

Miata Sounder



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

20th Anniversary!

Upcoming Events

January 9, 2010

Winter Planning Meeting, Board members and guests, see p. 3 for details.



January 23, 2010

20th Anniversary Party! RSVP on the website.



February 13, 2010

Annual Red Wine and Chocolate Valentine's Tour, see details, page 2.

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

Where: Ballinger Lake Country Club

Hosts: PSMC Board

By Tom Millar

PSMC President

Mark your calendars for January 23, 2010 to partake in what is destined to be a fantastic experience as we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Miata and our Puget Sound Miata Club.

This will be the party of all parties and we will have a lot of great events during the evening to celebrate this special occasion. The venue will be the Ballinger Lake Golf Course clubhouse banquet room. This was a great choice for our 2008 holiday party and all who attended had a wonderful time.

As part of our celebration, we will have Dexter Rothchild, a professional artist on hand, who will draw caricature heads inside of a Miata. Your rendering will include two people (or just one if desired) in one Miata done in black and white. This \$40 value can be had for a mere \$20, representing a 50% savings. Check out the October Sounder for a preview of the art! So bring your checkbook and plan on sealing your memory with a lasting caricature!

The party will begin at 6:00 p.m. with no-host beer and wine offerings at \$3 per, or 2 for \$5. Soft drinks and water will be provided at no charge. During the event we will have a continuous slide show depicting photos from our rich past. If you have photos of past events to contribute, please email them to Bill Aycock at 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 or chicken entrée with vegetables, rolls, salad, dessert, coffee and tea. Diet sensitive offerings are also being planned. During the November Board Meeting the Board voted to have the price fixed at \$20 per person in honor of our 20TH ANNIVERSARY! We have also ordered a special inscribed commemorative glass which will be provided to each participant. Additional glasses will be available at the low cost of \$5 each. The dinner program will include recognition of all of the PSMC Past Presidents we can find and invite, as well as Sounder editors for all 20 years.

There will be some additional, surprise aspects to the evening's entertainment that you won't want to miss! We'll close out the dinner program with some fabulous door prizes. (you can buy extra door prize tickets for the incredibly low price of \$1 each, or 6 for \$5). We'll finish up the evening with karaoke and dancing. If you would like to bring music CD's for the dance portion of the evening, please do. Our DJ will once again be Karen Perry's nephew, who did a great job last year.

Come on out to this special 20th Anniversary Celebration and be prepared to reminisce about times past and ponder our glorious future. Be sure to sign up now to reserve your spot! **To pre-register do two things:** Go to the club website at www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org and sign up to attend. Next, write a check made out to PSMC and be sure to include a note regarding your dinner preference for beef, chicken or diet sensitive. 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. You can also call Charlotte at: 253-333-7442. We hope to see you there!



MIATA SOUNDER

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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
1800 4th St. NE
Auburn, WA 98002
editorcharlotte@gmail.com
sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org

ADVERTISING

Classified - member.....free
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pugetsoundmiataclub.org

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

upcoming

Annual Red Wine & Chocolate tour planned for Feb. 13

Hosts: Tom and Lindanne Gores

When: February 13, 2010

Where: Ruby's Diner, Woodinville, 11 a.m.

More Information: 253-851-5110

You don't have to like red wine or chocolate to join this day trip and hang with your Miata Club friends. You will find the food great and there's a short pre-run before the tastings to give those cars a workout. Tour leaders once again are Tom and Lindanne Gores.

The tour will start with a late breakfast or early lunch at 11 a.m. at Ruby's Diner in Woodinville (directions are at the end of this article). From there, the drive will begin around noon after a short driver's meeting. The hosts had not yet done a pre-run by press time, but the current plan is to take the tour to one of the wine areas around Woodinville. Last year, this tour spent the day in the Woodinville Warehouse district, where the "drive" turned into a "walking tour" of the numerous wineries in the area. A different area is planned this year, but rest assured, you will be treated to some excellent wines and chocolate or other accompaniments that wineries will offer with the tastings.

Because this tour takes place on Valentine's Weekend, most wineries offer special wine tastings, special chocolates and other foods that are paired with wines, and often, white wines are offered for tasting as well.

Following the tastings (anticipating 7-9 wineries), anyone who wants to join the hosts can enjoy an early dinner at the Red Hook Winery, which is located next door to the Columbia Winery in Woodinville, to top off the tour.

You can RSVP on the website at www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org or contact the Gores directly at 253-851-5110.

Directions to Ruby's Diner in Woodinville: Take I-405 North or South to the WA-522 Exit (#23) toward US-2-Wenatchee. Take the WA 202 E. exit toward Woodinville/Redmond. Take a slight right off the ramp onto 131st Ave NE/WA-202. Stay in left lane and prepare to turn left onto 175th St. Turn onto 175th and stay in the left lane. 13706 NE 175 St and watch for Ruby's Diner on your left. It is across the street from Molbeck's Nursey (which is on the right side of the street).

The address is: 13706 NE 175 St, Woodinville, Washington 98072. You can check out the menu for Ruby's at <http://rubys.com>.

If you are curious about the offerings at the Red Hook Brewery, you can access their menu at www.redhook.com. You can take a tour of the brewery while you are there to eat as well. Sounds like a win-win all the way around!

Do you have an idea for a drive? Come to the Winter North End Board meeting and put it on the calendar. (see page 3 for details)!

upcoming

Time and place changed for next board meeting

When: January 9, 2010, 11:30 a.m.

**Where: Villa Nuova Ristorante Italiano
17917 Bothell-Everett Hwy, Bothell, WA 98012**

Hosts: PSMC Board

by Charlotte Fellers

PSMC Board Member & Sounder Editor

Finalizing plans for the exciting year ahead is the main point of the winter PSMC board meeting. This important meeting kicks off with lunch (there's always gotta be food at a Miata Club event) at Villa Nuova Ristorante Italiano (directions are at the end of this article). The meeting was originally scheduled for Mitzel's in Everett at 11 a.m., but unfortunately, that Mitzel's closed down in December. So the new location is going to open up to serve us lunch (they are usually closed for lunch on Saturday) and then we'll have the entire restaurant to ourselves to have the meeting.

Right now, there are about 40 events on the 2010 calendar, but there are significant gaps in the calendar. For example, only one event is scheduled for December as yet, opening a new window of opportunity for some gatherings centered around holidays. Of course, this can be a busy time in our everyday lives, but taking a day to just enjoy our Miata Club friends is always nice.

Additionally, we have just two events scheduled in April, and one of them is not even a PSMC event. So think about some opportunities. Remember, you don't have to plan a long, elaborate drive to have a good time. Perhaps you'd like to just invite some members in for an evening at home (YOUR home) and throw together some simple foods (or better yet, have a potluck dinner--less work for you!)

In the survey conducted by your board last year, members who responded said they would enjoy a few more day trips. This presents a wonderful opportunity to plan a trip closer to home that could start or end with a meal in a

place that can accommodate a medium sized group. Even if it doesn't go off perfectly the first time, you can still expect a very supportive group who are willing to follow you anywhere (except maybe off the side of a cliff!). It's not that difficult to find a clever twist to the drives. I found as I re-read the Sounders for the past 20 years that our creative members have done many fun activities in connection with drives. Some of these included stops at casinos, a "day after Christmas" trek to area shopping malls, tours of nearly-famous places, cemeteries, national historic homes or buildings, and tours that included activities as part of the tour. In fact, many of these tours are saved on compact discs, so if you would like to host a tour and would not mind recycling old tours, then let a board member know

The other main topic of discussion at the meeting will be to finalize plans for the 20th Anniversary Party for the PSMC. This event will involve many details and lots of planning so if you can contribute your talents to this event, please attend and volunteer.

The final topic of discussion will be the upcoming board nominations, which will come up in April. Several board members have served two or three or more years and may be ready to step down and turn over the responsibility for the club's decisions to some different board members. The job entails meetings 4 to 5 times a year and helping to host several PSMC events per year. The up side is that you will make some wonderful new friends and get to know some of the club members on a more personal level. So, think about taking your turn at serving on the board and helping to guide the club's activities

Directions to Villa Nuova Ristorante Italiano: From I-405, take Exit 26 (WA 527 N) toward Mill Creek. The restaurant is about 3 miles up on the right hand side of the road.



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

towninn.com.

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 notebooked. 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.

Explore Oregon 2010 heads for Astoria

Hosts: Willamette Valley Miata Club

Contact: 503-851-1549

When: July 16-18, 2010



Heads up! If you want to attend this electrifying event this year, book now! It will fill up fast and you'll be sorry you missed it. Explore Oregon is an annual premier three-day event, organized by the Willamette Valley Miata Club and



Would you like to own this wine glass? Well, if you make reservations TODAY to attend the 20th Anniversary Party, you will get one FREE as a gift. See p. 1 for details or register at the PSMC website.

attended by several members of the Puget Sound Miata Club. (Read the recap of last year's run in the Sounder archives, September 2009 issue). Duncan Johnson and Dee Dahlke and AJ and Vickie McGranahan will host a short pre-run to Astoria Friday, on some favorite backroads. Astoria is the center of this year's run, where you should be prepared to enjoy some of Oregon's most beautiful and historic scenery and explore the awesome back roads of the North Oregon Coast over the weekend of July

The event hotel is the Best Western Lincoln Inn, overlooking Coastal Oregon's Young's Bay and the Columbia River, the Best Western Lincoln Inn offers friendly customer service, full-service amenities and convenient access to key area attractions- all for an affordable rate! Each well-appointed guest room at this Astoria hotel boasts cable satellite television and free wireless high-speed Internet access. A complimentary full breakfast is included.

Plan to take advantage of a variety of hotel amenities including an indoor heated swimming pool and hot tub and exercise facility.

Watch ships, fishing charters and pleasure craft on the river that Lewis and Clark traveled on their way to the Pacific Ocean 200 years ago or ride the Astoria Riverfront Trolley. Throughout the area you will find beaches, museums, antiques, fishing, clamming, golfing, hiking and lush scenery as well as sport fishing for salmon, sturgeon and bottom fish.

To make your reservation call the number below and be sure to mention "Explore Oregon":

4555 Hamburg Avenue

Astoria, OR 97103

Tel: 503/325-2205 or 800-621-0641

This event filled quickly last year and the hotel is likely to fill soon, so if you plan to attend, you need to book now. The event will cap at 140 paid registrants.

Other costs for the weekend include a \$55 per person charge that includes a Friday evening reception; the Saturday evening dinner banquet; Explore Oregon T-Shirt, attendee pack with event stickers, maps, schedules and more! If you would like a polo shirt instead of a t-shirt, add \$5.00 per shirt. To sign up now, you should complete the registration form at the WVMC website, www.oregonmx5.com. You also will need to RSVP to their website so they will be able to let others know how many and who has made plans to attend.

Send completed registration form along with a check or money order <http://www.oregonmx5.com/to>:

For more information, call 503-851-1549.

Autocross 2009 by the numbers

by Denise Williamson

2009 was another busy year for PSMC autocrossers. The local sanctioning bodies (BSCC, WWSCC and SCCA) held a total of 24 championship events, two local Pro Solos, three slush events, practices, schools, and a National Tour and Pro Solo.

In the championship and slush local events, there were 19 different PSMC drivers who drove 36 different types of cars (including 18 different Miatas). Of the 18 Miatas, there were three 1990s, two 1991s, 1992s, 2001s, one each 1993, 1994, 1995, 2003, 2005, and four 1999s. Aside from Miatas, PSMC drivers drove three BMWs, three Chevrolets, one Ford, one Honda, two Mazdas, one Mitsubishi, one Peugeot, two Pontiacs, three Porsches, and one Subaru.

BSCC held eight championship events this year. The highest attendance was at event #2, with 216 entrants. Five PSMC drivers attended these events, averaging three per event. *Di-*

eter Beldi entered the most times, followed by *Nathan Provo* and *Tom Slipp*.

This year, SCCA held eight championship events and two local Pro Solos. Event #1 had the most entrants (229). There were 13 PSMC drivers in this series, with twelve of them attending event #1. *Dieter Beldi* entered the most times, followed closely by *Bob Bundy*, *Rich Blake*, and *Glen Hernandez*.

WWSCC held three slush events and eight championship events. Slush #1 had the highest attendance, with 166 entrants. There were 18 PSMC drivers this year, with Miatacross being the most popular (of course). *Dieter Beldi* again entered the most times, followed by *Glen Hernandez*.

So there you have it! I've mentioned the names of a few autocross addicts.... If you have any autocross questions, you know who to corner! Unfortunately, most of us autocrossers will not be able to make the PSMC 20th anniversary party, as our annual autocross awards banquet will be the same evening. Since the autocrossers put in so much time and work at 2009's 24 events, it's a proud moment when they receive their awards. I'll let you know the award details next month. Also, check out the photos in the slide show of our most popular event racers. I think you'll see a few familiar faces in the slideshow....

New Faces

Come get acquainted with us!

John/Rose Scheidt, Tacoma '00 Emerald Green
Bob Sinon, Bellevue '06 Velocity Red
J. Pat Baughman, Hemphill, TX

Familiar Faces

Hope to see you at an event soon!

<i>Clifford Butler/Elaine Gregory, Kent</i>	'03 Red
<i>Gerhard Reisslandt, Pacific</i>	'93 White
<i>Daniel/Lynanne White, Poulsbo</i>	'92 Sunburst
<i>Bill/Mary Dee Countiss, Amarillo</i>	'90 Montego Blue
<i>Rosa /Randy Umemoto, Seattle</i>	'00 Mahogany
<i>Jeff/Peggy Tague, Yakima</i>	'99 Silver
<i>Sean/Pam McGriff, Renton</i>	'09 Smartcar
<i>Kim/Paul Patino, Tacoma</i>	'92 Silver
<i>Frank Shriver/Carol Kus, Coupeville</i>	'93 Red
<i>Brian/Ling Louderback, Seattle</i>	'92 Mariner Blue
<i>Charley/Nancy Drake, Anacortes</i>	'95 Merlot
<i>Leif/Peggie Loe, Gig Harbor</i>	'96 Red
<i>Andrew Burns, Issaquah</i>	'97 Montego Blue
<i>Robert/Evelyn Gunther, Quilcene</i>	'91 Silver
<i>Terry/Patti Kartes, Kent</i>	'92 Red

Do you have a closet full of dress-up clothes and nowhere to go? Then you should mark your calendar and plan to get into them and come to the next First Friday Formal. The March event takes place on the 5th and is hosted by Mike and Lilly Springer. Check the website to RSVP and learn details. It's another great way to connect with your Miata friends and chase the winter blues away.



President's Message

continued from page 7

for working tirelessly to make things happen. Yes, this is a pitch. As our club looks forward to new leadership in the coming year I would invited all those interested in preserving and promoting this legacy to step forward and make your mark.

In the meantime, "Drop your tops and hit the black tops!"

WWSCC Schedule/January

Go to www.wwsc.org for more information

23 WWSCC Coneheads Banquet FX McRory's

2010 Calendar

For details about these events or to **RSVP**, check out the Calendar at pugetsoundmiataclub.org

January 2010

- 9 Winter Board Meeting, lunch at 11:30 a.m. in Bothell, meeting to follow. See page 3.
- 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 Springers
- 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 MG Car Club 29th Tulip Rallye. Gimmick-type Road Rallye - all are welcome; rallye starts in Burlington, WA. For more information, go to www.mgccnwc.com. Prizes for club teams, so make sure you specify Puget Sound Miata Club on your entry application. Does anyone want to organize a PSMC "dawn patrol" run to the start?

May 2010

- 2 Corvettes de Olympia Open Poker Rallye, on backroads around Olympia. All car clubs are invited to attend. For more information, go to the website at www.corvettesdeolympia.org. No pre-run to this event, just come and run it!
- 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
- 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, Details, page 4.
- 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.
- 24 Silverdale Whaling Days Parade.
- 24 Mt. Baker Fun Run with Sea to Sky Miata Club, hosted by Millars.
- 28 LeMay Museum Open House, Spanaway.

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, starts in Renton.

December 2010

- 31 Dee Dalhke's Big Birthday Party! Puyallup. Cruise in for an afternoon casual party and then head off to your nighttime celebrations.

President's Message

By Tom Millar
PSMC President



earth is.

Allow me to start by saying that I hope your holidays were delightful. We enjoyed a small gathering of family during Christmas. We were especially grateful to have our son with us after a bit of touch and go at the Harborview cardiac critical care. This reminds us that we are grateful for and how precious our time here on

Last week my travels took me once again to Southern California where I landed in what felt like something out of Hurricane Katrina. During my ride to San Diego from Irvine, I saw torrential rains, palms on the road and a bunch of crazy Californians trying to navigate in weather they're mostly unfamiliar with. Clearly, more danger is present in their inability verses yours.

On January 9th we will have our second planning meeting in Mill Creek to solidify our event plans for 2010. We have a lot of great rides and events planned. I would encourage each of you to come with your ideas and participate in the planning session. Your input and creativity is what drives this club to be the best. Furthermore, it is just a good excuse to get together, share some laughs, and, yes, get about the business of the club.

As I mentioned in our December Sounder, we will have a most magnificent event, the 20th Anniversary of the Puget Sound Miata Club. To recap, this will be a premier event that will outshine other events that we have hosted 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 and myself. The venue will be the Ballinger Country Club in Mount Lake 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! We are pulling all the stops out for this one, so don't disappoint us now. Our participant goal is 100!

One of things that I love when I read the recent Sounders is the section entitled "Were you around when". This section provides us a rich history of the club and the multitude of activities that have made us great. It's nice to see that some of the rides Cindy and I have created, like the Olympic Peninsula Tour, have made an appearance. I want to personally thank our Sounder Editor, Charlotte, for her skill and talent in making this section come alive with memories.

The long and winding road of our new Miata season is before us. Take time to study the ride and event offerings, still in production, that present themselves in the calendar. Plan on participating in the events...I don't believe you will be disappointed. Remember also, if you have an idea for a ride or an event, be sure and bring it forward. Your fellow members will appreciate your thoughts and efforts.

In closing, I must say that I am forever grateful for our membership, particularly those who have stepped up to accept the responsibility

continued on page 5



OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

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Executive _____ Mindy Bohnas
Communications _____ Gayle Lazur
Financial _____ Sean McGriff

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

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Chris Stollery Charlotte Fellers Sean McGriff
Mike Springer Brian Louderback
Cindy Millar Gayle Lazur

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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

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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 or send your name, address and check for \$30 (annual chapter dues) to:

Puget Sound Miata Club
222 Wells Ave N
Renton, WA 98055

Puget Sound Miata Club
c/o Sean McGriff
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 workings of the PSMC! Volunteer positions are open for PSMC members: Data Coordinator, Insurance Coordinator, directors-at-large, and Sounder Editor. To volunteer for one of these jobs, contact President Tom Millar 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