

MIATA SOUNDER



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

Inside January

2-3

Eagle cont.

Second Sloppy

All City

Wine & Chocolate

4-5

Cheap N Cheezy

Madonna

6-7

Chasing Turkeys

Holiday Recap

8-9

Autocross

LeMay

Miata Racers

10-11

New/Familiar

Dawn's Farewell

Maury/Cindy

12

Calendar



PSMC Hangover Run

Sunday, January 2006 @ 11 AM
Bothell QFC



Hosted by Dustin & Andrew Locke

All right everyone, it's time to shake off the aftermath of last night's partying and bring in the New Year Miata Style!

We will be meeting in the QFC parking lot in Bothell, off the Hwy 527 exit of I-405. We will meet at Eleven O'clock in the morning and have the driver's meeting at Eleven-fifteen. After which, we will take off towards some of the beautiful back roads of the county and enjoy the sights of the New Year!

We hope to see all of you there!

Directions to the Bothell QFC:

From the North: Take I-5 to I-405. Take the Hwy 527 Exit (exit 26); turn right onto Hwy 527; the Bothell QFC will be on the left hand side of the road just pass the first signals on Hwy 527.

From the South: Take I-5 to I-405. Take the Hwy 527 Exit (exit 26); turn left onto Hwy 527; the Bothell QFC will be on the left hand side of the road just pass the second signals.

January Planning & Board Meeting



Saturday, Jan. 21, 2006 @ Noon
Alfy's Pizza Parlor, Monroe

By Cindy Smith

Okay, there is no excuse now for all you football fans not to miss our second planning meeting! Due to popular vote, this year's second meeting will be held on a Saturday (January 21st to be exact) at Alfy's Pizza in Monroe from 12:00 to 1:30. All pizzas will be half off, soft drinks are only 99 cents and there is even Drop Top Amber Ale on tap! And if you don't want pizza, Alfy's also offers pasta, sandwiches and a soup and salad bar.

So come on out to a nice, relaxed, noontime pizza party with your PSMC cohorts and get your events on the 2006 calendar. A short board meeting will follow, which is open to all members.

See you there!

Directions to the Monroe Alfy's:
From either north or south: Take I-5 to I-405; from I-405 take SR 522 East (exit 23) to Monroe/Wenatchee. Follow SR 522 to where it ends in Monroe; left on SR 2. Alfy's is located on the left at 19121 SR 2 next to Staples between Kelsey (first light on SR 2) and Chain Lake Road (second light on SR 2).

Walk Softly and Carry A Big Stick II

What: Bald Eagle viewing along the Skagit River

When: Saturday, January 28th, 2006 10:00am
(participant meeting at 9:45)

Where: Bob's Burgers and Brew, I-5 exit 232 north of Burlington

Organizers: Dale & Regena Weber, Mark & Dannie Brandt

Equipment: Camera, Binocluars, Golf Shoes



More information on the Walk Softly on page 2



MIATA SOUNDER

STAFF

Editor Cindy Smith
 Advertising Enos Emexive
 Distribution Randy and Rosa Umemoto
 Mailing List Randy Umemoto
 Photography Contributed

FEATURE WRITERS

Club Events Event Masters
 Event Aftermath Contributors
 Autocross Denise Williamson

PUBLISHING

The *SOUNDER* is published monthly (as close to the first of the month as possible). The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each 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
 11908 215th PI SE
 Snohomish, WA 98296-5401
 (360) 668-5508
sounder@ps-miata.org

ADVERTISING

Classified - mem.....free
 Classified - nonmember/business \$20.00
 1/4 page \$35.00
 1/2 page \$65.00

LEGAL STUFF

The Chapter assumes no liability for any information contained herein; or injury or damage resulting from the use of this information. The ideas, opinions, maintenance or modification tips expressed are to be used at the reader's discretion. Individual contributors and/or the editors express no approval, authentication or endorsement.

ps-miata.org

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

upcoming events

Walk Softly Information continued from page 1

Each winter, hundreds of bald eagles return to the Skagit River Valley. Naturalists insist that the eagles are there to feast on salmon, but we know better. Where else can you see such an impressive concentration of Miatas during the winter? The birds (snow geese on the delta and eagles along the river) are there to see us!



Dress for the weather and head for Bob's Burgers and Brew, located immediately east of I-5 at exit 232 (Cook Rd), just north of Burlington. For those of you coming from the south, take a right at the end of the off ramp, then left at the light and another left into Bob's parking lot. Coming from the north? Take a left at the end of the ramp, cross the freeway, left at the light and left into Bob's. The parking lot is sized to accommodate 18 wheelers, so even the largest OTM vehicle (other than Miata) is welcome. In addition to their excellent breakfasts (open at 6:00am), the restaurant provides free wireless internet access. We plan to get a last-minute weather forecast for the tour via the wireless hotspot, or maybe we will just roll the window down and look to the east.

We will use the Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport as our eagle watching headquarters, and like last year we will have a small fire in the firepit, a bit of shelter and hot chocolate. While we've had some success spotting eagles in the vicinity of the park, some of the best spots are just a few miles further east of Rockport. Wherever we find the birds, we will have two powerful spotting scopes to share. The scopes really bring the eagles up-close-and-personal. Please keep in mind that the birds spook easily so that is why we ask you to "walk softly" while in their home. Carry a big stick? It would be great if each car brought just one piece of firewood (no presto or duraflame logs please) for the firepit. Believe us, you will be glad you did! Oh, & the golf shoes? Last year the entire park was a sheet of ice!

From the park, we will head south along the Sauk River to Darrington, where we plan to stop for lunch at the Glacier Peak Café. We can recommend their soups, salads and burgers, but we particularly enjoyed their homemade pies. We will continue on toward Arlington & I-5, where we expect the tour to conclude by mid-afternoon.

We are still working hard on some possible additions. No guarantees, but while we will be in the area, we hope to add tours of the Burlington Coat Factory and the Rockport Shoes distribution facility (thus far, they haven't returned our calls). We've also acquired a map with references to the lost Cascade Marble Mine near Marblemount. And since we'll be in the Mount Vernon area, we might also visit George Washington's estate. Who knew all this neat stuff was right there in the Skagit Valley???

Be sure to RSVP via the website calendar or email directly the Weber's at dale.regena@verizon.net or the Brandt's at mardan.brandt@verizon.net.



Charley Drake shows why golf shoes might come in handy at this year's Eagle Tour. Photo by Tom Smith.

upcoming events

Second Sloppy Saturday

Saturday, February 11, 2006; 12 Noon at
XXX Root Beer in Issaquah

Hosted by Sean McGriff & Tom Smith

Looking for something to do after the Super Bowl while waiting for Spring Training to start? How about joining us for the Second Sloppy Saturday Fun Run?

We are planning to meet around noon at the XXX Root Beer in Issaquah for a quick bite and driver's meeting. After that it will be off into the King County back roads for a tour of the area South of I-90. Your hosts, the McGriffs and the Smiths, will be taking you on some of the routes made famous on Sean and Pam's annual Turkey Teaser fun rally. This is a fun run tailor made to help us shrug off the mid-winter blahs. Who knows, February sometimes has some nice weather that may be conducive to dropping the top, if you have butt warmers!

Hope to see you there. RSVP on the web site or to tomaci@verizon.net.

And Coming Again This April:

The All City Rally XXVI

Sunday, April 23, 2006

Hosted by Corvettes de Olympia

Article by Duncan Johnson

The All City Rally is a 75-mile gimmick-type road rally, starting and finishing in the Olympia, Wash., area. It is NOT a speed event. It uses 100% paved roads and happens rain or shine.



Sponsored and run by Corvettes de Olympia (CdeO) and co-sanctioned by Northwest Region Sports Car Club of America (SCCA,) the rally is an "open" event, and any street legal vehicle can participate. CdeO has been staging this rally for 26 years and it has become the "kickoff" road event for the car season in the South Sound area. You can check out our complete Corvettes de Olympia web site at: <http://www.corvettesdeolympia.org/>.

We expect full rally info like starting place, time, entry fee (was \$15 a car last year,) etc. will be posted on the club web site in January. Advance mail-in registration will be available, but is not required.

Information seekers can call Mark Twardzicki, the 2006 rallymaster and event chair, at (360) 459-1258. For PSMC-specific rally information contact Dee Dahlke at (253) 845-2424 or toadhallwa@yahoo.com.

More information about this event will be in upcoming Sounders.

Red Wine & Chocolate Tour

Sunday, February 19, 2006

Hosted by Tom & Cindy Smith



This year's tour will take in the two Port Townsend wineries and at least two of the Whidbey Island Wineries. Plus we will be getting there via some of the most beautiful back roads of the Olympic Peninsula and Whidbey Island (plus a couple of ferry rides across our gorgeous Puget Sound).

This event runs from 10 AM to 5 PM, so we will need to get an early start. Plan on meeting at the Edmonds Ferry Dock early enough to catch the 8:40 AM* run as we will need to be at one of the Port Townsend wineries as soon as they open for business.

After sampling wine at Fair Winds and Sorenson Cellars, we will be catching the 12:45 PM* Keystone Ferry to Whidbey Island. Once arriving at Whidbey, we will make time for lunch at the Tyee Café before heading down the Island to the Greenbank Farm and Whidbey Island Vineyards and Winery, where the tour will end.

On-line registration is already available. To register, go to www.northsoundwineries.org/home.html and click on the Red Wine and Chocolates button. Tickets to the event are \$20.00 plus processing fee and entitles you to a special commemorative glass, a souvenir button and samples of some of Washington's best wines. Make sure you print out your receipt as this will be the only "ticket" you will be issued.

In order to make arrangements for our group with the North Sound Wineries Coordinator, you **must RSVP no later than February 13th** by either the website or emailing Cindy at tomaci@verizon.net.

*Ferry schedules may change after January 7, 2006; any noted changes will be addressed in the February Sounder or on the website at www.ps-miata.org.



Jim Hightchew, Fred Holler, Cindy Smith and Tom Millar enjoy sampling wine at Olympic Cellars during the 2005 Red Wine and Chocolate tour. Photo by Tom Smith.

upcoming regional & national events

February 27 to March 1 March 3-5, 2006

Cheap N Cheezy III-VIII - MIATA GRAS

Ume-Coop-Gun Krewe

Constant partying must have gotten to the brain of our favorite party animal Frank Murphy. Just imagine! Frank Murphy came up with the idea that you must:

- Contact your close Miata *friends*.
- Form a *Krewe*.
- Compose a *song* and a *chant*.
- Choreograph a ceremonial *dance*.

Gee, we Event Masters don't even have a complete plan for C4 III-VIII yet! However, Frank was 100% correct about one thing: you must acquire appropriate dress. That means a costume and a mask! We don't want to see our Miata *Friends* stripping the sheets of their beds as many of ~~last other year's~~ attendees were forced to do. This month you have three priorities:

1. Call The Edgewater Inn **Breakers** at 1-800-561-2456 **1-800-219-9833** and make a reservation! Again, the special Miata Club rate is ~~\$55.00~~ **\$58.00 per night**. For single bed. (If you believe a trip to Long Beach includes taking Fido or Fluffy, you must make your reservations immediately because there are only a limited number of "pet rooms" available.)
2. Show courtesy and call or e-mail one of the event masters: Rosa & Randy Umemoto 206-938-4562, e-mail: ~~earlust@aol.com~~ **carlust@comcast.net**; Wendy & Bill Cooper 253-639-2456, **425-432-9666** e-mail: ~~wcoopster@aol.com~~; Evelyn & Bob Gunther 206-782-8084 360-765-0786, e-mail: ~~bgunthers@aol.com~~.
3. Start creating your costume and mask.

Frank Murphy's "things to do" list: contacting Miata *friends*, forming a *Krewe*, etc. are optional. If you don't feel comfortable performing these activities in advance, we'll put groups together in Long Beach! Then again, we and Mr. Murphy might be giving you a line of b.s. as to what we *really have planned!*

We admit Cheap N Cheezy III-VIII is going to be the Grand Mother of all Parties. Some of us will take a vacation day on Friday and drive down early to enjoy lunch at the **** Shoalwater Restaurant. Others will sneak out early or leave right after work to make the 3-1/2 hour drive down in time for Friday dinner at ~~The Lightship Restaurant~~ **a restaurant to be named later**. Others might drive down early Saturday. We have a wonderful driving activity scheduled for Saturday mid-morning. The Grand Mother

of all Parties: **MIATA GRAS** will take place Saturday evening. Again, this will be a New Orleans style potluck (creative food - there are ~~no~~ **cooking facilities** at in many of the rooms at **The Breakers**. ~~The Edgewater Inn~~!) Sunday, we will take over the Go-Cart tracks for the ~~Third Annual~~ **No-Holds-Barred Alpha Male and Muffy Races**. As always, our coveted creative trophies will be awarded! We'll probably/maybe skip the belly dancing this year; but already have many other real *interesting* activities on the slate. As always, *bizarre* happenings, costumes, and decorations will be the rule, not the exception; and there will be a really cheap bar! **B.Y.O.B.**

It is our understanding that our *friends* from Mt. Hood Chapter **other clubs** plan to win *all* the competitions. Our Chapter members need to be prepared to do whatever it takes to win. We want PSMC to be the top banana. If you attended Cheap N Cheezy II, you know what we mean!

Humba! It's another Ume-Coop-Gun event!



*Talk about bizarre costumes!
Photo contributed by Randy
& Rosa Umemoto.*



West Penn Miata Club Presents:

Miata Mountain Mania

June 15 - 18, 2006

Miata Owners, sign up today to take part in a fun filled weekend of Miata events and cruises as we explore great roads and the beauty of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Western Maryland and Northern West Virginia.

Registration deadline is March 17, 2006, or the first 100 cars, whichever comes first. So be sure to register today.

For more information, visit our website at www.ps-miata.org or go to www.westpenmiataclub.com/mania.html.

upcoming national events

Search for Madonna

May 4-8, 2006

Brought to you by the San Diego Miata Club and Dustin & Andrew Locke

Article by Dustin Locke, 06' Winning Blue

You've heard of it, you've thought of it, now here it is in print.....The Madonna Inn Tour!!!!

As many of you already know, Andrew & I have been working with the San Diego Miata Club to get a joint event between the two clubs going. The event will be the San Diego Miata Club's Annual "Search For Madonna" event. This will be a weekend long event (Saturday - Monday) taking place in San Luis Obispo California. I have participated myself for the past seven years and it is an absolute blast!! The event itself will be May 6th, 7th and 8th.

Andrew and I have planned to lead a caravan to the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo, leaving Washington on May 4th. We will take a leisurely three-day drive to reach our final destination. This will give us the opportunity to take in some of Oregon and Northern California while on the way. For the night of May 4th, we will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express in Ashland Oregon. They are offering a rate of \$85-89 dollars for the evening. You may make reservations at (888) 465-4329. The night of May 5th we will be staying at the Capitola Inn in Capitola California. You may make reservations with them at (800) 660-2713. On the morning of the 6th, we will depart the Capitola Inn and take a leisurely Coastal Route and arrive at the Madonna Inn around Noon-1pm (which is right around the time the San Diego folks will be arriving).

As for the Madonna Inn, for those of you who do not know of the Madonna Inn, you are in for a treat / surprise! The Madonna Inn features 109 uniquely Themed Rooms. They are offering the Miata folks a discount. We highly encourage you to start booking your rooms now (arriving May 6th, departing May 8th). The more interesting rooms tend to book early. I encourage you to look at the rooms on their web site and find the one that looks the best to you. Part of this event is a huge room tour!!! Please go to: www.madonnainn.com for room information as well as reservation information. Make sure to mention that you are with the Miata Club, doing so will get you a bit of a discount for the Sunday Night rate. Once you have made your reservation, PLEASE, PLEASE E-mail me at sapphirexae@yahoo.com OR call me (425-822-6894) and let me know which room you reserved as well as your names



The Vouz Room at www.madonnainn.com.

and the year and color of your car. We will composite a list of all Miata Club (SDMC & PSMC) members and what rooms they are in for games as well as for the Room Tour!

We will have several events planned during the course of the weekend. Of course they are all optional and you do not have to do any one thing(s). Here is the schedule as it sits:

Saturday Evening: Some folks will head for an evening tour of the Hearst Castle.

Sunday Morning: A short run to Morrow Bay for the Annual Morrow Bay Car Show.

Sunday Afternoon: There will be two different runs to choose from. We will have a Wine Tour of local Wineries lead by my parents OR a Run through some of the San Luis Obispo Back Roads.



The Madonna Inn. Image from www.madonnainn.com.



The Buffalo Room at www.madonnainn.com.

Sunday Evening: This will be the Annual Miata Club Dinner. Once dinner is over, we will return to the Madonna Inn for the Annual Room Tour (by far the most entertaining and hilarious event)!!!

Andrew and I hope to see many of you signing up for this event! This truly is a wonderful event and by far and away my most favorite Miata Activity of all time!! Let's show those San Diego folks our PSMC spirit this year!!

Again, please contact me and let me know which rooms you have reserved!!!

Teasing Turkeys

By Sandy McKnight, CRVHGR

No, we don't really tease turkeys on this run. But, at the end of the day, there is usually good reason to tease each other!

The first turkey we spotted this year was invisible. By unanimous vote, we elected our trusty host Sean McGriff as the first turkey while we stood around at the starting point, waiting patiently for him to arrive. When we decided he wasn't going to show up, Tom called him at home. Guess what? Sean thought we were starting at 12:30. The website said 11:00. Are all of us early, or is Sean late? The vote answered that question. Sean and Pam arrived shortly, and much razzing ensued!

After a brief drivers's meeting, we lined up to receive our instructions and individual starting times, and one by one we were on our way...11 Miatas, and Gayle and George in TWSTYRDS.

This is always a really entertaining event, with multiple tasks for the navigator, following directions, counting turkeys, and answering some very strange questions along the way. We leave the camera at home, because there is no time for taking pictures on this run! And you don't need a CB either, because you're on your own with the instructions, cars leaving the start at 2 minute intervals. Pam promised that there were no "tricks", but we've all learned from experience that there might be a few conspicuously vague items, so we're really not that trusting anymore. And in years past, we have found turkeys in some really weird places...like up in the trees.

The first few instructions took us out of Renton and into the countryside. Sean's first question for us was something about what color bowling ball he would use if he wanted to go bowling. Huh? Where are we going to find a bowling ball out here? Soon, it became very clear. Somebody had a fence with a blue bowling ball on top of every fence post!



We wound through the countryside, answering questions and trying not to get lost. Since this is a timed drive, you also have to be careful not to speed, or go too slow, or get lost so you have to waste time turning around. And be on the lookout for those turkeys...they could be anywhere.

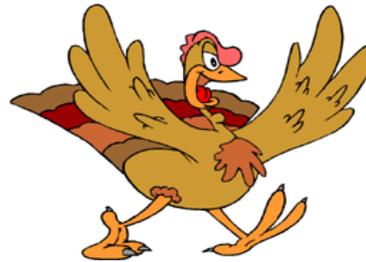
Sean sent us out pretty evenly, and the only other Miata we saw was Tom and Cindy, who caught us from behind just as we approached Coop's Miata. Tom passed us not too long after that. The turbo probably made him do it.

A few miles later, we saw another Miata turning around in the intersection a few blocks ahead. No idea where they were coming from, but they got off course somewhere.

It was almost sunny when we left Renton at the start, and since it wasn't raining, the tops were down. We were bundled up against

the cold and damp, drawing some strange looks from people going about their day in a minivan. I think we saw the sun again around Hobart, but it was cloudy everywhere else. It really didn't matter, Maple Valley is always gorgeous in the Fall. The leaves had turned fiery shades of red, yellow, and orange, and we hadn't had a serious rainfall yet to knock them off the trees and onto the ground.

Hey, there's Bob and Marti, pulled over. They look OK, so we keep going. Hey, there's George and Gayle, pulled over. They look OK, so we keep going. Did we miss an instruction? I don't see anything about pulling over!



By the time we made the final turn back toward Renton, we were in a long line of Miatas. Not sure how that happened, but our 2 minute intervals had dissolved. None of us cared...we're used to driving in a line, aren't we?

The last 3 or 4 instructions were a bit confusing. Sean had us going in circles in a couple of parking lots north of Renton. Since we were all bunched up, it got pretty crowded, with everybody backing up and making u-turns.

Maury broke from the herd, and we ended up alone on the road with Paul and Dawn. Down to the sub shop, u-turn, right at the Y, and past the last turkey. Turns out Sean and Pam had left 3 turkeys there, but a couple of them had wandered off.

Sean timed us in, and we parked in the back lot. Within a few minutes everyone had returned, and we headed into the Mucho Bueno for a yummy Mexican buffet. Sean worked out the numbers and declared Tom and Cindy the winners! Dustin and Andrew came in second, and Maury and I were third.

Joe and his son, Mike, won the turkey for coming in with the time farthest from Sean's baseline. It's really tempting to try to come in last. Pam creates an awesome turkey every year for this award. This one had long legs and satin tail feathers. I want one!!

One more thing...thanks to Sean and Pam for putting this together. We had a wonderful day of twisty roads with our friends, followed by a cozy warm-up, awards, and some great spicy food. Let's do it again!



event aftermath

Holiday Wrap-up

Article by Cindy Smith
Photos by Mindy Bohnas

Well, it was back to the Renton Community Center for this year's Holiday Party. After the success of last year's party and everyone's enjoyment of the Center, we could not fathom having it anywhere else. Only problem was is that it was on a Friday night. However, I must say we have quite a dedicated group as we still had a full house in spite of people putting in a full 40 hour workweek and having to fight the horrendous Friday night traffic. Thank heavens for the later social and dinner hours!



It looks like Toys for Tots scored big time!

It is always great to get together with this group of people and the annual Holiday Party is no exception. It's a great way to unwind from the year and chat with friends we haven't seen for awhile or haven't had the chance to talk with when busy with events.

For some this year, it was a great way to launch into the New Year. In fact, I overheard a lot of conversations regarding the upcoming Cheap and Cheezy event in March and people were even soliciting for their krewes. To say that PSMC members can "party hardy" is putting it mildly.

After another wonderful dinner catered by the Renton Technical College, Maury and I got down to business in giving away door prizes and stars to all of our event hosts. Maury also gave special recognition to those individuals who went above and beyond what is required for the "normal" volunteer. Those who were honored with the "President's Gold Star Award" were: Bonnie Lohkamp for coordinating this year's Gathering; John Young for his outstanding work on the website; Dave Whooley for moderating PSMC's forum; Mindy Bohnas for her tireless efforts as parade coordinator; Sean McGriff for undertaking the enormous task of Miatacross; Tom and Cindy Smith for being the heart and soul of PSMC in 2004 and 2005; Bill and Wendy Cooper for their gracious hospitality in letting PSMC hold all their events out their backdoor; and Sandy McKnight for all of



Patrick McSherry chats with Gary & April Meiers while Charlotte Fellers looks on.

her wonderful contributions to the Miata community via her articles, both in the Sounder and on various websites and especially for keeping Maury in line!

And then it was time for the drawing for the Granddaddy of Door Prizes, the vacation in Mazatlan, contributed by George and Gayle Lazur (who, unfortunately, were not able to make it). And the winner was: Duncan Johnson!

The evening wound down with great tunes provided by Dabbs Entertainment. That DJ had our crowd figured out and had almost everyone out of their seats and on the dance floor! It was a great evening and I am sorry that more of you could not make it.

Perhaps next year, when the event will be back on a Saturday!

And the Grand Door Prize Winner is: Duncan Johnson!



It's awards time, with Cindy and Maury officiating.





PSMC Autocrossers Go On A Field Trip

Article by Denise Williamson; photos by Glen Hernandez (well, most of the photos!)

It was a late summer's day when Dieter, Glen and Enrique had finished up at the BEAC autocross practice and had nothing to do. Acting upon a rumor they heard that day, the three of them headed out, caravan-style: Enrique in his Miata, Glen in his Porsche with the trailer behind, and Dieter in his full-of-race-tires Miata. Their destination: Mazda of Everett.

The object of their mission was easy to spot: a 2006 Miata, errrrr MX-5, was parked right next to the street. When Enrique saw the car, he cried out for joy because it was so beautiful. He was so moved that he rushed over and kissed the car. In the meantime, Glen had fun taking lots of pictures and passing his camera around. After awhile, a salesman showed up and said he could get the keys (oh boy!). Ten minutes later, he arrived with the keys.

The guys opened and closed everything possible: hood, trunk, top up and down, glove box, console, cubbyholes, etc. They were very thorough and shoed others away who tried to take a look. They even turned over



Enrique just couldn't help himself and laid a big smooch on the new MX-5!

the engine. Although they couldn't take it for a test drive until later in the week, Enrique said it was just as well, as he would not have returned it. A bicyclist was riding by and stopped to take a look. Our PSMC guys told him what they knew, which was most likely more than the salesman did. Regardless, the



Engine? Check. I think Enrique likes what he sees.



I hope by now Dieter and Enrique have been able to drive an NC off the lot.

guy thought that the salesman was very friendly and enthusiastic, and willing to make a sale.

So what did the guys think? Enrique summed it up by saying that everything that needed fixing with the NA and NB were addressed with the NC. "The car is definitely worthy of the Miata name", he said, "but I thought the visors looked cheap." Enrique can't wait to take a Solstice for a comparison drive.

Glen thought it felt like there was less autocross-friendly storage area, even though there were more cubbies. He said it didn't look like you could fit three tires in the front like you can with an NA. He thought the physical appearance of the car was good, but wasn't sure about the headlight styling or the fender flares. "I also wondered if the autocross tire size (narrow/tall) would be difficult to get a hold of," he said, "although I liked the steering wheel, shifter, paint color and dual exhaust."

Is an "NC" in these guys' future? Only time will tell. In the meantime, two local autocrossers (including a certain PSMC member) already have theirs. Are you tempted?



Looking good, guys, looking real good. (From left to right: Dieter, Enrique & Glen with the new MX-5.)



America's Car Museum Will Show Muscle in Detroit

By Steve Kovach, LeMay Representative

Muscle cars from The Harold E. LeMay Museum will be featured in a first-time display at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. Up to 850,000 people are expected to attend the 2006 show January 8-22.

It's the first time cars from the LeMay Collection, dedicated to preserving and interpreting the largest privately held car collection in the world, will be on display at the Detroit car show. Now in its 18th year, the show is the site of many new automaker concept car introductions.

And with more than 7,000 reporters from around the world expected, the event is a tremendous opportunity to increase awareness of the museum's plans to build a new facility in downtown Tacoma to showcase America's auto heritage, said David Madeira, museum Chief Executive Officer.

"We feel there's a strong and unique connection between what the car show has done and what the museum is all about," Madeira said. "It's the increased awareness at a national and international level that will be a major benefit for the museum."

The Detroit Area Dealers Association, show organizers, donated space for the display after conversations earlier this year with the museum. "We were able to make the case that the museum represents the full range of America's love affair with automobiles," Madeira said.

The LeMay Collection was recognized in the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest privately held car collection in the world. At its peak, the collection was in excess of 3,000 automobiles, motorcycles, trucks and other vehicles, plus more than 30,000 pieces of related 20th century Americana. More information about the museum is available online at www.lemaymuseum.org.

LeMay muscle continued next column

LeMay muscle continued from previous column

The museum will have staff and volunteers on hand at the auto show, along with cars from its collection in a hall dedicated to "Performance." Among the vehicles that the museum will exhibit include a 1964 Pontiac GTO Convertible, a 1967 Ford Shelby GT 500, a 1963 Corvette split window coupe, a 1948 Chevy Woodie hot rod, and a 1951 Mercury hot rod.

The show starts with early press entry, industry previews and a charity fund-raiser January 8th. The show opens to the public January 14-22. More information about the show is available on the NAIAS website at www.naias.com.

And Don't Forget America's Car Club 1st Annual Cruz-In

January 14, 2006, 3:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Ehli Auction Center, Fife, WA

America's Car Museum is proud to announce its first America's Car Club Cruz-In! OPEN TO MEMBER CLUBS ONLY!

Join your partner clubs in a celebration of America's Love Affair with the automobile and the LeMay Museum!

Event is open to members of clubs that belong to the LeMay Museum; Collector Cars park inside the huge Ehli Auction facility.

Social, silent auction and car judging from 3:00 to 5:00; no-host bar; Barbecue Dinner 5:00 to 6:30; Announcements and awards 6:00 to 6:30; Live music with The Reverbs from 6:30 to 9:30; Trophy awards for People's Choice and Museum Choice; Trophy awards for Most Represented Club – for the club with the most individual museum members; Trophy awards for the club with the highest 2005 giving and the club with the highest 2005 giving per capital.

\$10.00 per person and \$9.00 for individual museum members; limited to 200.

Contact Steve Kovach at (253) 779-8490 or steve@lemaymuseum.org for more information.

January Autocross

For details see wwscc.org

- 3 BSCC Monthly Meeting at Tony's Pizza
- 10 NWR/SCCA Solo Committee Meeting at Whistle Stop in Renton
- 16 WWSCC Council Meeting at Rogue Brewery in Issaquah
- 28 Coneheads Banquet at F.X. McRory's in Seattle

Attention Present and Future Miata Racers!

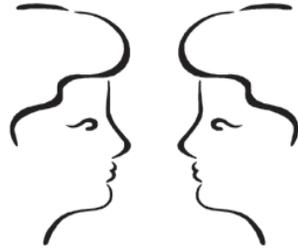
Brian Towey, Oregon Region SCCA Spec Miata Class Advisor, dropped Maury a note recently to let our club members know that there is a "bunch of us out here racing the little cars." They occasionally see members of Miata clubs at the races and are often asked how to get more information about what they do. They finally have a small website; it is <http://www.nwspecmiata.com/>. If you think this is something you would be interested in, feel free to post it.

For more information contact Brian Towey at speed@gorge.net.

New Faces

We hope to meet you at an event soon!

By Randy Umemoto



Michael Tsow	Issaquah, WA	12/1/2005
David Schoutts	Seattle, WA	12/1/2005
Bob Donovan	Bothell, WA	12/1/2005

Familiar Faces

Try a new Miata Event this year!

Cec and Steve Sparling	04 Silver	2 yrs
Bill and Wendy Cooper	91 White	13 yrs
Thomas and Diane Regan	91 Red	13 yrs
Stuart & Beth Sabel	96 Starlight Mica	2 yrs
Jeanne and Dave Field	99 Sapphire	4 yrs
Michael McLaughlin	94 Laguna Blue	5 yrs
Bruce and Janet Haskin	91 Red	10 yrs
Robert and Marti Mott	03 Garnet Red	3 yrs
David and June McFarland	92 Silver	13 yrs
Rickey and Susan Carlson	90 Red	3 yrs
. Camille	93 White	1 yr
Bill Read	93 Black LE	12 yrs

Thanks to the following Miata dealers 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
Harbor Freight Tools (Everett store only) (425) 513-6213
Pinnacle Mazda of Renton (425) 271-2700
Russ Dunmire Mazda of Tacoma (253) 473-2440
University Mazda of Seattle (206) 634-1191
Whidbey Island Mazda of Oak Harbor (360) 675-2218

And A Face We Will Miss

Dawn Mae Newsom
1941-2005

By Cindy Smith



On the afternoon of November 26, 2005, Dawn Newsom passed away peacefully in her sleep after a long battle with ovarian cancer.

Dawn and Keith became members of PSMC on January 1, 1995. With her husband Keith, she hosted some of the South End Tours, such as the Capitol Forest Run, the Haywire Hoot, the Zig Zag South Sound and the South Sound Tour. She was also involved with the LeMay Car Museum, helping to organize PSMC work parties in preparing the LeMay Collection for the annual LeMay Car show. And she was a great representative of the club: when a newcomer came to her neighborhood, parking a dusty BRG in her driveway, both Dawn and Keith introduced themselves and were relentless in getting her to join in on a Miata event and later the club. Sophia McSherry will always remember what a great neighbor and Miata-ist she was.

Not only was Dawn involved with PSMC, she was also a consummate volunteer, helping with UNICEF, AFS, Olympia Junior Programs and the Washington Center for the Performing Arts.

Dawn was born June 29, 1941 in Kodiak, Alaska to Harold Frederick and Janet (Whalen) McDonald who moved to Seattle in 1958. In 1964, Dawn graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics from the University of Washington.

She married Keith Newsom in Seattle on September 25, 1965 and in 1970 they made their home in Tacoma, where she lived at the time of her death.

At her request, there was no memorial service and in lieu of cards and flowers, it was asked that a donation be made to your favorite charity.

Remember

You can now get your Sounder via email instead of snail mail.

It's easy, just send an email to sounder@comcast.net



Zoomin' with the Prez

By Maury Fugitt



HAPPY
NEWYEAR
FROM YOUR PREZ & BOARD!

From the Editor's Desk

By Cindy Smith



Happy New Year to Each and Every one of you! And a happy – and busy – New Year it promises to be.

This year will mark the beginning of my second year as your Sounder Editor. It has been a fun year, and I am looking forward to

being your editor for at least another year if not longer. However, in reading some of the past Sounders (I've inherited the Sounder Archives), I've noticed some real changes that have taken place from when the Sounder first was published. For instance, today's publication is more about the events than the technical stuff (which was really predominate in the early editions), which probably thrills a lot of our readers and disappoints others. So, what I have in mind in the next few months, is to explore new ways to update and improve the Sounder, although it is going to be hard to expand on Katie Meyer's improvements. If there is something that you have missed reading about or would like to see addressed in our monthly newsletter, please drop me an email at tomaci@verizon.net and I'll see what I can do for you.

And speaking of new and improved, I hope you take a good look at our 2006 calendar. You will find that this year is jam-packed with all kinds of events, new and old. We've got eagles and dogs and oysters, chocolate and wine, rallies, parades, picnics and PSMC's own version of Mardi Gras (see page 4). And if that isn't enough for you, we are even going in "Search of Madonna" (see page 5)! We have afternoon events, evening events and night time events. Plus you can leave the rat race for a few hours, a few days or even a week. And the best part of it all, your mini vacations from the daily bump and grind are all planned out for you by some of the best event planners you'll ever run across. So this year, don't just read about the events, be about the events. Join in all the fun and see where your Puget Sound Miata Club can take you!

Hope to see and hear from you soon!



OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

CHIEF OFFICERS

Operating _____ Maury Fugitt
Executive _____ Cindy Smith
Communications _____ Bonnie Lohkamp
Financial _____ Sean McGriff

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Bill Aycock George Lazur Randy Umemoto
Eric Bass Patrick McSherry Dave Whooley
Mindy Bohnas Stuart Sabel Denise Williamson
Charley Drake Tom Smith

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Events Coordinator _____ Allan Ohlsen
Insurance Coordinator _____ Bonnie Lohkamp
Data Coordinator _____ Randy Umemoto
Parade Coordinator _____ Mindy Bohnas
Sounder Editor _____ Cindy Smith
Webmaster _____ Eric Bass
Autocross Rep _____ Denise Williamson

WEB COMMITTEE

Webmaster/EIO _____ Eric Bass
Assistant Webmaster _____ Mindy Bohnas
Classified Ads/Specialty Programmer _____ John Young
Special Graphics _____ Mike Springer
Forum Administrator _____ David Whooley
Specialty Programmer _____ Nathan Allan
Website Advisor _____ Allan Ohlsen
Programmer _____ Josh Smith

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 ps-miata.org or send your name, address and check for \$30 (annual chapter dues) to:

Puget Sound Miata Club
3901 SW Hanford
Seattle WA 98116

2006 Calendar

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

January 2006

- 1 Hangover Run hosted by Lewis-Locke (see page 1)
- 21 Second Planning & Board Meeting in the Northend, hosted by PSMC Board (see page 1)
- 28 Skagit Valley Eagle Run hosted by Weber & Brandt (see page 1)



February 2006

- 11 Second Sloppy Saturday, hosted by Smith & McGriff (see page 3)
- 19 Red Wine and Chocolate Tour, hosted by Smith (see page 3)

March 2006

- 3-5 Cheap n Cheezy VIII at Long Beach, hosted by Ume-Coop-Gun Krewe (see page 4)
- 24-25 Miata Performance Driving School at Thunderhill Sports Park, Willows CA

April 2006

- 1 Magical Miata Mystical Tour, hosted by Weber & Brandt
- 7 First Friday Formal, hosted by Springer
- 8 PSMC Nominating Meeting (Tentative), hosted by PSMC Board
- 23 All City Rallye XXVI, sponsored by CdeO and NW Region SCCA (see page 3)
- 29 Detailing Day, hosted by some very special volunteers

May 2006

- 3-8 Search for Madonna Tour, hosted by Lewis-Locke (see page 5)
- 13 Sequim Parade
- 19-21 Icicle Creek Tour/Leavenworth/Play, hosted by Mudie
- 25-18 Kelowna Topless Sun Run B.C. Canada, hosted by OVMC; caravan organized by Fugitt/McKnight

June 2006

- 3 Shelton Parade
- 9-11 Portland Rose Cup Run, hosted by Weber
- 15-18 Miata Mountain Mania, hosted by WestPenn Miata Club
- 17 PSMC Elections, hosted by PSMC Board
- 24 Port Orchard Parade
- 30-2 Historics, hosted by Springer

July 2006

- 4 Kingston Fourth of July Parade
- 8 Drive-in Movie Run, hosted by Lewis-Locke
- 13-16 Pinot Noir Wine Tour in North Central OR, hosted by Houghton & Hayes/Jaeger
- 30 Chinatown Parade

August 2006

- 12 Sundown/Twilight Run, hosted by Lewis-Locke
- 19 Dog Day Afternoon, hosted by Mudie
- 26 LeMay Car Show, hosted by Springer
- 27 PSMC Gathering, hosted by PSMC Board

September 2006

- 3 South Bend Labor Day Parade
- 9 Mukilteo Parade
- 10 Run Round Rainier IV, hosted by Sabel
- 23 Leavenworth Parade
- 24 North Cascade Hwy Run, hosted by McGranaghan

October 2006

- 6-8 Backroads to Bavaria IX, hosted by CMNW
- 7 ALS Walk, hosted by Lazur
- 7 Shelton Oyster Fest Run (to follow after the ALS Walk), hosted by Ohlsen & Smith
- 12-15 Return to Tofino, hosted by Aycock, Bojarski and Friends
- 28 Haunted Places Tour, hosted by Smith

November 2006

- 3 First Friday Formal, hosted by Ohlsen
- 5 Planning and Board Meeting in the Southend, hosted by PSMC Board
- 11 Veteran's Remembrance Run, hosted by Smith
- 19 Turkey Teaser, hosted by McGriff
- 25 Tacoma Holiday Parade

December 2006

- 9 PSMC Holiday Party, hosted by PSMC Board
- 16 Holiday Light Run, hosted by Lewis-Locke



The weather may be nasty and the cars may be dirty, but they're all a rarin' to get the Miata season goin'. From the '04 Second Sloppy Saturday. Photo by Allan Ohlsen.