

Miata Sounder



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

Detailin' Day kicks off May events

Hosts: PSMC Board

Contact: Bill Cooper

425-432-9666

Saturday, May 2

Get your polishing cloths and buffers out and drive on down to Coop's Miata May 2 for the annual Detailin' Day! It's a great opportunity to get your car ready for the summer while communing with your PSMC pals at the same time. This year's event will mirror those of past years in many respects. You can rest assured that several things are positively going to happen at this event.

The economy has caught up with the club in at least one respect. For the first time in history, the club's board has made the difficult decision to charge \$10 per car for the annual Detailin' Day to help defray the costs to Coop's Miata and to cover the lunch cost. But it's still a bargain! Just read on and see what your \$10 will buy:

You will get to stop at a wash station, where you can wash your car using quality products supplied by Coop's Miata, an engine cleaning station with a pressure washer, an interior station equipped with a vacuum and possibly a steam cleaner and the finale: the wax and buff stations, manned by some of our veteran buffers who will make your Miata shine with that "new car" luster!

2009-10 Board elections June 6

The nominations are in! Tom Millar, who has served on the PSMC Board the past two years, has accepted the challenge of running the PSMC next year. Tom will take over for outgoing chief operating officer Mindy Bohnas, who will continue on the board as the chief executive officer.

The Dent Guy will attend and fix 5-7 dents per panel on your car for just \$50, which is an excellent value. You'll want to stop by and check in with the parts rep from Mazda of Everett, who may have some parts available for purchase.

None of this happens by itself. While this is a Board-sponsored event, hosted by Bill Cooper at his property in Maple Valley, **volunteers to help set up, clean up, and run the event are always appreciated.** To volunteer, contact Coop at 425-432-9666 or PSMC President Mindy Bohnas at 360-895-0931.

All supplies will be provided by **Coop's Miata**. Car cleaners, soap, glaze and wax will be on hand for your use. All you need to provide are six or eight cotton cloths to polish your car and use for cleaning purposes. As is the custom, a hot lunch of a variety of different types of homemade chili with rolls, corn muffins, and a green salad, will be provided by your PSMC board of directors. Additionally, samples of a pulled pork sandwich will be provided at no additional charge by The Dent Guy. (Feedback on the quality of this product will be sought if you sample this delectable dish).

If you have recently joined the club and have never experienced this event, volunteers will help guide you through the process of detailing your car and introduce you to the rest of the crowd. Fitting in will not be difficult! If you have thought about upgrading or retrofitting your chariot with some new modifications, you will have an opportunity to check out what others have done and get some ideas of your own.

RSVP on the club's website at www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org. Here are the directions to **Coop's: From the North:** I-405 south; take the Enumclaw/Renton Exit; Left at the 2nd light on the Maple Valley Hwy 169; go about 9 miles; Right at the light onto SE 231st St; Up the hill to SE 210th St (Don't turn right); Go left into Coop's

From the South: I-5 north; take the North Bend/Auburn, Hwy 18 Exit; MapleValley/Renton Exit; Left over the overpass on SE 231st St; Up the hill to SE 210th St. Go left into Coop's

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Upcoming Events

May 12

'Eat & Greet', at Longhorn Barbecue in Auburn, hosted by Bill Bell, is a great excuse to get together with your PSMC friends and have dinner together, 6-8 p.m.

**Parades in May
May 9**

Sequim Irrigation Festival Parade, noon; check the PSMC website for details and to RSVP.

May 16

Poulsbo Viking Fest Parade, 11:30 a.m. RSVP on the website.

May 30

Shelton Parade and "After-social" is a wonderful opportunity to show off your newly-shined car in a major spring parade. Dinner follows a short drive to Gig Harbor, hosted by Tommy and Lindanne Gores.

June 28

PSMC Miatacross, Shelton. Don't miss an opportunity to drive some challenging courses, compete for prizes AND help raise money for the club's many activities! See details, page

(Photo
by Mike
Springer)



MIATA SOUNDER

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PUBLISHING

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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:

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pugetsoundmiataclub.org

Visit our website for the latest club info, links to other Miata sites and more.

memories

Were you around when. . .

(Editor's Note: Throughout 2009, the Sounder will publish tidbits of news from our archived newsletters. Look for this column in each issue of the Sounder in 2009).

From 1996:

--20 cars participated in the Arboretum Tour, which featured a drive to garden spots in Seattle, complete with tops down and windy roads at the start of the season.

--Quick! Which Mazda dealership is the oldest in the Northwest? Answer at the bottom of the page.

--New leader for the club was inducted--Bill Cooper, who planned a terrific Columbia Gorge Waterfall tour with the Mt. Hood Chapter and several other folks from the PSMC. In all, 25 cars went on this tour. This two-night adventure featured a Photo Rally and some other Oregon byways.

--Deception Pass State Park led off a June tour of Whidbey Island with a picnic lunch and ending at Oak Harbor.

--By September 1996, the club's board had eliminated the two-tiered fee structure, so everyone paid one fee to belong to the club (previously, those who participated in events paid \$5 extra to cover insurance costs).

--The annual Great Northwest Gathering drew quite a crowd, with cars from B.C., southern California, Michigan, and Silverdale! A Vendor Village was set up to offer their wares for sale. Held on the Kitsap Peninsula, this event also featured the "Blind Garage Back-In" game and the "Funkhana." It lasted two days and the second day featured the University Mazda Pentathlon.

--The year ended with the Fantasy Lights Run, and toured the "Largest Drive-through Display of Holiday Lights in Western Washington." It was in Pierce County and went on for 2 miles. The event started with pizza and ended in someone's home for holiday goodies.

From 1997:

--The club started the year with 350 members

--The Second Annual Crab Feed at Ranier Brewery took place in February. It featured \$200 worth of door prizes!

--A familiar lament from 1997 that echoes today: "Would you believe that 10 percent of members are hogging all the fun?" The more things change, the more they stay the same!

--A Central Washington Wine Tour took place in May with 23 cars split into two groups for this two-day event.

--The Second Annual Cheap & Cheezy Tour to Long Beach included a Toga Party, a scavenger hunt and Spam hors d'oeuvres. Bring it back, please!

--The Backroads to Bavaria Tour made its third year trip to Leavenworth and included six chapters of car clubs.

(Answer to trivia question: University Mazda of Seattle).

Historics Races July 4 weekend

Host: Mike Springer

Contact: 253-468-5291

(weekends & evenings)

This year, the Society of Vintage Racing Enthusiasts (SOVREN) celebrates it's 22nd Anniversary with racing July 3-5. Vintage cars race in eight classes ranging from small bore formula V's to an exhibition class which has included cars like the 1971 Tyrell 004, winner of the world championship that year. Also on hand will be rare beauties like a Ferrari 512M. The featured car will be the Chevrolet, celebrating it's 100th Anniversary. The Historics Race is considered the premier vintage car race in the Northwest. This year's race proceeds will benefit Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center.

Anyone wanting to attend this year's event, which is July 3-5 at Auburn Raceway Park, should purchase tickets in advance, if possible. Ticket prices are \$25 per day or \$40 for a three-day pass for a car and driver with a Car Corral pass. Passenger tickets are also \$25 per day or \$40 for a three-day pass. For

single day tickets, please specify which day.

There will be limited space in the Car Corral (premier parking), so ticket orders with checks must be received by June 1st

To order tickets send a check for the total amount to Mike Springer 2214 South Melrose Street, Tacoma 98405 and include a self-addressed envelope with return postage and a contact phone number. Make your check payable to Mike Springer, since he needs to send the organizers a single check for the total.

The Car Corral pass allows for reserved parking close to the pit entrance and parade laps of the track on Saturday and Sunday. Look for more information on the PSMC website.



Board elections to be held

continued from page 1

Most of the present board has agreed to serve another term, with most saying they would like to follow-through on some goals set a year ago that are still in progress. One significant change is that of Mike Springer, who stepped in as chief executive officer after the past club president, Bonnie Lohkamp, moved away. Mike has served a number of different years on the board and is a past president. He has agreed to continue on the board and will fill one of the member-at-large positions.

Other carryover members include Bill Bell, Pam McGriff, Brian Lauderback, Ling Lauderback, Gayle Lazur, Cindy Millar, Charlotte Fellers, Chris Stollery and Sean McGriff, who will continue as Treasurer.

Appointed positions that are opening up include Data Coordinator, formerly completed by Sean McGriff, and webmaster, which has been capably handled by Nathan Allen for a number of years. The Insurance Coordinator/Secretary position also is open.

The Board Members present at the Nominating meeting voted to keep looking for more directors at large and someone willing to run for the Communication Officer position during the upcoming weeks at club events. It is much easier to explain the duties of the positions in person than by email or phone. Gayle said that the Communication Officer duties AND the Insurance Coordinator duties only take up 2 to 3 hours per month except for the 4 months when a Board Meeting is also held. The club truly needs your help! The open positions are really not hard to do and we need some fresh faces and new perspective to keep the First Miata Club in the USA going strong in our 20th anniversary year.

The board will be elected and installed June 6 at a noon potluck lunch, followed by the election and a meeting of the new officers. The host is Charlotte Fellers of Auburn. Please RSVP on the website and details will follow.



Eat 'n Greet

June 23

6 p.m.

Join some fun-loving PSMC members for an evening of food and drink at Jimmy Mac's Roadhouse in Renton, 225 SW 7th St. (shares a parking lot with WalMart). Must RSVP for group seating! Contact host Bill Bell @ arbill@hotmail.com or RSVP at www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org

upcoming events

Olympic Peninsula tour takes off October 3 & 4

Hosts: Tom & Cindy Millar

Date: October 3 & 4, 2009

Contact: 206-390-3469

by Tom Millar

If you missed the 2008 version of the Olympic Peninsula Tour, you won't want to take a chance on registering late this year. The tour, hosted by Tom and Cindy Millar, proved to be one of the few overnight excursions held in 2008 and was a great time for all who went. Attracting about 15 cars, this tour is sure to bring back some "second-timers" and hopefully, some new first-time adventurers this year.

The most breathtaking scenery occurs on this drive when the cars pull up alongside the Pacific Ocean and spend the night at the Pacific Beach Hotel and Resort. Because it's late fall, the drive is likely to include some beautiful fall colors to enjoy and with any luck, a lack of the downpour endured a year ago.

This pristine tour will begin at 7 Cedar's Casino in Sequim with lunch on or before 11:30 a.m. There will be three departure points from around the Puget Sound: Hawk's Prairie Casino and Restaurant in Lacey; Edmonds Ferry Terminal; and the Keystone Ferry Terminal on Whidbey Island. For further details on these separate departure points and times, contact Tom Millar at 206-390-3469.

Specific tour plans on the first day are still under construction as the hosts have not yet completed the pre-ride. However, the tour will proceed around the beautiful Lake Crescent and on to Forks, even more popular with the release of the movie about the area, *Twilight*. Driving along the Pacific coast, traveling through Kalalock and Quinault, the tour will deviate once again from Highway 101 onto the Moclips Highway, arriving at Pacific Beach Motel & Conference Center in time to check in, enjoy dinner and continue our grand time.

The Pacific Beach Motel & Conference Center is a Navy recreational facility, operated out of Naval Station Puget Sound in Everett. Tom Millar, a retired Coast Guard Lieutenant Commander, will be your host at the Navy facility. This facility was once an active Naval station, monitoring submarine activities along the



This view of Crescent Lake is just one of the many sights along the way during the Olympic Peninsula Tour, coming up in October. Reserve now!

(Photo by Tom Millar)

Pacific coast. Today, it is a full service recreational facility featuring several motel-like rooms and "Presidential Suites", with pricing ranging from \$50 - \$87 per night. It also has a game room, bowling alley, outside activities, gift shop, restaurant and a full service bar. Tour participants will need to make their own reservations by calling 1-888-463-6697, referencing Tom Millar, LCDR (ret.), USCGR and the Puget Sound Miata Club. This is the way this works: When you make a reservation, your credit card will be charged for the stay. However, you have up until 10 days before the date of arrival to cancel the reservation and receive a credit to your card. A block of 15 rooms has been reserved for our party. The Navy also has a web site at: <http://www.navylifepnw.com/site/68/Pacific-Beach.aspx>. Following dinner, there is a party room that we can use for an after-dinner gathering.

Following breakfast the next day, the tour will continue along the coast for awhile and then inland where we will visit another winery, West Port Winery, and enjoy some twisty roads on our way back home. As a later lunch option, we have selected the Little Creek Casino off of Highway 101 for those that are interested.



Don't forget MOM!

**May 10 is
Mother's Day!**

New Members' Drive brings on the Miatas!



The parking lot at Azteca was full of Miatas with tops down for the New Members' Appreciation Drive April 19.

Photo by Mindy Bohnas

A warm and sunny day welcomed the Puget Sound Miata Club to Azteca Restaurant in Redmond on Sunday, April 19, for a lunch, door prizes, and an hour-long "Sweet Drive" culminating in a round of chocolate at Boehm's Chocolates in Issaquah. Organized by Allan Ohlsen, the day gave members a chance to introduce themselves to new members (see photo at left) and gave new members an opportunity to learn about the joys of owning a Miata and doing club activities. Door prizes donated by Millam's Miata of Puyallup included some great coffee mugs featuring the Mazda logo.

Allan brought along some door prizes from the Washington State Historical Society, featuring a guide of the original Washington Guide from 1941, which includes a map of the state's highways as they appeared at that time. Allan suggested this cd might give someone an opportunity to plan a new scenic drive of old roads!

Allan reviewed the rules of the road and discussed how to plan a drive--basically, it involves one maxim: "If you like going there, then we probably will too!" After the brief drivers' meeting, Allan led the caravan of more than a dozen cars on some scenic and twisty roads that took drivers on a road around Lake Sammamish and into Fall City before ending at Issaquah.



ABOVE, new members attending the New Members' Appreciation Drive April 19 were, from left, back: Carl Bergan, Linda Page, of Anacortes; Dana Jorgenson of Mercer Island, and Gary Olson of Olympia; kneeling, Kathy Roumeliotis of Edmunds.

Photo by Charlotte Fellers



LEFT, 13 cars line up to take a short drive from Redmond to Issaquah, via Lake Sammamish, on the New Members' Appreciation Drive. Many board members and current members attended this lunch and drive and to get acquainted with new member (pictured above).

Photo by Mindy Bohnas

It could happen to you...or...how we met over our cars!

by Charlotte Fellers

Owning a Miata is fun enough but what if you owned eight cars that are all special in their own way? That's the story of Duncan Johnson and Dee Dahlke, who have built a garage big enough for their collection. We got the chance to view their cars when the Progressive Feast made a stop at their home last month. Not only did we get to view the cars, but Duncan also explained the origin and terrific stories that go with each car. One of them is extra-special because it tells the tale of how Duncan and Dee met (and eventually married).

According to Duncan, one of the fun parts of this hobby is meeting a vast number of "characters," each of whom seems to have some crazy story associated with them. In the case of Dee and Duncan, the persistent rumor is that they met in a used car lot. Not true.

In 1987 Dee was working at Pacific Lutheran University and commuting in her 1967 Camaro RS/SS-350 convertible. Alas, the car was starting to suffer minor vandalism in the university's parking lots (like the original gas cap with the fancy emblems got stolen) so Dee decided to promote the Camaro to sports motoring and buy a modern used car for a daily driver. (At that point she'd never owned a new car.) A mutual acquaintance suggested that this guy Duncan knew his way around used cars and could probably help her find the right car at the right price. A series of phone calls ensued, and finally she got Duncan off the dime to go on a car-shopping date on Palm Sunday afternoon.

Dee had decided she wanted a Honda Prelude so they went out and she tested them at the local dealership. At that time Honda was into serious price-gouging with "second stickers" on their new cars, so Dee didn't buy anything. However, Duncan went into the "search mode," browsing used car lots, newspapers, Auto Trader, etc. (there was no Craig's List or eBay back then) and fairly quickly he surfaced a promising low-mileage '86 Prelude on a lot. They went and checked it out, condition was excellent, and the price was right, so Dee negotiated a deal and took it home.

The story might have ended there, but Duncan (ever the motorhead) wanted to learn more about Dee's classic Camaro. Dee was lamenting that its brakes were pretty bad, and an inspection of the master cylinder indicated low fluid, so they bled brakes together for their next date, which eventually led to a lifetime of brake-bleeding togetherness. (They got married in 1993, and Dee moved up her Miata in 1998.) As a final note, after their first car testing afternoon Dee treated Duncan to root beer floats at the local A&W in Puyallup. They have celebrated with root beer floats on ev-

ery Palm Sunday since.

Oh, and about that Camaro. Dee refers to it as her "Mommymobile" for all the times she hauled her children to gymnastics and Scouting events. One of the oldest surviving original year Camaros, built in Van Nuys, CA in the third week of production in fall 1996, it is all original except for the Corvette orange paint. Dee has named this classic Zatarah, for a Middle Eastern dancing lady who flew on a magic carpet.

Dee bought her first-ever brand new car in 1999, a Mazda Miata, fondly named "Road Dancer" (check out her license plate). It's her daily drive and is decorated on the interior with silver leather seats, matching silver carpet and brushed aluminum trim. The silver fiberglass hardtop gets her through the winter and the black soft top comes out for summer driving. She calls it the perfect car because it's the



A partial view of Duncan and Dee's garage, where they carefully park and store their classic vehicles.

Photo by Mindy Bohnas

"cutest convertible ever made' and "just like your favorite jeans, it's a perfect fit for the driver."

Add to this collection a few vintage cars from Duncan's past. First is the 1963 Chevrolet Corvette, called "Plain Vanilla" because it's a white fastback coupe. Restored from the shell of a former race car back in 1975, it's covered 27 states and more than 60,000 miles! It's a rare model, with only 10,594 built, and is known as the first Sting Ray, the first Corvette coupe, the first Corvette with full independent suspension, and the first mass-produced car with hidden headlights and a factory AM-FM radio.

A favorite has to be the 1966 Ford Thunderbird named "Candy" that was given to Duncan's aunt Winifred by his Uncle John as a 25th wedding anniversary present. It had every option except air, cruise, and an 8-track tape deck (maybe he saw the writing on the wall with the future of 8-tracks). It has power vent windows, a swing away steering wheel, and a lounge-type rear seat. It was used daily until 1986 and Duncan eventually inherited it. Though not restored, it's still a gem.

The red 1967 Corvette roadster, "Joy", was purchased in the early 1980s by Duncan and had some modifications to the suspension, steering and brakes to make it a "stock" car for autocross racing. It won a class championship in 1984 but is otherwise unrestored. The interior is original and the old

“You cannot build a garage big enough”

repaint is the original color and is a numbered edition: 994th from the last of the classic Sting Ray. Duncan calls this car one of the Corvette’s “finest hours.”

He has a thing for Corvettes: witness the 1972 red roadster, fondly named the “Mistress Substitute.” This car is completely original except for the tires and a battery. This gem was purchased new by Duncan and has been driven in 48 states and was his very first Corvette.

The 2004 blue Corvette roadster, called the “Vermont II” is the latest version of the ‘Vette collection. Named for the 1903 Winton (the first automobile to drive across America), the paint, shale interior, and special emblems commemorate Corvette class victories in the great 24-hour race at Le Mans, France.

What would a collection be with-

out a Thunderbird? Duncan’s 1962 black convertible has a Cruise-o-Matic automatic transmission which came to him by way of family. This time his Uncle Alan gave it to Aunt Sylvia for Christmas in 1961 and it was driven until 1995. This car has been maintained as Aunt Sylvia would have liked; it even has a personal stamp of hers—the wear pattern on the inside driver’s door handle suffered from her charm bracelet banging against it!

Keep in mind that the total investment of all the cars, including repairs and restorations, is actually less than a moderately priced SUV! So, this just goes to show, you don’t have to be rich to own a fleet, just a good hound for cars.

As you can imagine, Duncan and Dee enjoy driving all these old cars. You can catch up with them at some car event nearly every weekend. They prefer modern cars for regular trips due to the comfort and safety compared to older cars. But rest assured, each car is insured and licensed for road driving, and each gets “exercised” at least every six weeks.



Here’s Dee and Duncan at the March First Friday Formal, one of many PSMC events they attend each year.

Photo by Bob Mott

Familiar Faces

We hope to see you at an event soon!

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Steve and Linda Birman | Ferndale |
| Tommy and Lindanne Gores | Gig Harbor |
| Byard and Stephanie Bower | Stanwood |
| Jeanne and Dave Field | Bellevue |
| Christine Valdez and Kurt Batdorf | Mt Vernon |
| Candis Jones | Marysville |
| Keith and Audrey Morrison | Renton |
| Ken and Leeza Visconti | Issaquah |
| Brian & Jill Brunette | Renton |
| Gary Olson | Chehalis |
| James & Sally Hightchew | Marysville |
| Alan and Kris McMahan | Selah |
| Wayne & Linda Sparks | Kent |

New Faces

We are looking forward to meeting you!

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Gary Olson | Chehalis | 92 Mariner Blue |
| Wayne & Linda Sparks | Kent | 02 Yellow |

LeMay one step closer to new venue near the Dome

Things are finally starting to gel for the LeMay Museum, which hopes to break ground on a new museum near the Tacoma Dome within the next few years. A meeting of the Tacoma City Council on April 23 revealed that the museum had collected \$43 million in donations and automobiles, but they need \$57 million to break ground on the facility.

The museum’s leadership has identified two sources of financing that should put the project over the top of its ultimate fundraising goal, according to the News-Tribune. A combination of corporate investments and a loan from the Housing and Urban Development would complete the funding needed.

The hope is that a world-class museum that would house the car collection of the late Harold LeMay family, would draw thousands of tourists a year to Pierce County. While the LeMay Museum is now open Tuesdays through Saturdays in south Pierce County, it displays 600 of the 1200 cars in the collection. The entire collection opens once a year, the last Saturday in August, and it draws thousands of interested car enthusiasts. The PSMC makes an annual donation to the LeMay Museum and participates in the car show during the August open house.

2009 Championship season opens

by Denise Williamson

It's official: the 2009 championship autocross season has begun! Well, kind of.... The Bremerton Sports Car Club's championship season was supposed to open on March 15. For the first time in 15+ years, an autocross was cancelled due to snow. The Western Washington Sports Car Club's championship season has not yet begun, although plans and sites are tentative. Keep any eye on www.wwscc.org for further developments.

The NW Region of the Sports Car Club of America opened their 2009 championship season in a big way. There were 229 entries! The April 5 event at Bremerton saw a lot of familiar faces on attendance, plus many that hadn't been seen in years. Most familiar to us, of course, were the PSMC drivers. Nine drivers competed in eight classes, plus Time Only.

Leading the way were *Bob Bundy* and *Dieter Beldi*. Bob won the Street Mod class in his '88 Mazda 323 GTX with a time of 53.878. Although we're used to seeing Bob in his Miata, word on the street is that he will be campaigning the 323 this year. It sure doesn't seem to make much difference, success-wise! Dieter won the Stock 3 class in his '07 Mazdaspeed 3 with a DS-indexed time of 44.764. And yes, he still owns a Miata or two....

In Stock 2, *Rich Blake* placed fourth in his '94 Miata with an ES-indexed time of 44.495. Also placing fourth (but in the Non-Stock 2 class) was *Michael Colangelo*, in his '91 Spec Miata. His fastest time was a DSP-indexed 48.227. Meanwhile, *Tim Irwin* placed third in Non-Stock 1 in an '01 Porsche Boxster S with a BSP-indexed time of 45.195.

As expected in such a large event, there were some huuuuuuuge classes, like Non-Stock 4, Street Tire, and Open Pax. *Russ Hill* placed 15th in Non-Stock 4 in his '91 Miata

with an STS-indexed time of 48.657. In Street Tire, *Chris Halstead* placed 21st in an '08 Subaru WRX with a DS-indexed time of 49.954 (and that was with a cone!). *Glen Hernandez* and *Alan Dahl* placed 11th and 13th respectively. Glen's fastest time (in an '06 Pontiac Solstice) was a CS-indexed 44.752. Alan was close behind in his '07 Pontiac Solstice GXP, with an AS-indexed time of 45.047 (and one of those pesky cones).

Having fun in the afternoon Time Only class were Dieter and Rich. Dieter bested his morning time by 1.237 (unindexed), and Rich improved on his morning time by .395 (unindexed).



Event master Allan Ohlsen explains the ins & outs of how to plan a drive for the club's enjoyment at the New Members' Appreciation Day. Story on page 5

Photo by Mindy Bohnas

Miatacross details here!

June 28 is the date to circle in red and head for Shelton for the Miatacross, a sanctioned WWSCC event. This year's Miatacross will happen at Sanderson Field, just outside of Shelton, with morning and afternoon sessions scheduled.

Our own Dieter Beldi is the host in charge of all things Miatacross. He reports that morning events begin with 7:30 a.m. start time and the afternoon events kick off at 11:30 a.m. Registration is required for both sessions and cost is tentatively \$25 per session if you pre-register and \$30 on the day of the event. Either way, you will need to pay at the registration table on the day of the event.

This is a popular event for those on the autocross circuit and it's also fun for novice Miata drivers who would like to test their skills in the greatest sports car built. The course is designed for sharp curves and when you race, you are racing against the clock, not other drivers. Helmets (required for insurance purposes) are available at the event if you don't have one.

A pre-registration form will be linked at www.wwscc.org about two weeks prior to the event. You can find additional information about Miatacross on the wwscc website and you can look forward to a "What to Expect at Miatacross" article next month in Denise's regular column.

May Autocross

(For more info, go to www.wwscc.org)

2 NWR/SCCA Core Worker Practice	Packwood
3 ChuckANut Sports Car Club #2	Blaine Airport
3 NWR/SCCA Event #2	Packwood
9 SSSCC Novice Drivers' School	Tri-Cities Raceway
16 NWR/SCCA Regional ProSolo #1	Packwood
17 NWR/SCCA Event \$3	Packwood
24 NWR/SCCA Event #4	Bremmerton Raceway
25 BSCC Event #3	Bremmerton Raceway
30-31 SSSCC Events 3&4	Tri-Cities Raceway
30 WWSCC TS Understeer '09	Sanderson Field
31 WWSCC TS Oversteer '09	Sanderson Field
31 ChuckANut Sports Car Club #3	Blaine Airport

President's Message

By Mindy Bohnas
PSMC President



Wow- Time sure flies when you're driving a Miata and the sun is shining! It's been almost a year since I became President and now I only have one more message to write in June. I'll save all my sentimental thoughts until next month because May is going to be busy! As I write this message, I am late to leave for Charlottes "End of the Tax Season Social". The good news is that the sun is out! The bad news is, I still have my hard top on and can't take it off until the neighbors come back home and get their dog because the kennel is in the way. Oh well.

On May 2nd we are having our annual Detailing Day at Coop's Miata in Maple Valley. If you are waiting until the last minute to think about coming, better decide now! The cost is only \$10.00 but the food alone is worth that and all proceeds beyond food and some door prizes will go to Coop's Miata. Please remember * This event is only open to members in good standing but we will accept new Membership Applications or expired renewals with the \$30.00 yearly dues paid on the day of the event!

*If you want to eat for free, we still need volunteer buffers! There will be machines available if you want to buff but don't have a buffer. Please contact Mike Springer at 253-468-5291.

May is the start of the Parade season! There are three parades to choose from and if you live on the west side of the Hood Canal bridge and can help carry royalty in the Sequim parade on Saturday, May 9th, please contact Dan White by email at miata@sillyoldbear.com.

May 16th is the Viking Fest Parade in Poulsbo. May 30th is the Shelton Forest Festival Parade, with a tour back through Lakebay to a winery, then on to the Gore's home in Gig Harbor for an "After Parade Social." Please RSVP on the website or contact Dan White if you are interested in these parades.

Bill Bell is trying something a bit different this year. He is hosting four mid-week, after work socials at various regional eating establishments during the summer months. The first one is on May 12th at the Longhorn BBQ in Auburn. The hope is for both new and old members to attend and get to know more about the club and the upcoming events, while eating some good food. All are welcome, but RSVP's via the website are recommended as there may be limitations on how many can attend. Please check out the articles on the website calendar or in the Sounder.

Our New Member Appreciation Day was a great success. Thanks to Allan and Cheryl Ohlsen for putting together the restaurant and the driving tour and providing some very cool interactive CD maps as giveaways, and thanks to all the board members who came. I would also like to thank the Parts Manager, Johnny at Milam Mazda in Puyallup for donating four large Mazda coffee mugs to use for some of our door prizes. We even had a couple from Anacortes stop in, eat lunch, win some door prizes, and go on the drive because they saw all our Miatas in the parking lot! The sun was out and it was a wonderful day.

I hope to see you soon at an upcoming event!

Life's Short, Drive a Miata



OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

CHIEF OFFICERS

Operating _____ Mindy Bohnas
Executive _____ Mike Springer
Communications _____ Gayle Lazur
Financial _____ Sean McGriff

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Bill Bell _____ Ling Louderback _____ Larry Lohkamp
Chris Stollery _____ Charlotte Fellers _____ Sean McGriff
Tom Millar _____ Brian Louderback _____ Pam McGriff
Cindy Millar _____ Gayle Lazur _____

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Insurance Coordinator _____ Gayle Lazur
Data Coordinator _____ Sean McGriff
Parade Coordinator _____ Dan White
Sounder Editor _____ Charlotte Fellers
Webmaster _____ Nathan Allan
Autocross Rep _____ Denise Williamson

WEB COMMITTEE

Webmaster/EIO _____ Nathan Allan
Assistant Webmaster _____ Mindy Bohnas
Classified Ads/Specialty Programmer _____ John Young
Special Graphics _____ Mike Springer

MEMBERSHIP

The club operates as a non-profit organization and relies primarily on volunteer services. However, sponsorship of events, the publication and mailing of the monthly newsletter and operating supplies constitute a financial burden that must be met by the membership. Make your Miata experience more enjoyable-join and participate. To keep the club meaningful and solvent, we need your support.

To join go online at pugetsoundmiataclub.org or send your name, address and check for \$30 (annual chapter dues) to:

Puget Sound Miata Club
222 Wells Ave N
Renton, WA 98055

2009 Calendar

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

May 2009

- 2 PSMC Detailin' Day
- 9 Sequim Irrigation Festival Parade, noon
- 12 'Eat & Greet,' hosted by Bill Bell, Longhorn BBQ, Auburn, 6 p.m.
- 16 Poulsbo Viking Fest Parade, 11:30 a.m.
- 30 Shelton Parade, Social following at home of Tom & Lindanne Gores in Gig Harbor.
- 30 1st Annual Uptown Gig Harbor Car Show, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., NEEDS A HOST!

June 2009

- 6 Board Elections and Board Meeting, noon, Auburn. RSVP on the website. Details, page 1.
- 13 Second Sloppy Saturday, hosted by Sean/Pam McGriff
- 23 Second 'Eat & Greet,' hosted by Bill Bell, Jimmy Mac's Restaurant, Renton, see p. 4
- 27 Fathoms of Fun Parade, Pt. Orchard, 4 p.m.
- 28 2009 Miatacross, Shelton, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

July 2009

- 3-5 Historics Races, 8-5 daily, Pacific Raceways, Auburn
- 4 Kingston Parade, noon, followed by lunch
- 11 Tour of Mt. Ranier Scenic Railroad, hosted by Bill Bell (**needs a co-host**)
- 17-19 Caravan to Willamette Valley Explore Oregon Event, to Sisters, OR hosted by Dahlke & Johnson.
- 18 Whidbey Island Tour, hosted by Frank Shriver & Carol Kus and Tom & Cindy Millar.
- 19 Chinatown Parade, 5 p.m. (tentative) (**Needs a host**)
- 21 'Eat & Greet', hosted by Bill Bell, place TBD
- 25 Silverdale Whaling Days Parade, 8:30 a.m., lunch to follow

August 2009

- 8 Annual PSMC Northwest Gathering
- 15 Mt. Baker Tour with Sea To Sky Club
- 23 Wine Tasting Drive & Eat, Gig Harbor
- 25 Fourth 'meet & greet', hosted by Bill Bell, XXX Root Beer Drive-In, Issaquah.
- 29 LeMay Museum Open House, 9-5, hosted by Mike Springer

September 2009

- 6 Road run to South Bend; South Bend Parade, hosted by Duncan Johnson and Dee Dalkhe.
- 18-20 '50's Beach Party @ Long Beach, hosted by Mike/Lilly Springer & Allen/Cheryl Ohlsen.
- 25 Leavenworth AutumnFest Parade

October 2009

- 3-4 Olympic Peninsula Tour, hosted by Tom/Cindy Millar
- 31 Halloween Party, hosted by Mike/Lilly Springer, Tacoma
- 31 Bremerton Safe Trick-or-Treat, 5-8 p.m. with drive to Springers at 8 p.m. hosted by Bohnas.

November 2009

- 7 Fall PSMC Board Meeting, Mitzel's in Fife, 11 a.m. lunch, meeting to follow
- 22 Turkey Teaser, hosted by Sean/Pam McGriff

December 2009

- 5 Annual PSMC Holiday Party, details TBA
- 27 Post Holiday Open House, Tom/Lindanne Gores, Gig Harbor, details TBA

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