

# Miata Sounder



THE FIRST OFFICIAL UNITED STATES MIATA CLUB

September/October 2016

## Pacific Beach Frolic

12pm on September 17, 2016

## Mahogany, Merlot & Miatas V

10am on September 30, 2016

**Hosts: Tom and Cindy Millar:** Once again, Cindy and Tom are hosting their 4<sup>th</sup> annual Pacific Beach Frolic (aka Olympic Peninsula Lite Tour)! This popular event is designed with a short but wonderfully curvy road through the back woods of the Mason and Grays Harbor Counties. This year we will be heading fairly directly to the Pacific Beach Resort. We will make a quick stop in Aberdeen to pick up any supplies you may wish to bring out to the beach.

Once at Pacific Beach you will have the opportunity to walk on the beach where kite season will surely be in the air, and the sand castle contest will be underway. Or, you can visit the thriving metropolis of Pacific Beach! You may even want to purchase your own kite at the kite shop in Pacific Beach and participate in the fun!

After a day on the beach, and all the joy that includes typically pristine September weather, we will sit back, sip some wines and slip into some easy times. Following dinner, which is on your own at the Navy resort restaurant, we will assemble at the club room off of the presidential suites wing for some after-action reports on our experiences.

Our ride will begin at the Little Creek Casino in Shelton with a short drivers' meeting starting at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday. Lodging will be at the Pacific Beach Resort & Conference Center. As of now we have several rooms blocked for this event. At this time they do not have any Presidential suites available, nor do they have any 2 day rental houses. Continued on Page 2

**Hosts include: Paul Jaeger, Allan Ohlsen, and Ray Houghton:**

Wine lovers! Gear heads! Nostalgics! Do you like vintage wooden boats, vintage unlimited hydroplanes, and Chelan area wines? How about staying at a premium Chelan waterfront resort for a bargain price? This is the PSMC event for you.

Join us for a fun three-day weekend tour as we venture off to Lake Chelan for the Mahogany & Merlot festival held in Chelan. We will be staying at Campbell's Waterfront Resort, walking distance to the festival and hydro pits. The festival features wine, a vintage car display and many vintage wooden pleasure craft on display, some offering rides.

The big attraction though is the unlimited hydroplanes from the Unlimited Hydroplane Museum. Remember Miss Bardahl, Thriftway, Oh Boy! O'Berto, Hawaii Kai? Experience the roar of these piston-engine boats as they run around the lake course. Continued on Page 2

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## Legal Stuff

### STAFF

<b>Editor</b>	<b>Bill Bell</b>
<b>Distribution</b>	<b>Lillian Springer</b>
<b>Mailing List</b>	<b>Lillian Springer</b>
<b>Photography</b>	<b>Contributed</b>

### FEATURE WRITERS

<b>Club Events</b>	<b>Event Masters</b>
<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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## Pacific Beach Frolic

### Continued from Page 1:

At this time they do not have a Presidential suites available, nor do they have any 2 day rental houses. However, this can change as we get closer. Their website is: [http://](http://www.navylifepnw.com/site/68/Pacific-Beach.aspx)

[www.navylifepnw.com/site/68/Pacific-Beach.aspx](http://www.navylifepnw.com/site/68/Pacific-Beach.aspx).

Rooms run from \$55 to \$100 per night (no tax). You will need to reserve your room using either a Visa or MasterCard. If your plans change, you have until two weeks prior to the event to cancel without a charge. The direct phone number for Pacific Beach Resort & Conference Center is: (360)276-4414.

When you call, you need to reference Tom Millar with the Puget Sound Miata Club. The early bird gets the worm on this one...book early! By the way, on Sunday we will max our check out time and plan on a leisurely drive back to civilization.

If you encounter any difficulties with making your reservations at Pacific Beach please feel free to call Tom Millar at (425)623-8181 or email: [tom.millar@sorianthealthcare.com](mailto:tom.millar@sorianthealthcare.com)

## Mahogany, Merlot & Miatas V

### Continued from Page 1:

We are also planning a wine tour of the many wineries in the area, led by wine-extraordinaire: Ray Houghton.

We will be meeting at 10 a.m., at the Chevron station located at the east end of Monroe on Hwy 2. As a reminder, get your reservation in to Campbell's Resort as soon as possible. Hydroplanes, wine tour, vintages cars! It doesn't get any better than this.

Bring your lunch for Friday, we have a planned lunch stop at Tunnel Hill Winery on the way to Chelan, we will also stop at Tsillan Cellars while en-route to Campbell's resort. Saturday is festival day and wine tour day; you may do both.

We had an on-site barbecue last year, and the plan is to do the same this year at Campbells, on the beach. Cost will be between \$8 and \$10 per person. Sunday morning our tour ends, but many will enjoy brunch at Tsillan Cellars before heading home.

Here is what you need to do: RSVP for the event then call Campbell's Resort 800-553-8225 or 509-682-2561 (room prices about \$120 per night) to reserve your room for Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. Mention "Mahogany & Merlot" to get the discount.

Don't wait, this festival is growing exponentially. Campbell's has several rooms blocked for this event, but is offered to all festival participants (not just us) so it will fill up fast.

**For any questions, please contact one of the hosts:**

Allan Ohlsen [railtrail@hotmail.com](mailto:railtrail@hotmail.com)  
Paul Jaeger [cougquy81@aol.com](mailto:cougquy81@aol.com)

## End-Of-The-Driving Season Party Nov 05, 2016

## Upcoming Events — Something for Everyone!

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

**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

**2017**

**January:** Jan 03 First Tuesday Cruise-In Social

Jan 19 Third Thursday Cruise-In Social

**February:** Feb 07 First Tuesday Cruise-In Social

Feb 16 Third Thursday Cruise-In Social

**March:** Mar 07 First Tuesday Cruise-In Social

Mar 16 Third Thursday Cruise-In Social

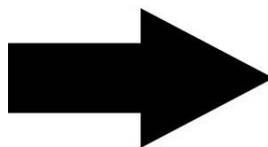
**April:** April 04 First Tuesday Cruise-In Social

April 20 Third Thursday Cruise-In Social

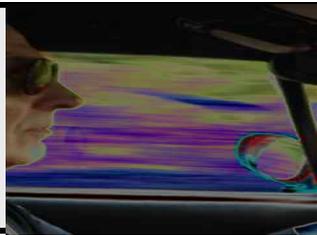
Events will be added when they are scheduled.

## Miata Helpful Links

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



# Ruminations of a Miata Driver



# The Great Northwest Gathering of Miatas By Ross Scott

Clubs

By Ross Scott

Clubs have been around for a very long time. There are country clubs, hunting clubs, automobile clubs and even bottle cap collecting clubs! It seems like for every human interest, there is a club! I got to thinking about the first clubs and how they came about. Perhaps cave denizens found themselves hanging out with tribal members with similar interests. For instance, the hunting club from which the name, club came from. The members would all get together and talk about hunting, the different methods and the best places to go. On a given day, one member would lead the others on a hike to his favorite hunting spot. When game came by, they would club it thoroughly and then have a bonfire and cook and eat lunch before returning to the cave.

Automobile clubs are pretty much the same. We meet at a pre-designated spot and talk about our cars and have a drivers meeting where the drive (hunt) leader talks about the drive and drive etiquette. We then follow the host on his or her route with tops down to more experience the environment, reminiscent of walking to the hunting grounds in the open air but easier, even though we do experience hardships like solar heat and restroom deprivation. Then, like almost all drives, our destination is the killing fields, or restaurant, if you will.

I like today's version much better. Instead of clubbing our food, we simply order from the waitress and have soft drinks and beer, no searching for a stream or bubbling spring. Also, you can have the meal of your choice, cooked to your order. No more having to drink water from a stream or eat burnt rabbit cooked by a cave man. So get out there and hunt! Drive that Miata!

It was a pleasantly overcast summer day on August 6th 2016 at the Griot's Garage gazebo for the 26th annual Mazda sponsored Great Gathering of Miatas. There were an amazing number of Miatas, making for a nice crowd. Be sure to go to our website and see the great pictures by Brett Anderson and Ruben Alanis. If you have pictures, they are easy to post. Even I am able to do it!

Charlotte Fellers supplied the delicious sandwiches and chips for lunch, along with some incredible brownies and Lemon bars. Sean McGriff brought the drinks.

There was a show and shine event and a People's Choice vote for the favorite cars. Brett Anderson received the most accolades in the Generation I category for his beautiful 1995 Merlot M series. This car looks better every year. Joe Beretti won Generation II with his incredible True Red 2002 Mazdaspeed. Joe volunteers for Detailin' Day as a buffer, but I think he put in some overtime on this one. Hal Finley's 2007 stormy blue mica was selected as the favorite Generation III car and Dee Dahlke's 2016 Arctic White gem was favored for the Generation IV.

To close out the day, there was a raffle of Miata dress-up items and accessories including hood lift kits, chrome accent pieces, water bottles, picnic blankets, cargo nets and many more items in an attempt to get a prize for everyone. All in all it was a great get-together! See you back there at Griot's on August 5, 2017, where we may see a 2017 hardtop convertible!

Be there!

# Mt. Baker Run

## By Bill Bell

What a day to see Mount Baker! The Sea to Sky Miata Club and the Puget Sound Miata Club had lots of fun driving up the mountain and enjoying the day at Mt. Baker. The weather at Mount Baker was 73° at Artist Point viewing Mount Baker and the surrounding mountains.

We started off at the drivers meeting at 8 o'clock in Mount Vernon. Introductions, going over the schedule, and details of the trip were passed out. We departed around 8:30 AM for Chuckanut drive. We stopped off at the first sightseeing area of the trip over looking Puget Sound and Anacortes, WA in the distance. When we arrived, you could not hear anything around you. I could have heard a pin drop on the ground. We took our pictures, looked out at the view, and departed 20 minutes later.

We then drove up Chuckanut drive to Bellingham, WA on Highway 11 to Interstate I-5. After we got off the Interstate at Highway 542, we stopped at our first pit stop at Jack-in-the-Box. We departed after 20 minutes and headed up to Glacier WA driving through the valley's and arriving at the Forest Park Rangers Service Area.

There we met the Sea to Sky Miata Club, we introduced ourselves, and departed for Mt. Baker. The faster group departed first. About halfway up the mountain, both clubs stopped for a picture taking opportunity with our cars. We departed and arrived at the top of the Artist Point. The parking lot was almost full. Some of us decided to go to the next level down, and some of us parked at the very top of Artist Point. Many people were out walking around the area as we saw Mt. Shuksan and Mt. Baker. We also saw several other mountains including Twin Peaks with a few snow patches on them. After an hour at the top of Artist Point, we departed for Milano's Italian Restaurant in Glacier, WA. Both clubs ate lunch, and we said our goodbye's.

I want to thank the individuals who attended this event, Sea to Sky Miata Club and the Coordinator Lew Potts. and Milanos Restaurant at Glacier, WA for allowing us to eat two hours before the restaurant opened. We had lots of fun and without these individuals and both clubs, we could not had a Wonderful Time. Zoom Zoom!!!



# Mt. Baker In Pictures

## August 13, 2016





## **President's Message By Ross Scott**

## **Crystal Mountain Summit Drive Hosted by**

**A.J. McGranaghan**

Greetings fellow enthusiasts! So I got the oil changed and washed my car and am ready to hit the road again, and here we are, closing in on the end of summer even though it feels like we just got started. That is probably because we did just get started, as there are a lot of club events yet to come, however, there is always room for another drive. All you have to do is come up with the idea, and seasoned veterans will help you get it off the ground with all sorts of advice and helpful anecdotes. Let's make the future even better!

As far as drives go, one can't go wrong on the Crystal Mountain Summit Drive hosted by A.J. McGranaghan on August 27th. Even though I do not think we are driving to the summit, the drive there should be beautiful and the view from the top should be spectacular! The Pacific Beach Frolic on September 17th hosted by Tom Millar is a nice getaway at the Pacific Beach Resort where you can have a drink or have dinner on the premises. September closes out with the fifth annual Mahogany, Merlot and Miatas drive, spending two nights in beautiful Chelan and touring wineries. What could be better? hosted by Alan Ohlsen, Ray Houghton and, substituting for Paul Jaeger this year, Tom Millar! There are other events in September, including the Autumn Leaf Parade, hosted by Mindy Bohnas on the 24th, which are covered elsewhere in this issue.

October is a sudden wind down, as there are only the cruise-ins and the fourth quarter planning meeting. So bring your club activity ideas to the meeting on the 15th and get it on the schedule!

Get out there and enjoy the dog days and love that car! next year and help educate the public to the most fun sports car of all.

Drive that Miata!

It was a beautiful, overcast, and cool morning on the September 27th when club members, and one or two interested non-members, gathered in the Starbucks parking lot in Lakewood for the pre-run "conference" and drivers meeting for the run to Crystal Mountain Resort. The weather held and the whole trip up and back was a cool and pleasant topless drive with the sun peeking out from time to time to remind us it was still summer. A.J. got things off on the right foot with a complete packet of maps and directions, along with verbal instructions, even though this was a very straightforward drive.

One highlight of the trip was brand new blacktop from the turn off SR410 to within sight of the resort. The access road was full of really nice twisties, as though it were designed for the Miata. All 14 cars also had the adventure of driving over a Butler bridge right at the end of the road where construction of a new span is just underway.

Everyone rode to the top in nice shiny red trams where they had a spectacular view of Mount Rainier and the surrounding terrain. There were picnic tables for those who brought food and a nice restaurant for those who did not. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves thanks to the thought and planning that went into this event.

Good Job A.J!

**First Tuesday and  
Third Thursday  
Cruise-In Socials are  
back beginning in  
October**

# Crystal Mountain Summit Drive Photos

Courtesy of Ross Scott



## 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 -

WEBMINION: SEAN MCGRIFF  
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 Charlotte Fellers  
1800 4th Street NE  
Auburn, WA 98002



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*