

# Miata Sounder



THE FIRST OFFICIAL UNITED STATES MIATA CLUB

June 2016

## Third Thursday Cruise-In Hosted by: Dee Dahike and Duncan Johnson Thursday: June 16, 2016 @ 6pm

Location: Historic Pick-Quick Drive-In

4306 Pacific Highway E., Fife, WA 98424

Thurs. June 16, 2016 @ 6:00 PM

Shine up your Miata and join us at the PSMC summer cruise-in to the original Pick-Quick, a classic roadside food stand from the gear-jamming days on the old US 99 Pacific Highway (<http://pick-quick.com> or Google the place 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 walk-up window, then eat at a picnic table under giant old trees (and birds, eek!) There is no agenda or business or competition at a PSMC Cruise In. Just a group of cool cars and their humans getting together for fun.

Notes: 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 unlikely event of rain, we'll still meet at Pick-Quick at 6 PM, but we can then re-group at some other local establishment with an interior.

Directions for the GPS-challenged: 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.



RSVP is "nice," but not "necessary," just so we can plan how many picnic tables to jam together. Phone 253-845-2424; E-mail: [ToadHallWA@yahoo.com](mailto:ToadHallWA@yahoo.com)

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<b>Event Aftermath</b>	<b>Contributors</b>

The *SOUNDER* is published several times a year (as close to the first of the month as possible). Many months are combined. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month. All articles and ads are due by then, so as to be included in the following month's publication.

Event Masters are encouraged to get their event info to the editor as soon as possible to ensure all members can plan for the event.

Send your submissions to:

#### Miata Sounder

[sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org](mailto:sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org)

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## Puget Sound Miata Club Board Meeting June 4, 2016 @ 11am

This is a regular meeting of the PSMC Board of Directions, where we'll just take care of general business of the club.

This event will take place at the home of Charlotte Fellers, membership chair, in Auburn.

Activities start at 11:00 for lunch, which will be provided. After lunch, we'll have the summer kickoff board meeting. If you'd like to get a little more engaged in club events, this is a great way to do it.

Also, if you have a late addition to the summer drive schedule, come on down and we'll get it on the calendar for you.

PLEASE RSVP so we know how much food to prepare. Bring along a yard chair if you have one because if it's a nice day we'll meet in the backyard on the deck.

**Address:** 1800 4th St NE, Auburn WA 98002. You can use a GPS or MapQuest to find it. Please park in the drive or on the right side of the street ONLY.

## Fathoms O' Fun Parade

Date: June 25, 2016 in Port Orchard, Washington

Mindy Bohnas is looking for volunteers to drive the Viking Fest Royalty. If you would like to help, please contact her at [fun4sun@bigfoot.com](mailto:fun4sun@bigfoot.com) or (360) 895-0931.

## Whistlin' Jacks Run

**July 9, 2016 @ 10am Enumclaw Chamber of Commerce**

Join Jim Liljeberg and his wife Phyllis on this drive that starts in Enumclaw and, as is often the case, ends with food. We're looking at about an hour and a half of actual driving time from Enumclaw to Whistlin' Jack's restaurant. Maybe two hours, tops.

The meeting place for the start of the run will be the large parking lot behind the Chamber of Commerce building, 1421 Cole Street, Enumclaw WA 98022.

You will enjoy many beautiful sights on this drive. The first one is an interpretive center (half hr) and then the little town of Greenwater has some interesting shops (and toilets). And then there's a campground with a very large very old trees that people usually like to use as a backdrop for a photo op. Once we finish there we'll head on to the next stops, which are the passes themselves. By the time we take this drive, there won't be much snow there, if any, so we probably won't be able to spend as much time there as usual but there are toilets and more photo ops. Then there are a couple of interesting stops on the other side of the Chinook and Cayuse passes.

Bring a snack to eat in the car if you wish, but we plan to arrive at Whistlin' Jack's Restaurant for lunch, so no need for much food planning. **Continued on Page 6:**

## Upcoming Events — Something for Everyone!

*(The year at a glance — check website or future Sounders for updates)*

**June:** Jun 04 PSMC Board Meeting

Jun 07 First Tuesday Cruise-In Social

Jun 16 Third Thursday Cruise-In Social

Jun 25 Fathoms O' Fun Parade

**July:** Jul 02 28th ANNUAL PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORICS CAR CORRAL

Jul 09 Whistlin' Jack's Run

Jul 14 Expore Oregon (Hosted by Willamette Valley Miata Club)

Jul 16 Drive to Admiralty Lighthouse

Jul 30 Silverdale Whaling Days Parade

Jul 30 2016 Opel - Miata Gathering

**August:** Aug 06 Great Northwest Gathering of Miatas

Aug 13 Mt. Baker Run

Aug 27 Crystal Mountain Summit Drive

**September:** Sep 10 Halfway and Back Tour (Hosted by the Willamette Valley Miata Club)

Sep 17 Pacific Beach Frolic

Sep 24 Leavenworth Autumn Leaf Festival Parade

Sep 30 Mahogany, Merlot & Miatas V

**October:** Oct 04 First Tuesday Cruise-In Social

Oct 15 Fourth Quarter Planning and Board Meeting

Oct 20 Third Thursday Cruise-In Social

**November:** Nov 01 First Tuesday Cruise-In Social

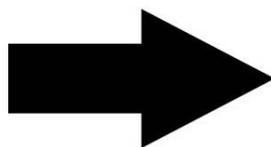
Nov 05 End-Of-The-Driving Season Party

Nov 17 Third Thursday Cruise-In Social

**December:** No Events Planned At This Time

## Miata Helpful Links

Miata Garage: <http://www.miata.net>



# 28th ANNUAL PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORICS CAR CORRAL

Hosted by Mike Springer

The Pacific Northwest Historics is a volunteer-driven event sanctioned by SOVREN (Society of Vintage Racing Enthusiasts) Race Club and the SOVREN Guild of Seattle Children's Hospital. The Historics is the premier vintage sports car race in the Northwest and the largest charity motor-sports event in the United States. In 2014, the Pacific Northwest Historics raised \$450,000 for Seattle Children's. These fundraising efforts will improve the lives of many families with children in need.

While the Guild's effort is for charity, don't be misled. The car owners, drivers and crews are in it for the racing. The Pacific Northwest Historics is one of the most popular vintage races on the West Coast, drawing competitors from most western states. In past years, drivers have traveled from as far as Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and Europe.

Check out the Historics website for new information as it becomes available at [www.northwesthistorics.com](http://www.northwesthistorics.com)

Although vintage racing is not "real" competition in the sense that the cars are not driven to their limits 100% of the time, scoring is based on laps completed rather than order of finish, and the safety of the cars and drivers is the foremost concern, the drivers are still interested in turning in the best possible lap times. Without the pressure to have the fastest possible car, the drivers and pit crews are willing (often eager) to display and talk to others about the cars. The pits are open to spectators all three days.

There have been some rule changes so there will be some newer cars in the grids and possibly a bit more variety. The cars historically experience about 10% attrition per day so generally the first day of the event provides the best opportunity to see all of the cars in action. Since Monday is the actual holiday, this may not impact attendance that much. Races are scheduled for all three days and there should be some great vendor and featured car displays.

The car corral at the PNW Historics is an excellent opportunity for members of local car clubs to meet and display their cars. Those displaying their cars in the corral on Saturday or Sunday may participate in parade laps on the Pacific Raceways track during the lunch break and an informal judging for the "best" cars in various age groups. The judges are generally children of event volunteers. There are no formal car corral activities on Friday but the area is open to those purchasing car corral passes for the weekend or Friday.

Tickets cost: [Car Corral Passes \(car and driver only\)](#)

Friday only \$30.00/Saturday only \$30.00/Sunday only \$30.00

Weekend pass (3 days, one car/driver) \$50.00

[General admission tickets \(passengers\)](#)

1 day pass: Children 7-16 \$5.00/Adult: \$25.00

Adult weekend pass (3 days) \$40.00

**TICKET ORDER DEADLINE: JUNE 1st**

Once posted, you can send the completed order form, check & self addressed envelope to

Ross Scott  
21826 1st Ave W  
Bothell, WA 98021

This will ensure the PSMC has all its registrations together at the event.

**Drive to Admiralty Lighthouse**  
**Hosted by Carol Kus and Frank Shriver**  
**July 16, 2016**

**2016 Member Welcome**  
**Pictures by Ross Scott**

### Drive to Admiralty Head Lighthouse

On Saturday, July 16, Carol Kus & Frank Shriver will host a drive on

Whidbey Island that will end with a personal tour of Admiralty Head Lighthouse. This will be an afternoon drive, starting in Clinton and ending at Fort Casey State Park around 5 PM.

To have a private tour we will have to arrive after the Lighthouse is closed to the public. Following the tour we will go to the Kus/Shriver home to barbecue burgers for dinner. Start time for the run will be established at a later date.

It is important to note the Lighthouse is located in Fort Casey State Park, which will require a Discover Pass or payment of a daily parking fee. As details are firmed up, they will be announced.



**The Great Northwest Gathering Of Miatas**  
**Hosted by the PSMC Board**  
**On 8/6/2016**

It's time again to mark your calendars to attend the annual Gathering of Miatas. As in past years, we have scheduled the cabana at Griot's Garage in Tacoma for our event this year.

If you have never been to Griot's in Tacoma, then you are missing out! It's a great place to stock up on your car polishing supplies. As one of our partners, Griot's Garage welcomes us every year to host our gathering in their parking lot. Additionally, they sponsor a one-hour tech program where they explain the use of the car maintenance supplies they sell and why they are such good products. Their address is: 3333 S. 38th St, Tacoma. You can check out their website at [www.griotsgarage.com](http://www.griotsgarage.com)

So, we'll start off at 10 a.m. with the "Drive-In" to Griot's and to give you an hour to spiff up your car. Then the Tech Program begins at 11 a.m. followed by lunch, which will be cooked and served by your PSMC Board of Directors.

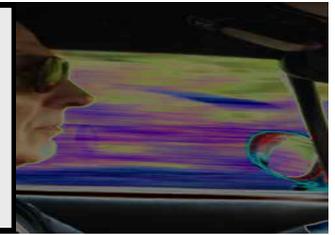
Following lunch, you can view the Miatas and vote for the People's Choice winners.



# Ruminations of a Miata Driver

## Anatomy of a Near Collision

By Ross Scott



Nothing will snap a person out of a driving reverie faster than a roadway incident. One minute, things are just rosy, the car is purring along without a hiccup and life is grand. Then, without warning, something horrendous happens right in front of you. A seemingly unavoidable incident unfolds in your space and there is only one thing to do. In the spirit of true champions, and no doubt out of primal fear, one goes into avoidance mode. Maybe this could be an accident one could drive away from. Maybe you get lucky.

I was returning home from Coop's Miata after an oil change one rainy Saturday, leading a line of cars in near dusk on the Maple Valley Highway. I had my running lights on, but I noticed everyone else had their headlights on. Luckily we were still in the 40 MPH section two-lane portion and only doing a few miles over when I approached a full-size pick-up, with canopy, on the side of the road. He must have looked right over the top of my car to the headlights of the motorist behind me, because he pulled out onto the roadway about 50 feet in front of me. I thought this guy was merely an idiot pulling onto the roadway, so I swung wide to pass, as there was ample room in front of the on-coming cars.

I was wrong. He was an idiot making a U-turn across my lane to go the opposite direction. So I bombed the brakes and cranked the wheel to go around behind as the truck crossed the lane. If I had anti-lock brakes, that would have been the end of it and I would not be sitting here writing this. But I do not. What I do have are the best tires on earth and one superbly handling vehicle. As I slid, the Khumo tires were chirping on the wet pavement clawing for traction and the truck was moving very slowly, not out of the way yet as I got the nose of the car pointed toward his rear axel. By now I was so close I thought I was for sure going to hit with enough inertia to make this fine sculpture of an automobile into totaled out abstract street art. I relaxed my toes as the

distance between his rear quarter and my front fender disappeared in a parallax freak-out. In that time he moved two feet and, catching more traction, so did I, ending up going ten miles an hour on the paved shoulder.

There were cars behind me and I did not want to let them see me sweat, so I dropped it into second, signaled my return to the roadway and floored it. Breathing deeply as I go.

Yes, you can toss a Miata!

## Whistlin' Jacks Run Continued from Page 2

Continued from Page 2:

The pre-run driver's meeting will be at 10 AM. Be sure you have a nice breakfast at home or along the way to Enumclaw before arriving for the start of the drive. After the many stops, we will plan to be at Whistlin' Jack's by 1 p.m. for a late lunch. From there, folks are free to return home on their own. There are only two ways to go, back to Enumclaw and then home or continue on to Yakima and then through Snoqualmie Pass.

## PSMC Upcoming Drives

- Jul 09 Whistlin' Jack's Run
- Jul 16 Drive to Admiralty Lighthouse
- Aug 13 Mt. Baker Run with Sea To Sky Miata Club
- Aug 27 Crystal Mountain Summit Drive
- Sep 17 Pacific Beach Frolic
- Sep 30 Mahogany, Merlot & Miatas V

# The Drive To Lunch, Bloomsday Edition

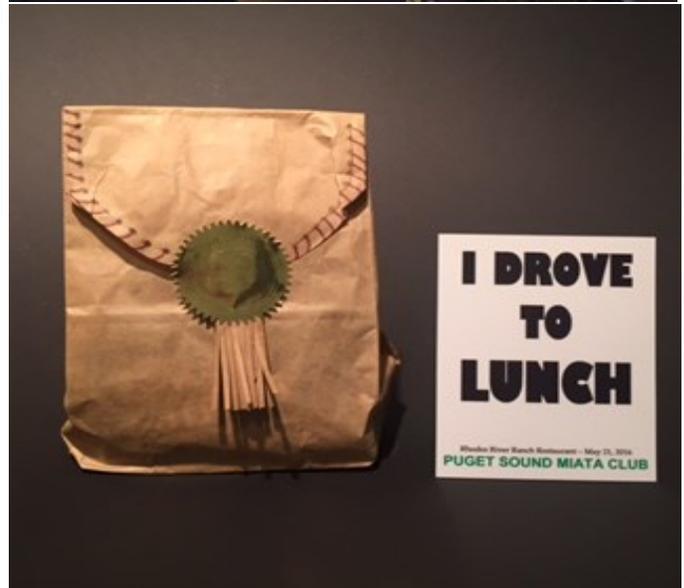
## By Ross Scott

It was a cool rainy morning, May 21st, but it would take more than that to dampen the enthusiasm of this crowd that has been waiting all winter for one of the first drives of the year. As hoped for, the group of 12 cars and 22 people, fortified by saddlebags of snacks, was able to enjoy the blooms of spring all along the route, with some yards overflowing with blossoms.



An extra rest stop along the way helped take the pressure off where, once again, the Miata Gang dominated their parking lot, striking fear in the hearts of all hopeful users of the facilities knowing the line will be long. After another stop in beautiful Riverside Park, the troupe proceeded along the ever beautiful ever green back-road route to Rhodes River Ranch for a delicious gourmet lunch where the restaurant owner gave us a run-down on the history and features of the ranch complex, including jousting and other horse adventures.

Every car received a commemorative magnet of the event. Hopefully, you will see them throughout the year on participating cars. I know you will on mine. Don't feel left out, there is always next year!



# Detailin' Day 2016

## By Charlotte Fellers

### Detailin' Day A Rainy Success

Clouds and rain greeted our little troop of 17 cars for our annual Detailin' Day. Fortunately, the good folks at Lee Johnson Mazda had a nice big tent set up for us so we were able to huddle there for most of the event. They brought in hot dogs, buns, chips, cookies, and the club provided hot chili to go with the dogs for lunch. Eventually a second tent came out to cover us for food, but it didn't dampen the fun, really.

Lee Johnson's were really glad we came this year, because they sold a 2016 white model to one of our members, Dee Dahlke, who drove it home that very day! In addition, Paul Antone and Greg Rhoads are new members who signed up for the club at Detailin' Day.



Buffers were Joe Beretti and Kevin Burtchett, assisted off and on by a few others who were on hand when needed.

The Show N Shine winners were:

1st Generation: 3rd Place, Leisa Garrett; 2nd Place, Kevin Burtchett and 1st Place, Ross Scott.

2nd Generation: 3rd Place, Dee Dahlke, tie for first place between Bruce Haskin and Joe Beretti.

3rd Generation: 3rd Place, Vemund Aaro, 2nd Place, Greg Rhoades, 1st Place, John Boespflug.

4th Generation: 1st Place, Cheryl Hayes.

Our other sponsor for this event, Griot's Garage, provided all the supplies for the buffing and polishing, and also provided two door prizes. Thanks to everyone who took the day to come out and participate in this event, which is one of two events a year that has been held every year since

the club formed back in 1989.



### Upcoming Socials

Jun 07 First Tuesday Cruise-In Social

Jun 16 Third Thursday Cruise-In Social

## President's Message

By Ross Scott

The hoped for El Nino extension just did not happen this year. It is being predicted to be an El Nina summer that looks like it is playing out with cooler temperatures and more rain. In other words, average Northwest weather. It would be nice to drive topless everywhere all the time, but it is still more fun with the top up in the rain in a Miata than in my other car on a nice day.

By the time the meat of the driving season arrives, better weather will be in store, I hope. June is kind of quiet. Waiting for the kiddies to be out of school, I am guessing. There is a June 4th PSMC board meeting where club business will be discussed and voted on. These meetings are open to all members, who are encouraged to attend with ideas or plans for the coming year.

June is also the last month for Cruise-In Socials until after the driving season in October. One notable change for the Cruise -In-South Group is the June Cruise-in at the Fife Quick-Pick. This is not a retro drive-in, this is the original burger joint of the 500s that is just a shack with benches and a parking lot. The perfect venue for a car club.

A very busy July kicks off with the three day Pacific Northwest Historic Races, where members can participate in the "Car Corral," where one can show their car and donate to Children's Hospital. Your ticket includes access to the paddock so you can look at legendary race cars of the past.

The very next weekend, July 9th, the second annual Whistlin' Jack's Run takes place, hosted by Jim Lijeberg, with a beautiful drive over Chinook Pass to a very cool road-house for lunch. July 14th through the 17th, the Willamette Valley Miata Club hosts "Explore Oregon," that I hear has some wonderful drives. For those staying home that weekend, Carol Kus is leading a drive on Whidbey Island to the Admiralty Point lighthouse where she will give a tour. Get your Discover Pass dusted off for that one.

On the 30th, there are two events happening. There is the Silverdale Whaling Days Parade where, Parade Coordinator, Mindy Bohnas will show the way. If you love parades and would like to be in one, please contact Mindy via the web-site. She would love to hear from you.

Finally, there is the 2016 Opel-Miata Gathering, hosted by John Boespflug at the Sonic Drive-in in Tacoma, another original. It ought to be fun! So get all of your scheduled maintenance done, check the air in your tires and hit the road.

Zoom Zoom!



### OFFICERS -

President:	Ross Scott president@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
Vice President:	Acting Bill Bell viceprez@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
Past President	Bill Bell pastprez@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
Secretary:	Open secretary@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
TREASURER:	SEAN MCGRIFF treasurer@pugetsoundmiataclub.org

### DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE -

PAM MCGRIFF, FRANK SHRIVER, MIKE SPRINGER, TOM MILLAR, ALLEN OHLSEN, AND VICKIE OLSON,

### APPOINTED POSITIONS -

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ASSISTANT WEBMASTERS:	MINDY BOHNAS CHARLOTTE FELLERS
MEMBERSHIP:	CHARLOTTE FELLERS membership@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	BILL BELL editor@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
PARADE COORDINATOR:	MINDY BOHNAS

## 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 newsletter, and operating supplies constitute a financial burden that must be met by the membership. **The Sounder is emailed as a PDF Link unless you opt for physical delivery.** Make your Miata experience more enjoyable and join the club and participate. To keep the club meaningful and solvent, we need your support!

Club membership is available by going to our website at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org) or by sending your name, address, email, and a check for **\$30 (annual chapter dues) or \$40 (dues plus Sounder delivery via hardcopy)**. Puget Sound Miata Club  
c/o Sean McGriff  
222 Wells Ave North  
Renton, WA 98057

If you would like to contribute an article or you took photos of an event you'd like to share, remember these guidelines:

- Send 3-5 of your best photos, not 20-30.
- Send us your JPEGs since we need to Photoshop them anyway.
- When sending news items, use one space at the end of sentences, not two. It saves space in the publication.
- Send all written materials in Arial and as attachments, i.e. word doc or docx or file text.
- The deadline is the 15th of the next month. Please observe it!

**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%*

*Milam Mazda of Puyallup (253) 845-1766 /*

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

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