



October 2017

Letter from the President



A note from our President:

Dear Club Members,

It is with much pride that I am the first President after many years to address our Club through this new and exciting newsletter. Much thanks go out to our BOD (Board of directors), club members and most of all to our Club Editor Paul Gaskill. Months ago I sent out an invitation to the Club for someone to take on the responsibility for our club newsletter. Paul contacted the BOD and the rest is history. Thank You Paul for your efforts!

This month I wish to welcome all of our new members and thank our existing club members for making our club such a terrific organization. Three things I wish to bring to your attention:

- Elections for our 2018 BOD. If you wish to become a member of our BOD please contact me or any board member and let us know what positions you may be interested in. Currently our board consists of a President, Vice President/Events Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, Merchandise Coordinator and Member at Large. In order to have a thriving and growing club, we must maintain an enthusiastic BOD. Please let us know what position you are interested in. Look for the election date on our Meetup page.

- Monthly Dinner meetings. This is one of the most important monthly events we can have. Our Treasurer Tony Munro had come up with the idea of a monthly dinner meeting from his experience with the Blue Bonnet Miata Club in San Antonio Texas. Monthly dinners will allow us as a group to meet our fellow Club members. We will also enjoy and benefit from monthly speakers on a range of topics. “What have you done to your Miata?” will be of special interest. Raffles, door prizes and more await our members. Plus, this will be the time of the month you can purchase merchandise from our Merchandise coordinator, Martha Purfeerst. Martha is now using these monthly meetings to provide our club goodies for all to see. I hope you will look on our Meetup page, find out about these dinners and attend whenever your schedule permits.
- “Concours at Fountain Hills”. This is a special event that is truly near and dear to my heart. Once a year in February The Scuderia Car Club puts on this very special event. The 2018 Concours at Fountain Hills will be supporting the Phoenix Children’s Hospital. Last year they raised \$95,000 for the clubs. Concours has not had a Miata presence in six years. My goal is for the SMC along with the assistance of our club sponsors and Mazda North America to let the greater Phoenix area know just how great our MX-5 Miata’s are! This is an excellent opportunity to let everyone know the MX-5 Miata is alive and well, make everyone aware of our club and support the Phoenix Children’s Hospital. Please check our Meetup page for more information on this February 10, 2018 event.

Once again I thank everyone for making our club the great organization it is!
Zoom Zoom, Jeff Morris president@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



LETTER FROM
THE EDITOR

There was a lot of discussion as to whether or not it was possible to bring back the newsletter. As you can see it is and I'm glad to have a part in developing it into a newsletter that we will all enjoy. The goal is to make our newsletter the voice of the club where you can read about events, see photos of members and their cars, stay up to date about what took place at the monthly meetings and anything else related to the club. To do this I'm asking for your help with article submissions, suggestions for features you'd like to see and any general comments.

The newsletter will compliment the Meetup site which is where you will still get information regarding upcoming events. The newsletter will be able to embellish on the activities held during the month.

If you have a article that you would like to have considered for publication please send it in WORD format . Photos taken at events are also welcomed. Please send them in as a JPEG file. Deadline for submissions for the next months issue is the 20th of the month.

One of the features in the newsletter will be a member bio page. Two or three members will be featured each month. Please submit a short bio along with a photo telling us what part of the valley you live in, activities, hobbies and anything else you want to share about yourself. In this edition you will find bios of Jeff, Tony and myself. Another feature will be introducing new members each month.

The newsletter will be published electronically monthly and sent to your e-mail address on file so check and make sure the club has the correct address.

Remember send your suggestions, photos and comments to :
editor@sahuaromiataclub.com

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Paul Gaskill, editor

Board Members E-Mail

Jeff Morris	president@sahuaromiataclub.com
Mark Kucera	vpevents@sahuaromiataclub.com
Rick Pasquale	secretary@sahuaromiataclub.com
Tony Munro	treasurer@sahuaromiataclub.com
Nancy Cunningham	membership@sahuaromiataclub.com
Martha Purfeerst	marketing@sahuaromiataclub.com
Terye Van Sanford	memberatlarge@sahuaromiataclub.com
Paul Gaskill	editor@sahuaromiataclub.com

MERCHANDISE CORNER

Hi, I'm Martha Purfeerst and I'm making available, by special order, golf/polo shirts that will be embroidered with the Sahuaro Miata Club logo on them. I have three styles to choose from for the men and two for the ladies. I have samples of all styles for you to touch, try on and see an exact color swatch. They all are short sleeve and have collars. One of the men's style has a pocket. It will be like ordering from a catalog but I will do all the paper work. You will pay for them in advance and they will be mailed directly to you. The shirts are \$30 and the pocket shirt is \$35. The shirts are also available in 2X large and 3X Large for \$5 - more each. There is a mailing fee of \$4.00 for one shirt and \$8.00 for two or more shirts. I will bring these samples to every event I attend and will be prepared to take your order. I take cash or check. If you have a PayPal account you can pay through family and friends on PayPal. Just look for my name on the Meetup sign up list and look for me at the event.
marketing@sahuaromiataclub.com



TIMELINE OF THE SAHUARO MIATA CLUB

- May 1989 US deliveries of the first generation (NA) Miata begin, as 1990 model year vehicles.
- Jun 1989 With Mazda's blessing, Norm Garrett, an engineer who worked on the design and development of the Miata created the for profit organization, Miata Club of America (MCA). Mazda provides addresses of Miata purchasers. Dues are \$25 per year, which includes the quarterly *Miata Magazine*. The club eventually grows to an international organization with over 100 chapters and nearly 30,000 members.
- Jul 13, 1989 Carol and Tod Solomon receive delivery of one of the first Miatas in the valley.
- Jun 9, 1991 The Solomon's and the owners of 16 other Miata's meet to form a local chapter of the Miata Club of America. Annie Browning is elected President and was designated member #1. Carol and Tod Solomon are designated member #2.
- Jun 25, 1991 The Sahuaro Chapter, Miata Club of America, holds its first board meeting. Local dues are set at \$25, to be paid each June. Members encouraged to join the national organization too, but not required.
- Jul 8, 1991 The first issue of the chapter newsletter, *Desert Trails*, is published and mailed to each member.
- Aug 1991 Bell Mazda begins longstanding sponsorship of the chapter, hosting tech days, offering discounts, and mailing out the chapter newsletters.
- Feb 22, 1992 The Sahuaro Chapter filed to establish itself as a nonprofit corporation.
- Jun 6, 1992 First annual chapter meeting and picnic. Carol Solomon elected preseedent.
- Jun 1994 Membership in the chapter exceeds 100 vehicles.
- 1997 Garrett and his partner MCA President Vince Tidwell sell *Miata Magazine* for \$250,000.
- Fall 1998 The second generation (NB) Miata is produced for the 1999 model year and by the year 2000 the Miata becomes the greatest selling roadster (2 seat sports car) of all time.
- 2000 With national membership declining and disputes about the remittances not reaching the publisher of *Miata Magazine*, Mazda North America forms the Miata Owners Club (MOC) and assures funding of the magazine. The Miata Club of America (MCA) ceases to function.
- Feb 2000 Local club memberships exceed 200.
- Nov 16, 2000 Tex Earnhardt personally attends club board meeting, offering to sponsor the club. Members given a 15% discount on service, fleet discounts on purchases. Tex given an honorary club membership.
- Feb 2002 Local club reaches all-time high of 266 memberships
- 2002 Mazda discontinues the Miata Owners Club (MOC). Biddulph Miata becomes the club's sponsor.
- 2003 *Miata Magazine* discontinued. After five years of posting the local *Desert Trails* newsletter to the club web site and also distributing via e-mail and the postal service, the paper version is discontinued.
- Jul 2003 Low renewals in Jun 2002 and Jun 2003 as local club memberships drop sharply to 147.
- Fall 2005 Third generation (NC) Miata produced for 2006 model year, temporarily reversing long sales decline.
- Fall 2015 Mazda relies on Fiat to provide critical development funding to produce a fourth generation (ND) Miata for the 2016 model year as well as the Fiat 124 (NE and NF). Sales bump upward, but still only a small fraction of annual first gen (NA) sales.
- Apr 2016 Mazda produces the 1 millionth Miata and sends it on a worldwide tour.
- 2017 Local club celebrates 25 years of continuous operation since incorporation (26 years overall).

Guidelines for Sahuaro Miata Club Runs

The goal is to have an enjoyable day driving your Miata. Everyone's fun will be enhanced by following these simple guidelines.

General

Use common sense and be courteous.

Use Channel 3 on your two-way radio and test radios at the start.

Arrive at the starting point on time with a full tank of gas and a Miata that is in mechanically sound condition.

Be ready to leave on time.

If you are going to meet the group en route or leave the group before the end of the run, notify the run leader in advance or with your two-way radios.

- During the driver briefing, the sweep driver will be identified. Unless it is dark, the sweep car should be the only car with headlights on.
- Do not tailgate. It is up to each driver to establish a safe following distance.
- Each driver should focus on keeping the car behind him in sight. Slow down and let the car behind you catch up. Don't just focus on keeping up with the car in front of you. If everyone keeps the car behind them in sight the group will stay together.
- When stopping to allow others to catch up, make sure you pull completely off the road.
- If you want the group to stop, flash your lights or use your two-way radio. If the car behind you flashes its lights, flash yours until the leader pulls over.
- When we are making a turn and there are two turn lanes, or when we are driving straight through an intersection that has two lanes, use both lanes so we get the entire group through the intersection before the light turns red. Once through the turn or intersection, merge back into a single line.
- Our line of cars should not dominate the road. If others are trying to pass us, let them.
- Keep the car in front of you in visual contact before each road change.

The lead car will establish the pace for the group. If you find yourself falling behind and others are immediately behind you, wave them around and fall back into the pack. The sweep car will insure that you do not get lost. Do try to keep up, but don't drive faster than your comfort level or abilities.

· When passing through a congested area where the group gets separated, we will stop to regroup as soon as safely possible before any turns are made.

Check Meetup site again just before the event to make sure there haven't been any last minute changes.

RADIOS for even more fun on a Miata Run

Even more fun on a Miata run? Participants in recent Sahuaro Miata trips have had great fun communicating with each other on the road via radio/walkie talkie. Many radio models are hands free, so you can easily talk on the radio if you're driving alone and they work even where there's no cell phone service. We want to share helpful information on radios in case other members wanted to consider purchasing a pair.

There are two types of consumer radios/walkie talkies, both work on similar FM UHF frequencies.

- One is an FRS (Family Radio Service) radio. These are lower power (.5 watt) radios with a shorter range.
- The other is GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service). GMRS radios are more powerful providing a longer range. A consequence of this greater power is they can create radio interference, so an FCC license is required. A GMRS license is \$70 for 5 years (though compliance with the licensing requirement appears very low).
- There are also widely available hybrid GMRS/FRS radios. These should be set on low power (.5 watt) on FRS channels, but higher power for GMRS.

All FRS and combination GMRS/FRS radios can communicate with each other on FRS channels. So which brand and model should you buy? That is a matter of personal choice. Two of the larger manufacturers are Motorola and Midland.

- Some of our members own Midland hybrid GMRS/FRS model GXT1000VP4. It is also available in camouflage colors or with yellow accents (GXT1030VP4).

One member recommends Motorola hybrid GMRS/FRS models (T400 and T460).

Meeting at Martins Auto Museum on July 15, 2017





Devil's Highway - 7th Annual





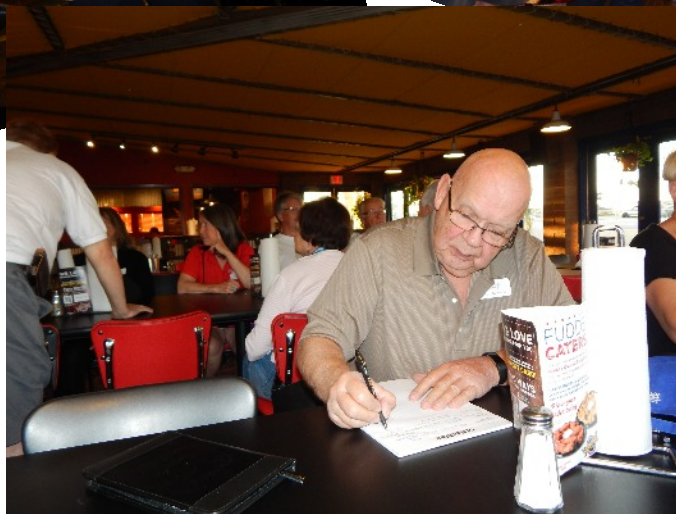


Going clockwise : Scenic break in New Mexico, Alpine, Az., Departing Sat. a.m., Bridges in Morenci, Az., Blue Vista rest area elevation 9000 feet, Scenic overlook in New Mexico.



1st Monthly Dinner Meeting was held at Fuddruckers on Sept. 28th.





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Jeff and Hope resided in central Michigan since 1979. Jeff was the General Manager of a systems Integration Company in central Michigan and Hope was a Quality Engineer for General Motors retiring in 2014 after almost 35 years. In fact, the same day Hope retired from GM, Jeff and Hope found themselves driving to Queen Creek where they now reside. In life, we are usually defined by our careers. However both Jeff and Hope have many non-work related interests. And, they try hard to not let their occupations become obsessions. Jeff has always had a fascination with Photography, Music and Movies. As a young man, automobiles, typically of the small British variety were an important interest in Jeff's after hour ventures. However, due to a lack of time his car interests took a back seat until he purchased his NC Miata in 2016.

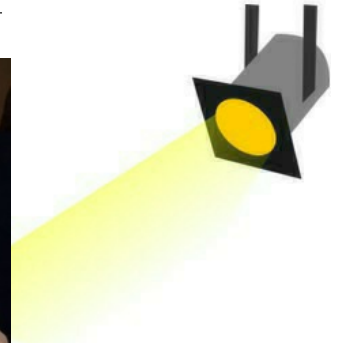
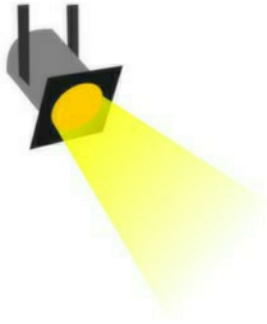
Hope has always had numerous interests. Her main love has always been sewing, primarily embroidery. Through the years Hope's interests and passions have included Stamping and other crafts. However her love of Glass Fusing had also given Hope a second serious obsession, glass working. Hope has won numerous awards. She is also very proficient in the art of Japanese Kumihimo braiding. Her Kumihimo necklaces are amazing and they showcase her glass work.

Together Jeff and Hope have a number of ventures. Jeff is the General Manager of "Maui Home technologies" specializing in custom home technology. Hope is the owner of "Made by Hope", which showcases her artwork. Together, Jeff and Hope own "Cactapaws" which is their Embroidery and Marketing venture.

They reside in Queen Creek with their two Pomeranians Raven and Kimba. Their daughter Nae resides in Portland Oregon.

Both Jeff and Hope are thrilled to be a part of the Sahuaro Miata Club and appreciate all of the new friends they have made through the club.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Tony Munro is the treasurer of our club and currently lives with his wife Cindee in the far Northwest Valley. He previously was a vice president at the Valley National Bank till 1990, then ran a business in San Antonio, Texas until 2012 when he retired.

He is on his fourth Miata and enjoys being a part of the club as he did with the Bluebonnet Miata Club in San Antonio, which he is still a member of.

As for hobbies, loves to travel, help family members and loves to drive their Miata when ever the opportunity presents itself.



Paul and Rose Gaskill joined our club in April 2017 after buying a 2003 Shinsen. They have lived in the NW Phoenix area since 1979.

Paul retired from working in the liquor industry for 32 years. Prior to that he was a manager for Thrifty Drugs. Paul moved to Arizona from New Jersey in 1968.

Rose is retired from working in the financial section of several engineering firms .Rose is originally from Minnesota. They enjoy gardening, reading, supporting community theatre and driving their Miata. Paul is also the editor of the club's newsletter.

A BIG Thanks
to our Sponsors!



*****NEWSLETTER DISCLAIMER*****

The Sahuaro Miata Club assumes no liability for any of the information contained in our publication.

The ideas, opinions, tips, expressed are to be used at the readers discretion. Individual contributions and /or the editors express no approval, authentication, or endorsement.

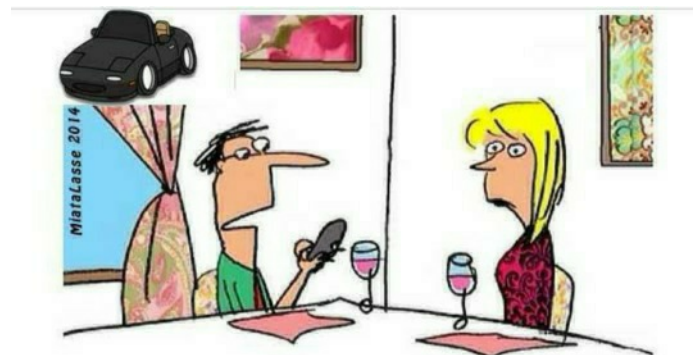
Please e-mail stories and articles for consideration in WORD format. Pictures and graphics should be in JPEG format.

Send all submissions to:
editor@sahuaromiataclub.com



Brett Novak	9/07/2017
Sue Hinkle	8/29/2017
Curtis & Cynthia Wood	8/18/2017
Tom Murray	7/27/2017
Mike Vax	7/25/2017
Christopher Lamonde	7/20/2017

LAST LAUGH



*Here's a photo of me driving my Miata.
Here's a photo of me washing my Miata.
Here's a photo of me waxing my Miata.
And here's a photo of me standing next
to my Miata. Oh look, heres a photo of
my Miata parked in my garage!*