



Road Runners

September 2018

Letter from the President



Dear Members,

This month I post an important re-print of a letter I sent out on August 5th to our Membership. In order to maintain a viable and fun organization we must have a dedicated Board of directors. I ask you to take a moment to read this important note.

Time flies and before you know it 2018 will come to an end. We will need to replace our current Sahuaro Miata Club Board of Directors, per our bylaws. Elections will be part of the Christmas Party on Dec 8th. We are in the process of putting together a nominating committee to help us find members best suited to fill all board positions.

We are looking for three to four volunteers. They will meet, canvass the club and provide the current board with a list of candidates for 2019. If you can spare time to assist your club I would greatly appreciate it. We have a terrific club, due in part to a terrific Board that keeps our club running so smoothly.

Some or all of these positions needed to be filled are: President, Vice President/Events Coordinator, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership, Marketing, and the non-board position (Yet very important) newsletter editor. I will be taking over the "At Large" position assisting whenever I can.

If you are interested in joining this committee or if you are interested in a board position please contact me ASAP at president@sahuaromiataclub.com or call me at 808-269-6693. Your assistance in this important committee is crucial in keeping our club viable and fun.



LETTER FROM
THE EDITOR

Most of us have now joined the smartphone age. I'm always looking for apps to help when traveling. Here are two I've found that offer some really unique benefits and are easy to use and are free for both Android and iPhone users.

For any long drive, you'll be amazed at the conveniences offered by the **iexit** app. It uses your smartphone's location to identify where you are on the highway, then displays upcoming exits in real time, so you know restaurants, gas stations, campsites, hotels etc. that are coming up. It's a wonderful resource for planning those important pit stops on the way to your destination.

For those of you that over-pack, yet still managing to arrive without some essential item nearly every time. I was especially delighted to discover **PackPoint**. It is a detailed travel packing list planner that helps you get organized based on where you're going, how long you will be there, the weather forecast and any activities that are planned.

It's vacation time! Gas up the tank, pack your sun screen, and don't leave home without adding these handy apps to your smartphone!

As Jeff mentioned in his letter, one of the positions that will need to be filled is the newsletter editor. After thinking about this for awhile I came to the decision it's time for someone else to take over the task of publishing the newsletter. Anyone interested should have basic computer skills and be able to set aside between 8 to 10 hours a month to work on the letter. Anyone interested interested please contact me and I'll answer any questions you might have.

Reminder - I'll need all submissions for October sent to me by **Sept. 20th**. That will give me enough time to put together the October newsletter after returning from vacation.

Until next month,

Paul

Correction on last month's trivia quiz

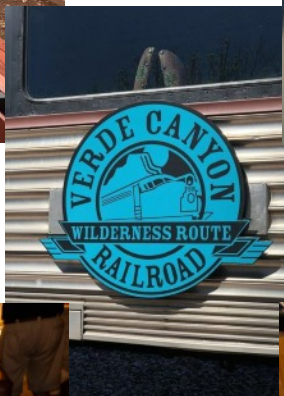
The correct answer to question 10 is none of the above. The Miata does not have a timing belt but does have a timing chain.

Thanks to Tim Kroll for catching the error.

Club Events

We had an awesome trip to the **Verde Valley** on July 28th. Our excursion started out driving up the back roads to Prescott. Those of us who started in Phoenix, met up with our Prescott club members and had an amazing lunch at the Gurley St Grill. After lunch, we continued our trip to Cottonwood – meandering through the countryside and the quaint haunted town of Jerome. Just as we were getting ready to board the train, the heavy monsoon rains opened up! We were drenched as we boarded the train. The train ride was from Clarkdale to Perkinsville, but due to the monsoon, our trip was somewhat abbreviated, but that never stopped this group from having a good time. The food and beverage service on the train was great. But the companionship and friendships from this club were even better! We had 36 people participate on the train ride, with several others joining us for lunch.

What an awesome weekend! Many thanks to Wade Phyfer, our local guide and Hope Morris to help with all of the planning that went into this event.



Friday, August 3rd the following 19 members went to **Pine for an outdoor lunch at THAT Brewery:**

New member Jim David, Martha Purfeerst, Katie Velvick and her sister Jen, Tony & Cindy Munro, Larry Lloyd, Ted & Cindy Tate, John & Sonja Wilson, Roger Petersson, Dale Strickland, Terye & Royce VanSanford, Mike Vax, Judy Zwick, Mark & Cathey Kucera.

Five cars drove up Interstate 17 together from the Valley to meet the Prescott area members at the McDonald's in Camp Verde. After a short pause for socializing the cars were divided into two groups, faster and slower, and we headed east on Highway 260. The pace started out leisurely but picked up a bit (understatement) as we got into the mountain curves. The temperature dropped and the trees got greener and larger as we flew up the mountain road.

At the junction of Highways 260 and 87 we turned south, zipped through the last few mountain road curves, and slowed as we came into Strawberry and Pine. Both towns were quiet, uncrowded, and peaceful since the weekend crowds hadn't arrived yet.

THAT Brewery, located on side of the main road on the south side of Pine, had a long table set up and waiting for us on the covered patio. As everyone filed in there was lots of conversation about the exciting drive. Some drivers were smiling and telling stories of how fast they went, while a few passengers were less enthusiastic.

We had a relaxing lunch socializing and getting to know each other better After about an hour and a half the group started breaking up with people going in every direction. Some drove together down Highway 87 to the valley, while others headed back to Prescott Valley the way we came. It was nice to get to drive our Miatas with friends in the cooler mountain air.



August 4th Social at “Can’t Stop Smokin BBQ” in Chandler, AZ.

It was a warm and sunny Saturday when the club met in Chandler for our Monthly Social at Can’t Stop Smokin’ BBQ on West Chandler Blvd. We had approximately forty members attend. Matt and TJ Blair, Jimmie David, John and Melinda Lee, Tom Mitchell, Bill Rosenmeier and Rosemary and Steve Talmadge were welcomed as new members. A birthday cake was provided and we celebrated the birthdays of Becky Shaw, Tom Mitchell and Jeff Morris.

Jeff Morris gave a rousing 20 minutes of club updates that kept everyone on the edge of their chairs. We introduced our attending Board members, Curtis Wood, Martha Purfeerst and Jeff Morris. Upcoming events were touched base on by Jeff and Hope Morris. We discussed the need for volunteers for our 2019 Board of Directors nominating committee along with the proper way to hold our GMRS radios for maximum range during fun runs. Martha Purfeerst had a display of club paraphernalia and she sold numerous items to new and existing members. Much thanks to Martha for all of her efforts.

The food was great and everyone seemed to have a relaxed and enjoyable time.

Jeff Morris



On Friday the 24th about a dozen Club members journeyed to Prescott (although several do call it home). The event we were there to attend was a presentation at the Elks Theater in Prescott, billed as “ **A Tribute to the Music and Heritage of New Orleans**”. Prior to the event the members meet at the Hassayampa Inn for a bit of dinner. As this was my first time in Prescott, I chose to have dinner at a place I found on the net. Papa’s Italian Restaurant turned out to be a great choice and I had a meal including a pizza, half of which left with me and made for a tasty treat on the long ride back to Avondale. I joined up with the group before the concert and we all walked across the street to the Theater. We all had our own seats so there was no Club cheering section.

The Clubs own **Mike Vax** appears to be the founding member of the band. For those of you who do not know of Mike, in addition to being a Miata nut, he is also director of the Prescott Jazz Summit and has performed with such New Orleans notables as the Dukes of Dixieland, Pee Wee Hunt, Al Hirt, Pete Fountain, Louis Cottrell, Papa French, The Mahogany Hall Jazz Band, The Onward and Olympia Brass Bands and has been musical director for Ronnie Kole’s Marching Club in the Rex Parade on Mardi Gras day.

Along with Mike who was on trumpet and vocals were : Scott Whitfield, trombone & vocals; Howard Alpen, Banjo, Guitar & Vocals; Tony Vocca, Sax; Jack Petersen, Piano; Selwyn Reams, Bass & Tuba and Cleve Huff on drums.

The theater is a quaint throwback to earlier times and perfect for such a concert, not a bad seat in the place. There was a bar and snack bar, which kept those inclined for an adult beverage happy.

The band played music from Louis Armstrong, “King” Oliver, Jelly Roll Morton, Al Hirt and Pete Fountain. Mike did a great job of educating the audience of the history of each artist while the band played a nice sample of tunes by each of the artists. It is easy to see that these gentlemen love what they do and have been doing for decades. The looks and smiles they gave one another while playing attested to the affection they had for the music they played. While most of the players are my age or older, I was amazed at the dexterity they had on their instruments as well as the lung capacity of those wielding instruments that required such.

There were no vacant seats that I saw. The crowd was appreciative of both the music and Mike’s narrative. I guess many of the Club members met after the concert, but me, I had a 6am tee time and had to drive back, me and my pizza.

Tim Kroll



Prescott Jazz Summit presents

A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC & HERITAGE

OF NEW ORLEANS

MUSIC, HISTORICAL ANECDOTES AND STORIES OF SUCH LEGENDS AS
**LOUIS ARMSTRONG, JOSEPH "KING" OLIVER,
JELLY ROLL MORTON, AL HIRT & PETE FOUNTAIN**



MIKE VAX and his
GREAT AMERICAN

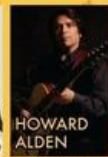


Jazz Band

Mike Vax - Trumpet, Vocals
Scott Whitfield - Trombone, Vocals
Howard Alden - Banjo, Guitar, Vocals
Tony Vacca - Saxophone
Jack Petersen - Piano, Guitar
Selwyn Reams - Bass, Tuba
Cleve Huff - Drums



MIKE
VAX



HOWARD
ALDEN



SCOTT
WHITFIELD

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
PrescottJazz.com, 928-277-1576 or 484-588-0066

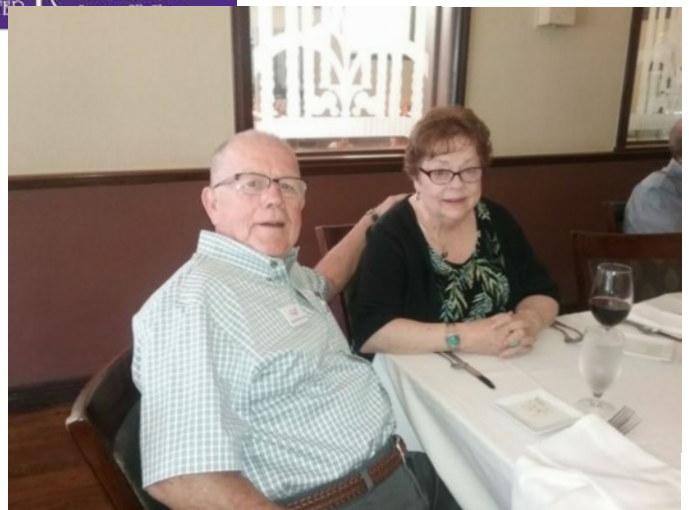


FRIDAY, AUGUST 24 @ 7PM



FLKS THEATRE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

117 E. Gurley St
Prescott, AZ
928.777.1730



Diamondbacks Baseball Game, August 26, 2018.

Now on to the postseason. Harry Carey once said, "You can't beat fun at the old ballpark friends". On Sunday, August 26, 2018 several members of the Sahuaro Miata Club went to Chase Field as the Arizona D'Backs hosted the Seattle Mariners. Fun was had by all, as the D'Backs bullpen turned a comfortable lead into a nail biter. In the end the D'Backs defeated the Mariners 5-2.

And after reading one of the commemorative bricks outside Chase Field, someone in the Phoenix area has a great sense of humor. - **Ron Spannraft**





Sept. 13th - Miatas at Laguna Seca Raceway

Sept. 16th - Sunday Brunch at Anacapa Restaurant Sun City West

Oct. 5th - 8th Annual Devil's Highway Event

Oct. 26th - Shady Dell in Bisbee

Nov. 11th - Veteran's Day Parade - Starts at 9:30 a.m.

Nov. 18th - Sunday Lunch/General Meeting at Casino Arizona 1 p.m.

Information about these and all other events is available on Meetup.

Let Me Help You Host A Miata Club Event

I would like to help a club member host a lunch, a run, or another event. If you've never hosted an event before this is a perfect opportunity for you to co-host your first event. No experience necessary. It's really quite simple and it can be fun. Being the host gives you the opportunity to get the club to do something you want to do when you want to do it.

If you want the club to have more Saturday or Sunday events we can find an open day and pick a fun event together. If you want to have an event in your part of town this is your chance to make it happen. If you want the club to go to a restaurant or other fun place you like we can do it.

There are lots of open dates available.

Contact Mark Kucera, VP and Events Coordinator at
VPEvents@Sahuaromiataclub.com

I look forward to helping you plan a great event.

We are going to Bisbee, AZ on Oct. 26th staying at The Shady Dell Vintage Trailer Court.

They will hold all 10 units, for both nights, for our club for a limited time. These are vintage, but restored travel trailers, a tour bus (only Friday night is open) and even a dry-docked Chris Craft yacht (sorry I nabbed it for both nights). There are only 10 in all, which is why only 10 cars will be able to stay at the trailer park, but there are other accommodations nearby for others.

This is not like staying at the Ritz-Carlton. If primitive quarters are not your style, this is not for you. The trailers are clean and cute, decorated in the style of the 40s and 50s, a few with kitchens (no cooking allowed in the kitchens) and full bathroom facilities, but others for which guests use separate restrooms and showers located on the property, a few steps away. To get a better idea of the whole concept visit www.theshadydell.com. See the Info & FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) tab for further details. After reading about the features of each accommodation you can pick out the one you want. **DO NOT MAKE RESERVATIONS ON THE WEBSITE.** The website will show them all as already booked, since the owner is holding them all for us. You will have to **CALL TO RESERVE**, and you must mention you are with the Sahuaro Miata Club to reserve on these dates. The telephone number is (520) 432-3567. Or email reservations@theshadydell.com.

<https://www.arizonahighways.com/eat-sleep/lodging/shady-dell>

If you wish to attend but are unable to book the Shady Dell, or if you prefer other accommodations, you can stay at the Copper Queen Hotel (www.copperqueen.com), or one of the several bed & breakfast inns in town.

The plan is for 2 nights, but if you cannot join us at the start Friday morning, come on down Friday afternoon or evening. Or come down just for Saturday whenever you can and stay one night.

Further details on the start time, location, and route will be announced when determined. Also working on scheduled events in town. Possibilities are:

Queen Mine Tour

The Bisbee Séance Room

Sonoita Vineyards

Plan on Friday or Saturday group dinner cooked on the grills at the Trailer Park (we will do this Saturday if we have any one-nighters). The trailer court will provide the grills and charcoal. Safeway is nearby. There may also be a Vintage movie on the outdoor screen. Wear your 50's clothing!

We may have a group outing the other evening for dinner.

For breakfast, check out Bisbee Breakfast Club, www.bisbeebreakfastclub.com. We can schedule group times later

If you wish to book one of the trailers do so quickly. They won't last long. When you RSVP on Meetup please post a comment saying which trailer you reserved, or where you are staying outside the trailer park. That will let others know which trailers are still available.

If you're not staying at the Shady Dell but still wish to join in our cookout, you are of course welcome (required) to do so.

Call or text me on your way down if you are coming only for Saturday, so we can meet up with you.

Curtis Wood

Treasurer@SahuaroMiataClub.com

(425) 761-5362



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

Brent Morrow

membership@sahuaromiataclub.com

Marketing

Martha Purfeerst

marketing@sahuaromiataclub.com

Member At Large

None

memberatlarge@sahuaromiataclub.com

Editor

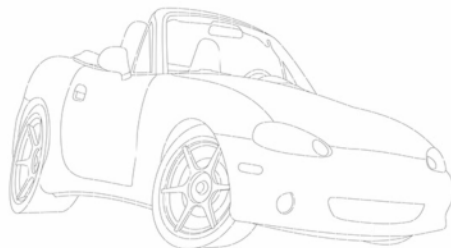
Paul Gaskill

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!*

GREENE
A U T O

Berge
Mazda

Ultra

ADR
ANYTIME DENT REPAIR

GO GREEN
BODY & PAINT

**New
Members!**

Tom Mitchell

John Lee

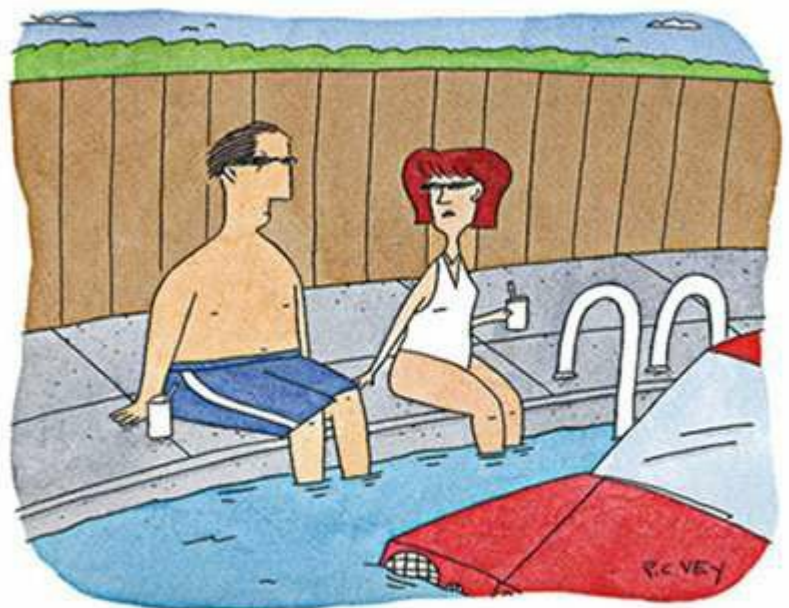
Jim David

Doug Decker

Kevin Allsop

Conrad Bertrand

LAST LAUGH



**"Can't we talk about something other
than the way I parked the car?"**