



## February, 2024 Newsletter

New officers for 2024 were elected at our December, 2023 annual meeting. They are as follows....

President – Michelle Stephens – 602-793-8222

Vice President – Ralph Serrano - 480-748-7172

Treasurer – No one ran for the position. Sue Taylor volunteered to keep the books until a new Treasurer is elected or until April 2024. - 602-529-9365

Secretary – Terye Van Sanford - 602-266-3337

Merchandise – Sybille Breeding - 623-703-3795

Membership – Fran Steers - 860-416-6045

Past President - Cathey Kucera - 602-568-8252

A huge “thank you” to all of you who volunteered for these positions. Your first paycheck will be sent tomorrow (LOL).

## WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT FROM A SMC NEWSLETTER?

EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE  
TO IT!!!

There are some excellent articles in this first newsletter of 2024 that were contributed by our members. A big thank you to those who were willing to step up.

And for those of you who didn't, naughty, naughty!! There's still a chance to redeem yourself. I need your article by April, 24, 2024. You can write about anything, even if it doesn't pertain to Miatas. No political comments, please.



# CHALLENGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT MICHELLE STEPHENS

I want us to have a great year. The most important things about this club are the little tiny cars and each other. I love it when new people are at the events. I am challenging each member to bring at least 1 visitor who has not been and would qualify to join our club. Its free for them to come and they should have lot of fun. Don't know who to invite? Anyone who loves fast little cars good on the twistys. (Did you know you do not have to own a Miata?) We may give them a hard time but all are welcome. Want to bring more then 1 person? Great! There might be something in June for the person who brings the most people. Do you have our business cards and post cards? If not, ask someone for some. You can write your name on them and give out the card to get credit if they come to any event.





Here's a Message from our new president, Michelle Stephens

I think we can all agree that we have an addiction and obsession. It has to do with these silly little match box cars shorter than all of us.

I will tell you a little story about how it came about for me.

I started out wanting a little tiny sports car convertible with decent gas mileage. Now I have a love for vehicles that do not look like the others and you can identify them a mile away. I choose a Mini Cooper. Unfortunately, I made the wrong choice. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> month in a row in the shop, over \$1000 each time it was time to get rid of the POS.

My girlfriend and I started the hunt for what to buy next. I had added one criteria, Economical.

There was only one choice we could find. Miata MX-5. After further research, an NC. I was not the happiest with the look because there are several cars very similar in body style. I finally found the right car and bought "Mr Grey". That fall I went to Berg Mazda where the group was having an event.

Long story short Mr Grey went from just a daily driver to a play toy also and the fever began.

I have an addictive personality and after a lot of fun and even tracking Mr Grey I found that he did not have enough POWER to pass a single car on the track. I was on top of them in every corner but they took off on the straight away. I started researching again. How do I get more power?

Let's see: turbo charge, supercharge, 2.5 swap, v8 swap (oohhhh love that idea but remember economical?).

In February of 2023 I found a new car with MORE POWER already built. Has the 2.5 swap among other things. After buying her and tracking I found I had power but no traction needed new tires. Oh, and red was called the Leaning Tower of Pisa so Hmmmmm while I'm at it better upgrade the sway bars.

I tracked again towards the end of 2023. Oh yeah! Oh yeah! POWER, TRACTION, not as much lean.

What is next? Shocks, springs..... Nobody knows but this addiction will not stop!! Someone help me!

Let me know if you read this and I will tell you red's real name.



Miata tips from a shade tree mechanic...

1. Upgrade your horn.

- a. The stock horn on all Miatas is pretty pathetic. If the guy in the lifted pickup truck can't see you, do you really think he's going to pay any attention to that wimpy horn. I get mine on Amazon. I've used the Marco Automotive Tornado Horn several times with no issues. They're \$60. There are others that are much cheaper but I can't speak to their reliability.
- b. Installation on a NA or NB (1990-2005) Miata is incredibly easy. The stock horn is mounted just

in front of the radiator on the passenger side. One bracket bolt holds it in place. Flatten the edges on one end of the bracket with a hammer and you can use it to attach the new air horn. Use the bolt on the bottom of the coolant overflow to mount the bracket and mount the new horn at the other end of the bracket. There's plenty of room. Connect the single wire from the old horn to the positive electrical tab on the new horn and run a wire from the negative tab on the horn to any nearby bolt that will serve as a ground connection.

- c. Be careful when you test the new horn. It is extremely loud and has that Italian sound to it. You can pretend you're driving a Ferrari now.
- d. Although I have owned NCs and NDs I have not attempted an install on them. You're on your own with that one.



Installation photo





If you have questions about this, call me  
Dennis Manning – 623-229-5308

Article from SMC member Bob Benoit....

## Robert Benoit

[tnoerSopsd15a7 i43h1yt 1nf1gc1 aAt97rMa0muug2000a395tuicaJ](#) : ·

I can't believe that I have been driving my 90 Miata for over 30 years. I will be 80 this Thursday and my pal is creeping toward 170,000 miles. When I get in her, she creaks and my knees creak back at her.

I will continue enjoying shifting the gears and having fun for as long as I am able. Both of my knees are scheduled to be replaced May 1st so I am hoping for the creaking from them to stop.

No matter how badly my day is going, when I get behind the wheel and drive there is a smile that appears on my face. That has to be worth something.



Article from Mark Kucera

Belonging to a Mazda Miata car club is an experience that goes beyond the mechanical thrill of driving a sleek and stylish convertible. It's a journey into a community of like-minded enthusiasts who share a passion for the iconic roadster. The joy and sense of belonging within a Mazda Miata car club can be truly special.

1. **Shared Passion:** The foundation of any car club is a shared love for a particular vehicle, and in the case of a Mazda Miata club, it's the admiration for the nimble, sporty roadster. Members understand the unique charm and driving experience that comes with owning a Miata, creating an instant connection.
2. **Camaraderie and Friendship:** Joining a Miata club introduces you to a network of people who appreciate the same design, performance, and driving philosophy. The camaraderie extends beyond the club's events and gatherings, fostering lasting friendships. It's not just about the car; it's about the people who share the joy of driving it.
3. **Knowledge Sharing:** Car clubs are hubs of knowledge where members exchange tips, tricks, and insights about their beloved Miatas. Whether it's maintenance advice, performance modifications, or stories from the road, being part of the club provides a wealth of information and expertise.
4. **Group Drives and Events:** One of the most exhilarating aspects of a Miata club is the opportunity to participate in group drives and events. Picture a convoy of Miatas winding through scenic routes, tops down, enjoying the thrill of the open road together. It's a shared adventure that amplifies the joy of driving.
5. **Tech Sessions and Workshops:** Car clubs often organize tech sessions and workshops, allowing members to get hands-on experience with their Miatas. From DIY maintenance to performance upgrades, these events contribute to a sense of empowerment and connection with your car.
6. **Community Support:** Whether you're a seasoned Miata owner or a newcomer to the roadster world, the support and encouragement within the club are palpable. Members readily share experiences, offer assistance, and celebrate milestones together, creating a sense of community that extends far beyond the road.
7. **Club Merchandise and Identity:** Many Miata clubs have their own merchandise, from decals to apparel, creating a distinct identity for the community. Wearing or displaying club merchandise fosters a sense of pride and belonging, reinforcing the bond among members.
8. **Celebrating the Miata Culture:** Being part of a Miata club means immersing yourself in the larger Miata culture. From celebrating the heritage of the model to attending national or international Miata events, the club provides a gateway to a broader community of enthusiasts.

In essence, the joy of belonging to a Mazda Miata car club is about more than just owning a car; it's about becoming part of a passionate, supportive, and adventurous community that shares in the thrill of the open road and the unmistakable joy that comes with driving a Miata.

Wow, Mark, that's a great article. Is it possible you got a little help from ChatGPT?



Here's Mark doing what he loves most....track days.

LOVELORN ADVICE FROM MABEL "Miata"  
LIPPSCHITZ

Question from Tom in Tubac....

“ Mabel, my wife says I love my Miata more than her. Is that even possible?

Mabel says, “Tom, you have a real dilemma. I have first hand knowledge of your problem. I once told my boyfriend he had to decide what he wanted more; physical passion or a soft, loving touch. His response was “Are we talking about the Miata or you?” That was right before I decked him with a right cross.

Question from Bubba in Bagdad....

Mabel, I have 4 Miatas. My girlfriends say that's too many. What do you think?

Mabel says, “Bubba, is that your real name? What was your mother thinking? Anyway, it's not possible to have too many Miatas. If you're asking if that's too many girl friends, I would remind you of a line from an Eagles song; “Four that want to stone me, two that want to own me, one says she's a friend of mine.”

Question from Dennis in Des Moines....

After many long years out of the dating scene, I find myself shocked at how things have changed. What are fringe benefits? Is it normal for a woman to call me and ask for a date? When did

women trade a bra for a belt? Apparently one thing hasn't changed. They still want me to pay for everything. My dating adventures ended in the '60s, but I'm back on the market. I asked a woman to marry me as a joke and she thought I was serious. She did turn me down, however. I'm totally confused.

Mabel says, "Nobody names their kid Dennis anymore. You must be really old. As for current dating trends, apparently you are out of touch. Get an understanding woman to help you. Many women you meet will be fearful of your intentions. Some will think you're looking for a nurse with a purse. Just tell them you're looking for a meaningful, overnight relationship. Then duck.

Question from Frank in Waukasha....

What do I do if I get a flat tire when I'm out on a date?

Mabel says, "Call your wife and ask for forgiveness."

THESE ARE ALL THE MIATAS YOUR EDITOR HAS OWNED IN THE LAST 6 YEARS....





You say this might be an addiction or a sickness? You're probably right but I am having FUN! I owned the red ND for 5 days. It had virtually every racing upgrade the aftermarket offered. It was nearly impossible to drive but it was fast. The silver ND lasted for about 6 months. A



girlfriend was involved in the purchase and sale decisions. I still have the 1999 black NB. My son and I affectionately refer to it as “the rat”. I think it’s my favorite....old and imperfect but still fun when you ride it hard. Kind of like me.



Article from Past President Cathey Kucera.....

2023 was a great year for the Sahuaro Miata Club, and with the involvement of all of you 2024 should be even more fun. The 18 Club members listed below hosted 56 fun events in 2023. The events included fun drives on all the beautiful curvy roads the state has to offer to interesting cities, towns, and attractions all over the state. Members enjoyed great food at nice restaurants at many destinations. We have already had 2 events in 2024, there are 3 more scheduled, and more are being dreamed up by fun loving members.

We appreciate the contribution each host made in 2023. All contributors were recognized, thanked, and given gifts at the holiday party, or afterward if they weren't able to attend. The club would really appreciate more club members getting involved with events this year so we can recognize and reward you too. Do you know of a fun thing club members would enjoy doing or going to, or a nice restaurant the group would enjoy? Please think of how you can contribute in 2024. Email your ideas to our VP/Event Coordinator Ralph Serrano at [VPEvents@SahuaroMiataClub.com](mailto:VPEvents@SahuaroMiataClub.com) or discuss your ideas with Ralph when you see him at a club event.

2023 Event Leaders and the number of events they hosted:

Dennis Manning – 16  
Mark & Cathey Kucera – 7  
Mark Kucera – 5  
Sue Hinkle - 4  
Kent Jurgensen - 5  
Dale Strickland – 3  
Wade Phyfer – 3  
Rick Hall – 2  
Terye Van Sanford – 2  
Ralph Serano -2  
Katie Velvick - 1  
Jay Yang – 1  
Dennis Aniol – 1  
Michelle Lloyd- 1  
Hope & Jeff Morris – 1  
Jeff Morris – 1

We'd love to see your name on the 2024 list!

12:53 PM  
01/06/24  
Cash Basis

**Sahuaro Miata Club**  
**Profit & Loss**  
January through December 2023

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	<u>Jan - Dec 23</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Inventory Sales	1,137.00
Member Name Badges	184.00
Membership Dues	4,200.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>5,521.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	5,521.00
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
Member Only Merchandise	875.00
Name Badge for Members	
Stripe Fees	9.79
Name Badge for Members - Ot...	184.00
<b>Total Name Badge for Members</b>	193.79
<b>Cost of Goods Sold - Other</b>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<u>1,068.79</u>
<b>Total COGS</b>	<u>1,068.79</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	4,452.21
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Contract Services</b>	
Box Rental fees	176.00
MeetUp	215.30
PayPal Service Fees	91.36
SquareSpace, Inc	247.61
Stripe Fees	13.98
Contract Services - Other	159.91
<b>Total Contract Services</b>	904.16
<b>Member Benefits</b>	
Annual Event Leader Awards	281.00
Member Group Activities	
Decorations & Misc	902.99
Food & Beverages	2,041.42
<b>Total Member Group Activities</b>	2,944.41
Member Participation Gifts	402.30
<b>Total Member Benefits</b>	3,627.71
<b>Operations</b>	
Postage, Mailing Service	14.66
Supplies	31.47
<b>Total Operations</b>	<u>46.13</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>4,578.00</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-125.79
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Other Expense</b>	
Charitable Contributions	150.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>150.00</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	-150.00
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-275.79</u></u>

## Matters of the Heart: Navigating the Maze of Love

Dear Readers,

In the intricate dance of life, love often takes center stage, weaving its magic in mysterious and unpredictable ways. As we traverse the labyrinth of emotions, the lovelorn find themselves at the crossroads of passion and heartache. Today, let's explore the terrain of love and offer solace to those seeking guidance in matters of the heart.

Love, like a captivating novel, unfolds in chapters, each bringing its own joys and challenges. It's a journey marked by moments of ecstasy and occasional storms. To the lovelorn, it may seem like an arduous quest, but remember, every twist and turn has a purpose.

Firstly, let's acknowledge the courage it takes to open one's heart to the possibility of love. Vulnerability is not a weakness but a testament to the strength within. To those who have faced rejection or heartbreak, understand that these are not the end chapters; they are merely plot twists paving the way for greater love.

For those in the throes of unrequited love, take solace in the knowledge that your feelings are valid. It's okay to feel the ache, but it's crucial to also recognize when it's time to turn the page. Sometimes, the most beautiful stories begin when we least expect them.

In the age of digital connection, finding love can be both easier and more complicated. Swipe left, swipe right – the choices are abundant, but the quest for a genuine connection remains. Amidst the sea of profiles, authenticity becomes a precious gem. Let your true self shine, and you may find someone who appreciates the real you.

To those navigating long-distance love, remember that distance is but a physical barrier. The strength of emotional bonds can bridge the miles. In the era of virtual connections, technology serves as a bridge that brings hearts closer despite the physical separation.

Lastly, let's not forget the importance of self-love. Before embarking on the journey with someone else, cultivate a garden of self-compassion. Nurture your passions, celebrate your achievements, and cherish the unique individual that you are. It's in this self-love that the seeds of a flourishing relationship can be sown.

Dear readers, love is a multifaceted gem that reflects the hues of joy, pain, and everything in between. To the lovelorn, embrace the beauty of your journey, and trust that the universe has a plan for your heart. As you navigate the maze of love, may you find the courage to turn every page, for each chapter holds the promise of a new beginning.

Editor's comment: Obviously I didn't write this and I realize it has nothing to do with cars, but the message really hit home for me. I thought it might for you, too.

Wishing you love and warmth,

Dennis Manning, Editor

Sahuaro Miata Club Newsletter



## **MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR REPORT:**

We started out in 2023 with 154 paid memberships\* and ended the year with 159.

We gained 14 new memberships in February 2023, mainly as a result of our booth at Concours in the Hills, in Fountain Hills. This is not only a massive car show but a fundraiser for Phoenix Children's Hospital. Please consider signing up for it! It is February 18, 2024 from 10-3. Registration fee can be used for Arizona state tax credit. Even if you don't sign up to show your car, stop on by to say "hi" and catch up with our other club members!

While we did not have any new members join this past December, we did have 5 people reach out to inquire about our Club. Just so you know, anyone who inquires is offered a free "test drive". I have not been keeping exact count, but most people who do a test drive end up joining us. Thanks to the Event Leaders and members who make these prospective members feel so welcome!

So far in January 2024 we have had 2 new members join, and several inquiries. Looking forward to welcoming more new members in 2024, and catching up with you all!

\*Note: as each membership includes up to 2 people, we actually have more actual members in the Club.

# This is an article from Meetup that I felt was worth sharing. How to Make 2024 a Year of Mental Health Milestones

This has the potential to be a blockbuster year for your health and happiness with a little effort in the right places.



[By James Quigley](#)

Share

Mental health is something we can't afford to ignore. In America alone, [nearly 44 million adults experience mental illness in a given year](#), which is roughly one out of every five adults in the country.

And even people who don't experience mental illness still have to manage the universal challenges of stress.

Prioritizing your state of mind as a fundamental part of your overall health can have huge benefits. These extend beyond anxiety relief and mood improvements to things like better sleep, fewer digestive issues, and reduced risk of heart disease.

Mental health is a continual process—nobody ever gets it completely “figured out.” But this year, you can take more control of your situation, and become your own mental health advocate. Discover some of the most impactful mental health habits, then start incorporating these rewarding behaviors in your normal routine.

### Be intentional about tech-free time

The omnipresence of screens and other internet-linked devices is what makes our global society more connected than ever before. However, being plugged-in for too long can give you trouble with feelings of fatigue and isolation.

This year, you can [be more mindful of your relationship with technology](#).

Some best practices for screen time moderation include tracking your usage (lots of smartphones do this automatically), creating unplugged windows in your schedule, and reflecting on what kinds of unrewarding screen time you can cut out of your routine.



## Try journaling and meditation

Activities that bring your presence of mind back inward, away from the daily grind, are essential for maintaining your emotional balance. If you struggle at times with feeling overwhelmed, the seemingly basic habit of writing down some thoughts or even just focusing on breathing can work wonders.

Even if you have zero experience with journaling and meditation, you can get started easily. Just start small! With meditation, for example, you don't need any particular equipment or classes. Just close your eyes and see if you can be present with your breath for 60 seconds. Maybe tomorrow, you'll be able to maintain that calm, clear-headed space for two minutes.

Meetup groups like [Miami Energy Healing and Meditation](#) keep members motivated with communal meditations you can join online from anywhere. [Sacramento Creative Writing Workshops](#) hosts special journaling events where guests write together in silence, from a place of open awareness, with nothing being read aloud and no feedback given.

## Help yourself by supporting others, too

As fundamentally social creatures, all human beings thrive when we experience a sense of togetherness. In fact, helping other people can actually play a major role in your own journey of healing and happiness.

You don't have to be an expert to make a positive impact in people's lives. Chances are high that your experience of tough periods has parallels to people in similar circumstances. Bonding over these shared challenges and working together on solutions is what communities like [New York New](#)

[Parents Meetup Group](#) and [Above and Beyond Family Recovery Center Meetup](#) are all about.

Get active physically and socially

It's hard to feel too down in the dumps when you're doing something that fills you with endorphins and helps you form new social connections, all at the same time. Now, if you combine those two elements with some outdoor time charging you up with Vitamin D, you're sure to be much more healthy and resilient in 2024!

Luckily, there are tons of Meetup groups whose regular events check all of these boxes. Consider joining a community such as [Dallas Cycling Trail Riders and Weekend Pub Crawler](#) or [Miami Dragon Slayers Dragon Boat Team Practices](#).

Make time for what you love

2024 has the potential to be a transformative year for anyone willing to be intentional about shaping their mental health journey. Embrace the principles of achievable goals, positive habits, and mutual accountability. Above all, do you!

One of the most proactive steps you can take is to [create your own Meetup group](#)! It's quick and easy to start a community of people prioritizing mutual passions and hobbies alongside other self-care routines.



James Quigley



# Your SMC Newsletter Editor

## Dennis Manning

All comments and questions for Mabel Lippschitz should be sent to.....[dennis@dennisemanning.com](mailto:dennis@dennisemanning.com) or 623-229-5308

3:36 PM (1 hour ago)

Sahuaro Miata Club  
Minutes  
Board Meeting –January 9, 2024 via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by President Michelle Stephens at 7:12pm and all members were welcomed. December Holiday minutes were accepted and seconded.

**Officers and Committee Members 2024**

Michelle Stephens-President  
Ralph Serrano-Vice-President  
Terye Van Sanford-Secretary  
Sue Taylor-Acting Treasurer  
Cathey Kucera-Immediate Past President

Sybille de Marignac--Merchandise,  
Mark Kucera--Facebook, Interest Group, Buy & Sell page  
Hope Morris--Webmaster  
Jeff Morris—(Past President) Name Tags  
Fran Steers --Membership,

**Absent:** Sybill, Hope

**Guests:** Wade Phyfer

**President's Comments** – Michelle and Cathey discussed meeting procedures. Cathey offered assistance and they decided Cathey would continue directing this meeting. Michelle would Create the Agenda and take over with the February meeting. Michelle will contact Sue Hinkle to begin arrangements for Holiday Party.

**Secretary Report**

No report – 3 members had trouble with Zoom  
The Holiday Party December minutes were approved.

**Vice President and Events Report**

Ralph needs event hosts, discussion for new events. Past events are on-line and could be repeated. Dennis and others offered to help Ralph.

Ralph would like to do Tubac Holiday run again.

Monthly luncheons would be good for all and would be a nice addition to the calendar again. Luncheons will be by area. Any day/time decided by host.

Mark will do the North East Valley

Wade offered to help with the Northern area.

Dennis will do North West Valley

Dale Strickland will be asked to do the Prescott area

Hope and Jeff know the south east valley and need to be asked if available

Jeff discussed details for the Fountain Hills Concourse Event. He will take his large vehicle for needed equipment and supplies. The Club owns a tent. Tim Kroll had volunteered to make direction cards. This event generates new members-last year's event generated 14 new members!

**Treasurer Report**

Sue will send out her proposed budget.

Sue reported that our Club's fixed expenses are approximately \$3500 per year and about \$2900 to spend during the year.

Wells Fargo checking account currently \$5400 and \$1000 accounts receivable.

Names need to be switched at bank. Account needs 2 names and has credit card

Sue will continue as Treasurer until April 30<sup>th</sup>. She feels most of the club's paperwork will be completed by that date including Membership dues, and Tax forms. Sue feels the PO Box location should be relocated. Currently bill for box is due every 6 months.

Sue also noted the December Holiday Party was attended by 64 people and the cost to our club was under \$1500 !

**Membership Report**

Fran report 4 new memberships -now 159 active memberships

Up from 154 last year. November had 4, December none

**Merchandise Report**

Jeff reported no sales last month. Sybille, (new merchandise) visited with him and they spent several hours discussing club merchandise!

Jeff would like to continue making the club name badges. He would also like to include a little package of welcome items like pens and key chains, and our Member Handbook. Hope will print the handbook pages in the proper order. He will invoice the club for the postage.

**Webmaster Report**

Jeff reported for Hope. She has not received the return response from all of the board members. Hope will resend. " SoHo" mail is the system that allows us all to share emails. Hope is going to set up communications in PDF.

**Facebook Report**

Mark was looking at the Utah Miata club website and discovered their unique method for getting run leader volunteers! They list the entire year of runs they want to offer, let people sign up, and then ask one of them to plan and host!

This idea was well received and discussed at length.

**Old Business** Mark requested that the Buy and Sell page be kept current.

**New Business**

Dennis Manning volunteered to be the new editor!

He needs articles! He will send email to all with submission due date.

**Next Meeting:** Not addressed

Meeting adjourned at 8 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Terye Van Sanford, Secretary

**HELP!!!!**  
**WE NEED A**  
**NEW**  
**TREASURER**  
**PRONTO**

Please contact someone on the board if you're interested or know someone we can strong arm into the job. Position must be filled in the next two months. Quickbooks knowledge would be very helpful.

Hello everyone, my name is Ralph Serrano and your new Events Coordinator VP.

So I'm asking everyone if you have any ideas on breakfast, lunch, dinner's runs or events that you think the rest of the club might enjoy please feel free to contact me.

Even if you think it's too far for other members, you never know until you ask.

I look forward for 2024. Let's have fun.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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[SAT, FEB 18, 2024, 8:45 AM MST "Concours In The Hills" Super Car Show for Phoenix Childrens Hospital & Picnic!](#)

[target, fountain hills, AZ](#)

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[Get Ready for the Greatest Car Show on Grass at the Concours In The Hills.](#)

[On February 18, 2024, Concours in the Hills will return for its ninth year. We hope you will join us for a day of great cars, food, and music in the spectacular setting of Fountain Park.](#)

[Concours in the Hills continues to grow every year. The event now takes over the entire park around the lake in Fountain Hills. Because of the spectacular venue, this event is deemed "The Greatest Car Show on Grass."](#)

[Last year about 1200 cars came from all over Arizona, California, Nevada, and New Mexico to participate. The event is supported by leading car clubs of Arizona representing The Sahuaro Miata Club, Ferrari, Lamborghini, Porsche, McLaren, Corvette, Viper, Ford GT, Audi, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Mustang, Jaguar, Cadillac, Lotus, and others.](#)

[Why enthusiasts and amateurs alike love Concours in the Hills](#)

- [The spectacular lake view and rolling hills setting](#)
- [An enormous variety of vehicles on display](#)
- [Contemporary and classic race cars](#)
- [Exotic foreign and domestic high-performance cars](#)
- [Muscle cars, sports cars, hot rods, off-road and military vehicles](#)
- [Military and civilian helicopters](#)
- [Motorcycles](#)
- [Over 100 dealer and aftermarket tents](#)
- [Lots of tasty food and refreshment trucks](#)

[Concours Car Categories](#)

- [European](#)
- [Domestic](#)
- [Asian](#)
- [Race Cars](#)
- [Off-road](#)
- [Military](#)
- [Motorbikes](#)
- [Alternative Fuel](#)

Last year the Concours raised \$430,000 for The Phoenix Children's Hospital. These funds finance innovative research, cutting-edge technology, recruitment of leading physicians, and child-friendly programs that make the hospital environment more comfortable for young patients.

This is the 5th time our club has participated in this premier car show event. We hope that at least 40 cars from our club can attend this year. This is a great way to not only show off our Miata's but to let everyone know about our amazing club. Each year several people inquire about and join the club during this event. Clean up your Miata and come show it off to help us find new club members.

The car registration fee is \$65.00 if you register prior to December 31st. Registration is \$75 starting January 1st, 2023. This donation to the Phoenix Children's Hospital may be taken as a tax "credit" on your Arizona state taxes and will be nonrefundable once you make your ticket purchase. So, if you end up not being able to attend, then at least you know your donation will be for a wonderful cause. Follow the instructions below to purchase an entrance ticket for your car. These instructions will provide you with your registration ticket. Please note, spectators are free to enter, we only pay our Miata MX-5 entrance fee. So invite all of your friends. Please remember you receive an Arizona tax CREDIT, not a deduction. That means the state allows you to use this donation towards payment of your AZ tax bill.

Registration Instructions:

- 1.) Go To: <https://phoenixchildrensfoundation.org/signature/concours/>
- 2.) Scroll down to the "Register" box and click on it.
- 3.) Scroll down to the Blue "Register Today" box and click on it.
- 4.) Fill out the "Attendee Information" and the "Event Preferences" then click on "Yes" on section 9. (Release statement) Click in the "Available Ticket Classes" the number of cars you are going to register. (Typically one) DO NOT FILL IN THE DONATION SECTION UNLESS YOU WISH TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL DONATION TO PHOENIX CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL!
- 5.) Click "Next"
- 6.) Read "Attendee Information" for accuracy then fill out the "Billing Information" Click "Next Step" when done.
- 7.) Check the final page for accuracy then click "Process" to purchase your ticket. This is nonrefundable.
- 8.) Click "Print" located above the grey area above "Tax Deductible Portion" to format the page then print your receipt.  
PRINT EVERYTHING! (For your taxes) Do this now!  
You are now registered for the "Concours In The Hills"!



Please plan on meeting up with the other club members in the parking lot of Target Department Store at 16825 E Shea Blvd, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 at 8:45 AM. Everyone will caravan over to the car show together at 9:00 AM to be directed to the space reserved for the club.

For more information go to <https://phoenixchildrensfoundation.org/signature/concours/> Food trucks will be available for you to purchase food and drinks, or you can bring your own lunch. We will have bottled water available for all. Consider bringing sunscreen, hats, warm clothes, cameras or smart phones, and folding chairs. This is going to be a five-hour event.

If you have any questions or if you have issues finding us at the Concours please feel free to call me, Jeff Morris, at 808-269-6693. Directions for our location and instructions on event parking will be sent to all attendees prior to the event.

**SUN, FEB 11, 2024, 7:00 AM MST Cars and coffee and run to Tortilla Flats**

Hava Java Mesa, Mesa, AZ

Hang out with your best buddies....your fellow Sahuaro Miata Club members at Cars and Coffee. We will meet at Hava Java Coffee Shop in Mesa, NE corner of Power Rd. and McDowell at 7am. Then head off to Tortilla Flats. This run is not mandatory, so if you want to just hang out just for coffee we'll love to see you.

Enjoy the panoramic view's of the Superstition Mountains in the Sonoran Desert. Will pass Canyon Lake, the town and take the twisties to the end of the black top road. Then return to town to eat, drink and or shop if you like.

On the way home you'll also past Goldfield Ghost Town.

SMC member Kent Jurgensen will be your host for Cars and Coffee. There is no host at this time for the Tortilla Flats run.

Come join us Miata lovers. We are always your best friends.

**TUE, FEB 13, 2024, 7:00 PM MST All Members welcome. Club Board Meeting via the internet Zoom meeting!**

## Online event

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Come join the Sahuaro Miata Club board members for this month's board meeting. All members and guests are welcome.

Find out what's going on with your club and share your opinions on current topics, and future events. These meetings are always fun, informative and provide our members with a brief look into the inner workings of our club.

### Agenda

President Opening Comments - Michelle Stephens

Board Member Reports

VP/Events - Ralph Serrano

Secretary - Terye Van Sanford

Treasurer - OPEN

Membership - Fran Steers

Merchandise - Sibylle Breeding

Past President - Cathey Kucera

Social Media - Mark Kucera

Webmaster - Hope Morris

### **AGENDA:**

Old Business:

New Business

Open discussion

This month's meeting will be a teleconference meeting using Zoom Video

Communications.

This is best viewed from your desktop, but you can also use an iPad, tablet, or smartphone.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83486136383?Pwd=T1A1aXF1YjUxeHN5V3pYZSt0RWQ4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 834 8613 6383

Passcode: 754567

This is a great opportunity to attend a board meeting without leaving your home. If you have any questions or would like to discuss something please contact Michelle Stephens at [president@sahuaromiataclub.com](mailto:president@sahuaromiataclub.com) or call her at 602-793-8222 before the meeting.

**[FRI, DEC 6, 2024, 10:00 AM MST Get in the Christmas Spirit at Luminaria Nights de Tubac](#)**

[Chevron Apache Junction, Apache Junction, AZ](#)

[Time to get in the Christmas spirit with your friends in the Sahuaro Miata Club. We're going to Luminaria Nights in the artist community of Tubac. Get it on your calendar now. This is a 3-day overnight event and promises to be an unforgettable experience. I've attended this event in the past and plan to go every year. It's a "must see" Christmas happening.](#)

[Luminaria Nights de Tubac is held the first weekend in December! The Historic Village is lit up with luminarias! Enjoy treats, shopping, music, and more Friday and Saturday, December 6th and 7th. Stores will be open late for shopping and welcome you with wine and appetizers. The fun starts at 5pm and stores stay open until 9pm. Bring a flashlight! Rejoice in the true spirit of Christmas with TaliasVan's Bright & Morning Star Choir & Orchestra — a 40-voice choir singing traditional Christmas carols as well as original, sacred, CosmoWorship™ songs. Opening for the choir is The Brilliant Evening Stars band – 7 soul sisters, whose sweet harmonies evoke this Christ-Mass season.](#)

[Tubac Plaza:](#)

[6:00 pm to 6:45 pm – Brilliant Evening Stars](#)

[7:00 pm to 8:00 pm – TaliasVan's Bright & Morning Star Choir & Orchestra](#)

[\\$15 Suggested Donation](#)

[Here's the details....](#)

[Meet at the Chevron Station in Apache Junction, 75 E 29th Avenue, at 9:30am for a 10am departure. Head east on Highway 60 toward Gold Canyon and south on Highway 79 taking the back road toward Tucson, turning south on Highway 77 at Oracle Junction. Lunch at Bubb's Grub at 16010 N Oracle Rd, Catalina, AZ 85739-9113, north of Tucson. After lunch take Highway 77 south again into Tucson, west on Grant Drive, south on I-10 then merge onto I-19 south. Exit San Xavier Road to visit San Xavier del Bac Mission. A National Historic Landmark, San Xavier Mission was founded as a Catholic mission by Father Eusebio Kino in 1692. Construction of the current church began in 1783 and was completed in 1797.](#)

The oldest intact European structure in Arizona, the church's interior is filled with marvelous original statuary and mural paintings. It is a place where visitors can truly step back in time and enter an authentic 18th Century space.

After the mission visit, we'll get back on I-19 and head to Green Valley for motel check-in. We're staying in Green Valley because there are simply no rooms available in Tubac during this event.

Friday night offers several options. Have dinner and a restful evening in Green Valley or head over to Tubac 18 miles to the south for the Luminarias festivities from 5 to 9pm. If you're having dinner in Green Valley I suggest Manuel's Mexican restaurant at 121 W Duval Road.

On Saturday if you're staying at the Comfort Inn breakfast is provided or numerous other restaurants are in the area. When you want to head over to Tubac is up to you. The Luminarias festival is again from 5 to 9pm but there's lots to do during the day as well. Here's some info from their website.

Welcome to Tubac, a historic village and destination for the arts!

Art galleries, museums, enchanting shops, and jewelry stores await your visit, as does clean air in a beautiful high desert rural environment. For your dining pleasure, Tubac is graced with family-owned restaurants offering outstanding cuisine and service, for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Margaritas, cocktails, and fine wines readily await you. Hiking trails along the Santa Cruz river offer leisurely walks among majestic trees and greenery. Country roads offer vistas and open space for bicycling, and of course, golfing at the 27-hole course at Tubac Golf Resort & Spa.

A day in Tubac seems a wonderful dream, walking among galleries, paintings, sculpture, ceramics, and photographs. The unique regional fashion, leather, crafts, antiques, and jewelry beckon your senses and eyes to the beauty and craftsmanship of yesterday and today. The Village atmosphere, takes you a world away from urban life. Whether you come for the day or stay overnight, you will simply love Tubac.

The **Tubac Visitor Center** is located at the [Tubac Presidio State Historic Park and Museum](#), 1 Burruel Street in Old Town Tubac. Their hours are 9 am to 5 pm, Wednesday through Sunday; call (520) 398-2252 for more information.

Hotel suggestion....

Comfort Inn, [90 West Esperanza Blvd, Green Valley, AZ, 85614, US](#)  
(520) 399-3736; (\$99 a night plus tax)

Here's a link to our route...

##### <https://maps.app.goo.gl/ovMkzmsNbfWaVG3U7>

**SAT, DEC 14, 2024, 11:00 AM MST Save The Date Annual Holiday Party and Elections!**

[Casino Arizona, Scottsdale, AZ](#)

**ALMOST THE END!  
SOME FINAL THOUGHTS**

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the Editor. If you don't like what you read, sue me or "Better Call Saul". If you think there's some value in this rag, please submit your opinions for print in the next quarter's newsletter.

Sincerely,

Dennis E Manning, Editor

623-229-5308

[dennis@dennisemanning.com](mailto:dennis@dennisemanning.com)

There's more...scroll down.



Wink!