



# Road Runners

November 2018

## Letter from the President



Hello! I trust everyone is having a great October and getting ready for our upcoming holiday season. Before I go any further, I want to take a moment to thank Mark Kucera and Hope Morris for hosting an absolutely great Devil's Highway run. You will read more about it here in this month's newsletter. (Thanks to Paul Gaskill for his continued great efforts as our club Editor.)

This month I would like to talk to you about two areas that are important to all of us. Our "Sponsors" and two important "Board Positions" that must be filled. Did you know that we have a sponsor page that is located on Meetup? Please visit the sponsor page by going to our Meetup page

<https://www.meetup.com/Sahuaro-MX5-Miata-Club/> and click on the "More" tab. A drop down box will have a list of options including "Sponsors". Click on that link and you will find a list of our sponsors including our old favorites such as Berge and Cardinale Way Mazda dealerships, Green Automotive service center, Ozbras clear bras, Anytime Dent Repair and John Clement's Go Green Body and Paint.

We have a new service center Soulless Performance in Gilbert that focuses on performance mods for our Miata's. Member Tom Murray had them recently install an Edelbrock Supercharger on his ND RF. Please look for a bio of Soulless Performance in an upcoming issue of our newsletter. Tom Murray was kind enough to meet me at Soulless Performance. There I met the owners Melissa and Travis along with their Master Mechanic Dustin. Soulless has their own dynamometer! They can assist us in mods to our vehicles and install tunes to improve the performance of our cars. They even offered to drop a large block V8 in your Miata if you wish. We have needed a tuner in the Phoenix area that would work with us. Soulless Performance is now a club sponsor. Soulless can perform everything from oil changes to installing that exotic product we purchase from Good-Win-Racing and Flying Miata. Please look for more on Soulless Performance in the coming months.

My second area of discussion is regarding open board positions. At this point we have two positions that must be filled, President and Vice President/Events Coordinator. These are two critical positions that must be filled. You will find more about the duties of these two positions elsewhere in this newsletter. I would very much appreciate it if anyone who is interested in either of these positions contact me as soon as possible. I can answer virtually any question regarding both positions. I can tell you that I have enjoyed the position of president over these last two years. I have garnered great satisfaction in being a part of a board of directors that has continued to mold the Sahuaro Miata Club into the fine organization it is today. You may contact me at [president@sahuaromiataclub](mailto:president@sahuaromiataclub) or call me at 808-269-6693. As noted, these two very important positions must be filled prior to our December 8<sup>th</sup> Christmas holiday party.

As always, warm regards and I hope to see you soon!  
Jeff Morris

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LETTER FROM  
THE EDITOR

Now that it's finally cooled down the time is now to get out and enjoy the sights of Arizona in our Miatas.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> is the Veteran's Day Parade followed by the Sunday Social on the 18<sup>th</sup>. For you Italian food lovers, join Tony for the NW lunch at Anzio's on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Anzio's is a hidden gem serving Northwest Phoenix for over 35 years at 28<sup>th</sup> Drive and Cactus.

As you know I plan on stepping down as editor after the December issue. It's my hope that someone will step up and take control of the publication of the letter going forward. Please contact Jeff or myself with any questions.

Finally, I along with my proofreaders, Art and Iris wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Paul

Officer and Director Duties  
Sahuaro Chapter, Miata Club of America

**All board positions are expected to do the following in addition to the specific job responsibilities listed below:**

1. Greet and spend time with new and existing members at events.
2. Assist in developing some event plans, and/or host some events.
3. Attend board meetings.
4. Attend as many club events as possible

## President

1. Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
  - a. Prepare the agenda and preside at Board Meetings, Membership, and Special Meetings
2. Responsible for assigning committee chairmen, as needed- non voting BOD positions
  - a. Communications
  - b. Newsletter
  - c. Webmaster
  - d. Photographer
3. Know each Officer's responsibilities and duties.
4. Maintain good communications with the Officers/Directors and Committee Chairmen to keep on top of everything.
5. Chair the Annual Meeting (Elections).
  - a. Responsible for election procedures from nominating committee to actual election tabulating and reporting results.
6. Chair the Christmas Party
  - a. Prepare the agenda
  - b. Select the awards for the Officers/Directors
7. Introduce new members and recognize out of town members at all events.
8. Supervise all Officers/Directors and Committees
  - a. Make certain they are in compliance with their responsibilities.
9. Adhere to Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation

## Vice President And Events Coordinator

1. Promote event development, hosting, and participation to all members.
2. Develop some event plans, and host some events.
3. Report to the board on all event ideas, events in planning, and events scheduled at each board meeting.
4. Offer assistance to members with event planning, posting, and execution.
5. Keep a list of event ideas submitted by members and make the list available to members.
6. Review and approve all events prior to posting and announcement.
7. Submit events to the board for approval prior to posting.
8. Maintain the events listing in Meetup.
9. Post and announce events as far in advance as possible for publication in Meetup, website, newsletter, or other electronic media.
10. Know the other Officers and Directors duties and responsibilities
11. Take over in the absence of the President.
12. Appoint a board member to perform VP duties in your absence.

Officer and Director Duties  
Sahuaro Chapter, Miata Club of America

## Non-Voting committee members

### Webmaster

1. Maintain website (www.sahuaromiataclub.com) and changes as necessary.
  - a. Coordinate payment method and contact information as changes occur.
  - b. Update pages as requested by board members.
  - c. Assist Marketing to get information on new items or sale items.
2. Maintain access to the Sahuaro-MX5-Miata-Club meetup site.
  - a. New requests – send info to Membership for followup.
  - b. Membership/Treasurer inform of new paid membership to update or send out meetup access request.
  - c. Assist members in how to access and use meetup.
3. Monitor Facebook groups as needed. Evaluate join requests to both Interest group and Buy/Sell group. Send prospective names to Membership for followup.

### Newletter Editor

1. Create newsletter at a frequency as directed by the board.
  - a. Obtain articles for publication
    - i. President's letter
    - ii. VP Events Letter
    - iii. Publication of events
    - iv. Other letter/memos/newsworthy articles
    - v. List new members
    - vi. Acknowledge special occasions or happenings.
2. Editor determines the deadline for articles.
3. Organize articles, format, and publish.
4. Send draft newsletter to proof readers prior to final submission.
5. Send final PDF version to Webmaster for distribution to membership.



# Club Events

## **September Club Social / Sunday Brunch At Anacapa Restaurant In The Northwest Valley**

**The** Sahuaro Miata Club met for their September club social at the Anacapa Restaurant in Corte Bella Country Club on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. There were 27 members were in attendance with the most notable being a 82 year old member, who drove all the way from Yuma to attend.

After a few items of club business which were voted on by the club, attendees enjoyed a delicious breakfast buffet including a made to order omelet station and a wide variety of buffet items. The restaurant not only provided us with our own room at no fee but also exceptional and friendly service.

Martha Purfeerst did her usual excellent job with club merchandise. Our new club banner was also an excellent addition to our social. Everyone had a great time and Bob Benoit volunteered that if the club wanted to return either for a Sunday buffet or a normal meal in the restaurant that he would be happy to organize the event.

**Submitted by Bob Benoit**

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## **Devil's Highway 2018**

Fall is in the air, and with that, our club starts off October with an amazing Devil's Highway run! We had a record number of participants this year – a total of 26 Miatas, including 5 vehicles from the San Diego Miata Club.

We started the run on Friday 10/5 at 3 different locations in the valley, and then drove to Springerville, AZ. The Apache Junction group had a lunch stop in Globe and scenic trip through Whiteriver, AZ on our way to Springerville. The Fountain Hills group met up with the Camp Verde group in Payson and then stopped in Heber for lunch at the Red Onion before continuing onward to Springerville. We had a group dinner in Eager, AZ and socialized in the hotel lobby that evening.

Saturday morning, we divided into 2 groups – the fast and furious ones and the smart and cautious ones. Both groups took off from the hotel, and followed our route through the western side of New Mexico, then back into Arizona for a lunch stop at Michelle’s Bar and Grill. . After lunch, we had a photo op at the overlook to the copper mine.

The fast and furious group took off and ventured up Hwy 191 – previously known as Hwy 666 (Devil’s Highway). Then the smart ones followed by the cautious ones! It was a fantastic day – the convertible tops were down, and the sun was out. Everyone had a chance to drive this route at their speed while stopping at any scenic overlook they desired. This road is filled with 460 curves and turns and enough excitement to satisfy any Miata driver.

After our return to Springerville, the evening was complemented with our tales of the road at the BBQ!

But the excitement didn’t stop there.... After perfect weather on Friday and Saturday, we encountered the worst of conditions Sunday morning. Snow and sleet on the road back to the valley! Thankfully, our driving skills were honed perfectly and everyone made it back safe and sound!

It was a great weekend, and everyone who participated had a wonderful time. Check out the photos and see just how much fun we all had!

## **Hope Morris**













# **High Performance Driving Experience**

**On Saturday, October 20th**, 9 members of the Sahuaro Miata Club attended the High Performance Driving Experience at the Arizona Motorsports Park. The event was organized by ProAutoSports. AMP is located on Camelback Rd. in Litchfield Park. In addition to the 8 Miatas belonging to club members (I rode to the track, so I did not bring my Miata) there were several other Miatas participating in the day's activities. Mark Kucera, the club event host, estimated that there were more Miatas in attendance than any other make/model, which supports the MAZDA advertising of more MAZDA's are raced on weekends than any other car model. The Miatas ranged from street stock to full race and were divided into different sessions accordingly.

If you ever wanted to learn to drive your MX-5 on a race track these programs are a great opportunity. ProAutoSports HPDE events are professionally run and relatively safe (there was one incident with a Porsche Boxster). You will get classroom instruction before you go out on the track and after each 20 minute on-track session. Instructors ride with you for all track sessions providing personalized coaching to keep you safe and make sure you have a great time. All skill level drivers (including first-timers) and all makes and models of vehicles are welcome.

If you have not attend this type of event you are encouraged to attend such an event in the future. There is no expectation that you register and drive to enjoy the event. If you plan to attend as a spectator there is no admission charge. Pack a cooler and bring some lawn chairs. There are lively discussions before and after all sessions. This is a great opportunity to mingle with other enthusiasts and get a close-up look at some nice cars. Please check the **Meetup** calendar for future events (on **Friday, November 23, 2018** there will be an event at Wild Horse Pass Motorsport Park). Hope to see you there. **Ron Spannraft**

**Personal note**, please accept my apologies if I failed to take a photograph of your car while on track. Try as I might, I don't always succeed in capturing an image of all cars on track.





# New Club Event Banner

Here is a photo of the new club event banner that was approved by the Board Members. This will be used at club events, car shows etc. to advertise the club.



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On October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Back Burner Cafe in Prescott, two members were presented with Event Leader Recognition awards for events they led.

**Larry Lloyd** earned his award, a navy tee shirt with “Event Leader 2018” embroidered on the left sleeve, for his run to Pine on August 3<sup>rd</sup> with lunch at That Brewery & Pub.

**Dale Strickland** earned his award, a forest green tee shirt with “Event Leader 2018” embroidered on the left sleeve for his August 24<sup>th</sup> Jazz Concert at Prescott Elks Theater Event.

Congratulations to Larry and Dale for hosting two fun events. Who’s next to be recognized.



**Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Prescott Valley 1<sup>st</sup> Friday lunch at Leff-T's Steak House & Grill

**Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>** - Board Meeting

**Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>** - Veteran's Day Parade

**Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>** - NW Valley lunch at Anzio's Italian restaurant

**Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>** - Sunday Social Lunch Buffet at Casino Arizona

**Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>** - SE Valley lunch at Chase's Diner

**Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>** - High Performance Driver Education at Wild Horse Pass Motor Park

**Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>** - Board Meeting

**Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>** - Prescott Valley 1<sup>st</sup> Friday lunch at Backburner Family Cafe

**Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>** - Holiday Party & Club Elections

**Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>** - NW Valley lunch at Dillion's

**Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>** - Holiday Dinner & Lights Tour

**Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>** - SW Valley lunch at McFate Brewing Co.

Information on these and other events can be found on **Meetup**.



## 2018 Board Members

### **President:**

Jeff Morris

president@sahuaromiataclub.com

### **Vice President / Event Coordinator**

Mark Kucera

vpevents@sahuaromiataclub.com

### **Secretary**

Tim Kroll

secretary@sahuaromiataclub.com

### **Treasurer**

Curtis Wood

treasurer@sahuaromiataclub.com

### **Membership**

Cathleen Kucera

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### **Marketing**

Martha Purfeerst

marketing@sahuaromiataclub.com

### **Member At Large**

None

memberatlarge@sahuaromiataclub.com

### **Editor**

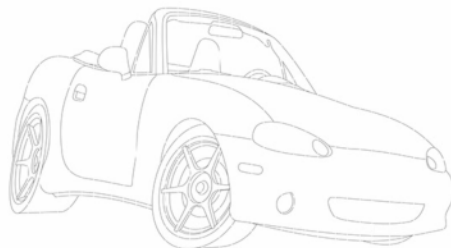
Paul Gaskill

editor@sahuaromiataclub.com

## **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



A BIG Thanks  
to our Sponsors!

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ADR  
ANYTIME DENT REPAIR

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BODY & PAINT

LAST LAUGH

