

Miata Sounder



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

Celebration did not disappoint!

*by Charlotte Fellers
Sounder Editor*

If you weren't there, you missed what most would call the best party of the year for Miata fans. The 20th anniversary celebration January 23, commemorating the first 20 years of the life of our beloved Puget Sound Miata Club was, for many, a "stop the presses" event. The evening offered all an opportunity to meet new people, reconnect with old friends, and enjoy reminiscing about past events and club activities. About 90 people attended this elegant evening of activities at the Ballinger Lake Country Club in Mountlake Terrace.

The evening got off to a quick start with cocktails at 6, accompanied by an impressive array of appetizers, including ham-wrapped asparagus, marinated cheese, tomatoes and fresh basil sticks, a selection of cheeses and crackers, and fresh Italian bread spread with fresh tomatoes seasoned with Italian spices. Prepared by our caterers, the Pro Start Culinary Arts Program of Tahoma High School in Maple Valley, these selections were as good as they sound. Obviously, one could have made a meal of these delicious appetizers!

And some probably did.

A popular activity in the run-up to dinner was the perusal of the "door prize table," which featured some great aftermarket items to dress up even the most boring Miata. These included floor mats, chrome-plated gas caps, horns, retractable license plates, and several other items. Also up for grabs were some car-themed t-shirts for both men and women, car-themed wall clocks, and three jackets embroidered with the PSMC logo.

Additionally, about 20 members ventured over the caricature table and had their likenesses drawn in the car. This made for some fun commentary and interesting onlooking during the drawing.

Finally, each table had a basket filled with a plethora of useful items that every Miata should have in the trunk. Designed by Bill Cooper and Karen Perry, these were the "must-have" items of the evening and coveted by all in attendance.

Thanks to Bill Aycocock, a continuous loop of photos featuring a look back at past Miata events was displayed in another corner. This slide program had something for everyone.

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Upcoming Events

Feb. 13, 2010

Red Wine and Chocolate tour of Woodinville wineries, see p. 2.

March 5, 2010

A Japanese feast is in store at the March FFF! Check out details on p. 3.

March 13, 2010

Saturday Social, 5 p.m. at the home of Charlotte Fellers in Auburn. See p. 3.



Many of the PSMC's past presidents attended the 20th Anniversary party. They are, from left: Bill Cooper, Maury Fugitt, Mike Springer, Muriel Mirkel, Karen Perry, Tom Millar (back), Donna Benson, (front), Cindy Smith, Mindy Bohnas, Bill Allen, Allan Ohlsen, Randy Umemoto, and Bob Gunther. Not pictured are John Hewitt, Chuck Price, and Bonnie Lohkamp.

Photo by Tom Smith

upcoming

First Friday Formal to feature Japanese feast

When: March 5, 2010

When: 8:00 p.m.

**Where: Kabuki Japanese Restaurant,
2919 S. 38th St., Tacoma**

Hosts: Mike and Lillie Springer

Contact: springerphoto@comcast.net

During the winter, it's a stretch to find ways to commune with your PSMC friends, so that's when the word went out to "get creative" and dream up new events. That's how the First Friday Formal got started. There's something about the alliteration in the name but it's also an opportunity to take out those nice suits and ties or those fancy clothes you wore last New Year's Eve and go out to dinner.

This year has two FFF events on the calendar. The March event will take place in Tacoma. See another article about the upcoming April event, which is designed as a tribute to a longtime member of the club.

Mike and Lillie Springer have made arrangements to revisit the Kabuki Japanese Restaurant in Tacoma. This excellent

Japanese restaurant has received great reviews in the past and features a sushi bar along with the regular Japanese fare. We have visited here before and had such a good time, the Springers decided it was time for a repeat visit. The restaurant has a choice for our group of regular tables, which have complete handicapped access or traditional Tatami room seating. If you will need a regular table please email Mike Springer (springerphoto@comcast.net) directly after you make your reservations and the group will be seated with you.

The festivities for this fun event kick off at 8 p.m. in hopes that those who have to commute on the I-5 Corridor will have time to arrive for the event. Be sure to make reservations because seating is limited for the First Friday Formals.

Directions to the restaurant: from either direction on Interstate 5 take the exit at 38th Street in Tacoma (just south of the City Center exits) proceed west (toward the Tacoma Mall) on 38th Street. Go through the first stop light (Steel Street) and the second stop light (Pine Street) after the second stoplight turn right in the "Michaels Shopping Center" the restaurant is located at the back of the center in the same building as the *Guitar Center* and *Michael's*.

Take some time for relaxation and tacos

When: March 13, 2010, 5 p.m.

Where: 1800 4th St NE, Auburn

Contact: 253-333-7442

editorcharlotte@gmail.com

Just before the weather will be warm enough to put the tops down is a great time to get together for one last tribute to winter weather. In another month, spring will be lurking around the corner, so take one more opportunity to drop by Charlotte's house for an evening of food indulgence. The Saturday Social came about when some members felt there were not enough opportunities to socialize during the winter months. The Saturday Social was born.

The March social will feature mostly food and drink and talk. This is going to be a minimal planning event that will be participant-driven. Whatever you would like to do, bring it on! If you want to play card games or Guesstures, we can do that! If a movie is in your sights, bring it with you. Just want to hang around and chat? That's fine too. In the PSMC tradition, "as long as there's food, who cares?"

The food selection will be anchored by a taco bar. Bring along a beverage of your choice and contact the hostess if you wish to contribute to the taco dinner.

Directions: From I-5 North or South: To Hwy 18 East toward Auburn. Take the Black Diamond/Auburn Exit. At the bottom of the exit, turn left and follow this road into Auburn. You will cross railroad tracks and the road will wind around to the right, eventually coming to a stop sign at Main St. Go

straight through the stop sign and proceed to 4th St. NE. Turn right on 4th St. and watch for the gray house on the right (about 7 houses down). The house number is 1800. Park in the drive or on the street.

It's time to volunteer your expertise as a board member! We need leaders who care about the future of this club to volunteer to serve on our board of directors. Other positions are open, too. Attend the March 27 nominating meeting and get involved!



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.

upcoming

April Formal pays tribute to Lazur

When: April 2, 2010, 7 p.m.

Where: Il Fornaio Italian Restaurant, Seattle

Hosts: Allan & Cheryl Ohlsen and Gayle Lazur

RSVP: www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org

By Allan Ohlsen

Don't put that formal gown and tux away yet, because here we go again with another FFF. This month we're going to Il Fornaio in downtown Seattle, located on the corner of 6th and Pine.

We picked this place for a special reason: it was one of George & Gayle Lazur's favorite restaurants. Il Fornaio is noted for fine dining and has received positive reviews by many people, including Gayle and George.

For those of you who are new members or may not have met George, you may want or need some background information. Some of you may recall George, a long time board member, succumbed to ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) in 2006. In memory of George, we will have an opportunity to donate to the ALS Association, Evergreen Chapter.

Money collected will be given in PSMC's name. This will be a special evening as we remember George and learn more about ALS, all while having a great meal with great friends. We have reservations for 20 people; so get your RSVP in today. Then, come and join us as we lift a glass in memory of George. If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation to ALS, please make your check out "ALS Association, Evergreen Chapter" and we'll be sure they get it. See you there.

George's widow explains ALS

by Gayle Lazur

ALS – Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis – better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease – is a progressive neurological disorder that causes the destruction of the motor neurons. The motor neurons are the ones that control movement – hands, arms, feet, legs, throat, diaphragm, etc. The brain still produces the impulses but there are no neurons to carry the signals to the muscles. Touch and pain receptors still function so an ALS patient can still feel touch and pain but just can't communicate or move. The progressive nature of the disease makes it so hard for families as the progression is generally so quick that the family usually doesn't get much of a chance to adapt to the new stage before moving on again. The disease can start in any portion of the body and can progress either quickly or fairly slowly. It generally affects men more than women. So it can be devastating to a family when the primary breadwinner is affected.

This is where the local ALS Association chapter comes in. They provide information, support, and access to "loan lockers" that contain much of the equipment needed by ALS



George Lazur was happiest in his Miata hanging with his club freinds. He died in 2006 but his legacy as a board member lives on in the hearts of many longtime member.

--Photo courtesy of Gayle Lazur

Driving Directions: Il Fornaio is located on the ground floor, SW corner of the Pacific Place building, which has a parking garage you can enter on either 6th or 7th Avenue.

From North: Exit I-5 at Denny St., go straight on Stewart St., turn left at 7th, after crossing Olive St. look for garage entrance on right.

From South: Exit I-5 at Seneca St., right on 6th, pass Pine St. and look for garage entrance on right.

patients at not cost. The chapter also provides support groups so that families can get together and share their feelings as well as tips and tricks that they have learned on how to deal with all the problems and situations that come up with ALS patients. The chapter also provides reimbursement for respite care services that allow the primary caregiver to have some time to themselves to recharge and be better able to cope with the disease.

It is not an easy course to walk. I know. I had to walk the stages of this disease with George and I think the hardest part for him was losing the ability to communicate except through a machine. But he dealt with the disease with grace and his wonderful sense of humor intact until the end. Please join us for dinner at Il Fornaio as we remember George and also help to raise needed funds for the local ALS chapter. They rely on donations to function and at this critical time it is more important than ever that we not forget them. There is much promising research being done but until the cure is finally found, families will continue to require the help and support of the dedicated volunteers at their local ALS chapter.

a look back

20 years of fun in the PSMC

continued from page 1

The featured event of the evening came after the delicious Italian-themed dinner of chicken or beef over Italian noodles with either red sauce or white sauce and accompanied by Italian bread. After the food, our current President, Tom Millar, introduced all the past presidents and recognized them for their hard work. A standing ovation went to our club's founder, Bill Allen, who was president for six years and editor of the *Sounder* for five. Bill is not a man of many words—in fact, he didn't even give a speech at the celebration, which is a shame, because he is a big part of the history of the PSMC.

But, in a private conversation, Bill said it was a great time to be around because the Miata was a new sports car that filled a void at the time. He remembered that some members spent a lot on aftermarket upgrades but eventually, they realized the price of the car would drop and they would never be able to recoup their investment. But, he added, it was fun to drive it and work on it. He remembers writing a lot of "Tech Talk" articles in the *Sounder* in those days. By the way, Bill doesn't have a Miata anymore. As many in the club already know, the older one gets, the more difficult getting in and out of the car becomes. Awarded a lifetime membership for his hard work the early years, Bill is rarely seen at an event. "I just feel funny driving up in anything but a Miata!"

Thanks to Bill Allen, the club was the first recognized Miata Club in the United States, so everyone joined in a salute to Bill and the debt of gratitude we owe him for his efforts!

Also recognized for hanging in there as a board member and practically a charter member was Alan Dahl, who has been involved since the second meeting of the club (it's in the minutes!). Believe it or not, Alan is still driving his first Miata, a car that came off the assembly line early in 1989. He believes it's one of the first 10,000 to be manufactured. Recently, after 277,000 miles, he replaced the engine! A avid autocrosser, he skipped their annual party to attend this

year's party.

Next came recognition of the editors of the *Sounder*, the job in the club that keeps members connected. Those who serve on the board, as officers, and as *Sounder* editors, "are really the glue of this club," according to Tom Millar. Without the *Sounder's* publication each month, he noted, many would be lost regarding club activities. Tom will wrap up his year as president in June, and said while it's rewarding, there is a great deal of dedication to different events involved in the job. "But," he added, "it's a fabulous way to get to know people in the club."

Finally, closing out the organized program of events was a roast of Bob Gunther, a former PSMC President. His old friend, Bill Cooper, had some rather interesting photos and observations about Bob to share with the audience, who now shows dogs for a hobby so doesn't show up at many Miata events. He noted that in his experience, a club that endures is one that is constantly changing and growing. His suggestion: plan lots of new drives to keep it fresh.

Dessert of a "20th Anniversary Birthday Cake" and dancing rounded out the evening's activities.



From left, Chris Stollery, Sean McGriff, Don Bojarski and Bill Aycock, pose at the Anniversary Party.

Photo by Tom Smith



Sounder editors that attended the 20th Anniversary party included, from left: Sean McGriff, Charlotte Fellers, Bill Allen, and Cindy Smith.

Photo by Tom Smith



Board members Ling Lauderback, left, and Pam McGriff, checked people in and completed waiver patrol, with the help of Brian Lauderback and Cindy Millar.

Photo by Charlotte Fellers

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 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. No details on the pre-run have been announced yet, but the key to all is to make your reservations early!

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. So far, about 70 people have pre-registered, but not all have paid. If you want to go to this event, sign up when you know so you won't miss out on the fun.

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.

MBMGCC to host tulip run

Hosts: Mt., Baker MG Car Club

Contact: www.mbmgcc.org

Date: April 24, 2010, La

Connor & Burlington



Consider all the fun you'll be missing if you don't sign up for the Mt. Baker MG Car Club's 29th Annual Tulip Rallye, scheduled for April 24. The 2010 starts from Cascade Mall at 9:30 a.m. with timed starts every few minutes. This year's version will feature a shorter driving route, giving participants a chance to view more tulip fields, and will include a drive-by of some interesting bodies of water.

Cost is \$12 to \$20 depending on when you register. You can obtain registration information at www.mbmgcc.org.

Another component of the event is the chance to take home bragging rights for your club. If at least five cars from the PSMC register, the club will have at least one car that has a winner for the club. But you must register as a member of the PSMC for this to happen, and when it does, it could be YOU!

Additionally, bring some canned food for the annual food drive sponsored by the MGCC. Last year, the club reports that it collected 725 cans of food and about \$1,400 in cash for the area food bank. This year, in lieu of selling t-shirts and other promotional items, the club invites everyone to make a donation that will go to Haiti cleanup efforts.

The Tulip Rallye is a gimmick rallye. Taking the place of periodic time/route stops are a series of questions you need to answer. This allegedly enables virtually anyone to do well at the rallye.

Full calendar set for Autocrossers

By Denise Williamson

The 2010 autocross season will begin soon! The first event will be WWSCC Slush #1 in Shelton on February 7. Slush #2, held on February 21, will also be in Shelton. BSCC will be holding a practice (February 14) and a school (February 28) in, of course, Bremerton. The school is a great introduction to autocross, and is highly recommended. It fills up very quickly, so keep an eye on <http://www.bscc.net/> for further information.

There will be three events in March, each by a different club. WWSCC Slush #3 will be held on March 7 in Shelton. BSCC will hold their first championship event of the year on March 14 in Bremerton. SCCA's first championship event will be held on March 28, also in Bremerton. Friday, April 16 will be a BSCC Member's Day in Bremerton. This may well be a lapping or track day, though, not an autocross day (check the BSCC website). April 18 will be BSCC #2, held you-know-where.

May 1-2 will be the first Packwood SCCA autocross weekend of the season (usually a practice on Saturday, followed by an event on Sunday). May 30 will BSCC School #2 (fills up quickly-see above). May 31 will have two events at one venue (Bremerton): BSCC #3 and an SCCA event.

June 13 will be BSCC #4. June 26-27 will be another Packwood SCCA autocross weekend.

July 5 will be an SCCA event in Bremerton. BSCC will hold their 5th event of their series on July 11. July 17-18 will be a Packwood SCCA autocross weekend. Friday, July 30 will be a BSCC Member Day (see above). July 31-August 1 will be the SCCA Packwood Pro, which draws competitors from all over the US and Canada.

August 1 will also be BSCC #6, held in Bremerton. The Evolution Performance Driving School will hold classes August 2-5 in Packwood. August 7-8 will be the largest event in Washington in 2010. The SCCA National Tour, held in Packwood, draws a high level of participation and competition year after year. August 28-29 will be another Packwood SCCA autocross weekend.

The SCCA Pro Solo finale will be held September 3-5 in Lincoln Nebraska. For those who want to autocross a little closer to home, BSCC #7 will be held September 5 in Bremerton. The SCCA National Championships will be held September 6-10 in Lincoln, Nebraska. Expect at least two PSMC members to attend!

BSCC will hold an autocross school on October 9, followed by event #8 on October 10. Friday, October 15 will be a BSCC Member's Day (see above). SCCA will hold their last event of 2010 on October 17 in Bremerton.

Dates and events are subject to change. At this time, the WWSCC championship events and the VCMC calendar (Pitt Meadows, BC – less than two hours north of Marysville) have not yet been published. Stay tuned to these websites for the most current information: <http://www.wwscc.org/>, <http://www.vcmc.ca/>, <http://www.bscc.net/>, <http://www.nwr-scca.org/solo/>. We'll see you out there in 2010!

Familiar Faces

Hope to see you at an event soon!

Helen Kester, Bellevue	'00 Mahogany Mica
Bruce & Janet Haskin, Normandy Park	'03 Garnet Red
Bob & Marti Mott, Gig Harbor	'03 Garnet Red
Lawrence & Sandra Bicknell, Kent	'08 Highland Green
Bill & Kathy Hughes, Poulsbo	'92 Silver
Gary & Pam Rittenhouse, Sammamish	'06 Galaxy Gray
Rick & Susan Carlson, Ranier	'90 Red
Maury Fugitt & Sandy McNight, South Colby	'96 Red
Mark & Deanna Morel, Lake Stevens	'91 White

WWSCC Schedule/February

Go to www.wwscc.org for more information

7	WWSCC Slush 1	Sanderson Field
21	WWSCC Slush 2	Sanderson Field

President's Message

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life to our publication. Even if you don't host a ride, you can contribute articles to the Sounder, like an interesting vacation experience with your Miata. I thank you for your help in this area and it also takes some of the burden off of our Sounder Editor!

In closing, I want to express once again my appreciation to all the folks who make this club function. I especially want to thank those who participated in the preparations and handling of all the logistics that went into planning, setup and choreography of our 20th Anniversary Party. This just wouldn't happen without their selfless contributions. In the meantime,

"Drop your tops and hit the black tops!"

2010 Calendar

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

February 2010

- 13 Red Wine and Chocolate Tour of Woodinville Wineries, hosted by Gores, details, page 2.

March 2010

- 5 First Friday Formal, hosted by Springers, details p. 3
13 Saturday Social, hosted by Fellers, 5 p.m., in Auburn, details, page 3.
27 Nominating Meeting, hosted by Millars, Mill Creek, starts at 11:30 a.m. with burgers and hot dogs for lunch. Details, page 4.

April 2010

- 2 **New Event!** First Friday Formal, hosted by Ohlsens and Lazur. Details page 4.
11 New Members' Drive, hosted by Ohlsens, details page 5.
24 MG Car Club 29th Tulip Rallye. Gimmick-type Road Rallye - all are welcome; rallye starts in Burlington, WA. For more information, see page 5.

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 Irrigation Festival and Parade
15 Poulsbo Viking Fest Parade
19 Eat n Greet, Five Guys Burgers, The Landing in Renton, 6:30 p.m., hosted by McGriffs
23 Vaughn Cemetery Aisle of Honor and drive to the Motts in Gig Harbor, details TBA.
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, 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.
31 Garage Sale Run, details TBA, hosted by Olsens.

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.

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 Mystery Tour, hosted by Springers.
9 Corn Maze III, hosted by Fellers & Dahlke/Johnson
30 Halloween Party, hosted by Millars.
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.

?? **Plan an event and fill this space!**

President's Message



By Tom Millar
PSMC President

At the time of this writing I find myself on an Alaska flight coming back from Denver to Seattle on a pretty bumpy, turbulent flight. This is often the case when transiting across the Rockies. To make matters worse the plane is jammed full and, drat, I didn't manage to snag first class!

An interesting event occurred last week however, related to travel. I had a short flight from Portland up to Seattle. As I exited the Horizon flight, the captain came on the PA and announced that Thomas Millar had just past a million miles flown with Alaska Airlines. The event was actually kind of neat as there was an official Alaska welcoming entourage at the bottom of the plane's steps. They presented me with a model Alaska 727 on a stand with my name on it. I was also provided with a lifetime MVP Gold membership card and some other goodies. While there are benefits to travel, and certainly the Alaska Airlines efforts were touching, the occasion was also a little bitter sweet, thinking of times away from home and missed events with family. On the other hand, Cindy and I sure travel all over the place courtesy of Alaska Airlines!

Last Saturday we held our January Planning and Board Meeting in Bothell at a wonderful little Italian restaurant. We had a good turn out and I was pleased to see members who typically do not show up for this kind of event. During the meeting we hammered out additional details for the 2010 calendar of events. I must say I saw some wonderful creativity in this planning process. As I mentioned last month, we have a great line up of events planned for this year and I look forward to your participation!

Of course, as this is the February edition of the Sounder, the exciting celebration of our 20th Anniversary Party has now passed. I certainly hope that all of you that attended had a grand time! Looking forward into next year, we intend to hold this event in January. We have less competition for competing events and we are able to secure a venue without much difficulty.

This past week I received a message from Bill Cooper that his son Sean was involved in a serious auto accident where he rolled his Miata as a result of encountering some black ice on the Olympic Peninsula. Sean is presently recovering at home after a week's stay at Harborview Medical Center. Bill also informed me that Joe Standley and his family narrowly escaped from their burning home on New Year's morning. As a result of the home fire the Standley's lost all of their possessions. I would ask that you keep Sean and the Standleys' in your thoughts and prayers.

In checking with Charlotte, our very competent Sounder Editor, she wanted to remind me to push for getting articles from ride hosts. When you host a ride you should really plan on providing two articles for the Sounder. One is to advertise the event to our membership prior to the date and another one following the event to recap the special things that occurred. These articles do not have to be necessarily long, nor do they need to be a literary masterpiece. Providing digital pictures is also a big plus and brings

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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 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 98057

**“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