

# Miata Sounder



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

# 20th Anniversary!

## Upcoming Events

### December 27

Post-Holiday Party, hosted by Tom and Lindanne Gores, check next month for the time.

### January 9, 2010

Winter Planning Meeting, Board members and guests, Mitzel's in South Everett. Finalize the 2010 calendar and help with plans for the 20th Anniversary Party! RSVP on the website.

**When: January 23, 2010, 6 p.m.**

**Where: Ballinger Lake Country Club**

**Hosts: PSMC Board**

Now is the time to visit the PSMC website at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org) and sign up to attend the 20th anniversary party, celebrating this great club that has endured ups and downs and highs and lows to prevail as the premiere club for Miatas in the Northwest.

The event will begin at 6 p.m. at the elegant Ballinger Lake Country Club banquet room with no-host beer and wine and an opportunity to view a slide show of photos we are now collecting from past events. As always, we will be selling beer and wine tickets for \$3 each or 2 tickets for \$5. Soft drinks will be provided free of charge. If you have photos of

past events to contribute, please forward them to Bill Aycock at [totrod@mac.com](mailto:totrod@mac.com) so he can include them in the slide show.

Dinner will be catered by the Pro Start Culinary Arts and Catering program at Tahoma High School. The menu will feature a beef and chicken entrée with vegetables, rolls, salad, dessert, coffee and tea.

We have booked a professional artist who will draw caricatures, a one-time opportunity to obtain your own persona souvenir of the 20th Anniversary. These will cost \$20 per car and will be available to around 30 people. This is sure to be a popular activity at the party. Arrive early so you can be guaranteed a spot in line for this unique memento of the party. The caricature will include up to two people and one car in black and white.

The dinner program will include recognition of all of the PSMC past presidents in attendance, as well as Sounder editors for all 20 years. There will be additional, and very entertaining, surprise aspects to the evening's entertainment. You most certainly won't want to miss it! Also on the dinner program with the door prize giveaway (you can buy extra door prize tickets for the incredibly low price of \$1 or 6 for \$5). We believe you will find at least one door prize worth the \$1 ticket price, and a few that will be coveted by most at the party (we think!)

We'll close out the evening with karaoke and dancing. If you would like to bring music CD's for the dance portion of the evening, you should bring those along.

Cost for this year's event is \$20 per person. To pre-register do two things: Go to the PSMC website at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org) and sign up to attend. Next, write a check for your registration and preference for beef or chicken and mail it to Charlotte Fellers, 1800 4th St NE, Auburn, WA 98002. Pre-paying and letting us know your food choice will help the board plan this event more effectively.



Three custom t-shirt and vase combos will be among the door prizes at the 2010 20th Anniversary Party.



## upcoming

# Combat December post-holiday blues at this fun event!

**When: December 27, 2009, 4 p.m.-??**

**Hosts: Tom and Lindanne Gores**

**Contact: 253-851-5110;**

**[lindanne@comcast.net](mailto:lindanne@comcast.net)**

Do you ever feel that at the end of Christmas there's still a little "party" left in you? Well, this event will fulfill that empty "party" feeling! Join Tommy and Lindanne Gores as they host the Post Holiday Open House on December 27 at their home in Gig Harbor.

Some members may remember attending a wine-tasting event held in September at the Gores. At that event, Tom and Lindanne sampled a variety of reds and whites they were considering serving at this annual after-Christmas party. The winners will come out of the wine cellar for a second tasting at this event.

Since some people may have to work the next day, this event will kick off in the early evening, at 4 p.m. On tap will be a soup dinner featuring bread accompaniments. A plethora of beverages, both nonalcoholic and alcoholic, will be served to complete the menu. You can enjoy everything from a glass of wine, to a custom-made martini, to hot spiced apple cider.

You are welcome to bring an accompaniment to share, such as an appetizer or salad, or a bottle of your favorite beverage. To RSVP, call the Gores at 253-851-5110 or email them at [lindanne@comcast.net](mailto:lindanne@comcast.net). You also can RSVP through the PSMC website.

Directions to the Gores:

From Tacoma, take Hwy 16 across the Narrows Bridge (\$4.00 toll on your way home - no toll West to Gig Harbor). Stay in the right lane after crossing the bridge then take the Olympic exit and turn left crossing over the freeway. Go through 4 traffic lights and at the 40 mph speed sign put on right turn signal. Turn right at 43rd. We are the 4th house on left, number 5702. If you see a church or Erin's Gravel pit, you've gone too far! Turn around and then turn left at 43rd.



*About a dozen cars, (some not Miatas) joined the Corn Maze II drive, which left from Sumner and explored backroads in King and Pierce Counties. Above, the participants welcomed a late fall sunny day and lined up before the tour. Next year's tour will feature a new maze and another new tour of mostly Pierce County roads. The 2010 event is set for October 9.*

*Photo by Bob Mott*



**For Sale:** 1990 Red Miata, good condition. Has a dent in the right front panel. Stored under cover most of the time. New shocks last year; new soft top and tires. \$3000. Contact Nathan at 1-877-753-9123 or on the web at [www.swan](http://www.swan)

[towninn.com](http://towninn.com).



*PSMC members Sean and Pam McGriff enjoyed a hayride and a walk through a complicated corn maze following a short drive through South King and north Pierce County on the Corn Maze II drive Oct. 10. The day also gave participants a chance to shop for fresh farm vegetables and select pumpkins*

*Photo by Bob Mott*

### **Garage Queen for Sale:**

2001 BRG MX-5 LS, 78K, tan top & interior, 6-sp. Manual; ABS.

This car has been meticulously maintained and the records have

been notebookd. Synthetic oil has been changed every 3K. Owner used authorized dealers for all of the service and repairs. This car is available at Coop's Miata for \$9500 today. Call Coop at 425-432-9666 or 206-914-0399 to arrange for a test drive.



# Revival of Miatacross nets loads of fun

by Charlotte Fellers  
*Novice Autocross Passenger*

*It only took Glen Hernandez one try to get me to take a ride with him on the 2009 Miatacross course September 27....3-2-1-GO! And we shot out of that starting gate like a human cannonball shooting out of a cannon. Glen's a pro at this sport and I felt fortunate to get the opportunity to ride the course with him. He was just coming off a second-place win at the National Autocross competition in Nebraska and he was fired up! Additionally, Glen was proud of his "new" car—a 1993 Miata.*

*This was my first experience at riding in a car during an autocross event. All I can say is, it's very fast and it takes a sharp driver to maneuver all those curves. Two things I learned: it does show you how well your car handles the curves and I was glad Glen was driving and not me. In fact, it was a bit like an amusement park ride. I can understand the rush of being an autocrosser, but I don't understand why my stomach turned upside-down from that drive.*

*If you want to see how it feels, take a chance and get involved in the Western Washington Sports Car Council's events next year. They host driving schools and members are friendly and helpful for newcomers like me. In fact, I actually rode in another car at Miatacross. I didn't even catch the guy's name but I had a good time all the same.*



*Tom Gores, standing, and Tom Gores, Jr., lined up for their turn at the Miatacross event held in Shelton Sept. 27.  
 Photo by Denise Williamson*



*Steve Whitney zooms through the Miatacross course at the revived event, held this year at the Shelton Airport.  
 Photo by Denise Williamson.*

*Tom Millar, PSMC President, tries his hand at autocrossing in the novice division of Miatacross. "My time wasn't very good but it sure was fun," was his deadpan comment following his first run.*

*Photo by Denise Williamson*



# Autocrossers conclude 2009 season

by Denise Williamson

## Nathan & Dieter Win

On October 11, BSCC hosted event #8 in Bremerton, their last event of the year. Out of 143 entrants, two were PSMC drivers. Both drove Chevys and both won their classes! Nathan Provo won the Super Sport class in a 2003 Chevy Z06 with a 50.421. Dieter Beldi, driving a 2009 Chevy Cobalt, won the Medium Sedan Class with a 52.551. Kudos for this event go to Nathan Provo, who had the eighth top unindexed time of the day.

## PSMC Wins Five Classes in Two Days

The last WWSCC events of the year were held on October 17 and 18 in Shelton. October 17 was the UWFSAE "Dawg Dash", which drew 51 entrants. Five of the entrants were PSMC members. Bob Bundy won Open Street in his '88 Mazda 323 GTX with a 55.890. I think he was in his Miata, but the results said 323.... In Stock D, Dieter Beldi won in his seldom-seen 2007 Mazdaspeed 3 with a 56.167. Nathan

Provo won Super Stock in a 2003 Chevy Z06 with a 59.026. In Street Tire-Touring, Glen Hernandez placed third in a '93 Miata with an STS-indexed time of 44.701. Having fun in Time Only PM was Dieter Beldi in his Mazdaspeed 3. He improved on his morning time by .72. Kudos for this event go to Glen Hernandez, who had the 10<sup>th</sup> top unindexed time of the day.

The very last autocross of the year was the ACE "Dogfight" on October 18. Out of the 49 entrants, five were PSMC members. In Stock D, Dieter Beldi won in his 2007 Mazdaspeed 3 with a 49.191. Alan Dahl placed fifth in PRO1 in a familiar-looking 2007 Mazdaspeed 3 with a DS-indexed time of 42.663. In Open Street, Bob Bundy won in his whining (uh oh!) '90 Miata with a 52.040. Glen Hernandez placed second in Street Tire-Touring in a '93 Miata with an STS-indexed time of 39.928. Having fun in Time Only was Bob Bundy, who improved on his morning time by a whopping 5.959. Guess he figured he should live it up before it's time to replace the transmission again.... Kudos for this event go to Bob Bundy and Glen Hernandez. Bob had the second top unindexed time of the day, while Glen had ninth.



Glen Hernandez in his newly purchased 1993 Miata enjoying the thrill of driving at Miatacross September 27. Just for kicks, ask him what he's modified since he bought it.

Photo by Denise Williamson

## President's Message

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revenue streams for the club. Financial solvency erases a lot of ills, not only in business and personal life, but in club well-being too. To this end, we are looking at approaching a few Miata Dealers to help us sponsor club activities. Mike Springer and I have identified dealers we want to approach and plan to do so during the first quarter of the 2010. Another area for revenue creation has been our hosting of Autocross. While this event is not a certainty in 2010 we remain hopeful that we can repeat the experience. One of the things that we desperately need to shore up however is PSMC volunteer participation for this event.

Another event that you will read more about in the coming months is the Autumn Rallye. This is an exciting event that will rival the likes of the MGCC's La Connor Tulip Rallye that takes place each year in Burlington. Our goal will be to "out shine" this event by offering participants more bang for their buck. The event will be open to any and all car clubs and cars, and will be a new chapter in our event offerings. We hope it will one day be our major club fundraiser. Stay tuned for more on this one.

Once again the hour is late and I must prepare to travel the highways and byways, spreading cheer and goodwill wherever I go. In the meantime:

*"Drop your tops and hit the black tops!"*

### WWSCC Schedule/December Go to [www.wwsc.org](http://www.wwsc.org) for more information

15	NWR/SCCA Solo Committee Mtg. and Rules Mtg., Goldie's, Airport Way
21	WWSCC Council Mtg. Goldie's, Airport Way

# 2010 Calendar

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

## December 2009

- 27 Post Holiday Open House, Tom/Lindanne Gores, Gig Harbor, 6 p.m.

## January 2010

- 9 Winter Board Meeting, Mitzel's in South Everett, lunch at 11 a.m., meeting at noon.
- 23 PSMC 20th Anniversary Celebration, Ballinger Lake Country Club, 6 p.m.**

## February 2010

- 13 Red Wine and Chocolate Tour of Woodinville Wineries, hosted by Gores, details TBA.

## March 2010

- 5 First Friday Formal, hosted by
- 13 Saturday Social, hosted by Fellers, 5 p.m., in Auburn.
- 27 Nominating Meeting, hosted by Millars, Mill Creek.

## April 2010

- 11 New Members' Drive, hosted by Ohlsens.
- 24 MGCC Northwest 29th Annual Tulip Rallye, La Connor.

## May 2010

- 2 CDeO Poker Rallye, Olympia, hosted by Johnson.
- 8 Detailin' Day, hosted by PSMC Board.
- 8 Sequim Parade
- 15 Poulsbo Viking Fest Parade
- 19 Eat n Greet, Renton, hosted by McGriffs
- 29 Shelton Parade & "After Social" hosted by Gores.

## June 2010

- 5 PSMC Board Election Meeting at Fellers' home in Auburn.
- 12 Second Sloppy Saturday, hosted by McGriffs, starts at The Landing, Renton.
- 22 Eat n Greet in Puyallup, hosted by Dahlke/Johnson
- 26 Port Orchard's Fathoms of Fun Parade.

## July 2010

- 2-4 Historics Races, Pacific Raceways, hosted by Springer

## July 2010

- 4 Kingston 4th of July Parade.
- 10 Whitebey Island Run II, hosted by Shriver/Kus.
- 16-18 Explore Oregon 2010, hosted by Willamette Valley Miata Club, leaves from Astoria, OR. **Pre-registration required if you want to attend!**
- 18 Chinatown Parade (tentative).
- 24 Silverdale Whaling Days Parade.
- 24 Mt. Baker Fun Run with Sea to Sky Miata Club, hosted by Millars.

## August 2010

- 7 Great Northwest Gathering, hosted by PSMC Board.
- 14 Gig Harbor Fun Run & Social, hosted by Gores
- 17 Eat n Greet, XXX in Issaquah, hosted by McGriffs.
- 21 Haywire Hoot II, hosted by Newsoms.
- 28 LeMay Museum Open House, Spanaway.
- 24 Silverdale Whaling Days Parade.
- 24 Mt. Baker Fun Run with Sea to Sky Miata Club, hosted by Millars.

## September 2010

- 5 South Bend Parade, meet at Gig Harbor for breakfast, hosted by Dahlke/Johnson, with the CDeO Club.
- 11-12 Olympic Peninsula Lite, hosted by Millars.
- 18 First Annual Autumn Rallye, hosted by PSMC Board.
- 25-26 Leavenworth Autumn Fest Parade and North Cascades Run, hosted by McGranahans.

## October 2010

- 1-3 Long Beach End of Summer Tour, hosted by Springers.
- 9 Corn Maze III, hosted by Fellers & Dahlke/Johnson
- 30 Halloween Party, hosted by Springers.
- 31 Bremerton Safe Trick or Treat.

## November 2010

- 6 PSMC Fall Planning Meeting, Mitzel's in Fife, lunch at 11 a.m., meeting at noon.
- 21 Turkey Teaser, hosted by McGriffs, leaves from Renton.

## December 2010

- ?? Host an event of your choice in December and fill this space!

# President's Message



By Tom Millar  
PSMC President

December is an intriguing time of the year. A time for get-togethers with loved ones, or maybe not so loved ones. Mostly I look at it as a time for giving thanks for the many blessings that have come my way. These blessings include my wife, my family, my work and yes, the great people that I have been fortunate enough to call friends in the Puget Sound Miata Club.

I am writing this message from home, not always the case. This week is a short week for me as I only have to travel to Couer d'Alene and Missoula. Hopefully the weather gods will shine bright upon me and I won't incur too much of the white stuff...a little dicey this time of the year.

Recently, we held our annual November Planning and Board Meeting in Fife. I was so pleased with our participation, the offering of creativity and the willingness to think outside the box and to adjust schedules when the need arose. I am also pleased to announce that we have a fantastic event lineup for the year 2010. (see calendar of events on facing page). There will be some reprisals of rides done in the past and some new twists for the coming year. Stay tuned as the 2010 calendar gets firmed up in the January board meeting and think about adding some drives of your own to the mix.

During our board meeting we covered a variety of topics. One of the things we covered was club finances. Sean McGriff, Club Treasurer, does a terrific job of handling the financial assets of the club. As I listened to Sean's report I was pleased with our overall results as we are presently operating with over \$4,000 to the good, or surplus as they say in the non-profit world. It is our intention to "invest" this surplus back into club activities that will enhance the PSMC experience for all members.

On that note, in January we will have a most magnificent event, the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Puget Sound Miata Club. This will be a premier event that will outshine other events that we have put on in the past. Since it is certainly a special anniversary for us, we plan on investing some of our surplus monies into making this an event to remember. The event will be professionally catered...no discredit to the efforts of Charlotte Fellers and myself, who catered the last all-club party. The venue will be the Ballinger Country Club in Mountlake Terrace. We have held the price down to \$20 per person, verses \$25, and we will feature personal gifts, caricature renderings, great raffle prizes, karaoke and dancing! Our participant goal is 100, so don't disappoint us now! This event will be a unique opportunity to reconnect with old friends you may not have seen for a long time. So get those reservations in now!

One of the areas that I took on as an objective during my presidential rein was to look at additional ways to create additional

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## OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

### CHIEF OFFICERS

Operating \_\_\_\_\_ Tom Millar  
Executive \_\_\_\_\_ Mindy Bohnas  
Communications \_\_\_\_\_ Gayle Lazur  
Financial \_\_\_\_\_ Sean McGriff

### DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Ling Louderback Tommy Gores Pam McGriff  
Chris Stollery Charlotte Fellers Sean McGriff  
Mike Springer Brian Louderback  
Cindy Millar Gayle Lazur

### APPOINTED POSITIONS

Insurance Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Open Position  
Data Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Open Position  
Parade Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Dan White  
Sounder Editor \_\_\_\_\_ Charlotte Fellers  
Webmaster \_\_\_\_\_ Nathan Allan  
Autocross Rep \_\_\_\_\_ Denise Williamson

### WEB COMMITTEE

Webmaster/EIO \_\_\_\_\_ Nathan Allan  
Assistant Webmaster \_\_\_\_\_ Mindy Bohnas  
Classified Ads/Specialty Programmer \_\_\_\_\_ John Young  
Special Graphics \_\_\_\_\_ Mike Springer

## 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**  
222 Wells Ave N  
Renton, WA 98055

**“Unless someone like you  
cares a whole awful lot,  
nothing is going to get better.  
It’s not.”**

**--Dr. Seuss--**

**Needed immediately! Make new and fun  
friends! Learn more about the inner work-  
ings of the PSMC! Volunteer positions are  
open for PSMC members: Data Coordinator,  
Insurance Coordinator, director-at-large. To  
volunteer for one of these jobs, contact  
President Tom Miller at 206-390-3469.**

**Thanks to the following Miata  
dealers and businesses 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*

*Mazda of Everett (425) 353-3403*

*Louie Orrino at South Tacoma Mazda  
(253) 722-2888/Cost plus 20%*

*University Mazda of Seattle (206) 634-  
1191*

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

*Miata Top Bob’s, (206) 782-8081*