

MIATA SOUNDER

*Newsletter of the Puget Sound Miata Club
The Oldest Miata Club in the World*



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PSMC Planning & Board Mtg

Sunday, Nov. 4, 2007
@10:30AM

Harmon Brewing Co.,
Tacoma

*Hosted by your PSMC Board
Article by Bonnie Lohkamp*



The first PSMC planning meeting for events for 2008 will be held on Sunday, November 4, 2007 at the Harmon Brewing Company located in Tacoma. We have reserved an area in the back for breakfast, where we can order from their regular menu. The restaurant will allow separate checks. Reservations are for up to 30 people, so make sure you get your RSVPs in early. Please come and join us so that we can start planning new events for the new year. A board meeting will follow. All members of the club are invited to attend. Please RSVP thru the website so that we can give the restaurant an accurate headcount for breakfast.

The Harmon Brewing Company is located at 1938 Pacific Avenue in Tacoma, just off the City Center exit, right next to the UW-Tacoma campus and just across the street from the Washington State History Museum. Parking is available on the street, as well as in several nearby lots. For detailed driving and parking information and to take a look at the menu, go to www.harmonbrewing.com

Hope to see many of you there!

Veteran's Day Run

Come Join the "Miata Train"
Sunday, November 11, 2007

Hosted by Ohlsen, Smith & Umemoto

It was on again, off again, on again, off again and now it is on again. With little interest from our membership (shame on you!), and with three of the eight Miatas who did RSVP by October 15th to show interest in the run actually being the hosts, the hosts decided that if no one wants to show up, we are still going to have a fun time zipping through the autumn countryside and city streets to the VFW in Redmond to salute and have a drink with our Veterans. Therefore, we are going to run the tour "as a need to know basis." If you are interested in joining in the run, you can either meet up at the starting points or call the host in your area to see where you can join the run. Here are the particulars:

NORTH END: Tom and Cindy will be starting their run @ **10AM at Smokey Point Rest area at Milepost 207 on North I-5.** We will be going through Arlington, south to Granite Falls and Monroe. At Monroe, we'll take a quick break before going down West Snoqualmie Road to Redmond, where we will work our way to the **VFW, located at 4330 148th Avenue in Redmond.** To join the "Smith Miata Train," be at the starting point or call Tom & Cindy at either 206-714-8208 or 425-346-7091.

SOUTH END: Allan and Cheryl will be meeting at the **Target/Coffee Shop off HWY 16 in Tacoma @ 10 AM.** They'll leave there at 10:30 AM and wind their way on the backroads to the Don Armeni Boat Launch in West Seattle to join

Miata Train continued on page 8

New Event on the Calendar: Tom & Lindanne Gores' 2nd Annual Holiday Open House, Saturday, December 29, 2007

Tom and I are planning our 2nd annual "Hectic-Christmas-Season-is-almost-over-let's-Celebrate" Open House. Plus this year we are also celebrating Tom's new employment and having the weekends to ourselves, a first in many years.

So to celebrate, Our Open House will be on Saturday, Dec 29th. YES!! A weekend afternoon-evening time!

Please RSVP to either Lindanne at Lindanne@comcast.net or on the website calendar at www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org.



MIATA SOUNDER

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PUBLISHING

The *SOUNDER* is published monthly (as close to the first of the month as possible). The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. All articles and ads are due by then, so as to be included in the following month's publication.

Event Masters are encouraged to get their event info to the editor as soon as possible to ensure all members can plan for the event.

Send your submissions to:

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 1/4 page \$35.00
 1/2 page \$65.00

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pugetsoundmiataclub.org

Visit our website for the latest club info, links to other Miata sites and more.

upcoming events

PSMC'S Holiday Party

Saturday, December 8, 2007; 6 PM - 11 PM

Renton Community Center

Hosted by your PSMC Board

Article by Bonnie Lohkamp



The annual PSMC Holiday Party will be held once again at the Renton Community Center on Saturday, December 8th, 2007. The schedule will be as follows:

- 6 PM – 7 PM: Social Hour
- 7 PM – 8 PM: Dinner
- 8 PM – 9 PM: Prize Raffle and Awards
- 9 PM – 11 PM: Dancing to the music of DJ Dabbs

As you can see, due to popular demand, we will have DJ Dabbs returning to provide the music for dancing once again. The menu, with two new choices, will be provided by the Renton Technical Center Culinary Group. You will need to request one of the following entrees when making your RSVP:

- Prime Rib OR
- Halibut with Ginger/Lime Sauce OR
- Grilled Rosemary Lemon Chicken served with a Lemon/Caper Sauce.

Accompanying the entrees will be a Caesar Salad, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Rolls and Butter and sauces for the Prime Rib. Desserts will be provided by the PSMC Board. Wine, Beer, sodas and water will also be available. Cost for the Wine and Beer will be \$3.00 each, with the soda and water being complimentary by PSMC.

Once again, Gayle Lazur has donated her time share at a destination of your choice (depending upon availability) as the grand prize, plus we will have many more raffle prizes to give out.

PLEASE don't forget to bring an unwrapped toy (not to exceed \$10.00) to put under the tree for the Toys for Tots program. Your generosity will be rewarded when a special child, who would not normally receive a gift on Christmas morning, finds that Santa did not forget them.

Cost of the Holiday Party will stay the same: \$25.00 per person. **PLEASE RSVP** using the website and email Cindy Smith at tomaci@verizon.net with your entrée selection. We highly encourage that you make your payment in advance (although you can pay at the door). You can send a check, made to the order of PSMC to: Cindy Smith, 11908 215th PL SE, Snohomish, WA 98296. Please RSVP and email your entrée selections **NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007**. We will need to get a headcount for the caterers.

There is also a reserved block of 10 rooms (5 King Bed and 5 Queen Bed) at the Quality Inn located across the highway at 1850 SE Mapleview, Renton. They are going for a rate of 79.00 plus tax for those of you that would like to relax and not drive home after the party, The hotel can be reached at 425-226-7600. You must mention Puget Sound Miata Club when placing your reservation to get the special rate. The rooms will be held until November 30th before they are released to the general public.

This will be a wonderful festive affair and we hope to see many of you there to celebrate the holiday season with your Miata family.

event aftermath

Another Parade Story

By Charlotte Fellers

The PSMC closed out the Parade Season with a one last drive down the streets of Leavenworth for the Autumn Leaf Festival on September 29. Eight Miatas from the Puget Sound featured the queens and courts from South Kitsap County, Viking Fest, and Kingston.

The Autumn Leaf Parade is an exciting and fun parade to attend, which is why three of our members' cars sat on the sidelines. With beautiful floats from around the state and a few from outside the state, and several superior high school bands, this parade draws hundreds of spectators and more than 100 entries (and they aren't all just cars and horses). So if you've thought about attending a parade in Leavenworth, this one is a real crowd pleaser, and the audience is always appreciative.

The parade was just the start to the weekend, however. Afterward, the club caravanned to the Chateau Faire le Pont Winery in Wenatchee for a late lunch of Italian food. The highlight of this meal had to be the homemade tomato basil bisque, which was so good we asked for (and received!) the recipe from the chef!

The next stop was the Best Western Lakeside on the shores of Lake Chelan. The dreary, rainy afternoon didn't dampen our taste for the hot tub, swimming pool or the unobstructed view of the lake from our fourth floor accommodations.

The evening ended on a high note with everyone convening for a conversation about their "brush with fame." The interesting results of the conversation:

Frank Shriver chauffeured Roy Disney, "a gentleman," around Seattle once; Bonnie Lohkamp went to high school with O.J. Simpson (he acted the same way then that he acts now) and Johnny Mathis (a great guy); Tom Millar had lunch with Ben Gazzara once (a decent enough actor, he says) and met the boxer George Foreman (he has giant hands and lots of boys named "George"); Cindy Millar sat next to Jane Russell at an awards banquet (a pleasant woman), Carol Kus attended high school with Diana Ross (she was heavier in high school and was a bit of a snob then); Larry Lohkamp spent a number of years in the San Francisco area in his youth and hung out with Janis Joplin (she loved Southern Comfort) and spent a Thanksgiving with the singing duo from the '70's, Seals and Crofts (two nice guys); Mindy Bohnas was on the "Brakeman Bill" show (think J.P. Patches' competition); and Charlotte Fellers interviewed Dolly Parton, Tom T. Hall, and Mel Tillis at the Colorado State Fair when she was a working journalist (personable and interesting).

Sunday's drive across the North Cascades was cancelled due to the weather, so everyone was on their own to get home. Before splitting up for the drive home, the group stopped at Tsillian Cellars on Lake Chelan to walk the grounds and do some wine tasting. Lunch was in Leavenworth for some and even a little shopping before the drive home.



At the Leavenworth Autumn Leaf Festival parade. Photo by Tom Millar.



Chateau Faire Le Pont Winery, Wenatchee. Photo by Charlotte Fellers.



*Our Leavenworth group (left to right):
Back Row: Larry Lohkamp, Linda & John Mann, Carol Kus,
Frank Shriver and Tom Millar
Front Row: Bonnie Lohkamp, Mindy Bohnas, Charlotte
Fellers and Cindy Millar.
Photo contributed by Charlotte Fellers.*

event aftermath

October PSMC Social

By Dee & Duncan

(‘99 Silver ‘Road Dancer’)

There’s another great aspect to this motorsports hobby, one that goes beyond the racing and rallying and touring and parading and wrenching and detailing and late night mechanical thrashing. It’s the nice people you get to meet, and that’s what the October Social was all about. Charlotte Fellers hosted this event; her home is not far from downtown Auburn, but true to the PSMC mindset her “rally instructions” to get there brought us in from the freeway via the pumpkin farms and scenic twisties of Auburn - Black Diamond Road. That’s the right way to start an autumn evening.

A huge lasagna was cooking in the oven and as the guests arrived the potluck dinner expanded proportionately, gaining salads, focaccia breads, cupcakes, cake, ice cream, etc. Maybe we expanded as well during the meal. Keen observers also noted Charlotte’s back lawn is prepared for croquet. Anyone up for a challenge match? The conversations grew as the food settled in our tummies, and ultimately the interrogations of “What was your closest brush with fame?” started. The answers were enlightening, even amazing. Some that are suitable for reporting in this family publication include the following:

- Dee Dahlke: Got Glenn Ford’s autograph when he was stinking drunk at an airport in Martinique.
- Charlotte Fellers: Owns a big time wheat ranch in Colorado.
- Duncan Johnson: Aimed Dan Gurney’s driving lights on the Olympus world championship rally.
- Gayle Lazur: Inspected Boris Said’s underwear at a Trans-Am race. (For fire safety, you lecher!)
- Bob Mott: Was once an air traffic controller, but to relieve the stress he became a Los Angeles police officer. Then he busted Fred Astaire for an illegal U-turn in his Rolls-Royce motor car. And you thought the judges were hard-nosed about bad moves on “Dancing With the Stars.”
- Marti Mott: Shanghaied Dyan Cannon into providing counseling for a fellow airline employee.
- Bonnie Lohkamp: Worked as a go-go dancer in a cage.
- Larry Lohkamp: Was a Haight-Ashbury hippie during the Summer Of Love.

Well I never! Can you imagine that? Much nicer than just another greasy pizza and cheap beer in some dive after leaving the speedway.

We stayed up well past our bedtime, but that made for a brisk ride home as the roads were traffic-free and a change of weather was in the air. We close with a seasonal quote from poet Humbert Wolfe:

“Listen! The wind is rising, and the air is wild with leaves;
We have had our summer evenings, now for October’s eves...”

More from the Leavenworth Parade

Photos by Tom Millar



Speedy September

By Denise Williamson



Another Nationals has come and gone, and so has our summer weather. The SCCA Solo National Championships were held September 25-29 in Topeka, Kansas at Heartland Park. There were many challenges getting to and from Nationals, plus the usual challenges at Nationals. Many people did not make the trek this year, and I already know of a few who will not be attending in 2008. The small, sandy surface continues to be an issue, with few (if any) alternatives or improvements in sight. Weather, as always, made class-to-class comparisons unreliable.

The Northwest Region was very successful. 56 drivers from Oregon and Washington attended Nationals this year. 27 brought home trophies, including six new National Champions. PSMC members who made this year's pilgrimage were **Glen Hernandez**, **Alan Dahl**, and **Enrique Garcia**. Glen drove a Lotus Elise in Super Stock and trophied 12th out of 67. Alan drove his Pontiac Solstice GXP in A Stock and trophied 10th out of 60. Enrique drove a Miata in Street Touring S2 and placed 24th out of 33. Just to give you an idea of how deep the fields were, Enrique was 5.462 seconds out of first, Alan was 2.922 seconds out of first, and Glen was 2.737 seconds out of first. These times were spread over two days of competition, so every thousandth of a second counted.

A couple of weeks later they were back in action on their home turf. October 7 was the last event of this year's WWSCC Championship series. "Sports Car Spectacular" was held in mostly-rainy Everett. The weather did not seem to deter people, as there were 109 entrants. The track and weather conditions varied widely, so please keep that in mind when you see the times. There were seven PSMC drivers at this event in five classes. **Bob Bundy** and **Dieter Beldi** battled it out in Open Street, with Bob claiming the victory. Bob ran a 44.117, while Dieter took second with a 44.469. In Novice AM, **John Kabigting** placed 3rd in his '91 Miata. **Glen Hernandez** placed seventh in Pro1 in a street-tired Acura Integra with an indexed 42.522 (H Stock), and no, there is no extra multiplier for running on street tires). **Alan Dahl** placed eight in Pro1 in his Pontiac Solstice GXP with an indexed 43.309 (A Stock). **TJ McGeary** and **Enrique Garcia** ran in Time Only AM, while Bob Bundy and Enrique ran in Time Only PM. Kudos for top unindexed times for this event go to Bob (first)(Open Street), Dieter (second)(Open Street), TJ (fifth)(Time Only AM), and Enrique (Time Only AM). Can you tell it poured rain during the Stock portion of the event?

What is the "Time Only" class, you ask? It is where you can drive for no championship/series points, and your time is not indexed or trophied. Anyone in any car can run in this class, but the registration, tech, and work assignment processes are the same. If you run in a regular class in the first session of the day, you can often (but not always) run in "Time Only" in the second half of the day. This means you can race twice in one day! It is also for when you want to run in a particular part of the

Autocross continued next column

November Autocross

For details see wwscc.org

6 BSCC Monthly Meeting @ Tony's Pizza

Autocross continued from previous column

day, or want to run just for fun.

Oh, and one last thing: Overheard at Nationals: "It's not a race car without bacon" - Enrique Garcia. HUH?

Coming next month: The last 2007 SCCA Championship event, plus final SCCA season standings.



Okay, here's the bacon. Photo by Glen Hernandez.



Bob Bundy (above) and Alan Dahl (below) at Sports Car Spectacular. Photos by Eric Gearhart.



New Faces

We hope to meet you at an event soon!

By *Randy Umemoto*

Arnie & Judy Danberg	Port Ludlow, WA	07 Silver
Randy Cook	Enumclaw, WA	Red
Clifford Butler & Elaine Gregory	Kent WA	03 Red



From the Editor's Desk

There's Change A'comin'

By *Cindy Smith*



Every club has its good years and its lean years. Leadership skills, commitment to the club and integrity all affect on how well a club prospers – or fades out to a distant memory. The bottom line, however, is that

volunteerism is the backbone of every club. Simply put: no volunteers, no club.

Since I've been with PSMC, there never seemed to be a lack of volunteers. Trouble is, though, a lot of our volunteers have been "recycled." Take me for example. Over the past 7 years, I've been event host (too many times to count), board member, president, past president, editor and back to being past-president again (not to mention helping with Gatherings, Detailing Day, Holiday Parties and Miatacross). Karen Perry did almost the same thing when the club was broken in two by those who didn't think our constitution should apply to them. Or how about Denise Williamson, Dieter Beldi and Sean McGriff who have been almost single-handedly putting on Miatacross, all the while, pleading for new members to come forward to help share the responsibility of raising funds for the club so we can have our club-hosted events for relatively little cost to you, our members. Then there is Randy and Rosa Umemoto, Bill Cooper, Mindy Bohnas and Bonnie Lohkamp who work tirelessly keeping the database current, sending Sounders out, hosting numerous events at their own expense, and keeping our parade commitments and "innards" running smoothly.

It isn't going to take a rocket scientist, though, to figure out that "recycled" volunteers are going to get burned out. And when – not if – they get burned out, no one else comes forward to take their place, then the likely outcome is that there will no longer be a club.

For me, after 6 years of giving my all to the club, I am stepping down from all my duties next year. No hosting events; no editing the Sounder; and no to being on the board. It is time for new blood, new events, new ideas. And if no one comes forward to take over the Sounder, it will mean no more Sounder for the general membership.

I just hope it is someone new so that one of our already dedicated volunteers don't have to recycle themselves. Been there, done that and I don't wish it on anyone else.

Familiar Faces

Try a new Miata Event this year!

Barbara Mitten	91 BRG	4 yrs
Brian Brewer	94 Black	15 yrs
J. Davis Mock	94 Red	1 yr
Fredrick & Bev Rudd	01 BRG	10 yrs
Kazi & Errol Scott	99 Red	14 yrs
Rosa & Randy Umemoto	00 Mahogany Mica	15 yrs
Jack & Mary Ann Wise	96 White	1 yr
Rob & Kelly Meldrum	94 Red	1 yr
Fred & Sandi Holler	03 Garnet Red	8 yrs
Rick Hardy	99 White	3 yrs
Eric & Janice Fisher	92 Red	8 yrs
Brian Louderback	92 Mariner Blue	4 yrs
Robert & Jacqueline Schouten	99 Silver	8 yrs
Raymond & Elsje Houghton	97 Marina Green	10rs

Thanks to the following Miata dealers who provide PSMC member discounts (simply show your PSMC Card):

Coop's Miata of Maple Valley (425) 432-9666

Doug's Lynnwood Mazda (425) 774-3551

Harbor Freight Tools (Everett store only) (425) 513-6213

Mazda of Everett (425) 353-3403

Pinnacle Mazda of Renton (425) 271-2700

Russ Dunmire Mazda of Tacoma (253) 473-2440

University Mazda of Seattle (206) 634-1191

Whidbey Island Mazda of Oak Harbor (360) 675-2218

Remember

You can now get your Sounder via email instead of snail mail. It's easy, just send an email to sounder@comcast.net



President's Message

By Bonnie Lohkamp, PSMC President

Another month gone by and now it looks like we went straight from summer into winter. We were even on vacation the first 10 days of this month, which started off with a Leavenworth trip. The bad thing about taking vacation in October? We ran into some early snow on Stevens Pass and then downpours of rain on the way back. The good thing? We did not have to go to work for ten days and took some nice trips throughout the state where we saw some gorgeous scenery. If you have the chance before the snow seriously starts sticking on the passes, take a drive and look at the beautiful change of color that is currently happening in the forests. Going over and coming back on Stevens Pass was a sight to behold.



Start making your tour plans now so that you can get your event on next year's calendar. Our first planning meeting, to be held in the South End, will be held in Tacoma after a hearty breakfast at Harmon's Brewing Co. (see page 1). A board meeting will be held afterwards to which all club members are invited to participate. However, if the holidays have you swamped, we will be having another planning meeting in January up in the north end of the sound. And if you have an event but are not able to make it to either of the meetings, you can always send me an email at blohkamp@comcast.net and I will make sure it gets on next year's calendar.

Also in November, we will be having the Veteran's Day run on Sunday the 11th. Thanks go to Randy and Rosa Umemoto for

stepping up to help give Tom and Cindy some help on planning this run. Make sure you come out and join the Miata Train for a great drive and to honor all our veterans (see page 1 for details).

Things are slowing down for the rest of the year, which is understandable due to the holiday season fast approaching. However, it is never too late to throw together a quick run or a nice get together around a roaring fire. Charlotte Fellers jumped in and put on a last minute Saturday Social in October in honor of the gray time of the year starting. Pumpkin patches are everywhere. Holiday Lights are already starting to show up on homes across the Sound and folks always jump at the opportunity for a spontaneous CYMCOAP event or a new and exciting run. With the holiday spirits starting to soar, you could even put on a mall-to-mall drive to see how many different Santas you could get your group's picture taken with (and maybe even do a little shopping on the side)!

Speaking of Santa, your board of elves is busy working away on the plans for the Holiday Party. Make sure you put Saturday, December 8th on your calendar and don't forget to RSVP along with sending Cindy your menu choice for a fun filled evening (see page 2).

Well the rain is starting to come down once again as I write this. Time to go out and put BAITHOG and SUMRTME under cover for the night so that they will both be nice and dry to start out the daily drive to work for Larry and I. In other words vacation is over....back to reality.

May you all have a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

"Live for sunny days and warm nights"

WANTED

NEEDED

MUST HAVE

NEW SOUNDER EDITOR ASAP

Before present editor **SPONTANEOUSLY COMBUSTS!** (I'm close, folks, real close!)

It's now too late for assistants. It's been three years; I need a break. Plus it is time for someone with new inventive ideas to take over. Ideally, it is time for TWO NEW SOMEONES. No experience with Pagemaker or Adobe Photoshop necessary. Present editor will teach duties of Sounder newsletter: formatting, editing and layout.

Please call Cindy at 360-668-5508 or email her at tomaci@verizon.net if you would like to volunteer for the job. If you love challenges, being creative – and plain just love getting the Sounder newsletter, then this is the position for you.

A word of warning: I am **NOT** doing the Sounder indefinitely. If no one comes forward in the next few months, you will NOT be receiving a Sounder in the future. Please don't wait for "the other guy" to step forward; it may never happen. The future of our club's newsletter lies with YOU.

November 2007

- 4 Southend Planning Meeting hosted by PSMC Board (see page 1)
- 11 Veterans' Day Run (tentative) hosted by Many (see page 1)

December 2007

- 1 Shelton Holiday Parade
- 8 PSMC Holiday Party hosted by PSMC Board (see page 2)
- 29 Gores's 2nd Annual Holiday Open House, hosted by Tom and Lindanne Gores (see page 1)

Classifieds

AUTOS FOR SALE

1993 Miata

Black with tan leather interior, package C, 106,000 miles. 5 SP manual with super charger and chrome everywhere. Original owner with original paperwork & never been wrecked. Power windows, power locks, stock Pioneer AM/FM cassette/CD player. Lots of upgrades include: A/C, chrome style bar, spoiler, dual exhaust, suspension, 15" chrome wheels with Yokohama tires, Cobra type chrome gas cap, modified stationary headlights.

\$8,990 OBO. Call Ron Krohmer @ 480.292.1351

PARTS FOR SALE

BRAND NEW, NEVER USED COCKPIT COVER FROM MOSS for a '99 Miata or older. Cost was \$49.90 with shipping. Price negotiable. Call Dana at 425-349-3460 or email at danaruthwilber@hotmail.com.

Miata Train continued from page 1

the "Umamoto Miata Train." To join the "Ohlsen Miata Train," be at the starting point or call Allan & Cheryl at 206-444-6845.

WEST SIDE: Rosa & Randy will be starting at the **Don Armeni Boat Launch in West Seattle @ 12 Noon**. They will head out as soon as the "Ohlsen Miata Train" has a chance to use the facilities and then will work their way to join the "Smith Miata Train" at the VFW in Redmond. To join the "Umamoto Miata Train," be at their starting point or call Randy (206-953-9530) or Rosa (206-427-3529).

EAST SIDE: Sorry, no one came forward to bring a group from the East Side.

And For your Information: The Redmond VFW was very excited to hear that the Puget Sound Miata Club wanted to come out and salute their troops. So even if you don't want to do the drive, we hope that you will at least show up between 1PM and 2PM to salute those who have ensured the rights and freedoms we all take for granted. You know it is the right thing to do!



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MEMBERSHIP

The club operates as a non-profit organization and relies primarily on volunteer services. However, sponsorship of events, the publication and mailing of the monthly newsletter and operating supplies constitute a financial burden that must be met by the membership. Make your Miata experience more enjoyable-join and participate. To keep the club meaningful and solvent, we need your support.

To join go online at pugetsoundmiataclub.org or send your name, address and check for \$30 (annual chapter dues) to:

**Puget Sound Miata Club
 3901 SW Hanford
 Seattle WA 98116**