

# MIATA SOUNDER

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



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## New PSMC Domain and Website

*By Nathan Allan, PSMC Webmaster*

Regular visitors to the club's website will already know that we have a new domain name:

[PugetSoundMiataClub.org](http://PugetSoundMiataClub.org)

We think it will be easier for people to remember and pass on to other Miata owners. So update your bookmarks and email address books now! You do not have to capitalize the words like I have, although you can. I just did so for effect.

Now that you are back from updating your bookmarks and email addresses, let me tell you all about the other matter discussed at the January Planning Meeting. The Web Committee was well represented with John Young, Mindy Bohnas, Mike Springer and me all in attendance. We discussed with the board revamping the site by updating the look and improving the navigation. Then as quick as you can shift from 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup>, I was somehow appointed the new Webmaster. My only request in serving as Webmaster was for the rest of the committee to hang around to help!

As a committee we are looking for your input for the new site. We already have had some great ideas shared with us. We have started a survey and have been informed that the Calendar and RSVP system are used most often. We know you want easier access to the forums, and our Forum Administrator, David Whooley, is ready and waiting!

If you want your opinion heard when it comes to our website, fill out our survey. We cannot promise each and every suggestion will become a reality but we will work on it.

The survey can be found at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org)



*Our new webmaster, Nathan Allan. Image from [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org)*

## First Friday Formals



**March 2, 2007**

Villa Nouva Ristorante Italiano  
7:00 PM in Bothell

*Hosted by the Lohkamps*

Larry and I will be hosting the March First Friday Formal at Villa Nouva Ristorante Italiano, a new Italian restaurant located at 17917 Bothell – Everett Hwy in Suite 103, Bothell (425.486.1428). We recently discovered this restaurant and found it wonderful. Villa Nouva Ristorante Italiano offers a variety of pasta

**April 13, 2007**

CI Shenanigan's  
7:30 PM in Tacoma

*Hosted by the Springers*

We have reservations for CI Shenanigan's on Rustin Way for 7:30pm Friday night. The view of Commencement Bay is spectacular in the evening, and the wide variety of Seafood, Nebraska Select Beef and Specials of the day will tempt almost any appetite. (For more information about the restaurant including the menu here

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*April FFF continued on page 10*



## MIATA SOUNDER

### STAFF

Editor ..... Cindy Smith  
 Distribution ..... Randy and Rosa Umemoto  
 Mailing List ..... Randy Umemoto  
 Photography ..... Contributed  
 Printing.....Blue Sky Printing

### FEATURE WRITERS

Club Events ..... Event Masters  
 Event Aftermath ..... Contributors  
 Autocross ..... Denise Williamson  
 Coop's Garage ..... Bill Cooper

## 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:

**Miata Sounder**  
 11908 215th PI SE  
 Snohomish, WA 98296-5401  
 (360) 668-5508  
 sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org

## ADVERTISING

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**pugetsoundmiataclub.org**

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

## upcoming events

# PSMC MONTHLY SOCIALS

**Saturday, March 10, 2007 @ 6:00 PM**

Tom & Cindy Millar Residence  
 14621 32nd St., Mill Creek



Set your calendars for Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, when the newly created monthly social sets yet another milestone at Cindy & Tom Millar's home in Mill Creek.

There is no formal agenda as the party will likely take on a life of its own, complete with stories that are embellished with B.S. Tom is planning on providing an entrée of barbeque chicken. Attendees need to provide the accompaniments as well as a favorite beverage.

Please RSVP via the website at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org/events/2007\\_social\\_march.php](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org/events/2007_social_march.php).

The festivities are scheduled to begin at 6:00 PM. We look forward to a great time together in this newly blossoming PSMC tradition!

**Directions:** From I-5, take exit 186 (128<sup>th</sup> St. SW) eastbound towards Mill Creek. Proceed for 2.4 miles until you come to 35<sup>th</sup> Ave SE; turn right until you come to 148<sup>th</sup> St. SE (about 1 mile) and make another right; go about 1 mile making another right onto 32<sup>nd</sup> Drive SE. Millar's home is on the right side at 14621 32<sup>nd</sup> Drive SE. For more information, or should you get lost, you can call the Millar's at 425.337.0306.

**Saturday, April 21, 2007 @ 6:00 PM**

Frank Shriver and Carol Kus  
 Whidbey Island

The April Social will be held at Frank Shriver's and Carol Kus' house on Whidbey Island at 6:00 PM. This will also be a potluck, and we will provide the dessert. We will also have box wine and beer; however, if you would prefer something else, feel free to bring it.

Driving Directions:

**From the South via Clinton (Mukilteo-Clinton Ferry):** drive North on Highway 525. When you arrive at mile post 28 (approximately 2 miles north of Greenbank), turn left on Ledgewood Beach Road and drive West to Fircrest Avenue. At Fircrest Ave., turn right (North) and go to 1947 Fircrest Ave. on the right. Light brown house with white trim.

**From the North via Oak Harbor:** drive South on Highway 20 towards Clinton. Highway 20 makes a turn to go to the Keystone/Pt. Townsend ferry. Don't make that turn but continue south. At the ferry turn you are now on Highway 525, proceed about 2 miles to milepost 28. At mile post 28 turn right on Ledgewood Beach Road and drive West to Fircrest Avenue. At Fircrest Ave., turn right (North) and go to 1947 Fircrest Ave. on the right.

There is parking in front of the house on the gravel and there is also parking at the top of the driveway on a concrete slab behind the garage. Note: The door in the front of the house is not an entry to the house. The entry is up the driveway.

For more information call (360) 678-1273 or e-mail [banditwa@msn.com](mailto:banditwa@msn.com)

## upcoming events

### Miatas Under the Sol

Saturday, April 7, 2007 @ 11:30 AM

Enumclaw Safeway

*Hosted by Dustin Locke*

Hello Miata people! Well, I have been trying my hardest to hide it, but I have to admit that I have a dirty little secret that I have been keeping. I am a secret, in the closet lover of the Honda del Sol. In fact, I have owned several of these little open roofed Hondas. I know, I know it's like sleeping with the enemy. I am even a Senior Member of the local del Sol Club here in Washington. I know, shocking isn't it?

I have finally decided that it is time to bring my two loves together. I am putting together a joint event between the two cars. I have invited the Okanagan Miata Club as well as the local Canadian del Sol group. Also invited to this joint venture are the Mount Hood Miata Club, Willamette Miata Club from Oregon as well as Team Sol of Oregon. We are hoping for a truly amazing group with a great mix of both vehicles. This should be a very exciting event with a great turn-out. We will cruise through the back roads of some of Washington's most well recognized areas.

We will have more details as the event draws closer. Please join us for a fun day of getting together with fellow open top car enthusiasts. It is sure to be memorable!!!!

### Nominating Meeting

Saturday, April 14, 2007

*Hosted by the PSMC Board*

It has been fun and a truly great experience for your 2006-2007 Board. Although we have enjoyed facilitating this wonderful club of the past year, it is coming up on the time to pass the torch. This year's Annual Nominating Meeting will take place in April, where the Magic Happens, so to speak. We will be announcing those who want to serve and submitting the names to you, our membership, in the Sounder for your review. Therefore, if you know of someone who you feel would make a good board member (or bring something to this club), by all means, please come and nominate that person! Better yet, if you feel you have something to offer the club and want the opportunity to make a difference, then come on down and put your hat in the ring!

This year's meeting will be held at the "New York Pizza" in Bridal Trails. We are aiming for an arrival time of Noon, with the meeting itself starting right around 12:30. We hope to see you there.

Directions to the restaurant (located at 6501 132<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NE, Kirkland): **From I-405 North:** Take the WA-908/NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street exit 18 to Redmond/Kirkland, staying on the right fork to Wa-908 E/Redmond; merge onto NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street; take right at 132<sup>nd</sup>. Go 1 mile; restaurant will be on your right. **From I-405 South:** Take the 116<sup>th</sup> Ave NE exit 17 to NE 70<sup>th</sup> Pl. take right fork to 116<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, turning left on 116<sup>th</sup>, then right on NE 70<sup>th</sup>. Follow NE 70<sup>th</sup> until 132<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE, turning right on 132<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE, Restaurant will be on the right.

### All City Rally XXVII

Sunday, April 22, 2007

*Hosted by Corvettes de Olympia*

*PSMC Liasons Duncan Johnson*



~~Sunday, April 22, 2007~~; rain or shine: ALL CITY RALLY XXVII by Corvettes de Olympia's 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Running of this 65-75 mile cruising type gimmick rally in the Olympia, WA area. Open to all cars and clubs; Miata teams are welcome and have participated in the last few years.

In a gimmick rally, cars with driver and navigator follow a complicated course around a route of back roads and answer questions about obscure things they see along the way. The finish is typically at a food and drink establishment, where everyone "rallies" and teams that get the most answers right win prizes, a sort of motorized scavenger hunt.

All the roads are paved, but it is NOT a speed event. There will be trophies for the top teams, dash plaques for all cars and a huge raffle of door prizes at the finish. Proof of insurance will be required (put the current card in the car now!) and there will be a brief tech inspection at the start (lights, signals, etc.). Entry fee is \$15.00 per car with all the proceeds going to the Corvettes de Olympia scholarship fund for automotive students at the South Puget Sound Community College.

Useful things to bring: your Miata with driver and navigator, clipboard or similar with paper to write on, pencils with erasers, maps of the Olympia area (they might come in handy!), binoculars to help spot obscure clues and gimmicks and a good sense of humor is mandatory.

First rally car out at 9:00 AM; last car must start before noon.

New start location this year is Corvette & High Performance located at 2840 Black Lake Blvd. SW, Olympia, WA 98512 (phone: 360.754.7890)

Watch [www.corvettesdeolympia.org](http://www.corvettesdeolympia.org) for details and updates, or call Meagan Renick at 360.459.007 or email her at [notdads@hotmail.com](mailto:notdads@hotmail.com)

### The Parade Season will soon be upon us!



The parade coordinators are always on a lookout for folks who would like to try their hand at doing a parade. If you think you might like to give this PSMC venue a whirl, please contact either one of our parade coordinators: Bonnie Lohkamp ([parade1@pugetsoundmiataclub.org](mailto:parade1@pugetsoundmiataclub.org)) or Lindanne Gores ([parade2@pugetsoundmiataclub.org](mailto:parade2@pugetsoundmiataclub.org)). They'll be more than happy to let you know everything you need to know in how to participate in an upcoming parade.

*Above photo of the 2004 Bremerton Parade by Allan Ohlsen.*

## upcoming events

# Detailin' - New Member Day

Saturday, May 5, 2007

Coop's Miata, Maple Valley

*Hosted by Bill & Wendy Cooper*

*Photos of 2004 Detailin' Day by Allan Ohlsen*

It's almost upon us! Just two months to wash off and forget a winter worth remembering as one of the wettest and grimeiest on record. Vacuum away carpets full of pine needles and restore a new finish to an old friend. Of course, I'm talking about Detailin' Day at **Coop's Miata Repair and Service** in Maple Valley. That's right! Your PSMC friends are knocking the cobwebs off of their buffers and gearing up to bring you out of the winter doldrums and into another season of Miata fun in the sun. Available to you will be:

- An engine cleaning station complete with pressure washer.
- An interior station with vacuums and a steam cleaner.
- Eight stations manned with experts, buffers in hand, waiting to process your cars finish.
- A dent removal area manned by "The Dent Guy" (1<sup>st</sup> come first served)
- A wash station.
- A new member's information station.
- An outdoor photography studio
- Veteran volunteers, to assist you and answer your questions or, if you wish, show you how to work the equipment.



At the buffer station the experts take charge. Your car will go through a three stage process designed to take out swirls, then they will glaze it. You can then apply a quick coat of wax, wipe off the residue and walah, bling bling!

### **ALL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT ARE PROVIDED COURTESY OF "COOP'S MIATA."**

Once your baby is all aglow you will be given the opportunity to put some posing on paper. Our photographer will be all set up to take picture portraits of you and your shiny wheels at **no charge!**

Of course your PSMC hosts won't let you go hungry. The club will furnish a delicious lunch. **Free**

If you are a new member or are thinking about joining, we are planning to have folks on hand to answer your Club questions and get you started down the right road. You won't be lonely or feel left out in this group!

After filling your senses with the brotherhood of sharing a day with friends, both new and old, you won't be able to help but smile. The glint of sun or dapples of beading rain reflecting from your shiny hood will serve to remind you how lucky you are to own one of the world's finest sports cars and to belong to such a great organization.

Call today to let us know if you plan on coming for supply purposes.

Sign up early on the Club website at: [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org).

### **DID I MENTION IT IS ALL FREE!** (Dent Guy extra)



Please plan on bringing your own towels and rags. You will need some soft cotton towels for the glaze and wax operation and a few others for drying and cleaning.

Here are the directions to **Coop's**:

*From the North:* I-405 south; Enumclaw/Renton Exit; Left at the 2<sup>nd</sup> light onto the Maple Valley Hwy 169; About 9 miles turn right at the light onto SE 231<sup>st</sup> St; go up the hill to SE 210<sup>th</sup> St (Don't turn right), Go left into Coop's

*From the South:* I-5 north to North Bend /Auburn, Hwy 18 Exit; take Maple Valley /SE231st Exit; Left back up over Hwy 18 on SE 231<sup>st</sup> St and go up the hill to SE 210<sup>th</sup> St (Don't turn right), Go left into Coop's

## upcoming events

### Cooking in the Cockpit

Coming June 8-10, 2007

Hosted by Andrew Locke



On Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Dustin and I will be leading you down to Cannon Beach, Oregon for a two night stay in this charming beach town on the beautiful coast of Oregon. We will meet at 9 AM at the QFC parking lot in Bellevue (2636 Bellevue Way) to begin our fun-filled weekend exploring the Cannon Beach area and attending the EVOO Cooking School.

We will be staying at the rustic, yet amenity-rich Inn at Cannon Beach ([www.atcannonbeach.com](http://www.atcannonbeach.com)). The negotiated group rate is \$149-\$179 per night and there is a reserved block of rooms for this event. To reserve your room (for the nights of June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>), call 800-321-6304 and please make sure to mention that you are part of the PSMC group. It is important to note that **you must reserve your room by April 27<sup>th</sup>** to secure the group rate!

On Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, after spending the day exploring Cannon Beach, we will take a short drive over to the EVOO Cannon Beach Cooking School for a cooking class. The class is a hands-on interactive course called "Small Plates with Wines" featuring a full meal consisting of 4 courses paired with 4 wines. You will also receive a souvenir booklet of all of the recipes to take home with you. The **new** cost for the EVOO cooking class will be \$79.00 per person. To attend the class, you must call the Cannon Beach Cooking School in advance (877-436-3866) and put down a \$40.00 deposit per person. It is important to note that **you must put down your deposit by April 8<sup>th</sup>**.

Sunday morning, we will lead the group back home, arriving in the Seattle area by mid-afternoon.

This promises to be a great new event and we hope to see you there!

(Ed. Note: for the full article, please go to our website calendar at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org))

### Curious Gorge

July 20 - 22, 2007

Hosted by Dale & Regena Weber

Photos by Dale Weber



Curious George is lost! Rumor has it that he was last seen in the Columbia River Gorge. How Curious!

Help the man in the little blue car find George who is lost in the Gorge.

We will begin our search by meeting at the Mitzel's near the North Bend Outlet Mall on Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM. Driver's meeting will be at 9:15 AM.

The Vagabond Lodge ([www.vagabondlodge.com](http://www.vagabondlodge.com)) in Hood River Oregon will be our base of operations for our search. The Vagabond Lodge has asked us to have a single contact for making reservations, so when you RSVP with the Weber's they will set aside a room for you. We have a block of 10 of the larger river view rooms with balconies set aside for us. For a single, the room is \$65.00 plus tax. For double occupancy, the room rate is \$87.00 plus tax. The cut-off date for making reservations is May 20<sup>th</sup>.



### Shaken (-speare) Not Stirred

August 13 - 18, 2007

Hosted by Smith, McSherry & Houghton

**Correction!** For those of you who may have been trying to check out information regarding ticketing, seats, and the 2007 playbill, I've had the website address wrong! Sorry; although the ice cream selections at [www.orshakes.com](http://www.orshakes.com) look quite yummy, I am sure that what you were really looking for had more to do with the Shakespeare Festival. Here's the right website, promise!: [www.orshakes.org](http://www.orshakes.org).

By the way, if you still haven't made up your mind whether or not you would like to join us. there are still seats available for the Friday night performance of "The Taming of the Shrew." However, just like last time, if you really aren't that interested in Shakespeare and just want to come along for the awesome roads we've got mapped out, that's okay too. Just make sure you get your room reservations in ASAP as we already have 13 confirmed for the trip. You can reserve a room at the Best Western Newberry Station in LaPine, Oregon for Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup> by calling 541.536.5130. To reserve your rooms in Ashland at the Windmill Inn and Suites, call 541.482.8310 or go to [www.windmillinns.com](http://www.windmillinns.com) and click on the Ashland home page. Make sure you mention our special group code – **0814PSMC** – to get our special rates.

Remember, if attending any of the plays, **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING YOUR OWN TICKETS!**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 360.668.5508 or drop me an email at [tomaci@verizon.net](mailto:tomaci@verizon.net).

## around the town

### 26th Annual LaConner Tulip/Daffodil Rallye

Saturday, April 21, 2007 @ 9:30 AM; Cascade Mall, I-5 exit 230

Hosted by the MGCCNWC



**COME ALL!** – You are back for our 26th running of the LaConner Tulip Daffodil Rallye. This year we are “in search of flowers and strange animals.” The event is a gimmick rallye, where questions take the place of time/distance checkpoints, so anyone should be able to compete successfully. All you need is a sharp eye and a sense of humor as you and your navigator enjoy spectacular scenery while touring. So be sure not to leave your camera behind. [Please note – speed is not recommended! Plus, you might want to pack a picnic lunch to enjoy at the end point while the scores are being tabulated.]

Car club entries are highly encouraged (3 car minimum) and will have a First Place finish for the 26th Annual LaConner Tulip Daffodil Rallye. Non-club entrants can also win in “open” class.

Cost is \$12.00 U.S. or \$12.00 Canadian per car (\$15.00 US or \$15.00 Canadian to register the day of event.). Download and fill out the form (located on our website at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org) or at [www.mgccnwc.com/tulip.htm](http://www.mgccnwc.com/tulip.htm)), send a check made payable to MGCCNWC and send it to Tulip Rallye, c/o Ken Bottini, 12835 N.E. 36<sup>th</sup> St. Bellevue, WA 98005-1323. Please remember to bring along some canned food for donation to Northwest Harvest. For more information call Ken Bottini @ (425) 883-9615.

**Directions:** From I-5 take exit 230 and head east on Highway 20. Take a right at stoplight onto South Burlington Blvd. Take a right at next light onto Cascade Mall Drive. Go straight until you see the white MG Car Club tent, where you will check in. All rallye information and car number will be issued on the day of the rallye.



May 18 – 20, 2007

Hosted by The Utah Miata Club

Moab, Utah is the gateway to Arches National Park and Canyonlands National Park. Visit Dead Horse Point State Park and see for yourself the dramatic red cliffs scaled by Tom Cruise in the movie *Mission Impossible*. This is redrock country at its best! Fill your days with short or long drives. There are plenty of roads to go zoom zooming. Or go shopping, hiking, fishing, biking, river rafting, take a tour of the local winery or go horseback riding. Whatever tickles your fancy! Each day we will split up into small groups and do whatever activity suits our whims at the time. Each evening we will gather for a social hour or two and share our stories with each other.

We have the entire Best Western Canyonlands Inn reserved for our group. We also have a large block of rooms set aside for our group at the River Canyon Lodge. For more information, rates and reservation information go to [www.utahmiataclub.com/miataasinmoab/info.htm](http://www.utahmiataclub.com/miataasinmoab/info.htm).



May 25 - 27, 2007

Hosted by the Okanogon Valley Miata Club

Registration for TSR is now open. Download registration and clothing order forms online at [www.okmiataclub.com](http://www.okmiataclub.com) and clicking on the Sun Run link. All of the information is supplied there. Questions will be answered on our forum via links on the home page. If you have any problems with the forum, please email Matt Scaife at [mortgages@17-MRTG.ca](mailto:mortgages@17-MRTG.ca) or [mattscaife@invis.ca](mailto:mattscaife@invis.ca). **However, please register and post questions on the forum instead of mailing Matt directly.**

Our guest of honor this year is Mr. Takao Kijima from Mazda Japan; he is the MX-5 program manager. Due to this special event, we have increased registration to 350 Miata enthusiasts. As a result, we moved our venue to the Coast Capri Hotel. We will also be hosting an “Arrive and Drive” Autocross (\$10 entry fee), with Mazda Canada supplying a fleet of 2007 MX-5s and other Mazda vehicles to test out on the autocross track. And finally, once again, we will be fundraising for the BC Transplant Society. This year in addition to a 50/50 draw and the clothing sales, we will be holding an almost live, online silent auction, where the winning bidder will receive a roll bar and its professional installation during the weekend. This is being supplied by Chris and Peter from Eunos Custom Automotive in Vancouver. In addition, we will also have a silent auction which will include gift certificates for items supplied by you, your clubs and a variety of corporate sponsors. When arranging for auction items, please be sure to supply gift certificates and not actual items to aid in transporting said items. Last year, the Canadian Rockies Club donated \$200 to our fund raising efforts, which was very generous and highly appreciated. This year I'd love to see each club come out with a gift certificate that we can place in our auction. All sponsors will be named on our auction web page.

Hope to see you in May!

## event aftermath

### Not Too Sloppy!

By Cindy Smith

Not too sloppy? How about not sloppy at all? With all the sloppy weather we have had this year, it chose not to accommodate us on the Second Sloppy Saturday run. Instead, we had warm weather and blue skies; so much so, that all the tops were dropped before we headed out of the Top Foods parking lot.

So the next question would be: what is it about a "Tom Run" that we always seem to lose people during a run? This time, though, I think we topped the cake. We lost two of our group before we even queued up behind Top Foods to leave on the run. We saw them drive by; in fact, Doug even quipped as he went past, "Hey, I'm supposed to be following you!" We thought he was going to make a u-turn and come back, but we waited and waited and waited and waited and he never showed up – which really left me worried, because he took Bruce with him! Finally, we felt we had to leave; not only were we getting in the way of some of the store's customers, we were afraid we would be sitting there all day. Luckily, I remembered Doug was passing out a flyer for a muffler he is selling and we checked it for a cell phone number. AHA! We were able to give him a call; we got him back on track; and fortunately, Bruce was still following him. So by the time we left our rest top in Snohomish, we are all together again.

Our tour took us through the back roads of Monroe and Snohomish, taking in the infamous High Bridge Road, which Tom always includes in our "home town runs." Driving into Snohomish, we were all given a treat as the snow geese and swans decided to change fields and flew over the cars as we passed (a bit unnerving with the tops down!) And Eddie's Trackside Grill in Monroe was delighted to have us (even though we didn't make previous arrangements because we weren't expecting so many to show up as we only had a few RSVPs).

All in all, it was a great day; a precursor of those sunny, warm, top-down days to come, when the Miatas will arrive sleek and shiny instead of encrusted with layers of dirt, mud and sand like they did that day. Of course, one Miata did show up with a hint of what our cars should look like and at the same time, a hint of what they did look like. It amazed us all that Marty Brink was able to get such a perfect line going straight through his car, with one half clean and the other dirty. Giving him the prize for the "Dirtiest Car Contest" this year was really a no-brainer.



There was no doubt in our minds who the winner of the "Dirtiest Car Contest" was going to be! Photo by Margaret Brink.

### A Toast to the Hosts!

Article by Margaret Brink

Photos by Tom Smith

Thank you to Cindy and Tom for another successful event. The success of their events is largely due to their meticulous organization, which includes the latitude for spontaneous solutions to falling off the planned route. It must have something to do with all the practice Tom gets.



On February 18<sup>th</sup>, we went on their 'Final Red Wine & Chocolate' tour. There was not a huge turnout probably due to the weather, but it was great fun. We began evaluating wines at 9:30 a.m., something probably not done very often. I was initially skeptical of the quality of wines produced over on the Olympic Peninsula and Bainbridge Island, but was very pleasantly surprised.

We had a 'first time event' in our red Miata. Despite the inclement and rather chilly weather, we put the top down and were promptly hailed upon, that's right – hail. At one point Marty said, "This is beginning to become rather painful - getting hit in the forehead." The worst part was stopping at stop signs.

The only thing that dampened the fun was that Tom didn't get lost – or lose anyone!

Thanks again for all your hard work, Tom and Cindy!



From top to bottom: arriving at Eleven for a 9:30 AM tasting; our wonderful (inebriated? on wine? on the day?) host at Bainbridge Winery; only one more stop after Fair Winds!

# autocross



## Let's Get Started

By Denise Williamson

The 2007 autocross season is here! There have been two WWSCC events already: one north and dry, one south and wet. But I digress....

"Dawg Sled" was on January 28 in Everett, and 177 drivers showed up (holy cow!). The day was beautiful and clear, but required hats, gloves, and heavy coats. Five PSMC members took advantage of this winter day to have some fun. Newlyweds Cisco and Christy Castro came out to play in a '91 Miata. Cisco's fastest time in Improved B was 47.194, while Christy drove a very respectable 51.686 in Women's Novice. Open Street was **not** won by Dieter Beldi, but it just so happened that it was won by another PSMC member, Bob Bundy. Bob had three clean runs, but his fastest was his last run with a 42.327. Two more PSMC members were at this event, but you probably would not have recognized them. Dieter ran in Street Tire 1 (for the first time, I think) in his brand-spankin'-new MazdaSpeed 3. He must like his new car, because he won the class with a D Stock indexed time of 35.252. Also nearly unrecognizable was Alan Dahl, who drove the zebra MR2 in the Pro1 class. He placed fifth with an E Stock indexed time of 34.423.

The second event of 2007 was on February 4 at Bremerton. "Perilous Pylon Popsicles" was held on Superbowl Sunday, so the 100 lucky autocrossers got **five**, count 'em, **five** runs! Two of those lucky drivers were PSMC members Dieter and Alan. Alan got to drive the zebra MR2 again and placed sixth in Pro 1. Dieter drove his new car and won Street Tire 1 again. Not only that, but he had the fourth top time of the day (on a time-only PM run).

Don't forget, the Bremerton Sports Car Club will be holding an **AUTOCROSS SCHOOL** on March 11. Stay tuned to [www.bscc.net](http://www.bscc.net) for details.

Coming next month: A review of the Feb. 25 autocross, plus (hopefully) some interesting photos from the yearly autocross awards banquet, "Coneheads."

## Practice Day

By Christy Castro

Time to practice, with nerves and some grace  
Against time, coordination, and cones we race  
With each pass the seconds disappear  
As addiction creeps in, replacing fear  
Enjoyment and adrenaline course through veins  
As the track becomes slick with Seattle rains  
Then out comes the sun, the track becomes clear  
Faster we move, through cones we steer  
Too quickly the day comes suddenly to a halt  
And with pride and exhaustion we walk from the asphalt



"Kermit" at the January 28th Dawg Sled with Christy and Cisco Castro. Photo by one of them!

## March Autocross

For details see [wwscc.org](http://wwscc.org)

- 6 BSCC Monthly Meeting at Tony's Pizza
- 11 BSCC Autocross School at Bremerton Raceway
- 13 NWR/SCCA Solo Committee Meeting at Bill's Bodacious BBQ in Renton
- 17-18 SCCA San Diego National Tour at Qualcomm Stadium
- 18 BSCC Autocross #1 at Bremerton Raceway
- 19 WWSCC Council Meeting at Rogue Brewery in Issaquah
- 24 Oregon Region SCAA Practice Day at PIR North Paddock in Portland
- 24-25 SCCA El Toro ProSolo at El Toro, CA
- 25 NWR/SCCA Practice at Bremerton Raceway
- 25 Oregon Region SCCA Event #1 (Stock AM) at PIR North Paddock in Portland
- 31 NWR/SCCA Novice School (**pre-registration required**) at Bremerton Raceway

# Coop's Garage

## Injectors vs Crap Gas

By Bill Cooper, Coop's Miata

If you are experiencing misfire, rough idle, stumbling on acceleration, hesitation or loss of power, it could be due to dirty fuel injectors. Last month we talked about the use of in-tank concentrated injector cleaners as a solution for minor blockage. Concentrated injector cleaner is more expensive than shelf stock cleaners, the kind you buy a box of at COSTCO. Unfortunately, this may not do the trick on really hard deposits. At that point it is time to consider either on-the-car direct cleaning or, in the really tough cases, injector removal for cleaning and or replacement.



In our shop, we have had good success with on-car cleaning. The process entails the shut down or looping of the fuel pump system and the substitution of a controlled input of cleaner. The car operates using the cleaner as its only source of fuel for approximately a half hour. All of the systems we have cleaned benefited from this method. Since the process we use requires regulated compressed air in a pressurized container, it may not be practical for you to try this yourself. The system shown in fig. 1 below uses aerosol type cans and, though we haven't used them, we have heard that they work well.



Figure 1

One of the side benefits to cleaning the injectors this way is that it cleans the valve seats and faces as well. On two cars we cleaned recently, the chronic ticking of the HLAs went completely away. It is our thinking that some HLA noise may result from carbonization not allowing the valves to close completely. If you have a better theory, please speak up.

The other option is to remove the injectors and have them cleaned. Why, you say, if the on-car method does the job? Three things: more thorough cleaning, verification of equal volume injector to injector and correct spray pattern. A flow tester (fig.2) measures the volume of fuel of all the injectors side by side. Weak injectors may be replaced or re-cleaned. Spray pattern is of equal importance. Even distribution of the fuel in the cylinder makes for a clean burn. Figure 3 shows a variety of spray variations on a test platform.



Figure 2

There is no argument that the removal of injectors for the purpose of cleaning them can be costly and time consuming. On top of that, it is recommended that you perform this service every five years or sooner if needed. The results, on the other

Coop's continued next column

Coop's continued from previous column



Figure 3

hand, may be worth it to someone looking for that little extra HP. Certainly, no matter what method you use cleaning them up will yield benefits and keeping them clean by running periodic cleaner additives in your tank will keep the cost to a minimum.

Till next time

Poor Mans Fuel Injector Tester: [www.fierosails.com/InjectorTester.html](http://www.fierosails.com/InjectorTester.html)

## ATTENTION!

### Tentative Date of Miatacross '07

Dieter Beldi has tentatively reserved Miatacross '07 on the Western Washington Sports Car Council Calendar for **August 5th** and will be submitting a request to acquire the Everett Site.

Year after year, only a handful of PSMC members have been making Miatacross happen and be the successful fundraising event it has been. **HOWEVER**, PSMC needs folks with experience at various positions in order to make Miatacross a success, and **NOW** is the time for our members to gain the skills needed to help put on this event. **PLEASE, we need more PSMC Members to come forward and to attend as many local Autocrosses as possible to learn these skills.** If you are willing to learn what it takes, please contact Denise Williamson, Sean McGriff and/or Dieter Beldi as soon as possible.

Our club needs you (yes, that means YOU!).



## Remember

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



## From the Editor's Desk



### A Big Flap Over a Little Bird

By Cindy Smith

I just want to thank everyone for their responses – both positive and negative – to a certain article and picture that was published in

February's Sounder. It is nice to know that the Sounder is actually getting read!

I always welcome and appreciate comments and feedback in regards to the contents found in the Sounder. Therefore, please feel free to **directly** contact me should you have any questions, suggestions or complaints by emailing me at [sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org](mailto:sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org) or [tomaci@verizon.net](mailto:tomaci@verizon.net).

## First Friday Formals Continued from page 1



*March FFF continued from page 1*

dishes, veal and seafood, all prepared in traditional Italian cooking. Along with their numerous entrees, they also offer wonderful appetizers, desserts and a great selection of wines.

The private room the owners have reserved for our group will accommodate up to 20 folks, so RSVPs will be closed after we reach our limit. If you would like to join in a wonderful PSMC tradition and experience the great food at Villa Nuova Ristorante Italiano, please RSVP thru the website, email us at [blohkamp@comcast.net](mailto:blohkamp@comcast.net) or call 425-347-0361.

Directions: **I-5 North or South:** Take the 164<sup>th</sup> St. SW exit (exit 183); turn right onto 164<sup>th</sup> St. SW; Right turn on Bothell – Everett Hwy. Go 1 mile; restaurant will be on your left. **I-405 North or South:** Take Exit 26 (WA-527 exit), going towards Mill Creek (right turn coming from the South; left turn coming from the north); go 3.2 miles. Restaurant will be on your right, just past 180<sup>th</sup> St.

*April FFF continued from page 1*

is the link to their website which includes a menu: [www.cishenanigans.com](http://www.cishenanigans.com)) After dinner, if the weather cooperates we can cruise the length of Rustin Way to celebrate surviving our winter.

Please remember to make a reservation on our club website: [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org) or call Mike Springer at (253)-468-5291 by Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup>

Directions from North or South bound on I-5: Off I-5 take exit 133 (Tacoma Dome), follow to 705 North (Schuster Parkway, continue straight for about 2.5 miles and take the Ruston Way exit on your left. We will be the third restaurant on your right.

## New Faces

We hope to meet you at an event soon!

By Randy Umemoto



John Kabigting	Kent, WA	91 White
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## Familiar Faces

Try a new Miata Event this year!

Steve & Janice Vollmer	00 White	1 yr
Dawn & Jay Mercer	94 Red	1 yr
Ron & Shirley Atwood	99 Green Mica	2 yrs
David Day	91 White	7 yrs
Bert & Rhonda Paul	01 Red	4 yrs
James Hightchew	97 Black	8 yrs
Lissa & Dave Mayer	06 Red	1 yr
Vic Snyder	91 BRG	7 yrs
Steve & Linda Birman	00 Emerald Mica	6 yrs
Keith Newsom	93 White	12 yrs
Kathy Jerman	94 Montego	4 yrs
Dawn Hayes & Paul Jaeger	01 BRG	5 yrs
Thom Rohm	91 Silver	1 yr
David & June McFarland	92 Silver	14 yrs
Tom Peetz	93 Silver RX7	14 yrs
Larry & Liane Long	99 Green	6 yrs

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*

*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*

# Roadster Ramblings

By *Dustin Locke, PSMC Prez*



Hello there PSMC'ers!

Ok, being March now means we are in the countdown to good weather, right? I don't know about all of you but I am getting a bit tired of this rain and having the top up. With good weather around the corner, we will have plenty of excellent events coming up.

However, until then, we have a real lack of events. This is my official plea for you folks to come up with some events and drives to tide us over. Events don't just happen; we need our members to put things together. I just looked at our calendar and as of now, we only have two events scheduled for the entire month of March and neither of them is a driving event! Come on everyone! We can do driving events in the cold and even in the rain. We might not like the idea, but these cars do have tops! But in the meantime, our March social is coming up and being hosted by Tom and Cindy Millar, and there is a First Friday Formal on the 2<sup>nd</sup> in the North end.

I would also like to mention our new website address: [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org). There have been articles about this (see page 1) as well as an email sent out, but I still have received several e-mails from folks who have noticed our website address has changed but have not been able to find the new one. We are working on getting our links changed with the various companies, vendors and websites who are linked to our page. Hopefully, those will all be updated soon and we thank all of you for your patience during this time.

Before I end my ramblings for yet another month, I would just like to remind everyone that the 2007 Detailing Day / New Member's Day will soon be here! What's that you say? Your membership has expired? You haven't done anything with the club in a long time? You have never done anything with the club? Perfect! That is what this day is all about! This day focuses on two things: getting our beautiful Miatas to be even more stunning (thanks to Coop's Miata); and to get new members and non-active members off and going to a great start!

The event will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at Coop's Miata in Maple Valley (see page 4) and provides free detailing services to our members. There will be wash stations for you to clean your car (and engine) with our volunteers on hand to buff out your car, getting it ready for you to put on a fresh new coat of wax. There will even be a complimentary lunch and our club membership folks will be on hand to help you renew your membership or to sign up new members. This is a great event to launch off the new season and to socialize with old friends and meet new ones, so we hope to see you there.

Until the next twisty road. . .

ZOOM



ZOOM

*Dustin & Andrew's new 2007 at the SSS. Photo by Margaret Brink.*



## OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

### CHIEF OFFICERS

Operating _____	Dustin Locke
Executive _____	Maury Fugitt
Communications _____	Bonnie Lohkamp
Financial _____	Sean McGriff

### DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Bill Aycock	Andrew Locke	Mike Springer
Charley Drake	Larry Lohkamp	Dennis Thompson
Jim Hightchew	Patrick McSherry	David Whooley
Gayle Lazur	Stuart Sable	

### APPOINTED POSITIONS

Insurance Coordinator	Bonnie Lohkamp
Data Coordinator	Randy Umemoto
Parade Coordinator	Bonnie Lohkamp
Asst. Parade Coordinator	Lindanne Gores
Souder Editor	Cindy Smith
Webmaster	To be determined
Autocross Rep	Denise Williamson

### WEB COMMITTEE

Webmaster/EIO	Nathan Allan
Assistant Webmaster	Mindy Bohnas
Classified Ads/Specialty Programmer	John Young
Special Graphics	Mike Springer
Forum Administrator	David Whooley

## 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](http://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

# 2007 Calendar

For details about these events or to **RSVP**, check out the Calendar at [pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://pugetsoundmiataclub.org)

## March 2007



- 2 First Friday Formal hosted by Lohkamp (see pg 1)
- 10 March Monthly Social hosted by Millar's (see pg 2)

## April 2007

- 7 Miatas Under the Sol hosted by Locke (see page 3)
- 13 First Friday Formal hosted by Springer (see page 3)
- 14 PSMC Nominating Meeting hosted by PSMC Board (see page 3)
- 21 April Social hosted by Shriver/Kus (see page 2)
- 21 LaConnor Tulip Rally hosted by MGCCNWC (see page 6)
- 22 All City Rally XXVII hosted by Corvettes de Olympia (see page 3)

## May 2007

- 5 Detailing Day hosted by Cooper (see page 5)
- 12 Sequim Parade
- 18-20 Moab hosted by the Utah Miata Club (see page 6)
- 19 Poulsbo Parade
- 25-27 Topless Sun Run hosted by OVMC, Kelowna, BC (see page 6)

## June 2007

- 1 First Friday Formal hosted by Ohlsen
- 2 Shelton Parade
- 8-10 Cooking in the Cockpit hosted by Locke (see page 5)
- 16 PSMC Elections hosted by PSMC Board
- 30 Port Orchard Parade
- 30 - 4 Historics hosted by Springer

## July 2007

- 4 Kingston Parade
- 7 Mercer Island Parade
- 14 Hurricane Ridge hosted by Bell
- 20-22 Curious Gorge hosted by Weber (see page 5)
- 22 Chinatown Parade (tentative)
- 28 Silverdale Parade (tentative)

## August 2007

- 5 Miatacross (tentative)
- 11 Run to Mt. Baker hosted by Bell
- 13-18 Shaken(speare) Not Stirred hosted by Smith, McSherry & Houghton (see page 5)
- 26 PSMC Gathering hosted by PSMC Board

## September 2007

- 2 South Bend Parade
- 29 Autumn Leaf Parade in Leavenworth
- 30 No. Cascades Hwy III hosted by McGranaghan

## October 2007

- 27 Final Haunted Places Tour hosted by Smith & McSherry

## November 2007

- 4 Southend Planning Meeting hosted by PSMC Board
- 11 Veterans' Day Run (tentative) hosted by Smith & Weber
- 18 Turkey Teaser hosted by McGriff

## December 2007

- 2 Shelton Holiday Parade (tentative)
- 8 PSMC Holiday Party hosted by PSMC Board
- 15 Holiday Lights hosted by Locke

## Classifieds

### MIATAS FOR SALE

#### 1990 SN 571 MIATA

Manufactured in April of 1989; Two tone Red/black; New soft top; Immaculate interior  
1993 Engine conversion; Competition sway bars; KYB/AGX shocks; Eibach springs; Body stiffeners; Custom air intake  
Car is prepared for competitive driving  
No discussion priced at  
\$3,000.00  
Call: Coop's Miata: 425.432.9666

#### 2004 Miata

Titanium Gray Exterior. Black Leather Interior.  
Factory Turbo charged 1.8 liter engine, tuned and lowered suspension, racing Hart alloy wheels & high performance Toyo tires. A joy to drive. 23,000 miles  
Asking \$18,500. If interested call Robert at 206.363.3825 or email [raginrobert@Netzero.com](mailto:raginrobert@Netzero.com).

#### 1999 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY EDITION

97,000 miles \$12,000 OBO  
Contact Dale @ 425.422.8430

### PARTS FOR SALE

**For Sale:** "Goodwin" all stainless muffler for 06/07s, used very little. Paid just over \$400.00 including freight but willing to sell for \$250.00 and will deliver up to about 100 miles from Puyallup/Graham (good excuse for a road trip) as it just fits in the trunk and would be a real headache to pack for shipping. Please contact Doug Simpson at 253.279.1532 (cell), 253.875.2754 (home) or email me at [dougsimpson1962@earthlink.net](mailto:dougsimpson1962@earthlink.net).