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## Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2020

### ★ President's Newsletter ★



Mary and President Dennis Manning

**Welcome** to our first newsletter in many months. Finding a competent and willing newsletter editor is a challenge. Special thanks to Jeff Morris, our past president, for taking on this task. (What were you thinking, Jeff?)

This is a very frustrating time for me as your president. I feel like the goals of our club, socializing, lunch get togethers, driving events to fun places, overnight events in cooler climes are in direct conflict with the current start of the pandemic. It is not a feeling; it is a fact! So, we wait and hope for better news.

Mark and Cathey Kucera did an event last week that very skillfully maneuvered through the challenges of social distancing and a safe get together. Their event to Goldwater Lake near Prescott did not involve a restaurant (everyone took their lunch) and allowed them to social distance while enjoying a refreshing visit to the lake. And it allowed them to drive an incredibly fun twisty road south of Prescott. Great job, guys!!

As you know, I had an event planned (Moon over Miata's) for last Thursday night. It required careful social distancing and masks, we had no problems. Our destination after ice cream at DQ in Scottsdale was Saguaro Del Norte Recreation Site

on the north shore of Saguaro Lake. It is a beautiful spot right on the water with lots of parking. I want to thank Mark Kucera who stepped in for me at the last moment. Club members brought their camp chairs and soaked in the moonlight over the lake. We handed out double decker chocolate Moon pies as well. Another event I had planned for July 15 is a run to Mount Lemmon. We just re-scheduled this event for Wednesday August 26th at 8:00 a.m.

As most of you know, I have a serious addiction to Miata's I love them all. I have had 2 NAs, an NB and a Mazdaspeed Miata. Three weeks ago, I bought a 2012 NC GT with the power retractable hardtop. Now I am really spoiled! This one is far superior in creature comforts. Am I allowed to have this much fun at my age? Thank you all for being patient with us while we wind our way through this virus. It is tricky. If you decide to lay low for the time being, we understand. We will be there when you are ready. Warm Regards,

**Dennis Manning, President**  
**SahuarO Miata Club**  
**623-229-5308**

### Board of Directors



#### Your 2020 Board Of Directors

PRESIDENT:	Dennis Manning
VICE PRES:	Steve Talmadge
SECRETARY:	Tim Kroll
TREASURER:	Sue Taylor
MEMBERSHIP:	Cathey Kucera
MERCHANDISE:	Hope Morris
AT LARGE:	Jeff Morris
EDITOR:	Jeff Morris



“Few things are more satisfying than leading an event for the club”

Steve Talmadge, Events/V.P.

## V.P. / Events co-ordinator Message

I want to thank all of you who responded to the recent membership survey. Your responses will help us plan more meaningful events for the Club, and that is after all the reason for the Club’s existence, so we can all have a good time!!

Rosemary and I joined the Sahuaro Miata Club by way of a sister club in northwestern Ohio. We were active in our former club and so we sought out the Sahuaro Miata Club shortly following our permanent move to Arizona. It has been a rewarding couple of years for us in the Sahuaro Miata Club with many fun times had and many new friends made. Both Rosemary and I treasure the club and the membership. Thank you all!!

We all know that the past couple of months have been trying for all of us. We have had to cancel or reschedule numerous club events due primarily to the pandemic, but various other factors got in the way such as fires, hot weather, and curfews thrown in for good measure.

Now, perhaps more than ever we need your help with planning and executing events and fun get-togethers. We need ideas and volunteers to lead events. The board and I are here to help. You can reach me, Steve Talmadge at [vpevents@sahuaromiataclub.com](mailto:vpevents@sahuaromiataclub.com)

Warm Regards,

Steve Talmadge V.P. / Events Co-Ordinator

## 2020PLANNED EVENTS & HOSTS

Run to Mt. Lemon	Steve & Rosemary Talmadge
Route 66 Tour the Miata Way	Ed Raker
Run to The Borders	Mark Kucera
Devil’s Highway	Hope Morris,
Run to Lynx Lake w/Picnic	Steve & Rosemary Talmadge
Lunch and Tour of CAF Hanger in Mesa	Steve & Rosemary Talmadge
Miata’s at the Drive in Theater	TBD
Tech Session-Detailing Your Miata	TBD
Overnight run to Pinetop	TBD
Annual Meeting / Holiday Party/ Elections at Casino Arizona	TBD
Holiday Dinner at Anacopa	TBD
Veteran’s Day Parade in Phoenix	Becky and Tom Shaw
Concours in the Hills Car Show	Jeff & Hope Morris w/others

In Memorium  
Our friend and  
Club Member  
Mr. David Nicolai

## 2020 BOARD MEETINGS

Zoom	Weds. August 4, 2020
Zoom	Weds. September 2, 2020
Zoom	Weds. October 7, 2020
Zoom	Weds. November 3, 2020
Zoom	Weds. December 2, 2020

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

Did you know you can sign up and attend monthly Board Meetings? RSVP on Meetup and get involved **Now!!**

# Target Your GPS for July / August Events

7-15-20	Valley Wide Zoom Lunch Date	Hope Morris
8-26-20	Run to Mt. Lemmon	Dennis & Mary Manning Steve and Rosemary Talmadge
9-19-20	Arizona Tour the Miata Way	Ed Raker
10-2-20	Devils Highway!	Jeff & Hope Morris, Jerry Gantt
10-18-20	Run to the Borders!	Mark Kucera

Of course there will be so many more events added to this calendar. Over the last four years, the Sahuaro Miata Club has been known for having a very busy schedule, from monthly meetings, weekly lunches and multiple runs through out the year. So please check our Meetup calendar on a regular basis to see what is coming up.

The Corona Virus has placed everyone in a situation we have not seen in over 100 years. We are literally taking it "One Day at a Time". Rest assured President Manning and your SMC Board are doing everything we can to follow safe guidelines and get activities up and running as soon as possible.

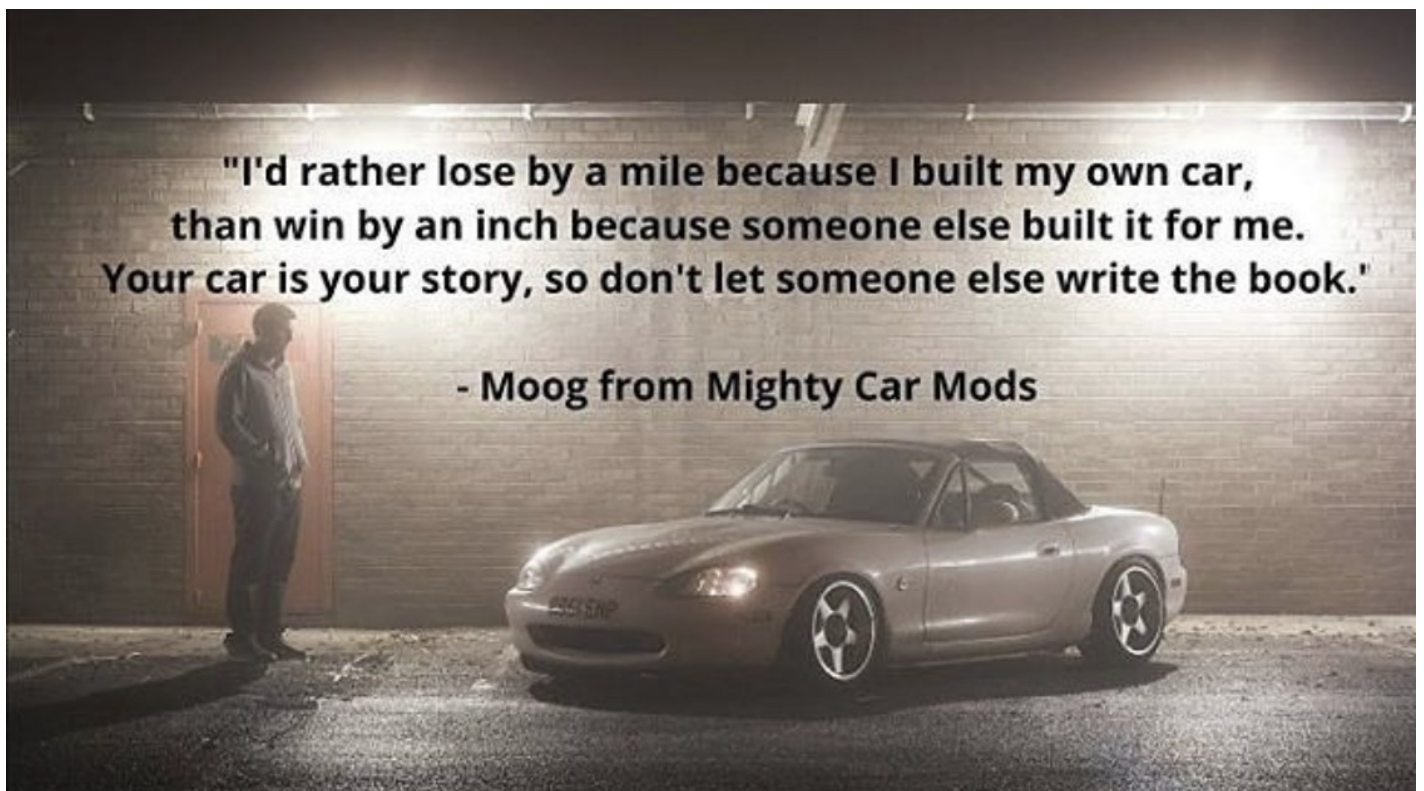




## Remembering our past activities

One of the wonderful things a recurring newsletter does is it highlights recent events and shows appreciation to it's participants and event leaders. Due to the fact it has been over a year since we had a newsletter, I am going to start fresh with new events being highlighted starting in our next issue. Bellow you will find a list of main events and their leaders. I did not include Lunches, Dinners and monthly meetings. A big Thank You goes out to everyone who has participated. We look forward to many fun events in 2020 and 2021.

3-14-2020	Casa Grande Ruins, Goodyear, AZ	Steve and Rosemary Talmadge
3-9-2020	Moon over Miata's	Dennis and Mary Manning
2-14-2020	Lake Havasu Pyrotechnics	Steve and Rosemary Talmadge
2-8-2020	Concours in the Hills PCH Car Show	Jeff and Hope Morris
11-30-2019	Annual Meeting, Elections, Holiday Party	SMC Board of Directors
11-25-2019	Ford vs. Ferrari Movie	Cathey Kucera
11-11-2019	Veterans Day Parade, Phoenix, AZ.	Becky and Tom Shaw
11-8-2019	Berge Car Show	Jeff Morris
10-26-2019	Bisbee run to Chiricahua	Steve and Mary and Manning
10-25-2019	Halloween at The Shady Dell in Bisbee	Jeff and Hope Morris, Dennis and Mary Manning





Many thanks for those club members who participated in our last survey, our results were tabulated from the survey results. A big Thank You to our Webmaster Hope Morris for preparing and distributing the survey and producing the tables you see below. The results are as follows:

- > Majority of the club are ready to go for a ride in their Miata's, however they are understandably cautious.
- > 53% want to go on a run now while 32% want to hold off for a while. Remainder said "No Way".
- > Most members wanted to go on "Day Trips", bringing their own food. Limited eating in a outdoor setting was also of interest.
- > Definitely no indoor restaurants or overnight stays.
- > Regarding where our club finds out about events, the majority of members (61%) go directly to Meetup. >
- > With (14%) going to our website which in turn take you to Meetup. The rest get their information from Facebook and e-mails which may not be as current.

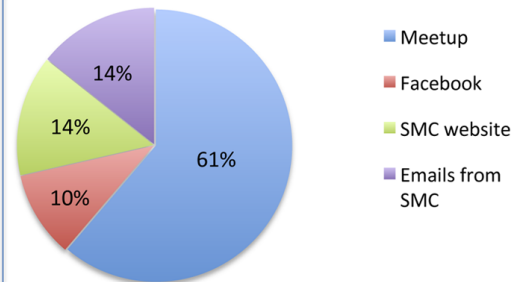
Your Sahuaro Miata Club Board will use this information to guide us over the next few months. Once again we wish to thank the 55 participants in this recent survey.

### SMC survey results – June 2020

Are you comfortable attending club events now starting in June 2020? Number of responses: 49 responses.

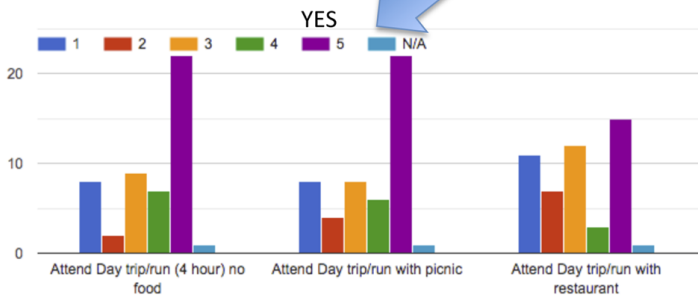


### Communications about events

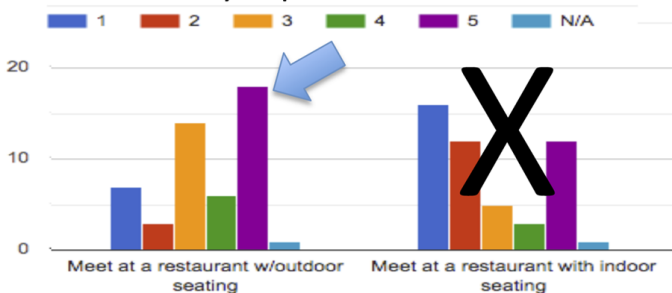


SMC website – gets information from Meetup. Notifications are sent from Meetup when events are published. All members should have access to Meetup, and understand this is the primary source of information for events.

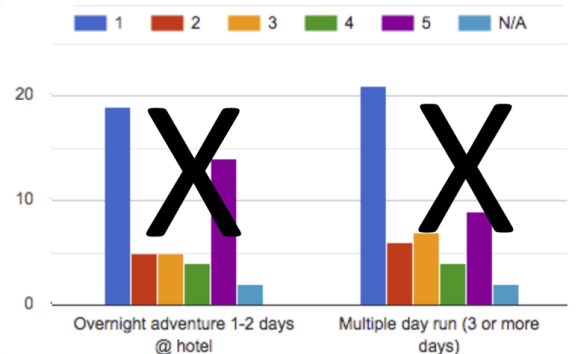
### Attend day trips?



### Day trips with food?



### Overnight stays?





We continue to come up with fun new merchandise for our club. Below you will find this years 2020 Devils Highway Golf shirts with our new Covid-19 themed Devil's Highway logo! If anyone wants matching 2020 Devil's Highway hats or visors we will be able to assist them with that as well. Please remember we have a selection of our SMC Logo hats and visors in a many of colors. Please check out our new Merchandise page on our SMC website. [www.sahuaromiataclub.com/merchandise](http://www.sahuaromiataclub.com/merchandise) Please contact me Hope Morris at to place your order or to answer any questions you may have.

Regards, Hope Morris  
marketing@sahuaromiataclub.com



## Golf Shirts

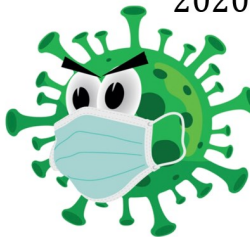
### SMC Logo/Devil's Hwy design

Golf shirts are available by special order.

\$30 S-XL larger sizes available for slight upcharge



Devil's highway  
2020



Black	Blue Lake	Deep Orange	Forest Green
Gold	Grey Concrete	Iron Grey	Kelly Green
Lime Shock	Maroon	Purple	Tropic Blue
True Navy	True Red	True Royal	Texas Orange
Vegas Gold	White		

Black	Blue Lake	Deep Orange	Forest Green
Gold	Grey Concrete	Iron Grey	Kelly Green
Light Pink	Lime Shock	Maroon	Pink Raspberry
Purple	Tropic Blue	True Navy	True Red
True Royal	White		

Embroidered T-shirts are also available for \$18



Caps and Visors

\$15 - one size fits all



Athletic Gold	Black	Carolina Blue	Charcoal
Coyote Brown	Hunter	Kelly Green	Khaki
Lime	Maroon	Navy	Neon Pink
Neon Yellow	Olive Drab Green	Orange	Oyster
Purple	Red	Royal	Silver
True Navy	True Red	Texas Orange	White
Woodland Brown			

Beach	Black	Charcoal	Green Oasis
Hunter	Khaki	Navy	Neon Pink
Neon Yellow	Red	Royal	Sangria
Sapphire	Ultramarine Blue	White	

If you have any special requests for merchandise, please email [marketing@sahuaromiataclub.com](mailto:marketing@sahuaromiataclub.com)



“I love meeting our new members. We have such interesting people in our club!”

Cathey Kucera, Membership Chair

### CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DATA

Membership, Jan 1st 2019	137
Membership, Jan 1st 2020	155
Membership, July 1st 2020	151
Percent increase from Jan 1st 2020	-2.6%

“IT IS NEVER TO LATE  
TO BE WHO YOU  
MIGHT HAVE BEEN”

George Eliot, Novelist

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone with the arrival of the COVID-19 Virus and that included the Club and our Members. The Club shut down activities mid March (in compliance with the CDC and Governor Duchey’s edicts) canceling many planned activities we had all looked forward to. We opened up activities June 1st but have limited new activities to respect social distancing and CDC recommendations. In an effort to understand the activities our Members were comfortable attending, a survey was sent out in mid June. Based on the results (see Page 5), it’s clear our Members want to proceed cautiously, staying with outdoor activities while the Virus is still active. We’ve had 17 new memberships during these trying times and have several more people expressing interest. It’s great we have a good deal of interest from like-minded Miata owners who love to have fun and meet people even in these trying times!

### NEW MEMBER LISTINGS

Feb	
	Bruce and Donna Philips
	Barry and Paula Spector
	Beth and Bob Forwark
	Steve Knapp & Pete Peterson

Mar	
	Jefferson and Sharae Morgan

April	
	Louis and Linda Vetter

May	
	Ed and Susie Lutz
	Steven and Coni Grossman
	Kathy and Robert Schoepe
	Ron and Tana Smith

Jun	
	Duncan Schoepe
	Becky and Will Dodrill

Note: “Membership” is denoted by up-to-date Paid Dues.  
New Members listed are those not recognized in previous publications.

# Did you know there are four Miata versions?

## MAZDA MX-5 / Miata

1989-1998

1.6L 5MT (116 HP) 1.8L (131 HP)

Sold over 400,000 units. Codename Roadster modeled after the British roadsters of the 60's and 70's.

(especially the Lotus Elan) the car was simple, reliable, and nimble. It could be a daily driver, it was that much fun. Noted for its famous Pop up headlights and cute design. For many this is the "Quintessential" MX-5 Miata.



## MAZDA MX-5 / Miata

1998-2005

1.6L 5MT (110HP) 1.8L (146 HP)

Dubbed the NB. Sold another 400,000 units! Very similar to the NA with the Pop up headlights gone due to pedestrian safety concerns. A little wider, larger anti-roll bar, better brakes with optional ABS. Later years saw the Mazdaspeed (2004-2005). Here we see a beautiful example owned by Judy and Ron Zwickl.



## MAZDA MX-5 / Miata

2006-2015

1.8L 5MT (125HP) 2.0L 5MT, 6MT, 6AT (160 HP)

A major design overhaul from the NB, the NC was almost 2" longer and 75#s heavier than the last version of the NB. Many consider the NC to be a chunkier yet far more refined version. Available in the highly sought after PRHT, (Power retractable Hard Top as shown). Note the flared fenders, HID headlights and top center brake light. Owned by Hope and Jeff Morris.

## MAZDA MX-5 / Miata

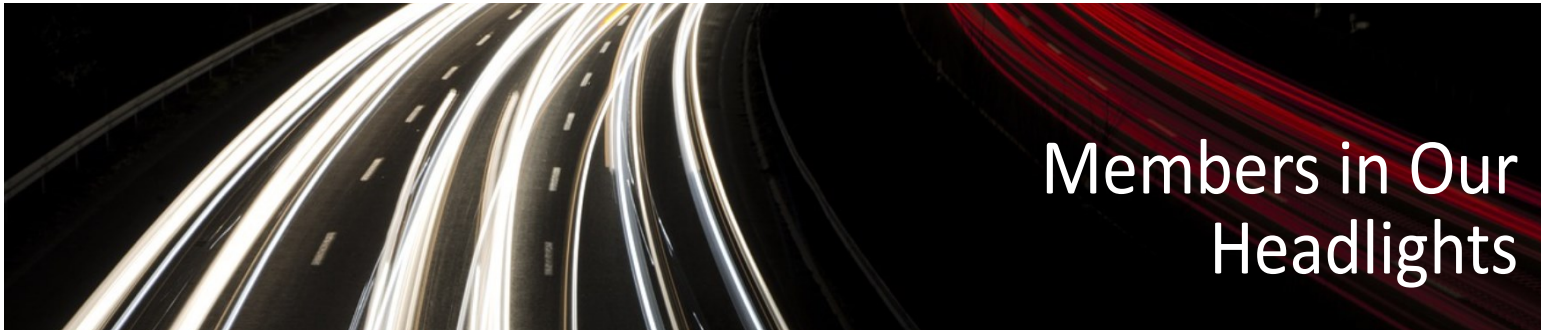
2016-Present

1.5L Skyactiv-G (131HP), 2.0L Skyactiv-G (155HP) 2018 Skyactiv-G (181HP)

Another major Miata re-design, the ND is available as a Roadster (Soft Top) and RF (Retractable Fastback) This is a fully modern car with advanced safety features and styling. More compact to bring it in line with the original NA. As before, the ND is a blast to drive. Owned by Mark and Cathey Kucera.







# Members in Our Headlights



## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Eddie and Susie Lutz joined the Miata Club in spring of 2020. They are new to the Miata family and love their sporty red 2006 Miata! Eddie had long been eyeing the Miata brand since a friend of his bought one for his daughter. After driving the car for four years, the young woman and her family moved to Virginia and decided to sell the car. So, we jumped at the chance and here we are! We soon found the Saguaro Miata Club online, signed up, after a few runs with other club members, we feel very welcome and right at home.

## EDDIE & SUSIE LUTZ NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Eddie and Susie have three grown children and four grandchildren - all under the age of 6 yrs old. The couple are both former public-school teachers with 28 years combined but now both work in non-profit work. Susie is a child sponsor coordinator for an orphanage in Haiti, and Eddie is a pastor at a church in Northeast Scottsdale. Besides adoring their four grandchildren, they have three sweet dogs who are loving members of the family.



# Members in Our Headlights

## Run to Martha Purfeerst's May 30, 2020



**MARTHA PURFEERST  
PAST BOARD MEMBER  
AND MERCHANDISING  
COORDINATOR**

What can I say about a member such as Martha Purfeerst. I was notified by Martha in mid May that she had been diagnosed with advanced cancer. After reviewing all of her options, Martha decided to take the time she had to get her affairs in order preparing her friends and family for the inevitable.

When I heard about this it became an immediate call to action and our club did a multiple drive by around Martha's home up in Anthem. With only a week's notice, 30 Miata's and almost 60 members showed Martha how much we love her, we drove from all over the valley. Martha's front yard was decked out with Miata memorabilia as we circled her home. Martha was noticeably touched by our efforts.

Words can not do justice explaining the feelings both my wife and I have for Martha. Thank You Martha for all you do.

All of our Love, Jeff and Hope Morris, and The Sahuaro Miata Club



**BOARD  
SECRETARY  
TIM  
KROLL**

**Tim Kroll** is our 2020 Secretary. The secretary's role is like a "watch dog", keeping the Board of Directors' actions in line with our By Laws.

Per the By Laws: "The secretary shall keep the minutes of official club meetings; and upon request, shall furnish each member with a copy of these bylaws and their amendments."

Tim does a great job of noting the main topics of our monthly board meetings and any Main club events such as our Annual Meeting held in early December each year. Thank You Tim!

## OUR SECRETARY REMINDS US.....

### 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.

This months contributor:  
**Mark Kucera**  
Facebook Coordinator



## Sway-Bars

One of the favorite things for Miata owners to do to their Miata's is upgrading their suspension components to improve the handling characteristics. Factory suspension on the Miata, and most cars, allow what many consider to be excessive body lean, or body roll going around corners. The leaning not only feels unstable but it also reduces tire traction on the road for the tires on the inside of the turn because the body lean decreases weight on the inside tires and increases it on the outside tires. The overall effect is uneven weight distribution, compromised suspension geometry, and reduced cornering traction. Less body lean for "flat cornering" feels stable, controllable, and can produce increased cornering speeds.

All Miata's have small factory sway-bars or anti-roll bars on the front and rear of the car to reduce body roll, but they are designed as part of a complete suspension package engineered for reasonably good handling and a soft comfortable ride for broad market appeal. If you want a more performance car feel larger aftermarket sway bars are the least expensive and are the best method of reducing body roll. They reduce body roll without a significant increase in ride harshness. Ride stiffness isn't greatly affected because the sway-bar doesn't resist the suspension compression when both left and right side suspension components react to bumps together, like when the car goes over expansion joints on roads. Increasing the suspension springs can also reduce body roll somewhat, but they will probably greatly increase ride stiffness potentially making the car less desirable as a daily driver.

Suspension theory and design are complicated and a big subject that we don't have space to cover in this article so I'll keep my explanation short on how sway-bars reduce body roll and improve handling. Sway-bars are metal bars or tubes that connect the left and right sides of the suspension together. Body roll during cornering compresses the suspension on the outside of the turn and extends the suspension on the inside of the turn. The sway-bar is connected to the suspension such that the body lean twists the sway-bar so that it acts like a spring to resist the body roll. The bar transfers the force trying to compress the outside suspension to the suspension and tires on the inside of the turn. This reduces the body roll and increases weight pressing down on the inside tires increasing their traction. If you would like to dig into the details of sway-bar theory do an internet search on sway-bar theory.

Larger, stiffer aftermarket sway-bars are available from many sources such as Flyin' Miata, Goodwin Racing, Moss Miata, Karcepts, and others. Check out their websites for product information. A set of front and rear sway-bars range in price from around \$300 to just over \$900 delivered. Which bars are the best choice for your car depends on your intended use of the car, your budget, and which Miata you own. Each of the sources mentioned are highly regarded experts on Miata performance. They offer technical support to help you make a good choice. They sell good quality bars that have been tested and proven to be good choices for each vehicle.

Installation of sway-bars can be done by many shops for a reasonable fee. Installing them yourself may also be possible. I would recommend you do some research to understand the difficulty of the installation on your model of Miata to determine if you should attempt performing the installation. There are many videos on YouTube showing detailed installation instructions.

If you want to do one thing to improve the handling of your Miata start with aftermarket sway-bars. They will give you the biggest improvement in handling, for the least cost, and won't compromise the ride quality significantly.



# Members in Our Headlights

## OUR NUMBERS GAL, SUE TAYLOR BOARD TREASURER

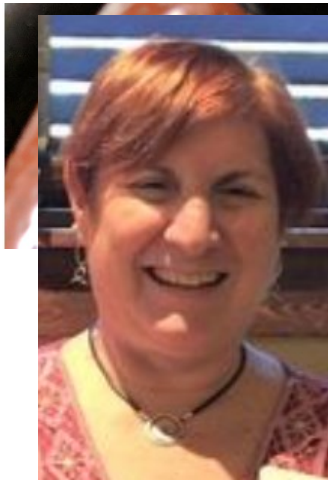


Sue has lived in Arizona with her husband Tom for 25 years and for 13 years has lived at Del Webb Festival in Buckeye. Their two children and three grandchildren live close by so she is staying right in the Buckeye area.

Sue’s husband Tom was initially asked to become our Treasurer. Tom proceeded to have a panic attack at the thought of filling this important position. Tom knew that Sue had a background in accounting and asked Sue if she would take on this important position. To Tom’s delight Sue offered to take over the position of Treasurer. As Sue explained “I want to give back to the club, since the club has given so much to us”. Sue is using her accounting skills to benefit the club. She enjoys going to events and meeting new people and plans to be more involved in future events since retiring within the last year. We appreciate the outstanding job Sue has done over the past six months.

Thank You Sue!





# The Dashboard

## STOP UNWANTED MEETUP EMAILS! Hope Morris, Webmaster

Our club uses the *meetup* application to manage attendance at our events. Most of you are already familiar with the RSVP options for our events. Each time you click the check mark to RSVP, you are adding "1" to our count. If you and your co-pilot are attending an event, then you need to add 1 guest, that is if your co-pilot does not register themselves individually.

### *meetup*

Some people have been complaining that Meetup sends them too many emails. There is a way for you to manage what you want the application to send to you. Here's how to do it:

1. To initiate the process, just click on your picture in the upper right hand corner of the screen (on a computer)
2. Then select "settings".
3. Under settings, you will see a selection on the left side bar - "email updates". Clicking on the email updates will bring in a list of events that cause Meetup to send you an email.

4. Uncheck any of the listed boxes - and that will stop Meetup from emailing you for each of those particular events.

Specifically, in the middle, there is **New Meetup Groups**, by unchecking that box, you will no longer get emails announcing a new meetup group that may have something to do with your "interests", indicators you selected when you signed up for the application.

5. Once you have made your changes, you can go back to your photo and click on it to return to the Sahuaro MX5 Miata Club.

Test this out and see if your changes eliminate the number of unwanted emails.

If you have any other *meetup* questions you would like answered or suggestions to improve our WWW website, please feel free to contact Hope Morris at [webmaster@sahauromiataclub.com](mailto:webmaster@sahauromiataclub.com)

## FACEBOOK INVITATION TO JOIN THE

Did you know the Sahuaro Miata Club has a "**Sahuaro Miata Interest Group**" Facebook page? All you have to do is go to that title page and request to join for access.

Proud Miata owners regularly post topics for varied interests and tastes, such as:

- Articles and pictures of recent Miata runs and events
- Announcements of upcoming events
- Pictures and details on DIY Miata projects
- What people are doing to enjoy owning their car
- Technical articles on performance enhancements
- Advice on Miata matters, to find or offer
- Personal stories about their Miata's
- Product recommendations by members

You are invited to join and start posting your stories, pictures, videos, and questions.

Within the site there are many more features of Facebook to keep you in-touch with club members and friends.

This Facebook page is open to all, even non-club members, which allows us to reach outside the club to attract new members and find out what other Miata owners are doing to enjoy their sportscar.

The club also has the "**Sahuaro Miata Club Buy And Sell**" Facebook page where you can list your car or parts for sale. Hit the "request to join" button.

**Check out our website: [www.sahauromiataclub.com](http://www.sahauromiataclub.com)**



Jeff Morris Editor  
editor@sahuaromiataclub.com  
808-269-6693

Dear Sahuaro Miata Club Members,  
This issue is just the beginning of what I trust will be a series of fun newsletters that the entire club will enjoy. Due to Covid-19, I have postponed a number of articles, some you will see in future issues. We will have additional information on past events, future events, member biographies, tech notes and so much more. I invite everyone in the club who has not had their Biography posted to please email me a bio of themselves and if they have a co-pilot their Bio as well. Please include photos of you, your car and any photos of interest that shows your Miata and non Miata interests.

Also, I am looking for contributors for our Tech Column. You are invited to write an article that describes modifications or maintenance that can be performed on your Miata. Photo's of course are always welcome.

Please contact me at "Editor@sahuaromiataclub.com" 808-269-6693

I wish to take a moment to thank our most recent past Editor Mrs. Cynthia Wood. Her many efforts and long hours in setting up our current newsletter template have given our publication the "Professional Look" you see today.

Thanks You Cynthia!

***Place  
Mailing  
Label  
Here***