

# Miata Sounder



*Newsletter of the Puget Sound Miata Club  
The First Miata Club in the USA!*

## Nomination Meeting and Pot-Luck Brunch

To be held in the meeting room at Milam Jeep Mazda , 608 River Road, Puyallup, WA 98371-4153 phone number (253) 845-1766; April 2, '11. The gathering will begin at 11:00 am with a pot-luck brunch followed by a short meeting for the nomination committee to present a slate of nominees. Then nominations may be added from the floor by any PSMC member. Nomination from the floor may be made for a member not present, but please contact the person to be sure they are willing to serve.

The club will be replacing four Directors and President. The nominating committee members are Tom Millar, Allan Ohlsen, and Charlotte Fellers. If you are considering running please contact a committee member by email for an explanation of the duties of a Director. Each Director is elected for a year at a time with a maximum of three consecutive years.

Bring a simple lunch item to share and a beverage for yourself, and RSVP at the PSMC website.

Directions: starting from I5 North or Southbound

Take Exit #135 River Road to Puyallup, drive approximately 5.7 miles. Make a right turn at 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW (the dealership is on the corner of River Road & 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW) make a left turn at the first drive way and look for a club representative who will direct you where to park.

## Upcoming



- 2 Nominating Meeting
- 16 New Member Gathering
- 25 Tulip Rally



- 6 First Friday Formal
- 14 Detailin' Day
- 27-29 Okanagan Run
- 29 Memorial Day Run



- 4 Shelton Parade
- 11 Elections
- 18 Garage Sale Run
- 29 Meet 'n Greet

### A GLIMPSE AHEAD

## ESCAPE TO RED MOUNTAIN WINE TOUR

*Fri Sept 9<sup>th</sup>- Sun Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 2011  
Ray and Elsje Houghton, Paul Jaeger and Tom and Cindy Millar*

It has been a while but it is time to get back in the saddle and have another wine tour. The plan is to have a weekend trip to the one of the smallest wine appellations in Washington State. Initial plans are to head east on the Friday driving through the Wahluke slope wine area, along the Columbia river through the Hanford hot zone (duck and cover) to the Columbia Point Marriott in Richland. On Saturday we will visit some wineries in the Red Mountain area and then back to the hotel to dine and experience the wine collections of the day. Sunday will be a day of relaxation before driving back.

This is the first announcement of this event and there will be further information in the Sounder and on the web-site as the event coordinators complete the pre-run.



## upcoming

### First Friday Formal

May 6<sup>th</sup> 2011, 7 PM

By Allan Ohlsen

Hey Miata fans! It's that time again, time to dust off the tux, break out the pearls and go out PSMC style.

This month will take us to the China Harbour Restaurant, located on the banks of Lake Union just north of downtown Seattle (just down the street from the Harborside Restaurant, for those that went on the first FFF). The China Harbour has great Chinese food that is very reasonably priced with a wonderful ambiance that overlooks a marina of small boats. The plan is have a sunset dinner, followed by a drive for what else, desert.

FFF's are a great way to socialize and have a great meal at the same time. Plus, it's good excuse to get dressed up. Like always, this event is open to the first twenty people.

If you have never been on a FFF, check it out; they are fun. RSVP to the website soon. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cheryl or myself. 206-444-6845

*Check the website for updates, we may have more for this event.*

**Driving directions to the China Harbour:**  
**North or South, take Mercer street exit (North side of downtown Seattle) off I-5**  
**Take right at the light (Fairview Ave)**  
**Turn left at next light (Valley St.)**  
**Turn right at Westlake Ave. N.**

Go approx. one mile, China Harbour is located on your right.

### Fun Run & Garage Sale

It's not too early to reserve June 18<sup>th</sup> for the first and perhaps the last, (depending on how it goes,) Garage Sale rally and picnic. The details are sketchy at this point, but if you put it on your calendar, by June 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a fun Saturday run, with some crazy prizes and some good grub. A sage old friend once told me "Just put it on the calendar!"

The plan so far is to wind through some scenic country where garage sales have been scheduled, and end up at a park with a covered area (just in case) for a hearty picnic/barbeque and a chance to showcase garage sale "treasures." Prizes will be awarded for categories that could include: "Just For Laughs" or perhaps "A Treasure In the Buff The Rough" or, "Who Wouldn't Want That", "Most Beautiful" or "Most unique".

By June 18<sup>th</sup> we'll be ready to put the top down and just enjoy a sunny Miata run.

### TWO LANES TO OREGON

#### PSMC Road Run to WVMC's "Explore Oregon 2011" Meet

Friday, July 15, 2011

HOSTS: Dee Dahlke & Duncan Johnson, home phone 253-845-2424, e-mail ToadHallWA@yahoo.com

This will be a one-day back roads cruise at leisurely speed from Puyallup, USA, to Willamette Valley Miata Club's big Explore Oregon 2011 meet in Silverton, Oregon. We'll head south exploring newly-found two-lane blacktop east of I-5, then zig southwest to cross the Columbia River at Longview. After a brewpub-type lunch the route will revisit some favorite twisties (and a few new roads) in the hills of NW Oregon, finally cutting southeast across the Willamette Valley to Silverton. We'll arrive in time for the opening afternoon's socializing.

Leave from: Shari's Restaurant parking lot (between Shari's, Chevron, & Albertson's) on Canyon Road just off Freeway 512, between Puyallup and Tacoma. Meet at 8:00 AM and leave promptly at 8:30 AM. Hosts' cell phone 253-861-4554 (at event start only, no coverage at our house.) The early start is because this will be a long day's run (200+ miles) on back roads.

Directions to start: Set your GPS to find 10904 Canyon Rd. E, Puyallup WA 98373. For the cyber-challenged, take exit 127 off I-5 in South Tacoma onto SR 512 eastbound toward Puyallup. After about 6 miles exit onto Canyon Road. Right at end of ramp toward Frederickson, and Shari's will be immediately on your right. If you live between about Olympia and Portland, e-mail or call the hosts in advance and they'll give you a local meet-up point along the course, so you don't have to double back so much.

Please RSVP on our club web site so hosts know who's coming on the road tour, and if your plans change, please notify the hosts promptly.

NOTE WELL: You must sign up in advance direct with WVMC to attend the actual meet. See their web site at: <http://www.oregonmx5.com/> You must also make your own reservations at the host hotel; for details see: <http://www.moonstonehotels.com/Oregon-Garden-Resort.htm>



# upcoming PSMC Detailing Day

*Saturday, May 14, 2011*

*Lee Johnson Mazda, Kirkland, WA*

Once again, Puget Sound Miata Club will be putting on our famous Detailing Day on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, ahead of the top down season. This annual event has been a favorite with Miata-ites for several years. It provides a wonderful opportunity to bring out the beauty of your little jewel. We will meticulously buff out your Miata, after you have washed your car. Following the buffing you will have the opportunity to wax and further detail your car to achieve that special luster that is well known to members of PSMC. Board members, and no doubt others, will be nearby to offer advice and answer questions.

As nice as Bill Cooper has been hosting the Detailing Day for many years in the past, we are going to give him a rest and select a new venue for this year. Lee Johnson's Chevrolet and Mazda in Kirkland have agreed to host our event. Tom Millar is still working some of the details with Lee Johnson but the date and site are secured. Lee Johnson will be providing us the use of their excellent indoor service bays for our buffers as well as car wash facilities. There will be additional space in the service area for waxing and further detailing of cars. We will also have access to the engine steaming bay and there are vacuums at our disposal too. Once again, we are pleased to have the good folks at Griot's provide us with their superior cutting compounds, car wash and wax. We will have all purpose cleaner for the interiors as well as carpet cleaner. Participants are asked to bring their own towels for drying their car after washing and for wiping down their car after waxing.

Around noon our friends at Lee Johnson and the PSMC Board members will be providing hot dogs, chips, chili, soft drinks and desert for lunch. There will also be an opportunity to purchase PSMC merchandise in the hospitality tent.

Our day will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will continue until all cars are polished to a high shine. Following lunch we are going to have a show and shine event which will take place on the forward lot of Lee Johnsons. This will provide you the chance to show off your special little baby to all the world! Trophies will be provided, again by the Lee Johnson folks, for various categories, including best overall car, best before and after car, and whatever else we can come up with. In tandem with this activity we will be having a drawing for numerous raffle items. We hope that all Miatas participate in the show and shine event in support of our event sponsor, Lee Johnson. Besides, it will just be fun! The festivities will conclude around 2:00 p.m.

As with any PSMC event there is always ample need for volunteers. We need folks to man the sign-in table, buffers, food helpers, setup/cleanup and for other miscellaneous tasks. Contact Mike Springer at 253-572-3285 if you are interested in providing buffer support. Contact Tom Millar at 206-390-3469 if you want to volunteer for other duties or if you have any questions. There is a significant advantage of being a volunteer, like you can hang out with the current and past PSMC President who will impart much wisdom and advice. Ok, if you don't like that, then how about volunteers get their cars buffed first!



Current PSMC members will be able to attend Detailing Day free of charge. Non PSMC members can have their Miata buffed as well. There will be a \$20 charge for non-members to have their cars buffed and for use of all products and facilities. For an additional \$10 you can secure a one year membership in the Puget Sound Miata Club!

Lee Johnson's Chevrolet Mazda is located off the I-405 in Kirkland. Their address is 11845 NE 85th St, Kirkland, WA 98033-8042, (425) 827-0521. y

## Our Costa Rican visit

By A.J. & Vickie McGranaghan

26 January 2011 through 7 February 2011

I wanted to write a journal/article for the Puget Sound Miata Club Sounder about our recent vacation to Costa Rica. I'm trying to look at this and write this article from the perspective of a Miata driver.

To start off there is one Costa Rican phrase that is ubiquitous and utilized for any and all occasions:

Pura Vida (pronounced Pu'da Vida) which when translated means Pure Life....This term is used in greetings, salutations, and in everyday conversations. You can't go wrong whenever or wherever you decide to "whip it out".....

My spousal unit (Vickie McGranaghan) is an employee with Delta Airlines at the SEATAC reservation office and as a bonus when Delta airlines bought out Northwest airlines, Delta had awarded all of its employee's two round trip dedicated airfares anywhere that Delta flies worldwide. That being said we had discussed several options on our dream sheet of where we'd like to vacation. I was thinking and leaning toward a visit to the Holy Land in the Middle East, Israel, Beirut, Syria, Cairo, culminating with a Medeterrian cruise from Barcelona, with stops in Italy, and Istanbul. However, after a lot of cussing and discussing Vickie made up my mind for me and decided on a 10 day visit to Costa Rica.

As always there's got to be some incident that when looked back upon strikes a funny cord.

As we're all aware of, airports are identified with airport codes, i.e., Seattle/Tacoma International airport is SEA, Los Angeles Int. LAX, etc. Do you know the code form San Jose, Costa Rica? It's SJO. Do you know the airport code for San Juan, Puerto Rico? .....its SJU.....Guess where my most important piece of luggage wound up at? Yea,



you guessed it, San Juan, PR. It had my most important stuff in it, swimming suits, and most important was my travel itinerary, which contained my hotel itinerary, travel arrangements, and all that. You're probably thinking to yourself that why didn't that idiot have all that important stuff in his carry on....I did, however because the flight was completely full, my carry on was taken from me just prior to entering the aircraft to be stored in the baggage compartment, and consequently during the confusion and rush of boarding the plane, the gate agent accidently entered the SJU code instead of the correct SJO code. Then, during the aircraft change in Hartsfield, Atlanta, my bag got routed to Puerto Rico...

Some facts and figures about Costa Rica.

- Population from the 2007 census was a little over 4 million.
- Costa Rica is slightly smaller than West Virginia.
- Major industries: Food processing, textiles and clothing, construction materials, fertilizer, plastic products. Commerce and tourism (52% of GDP): Hotels, restaurants, tourist services, banks, and insurance.
- Agriculture (11% of GDP): Products—bananas, coffee, beef, sugarcane, rice, dairy products, vegetables, fruits and ornamental plants.
- Costa Rica which means "rich coast", drawing more than a million tourists yearly.
- The flora and fauna is very similar to Hawaii
- The capital of San Jose is located approximately 9 degrees north of the equator.
- Dry season Nov thru Apr average mean temperature 72 degrees Fahrenheit



## aftermath



### Red Wine, Chocolate and Whiskey a Good Combination

The tradition of a wine tour for Valentine's weekend featuring the addition of a stop at a boutique whiskey tasting room in Woodinville proved to be a winning combination for the 17 club members who attended this year's run.

Originally, the plan was to meet at Ruby's Diner in downtown Woodinville. It was open three weeks ago, but closed unexpectedly (at least for us!) so when we arrived there, we had to regroup and find a new breakfast place. After consulting online telephone books and several GPS devices, we headed toward a reputed Denny's Restaurant. When we arrived at the supposed address, it was a private home (probably owned by someone named "Denny."). That's how we ended up at Jack In The Box for a quick breakfast.

The first stop on the tour was the Tefft Winery, which featured four wines paired with four kinds of chocolate including an intriguing pumpkin-infused variety. This winery features several reds, mediums and whites for tastings. The next stop was at the Woodinville Whiskey Company for a brief overview of the distillery on-site and free tastings

of the two liquors made there. The first was an organic vodka, followed by an organic single malt whiskey. The whiskey had absolutely no color, but available for purchase was a miniature aging oak barrel kit, which came with instructions for those who wanted to age the whiskey in the barrel several weeks to create the amber color more familiar to most whiskey connoisseurs.

Next up was the Januik/Novelty Hill tasting room, just up the road from Tefft. This was a popular stop because of the limited appetizer-sized menu of hot food items for those who needed a food fix. Additionally, wines at Novelty Hill were paired with gourmet chocolate chip cookie samples. These cookies were heavy on the butter and sugar and also heavy on the taste.

The final stop was the always-popular Columbia Winery for a choice of several wines designed to please every palette. By this time, the day was getting away and because of work the next day, many chose to head on home. Those who wanted to continue the fun caravanned to the warehouse wine district in Woodinville for some additional tastings. All in all, it was a leisurely afternoon, giving all a chance have a relaxing afternoon socializing over some delicious wine and food.



## more stuff to do

### MINIs, Alfas, Miatas, and MGs...you're all invited!

FIAT Enthusiasts Northwest invites you to participate in our Spring Tune-up Rally held each year two weeks before the MG Tulip Rallye. Our little rally is free and held to "tune-up" your team's minds and senses of humor to be better prepared for the MG Tulip Rallye.

Here are the details:

Date: Saturday, April 9

Time: Driver's meeting at 10:45 a.m., come early for breakfast if you desire...

Starting Point: G. A. Maxwell's 1204 3rd Street, Marysville, WA 98270-4911, 360-659-1000. Please note that we request an RSVP only so as to have enough sets of route instruction on-hand to accommodate you! Otherwise you may.... be disappointed while we look for a copy machine!

Remember everyone is invited and it is free for all of you!

Questions...comments...spiders@wavecable.com

Thanks and we hope to see you on April 9th!,  
Bert Cripe  
President  
FIAT Enthusiasts Northwest  
<http://www.fiatnorthwest.org>

### Corvettes de Olympia Poker-Gimmick Rally

Open to all cars (makes/models/car clubs). **May 1, 2011 (Sunday) rain or shine.** Must have a valid Driver's License and vehicle insurance to be the driver of the vehicle. All drivers/passengers must have functioning seat belts. All cars must pass technical inspection at the start place. Start place will be:

Gould Chiropractic Center

704 Lilly Rd SE Lacey, WA 98501

(360-456-4488) From I-5 in Olympia take exit #107, turn North onto Pacific Ave SE (food, fuel & restrooms available at this exit). 2<sup>nd</sup> major intersection is Lilly Rd SE (turn left at light).

Take next right into Gould Chiropractic Center parking lot. Registration Opens at 9:00 a.m.

First rally car out of start at 9:30 a.m.,

Last car must start before 11:00 a.m.

Entry Cost: \$15.00 per car: to support CdeO Scholarship Fund for automotive students at South Puget Sound Community College. For more information, please contact the Event Chair, Meagan Renick at 360-459-0771 or via e-mail: [notdads@hotmail.com](mailto:notdads@hotmail.com)

### MG Car Club Northwest Centre 30th Annual LaConner Tulip Rallye

Saturday, Apr 23, 2011

Start rally from: Cascade Mall, Exit 230 off I-5, Burlington, WA Directions: From I-5 take Exit 230. Go east on Hwy 20. Turn right at stoplight onto South Burlington Blvd. Turn right at next light onto Cascade Mall Dr.

30th running of the LaConner Tulip Daffodil Rallye. This is a gimmick rallye; questions take place of time/distance checkpoints; anyone can compete successfully. All you need is a sharp eye & sense of humor. Note: speed NOT recommended! There is a restaurant or pack a picnic lunch to enjoy at end while scores are tabulated.

Each car club (5 car min.) will have 1st Place finish. Non-club entrants can win in "Open" class.

NEW THIS YEAR – Pre-registration closes April 16. Entries received after 16th will be considered day of. Send form with \$12 USD or CDN per car to: Tulip Rallye, c/o Ken Bottini, 12835 NE 36th St, Bellevue WA 98005-1323. (\$15 USD or CDN to register day of event.) Make checks to: MGCCNWC. For more info call Ken Bottini @ 425-883-9615 or day of 425-577-8613 (cell).

All rallye info & car numbers are issued day of rallye. Please bring canned food for donation to local food bank. Drop off location is part of rallye. Special T-shirts to celebrate our 30th year. Overnight accommodations available first come, first serve basis at Holiday Inn Express Burlington – 360-755-7338 - Fri/Sat - \$99 (mention Tulip Rallye), Marina Inn has group rates during Rallye weekend. Mention MGCC: Less than \$70/night, Fri. April 22 and/or Sat. April 23.

Club Notes: Typically first car out is at 9:00 AM; be there well in advance as this is a "shotgun start" of up to 300 cars and they launch one every few seconds. When you register, spell out the entire name of our club (not just our initials) on the form to avoid confusion. If we have 5 or more cars entered from our club, our best placed car will get a trophy. (Typically other clubs from our marque also attend.) No club tour to start is planned, unless someone puts one together. Just show up at the start and compete. We gather at the finish line and tell rally adventure stories. Info for our club is available from Duncan Johnson & Dee Dahlke, phone 253-845-2424 or e-mail [duncanjohnson@mac.com](mailto:duncanjohnson@mac.com)

# 2011 Calendar

## April 2011

- 2 Nominating Meeting
- 16 New Member Gathering - Ohlsen
- 23 Tulip Rally

## May 2011

- 6 First Friday Formal - Ohlsen
- 14 Detailin' Day
- 27-29 Okanagan Run
- 29 Memorial Day Island Honor - Mott

## June 2011

- 4 Shelton Parade
- 11 Elections - Dee & Duncan
- 18 Garage Sale Drive
- 29 Meet 'n Greet - Fellers

## July 2011

- 2-4 Historics - Springer
- 9-10 Whistler Run - Sea to Sky Club
- 15-17 Explore Oregon Run - Dee & Duncan
- 17 Opel Car Show
- 23 Silverdale Parade
- 24 Chinatown Parade - Bell

## August 2011

- 6 Mt. Baker Run - Bell
- 10 Meet 'n Greet - Duncan
- 13 Flumerfelt Fling - Newsom
- 20 The Gathering - Board

## September 2011

- 10-11 Peninsula Tour - Millar
- 17 Sunset Auto Run - Ohlsen
- 25 North Cascade Run

## October 2011

- 1 Corn Maze - Millar
- 8 Autumn Ralleye - Fellers
- 29 Halloween Party - McGriff
- 31 Bremerton Safe Trick or Treat

## November

- 5 Planning Meeting

## December 2011

- 10 Open House - Fellers

## ***New Faces***

Dick & Susan Johnson 10 Red

Evan Wert

Linda Cherepow & Ralph Doty 10 Black

Robert & Karen Chaffin 01 Silver

*PLEASE JOIN IN ON A RUN SOON!*





*SUCH LOVELY CARS!!*



## Familiar Faces

Name	Car
David Day	91 White
Dana Jorgenson	01 Midnight Blue
Jim Bucklin	92 Red
Steve and Linda Birman	08 Copper Red
Keith & Gayle Newsom	93 White
Paul Jaeger	01 BRG
Julianne Wasilausky	96 Starlight Mica
Bob Pitre	94 Black
Bob & Sally Thomas	99 Sapphire
Jan Jensen	08 Copper Red Mica
Gary and April Meier	93 Black LE
Gary Tagles	06 Black
Byard and Stephanie Bower	01 BRG
Alan and Kris McMahan	02 Titanium



## OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

### Chief Officers

Operating .....	Mike Springer
Executive .....	Tom Millar
Communications .....	AJ McGranaghan
Financial .....	Sean McGriff

### Directors at Large

Tom Mackey	Tommy Gores	Pam McGriff
Chris Stollery	Charlotte Fellers	Sean McGriff
Brian Louderback	Mindy Bonhas	Frank Shriver
Cindy Millar	Allen Ohlsen	

### Appointed Positions

Insurance Coordinator .....	Dan White
Data Coordinator .....	Sean McGriff
Parade Coordinator .....	Open Position
Souther Editor .....	Pam McGriff
Webmaster .....	Nathan Allan

### 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 98057

Puget Sound Miata Club  
222 Wells Ave. N  
Renton, WA 98057

## *Have an article for the Sounder?*

Remember these tip if you would like to submit an article:  
--Before you submit articles, change the font to the Sounder's default font, Arial, 10-point.  
--At the end of each sentence, use one space, not two. It saves space and most publications use this format; so do we.  
--Send articles as an attachment; don't paste them into the email window. This creates an extra step for the editor, who already has a lot to do.  
--If you send photos, send j-pegs. We have to "photoshop" them anyway for publication, so just send them straight from your digital camera.  
--Send 3-5 photos, not 25-30. We need your BEST photos, not all of them.  
--The deadline for the next month is the 15th of the current month.  
--The event host is responsible for writing pre-run articles and finding a volunteer to write a post-run article. Always send photos too.

**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*

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

*Miata Top Bob's, (206) 782-8081*