



February 2018

## Letter from the President



Dear Club Members,

As most of you know we had a highly successful 2017 and we look forward to an even better 2018. Now that the holiday season is behind us we can look forward to an event filled winter and spring. New events and rides are sure to please the majority of the club. I personally would like to see every member attend every event. I am aware of the fact that most of us have busy schedules. In reality I can only hope that every member can attend a few events each quarter plus as many lunches and our monthly dinner meetings as their schedules permit.

The month of January brought us our first monthly in home dinner meeting, hosted by Cynthia and Curtis Wood. Curtis is our 2018 treasurer. I want to thank the Wood family for graciously opening their home to our club. The dinner BBQ was a big success Thank You Wood family! We will be looking to other club members to host our future in home dinner meetings. At the current time we expect to have monthly dinner meetings rotate between our members' homes and local restaurants in the greater Phoenix area.

I also want to remind everyone to check out our "Concours at Fountain Hills" car show and "Charity Event" held this February 10<sup>th</sup>. In fountain Hills. Please see our Meetup page for additional information. Our participation in this event sends a loud and clear message to the Greater Phoenix community. We want everyone to know that Phoenix has a strong and viable Miata club. And the Miata is still an important and viable sport car.

Also, your Board of Directors still has two vacant BOD positions. One is the Membership coordinator and the second is the position of Secretary. Please contact me at [president@sahuaromiataclub](mailto:president@sahuaromiataclub) if you have interest in filling these two positions. We need your help and assistance, please help keep our club strong.

Warm Regards,  
Jeff Morris



LETTER FROM  
THE EDITOR

February is starting off with two events in the first ten days. First, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> is Canyon Lake and Tortilla Flat Run followed on the 10<sup>th</sup> with the Concours In The Hills fundraiser. Details on these and future events is posted on our Meetup page.

With the start of the new year, I'm once again putting the call out for articles and suggestions that can be used in the newsletter. Send your suggestions to me at [editor@sahuaromiataclub.com](mailto:editor@sahuaromiataclub.com).

Finally, I want to wish Art a speedy recovery from his "ladder mishap". Art broke several ribs but with the excellent care he's receiving from Iris I expect him behind the wheel soon.

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## **VP/Events Coordinator Report Updated After January 11 2018 Meeting**

### **Upcoming Events**

2/3 Canyon Lake Lunch & Tortilla Flat Run, Mark Kucera Host

2/10 Concours In The Hills, Jeff Morris Host

### **Events In Planning**

Verde Canyon Railroad Sun Down Ride (July 8, or August 5), Hope and Becky Shaw want to plan this, they will contact Larry Lloyd to discuss.

Lunch And Run To the Summit Of South Mountain, Feb 24, 10 AM, Terye & Dave Carney

Run To The North Country, Undefined, Date Undetermined, Terye & Mike Vax

Event With Tucson Miata Club, Undefined, Date Undetermined, Terye

Laughlin Run, Ed Raker, Possibly In April

Flyin Miata Summer Camp, Tom Taylor, June 19 to 25<sup>th</sup>

Miata's At Mazda Raceway, Tom Taylor, September 15 & 16

Mike Parr Tech Day Spring Event – No date or subject planned at this time.

Bisbee Shady Dell Trailer Park Run – Curtis Wood interested in hosting this run in the Fall 2018.

Devil's Highway Run October 5, 6, 7. Hope wants to make reservations and Mark K. may host and lead the cars on the road. Need to discuss which hotel(s) to use and where to have group meals.

Pima Air And Space Museum, Boneyard Tour, and Titan 2 Missile Silo – Curtis Wood is interested in planning & hosting this run. No date yet.

Hope Morris wants to plan an event to "Haunted Hamburger" restaurant in Jerome around Halloween.

**Monthly Meetings**

January, Wood's Home  
February, Undetermined  
March - Undetermined  
April, Undetermined (Should we make this a Spring Picnic meeting?)  
May, Home Undetermined

**NOTES:**

Rick Pasquale may be willing to host an event  
Becky Shaw told Mark that they may be willing to host a monthly meeting at their house.

**Mark's Ideas For Future Events**

Tech Day Garage Events For Car Work  
Track Day At Arizona Motorsports Park, January 20, Arthur Stromberg going, ask him to host  
Track Day Events (Find A Regular Participant To Host)  
Motorcycle Museum At Buddy Stubbs Harley Davidson Dealership & Lunch, Mark K Host  
Penske Racing Museum, 7125 E Chauncey Ln, Phoenix, AZ, & Lunch, Mark K Host  
El Gato Azul Restaurant, Prescott, Dale Strickland Investigating  
Repeat Previous Run.

**Event Ideas Proposed By Members (But Not Offered To Host)**

Arizona Open Wheel Racing Museum, 3534 E Broadway Rd & Lunch, Mark Hirshbeel  
Arcosanti, Cathey Kucera  
Biosphere 2, Paul Gaskill  
Mount Lemon, Mark Kucera

"Life begins at the end of your comfort zone" says Neale Donald Walsch. Try hosting a club run and live a little.

**Mark Kucera**

2018 Sahuaro Miata Club Vice President and Events Coordinator

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**Not available for publication were the minutes from Board of Director's Meeting on January 11th, 2018 and the General Meeting/BBQ held on January 13th, 2018.**

# FLASHBACK

In **2007**, Phoenix was one of eleven cities to take part in the introduction of the new Miata NC. The car was brought to the fire station at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, and Glendale where a group of Miata enthusiasts had a chance to see and sit in the car.



On January 20<sup>th</sup>, **Rick Pasquale** hosted an afternoon event at Octane Speedway where 12 members were able to participate in a 14 lap race on a 1/3 mile course. The winner of the race was Tom Shaw. Congratulations Tom!!



# RACE RESULTS

**Saguaro Miata Club**

Linda (Linda Killian)  
**9th Place**  
 Racing Performance  
 Measurement(ProSkill)1125 Ranked756804 of  
 772545 (2.04 %) Racer since: 1/20/2018. 1st visit, 1st race  
 Laptimes (Adult 10/10) 1/20/2018 4:00 PM

Octane  
 01-74.067 02-65.593 03-64.170 04-59.310 05-55.442  
 06-55.253 07-54.099

P. Racer	Best Lap	#Lap	Avg.	Gap	ProSkill
1 Tom Shaw	33.633	10	37.942	-	1285 (+85)
2 Rick	33.683	10	37.464	0.050	1265 (+65)
3 Zaphod	34.010	10	37.171	0.377	1245 (+45)
4 SERGIO	35.156	9	40.099	1.523	1225 (+25)
5 Zippy	35.497	9	40.295	1.864	1205 (+5)
6 Clarence Taylor	35.591	9	42.537	1.958	1160 (-15)
7 what ever	43.121	8	48.182	9.488	1165 (-35)
8 martha purfeerst	54.000	7	59.269	20.367	1145 (-55)
9 Linda	54.099	7	58.978	20.466	1125 (-75)

**Winner: Tom Shaw**

Top ProSkill Overall	ProSkill	Best of The Week	Time
1 Michael Gallardo	4618	1 KCLAY	10.850
2 arizonabadazz	4518	2 Topher	28.320
3 Evan Gricunas	4318	3 BP	28.360

*Anthony  
Diane  
Tim  
Rick's dad*



## **Motorcycle Museum Tour and Lunch**

10 Club members enjoyed a very interesting tour of the Buddy Stubb's Harley-Davidson dealership motorcycle museum after having a tasty lunch at Bootlegger's Smokehouse.

After lunch, Mark led the group to Buddy Stubb's Harley-Davidson, where we were privileged to meet Buddy Stubbs. Buddy gave us a tour of his 132 motorcycle collection and told us about his interesting motorcycling industry career. Buddy's grew up in his father's Harley dealership, so it was only natural for Buddy to start his own Harley business, which he has been running for 52 years. He started racing motorcycles as a kid and continued doing so to adulthood. He raced road race and dirt track bikes at a professional level, winning major races, notably the Daytona 100 race. He also worked as a Hollywood stuntman. We saw a picture of Buddy on a motorcycle with Bob Hope riding on the back of Buddy's motorcycle. Buddy was also a personal friend of Evil Kenevil. Buddy's collection includes a replica of the Triumph motorcycle that Evil attempted to jump over the fountains, and crashed, at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.

The motorcycle collection has bikes from 10 different countries, and 37 different manufactures. The collection spans the history of Harley-Davidson, and also features rare models from AJS, BMW, BSA, Triumph, Zundapp, Indian, and more. From the earliest examples of street bikes to racing bikes from the 30's, 40's and 50's, the museum's collection is the largest in the Southwest. Along with Harley-Davidson bikes dating as far back as the original 1903 model, the museum also features a large selection of Triumph bikes spanning several decades. All the bikes are in working order today.

We all found Buddy very personable and interesting. He had lots of interesting stories about his collection of motorcycles and his life experiences. Stop by his dealership and museum at 13850 N Cave Creek Rd in Phoenix for a tour of his collection.

This event was hosted by **Mark Kucera** on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Preceding the tour the group met for lunch at Bootleggers Modern American Smokehouse on Shea Blvd.

Attending were: Jeff Morris, Mark & Cathey Kucera, Martha Purfeerst, Dale Strickland, Roger Petterson, Rick Pasquale and Ted & Cindy Tate.

Also pictured with the group is Buddy Stubb.





# Tech Tips



Here's a tech tip for owners of ND Miatas with stick shift that I'll guess many don't know.

If you want to make a quick start from a standing stop in your stick shift ND MX-5, you must disengage the Hill Assist before you launch. You may have noticed your stick shift ND doesn't roll backward for a second or two on a hill when you let off the brakes. That is the Hill Assist holding the brakes on for a moment. If the Hill Assist is engaged, which it will be if you used the brakes to stop the car, the car will stumble away from the start if you rev it up and pop the clutch out because the brakes are on for just a moment. You won't be able to spin the tires or accelerate like you would expect.

The way to quick launch is; once you get your car stopped take your foot off of the brake, put the car into neutral then put it back into first gear without touching the brake pedal. If you are on an incline/decline where the car won't stay in place, use the e-brake to keep yourself staged. Now rev it up and go!

**Mark Kucera**

2018 Sahuaro Miata Club Vice President and Events Coordinator

## Our Mission

The Mission of the Sahuaro Miata Club is to increase the fun of driving and owning a Mazda MX-5 Miata. This is achieved by combining fun runs and outings that allow us to take advantage of our roadsters phenomenal performance. Through meetings, meals and activities we meet like minded club members. We share our Miata experiences and develop friendships along the way that makes us all proud to be Miata owners and members of the Sahuaro Miata Club.

Serving the Greater Phoenix Miata Community



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Hello, my name is **Merle Matich** and here is a picture of me and my 2008 Miata.

Not together. I just purchased the vehicle and have had not too much time with her yet. I just joined the club on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

I am living in Prescott Valley after moving from Chandler 3 years ago. I was living there for 13 years until the heat and mundane routine got to the best of me.

I was diagnosed with cancer in 2015 and this got me thinking to get out and enjoy life a little more. So here I am in phase 2. Buying a Convertible and getting back into relaxing and having a hobby.

Before Chandler I lived in Tucson for 20 plus years. I was brought to Tucson by the way of the Air Force. I was stationed there for 3 years. Moved around another 4 years in the Air Force then got out and moved back to Arizona. Here I am still in Arizona and loving the weather, people and great outdoor activities.

I have 3 grown children. Two still in Tucson. One moving from Utah to Prescott Valley soon, they are closing on a house this month. My parents are still living and they moved back in with me 5 years ago.

So, we have a combined sandwich generation situation. Since I am single, this is fine with me and gives me time to help them while I still can. My Dad loves cars and I am hoping the Miata will bring back some fun memories for him. He regales me with his convertible stories when he was stationed in Tucson back in the 50's . My Mom does not understand the passion for cars but goes along with it and enjoys the top down fun factor with a smile on her face as we go for a cruise. Time with family and friends are important. This new adventure with the Miata Club is much needed and looking forward to new friends and exciting times !

# 2018 Board Members

## **President:**

Jeff Morris

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## **Vice President / Event Coordinator**

Mark Kucera

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## **Secretary**

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to our Sponsors!



Russ Bartels	1/22/18
Nadine Lockhart	1/13/18
Genevive Rivera	1/10/18
Merle Matich	1/07/18

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Please e-mail stories and articles for consideration in WORD format. Pictures and graphics should be in JPEG format.

Send all submissions to:  
[editor@sahuaromiataclub.com](mailto:editor@sahuaromiataclub.com)

# LAST LAUGH

## How To Drive In Phoenix:

1. You must first learn to pronounce the city name, it is FEE-NICKS. There are other names to learn such as Awatukee (Ah-wa-Too-Kee) but that will be included in the advanced course.
2. The morning rush hour is from 5:00 am to noon. The evening rush hour is from noon to 7:00 pm. Friday's rush hour starts on Thursday morning.
3. The minimum acceptable speed on most freeways is 85 mph. On Loop 101, your speed is expected to at least match the highway number. Anything less is considered "Wussy".
4. Forget the traffic rules you learned elsewhere. Phoenix has its own version of traffic rules. For example: cars/trucks with the loudest muffler go first at a four-way stop; the trucks with the biggest tires go second. However, East Valley, SUV-driving, cell-phone-talking moms ALWAYS have the right of way.
5. If you actually stop at a yellow light, you will be rear ended, cussed out, and possibly shot.
6. Never honk at anyone. Ever. Seriously. It's another offense that can get you shot.
7. Road construction is permanent and continuous in Phoenix. Detour barrels are moved around for your entertainment pleasure during the middle of the night to make the next day's driving a bit more exciting.
8. Maricopa Freeway, Papago Freeway and the 'I-10' are the same road. SR202 is the same road as the Red Mountain FWY. Dunlap and Olive are the same street too. Jefferson becomes Washington, but they are not the same street. SR101 is also the Pima FWY except west of I-17, which is also The Black Canyon FWY, and The Veterans Memorial HWY. Lastly, Thunderbird Rd. becomes Cactus Rd. But, Cactus Rd. doesn't become Thunderbird Rd. because it dead ends at a mountain.
9. If someone actually has a turn signal on, wave them to the shoulder immediately to let them know it has been accidentally activated.
10. If you are in the left lane and only driving 70 in a 55-65 mph zone, you are considered a road hazard and will be "flipped off" accordingly. If you return the flip, you'll be shot.
11. For summer driving, it is advisable to wear potholders on your hands.