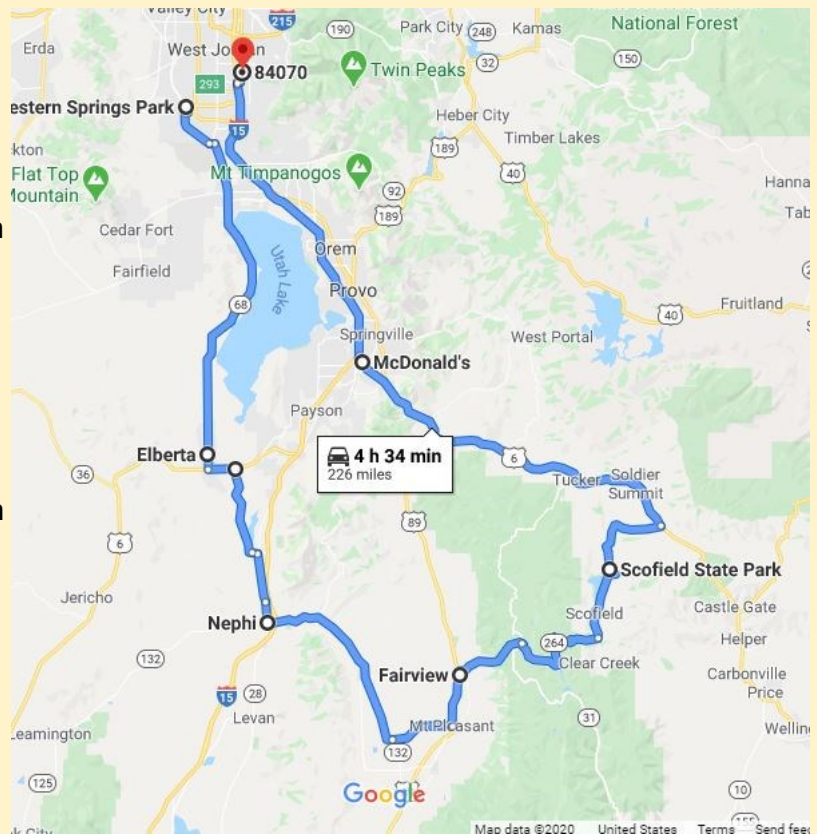
Bring a snack, due to COVID-19 no lunch or eating stops planned!

We will do Mike's meeting, birthdays and announcements, then hit the road!



Drive Information:

- **Meet at Western Springs Park 4570 Goshute Drive (where picnic was in Riverton)**
- **Around Utah Lake, then Goshen Canyon run**
- **Nephi Phillips 66 for potty break, then across to Fairview**
- **Cool canyon drive by Scofield State Park**
- **On to Highway 6 and Soldier Summit**
- **McDonalds in Spanish Fork for final good-bye, drink or snack, restroom, then home on our own, probably on I-15; we are tired by now :-)**



Birthdays & Memberships

REMOVED FROM ROSTER

NAME	EXPIRED
DAVID & MICHELLE ANDERSON	5/31/2020
DAVE ENCHEFF	5/31/2020

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

NAME	EXPIRING
ROBERT & KATHI JO FACKRELL	9/30/2020
MARK MIDGLEY	9/30/2020
THOMAS & PAMELA WHARRAM	9/30/2020

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

NAME	EXPIRED
JOSH & TANYA ASHMENT	7/31/2020
STEVE & RONDA BECKSTEAD	8/31/2020
DEVIN & KELSEY BROWNING	7/31/2020
KAREN CHRISTIANSEN	8/31/2020
BRIAN & SUSAN CHRISTIANSEN	8/31/2020
DICK & JUDY DYSON	8/31/2020
RICHARD & CHRISTINE FACKRELL	8/31/2020
MICHAEL MCFARLAND	6/30/2020
HEIDI THORNOCK	7/31/2020
GREGORY & NANCY VANZWEDEN	6/30/2020

NEW MEMBERS

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
SEREI PANH	2007	GRAY
TYSON & TRACY YOUNG	2000	MAHOGANY
JONATHAN & ALLISON HUNTSINGER	1993	CLASSIC RED



NAME	BIRTHDAY
AITANA GONZALEZ	1 Sep
GAIL KELLY	4 Sep
JAMES VREDEVELD	4 Sep
MICHAEL FOSTER	17 Sep
MICHAEL ROLLINS	21 Sep
KAREN CHRISTIANSEN	23 Sep
BILAL AIJAZ	25 Sep
SONNY JCKOWSKI	28 Sep
ANA PORTER	29 Sep

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

Club Membership Benefits By: Mike Bailey

There are lots of reasons to be a member of the Utah Miata Club and they may be different for each member. One is the wonderful comradery that we have as a like-minded group with some of the same interests (like owning a Miata). It extends to the friendships and associations we have built with one another through the years, and for our love of driving our Miatas and being together as a group. If you are new to the club, you will find out that this is true! We are of all different ages, with different personalities, from different walks of life, and different likes and dislikes, but when we are together we can relate to each other because of our Miatas. Our Miata friends also extend outside of our state and across the country with other members and clubs, and even international.

Membership in the club provides us with a lot of activities, events, drives, and social gatherings we can participate in as a group. When your annual membership is about to expire, please think of the benefits that being a member of the Utah Miata Club brings to you, and plan to renew it. Not only the above is true, but club members can support you with knowledgeable help in helping you to maintain your Miata. Club membership offers you a 10% discount on parts and service from our Mazda Dealer Sponsor, Bountiful Mazda, as well as discounts on the purchase of another Mazda vehicle. We have several social parties a year where food is provided and paid for by the club, such as the Summer Picnic and the end of the year Christmas Party. The club also pays the cost on Membership Anniversary Pins, major Anniversary Polo Shirts, Vehicle Club Decals, and other items. Also as a member you receive the "The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club" Newsletter to keep you up-to-date on all club news, events, and activities. Another benefit is belonging to our Member's Only Facebook page for social media interaction. Let's face it. Being a member of the Utah Miata Club has lots of benefits. 🌀

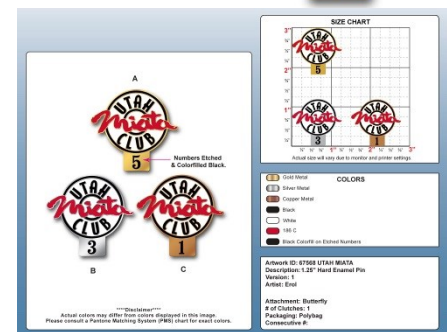
30th Anniversary Club Decal By: Mike Bailey



The 30th Anniversary of the Utah Miata Club is being celebrated this year and the club has had a removable vinyl, static cling decal made up in honor of this event. These decals were given out to members during the Club Picnic last month. If you did not receive your decal at the picnic, please see Mike Bailey for them. I will have them at each monthly meeting, so come and ask me for one. One will be available for each Miata that a member owns. The decal depicts the four generations of the Miata with a very bright Racing Orange ND (4th Generation) Miata front and center. Behind that are a Blazing Yellow 2002 NB (2nd Generation), a blue NA (1st Generation), and a Copper Red NC (3rd Generation) Miata. This will be a striking Logo and you can put it inside of your windshield or on a wing window for display. It goes on and comes off easily if you wish. Save the paper sheet to put it back on, if you take it off. We hope that everyone will proudly display this decal on your Miata. 🌀

Club Anniversary Pins By: Mike Bailey

The club officers and directors has approved a new production run of one of our favorite set of pins for the club members. These are our "Anniversary" Pins. This is a group of 6 pins which are given to club members when they reach their 3rd, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, and 25th anniversary of club membership. Yes, if you remain in the club for 25 consecutive years you will get a 25th Anniversary Gold Pin on the year of your anniversary date from joining the club! We started this program in 2015 and have passed out pins to members on their anniversaries for the last 5 years. We were running low on the supply of pins so we decided to keep this program going, as it has been very popular. I don't know of any other club across the country who has this program, and there are hundreds of clubs! If you want more information about this pin please read the initial article about them in the August 2020 Newsletter. This is a great program and many club members wear them on a lanyard at regional events and our club events. We often trade our event pins with people from other clubs, but our Anniversary pin is not for sale or trade! It is a very special pin and recognition to the members for their years in supporting the club.



Bear Lake Raspberry Shake Drive Report By: Mike Bailey

The Drive to Bear Lake on the Utah-Idaho border did not disappoint. We had an excellent and very large turnout of about 25 Miatas or more for this drive. Everyone seemed to be hankering to get out of their homes and take this day off for one of the longest day drives that the club does, usually on an annual basis. We have been going to Bear Lake for as long as I can remember.

This drive was planned and executed by Steve and Ronda Beckstead, and they did an excellent job. For a guy that once told me back in about 2008; "Don't ever ask me to be a Drive Leader", Steve does not disappoint on any of his drives or in leadership roles for the club. Our club member friends Tom and Pam Wareham even came up from Mesquite, Nevada, so we were glad they were able to join us.

We met at Rotary Glen Park by Hogle Zoo and right off the bat in our driver's meeting some said the road up Emigration Canyon was closed due to construction. I had been up that road the week before for business, and there was a little stop and go, but the road was mainly pretty good. Several in the group decided to go over to Parley's Canyon and up to the Mountain Dell turnoff as we were going to go up East Canyon. Another part of the group went up Emigration. The road was excellent and newly paved for most of the way so it was good. We hooked up with the rest of the group by Mt. Dell and headed on up over East Canyon, through Morgan, and on to Mountain Green to meet some northern club members. It was a lot of work trying to corral all the Miatas in a group but it worked out well.

After getting to Huntsville by Pineview Reservoir, we took the Hardware Ranch turn-off on our way to Monte Cristo and Woodruff. We got split up a little at Bear Lake in Garden City as it was very crowded and lots of traffic. We were looking for a place to have our Raspberry Shakes so some went into town at LaBeau's or other places, and some went to the Chevron on top of the hill heading to Logan Canyon. Even others probably followed Hank Pond to a spot he knows with awesome Ice cream at Utah State University in Logan. Needless to say we ended up with less Miatas in a group at the end, but all was well as we all found our way back home. It was a long day but surely a very fun one. Thanks to Steve and Ronda who planned this drive and places to stop.



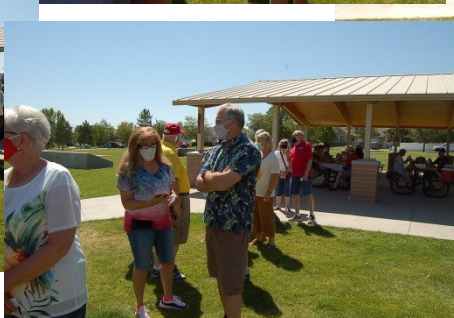
Annual Summer Club Picnic Report

By: Mike Bailey

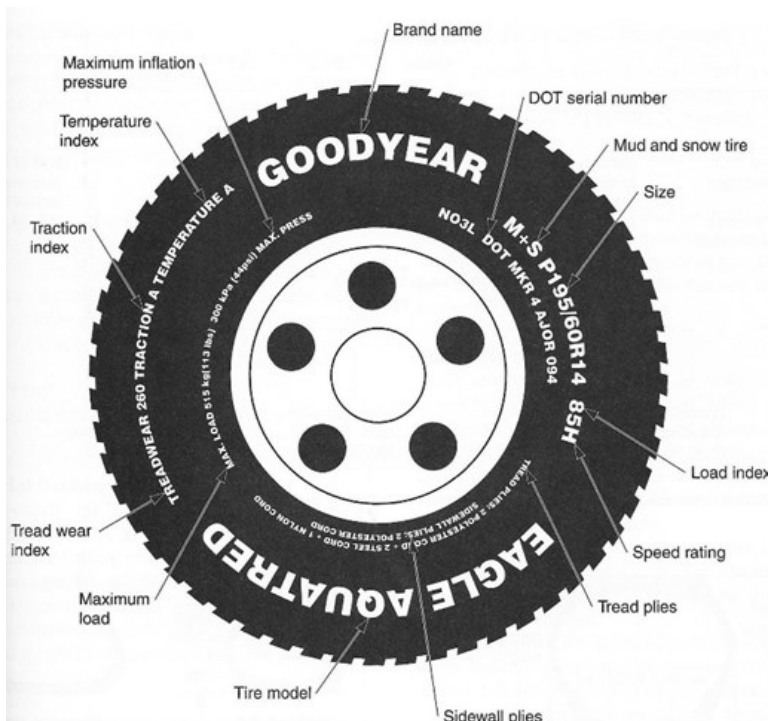
Our annual summer picnic was excellent again this year. We seem to have more members turn out each year for this. It was a picnic in the park at the Western Springs Park in Riverton. The pavilion was huge and had lots of tables for us to spread out. It was catered by 'South of the Border Tacos', a Mexican Food Truck. Luis and Maria Hernandez are the owners of the food truck and took good care of us with a selection of meals they prepared.

The club paid for the each member's meal, and we had 54 members in attendance. Vouchers were passed out to members for their meals. For dessert, Steve and Ronda Beckstead purchased ice cream for all of us, which was very generous on their part. They also made the arrangements for the food truck, so a lot of 'Thanks' goes out to them.

We had a couple new members show up, Allison and Jonathan Huntsinger who just moved to Utah from the Mt. Hood Oregon club, so we want to welcome them to the club. We had lots of fun socializing and visiting with each other and also had our August monthly meeting during this time. Thanks to everyone who came out to enjoy this.



Miata Tales Part 3 By: Ken Jaworski



This figure from Modern Automotive Technology illustrates the standard sidewall markings about the tire. These markings give us information pertaining to the brand, tire size, inflation pressure, number of plies, speed rating, aspect ratio, tread wear index, traction index, temperature index, load index, maximum load rating, etc.

So, what does this really mean to us Miata drivers. Your Miata was designed to work using a specific type and size of tire to give us the overall best ride possible. Obviously, you have a favorite brand of tire developed from your extensive years of driving experience. Michelin, Bridgestone, Goodyear, BF Goodrich, Dunlop, Kelly, Continental, Pirelli, Toyo, ad nauseam.

A lot of your choices might be:

- that's the tire that came on your Miata.
- that's the tire that was on sale at Costco, Discount, Big O, Tire Rack, Burt Bros, etc.
- that's the tire your club members recommend.
- that's the tire you had on your last race car.

OK, so you have decided the brand of tires you want and for the reasons you want them, BUT what size do you need. Here are the recommended tire sizes as per your Miata Owner's Manual. It's probably that unused book in the glove box, unless it's mine and then you can find it in the trunk.

Now this is just a little confusing. It's showing two tire sizes:

195/50 R15 82V and 205/45 R16 83W

How can this be? Let me breakdown these numbers down for ya.

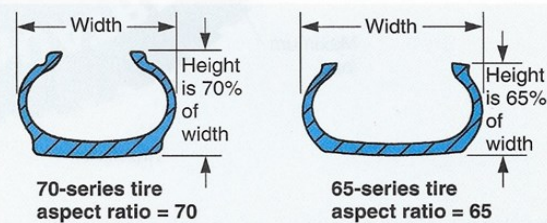
The first number gives you an aspect ratio. The aspect ratio is the comparison of the tire's height (bead-to-tread distance) and width (sidewall-to-sidewall distance). This diagram illustrates the aspect ratio of a series 70 and series 65 tire. The next letter in the tire size is R, which tells you the type of tire construction used. In this case the construction is a "radial" design. The next number is different in the two tire sizes. This number represents the wheel diameter, but, but, how can one Miata have two different wheel diameters. It's all in the aspect ratio. The short squatty tire requires a larger 16" wheel (optional for the Special Edition). The other 15" wheel is for the standard Miata, BUT they both have the same rolling distance. The last combination of numbers and letter are actually two different elements. The number gives you the load index or the amount of weight that each tire can carry at its specified inflation pressure. The number 82 is equivalent to 1047 lbs. and the number 83 is equivalent to 1083 lbs. The second element of this combo number is the speed rating which is the maximum allowable sustained road speed a tire can handle safely. The letter V=149mph and the letter W=168mph.

Here's a pix of the BF Goodrich G-Force Sport-2 radials that live on YGROWUP (Jan's 2001 BRG Special Edition Miata not mine). Note the rotation and arrows pointing to the rotation of the tire. The design tread of this tire has to be rolling in that direction. Check to see that your tires are rolling in the correct direction.

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Tires

Item \ Tires	Front	Rear	Temporary spare
Inflation pressure kPa (kgf/cm ² , psi)	180 (1.8, 26)	180 (1.8, 26)	420 (4.2, 60)
Size	195/50 R15 82V		T115/70 D14
	205/45 R16 83W		T105/70 D15



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Now if you go back to that little chart from your Miata Owner's Manual you will find another very, very import number. It's so important that it is also listed on the door frame of your Miata. It's your tire pressure..... (26 psi).

If you noticed the number 87#ft that is not your tire pressure, but is the torque required for mounting your wheels to your Miata. By the way that can be located in that little Miata Owner's Manual, too. If you have a torque wrench, check your lug nuts/bolts to make sure your wheels don't come off while you are Miata-ering around. Also, ask your tire installer NOT to use his air impact gun to mount your wheels, but use a ratchet then a torque wrench. Some air impact guns are so very powerful that they can actually distort your wheels. If they want your business they will comply to your request.

87#ft			
VEHICLE CAPACITY WEIGHT	(NC74)		
CAPACITÉ PORTEUSE DU VÉHICULE	154kg (340lbs)		
SEATING CAPACITY	FRONT SEAT	.....	2
NOMBRE DE PLACES	SIÈGE AVANT	.....	2
	REAR SEAT	.....	0
	SIÈGE ARRIÈRE	.....	2
	TOTAL	.....	2
TIRE INFLATION PRESSURE	FRONT/AV.	REAR/AR.	
PRESSION DE GONFLAGE DES PNEUS	180	180	
	(1.8)(26)	(1.8)(26)	
TIRE SIZE	205/45R16 83W		
TAILLE DES PNEUS			



Now if your tires begin to look like this, you better call Val.

No not Valerie, but Val's Alignment.

Sorry Val..... just had to get that play on words in this issue of Miata Tales.

Remember to check your tire pressure because AIR is what you are really driving on.



Vanity Plates By: Mike Bailey

This month's **Personalized Vanity Plates** are now on two member's Miatas, who are actually next door neighbors.

"VMMVMMM" is the plate on Greg and Angie White's 2020 Crystal Soul Red Miata. You will have to ask Greg about the special meaning that this personalized plate has for them, as it is more family related than just the great sound that a sport's car exhaust makes. It has something to do with his son Nathan when he was a toddler who actually came up with this.



"25 AE" is the plate for 'yours truly', Mike and Lynn Bailey's new 2015 Soul Red, 25th Anniversary Edition Miata. I know that both of us couples are really enjoying their new Miatas!



Remember When? By: Mike Bailey

Remembering the **'Viking River Cruise to Europe'** is the reason for this particular month's article. The reason is two fold. First, it was sad that we had to cancel our MiataLand Trip to Italy and the Viking Ocean Cruise around the "boot" of Italy. This was suppose to start August 17, 2020 and go through the first part of September. As you read this article many members from our club would have been on this trip. This cancellation was disappointing to me as I had been planning this trip for three years, yes, 3 long years with my good friend Donn Cichocki.

Second, we have been on many wonderful ocean cruises over the past 18 years or so with the club members, and the Viking River Cruise was in August 2017, or three years ago this Fall. This cruise involved many of our Utah Club members, and also member friends from the eastern part of the US, and other Miata clubs. We had almost sold out the entire Viking River Cruise ship with 86 cabins out of 95 total cabins, so our club chartered the entire ship. It was hard for me to come up with the two million dollars to reserve the ship so I asked Morris Murdock Travel to do that, and they did! It was like us Miata people had the entire ship to ourselves. 172 people were Miata people out of 195 (+cruise personnel). It was so much fun and those that went know what a good time we had.



Miata Clubs and Friends Viking River Cruise 2017



We flew non-stop to Amsterdam, Netherlands, spending a couple days there before boarding the ship. Over 2 weeks we went through Germany, Austria, ending in Budapest, Hungary. We traveled on 3 European Rivers; the Danube, Main, and Rhine. Most of the time was spent in Germany passing and exploring many beautiful cities. It was the best cruise ever! I took well over a thousand photos and can only show some of them in this article. In fact I had so many photos I had to divide them up into folders for each country, with several sub-folders just for Germany.



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Our group provided us with a good time together and we all had so much fun. It is appropriate for this month's 'Remember When' to think about the good times we had at this time of the year, and share them with our current club members. We should also consider how much this terrible virus has impacted our lives and travel plans.

On a good note, Karen Christiansen, club member and Travel Agent is working on rescheduling our Miataland trip for end of next October. We had a Zoom conference this past month with the owner of Miataland and our Italian Travel agency representatives, who took us on a virtual tour of Miataland. Miataland is up and running again! If you don't know about Miataland, please check it out on their website or on our "Cruise to Miataland Facebook page". I'm happy to invite you to be a member of that FB page. If you are interested in going in 2021, there is now room on what was a 'sold out' trip and cruise, as we begin again to make plans for it the end of 2021. Contact me or Karen if you are interested.

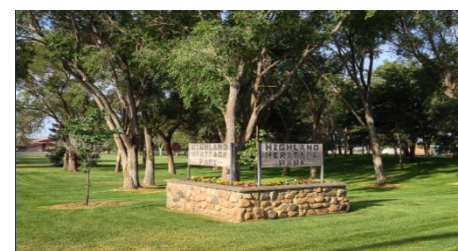


October Meeting and Drive Head's Up By: Valerie Francis

October means beautiful fall colors, so we will drive through Alpine Loop (north to south) after a "bring your own lunch" and meeting at Heritage Park in Highland, Utah. Details will be provided in the October newsletter but briefly:

Date and Time: Saturday, October 3rd, 11:30 am

Location: Heritage Park , 10400 Alpine Way (Corner of 10400 N and 5300 W, Highland UT) This is just south of Hwy 92 and there are lots of fast food places to grab your lunch in this area. The bowery is not reserved so bring your camp chairs or blankets. Weather permitting for the drive!



September in Bryce and Torrey By: Eric & Kathy Kankainen

Join us Sept 25—27 for a fabulous drive of **SCENIC BYWAYS** to **BRYCE** and **CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARKS** and **PEAK FALL FOLIAGE** for **ASPENS**!

Friday, 9/25: Leave SLC at 9 am from Harmon's in Draper – take I-15 to Payson with pit stop at McDonalds then Mt Nebo Loop to Manti, to Salina for picnic lunch (site TBD), then Gooseberry Road to Fish Lake, to Koosharem, to Bryce (approx. 7.5 hrs + lunch (320 mi.) Check in to Motels then optional (on your own) park drive before dinner at Ruby's Inn 7:30 pm (To Be Confirmed).

Saturday, 9/26: Meet 9 am at Ruby's Inn. South on Bryce Park Drive to end and back for lunch at Bryce Cyn Lodge (TBC). Next we drive the All-American Highway 12 thru Escalante to Boulder (optional Burr Trail Drive), to Torrey (approx. total 4.0 hrs + overlooks + lunch) (160 mi); siesta then early dinner (5 pm) at Rim Rock (TBC) then Capitol Reef Scenic Park Drive for 1.5 hrs.

Sunday, 9/27: Meet at Junction of State Road 12 & 24, take State Road #24 west to State Road #72 thru Fremont to Fremont Junction on I-70, then up State Road 10 to scenic, fun drive side trip to & back Sufco Mine, then to Ferron for lunch at Millsite Golf Course (TBC), then Huntington Canyon to Fairview then State Road 89 to Thistle State Road 6, and I-15 to SLC (approx. 5.5 hrs + lunch (260 mi)).



Motel Information: For Bryce (9/25) Ruby's Inn \$75.00 discount off regular price (cost is \$125.00 + tax) or Best Western Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel \$60.00 discount off for \$159.00 + tax. Both include the Breakfast Buffet. Link to Ruby's Inn: [https://www.bryceres.com/rubys/availability.asp?](https://www.bryceres.com/rubys/availability.asp?startDate=9/25/2020&duration=1&requesttype=invBlockCode&code=2009MIATA)

[startDate=9/25/2020&duration=1&requesttype=invBlockCode&code=2009MIATA](https://www.bryceres.com/rubys/availability.asp?startDate=9/25/2020&duration=1&requesttype=invBlockCode&code=2009MIATA). The code: 2009 MIATA will be at top of page, classified as a 'Group Block' then by selecting your room and the discount price will come up.

Link for Best Western Bryce Canyon Grand: [https://www.bryceres.com/bcg/availability.asp?](https://www.bryceres.com/bcg/availability.asp?startDate=9/25/2020&duration=1&requesttype=invBlockCode&code=2009MIATA)

[startDate=9/25/2020&duration=1&requesttype=invBlockCode&code=2009MIATA](https://www.bryceres.com/bcg/availability.asp?startDate=9/25/2020&duration=1&requesttype=invBlockCode&code=2009MIATA).

For Torrey (9/26): Variety of hotels are available. Book your own but several are staying at The Days Inn.

Motels fill up early, so book your rooms asap. We are currently planning for breakfasts on your own, group picnic lunches, and dinners as dine-in as a group.



By: **Steve Beckstead**

Sep 12th: Monthly meeting and Drive (10:00 am, Scofield Drive) – Amy Beckstead

Sep 25-27th: Torrey Weekend Trip (See above for Details) – Eric and Kathy

Oct 3rd: Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, Heritage Park Highland UT, Alpine Loop) – Val & Doyle

Oct 24th: Halloween Party (Pending, nothing set up)

Nov 7th: Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, Lunch TBD) – Mike Bailey

Dec 5th: Annual Christmas Party (Jim & Marilyn Bickley's, other Details TBD) – Mike Bailey



Candid Camera By Mike Bailey

Candid Camera shots this month are all from activities in 2020. Can you tell who some of the people are behind the masks?


**SMILE
YOU'RE
ON
CANDID
CAMERA**

