



The Convertible Chronicles of the Utah Miata Club



Miatas in Costa Rica

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From the Top Down “Oh, the Places We’ll Go!”

By: Valerie Francis, President

Hooray for May and great top-down driving weather! And what better way to enjoy this weather than going on a drive out to Antelope Island State Park. See the details of this months’ lunch meeting and drive on page 2. In the meantime, here are some fun facts about Antelope Island:

It is the largest of the ten islands in the Great Salt Lake, measuring fifteen miles long and seven miles across, and lies entirely within Davis County. It consists of over 28,000 acres of low mountains, grasslands, marshes, and sand dunes, with the Frary peak reaching an elevation of 6,596 feet, which is about 2,500 feet above the level of the lake (4200ft).

Antelope Island has 40 major freshwater springs found primarily on the East side, producing 36 million gallons of water each year.

Prehistoric people inhabited the island over 6,000 years ago, including Shoshone and Goshute Indians. The first known non-Native American exploration of Antelope Island was in 1845 by John C. Fremont and Kit Carson. Three years after the Fremont Expedition, in 1848, Fielding Garr established the first permanent residence on Antelope Island. The Fielding Garr ranch still stands on Antelope Island and is Utah’s oldest Anglo-built structure still standing on its existing foundation.

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American Bison were introduced to the island in 1893 and roam wild. They have since grown to a herd fluctuating between 550 and 700, making it one of the largest publicly owned bison herds in the nation.

The metamorphic and igneous rocks on Antelope Island are some of the oldest in the nation, even older than those found at the bottom of the Grand Canyon.

After adult brine flies hatch, their casings often pile up along the shoreline of the Great Salt Lake. One year, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources counted seven billion cases along the Antelope Island Causeway. That's more brine fly casings than there are people on earth! With an abundance of delicious brine shrimp, over 250 types of migrating and nesting birds can be seen on antelope Island.

With the beautiful scenery of bison, antelope, grasslands, Wasatch Mountains, and the sky, who wouldn't want to drive top-down to experience this special place in Utah? Oh the places we'll go Zoom Zooming!



May Monthly Luncheon Information

Date & Time: Saturday, May 4, 2019
12:00 NOON!!! Note the time is ½ hour later than our normal meeting time.

Location: Star Cafe (Phone: 801-773-1672)
Address: 1540 State St, Clearfield, UT 84015

Exit I-15 at Antelope Drive in Layton (exit 322), head west a couple of blocks to State Street, turn right (north) on State Street. Once on State Street, the cafe is just a couple of blocks on the left hand side of the road.



May After Lunch Drive: Antelope Island State Park

After the meeting, we will head to Antelope Island. Leaving the café, turn right (south) out of the parking lot, then right turn (west) onto Antelope Drive. Continuing west on Antelope Drive, we head straight for the causeway to Antelope Island. We will enjoy the visitors Center and the drive to Garr Ranch. **Cost is \$10.00 per vehicle. Senior entrance fee (62 years of age): \$5 per vehicle.**



Birthdays & Memberships

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

NAME	EXPIRING
PAUL & CINDY ASHCRAFT	5/30/2019
TERI BLACK	5/30/2019
JAMES & SHANA BULLOUGH	5/30/2019
WILLY & LINDA GERLACH	5/30/2019
RICK & DAYNA KISER	5/30/2019
BRYON & JOY MASTERS	5/30/2019
JEFF & DEB MOON	5/30/2019
ROBERT OLSEN	5/30/2019
JEFF WIGHT	5/30/2019
DREW WILSON	5/30/2019

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

NAME	EXPIRED
BILL & JANET ANDERSON	3/31/2019
KAY BARRELL	4/30/2019
ERNEST & NANCY BENTLEY	4/30/2019
RYAN BETZ	2/28/2019
JIM & MARILYN BICKLEY	3/31/2019
WOODY & ELLEN COLLETTE	4/30/2019
JAMES FELDHACKER	4/30/2019
BRIAN & ABBIE GERLACH	4/30/2019
GREG HALEY	3/31/2019
FRAANK & VICKY HOUSER	3/31/2019
DOUGLAS KLUENDER	3/31/2019
MARCUS & LACEY OWENS	3/31/2019
RONALD & JACQUELINE WARRINER	4/30/2019
MITCH & MICHELE WADKINS	4/30/2019

New Members

NAME	YEAR	COLOR
GARY CHOU	2019RF	WHITE



NAME	BIRTHDAY
ERIC ACHTER	1 May
TODD CHRISTOPHER	5 May
JEFF WIGHT	5 May
RONDA BECKSTEAD	6 May
JUDY DYSON	10 May
CHERYL SCHAEFER	10 May
STEVE TOBIASSON	17 May
SCOTTY MEDINE	22 May
SHAUNA MIDGLEY	22 May
REXANNE POND	28 May
JACQUENINE WARRINER	30 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 \$37 / \$27 (to cover PayPal fees). If mailing a check, please send to: 233 West 1550 North, Bountiful, Utah 84010. Make your check payable to the Utah Miata Club. Margie can also be contacted by phone at 801-295-4563 or by e-mail at sec.treasumc@icloud.com.

April Luncheon and Drive Report

By: Mike Bailey



April's Luncheon was real nice with a good turnout of members as I counted 46 in attendance. We had one new member attend; Merlin Judkins who was introduced, and owns a 2010 Red Miata. We had a couple, Justin and Christa Jackson, whom we haven't seen in quite awhile also attend. And a special guest was Ana Porter who now lives in the Phoenix area. She was visiting friends in Utah so it was wonderful to have her be able to come to the lunch this month. It was good to be with so many of our Miata friends. The food was excellent at the Garage Grill and we had a good meeting.



Afterward, we headed out under cloudy skies down to Springville to the Legends Motorcycle Museum and Emporium.

About 10 cars went along on this drive. It was not very crowded when we arrived so we had plenty of time and space to walk around and enjoy ourselves. We probably spent a little over an hour there looking at everything there was to see. On display was the oldest Harley Davidson hand-built by Arthur Davidson & William S. Harley back in 1907, one of only 7 of these in existence. A sign by the bike stated it was built in their original 10' x 15' "factory" which was more like a shed and the price was \$200. Today this very rare motorcycle is worth 5.5 Million dollars. We had a good time looking at all the artwork, motorcycles, and mementoes. Rick Salisbury really has an incredible museum there with millions of dollars of collectibles.



Member Spotlight

By: Carol Lynn Vredeveld



This month's spotlight member is: Bob and Kathi Fackrell

Please join me in welcoming Bob and Kathi Fackrell to our Utah Miata Club. They are new members as of last December and were kind enough to agree to participate in our spotlight article so we can learn a little more about them... (well, maybe it took a little persuading). It sounds like these two have had a busy and fulfilling life while building their careers, and raising a family; not to mention volunteering their time and services for the benefit of others now that they are retired. Since they really enjoy new adventures and traveling, the Miata Club should be a great fit for them. I also really like the unique look of the Maroon soft top on the gray car.

Kathi gives us a glimpse of their history and how they became Miata owners in the article below:

We own a 2018 soft-top gray with Maroon top with a US Marine logo license plate. This is our first Miata which Bob purchased for long road trips, kind of a dream. We test drove one year ago and Bob admired a neighbor's Miata for many years. We bought it new, one year ago and have 12,000 miles on it, mostly acquired on a road trip Bob took to Canada last year shortly after we purchased the car. The trip covered Yellowstone, Glacier NP, Banff and Jasper, and some of the most beautiful roads in the world. "It's not the destination it's the ride". Bob does enjoy 200 to 300-mile day rides around the state with a rule that the top is down at 40 degrees or above.



We found out about the Miata Club when Mike Bailey put his club card on our windshield while it was parked at Home Depot, inviting us to join. Our first Utah Miata Club event was the Christmas Party last year. We have really enjoyed the new friends we have met and look forward to the upcoming drives.

Bob is a Utah native; he spent time in the Marines in various places like Okinawa and Washington DC. I was born in Montana and have lived in various Western states. I came to Utah to attend a larger university, majoring in French and was fortunate enough to finish those studies in Paris. It also gave me the opportunity to travel around Europe and visit with my relatives in Norway while I was there.

We met through a mutual friend while we were both volunteering for the state's Junior Miss Pageant. Bob stood me up for our first date but it all worked out in the end! We first met in February and were married in September of that year. That was 42 years ago so I guess I forgave him for that first date.

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We have two children, Alex graduated from the U of U majoring in Geology, and Marian graduated from Westminster with a double major in History and English. Alex is enjoying single life and Marian is married to Eli, a great guy we both enjoy. Luckily, they live near us so we see them often.

Bob worked in communications for AT&T, Lucent, and finished his career with Rio Tinto. His last job allowed him to travel not only in the states but also Peru, Australia, Canada, and London, all of which only increased his love of travel. I stayed home to raise the children; then went back to work as a French teacher for Junior High... yes, somehow, I actually enjoyed that age group!



We are both retired now and enjoy traveling and new adventures. Because of my love of animals, including a wide variety of pets like my 32 year old parrot, I volunteer at Hogle Zoo. I also sing in a South Jordan Christmas choir and read as many books as I can. Bob loves woodworking of all kinds and volunteers making wooden cars at Tiny Tim's Toy Factory for children around the world. <http://www.tinytimstoys.org/> Bob is always eager to go for a ride on his Harley or the Miata. His next Miata drive is the Grand Canyon in June and he is planning the Pacific Coast Highway for 2020, after the Moab rally.

Since they have both traveled out of the country in their earlier years, I'm sure it will be fun for them to enjoy some of the beautiful scenery right here at home in the US while driving top down in their new Miata. We're always happy to welcome new members to the club that enjoy the drives and the wonderful new friends they will find in our Utah Miata Club family. A few of the club members are either current or past Harley owners as well and I'm sure they will enjoy sharing stories with Bob. Maybe he can share some of his 300 mile road trip ideas with the rest of us!



June Luncheon and Drive

By Robert Mechling



Just a head's up about the fun lunch and drive planned for June 1st. The lunch meeting will be at Maddox Ranch House in Brigham City (on Hwy 89). Start time is 11:30 so please plan time to drive to Brigham. We will have a private room and order off the menu. For drivers coming from the south end of Salt Lake Valley, we will meet up at the Fashion Place Mall south parking lot (where we usually meet) on 6400 South, just east of State Street at 9:30 a.m.

After lunch, we will drive to Promontory Summit — Golden Spike National Historical Park. This is the 150 anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railway. What better way to celebrate than visiting this historical site.

Details will be provided in next month's newsletter. Get ready for a great lunch and to witness Utah history!



Wasatch Back Drive June 20, 2019

By: Jan and Ken Jaworski

Weekday drive planned for Thursday, June 20th, 11:00 am. Please put this on your calendars. We will meet and then start from I-80 Wanship exit (155) taking the back roads and ending in Midway. We will view three State Parks and a Bison herd. It's 53 Scenic miles in just under 2 hours. We will have lunch at a new restaurant that opened last fall called The Corner, at 195 W Main St, Midway, UT 84049.



By ending in Midway, after lunch people can choose their own way back to the Salt Lake Valley or follow back to I-80 via highway 40. **Final RSVP is needed a couple of days ahead to give the restaurant a rough head count. More information will be provided at monthly meetings and future newsletters.** We hope you can join this fun drive and lunch!



Durango Colorado Miata Trip July 24th—28th, 2019

By: Amy Beckstead

REMINDER: Time may be running out to join us on this fun adventure... you will need to book your hotel rooms and train/mine tour as soon as possible since they fill up quickly. Contact the Newsletter Editor or Amy Beckstead for the trip itinerary and hotel information, or from previous newsletters.

Gold Mine Tour & Silverton Train ticket information: **FOR FRIDAY JULY 26TH, The cost is \$180.00 per person that includes the bus ride up, shuttle to mine, mine tour, shuttle back to train, and train ride home. We meet at train station 9 am. It is VERY important to call the tour company ASAP and book this if you are interested. Let her know that it is with group "AMY Miata club" It is through San Juan Backcountry. You will need to call Jessica @ 903-288-6745.**

Day 1 - Wednesday July 24th

8:00 --Meet @ Draper Harmon's 125 East 13800 South Drive to Cortez CO via Moab

Day 2 - Thursday July 25th

8:00- Mesa Verde - All Day Drive to Durango

Day 3 - Friday July 26th

100 year Old Gold Mine Tour and Silverton Train Tour Stay in Durango

Day 4 - Saturday July 27th

Drive to Fruita CO via Ouray

Day 5 - Sunday July 28th

8:00 - Drive home via to Vernal



Alpine Wyoming Car Show (and/or Bear Lake Raspberry Shake) Drive

August 17, or 17—18, 2019 By: Valerie Francis

Please join us on a scenic drive to Alpine Wyoming to visit a car show put on by the Idaho Hot Rod Association. Following is the preliminary information so you can add this to your calendars.

August 17th

- 9:00 am meet at I-84 rest stop just before Mt. Green exit, drive Trappers loop and up Monte Cristo Canyon
- Bear Lake for lunch and raspberry shakes; For day trip—head home via Logan Canyon, For overnight trip—head to Alpine WY Car show via Hwy 89, arriving by 3:00
- Idaho Falls at 6:30 PM. **Hotel Best Western Driftwood Inn**

August 18th Return TBD via several options

- Jackson WY then return the way we came up
- Jackson WY down Hwy 189 through Kemmerer and Evanston
- Or straight down the freeway, (possible side trip to Craters of the Moon (Hot))



September In Torrey Drive

by Eric and Kathy Kankainen

SCENIC BYWAYS to BRYCE and CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARKS

Itinerary for Sept 27-29: Target - Peak Fall Foliage for Aspens



Friday: leave SLC at 9 am from Harmon's in Draper – take I-15 to Payson, pit stop at McDonalds then Mt Nebo Loop to Manti to Salina for lunch at Mom's Café, then Gooseberry to Fish Lake to Koosharem to Antimony 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.

Saturday: Meet 9 am at Ruby's Inn. South on Bryce Park Drive to end and back for lunch at Bryce Canyon Lodge. Next 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 then Capitol Reef Scenic Park Drive for 1.5 hrs.

Sunday: 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 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)).

Motels fill up early, so book your rooms for Friday & Saturday ASAP. Your own hotel choices!



Miatas at Leguna Seca 2019 By: Tonya and Josh Ashment

Event: Miatas at Leguna Seca

Location: WeatherTech Raceway Leguna Seca

Dates: October 11-13, 2019

For more information on the event, visit:

Website – <https://miatareunion.com>

Facebook – Miatas at LS, Forum – Miata.net

Registration: 15 June at 9AM Pacific Time (Event agenda will be released at this time as well)

Cost: Prices for the event will vary with activities chosen (track vs. no track, etc). All cars that will 'race' on the track must be track compliant (helmet, rollbars, etc.), however there are parade laps which allow you to still drive on the track under controlled conditions.

Josh and I have designed a 'budget friendly' route for this event, however the cost for this trip will be \$1,500+. Refer to next page for our travel itinerary.

Leguna Seca trip Itinerary (times will may vary):

Day 1. October 9th, 2019

8:00 – Rally at I-80 Exit 99 Flyin J Parking Lot (Lake Point, Tooele)
Hotel in Reno: Best Western Plus Boomtown Casino Hotel (\$98/night) 2100 Garson Road

Day 2. October 10th, 2019

8:00/8:30 – Reno Breakfast (location TBD)
9:30 – Museum tour: National Automobile Museum (Cost = \$14/each)
Hotel in Monterey: Hotel Abrego (~189-239/night) 755 Abrego Street

Day 3-5. October 11-13th, 2019

Event – Miatas at Leguna Seca

Day 6. October 14th, 2019

9:00/9:30 – Monterey Breakfast (Location TBD)
10:00 – 17 mile-drive at Pebble Beach (Cost = 10.25/car)
Hotel in Reno: Best Western Plus Boomtown Casino Hotel (\$98/night) 2100 Garson Road

Day 7. October 15th, 2019

8:00/8:30 – Reno Breakfast (location TBD)
5:00 – Arrive back in Tooele



Please contact the Newsletter Editor or Tonya and Josh Ashment if you are interested in traveling with them!



Moab VI ReCon Drive Recap By: Mike Bailey

We all left Salt Lake Valley for Moab the last weekend in March for our Moab VI ReCon trip to scout out Moab, do some drives, and check out how the roads were, a year before our event will take place. It was snowing and raining when we left and unfortunately most of us had cleaned our Miatas for this trip, expecting somewhat decent weather. Crossing Soldier Summit on Hwy. 6 was very slushy and messy and we had to be careful going over the pass. Once we arrived in Moab the weather was real nice.

We had a great time together and went on several different drives in different groups. We had a good turnout of about 10 cars, one being an OTM (other than Miata) with Christy and Ainsley. We ate at Pasta Jay's in downtown Moab on Friday night. Moab City was very busy with lots of traffic. I think we are glad that our hotel resort venue for Moab VI will be out at Red Cliffs Lodge and away from the busy downtown area.



On Saturday, some of the group drove to Arches and had a fun drive, some short hikes, and lunch there in the park. Others went to Newspaper Rock and had fun there, while Vaughn's went down to around the Four Corners area. We came back and rested up and had some fun conversations on Vredeveld's patio with a great backdrop of the bluffs and Colorado River in the backyard. Doyle, Mechlings and Baileys drove to Dead Horse Point as the sun was setting but got there late when it was already getting dark. Robert and Sharon stayed and took in the dark sky and stars.

On Sunday we left for home and

many of us drove through Nine Mile Canyon after we got to Wellsville and filled up our tanks. It was an awesome drive up Nine Mile and we all enjoyed seeing many petroglyphs there. This short weekend trip was lots of fun. We hope this gets you excited for the Miatas in Moab event! **Refer to page 11 for registration details.**



Miatas In Moab VI - April 30-May 2, 2020

This is our 6^t Edition of Miatas in Moab

**Utah Club Members Register Now and book your room!
Registration is opening up to other Miata Clubs May 1st.**



Register Now to Jim/Margie Newson at jnoose@icloud.com

Registration Fee: \$140.00 per person

Registration Form on-line, Pay by check. Address to send check and registration is on the registration form: Go to www.utahmiataclub.org. Click Moab link

Your registration fee includes the following: Participation in all event activities and drives, event lanyard/ name badge, event goodie bag, event pin and commemorative logo T-Shirt, welcome BBQ, grand prime rib dinner buffet banquet Saturday night, participation in Miata photo shoot and car show, etc.

See Lodge information below to book your room. Discounted Rate is \$199.95/night + tax for River King and Creekside Queen Suites. Note: One night's advance payment will be required including Hotel tax and fees upon booking room.

Host Hotel: Red Cliff's Lodge Resort on scenic Colorado River

Mile 14, Hwy. 128, Moab, Utah 84532 phone 435-259-2002 Toll Free: 1-866-812-2002
www.redcliffslodge.com. Mention Miatas in Moab, hosted by Utah Miata Club.

Experience Scenic Drives in beautiful Red Rock Country, State & National Parks, Fabulous Meals, Group Photo Shoot, Car Show, Games, Parties, Pin Exchange, Prizes, Give-Aways, Commemorative Logo Apparel for Sale, Goodie Bags. Thursday Evening Welcome Party & Socializing. Make new Miata Friends!





Come join us in Miataland, Italy August 20 – 26, 2020



Drive Miatas in Italy's North Central scenic Mountains



See famous Italian sights rom Rome to Venice in between

Sail around the Boot of Italy on Viking Sea:

8 days: Aug.26–Sept. 2 Contact Karen Christiansen to book this trip or for additional information:

801-483-5233 kchristiansen@morrismurdock.com

Land Tour Deposit is Due NOW! Contact Karen for information.





2019 Calendar of Events



Monthly Lunch Meeting Schedule:

- May 4th:** Monthly lunch and meeting (**12:00 NOON**, Star Café in Clearfield, Antelope Island) – Lenny & Shauna Millgate, Steve Beckstead
- June 1st:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, Maddox, Promontory Summit), Refer to page 6– Robert & Sharon Mechling
- July 13th:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, Murray Park, annual club picnic) – Steve & Ronda Beckstead
- August 3rd:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, TBD, Mirror Lake drive) – Amy Beckstead
- Sept 7th:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, TBD) – Mark & Susan Vaughn
- Oct 5th:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, TBD) – Doyle & Val Sturm
- Nov 2nd:** Monthly lunch and meeting (11:30 am, TBD) – Mike & Lynn Bailey
- Dec 7th:** Holiday party and meeting (Time & location TBD) – Mike & Lynn Bailey

Other Events and Drives :

- June 17:** Wasatch Back Drive, Refer to page 7—Jan and Ken Jaworski
- July 24-28:** Durango, Silverton, Ouray, CO drive, Refer to page 7 – Amy Beckstead
- Aug 17-18:** Car show in Alpine, WY, Refer to page 8– need a drive leader
- Sept 27-29:** Torrey and Bryce Canyon drive Refer to page 8—Eric & Kathy Kankainen
- Oct TBD:** Possible Halloween Party— Ken & Jan Jaworski

Additional local and non-local drives and events:

- Laguna Seca, Miata 30th Anniversary, Monterey, CA (Oct 10—12) Refer to page 9– Tonya & Josh Ashment
- Bluebonnet Texas Club Rally, Fredericksburg, TX (September 20—22) - Mark & Susan Vaughn
- Fall For New England, Mass Miata Club, (September 16-27) - Mike Bailey

2020 Events

- Miatas in Moab VI (April 30—May 2, 2020) Refer to page 11 —Utah Miata Club
- Miataland Italy (August 20—Sept 2, 2020) Refer to page 12 —Mike Bailey
- Buggies & Bridges III (Sept 24—27, 2020) Refer to UMC website or www.pacemiataclub.org - Pace Miata Club



Candid Camera

By Mike Bailey

This month's candid camera photos taken at Legend's Motorcycle Museum and Moab VI ReCon Trip to Moab.


SMILE
YOU'RE
 ON
CANDID
CAMERA

