

MIATA SOUNDER



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

Inside December

2-3

Holiday Party / Parade

Deuce's / Lights

Hangover Run

Monthly Social

4-5

Eagles / Planning

Shakespeare

Bootifulness

6-7

Veteran's cont.

Car Guy

Miata Mishap

8-9

Newlyweds

Autocross / Coops

Classifieds

10-11

New/Familiar

Dustin

12

Calendar



Veterans' Remembrance Run Veterans' Day 2006, Remembered

By Allan Ohlsen

"Over hill, over dale, we all hit the soggy trail, as those Miatas went rollin' along." Actually, the weather was quite nice for a November day as thirteen Miatas, one Mercedes SUV and one Del Sol went on a journey for remembrance of those military men and women that served our country over the years.

Our journey began at Discovery Park in Seattle. Hosted by Tom & Cindy Smith and Dale & Regena Weber, we were welcomed with donuts and, to get us in the mood for the day, a quiz. We had to try and match photos of current PSMC and CMNW members with their armed service pictures; it was not an easy task. <Sigh> We are all so much older looking today. We also had to guess PFC Robert W. Moore Jr's unit, which war he served in and who he referred to as "Tootsie." Prizes were given later to the best guessers.

Armed with tear-wiping tissue packs, some "GI" Hershey bars, a CD of Veteran's theme music, some more trivia quizzes and a 41-page brochure/guide book, we were on our way to visit some military cemeteries where we could spend a little time remembering, a little time reflecting, a little time for learning and a little time giving thanks for those that served our country and those that gave their lives so we could be free. Each cemetery stop was a time to think about our family members, friends and fellow veterans that served in the past and those that proudly serve today.

We visited three Veterans' cemeteries: Fort Lawton (located in Discovery park), Grand Army of the Republic (located on Capital Hill in Seattle) and Tahoma National (located on Kent's east hill). Each cemetery represents fallen veterans that span generations from Civil War veterans to the fallen heroes of today. Our drive ended in Olympia, at the Capitol Campus, where we visited the WWI, WWII, Korean War and Vietnam War Memorials. Our journey concluded with dinner at the Falls Terrace Restaurant in Tumwater, ending with a toast to those that had served, and those that continue to serve our county today.

This was a superb event where much thought and planning went into the run. The CD Tom compiled included a song or two from every major war campaign, from "Yankee Doodle" to "Sink the Bismarck" to "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue;" it was a great CD of 24 songs. And at each stop,

Veterans continued on page 6



A Field of Stone. Fort Lawton Cemetery, Discovery Park, Seattle. Photo by Dale Weber.

There is still time to get in on the Holiday Party; please check out the information on page 2!



MIATA SOUNDER

STAFF

Editor Cindy Smith
 Distribution Randy and Rosa Umemoto
 Mailing List Randy Umemoto
 Photography Contributed
 Printing.....Blue Sky Printing

□□□□□□ □□□□□□

Club Events Event Masters
 Event Aftermath Contributors
 Autocross Denise Williamson
 Coop's Garage Bill Cooper

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 - member.....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

A Miata In A Pear Tree PSMC Holiday Party

Sat. December 9, 2006, 6PM - 11PM

Renton Community Center

Price Per Person: \$25.00

Article by *Dustin Locke*



Do you hear what I hear? I hear the Annual Puget Sound Miata Club's Holiday Party sneaking up on us yet again! Yes, it is time to hang up the Holly and head out to the Renton Community Center to participate in the festivities! We will once again be decking the Halls of the Community Center for our party brought to you by the PSMC Board.

This year promises to be a sleigh load of fun. From 6PM – 7PM we will have our social hour, dinner will be served from 7PM – 8PM, door prize drawings and awards given out from 8PM to 9PM and although we may not have any Fred or Gingers in the group, we will be dancing the night away to the music provided by DJ Dabbs.

We have once again booked the Renton Technical College to provide a festive meal, which would put the Ghost of Christmas Present to shame. Our entrees for this year will be your choice of Prime Rib, Champagne Salmon or Vegetarian lasagna. In order to get the head count in for the caterer, **YOU WILL NEED TO RSVP DUSTIN LOCKE WITH YOUR ENTRÉE CHOICE BY DECEMBER 6TH** at sapphirexae@yahoo.com.

For those of you who don't want to drink and drive (or don't want to drive the long way home after a fun-filled night with your PSMC friends), check out the Quality Inn (formerly the Silver Cloud Inn) in Renton (425-226-7600), which is located just across the street from the Community Center. Although the block of rooms we had reserved were released to the public on November 10th, the hotel has always been very accommodating to late comers.

PLEASE don't forget to bring an unwrapped toy (not to exceed \$10.00) to put under the tree for the Toys for Tots program. Your generosity will be rewarded when a special child, who would not normally receive a gift on Christmas morning, finds that Santa did not forget them.

The cost of this year's event is \$25.00 per person. Advance payment is preferred but if you need to, you can pay at the door. Please send your check, written out to PSMC to

Dustin Locke
 4301 Lake Washington Blvd NE #1110
 Kirkland, WA 98033

There is "snow" way to bring in the Holiday Season and spread some Holiday Cheer like partying with your fellow Miata Club Members. So don't be a Grinch come on out and participate in all of the fun!!!

Directions: From the North: Take I-405 southbound to Exit #4 (Renton-Enumclaw). Go through the first stoplight, then turn left on Maple Valley Highway (South 169). Pass under I-405 and turn right at the second light. Follow the entrance driveway to the large parking lot. From the South: Take I-405 northbound to Exit #4 (Maple Valley-Enumclaw). This exit will divide. Take the first exit to Maple Valley-Enumclaw (South 169). At the stop sign at the end of the off ramp, turn right. At the second stoplight turn right. Follow the entrance driveway to the large parking lot. The Renton Community Center and Carco Theatre share the parking lot.

upcoming events

December Parades

More info at www.ps-miata.org

2 Shelton Christmas
Parade @ 3:30 PM



Holiday Light Run

Sat. December 16, 2006 @ 5:30 PM
Bellevue QFC

Hosted by Andrew & Dustin Locke



Ready for some holiday cheer and festive settings? If so, you won't want to miss the 2006 Holiday Lights Tour. We will be cruising the Eastside's most decorated areas. We will be driving through some beautiful neighborhoods and taking in the Holiday Spirit. If the group so chooses we may park and walk around at some point. For those of you who have the Holiday Spirit as well as those of you who need a good shot of it, this is the Run for you!! If that wasn't enough to really put you in the Holiday spirit, the Run will end at our home on Lake Washington for some Hot Cocoa, Christmas Cookies and maybe even a Holiday Movie.

Meeting Point Address is: QFC Store at 2636 Bellevue Way, Bellevue. Directions to the Bellevue QFC: **From I-405**, take WA-522, right on 108th Ave; left on Northrup Way; left on Lake Washington Blvd, which turns into Bellevue Way. QFC will be on the left. **From I-5**, take WA-522, take Bellevue Way NE, staying right, QFC will be on the left.

The Deuce Before Christmas Run

Saturday, Dec. 23, 2006 @ Noon
Triple X, Issaquah

Hosted by Dustin & Andrew Locke



You may have heard the stories, you may have met the man...well, now he is returning to the Northwest once again.....that's right....its Deuce! For those not in the know, Deuce is actually a person....well sort of. He is Dustin's father, who we enjoyed tormenting during the 'Search for Madonna' event earlier this year. He is coming back for more punishment and we wanted to put on a run for him and Dustin's mother. If you do not yet know the "Deuce" story, we will be regaling you all with it at lunch before the run. If you do know the story of Deuce, we invite you all to help him with his 'special problem.' We encourage all of you to bring him some help in the form of Depends, Pepto and /or anything else related to that field. If you would like a pre-Christmas day of food, friends and one hysterical story, don't miss 'The Deuce before Christmas.'

Meeting Place: XXX Rootbeer, 98 NE Gilman Blvd, Issaquah (Take I-90 East to Exit #17 (Front Street); left turn on NE Dogwood; left turn on NE Gilman Blvd.); **Times:** Arrive at Noon (for lunch and the tale of Deuce); driver's meeting at approx. 1 PM.

2nd Annual Hangover Run

Monday, January 1, 2007 @
10:30 AM

Hosted by Dustin & Andrew Locke



It is once again time to hit the coffee pot, pour some Bloody Marys, shake off the headaches and head out to PSMC's second annual 'Hangover Run.' This is a great way to blow out those 2006 cobwebs and hit the twisties with your fellow Miata friends. Can you think of a better way to celebrate the new year than a Miata Run?? We will once again be meeting at the QFC in Canyon Park and heading out for a day of fun roads and good friends. We will be meeting at 10:30 and leaving promptly at 11 AM.

[ED's NOTE: Last year there was a mix up in regards to the "Bothell" QFC. A few folks found the Bothell QFC but not the tour group. It seems there is more than one Bothell QFC. Although the QFC we will be meeting at has a Bothell address, it is referred to online as the CANYON PARK QFC. I hope this clarifies things when you are looking for the meeting place.]

Directions: (address: 22833 Bothell-Everett hwy, Bothell, WA 98021)

From the North: I-5 South to the 405 South. Take Hwy 527 towards Bothell. Turn Right onto Bothell-Everett Hwy (Exit 26). **From the South:** I-5 North to the 405 North. Take Hwy 527 (exit 26) towards Bothell. Turn Left onto Bothell-Everett Hwy. The Canyon Park QFC will be on the left hand side of the road.

First Monthly Social

Saturday, January 6, 2007 @ 6PM
Everett, WA

Hosted by Bonnie & Larry Lohkamp

Are you suffering from the long dark days of winter and not much contact with your Miata family? Well, we have a solution. After many requests from folks in the club, we have decided to host what we hope will be the first of many Monthly club socials. These socials will be held at various locations in the Puget Sound area, but this one will be in the north end at our home in Everett. We will start at 6:00PM and have decided that a potluck will be the order of the day. Fix up your favorite dish, whether it be a main dish, side or dessert. We will provide all the tableware, a selection of beverages and an appetizer, although if an appetizer is your favorite dish, please feel free to bring yours as well.

Let's plan on an evening of fun and good conversation; if you have a favorite DVD bring it along too just in case the conversation wanes (which we doubt). So wipe off the rain and come on over. We hope to see you there!!!!

Please RSVP via the website or to blokamp@comcast.net or by phone at 425-347-0361. Directions and updates will be on the website and next month's Sounder.



upcoming events

Skagit River Eagle Hunt

Saturday, January 13, 2007

Hosted by Weber and Brandt

The Federal Government may have placed the American Bald Eagle on the Endangered Species List and declared it to be illegal to hunt the symbol of our country . . . but we are going to do it anyway! Okay, so we won't be using weapons or traps, nor do we intend to harm the birds in any way, but hunt them is exactly what we will do!



As good hunters we will need to get an early start so we can catch our prey unawares as they feast on the chum salmon of the Upper Skagit River. For your convenience, we have moved the starting point much further south than in years past.

Don't forget to outfit yourself with the latest in hunting gear. You will need your camera, binoculars, scopes and patience. Oh, how we love the smell of ozone from those digital cameras in the morning! Also don't forget to dress for the weather and to bring some nourishment to hold you over until we have bagged our limit.

We will end the day with a late lunch before going our separate ways.

Keep on the lookout in the Sounder and on the website for more details that will be coming soon!

Northend Planning Meeting

Saturday, January 20, 2007

Newport Bay Restaurant,
Kirkland @ 12 Noon



Hosted by PSMC Board

Did you miss out on the Planning Meeting in November? Do you have some ideas that you would like to share with the Club? Is there an event you want to put on? Do you enjoy good food and socializing with friends? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, then you belong at the January Planning Meeting. We will be firming up some of the calendar plans that were made in November as well as coming up with even more events and activities. We will be enjoying the excellent food of the Newport Bay restaurant in Kirkland. So, come on down and have a say in the future of your club!!

Directions: **From I-405:** Take Exit #14 onto WA-520; take the 108th Ave NE exit, going right on 108th; next left on Northrup Way, Restaurant will be on your right. **From I-5:** Take exit 168b onto WA -520 East; take the Lake Washington Blvd NE exit ONTO Lake Washington Blvd.; make a hard right onto Northrup Way. Restaurant will be on your left.

007: Shaken (-speare) Not Stirred

August 13 - 18, 2007

Hosted by Smith, McSherry & Houghton

It's b-a-a-a-c-k!

If you missed out on the first tour and wanted to go, then get out your pencils, mark your calendars and tell your boss that you need August 13th through August 18th off because we're doing Shakespeare in August again!



We haven't quite figured out the route down (okay, so maybe I know which way I want to go!), but we do know that it won't be a one-day speed run to Ashland. In fact, we will be detouring through Crater Lake National Park, and we already have a block of ten single queen rooms reserved for PSMC at the Best Western Newberry Station in LaPine, Oregon for Monday, August 13th. The rate for these rooms is \$79.00 a night. The rooms will be held until August 1st, when they will be released to the public. Call 541.536.5130 to make your reservations (or visit them on their website at www.bestwesternoregon.com/hotels/best-western-newberry-station).

In Ashland, we upgraded our accommodations to the Windmill Inn and Suites. Windmill Inn hosts an expanded continental breakfast, heated outdoor pool and spa, tennis courts and a free shuttle to the plays – all at the 2006 rates! Rooms available are "Run of House," meaning that you are free to choose the type of room you would like, depending on the availability at the time of booking. Rates run from \$110.00 for a standard single queen to \$144.00 for a king suite. We encourage you to make your reservations as soon as possible as this is a very popular hotel. For reservations call 541.482.8310 or go to www.windmillinns.com and click on the Ashland home page. Make sure you mention our special group code – **0814PSMC** – to get the above special rates. Rooms will be held until July 14th, when they will be released to the public.

Tickets for the plays will go on sale to the public on **December 11, 2006**. The three Shakespeare plays that are being performed in the open-air Elizabethan Stage (which we highly recommend) are: *Romeo and Juliet* (Aug. 15th), *The Tempest* (Aug. 16th) and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Aug. 14th & 17th). Prices run from \$69.00 (box seats) to \$44.00 Sundays thru Thursdays and \$75.00 (box seats) to \$50.00 Fridays through Saturday. For more information on ticketing, seats, and the 2007 playbill, go to www.orshakes.com. We recommend you get your tickets as soon as possible as they sell out fast – especially the Friday and Saturday performances. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING YOUR OWN TICKETS!**

More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 360.668.5508 or drop me an email at tomaci@verizon.net.

It Was A Bootiful Time

Article and Photos By Tom Smith

This year's Haunted Places Tour took place in the "Damn Near Canada" counties of Skagit and Whatcom. That made it a little more difficult for South Sounders to participate, but we still had fourteen cars scooting through the back country.

Our Co-Hosts, Lin and Steve Birman, knew the territory, so that made our route pre-planning a little easier. As usual, though, Cindy got her "Researcher Hat" on and put together a packet of historical information about such places as the Northern State Hospital, the Wardner (sic) Castle, and downtown Fairhaven, along with the various legends and facts regarding each location.

We had a guest participate to find out what the PSMC is all about. The depth of research and quality of the packet, along with the friendliness of all the participants, had him fishing for his 30 buck membership by the time we got to lunch. Welcome new members Bill and Kay Kuhns (07 Silver) the next time you see them!

And yes, there was another CD of Halloween Tunes. I've got to be honest, I was scraping the bottom of the barrel. One of the bonus tunes was AC/DC doing the Hokey Pokey. That gives you an idea of how tacky this year's CD really was. Next year I'm faced with doing a "best of," so send me your suggestions early. Honest, I'm out of tune ideas.

Hope to see you next year as we explore the haunted places in and around Tacoma. Early research uncovered a multitude of ghosts and weird phenomena in The City of Destiny.



Getting ready to go ghost hunting.



Coming out of the old Northern State Hospital.



The Wardner Castle



Above: the Haunted Bland Angel Monument;
Left: at the Bayview Cemetery visiting the Angel.

event aftermath

Veterans continued from page 1

Cindy provided some additional background, history and things to look for.

I mentioned that we all learned a little on this tour. That's an understatement. The single greatest part of this tour was the priceless gift of gaining a greater and deeper understanding of Veterans Day through Cindy Smith's booklet and guidebook. Simple words cannot begin to describe the quality, thought and work that went into this guidebook. It's chalk-filled with trivia, facts, anecdotes, remembrances, historical accounts, photos, lists of our state's Medal of Honor Recipients and those Medal of Honor Recipients who are buried in Washington, and a section called "Our Miata Families' Hall of Heroes:" pictures and accounts of members and relatives. Every stop we made had related pages to the history and significance of each place and monument. The booklet also has info on military medals, headstones, markers, emblems and the Medal of Honor. Everyone who received it will cherish this labor of love and the incredible amount of work that went into this booklet.

This event was one of the most memorable runs ever. If this event comes up again, don't hesitate to sign up.

By the way, PFC Moore (1923-1978) served in the U.S. Army's 431st Signal/Heavy Construction Battalion in WWII and was awarded the Purple Heart. He married his childhood sweetheart named Veola Mae "Tootsie" Glossop and they are the proud parents of our Cindy Smith.



At Tahoma National Cemetery. Photo by Tom Smith.



A splash of color in Tahoma National Cemetery. Photo by Dale Weber.



*"Listen to 'Sarge' now!"
Photo by Dale Weber.*



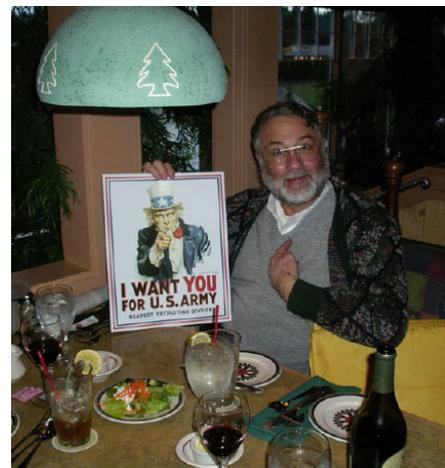
A lovingly tribute left by someone on the POW/MIA Memorial at the Capitol Campus. Photo by Tom Smith.



Quiet reflection at the Korean War Memorial on the Capitol Campus. Photo by Dale Weber.



The Seabee Miata. Photo by Dale Weber.



Me? Mark MacHogan won the prize for figuring out what war and unit PFC R.W. Moore served in - just by looking at his picture! Photo by Allan Ohlsen.

You May Be a Car Guy If

By Bruce Lewis

You may be a car guy if-

you will roll down your window to listen to the exhaust note of a hot car next to you.

you are never done "tricking out" your car.

you will accelerate to obscene speeds just to catch a better look at the Ford GT that just passed you.

You finally agree to go shopping with your wife at the mall and pretend to be surprised that they are having a car show.

you actually enjoy shopping ... if it's at Kragen, Pep Boys or Auto Zone.

you can spend 3 hours detailing your engine bay.

you can actually feel the difference between 28 PSI and 32 PSI in the twisties.

you clean your chassis. (your cars, not yours)

your favorite color is chrome.

you understand oversteer and understeer.

you know the meaning of every number and letter on a tire sidewall.

you change your oil every 3,000 miles.

you get a little bent when someone leaves greasy finger prints on your window frame.

you have more bottles of "car stuff" in the garage than you have meds in the medicine cabinet.

you save your old tooth brushes for detailing.

you carry a "car duster" in your trunk.

you get more car magazines than bills in the mail every month.

the inside of your wheels and tires are as clean as the outside.

the local parts store guys know you by name and what kind of car you drive.

you check out the '53 Corvette next to you instead of the cute blonde driving it.

you think yellow is a cool color. (I realize that this may be optional)

you can tighten any nut or bolt to within 10% of its recommended torque.

you have drag raced at sometime in your life.

you think anything looks better with flames.

you have owned way more stick-shifts than automatic transmissions.

Car guy continued page 9

One Sturdy Little Car

By Bonnie Lohkamp

On Friday, November 10th, at about 8:45 PM, Larry and I were on our way home from a having wonderful Mexican dinner. We were in Larry's beloved 2002 Sunlight Silver, lovingly named BAITHOG. Bear, our dog, was all nestled down on the package shelf behind the seats. We had been enjoying our pleasant evening out, when suddenly an older SUV made an illegal left hand turn and slammed into us at about 40 mph. Wow! What a jolt!

Airbags deployed; taking us a few minutes to come to our senses, we realized that, yes, indeed, we were still alive and managed to climb out of the car. A quick check by the fire department showed that Larry ended up with a slight concussion and broken glasses and I ended up with a lacerated left finger. Bear came out without a scratch – just a bit shook up and scared. It wasn't until the next few days that our bodies started to ache all over and bruises began to appear. Given the alternative, however, we really couldn't complain.

Unfortunately, the car did not do as well. It is most likely totaled, if the early estimates from the insurance company are any indication. However, we now join the ranks of those who have experienced that the Miata is not only one of the most fun cars to drive, but it can also withstand one doozy of a hit!

The search is now on for a replacement. In the meantime, we still have my '94 Laguna Blue to carry on the tradition. And courtesy of the insurance company, we are also the "proud" drivers of a Jeep Liberty SUV – a bit ironic, wouldn't you say?



Ouch! Photos by Larry Lohkamp.



Remember

You can now get your Sounder via email instead of snail mail. It's easy, just send an email to sounder@comcast.net



The Puget Sound Matchmaking (er Miata) Club Does It Again!

By Cindy Smith and F#@%/*! Tom



A toast to PSMC Member Cisco Castro and Christy Driscoll, daughter of PSMC Sounder Editor Cindy Smith, for tying the knot on Saturday, October 21, 2006.

Surprised? Well, so were all the parents!

With Cisco's parents up from California for a visit, Cisco and Christy decided to have all their parents over for a wonderful gourmet dinner. Also invited were Christy's sister, Stephanie and Scott and Michelle Harris, Cisco's close friends and neighbors from his Lake Stevens' home.

Dinner was delicious. However, dinner took a backseat when the announcement came (just after the entrée) that there would be a wedding ceremony performed (right before dessert). It seemed that Scott Harris is also a minister. Hmmm, guess that explained his invitation to an all family function!

After many hugs, back pounding and congratulations, we all marched into the family room, and Christy and Cisco took their vows. Quiet, simple and elegant, all at the same time.

Congratulations Cisco and Christy. May you have endless years of joy and happiness!

Photo by Stephanie Smith.

Autocross 2006 Wrapup

By Denise Williamson

2006 was another busy year for autocrossers. The Western Washington Sports Car Council (of which PSMC is a member) held nine championship events this year, along with four "slush" (i.e. non-points) events, mostly in Everett. PSMC drivers attended many events. Bob Bundy attended three events (in Improved C and Open Street) and won Event #8; Dieter Beldi attended all nine events in Open Street and won Events #1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8; Brett Wilson ran in two events, one in Open Street, the other in Pro 1; Enrique Garcia and Sean McGriff ran one event each in Open Street; I ran one event in Women's Street Tire 1; Russ Hill ran one event in Street Tire 2 and won it; Glen Hernandez ran eight events in Pro 1 and won Event #6; Alan Dahl also ran in eight events in Pro 1. Collecting a trophy for the year's results will be Dieter (1st Open Street) and Glen (3rd Pro 1).



The Bremerton Sports Car Club held eight events, two schools, and two practices. Year-end trophy winners are Tom Slipp (2nd Sports C) and Dieter Beldi (1st Sports Prepared).

The Northwest Region Sports Car Club of America held eight championship events, practices, a ProSolo practice, a ProSolo, and a National Tour. Events were held in Bremerton and Packwood. Chris Halstead attended one event in Stock 2 and won it; Brett Wilson ran in two events in Non Stock 2 and three in Street Mod 2; Enrique Garcia ran in two events in Street Mod 2, one event in Open Pax, and one event in Non Stock 2; John Gafano ran in one event in Non Stock 2; Tom Slipp ran in one event in Non Stock 4; Dieter Beldi ran in eight events in Street Mod and won #3, 5, 7, and 8; Rickey Carlson ran in three events in Street Mod 2; Tim Irwin ran in seven events in Street Tire and one in Open Pax; Glen Hernandez ran in seven events in Open Pax and won a very wet event #8; Alan Dahl ran in all eight events in Open Pax. Collecting an award for the year's results will be Dieter (1st Street Mod 2), Tim (3rd Street Tire), and Glen (2nd Open Pax).

In addition to all of this, PSMC drivers also attended Pros, National Tours and Nationals in California, Utah, Colorado, and Kansas. There are probably more – it's hard to keep track of all of them!

Big kudos to Enrique Garcia, who brought home a trophy (in STS2) from Nationals!

December Autocross

For details see wwscc.org

- 5 BSCC Monthly Meeting at Round Table Pizza in Gig Harbor
- 12 NWR/SCCA Solo Committee Meeting at Bill's Bodacious BBQ in Renton
- 14 WWSCC Annual Rules Meeting at Factoria Mall Meeting Room
- 18 WWSCC Council Meeting at Rogue Brewery in Issaquah

in the garage

Coop's Garage

Keeping Cool: the cold facts

By Bill Cooper

Tom Smith of Snohomish asks about cooling systems and the proper maintenance and service thereof.



First of all, it seems there is a lot of misconception about the nature of antifreeze/coolant and its function in the cooling system. Most customers that I talk to are not aware of the function of antifreeze/coolant beyond its ability to prevent freeze up, the leading cause of fluid loss and consequential engine failure. Let's break down antifreeze/coolant into its component uses so we can get a better understanding of how it works and then look at how we can assure ourselves that it is performing its job effectively in the system.

Glycol, the natural ingredient plants use to prevent freezing, is the major component of antifreeze. It, by itself, is a poor conductor of heat. Water does the work of transferring heat from the engine to the radiator where heat transfer takes place. Here is where a lot of people make the mistake of thinking that cooling issues can be solved by adding more antifreeze/coolant when they overheat. In actuality they are adding to the problem when they add more pure antifreeze to the system because they are diluting the real transfer agent, water.

I can hear you thinking! If that's the case then why during the summer months, when most overheat problems occur, do I keep antifreeze/coolant in the system? I could drain it out in the spring, fill the system with water and all my problems, with stop and go hot weather driving, would be over! Hold on! There are other functions of antifreeze/coolant that must be taken into account that keep your engines cooling system functioning at peak level year round.

Additives in antifreeze/coolant prevent rust, clean corrosives and calcites from the radiator and engine as well as the labyrinth of water jackets in the head and block. A clean system makes the transfer of heat efficient. Without these additives the block in your Miata would soon be reduced to pure rust. Ask anyone who has put off fixing a loss of coolant problem and replaced the lost fluid with pure water. Over a short period of time rust will color the water reddish brown. Rust can clog the radiator and destroy steel coolant system components such as the water pump and steel piping. Left long enough and the condition can result in break through in weakened cylinder walls. De-foaming agents keep the coolant from aerating which increases its ability to transfer heat.

With an understanding of coolant and how it works the next question is, how can you make sure your coolant is in top shape? Well, here is a list of preventative procedures:

1. Check your coolant level every time you check your oil. The coolant should register at the full line on the reservoir bottle. When hot it will be a little higher. DO NOT OPEN A HOT RADIATOR. The temperature in your cooling system frequently exceeds 212 degrees normally. When you expose this coolant to normal pressure by opening the cap, when hot, it boils instantly and

Coops continued next column

Coops continued from previous column

can scald your exposed skin and face. Add coolant, if you must, to the reservoir. As water in the engine expands it pushes excess fluid into the reservoir. When it cools the water contracts, sucking the fluid back into the engine as required to fill it. If your coolant is low check for signs of leakage from hoses, the pump or green trickles or pools on the block or in the skid pan. Replace as needed. (We will discuss this next month)

2. Add only a 50/50 ratio of antifreeze/coolant to water. You can buy it this way or mix it yourself. Make sure the coolant you buy is acceptable for aluminium heads.

3. Draw off some of the fluid from the radiator, when the system has cooled, using an inexpensive hydrometer available at any parts store. Check the fluid for its freeze level. At 50/50 mix it will register below -35 degrees F. While you are at it check the clarity of the fluid. It should be clear and bright. If it isn't then you will want to flush the system and install new fluid. Don't draw from the reservoir for this check. The stuff in the bottom is sometimes really foul from never being used

That is another segment for next month! We will go into changing hoses, flushing and reinstalling new fluid.

Have a safe and happy holiday from Coop's Miata and Bill and Wendy Cooper!

Car guy continued from page 7

you ever stole your kids diapers to use for wiping down your car.

you own more than 12 car shirts and 12 car hats.

you know what SAE stands for.

you own a box of latex work gloves but also own 2-3 cans of hand cleaner because you forget to use the gloves.

you own complete socket sets in 1/4, 3/8, and 1/2 in SAE and Metric.

you own Torx Wrenches, a timing light, a impact wrench, a telescoping mirror, a retrieval magnet, a volt meter, endless tubes of lubes, sealers and gasket makers, a floor jack, a compression gauge, geez! I could go on forever- but at last,

you still have every screw driver that you have ever owned short, long, Phillips, Slot and own more of them than most well equipped tool stores.

Oh! This just in from my wife, Debbye:

you may be a car guy if you spend more time on your #%*&+@ car than you do on your wife ... I guess that will end this episode of Car Guy! Look for more in future episodes!

Classifieds

PARTS FOR SALE

NEW BLACK BOOT, convertible top cover. Never been used. Fits 1993 and ? \$300.00 Call David Smith at (360) 276-0016.

NEW BLACK SOFT TOP with glass back window for M1 Miata; still in box; asking \$625.00. Call Steve Andersen at (425) 432-1051 and leave message.

New Faces

We hope to meet you at an event soon!

By Randy Umemoto



William & Kathryn Kuhns Seattle, WA 07 Sunlight Silver
 Dave & Stephanie Coleman Everett, WA 92 Red

Familiar Faces

Try a new Miata Event this year!

Kent & Tina Shaul	91 White	1 yr
Donna & Dennis Mudie	94 Montego Blue	1 yr
Leah & Steve Ford	94 Red	3 yrs
Jeff & Peggy Tague	99 Silver	2 yrs
Brian Brewer	94 Black	14 yrs
Bill & Mary Dee Countiss	90 Montego Blue	12 yrs
Sandra Huber	Red	13 yrs
Wayne & Lois Kanaby	06 Galaxy Grey	1 yr
Kay Wilson	92 White	14 yrs
David & Lee Acker	02 Green	5 yrs
Kelly Carothers	90 White	13 yrs
Terry & Patti Kartes	92 Red	13 yrs
Robert & Evelyn Gunther	91 Silver	14 yrs
Charlie & Missi Thomas	96 Montego Blue	7 yrs
Leif & Peggie Loe	96 Red	7 yrs



OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

CHIEF OFFICERS

Operating _____ Dustin Locke
 Executive _____ Maury Fugitt
 Communications _____ Bonnie Lohkamp
 Financial _____ Sean McGriff

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Bill Aycock Andrew Locke Mike Springer
 Charley Drake Larry Lohkamp Dennis Thompson
 Jim Hightchew Patrick McSherry David Whooley
 Gayle Lazur Stuart Sable

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Insurance Coordinator Bonnie Lohkamp
 Data Coordinator Randy Umemoto
 Parade Coordinator Bonnie Lohkamp
 Asst. Parade Coordinator Lindanne Gores
 Sounder Editor Cindy Smith
 Webmaster To be determined
 Autocross Rep Denise Williamson

WEB COMMITTEE

Webmaster/EIO To be determined
 Assistant Webmaster Mindy Bohnas
 Classified Ads/Specialty Programmer John Young
 Special Graphics Mike Springer
 Forum Administrator David Whooley

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

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*

Roadster

Ramblings



By Dustin Locke, PSMC Prez

Hello all and Happy Holidays! Instead of my usual column, I wanted to do something a bit different this month. So, below you will find my own version of a classic Christmas tune. Hope you enjoy it!

Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house, not a thing was stirring since Coop fixed the Bell House.
The Tonneaus were hung in the garage with care, in hopes that a Super Charger would soon join them there.
We were nestled all snug in our beds, while visions of Miata Runs passed through our heads.
Andrew in his sandals and I in my cap, had just covered the Miata for a long winters nap.

When out on the roof there arose such a noise, I jumped up to yell at those damn neighbor boys.
Away to the window I ran in a fuss, tore open the shutter and started to cuss.
The rain covering my decayed drain, gave the luster of rust, oh' what a pain,
When what to my squinting eye did appear, a Classic Red M1 and eight tiny reindeer.

With a little old driver so sharp and witty, I knew in a moment it had to be Cindy.
More rapid than mazdaspeeds, her courses they came,
And she whistled, shouted and called them by name:

"Now Twilight! Now Sunburst!
Now, Emerald and Sapphire!
On, Merlot! On, Copper!
On, Vivid and Montego!"

To the top of the porch!
To the top of the wall!
Now speed away, speed away!
Speed away all!!!



As soggy leaves that the rain caused to fall,
When they met with an obstacle, they started to fall.
So up to the House top they wetly flew,
With Miatas full of toys and Cindy too.

I let out a groan as I heard on my roof
The screeching and braking of each little Bridgestone.
As I spun on my heels and was turning around,
Down the chimney Cindy came with a frown.

She was dressed all in Miata attire from her head to her feet,
Her hair was all wind blown, she looked kinda beat
A bundle of junk she had flung over her back,
She looked like a hobo opening her pack.

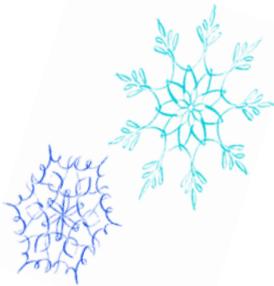
Her expression how it burned, her dimples how discerned!
Her cheeks were red, her face just full of dread!
Her eyes flickered and couldn't be rounder,
I knew then she wanted me to write an article for the Sounder!

She was neither chubby nor plump, just her usual self
I laughed when I saw her in spite of myself.
A glare of her eye and the snap of her head
Soon gave me to know I was in over my head

She spoke a curse word and went straight to her work,
She filled the stockings and then called me a jerk.
She laid out her finger and gave me the bird,
Up the chimney she went and that's all I heard.

She sprang to her Miata, to her car gave a yell,
And away they flew like a bat outta hell.
But I heard her scream as she zoomed out of sight,

"Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night"



2006 Calendar

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

December 2006

- 2 Shelton Christmas Parade
- 9 PSMC Holiday Party, hosted by PSMC Board (see page 2)
- 16 Holiday Light Run, hosted by Locke (see page 3)



Coming in 2007

Come help fill out the calendar at our January Planning Meeting held on the 20th. Some events listed are tentative; dates and times to be determined at a later date.

January 2007

- 1 Hangover Run hosted by Locke (see page 3)
- 6 Monthly Social hosted by Lohkamp (see page 3)
- 13 Eagle Tour hosted by Weber & Brandt (see page 4)
- 20 Northend Planning Meeting hosted by PSMC Board (see page 4)

February 2007

- 10 Second Sloppy Saturday hosted by Smith & McGriff
- 18 Red Wine & Chocolate hosted by Smith

March 2007

Hey! We need something here! Come on down to the planning meeting (see page 3) and help fill in this space!

April 2007

- 13 First Friday Formal hosted by Springer
- 14 PSMC Nominating Meeting hosted by PSMC Board

May 2007

- 5 Detailing Day hosted by Cooper
- 12 Sequim Parade
- 18-20 Moab hosted by the Utah Miata Club
- 19 Poulsbo Parade
- 25-27 Topless Sun Run hosted by OVMC, Kelowna, BC

June 2007

- 1 First Friday Formal hosted by Ohlsen
- 2 Shelton Parade
- 8-10 Cooking in the Cockpit hosted by Locke
- 16 PSMC Elections hosted by PSMC Board
- 30 Port Orchard Parade
- 30 - 4 Historics hosted by Springer

July 2007

- 4 Kingston Parade
- 7 Mercer Island Parade
- 14 Hurricane Ridge hosted by Bell
- 20-22 Curious Gorge hosted by Weber
- 22 Chinatown Parade (tentative)
- 28 Silverdale Parade (tentative)
- 29 Miatacross (tentative)

August 2007

- 11 Run to Mt. Baker hosted by Bell
- 13-18 Shaken(speare) Not Stirred hosted by Smith, McSherry & Houghton (see page 4)
- 26 PSMC Gathering hosted by PSMC Board

September 2007

- 2 South Bend Parade
- 29 Autumn Leaf Parade in Leavenworth
- 30 No. Cascades Hwy III hosted by McGranaghan

October 2007

- 27 Final Haunted Places Tour hosted by Smith & McSherry

November 2007

- 4 Southend Planning Meeting hosted by PSMC Board
- 11 Veterans' Day Run (tentative) hosted by Smith & Weber
- 18 Turkey Teaser hosted by McGriff

December 2007

- 2 Shelton Holiday Parade (tentative)
- 8 PSMC Holiday Party hosted by PSMC Board
- 15 Holiday Lights hosted by Locke