

Miata Sounder



The Oldest Miata Club in the United States

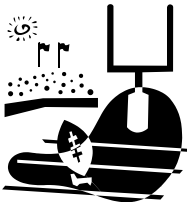
January / February 2012

PSMC 2012 — A New Year of Fun Ahead!

Superbowl Party at the Gores (Room for 16 People)

When: February 5th, Noon to later

Host: Tommy and Lindanne Gores, lindanne@comcast.net



Held at Tommy & Lindanne Gores home:
5702 43rd Ave NW, Gig Harbor WA 98335
phone: 253-851-5110 (home)

homemade chili, beer and wine

Directions to the Gores:

From Tacoma: take Hwy 16 across the Narrows Bridge
(\$4.00 toll on your way home - no toll West to Gig Harbor).

Stay in the right lane after crossing the bridge then take the Olympic exit and turn left crossing over the freeway. Go through 4 traffic lights and at the 40 mph speed sign put on right turn signal. Turn right at 43rd. We are the 4th house on left, number 5702. If you see a church or Erin's Gravel pit, you've gone too far! Turn around and then turn left at 43rd.

Please RSVP

SOUTHSOUND WINE TOUR - 6 wine tasting rooms !

When: Sunday February 12th, 11:30 a.m. in Dupont

Host: Tommy and Lindanne Gores, lindanne@comcast.net

Lunch in DuPont at the Chinese Buffet (Super Buffet - 975 Ross Ave) and then drive to 6 wine tasting rooms afterwards (all are between DuPont and Lacey).

Should be a real fun day.



Possible discounted tickets:

groupon.com/deals/olympia-lacey-tumwater

If you have any questions, please call Lindanne or Tommy at 253-851-5110 (home)

St. Patty's Irish Tour, Starts at The Landing, Renton

When: Saturday March 17th, 11:00 a.m.

Host: Sean and Pam McGriff

Meet in front of Marshalls & Ross. We'll take a fun-filled tour to search for the green and leprechauns. After an hour or so we'll end up at "A Terrible Beauty" in downtown Renton, at the corner of South 3rd St and Williams Ave S. for some great Irish food and drink. The place will probably be a mad house... but hey! It's St. Patty's Day for Gawd-sakes! Please RSVP on our website:

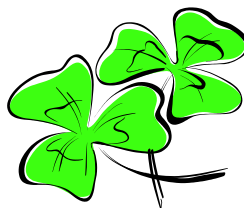
www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org

Questions? Give us a call:

[425.430.0255](tel:425.430.0255) or email:

psmhome@comcast.net

Hope to see you there!



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The *SOUNDER* is published 9 times a year (as close to the first of the month as possible). Nov/Dec, Jan/Feb, & Mar/Apr 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

tom.mackey@gmail.com

sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org

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First Friday Formal Stops in Kent!

When: March 2nd @ Paolo's Italian Restaurant

Hosts: Allan&Cheryl Ohlsen, Charlotte Fellers



We like to drive and eat in this club, so why not do both on March 2 by coming to the First Friday Formal. This is an opportunity to put on your nice clothes and come with your fellow PSMC members for a nice dinner out. It makes a regular Friday night special.

This month we will be heading to Kent East Hill for dinner at a family-owned Italian restaurant, located at 28310 104th Ave, SE, Kent. We need to limit RSVPs to 20 because the restaurant is not large enough for more in our group. As it is, we may be at two tables of 10. You won't be sorry you joined this outing. Paolo's features homemade, fresh Italian food. The chef has been working his magic in this great eatery since 1990, learning his craft from his parents and also from traveling Italy to develop his special recipes.

If you are wondering what the menu offers, check out their website at www.paolositalian.com. If you'd like to attend, get your fancy duds out and then RSVP on the website so we can get an accurate head count.

PSMC Board and Nominations Meeting

When: Saturday April 14th, 11:00 a.m.

Where: Milam Miatas in Puyallup

Hosted by PSMC BOD

Board meetings are not just for Board members! There is always good food, good discussion, and important decisions are made after an appropriate amount of good natured debate.

Plus, new events are brought to the table and help will be provided to anyone wanting to do an event of their own.

If you have ever wanted to be part of the decision making process for your

favorite car club, please consider showing up at the April meeting and just let someone there know of your interest. We always need new and fresh ideas to help keep the club fun, interesting, and relevant.

Milam Mazda
608 River Road Puyallup, WA 98371

Old and Familiar Faces Section will return next issue. -Ed.



mazda

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253-845-1766

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Upcoming Events — Something for Everyone!

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

Items with question marks are still being decided

February

5 Superbowl party @ Gores

12 Southsound Wine Tour

March

2 First Friday Formal @ Paolos in Kent

17 St Patty's Irish Tour

April

1 Corvettes de Olympis Poker and Gimmick Rally

14 PSMC Board Meeting and Nominations

21 New Member Appreciation Run

28 MG Club Tulip Rally

May

3-5 Miatas In Moab V

5 Detailing Day

12 Sequim Parade

19 Viking Fest Parade

26 Cruinin' Bremerton

27 Purdy Isle of Honor

June

2 Shelton Parade

9 PSMC Board Meeting and Elections @ Milam Motors

16 Back Roads in Snohomish, Tom Millar, Tom Mackey

23 Port Orchard

30 Historics Racing

July

4 Kingston Parade

11-12 Two Lanes to Oregon

13-15 Explore Oregon

21 Opal Car Club Run

28 Garage Sale Run

29 China Town Evening Parade

August

4 The Miata Gathering @ Griots (or 18th?)

10-12 Coastal Cruising to Oregon

18 Port Townsend Run (or 4th?)

25 Whidby Island Run

September

2 South Bend Parade and Run

8 Kite Festival (?)

22 Autumn Rallye @ Coops by PSMC BOD

29 Levinworth Parade

October

5-7 Mahogany, Merlot, and Miatas

5-8 Backroads to Bavaria (Club Miata NW)

27 Halloween Party (Tom and Marilyn)

31 Safe Trick-or-treat in Bremerton

November

3 PSMC Board Meeting @ Mitzals in Fife

10 Turkey Teaser Run

17 Food Collection and Publicity Run

December

1 Puyallup Christmas Lights

Other Car Clubs' Events

Corvettes de Olympia Poker Rally XXXII



Open to all cars (makes/models/car clubs)

Sunday April 1, 2012 rain or shine

(In event of snow, ice or floods check www.corvettesdeolympia.org for updates.)

Start any time between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

"It is April Fool's Day and we are not playing with a full deck!"

Start at:

Gould Chiropractic Center

704 Lilly Road SE, Olympia WA 98501

(Phone at start: 360-456-4488 day of rally only)

From I-5 in Olympia take exit #107 (Pacific Ave.,) go east on Pacific, left at signal onto Lilly Rd., and immediate right into Gould Chiropractic.

In a poker rally you cruise around an obscure course on country roads, stop at checkpoints and draw cards to make a winning poker hand, and answer some questions about things you see along the way. Prizes to the winners. Great raffle prizes this year, too.

Not a speed event. Not a car show.

Bring these: Car with driver and navigator and PROOF OF INSURANCE REQUIRED. Anyone under age 18 must bring a parent/guardian to sign liability release. Bring pencils and a clipboard or similar to write on. GPS or maps of Thurston and Lewis counties optional; may be useful to track the route.

Entry fee: \$15.00/car. All proceeds to CdeO Automotive Scholarship Fund

Info from: Rallymasters Duncan Johnson & Dee Dahlke

253-848-7066 or duncan_travel@mac.com

Follow our club at www.corvettesdeolympia.org

Other Car Clubs' Events (Continued)

Miatas In Moab V



Thursday, May 3 through Saturday May 5, 2012 (Checkout Sunday) Events and activities begin on Friday. Event registration opens at 5:00 PM Thursday. Welcome Social Thursday Evening. **Cost of the event will be \$65.00 per person** and includes the Event Cowboy Dinner Buffet & Program Sat. night (\$35.00 value) and Event full color Logo T-Shirt, Misc. Handouts for Drives, Event Schedule and Goodie Bag. Download the [Event Registration Form](#) to register for the event. Look for details on how to register on our website in the near future. Other details about the event will also be posted.

Now is the time to make your room reservations for our Miata's in Moab 2012. **Event will be held at the Red Cliffs Lodge Resort.** Located at Mile 14, Hwy. 128, Moab, Utah 84532 on the scenic Colorado River. Please use their website to check out the different accommodations they have to offer.

[Red Cliffs Lodge](#)

Use the Utah Miata Club name or Miata's in Moab to place your reservation over the phone, only. 435-259-2002 or Toll Free: 866-812-2002.

Rates are \$144.95 per night on River King & Queen Suites and Creekside Queen Suites which is \$75.00 off regular cost, per night. Cabins on the River are \$244.95 per night. Some cabins have 2 bedrooms, and can be shared. Rates are for 2 people. Extra persons per room or cabin is \$20.00 per person per night. They only have 110 Rooms, first come, first served. Please remember there is a 30 day cancellation policy.

The club event will take place starting Thursday, May 3, 2012 with Check-In at 5:00 p.m. and Evening Social. Check in also available Friday, May 4 during posted hours, and Saturday, May 5, for latecomers.

Checking out Sunday, May 6, 2012. Most attendees will arrive Thursday afternoon for a 3 night stay. Come a day or two early as Event Drives will start at 9:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Attendees are welcome to stay an extra day or two before or after the event to visit State & National Parks and other area points of interest. Saturday will also include our Group Photo Shoot, Car Show and Saturday evening Cowboy Dinner Buffet & Program at 6:00 p.m. We may also have some organized Drives on Sunday.

Optional hotels in town for overflow will be at the following Motels. Credit card used to "hold" room only. Cancellation policy is 24 hours. Cost shown is per night.

Best Western Plus Canyonlands Inn: \$165.00. Call group sales, Lauri Smith, 800-649-5191

www.canyonlandsinn.com. (note: this was our host hotel in previous years).

Enjoy this short Video Clip taken by Mazda people from our Moab IV event. Click on the link below and this will bring back some fond memories: [Mazda NA's Miata's In Moab IV Video](#)

Other Car Clubs' Events (Cont.)

La Conner Tulip Rally

MG Car Club



SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2012 (*tentative date, to be confirmed*): **MG Car Club La Conner Tulip Rally**, Burlington, Wash. This is a huge (300+ cars) open-to-all gimmick rally through the bulb fields at the peak of the Tulip Festival. It is also a nostalgic in-motion display of vintage British and European sporting cars. For details or to pre-register check <http://www.mgccnwc.com/> No PSMC host; just register and show up (early!) on your own. In the past if our club entered at least 3 cars, our best finisher would be eligible for a trophy.

Backroads to Bavaria

Club Miata Northwest

Dear Miata Club Leaders,

You and your club's members are invited to attend Backroads to Bavaria. Held in conjunction with Oktoberfest in Leavenworth, WA, USA, it is one of the largest and longest running Miata annual events. This year marks the 12th anniversary, and your club is welcome to join the fun. Please add a link from your club's website to www.clubmiata.com, or add it to your Calendar of Events and publish it in your club's newsletter.

The 12th anniversary is going to be a grand event. We are highlighting best from the past, and creating exciting new elements for this year's event. **Three days of Miata/MX5 fun!** This means exciting fun for Miata/MX5 enthusiasts. Arriving on Friday means meandering into the Bavarian Village before the crowds! The Enzian Inn and Alpine Rivers Inn have a block of rooms set aside for the 2 nights. Register now, and encourage your fellow club members, to set aside the dates of October 5-8, 2012.

Exciting News! For anyone who has enjoyed Backroads to Bavaria before, the itinerary this year is focused on Leavenworth's favorite festival: Oktoberfest. We will also venture to the tranquil oasis of Ohme Gardens for a relaxing picnic lunch.

It is anticipated Backroads to Bavaria will again meet the maximum capacity quickly. Registration will be available only to the first 250 participants. A detailed flyer and registration form are found at Club Miata Northwest's website.

I look forward to seeing you at Backroads to Bavaria,

John Hewitt,
Coordinator

Event Flyer & Registration Form:

www.clubmiata.com

Speedometer Error Explained

A guide for the new enthusiast, your spouse, and the technically inept
by Duncan Johnson, (Navigator in Dee Dahlke's '99 silver "Road Dancer")

On some club runs this past season there was much discussion about the wide variance in odometer readings among cars, with some Miatas being wildly "off" from the official mileage to turn points shown in the route instructions. Speedometers and odometers are fairly amazing instruments, and have become increasingly accurate in modern times, but we motorheads can do some things that get them confused.

What your speedometer does is count the revolutions of your wheels, and through some electro-mechanical magic causes its needle to point to some number (or display the number on a digital readout.) Similarly, the odometer knows the circumference of the tires the factory put on the car, and for every revolution it knows how many feet down the road you have traveled, so it can tick off the miles accordingly. For most cars (not all) the counting is done off the transmission, so its gearing and the differential gear ratio also get added into the mix.

Where we get in trouble is when we change any of those links from what the factory specified. We love to install different size wheels or tires or change gearsets, all in search of more performance, and the poor speedometer/odometer doesn't know we've changed, so it starts giving bum readings. Fortunately, it is easy to determine how far off our readings have become.

Go out and find a section of road labeled "Speedometer Check Section" or "Measured 5-Mile Course Ahead" or similar. (We use one south of Tumwater, Wash., on both directions of Interstate 5, and others are around the area.) In those areas the highway authorities have precisely surveyed the location of the mile marker posts and marked them specially. Regular highway mile markers are only approximately a mile apart.

Now drive through the measured course at a very steady speed that is appropriate for the road, say 60 mph on the freeway. Best do this at a time

of very light traffic. While the driver keeps one eye glued on the speedometer, the navigator marks the time to the second that you pass each post (using a stopwatch or any regular watch that shows seconds.) Record the time for each mile and for the total course. Then figure out the average number of seconds it took you to drive one mile.

Warning: math content! Now divide the number of seconds per mile into 3600. That will give you your true speed in miles per hour. Example, if you were running 60 mph and each mile took 64 seconds, your speed was 56.25 mph. The PERCENTAGE of speed error (not the number of mph) will be pretty constant across the entire speed range of your odometer. In this case the speedometer was reading about 4 mph fast at 60 indicated, so it would be about 2 mph fast at 30 indicated (28 actual) or 6 mph fast at 90 indicated (84 actual.)

The PERCENTAGE of odometer error will be the same as the percentage of speed error (they are the same machine.) In the case above, if the driving directions for a rally indicated a turn at 28 actual miles from the start, it wouldn't happen until 30 miles on the sample car's odometer.

We suppose you could also do the speedometer check on your GPS, if it has a feature that calculates your true speed between any two points. Just be sure you are running at a constant speed (as above) in a straight line when you ask it to calculate, and ensure that it is taking its data from real GPS satellite fixes, not just regurgitating what the car's speedometer is telling the on-board nav system. You can also get an approximate true speed reading from those informational radar trailers or radar signs that some cities locate on arterial streets ("Speed Limit 25, your speed ____.") They do seem to vary a lot, they are affected by other cars around you, and we suspect they are not calibrated or maintained to the precision of police radar. So take them with a grain of salt.

All of the above is well and good when you are dealing with official miles that are actually 5,280 feet long. If you had a big error (as above) you could place little marks on your speedometer for the true speeds, so you know how fast you are really going on the highway. Actually correcting a speedometer/odometer requires changing internal gears and is a job for a professional.

Note well: On rallies or club runs the miles indicated on the driving directions are NOT necessarily 5,280 feet long. They are however long they were on the odometer of the car that laid out the event, and speed rallies always include an odometer check section (usually 10 miles or more) so the competitors can factor in a correction. If you wanted to do that on a club run, just mark your indicated mileage at some point where the official mileage is shown. Say that was the turn mentioned above at 28.0 miles and your car showed 30.0 miles when you got there. Divide the official mileage INTO your indicated mileage. In this case 28.0 goes into 30.0 (let's see, scribble scribble) 1.07 times. Multiply all the official mileages by that 1.07 factor and you'll see what your odometer should be showing when you get there. If the next turn is at 34.3 official miles, 34.3 times 1.07 equals 36.7 miles, so turn when your car shows 36.7 miles. Of course all that assumes you never go off the prescribed route during the run!

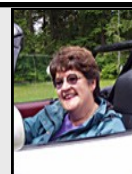
For metric enthusiasts, all the procedures and arithmetic are exactly the same. You're just dealing in kilometers instead of miles.

If you have read this far, you probably also suffer from "C.D.O." That is Obsessive Compulsive Disorder with the letters rearranged into proper alphabetical order, the way they should be.



President's Message January / February 2012

By Charlotte Fellers



Here we are entering February already. I hope all of you had a wonderful break from the routine in the busy month of December and were able to bring in 2012 in a fun and safe manner.

I want to mention one piece of news that may give you another way to connect with the club. We've established a Facebook account, where you can "Like" us and then comment and participate in the open-ended narrative. I've posted some of the upcoming calendar events there and even uploaded a picture of my high-flyin' holiday activity (a hot-air balloon ride). Just look for "Puget Sound Miata Club" and you should find us there.

We have many great people who make this club great (as you've seen in this column before) and we had a chance to thank many of them publicly on January 21 when we had our Appreciation Luncheon at Azteca in Redmond. Thanks to Mike Springer, our past president, who planned and or-

ganized the event for us. I'm sure those of you who attended had as much fun as I did.

We have a couple of drives and events coming up in February that you probably will enjoy. Both are hosted by the Tommy Gores' in Gig Harbor. One is a football party on February 5, starting at 2 p.m. to view the Big Game and the advertisements. They have room for up to 16 guests. You can RSVP at the website and get details as well. Then, a week later, on Feb. 12, the Gores are hosting a pre-Valentine's Day wine tour of several wineries between DuPont and Olympia. They have details on the website on this drive as well. Finally, I'll put in a plug for the March First Friday Formal, which happens March 2 at Paolo's in Kent. We limit this event to 20, so if you want to attend, be sure to get your bid in early.

I'm personally excited about some of our other events this year. The board is working on some exciting changes to the Autumn Rallye, which is sched-

uled for September 22. Keep your eye out as new developments on this drive occur. In the meantime, mark your calendar and save the date. Another drive that appears to hold some promise is the Mahogany, Merlot, and Miatas, which is going to be hosted by Paul Jeager and Allan and Cheryl Ohlsen. If you want to participate in this drive, you need to book your hotel early as there are a small block of reduced-rate rooms at Campbell's Resort in Chelan. This event happens October 5-7.

These out-of-town trips usually offer some fun dinners and socializing, in addition to sampling some fine wines and curvy roads.

One thing I've noticed since I joined this club back in 2005 is that it's starting to fit me like a comfortable pair of old jeans. There are events that happen every year that I look forward to and enjoy, as I know many of you do as well. The routine of these events makes the new ones all the more exciting. It's a nice balance. So take a chance on joining us for an event!

A Matter of Lug Nuts

by Duncan Johnson

(Lot Boy for Dee Dahlke's '99 silver "Road Dancer")

Recently, while installing the snow tires on "Road Dancer" for the impending black ice season our lot boy was reminded that his wife's Miata requires two completely different sets of lug nuts for its stock wheels and its aftermarket Panasport styled alloy wheels. Other Miata enthusiasts might face the same situation, and therein lies a potentially big Catch-22. Read on...

In a nutshell, the stock wheels (with the snow tires) need a 19mm lug wrench and the Panasport wheels (with the summer tires) need a 21mm wrench to turn their fancy chrome nuts. (Obviously the threads have to be the same!) So the stock in-car lug wrench doesn't fit the Panasport nuts; neither will those nuts hold the spare wheel on properly, should it be needed, because they have a different shape "shoulder" where the lug nut meets the wheel.

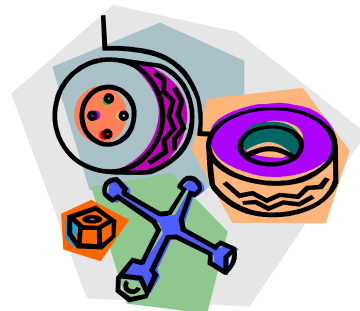
To make this even more fun, each set of wheels uses a different type of locking nut (and different key) for their wheel locks. One lock requires yet a third socket to fit its key (13/16" non-metric, go figure.) Also, because the Panasport nuts are recessed in deep wells in the hub of the wheel, they need a quality thin wall socket to fit down in there.

We did a multi-stage correction. First, we put 4 extra stock lug nuts in the car for use if the spare wheel is ever needed. Then we added a 1/2" drive breaker bar, extension, and sockets to fit all the variety of nuts, including the locks. We ensured the keys for both varieties of locking nuts were in the car. And we test-fitted everything. All this junk-in-the-trunk was stashed in an old tube sock to keep the parts to-

gether and not rattling around the car during brisk motoring.

"Your mileage may vary." You may not have such an outrageous situation, but if your car has aftermarket wheels you just might want to check. The good news is, drivers of modern third-gen MX-5s without a spare tire shouldn't have to worry about this.

(LOL — Thanks for the reminder!
Ed. — 2009 Competition Yellow)



Editor's Message

By Tom Mackey

tom.mackey@gmail.com



I hope everyone got through the Big Snow Event of January 2012 with no bent sheet metal — we had enough at our house to keep us off the streets and out of trouble. We had our work laptops with us so we didn't lose any pay, but after 3 days sharing our home office, one of us was ready to head back to the office. Marilyn said it would be me! By Sunday the slush out in our cul-de-sac had melted to the point where she took Ms Daisy out for her first romp in weeks — they both had a good time being out on the roads again.

We attended the board meeting and have most of the year's events on the calendar now. When I overlaid that with our personal vacation time, 5th Avenue musicals, and other commitments, we suddenly have the entire year chock full of events. And it's just the two of us! I can't even imagine what it must be like to have kids in school and have to add in all those activities as well. I hope you will find the "Year at a Glance" on page two to be useful. Your feedback will be useful and acted upon.

This issue is somewhat of a departure from the norm — Without a lot of past events on which to report, and with most of the future events, well, still well in the future, I took the opportunity to slide in some information on events from other clubs and other locales to whet your appetite on the larger world of Miata fun and adventure. In particular, we have attended Miatas in Moab twice, and highly recommend it if you have the time to go.

Over the Christmas break, Marilyn and I drove down to Bandon Oregon where I had some business with an acquaintance. The trip down was pretty bad — rain, wind, darkness, and fog. We stopped in Florence and had dinner at Moe's Diner in old town Florence on the waterfront. The food was great and the atmosphere fun. We had never stopped in Florence for food before, but we will do so again if we get the chance. Moe's is Great!! The rest of the trip from Bandon to Reno and back to Bend and finally home was very nice. The weather was much better and we had a lot of the roads to ourselves to enjoy the sights. We saw elk and antelope in Oregon, deer in California, and wild horses in Nevada.

As I write this, there are still discounted rooms for the Mahogany, Merlot, and Miatas run, something we are looking forward to. I have not checked yet on Explore Oregon, so like you, I need to get on the stick and get that planned out.

This club has a lot of great events planned this year, but if you have something you would like to lead, I notice there are still a few weekends here and there that are not filled up. Bring your idea forward and let's get it on the calendar — there is always more room for fun and interesting drives and events.



May your lug nuts stay tight, your speedo never garner you a request for an autograph, and your windshield be forever full of beautiful scenery,

-T



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	Sean McGriff

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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 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:

www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org/misc/join.php or by sending your name, address, email, and a check for **\$30 (annual chapter dues) or \$40 (dues plus Sounder delivery)** to:

Puget Sound Miata Club
C/O Mindy Bohnas
12775 Deer Crest Dr SW
Port Orchard, WA 98367
phone: 360-895-0931

Puget Sound Miata Club
c/o Mindy Bohnas
12775 Deer Crest Dr. SW
Port Orchard, WA 98367

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 j-pegs 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.
- The deadline is the 15 each 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%

Johnny Schauf at Milam Mazda of Puyallup (253) 845-1766 / Cost plus 20%

University Mazda of Seattle (206) 634-1191

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