

# Miata Sounder



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

## Annual PSMC fundraiser needs you!

by Denise Williamson

It is time once again for PSMC to host Miatacross, part of the 2010 WWSCC Championship Autocross Series.

The event is currently the main fundraiser hosted by the PSMC, so having some PSMC members' involvement is great. The club uses the profit from the Miatacross to pay insurance, purchase office supplies, postage, and software to publish the *Sounder*, and provides funds to host PSMC events such as the Gathering and the recent 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party.

You won't need any experience to help out, so that means everyone can participate in one way or another.

Miatacross 2010 will be held **Saturday** May 8 at Sanderson Field near Shelton. A map is at [www.wwscc.org](http://www.wwscc.org) (Event Calendar, click on "Sanderson Field"). The address is 21 West Sanderson Way, Shelton, WA 98584.

If you would like to autocross, we will have two classes just for PSMC members in the afternoon: "PSMC Stock" and "PSMC Modified". That means that you will be competing against PSMC members only. If you would like to run both morning and afternoon, you

will need to register for "Time Only AM" and "Time Only PM".

The positions we need help with are:

- **Course setup:** Friday May 7: 2-3 people. Duties: Friday (early evening), set up the course and mark crayon boxes around cones. Approximately two hours.
- **Waiver Patrol:** Many people needed throughout the day, beginning at 7:00 a.m.
- **Teardown:** 3-5 people. Duties: After the event, stack cones, reload equipment, etc. Approximately one hour. ***It is PSMC's responsibility to clean up after the event.***

If you are interested, please contact the Chief of Workers, Denise Williamson, at: [autocross1@pugetsoundmiataclub.org](mailto:autocross1@pugetsoundmiataclub.org)

Please let me know what you would like to help with (maybe more than one?), and if you'll be driving in the event (and which class). PSMC Club Classes will run only in the afternoon session. First come, first served, so if something looks interesting, email soon.

It is very important that the club pitch in at our event, so please email me with your desired work position. Help make our event a success!

### In Memory

## Longtime member Mike Koone

Mike Koone, who was a member of the PSMC for most of the life of the club, died in the early hours of Saturday, April 3. He fought a courageous battle with ALS since being diagnosed with it in August, 2009.

Mike served on the PSMC board in the 1990's and served as the club's Communications Officer in the mid-1990's.

The PSMC has made a memorial donation to the ALS Association, Evergreen Chapter.

The following obituary appeared in the *Seattle Times* last month:

Mike was born in Roseburg, OR, August 21, 1945. He and his mother lived briefly in

Seattle before settling in Silverdale, WA. He graduated from Central Kitsap High School in 1963. He served our country as a helicopter pilot by serving two terms in Viet Nam. After his service, he worked at the Bremerton Shipyard for 20-plus years as a nuclear inspector. He retired from the shipyard in 1997 and started a new career at Volvo Aero.

Mike was a proud American and a friend to all. He enjoyed golf, cars, car racing, football, fine wines, and great food. He leaves his wife, Happy, daughter, Kathi, and his brother Jeff and his family. There will be a celebration of his life at a later date.

Condolences may be sent to: Happy Leonard, 1502 Alki Ave., SW, Seattle, WA 98116.

## Upcoming Events

### May 1

Detailin' Day, hosted by PSMC board, featuring all you need to get your car ready for the summer!

### May 2

Corvettes de Olympia Open Poker Rallye. Go to [www.corvettesdeolympia.org](http://www.corvettesdeolympia.org) for details

### May 8

Miatacross, hosted by PSMC members, Anderson Field in Shelton.

Sequim Irrigation Festival Parade.

### May 15

Poulsbo Viking Fest Parade.

### May 19

Meet n Greet, Jimmy Mac's in Renton, 6:30 p.m.. RSVP on the website!

### May 30

Aisle of Honor, Vaughn Cemetery, with a drive and picnic to follow at the hosts' home in Gig Harbor. See p. 2 for details!



upcoming

## Shine up your car at annual Detailin' Day!

One of the most popular events hosted by the Puget Sound Miata Club is coming up when Detailin' Day happens on May 1. This event will be hosted once again by Coop's Miata in Maple Valley, where an excellent setup is available for club members to wash, vacuum, buff and clean off the winter grime from the cars and make them ready for the summer top down season.

This is one of only a few events hosted by the PSMC Board each year. It offers you, a Miata owner, the chance to come by Coop's Miata and get your car detailed and ready for summer. Of course, you do have to do the work yourself, but we'll have volunteers available to buff your car for you. Once the volunteers' cars have been buffed, it's first come, first served in the buffing station.

Buffing supplies will be provided by Groit's and Lilly Springer will take photos of you with your shiny car and print a complimentary photo on the spot for you to take home. The Dent Guy will be in attendance to rid your car of those pesky "dings" that come up occasionally.

Because of the cost of supplies, the Board will be charging \$10 per car. The admission price also includes lunch. Pay at the gate on the day of the event.

This is one event that does require a volunteer effort to be successful. The biggest job is buffers. In the past, we've had a great turnout of "buffer" volunteers (yes, some of them are even "buff") but new buffers are always welcome. Contact Mike Springer at 253-572-3285 if you would like to join the brigade of buffers.

Other jobs include gate managers, set-up, clean-up (the day before and day of the event) and traffic directors. Contact President Tom Millar at millar-thomas@aramark.com to volunteer to help out. Those who do volunteer to work will get their cars buffed first, so there is a significant advantage to being a volunteer.

Please RSVP at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org) so adequate supplies can be purchased and so we can get a head count for lunch. You can find directions to Coop's Miata on the website as well.

## Board elections slated for June 6

by Mindy Bohnas

Mike Springer has accepted the club's nomination to lead the PSMC through another successful year of drives and fun. He Others approved for nomination include new directors-at-large, Frank Shriver, Tom Mackey, Mindy Bohnas, Allan Ohlsen, and returning board members Pam McGriff, Brian Louderback, Tommy Gores, Chris Stollery and Charlotte Fellers. Tom Millar will step down as the president and enter the realm of executive officer while Sean McGriff will continue for another year as financial officer. The new communication officer is A.J. McGranaghan.

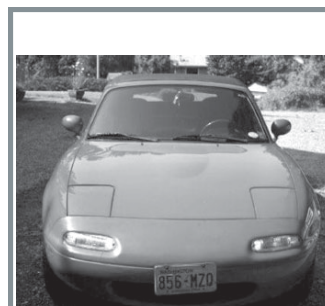
Voting will take place on June 6 at the home of Charlotte Fellers. Lunch begins at 11:30 with the board meeting (voting first) to start around 12:15 or 12:30. Check the website for directions to Charlotte's house and to RSVP. All members are encouraged to attend and to vote in the elections. Any member may also attend regular board meetings at any time, and member input regarding future activities and club policy changes is always appreciated by the board.

Volunteer jobs can be difficult to fill and some of the jobs in the PSMC have openings. This club could not continue without their dedication and hard work. Please note that there are several positions that need a replacement, most notably, the Sounder Editor! Others that are needed or filled include insurance coordinator, Dan White, who just took over this job; data coordinator, Sean McGriff, who is a returning job holder; Webmaster Nathan

Allen, who is ready to pass the torch; Autocross representatives Denise Williamson and Deiter Beldj; and Sounder editor, filled the past two years by Charlotte Fellers, who is leaving the job at the end of July.

Currently, the parade coordinator position remains open. The board hopes if you like to participate in parades and would be willing to host as coordinator for that one parade, then perhaps this could be a shared job.

Other information discussed at the Board Meeting included the need for volunteers at the upcoming Detailing Day on May 1st and Miatacross on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Due to the new Fall Rallye event, this year's Great Northwest Gathering will be a picnic in the park event somewhere in the South Sound area. Any thoughts you have on any of these issues, please contact your nearest officer or director-at-large or better yet, come to the next board meeting and let your voice be heard!



**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](http://www.swan-towninn.com).

## club news

# Club member reflects on volunteer value

by A.J. McGranaghan

I just finished attending my first Puget Sound Miata Club board meeting, at Tom and Cindy Millar's domicile on Saturday 27 March 2010. What an enlightening experience it was to observe and participate in this organization.

Some observations that I couldn't help but notice:

It appears to me that there is a small corps of participants that give a lot, both in contributing their own personal time, money and collective work ethics in order to keep this organization alive and prospering. It was an infectious meeting in that the small group of participants in attendance saw the need to "chip in" and fill in where and when necessary in order to bind the club for the next coming season.

President Millar (that sounds pretty impressive) recruited me over the past several weeks to (for lack of a better term) "take one for the team" regarding stepping into the breach and giving/contributing to the PSMC. After careful consideration and reviewing which job description where I could best serve, I was offered and accepting the "Communication officer" position.

Tom Millar has seen, and identified, the need to infuse "new blood and ideas" in order to keep this organization going forward. I've been with this organization for about six years and have contributed by sponsoring the "North Cascade run" which usually coincides with the Leavenworth parade season in September. I must note that small contingent of folks that I previously mentioned have given much more of their personal time and energy in order to bring this organization this far. Some other topics that were discussed during our March board meeting were the steady decline in the PSMC membership over the past several years; and the difficult task of managing/balancing our meager budget.

Several upcoming events in which volunteers needed to step up and fill in the blanks. (Note: many of those in attendance had to fill in multiple times) in order to continue on in a forward direction.

Our club is very similar to any state, county or municipal government in that we must deal with the reality that our economy has taken its toll on the amount of revenue that we generate. Unlike the federal government we can't just "print up more greenbacks". I'm personally of the opinion that belonging to the club is optional am prepared to have to pay a little extra in order to keep this organization with a forward momentum.

The short of the story is that this is "Your Club". This old phrase really applies in that you only get out what you put in...I would encourage each and every PSMC member to "step up" and consider contributing in word and deed to keep this club solvent and thriving. This is a great lit'l club and the one common denominator is that all of their members love this fun-to-drive "roadster". I felt moved to plant a seed and

*continued on page 8*

## Familiar Faces

**Hope to see you at an event soon!**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Byard & Stefanie Bower, Stanwood       | '01 BRG        |
| Keith & Audrey, Renton                 | '92 Red        |
| Ken & Leeza Visconti, Issiquah         | '94 White      |
| Vic Snyder, Seattle                    | '91 BRG        |
| Paul Jacobson, Federal Way             | '08 Copper Red |
| Terry & Fae Jacobs, Hoquiam            | '93 White      |
| Murray & Catherine Williams, Covington | '93 Red        |
| Bill Bell, Lynnwood                    | '10 Dark Blue  |

## New Faces

**Join us for a fun event soon!**

|                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ryan & Erica Levens, Puyallup      | '07 Red             |
| Ron Ralph, Seattle                 | '99 BRG             |
| Richard & Joanne Miller, Seattle   | '07 Sunlight Silver |
| Mark & Kathy Gardner, Maple Valley | '06 Copper Red      |
|                                    | Mica                |
| Gary Tagles, Spanaway              | '06 Black           |
| Lance Kett, Seattle                |                     |

# PSMC Autumn Rallye plans move forward

Hosted by: PSMC Board

When: September 18

Where: Coop's Miata, Maple Valley<sup>d</sup>

The PSMC Board is launching a new annual event on September 18 that we hope will prove to be a fundraiser as well as a lot of fun for our membership. The First Annual Autumn Rallye, will start this year at Coop's Miata and feature a drive through the backroads of South King County. Depending on the timing, this drive will possibly treat participants to a look at some fall colors in the lower elevations.

Although specific details are in development, we know there will be an admission fee of \$20 for up to two people in a car, and the fee will include the drive directions, a raffle ticket for each participant (with opportunity to purchase more), a hot dog, chips, and drink for lunch, and a commemorative coffee mug with an Autumn Rallye logo, which is set for a June release. Additional mugs will be for sale and additional hot dogs will be available for purchase at the event.

The club has invited members of car clubs throughout the Northwest in an effort to have large participation and raise funds for the club's activities. Prizes will be awarded in several categories

For more information, watch the *Sounder* and the club website.

## Scenery and views featured on Whidbey Island Tour

When: July 10

Where: Clinton Park and Ride on Whidbey Island

Hosted by: Shriver/Kus and Millars

Contact: [banditwa@msn.com](mailto:banditwa@msn.com), 360-678-1273,  
by *Frank Shriver*

Explore the grandeur of Whidbey Island as you join Frank Shriver, Carol Kus and Tom & Cindy Millar on Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, for this great island ride! Our journey will begin at the Park & Ride located in Clinton, as most people will be arriving on the Mukilteo-Clinton ferry. Plan to fuel your Miata prior to boarding the ferry because gas prices on Whidbey are running 20-30 cents per gallon higher than on the mainland. The ferries run every half hour and the crossing takes about 15 minutes. Please plan on arriving in Mukilteo a few minutes after 9:00 a.m. to catch the 9:30 boat. We will have a driver's meeting at 10:00 and will leave the park and ride at

10:15.

Whidbey Island is 62 miles long and just over 1.5 miles wide at Greenbank in Central Whidbey.

We will be traveling on roads lesser driven on our trek to North Whidbey. You will have the opportunity to see the impressive beauty of the north end of Puget Sound, Admiralty Inlet, Saratoga Passage, Useless Bay, Holmes Harbor, Penn Cove (Home of the Penn Cove mussel farm) as well as narrow tree-lined roads. Enjoying sights of wildlife will also be a



*Camp Casey was an active military base at one time and many remnants of the base remain for further exploration by visitors. This is a photo from last year's tour, which features an old cannon on permanent display on the grounds. Look closely and you can see the Miatas parked in the background.*

*Photo by Tom Smith*

### Backroads to Bavaria slated

Club Miata Northwest is again hosting the 11th Backroads to Bavaria in Leavenworth, in the heart of the Washington Cascades. This is Oktoberfest weekend, a much-anticipated festival every year. This year's version will feature new drives, a show & shine, the traditional Backroads banquet, and much more!

Home base will be the Enzian Inn in Leavenworth. Additional accommodations are available at the Alpine Rivers Inn, overlooking the Wenatchee River. A block of rooms has been set aside at both hotels. Be sure to mention "Miata Club" when making your reservation.

Cost for the required registration is \$60 per person and the registration will be capped at 150. Check out the website for more information at [www.clubmiata.com](http://www.clubmiata.com) for more information and to register. If you have questions, contact the event coordinator at [backroads.to.bavaria@gmail.com](mailto:backroads.to.bavaria@gmail.com).

part of the drive. There are in excess of 70 nesting pair of bald eagles living on hidbey and our chances are good to see this magnificent bird in its natural habitat. Spotting deer grazing should be common throughout the day. Hawks are very common and are often seen all over the island. The island is also home to coyotes.

The tentative plans are to stop at Fort Casey State Park to observe the WWI and WWII gun emplacements which protected Washington from enemy ships and submarines. Our travels will also take us past/through Clinton, Langley, Freeland, and past Whidbey Island Naval Air Station in Oak Harbor.

Near the end of our journey we will enjoy the spectacular Deception Pass, which if you haven't seen it before, is very dramatic and inspiring.

Upon the completion of the tour we will meet at Frank and Carol's home, located two miles north of Greenbank, to enjoy burgers and hot dogs as well as to enjoy the sunset and view of Admiralty Inlet.

Please RSVP on the club's website.

# Explore Oregon pre-run details set

**Pre-Run Hosts: Dee Dahlke & Duncan Johnson**

**Contact: 253.845.2424**

**ToadHallWa@yahoo.com**

**When: July 16-18, 2010**



The fine tuning for the pre-run to the fabulous Explore Oregon Tour is ready to go! If you enjoy driving scenic backroads in your Miata, plan on taking a day off in the middle of summer to join this tour.

Hosted by Dee Dahlke and Duncan Johnson, this pre-run will meet up with the Willamette Valley Miata Club's annual Explore Oregon drive in Astoria, OR.

The meeting place and start point for the pre-run will be from Norma's Burgers & Breakfasts I-5, just off exit 114 of Interstate 5 in Nisqually, Wash. Check their web site at: <http://normasburger.com> for map and information. (Note this is the new I-5 Norma's, not the old Martin Way Norma's.)

We'll meet Friday, July 16 at 9:30 AM, and leave at 10:00 AM. We'll leisurely cruise the two-laners, stop for lunch around South Bend and maybe take a peek at their beautiful and historic courthouse, then continue to a mid-afternoon arrival at Astoria.

Please RSVP for the tour on our PSMC web site so the hosts know who to expect. Be aware that the RSVP for the pre-run does **NOT** register you for Explore Oregon; you must sign up separately with the host club. Additional tour info will be published in the May Sounder. You can follow-up with Dee at 253-845-2424 (late afternoon or early evening is best) or e-mail [ToadHallWa@yahoo.com](mailto:ToadHallWa@yahoo.com).

Astoria is the center of this year's Explore Oregon 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. Each guest room cable satellite television and free wireless high-speed Internet access. A complimentary full breakfast is included. Hotel amenities include 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 hotel reservation call the number below and be sure to mention "Explore Oregon":

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.

To complete the registration form, go to the WVMC website, [www.oregonmx5.com](http://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. This event already has nearly 100 people signed up, so if you want to go, get registration completed soon!



## Miatas in Moab IV is back!

**When: May 14 through 16, 2010**

**Hosts: Utah Miata Club**

**Pre-Register @ [www.utahmiataclub.com](http://www.utahmiataclub.com)**

The Utah Miata Club is known for its "Miatas in Moab" drive in event, which attracts more than 300 cars from all over the United States. Go to their website (above) and check out the map, which has markers for every state that has cars registered so far.

You may be interested in joining a pre-run with members of the Mt. Hood Miata Club, who are planning to leave May 12 and will overnight in Twin Falls, ID, arriving in Moab the next day. This club has invited the PSMC membership to join in the fun by either meeting them and a pre-determined location or embarking from Oregon with them. The main events at Miatas in Moab IV will happen Friday and Saturday, and the Mt. Hood group plans to return home via a different route, possibly by way of the Bonneville Salt Flats, with a night on the return in Twin Falls, arriving back at home on Monday, May 17. To contact this group for the pre-run, please email [activitiesdir@mthoodmiata.org](mailto:activitiesdir@mthoodmiata.org).

If anyone from the PSMC is going, this would be a great time to sell/trade the PSMC pins or 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemorative wine glasses. Notify a board member if you are interested in the opportunity to represent the club and help make the club some money.

# Spring into autocross!

by Denise Williamson

Late March and early April were a little quiet for autocrossers, but never fear! The 2010 championship season is just getting started. On March 28, SCCA held their season opener at Bremerton. Out of 132 entrants, five were PSMC members. In Stock 1, *Nathan Provo* drove his 2003 Corvette to a fourth place finish with a Super Stock-indexed time of 57.947. *Rich Blake* placed sixth in Stock 2 in his '94R Miata, courtesy of an off-course excursion. In Non-Stock 4, *Glen Hernandez* brought out his newly (but not completely) rebuilt '95R and placed second with an STS-indexed time of 47.250.

*Bob Bundy* won the Non-Stock 6 class in his '90 Miata with an SSM-indexed time of 46.448. In Open PAX, *Dieter Beldi* placed tenth in an '09 Chevrolet Cobalt with a dirty DS-indexed time of 57.331 (darn cones!). Having fun in Time Only PM were *Bob Bundy* in his '90 Miata (58.086) and *Glen Hernandez* in his '95R Miata (59.113).

Kudos for the event go out in two categories for this event. For the Top Indexed Times of the day, *Bob Bundy* placed second, and *Glen Hernandez* placed third. For the Top Unindexed Times of the day, *Bob Bundy* placed first (NS6) and tenth (TOPM), and *Glen Hernandez* placed fourth. Wow! The PSMC autocrossers are doing us proud!

While all of the sane people were staying at home, *Glen Hernandez* drove to San Diego to participate in the SCCA San Diego National Tour. The event, which took place at Qualcomm Stadium on April 10-11, attracted approximately 286 drivers. Fourteen of those drivers were in Glen's class, Street Touring Sport (aka "STS"). Although there were some corner balancing issues the first day, Glen ended up fourth overall, .825 out of first. That's right: over the course of two days, .825 made for a fourth place finish. Next up: the El Toro ProSolo.

If you'd like to give autocross a try, but don't know where to begin, just send me an email at [autocross1@pugetsoundmiataclub.org](mailto:autocross1@pugetsoundmiataclub.org). Hope to see you out there.



*Glen Hernandez gets in line for the San Diego autocross event held at Qualcomm Stadium April 10-11*

*Photo courtesy of Glen Hernandez*



*Racing a Miata is a blast! Just ask any of our members, who do autocrossing nearly every weekend "during the season. Here, Glen Hernandez chats with his co-driver Hao while he waits his turn to drive in the San Diego SCCA National Tour.*

*Photo courtesy of Glen Hernandez*



*April's First Friday Formal was combined with a fundraiser for the ALS Foundation. Good food, good wine, and good company were enjoyed by all. The fundraiser netted \$215 in donations for the Foundation in memory of George Lazur. Pictured at the event, from left, Cheryl Ohlsen, Gayle Lazur, Allan Ohlsen, Cindy Millar, Tom Millar, Charlotte Fellers, Carol Kus, Frank Shriver, Lilly Springer, and Mike Springer.*

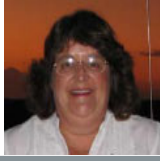
*Photo courtesy of Charlotte Fellers*

## WWSCC Schedule/May

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

- |       |                                   |                        |
|-------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1     | NWR/SCCA Solo Regional ProSolo #1 | Packwood               |
| 2     | NWR/SCCA Solo Event #2            | Packwood               |
| 8     | <b>WWSCC PSMC Miatacross</b>      | <b>Sanderson Field</b> |
| 15-16 | Wendover Nat'l Tour               | Wendover Airport       |
| 22-23 | SCCA Wendover ProSolo             | Wendover Airport       |
| 30    | NWR/SCCA Solo Event #3            | Bremerton Raceway      |

# Editor's Pen



by *Charlotte Fellers*  
*Sounder Editor*

Lucille Ball is often quoted as saying, "If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it. The more things you do, the more you can do." Well, that may be true, but for me, it's becoming too much.

I don't know where the time went. I started editing the Sounder two years ago this month. I love editing the Sounder but each month, I find that being over-employed has made it more and more difficult to find the time to edit the Sounder. And while I agree with Lucille Ball, I also know that I am neglecting important duties just to get this publication done each month and I don't like how that feels. In case you are wondering, I am a part-time faculty member at three different community colleges, two here in Washington and one in Texas (I teach online for the Texas school). I spend a significant amount of time each day online and sometimes I feel that the laptop in front of me is my spouse!

That's why the decision to pass the torch to someone else who gets to be a key part of getting information to our 180+ club members was an easy one. I don't know who that person is yet, but I am asking each of you to think about taking

## Volunteers do it all!

*continued from page 4*

to give you something to chew on. Give some thought to what you think would be an interesting and fun Miata run. Develop the idea by putting pen to paper, think out all the aspects and rehearse the event.

Some of my personal favorites were the "George in the Gorge" weekend run, along the Oregon Columbia River between The Dalles and Multnomah Falls area. Now that was a real "kick in the pants". The North Cascade run is a weekend event which affords a high speed avenue of travel which traverses from Leavenworth/Wenatchee over the North Cascades through the little mining town of Winthrop and terminating in the Arlington area. It's a beautiful run during the early fall season. It really allows you to take "the lit'l darling" for a wee stretch of the legs.

One trip that I'm trying to develop if not this upcoming season than in the near future is to organize a weekend driving event, taking in northern Oregon where Lewis and Clark and their companions forged a journey of discovery and discover ourselves where they wintered in 1804. My tentative plan would be to spend perhaps a day going through the interpretative center and the surrounding area and then proceeding east along the Columbia River with a night's lodging along the river and traversing back into Washington with a generally northern route back to Yakima and home.

You can do the same thing. It starts with an idea! Consider stepping up to the challenge this year.

over this job. I can provide you with training and backup files of many of our past Sounders so you will have a jump start on the job. I've even thought about some of the great things about being the Sounder editor:

·You are the first to know about everything that goes on in the PSMC.

·You meet tons of members, who strike up conversations with you because they recognize your name.

·You get to use some really cool software, like Pagemaker and Photoshop, two really awesome software programs.

·You find you will go to more events because you want to have some interesting items to put in the Sounder (and that's probably one reason you joined the PSMC in the first place!)

I'd hate to see the club do away with our newsletter because it keeps us all connected. I'll continue to serve on the PSMC board for at least one more year (my fourth) and I will be a key member of the PSMC Fall Rallye planning team. My last month to edit the Sounder will be July. If you'd like to take over this important job, you can email me at [editorcharlotte@gmail.com](mailto:editorcharlotte@gmail.com) or call me at 253.333.7442 and we'll talk.

## South End Eat N Greet set

**When: June 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Where: Historic Pick Quick Drive-In, 4306 Pacific Highway E., Fife, WA 98424**

**Hosts: Dee Dahlke and Duncan Johnson**

**Contact: [toadhallwa@yahoo.com](mailto:toadhallwa@yahoo.com)**

**253-845-2424 (after May 15.)**

Join us at the Pick Quick, a classic roadside food stand from the great days of the old US 99 Pacific Highway (Google it and check the reviews.) Now totally surrounded by urban sprawl, it still features "slow food" like hamburgers, fries, and amazing milkshakes. Cash only! No alcohol. You order at the window, then eat at a picnic table under giant old trees (and birds,) and if you squint just right at the traffic you can see Model T roadsters, Duesenberg touring cars, and gear-jamming Autocar and Diamond-T freight trucks slogging between Seattle and Portland, maybe even further into history.

Our Miatas will cruise in at 6:00 PM on Tuesday evening June 22 and join the crowd. From I-5 in Fife, take Exit 136 (Port of Tacoma Rd.) Go toward the port, then at the first traffic light beyond the freeway interchange turn right (east) on Pacific Highway northbound. Go 0.8 miles and just past the Nissan dealer and the signal at Alexander Ave., Pick Quick will be on your right. Since this is a seasonal stand there are no public restrooms; you'll have to take care of those duties at other nearby facilities. In the event of rain we'll still meet at Pick Quick, but we can then re-group at some other local establishment with an interior.

There is no agenda for a PSMC Eat-n-Greet! Just a group of cool cars and their humans getting together for fun.



upcoming

## Take a quick trip overseas on this drive

**When:** June 19 @10:30 a.m.

**Where:** Vashon Island Park & Ride

**Hosts:** Chris Stollery, Bill Aycock and Don Bojarsky

**Contact:** 206-617-4400

Ah, Vashon Island, the jewel of Puget Sound. Where everything moves at a slower pace, no one bothers to wash their car and chickens outnumber humans. Sounds like a great place for a Miata run!

On June 19, we'll make a trip overseas to our island neighbor, Vashon. Although the island's history of European settlement dates back to the 19th century, many things here seem forever caught in the 1960s. Did you know the island was home to several functioning communes back in the day? Do you know where the Russian Orthodox monastery is located? Do you really know what the farmers of Vashon cultivate?

To get answers to all these questions, as well as learning the location of the all-important Jesus Barn, you'll need to plan a trip overseas on June 19, 2010. It has been a while since the club visited Vashon, so here are some tips. The

car ferries to Vashon run from Fauntleroy in West Seattle, Southworth in Kitsap County and Point Defiance in Tacoma. The Fauntleroy and Southworth ferries land on the North end of the island, the Tacoma ferry lands on the South end. We'll be gathering at the Valley Center Park & Ride, 20221 Vashon Highway SW, about equidistant from the two island docks, at 10:30 AM. Check the ferry schedules carefully and plan to arrive at your chosen dock of embarkation early.

After a driver's meeting at the Park & Ride, we'll make a nice scenic loop around parts of the island, with a few quick stops to explain the sights to the uninitiated. Around lunchtime, we'll stop in the commercial village of Vashon. Lunch is on your own at any of several quaint restaurants, or shop for fresh fare at the local farmer's market. We'll continue the tour after lunch, and should be all toured out by mid-afternoon.

If you have any questions, call Bill Aycock, 206.617.4400.

## New Members' drive nets great weather

by Allan Ohlsen

New Member Day turned out to be a top-down-day in more ways than one. Twenty eight members gathered at the Azteca Restaurant in Redmond for lunch and then a sample drive on some twisty roads. About half were newer members, some only joining a few weeks earlier.

On hand to greet was our own president, Tom Millar and several other club officials and officers. We had club pins to give to the five newest members and then randomly selected six other members for spiffy Miata T-shirts, courtesy of Bob Mott.

After lunch, we gathered for a short, 30-mile drive. This was an opportunity to explain the procedure of participating in and showing how easy it is to put on a drive. The sun was out as fourteen Miatas proceeded on. The first stop was at Lake Sammamish State Park for a little social time and group pictures, and then we headed for the rural twisty roads towards Fall City and Preston. Everyone had a fun time culminating in some chocolate treats at Boehme's Chocolate in Issaquah. We were finished by 2:00 p.m. What a fun way to spend the day and get to know new people.



*Whether it was in the rear view mirror or in the windshield, the scenery was hard to beat on the New Members' Drive.*

*Photos by Charlotte Fellers*



*New members were welcomed into the PSMC at the New Members' Drive in April. They are, from left, Shelly Muir, Jan Jensen, Erica Levens, Ryan Levins, Gary Tagles, Eric Cooley, Catherine Wilbert, Michael Wilbert.*

# 2010 Calendar

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

## May 2010

- 1 Detailin' Day, hosted by PSMC Board
- 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](http://www.corvettesdeolympia.org). No pre-run to this event, just come and run it!.
- 8 Miatacross, Anderson Field, Shelton
- 8 Sequim Irrigation Festival and Parade
- 15 Poulsbo Viking Fest Parade
- 19 Eat n Greet, Jimmy Mac's in Renton, 6:30 p.m., hosted by McGriffs
- 21-23 LeMay Museum On The Road Tour. Check [www.lemaymuseum.org](http://www.lemaymuseum.org) for details.
- 30 Vaughn Cemetery Aisle of Honor and drive to the Motts in Gig Harbor. See p. 2 for details.

## June 2010

- 6 PSMC Board Election Meeting at Fellers' home in Auburn, meet at 11:30 for lunch, with meeting to follow.
- 12 Second Sloppy Saturday, hosted by McGriffs, starts at The Landing, 5 Guys Burgers in Renton.
- 19 "Back to the '60's on Vashon," hosted by Stollery, Aycock, and Bojarsky, Details, p. 3.
- 22 Eat n Greet in Puyallup, Pick Quik Drive In, 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..
- 24 Silverdale Whaling Days Parade.
- 24 Tour to Whistler for an overnight trip hosted by the Vancouver, BC Sea to Sky Miata Club, co-hosted by the Millars. Details coming soon!
- 25 Chinatown Parade, evening in downtown Seattle. Your car will look great with a beautiful Chinese or Japanese pricess in the back of it!
- 31 Garage Sale Run, hosted by Olsens. NEW DRIVE! Watch for details soon!

## August 2010

- 7 Great Northwest Gathering, hosted by PSMC Board.
- 17 Eat n Greet, XXX in Issaquah, hosted by McGriffs. Meet your friends at this iconic landmark for burgers and malts on the patio!

## August 2010

- 21 Haywire Hoot II, hosted by Newsoms.
- 28 LeMay Museum Open House, Spanaway. Once a year, the museum opens all the doors to every building so you can see more than 1000 classic and collector cars. A can't miss event!

## September 2010

- 5 South Bend Parade, meet at Gig Harbor for breakfast, hosted by Dahlke/Johnson, with the CDeO Club, offers a fun ride through the backroads to the always-popular South Bend Parade. Follow the caravan to a great fish fry afterward.
- 11-12 Olympic Peninsula Lite, hosted by Millars.
- 18 **New!** First Annual Autumn Rallye, hosted by PSMC Board. This is a new gimmick rallye that will feature driving around the backroads of South King County. There will be prizes for winners plus door prizes and lunch!
- 25 Leavenworth Autumn Fest Parade
- 26 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.

### **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.



# President's Message

By Tom Millar  
PSMC President



This past week Cindy and I took the week off as it was Spring Break for Cindy and I just needed time to "recharge the batteries".

After celebrating Easter with our son and his significant other we traveled north along the Pacific to Kalaloch Lodge for a three day respite. The weather was less than ideal but the storm watching was magnificent, especially in front of a wood fire. It's amazing how you can fill the time, sans television, telephones and internet. What a wonderful way to live!

Today, Cindy and I had the opportunity to participate in our New Members Appreciation Day lunch and ride. In his typical fun and thorough fashion, Allan Ohlsen and his lovely wife Cheryl, provided flawless logistics in regards to the lunch, the presentations and the delightful ride. The weather also cooperated as it was certainly a "drop the top" day. It was great to see our new members attend this superb event and it was also great to see some new blood coming into our ranks. These members represent our future as a club and I am pleased to see this new infusion. I want to also offer a special thanks to Bob Mott and my own bride of 35 years, Cindy, for contributing the door prizes for this event.

Two weeks ago we held our PSMC Board Meeting which prominently included our nominations for this upcoming year's Board members as well as the PSMC President. You will read about our selections elsewhere in this edition of the Sounder. I just want to say that I was impressed with the enthusiasm exhibited at our meeting. We have a wonderful slate of volunteers who are stepping up to setting next year's course and our club's future. I would ask you to please lend them your support as they enter into this year of PSMC service and for creating new frontiers in our continued future. I would also like to make a special plea to our membership, especially our new members, to consider stepping o the plate and making yourself a dynamic part of this club's future. PSMC Board participation, or ride and event hosts, are only a couple of ways you can offer your skills and time to our club. Yes, participation entails some work, and you get to "create" along with the support of other great folks. Overall, it's mostly just a lot of fun!

We are on the eve of our Miata summer season, a time to plan carefully for the events you want to participate in. There are events nearly every weekend going forward through the early part of October. Participation is key to keeping our event calendar alive!

The hour is getting late on the Millar home front and Cindy is calling me to dinner, or is it to make dinner? Anyway, I look forward to seeing you during our upcoming events, and, in the meantime, "Drop your tops and hit the black tops!"



## 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

Puget Sound Miata Club  
 c/o Sean McGriff  
 222 Wells Ave. N  
 Renton, WA 98057

## Help Wanted Today!

Individual to produce the PSMC Sounder monthly newsletter. Training and software provided. Benefits include rewarding opportunity to play a major role in all aspects of club development; a real resume builder! Requires strong written communication skills and up-to-date computer; high-speed internet connection helpful. Call 253-333-7442 or email Charlotte editorcharlotte@gmail.com.



## 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