

MIATA SOUNDER

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



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Guns N Roses II

Sunday, June 25, 2006 @ 9:45 AM
Albertson's, Hwy 16, Port Orchard
Hosted by Maury Fugitt & Sandy McKnight

OK everybody, dust off those accelerators and come out to the beautiful Kitsap Peninsula for a day! This run has been simmering for three years, and it's ready to go!

We'll take you on roads you won't find on a map, and treat you to magnificent views of the Olympic Mountains and Hood Canal. You'll twist and turn through wild and woody terrain, and at one point we'll maintain radio silence, because you'll be too busy driving! Bring your camera to capture the scenic stops.

We'll wrap up the day with a late lunch at a yet to be determined site.

The tour will start from the Albertson's store just west of Hwy 16 in Port Orchard. This location offers gas, food, "facilities" and Starbuck's. Directions to the starting point:

- From the Fauntleroy ferry in West Seattle (8:35 am boat), make the first left at the end of the dock, take Hwy 160 and follow the signs to Hwy 16. Cross over Hwy 16. Albertson's is ¼ mile on the left.
- From North (Bremerton/Poulsbo), take the Sedgwick Rd exit off Hwy 16 and turn right at the light at the end of the off-ramp. Albertson's is ¼ mile on the left.

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Photo by Maury Fugitt.

The 17th Annual Historics Races

June 30th - July 2, 2006
Sponsored by SOVERN;
PSMC Host: Mike Springer



The Society of Vintage Racing Enthusiasts (SOVREN) and the SOVREN Guild of Children's Hospital will be hosting the 17th Annual Pacific Northwest Historics this year on June 30th through July 2nd at Pacific Raceways. All proceeds will benefit uncompensated care at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle.

image from www.sovern.org

The Pacific Northwest Historics features many of the world's rarest and most beautiful pre-1970 racecars. This year, more than 250 vintage racecars are expected to enter with the Featured Marquee being Allard cars. The organizers are expecting 20 to 30 Allards to be in the "car corral" as well as racing. The celebrity guest will be Brian Redmond.

Our club will be in the "car corral" on Saturday the 1st and Sunday the 2nd, giving us the opportunity to show our cars to the general public and take a few parade laps around the racecourse during the lunch break intermission. There will be lots to see and the pits are open to the public. **The deadline for ticket reservations was June 1st.** If you made your reservations and sent a check (payable to PSMC), your tickets will be sent in the mail before the event. When you arrive, you will be directed at the gate to the area the club will be in.

Even if you didn't reserve a spot in PSMC's Car Corral, come on out and support this worthy cause and see these impressive historic racers. Gates open at 8:30 AM. The cost is \$25 per car and driver each day, passengers are also \$25 per day. Passes for all three days are \$40 driver and car or passenger.

For more information, check out the website at www.ps-miata.org or contact Mike Springer: 253-468-5291 (cell phone) or email springerphoto@comcast.net.



MIATA SOUNDER

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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:

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ADVERTISING

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

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ps-miata.org

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

upcoming events

June Parades

More info at www.ps-miata.org



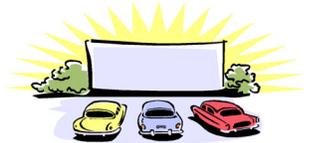
June 3 Sequim Parade @ 9:00 AM
 June 24 Port Orchard Parade @ 3:30 PM

Lights, Camera, Miata!

Saturday, July 8, 2006

Hosted by Andrew & Dustin Locke

Are you ready for your close-up? On July 8th Andrew and I will be leading the 1st Annual PSMC "Lights, Camera, Miatas Run." This run will take us along some of the Puget Sound's most beautiful back roads and lake front roads. After the run we will head towards the old time Drive-In movie theater for a flick. We will have a group vote as to which movie we will see at the Driver's Meeting. You may want to bring folding chairs of some kind. In the past, Andrew & I have led Drive-In Miata Runs and sitting through a movie or two in a Miata might not be the most comfortable thing for some folks. There will be more details coming soon on the Web Site and we will send out a group E-Mail as more details fall into place. We hope to see you all there!



Miatas do LaConner

Saturday, July 22, 2006

Hosted by Tom Mackey & Marilyn Huckleberry

Join us for a day of cruising the scenic and twisty backroads as we zig and zag from Mill Creek to La Conner by way (possibly) of an old fashioned diner dedicated to the automobile, a dessert potluck and finishing with a grand arrival in La Conner. You can end your day strolling the streets, shopping and optionally join us for dinner at our favorite water front tavern. Keep an eye on our website calendar at www.ps-miata.org and next month's Sounder for more information.



image from www.laconner.net/chamber.cfm

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- From South (Narrows Bridge/Gig Harbor), take the Sedgwick Rd exit off Hwy 16 and turn left at the light at the end of the off-ramp. Albertson's is 1/4 mile on the left.

Be there in time for a drivers' meeting at 9:55 am. We'll be leaving promptly after the meeting. If you get lost, call us at 206-200-1664.

Please RSVP on the club website so we will know how many are coming!

Please email Maury and Sandy at zoom.zoom@yahoo.com with any questions.

upcoming events

Central Oregon Covered Bridges & Pinot Noir

July 27 - 30, 2006; 8:45 AM @ Sheri's Parking Lot, exit 109 on I-5 So.

Hosted by Houghton & Jaeger/Hayes

The Miata version of "Sideways" is moving into the South Willamette Valley of Oregon. This means running across some of those famed "Covered Bridges" so bring your cameras. In fact, we have now uncovered the bridges on our pre-run, checked out the wineries, found the pinots and set out a plan for the tour.



Photo by Ray Houghton

We plan to meet at 8:45am at the Shari's parking lot located at the Sleater-Kinney Martin Way exit 109 on I-5 south. We will have a short drivers meeting and plan to be on the road by 9:15am. We will lunch on our way to Oregon (preferably at the first winery), and will be visiting two wineries on the way to our hotel. Dinner is on your own.

Friday will be a full day driving, touring the covered bridges and checking out a few wineries. There will be lots of opportunities for photo-ops and a nice picnic area for lunch. In the evening, we are suggesting a pizza and wine get together to toast the day. On Saturday we have set up an itinerary of wineries for everyone to check out at our leisure. Saturday evening we have a group dinner planned at Murphy's Grill, a restaurant in walking distance of the hotel. Menu choices are: Chicken Cordon Bleu (\$11.99); Marion berry Salmon (\$13.50); Halibut Olympia (\$16.95); and Prime Rib (\$16.95): All entrees are served with roasted red potatoes, Caesar salad, vegetable and fresh baked bread. (prices do not include gratuity). Please let the hosts know your choice or questions as soon as possible. No prepayment necessary. Our recommendations for Sunday morning before the long drive home is the Sunday Brunch at the Eola Hills Winery. Brunch is \$19.99/person and starts at 9:30am and includes two glasses of wine or \$4 off items in the gift shop. It is very worthwhile and a gourmet's delight. If you would like to make reservations, contact Eola Hills at (503) 623-2405 or check out www.eolahillswinery.com. This event fills up quickly.

We have reserved a block of 20 rooms at the Best Western Dallas Inn and Suites, Dallas, Oregon to use as a base for our endeavors. The rate is \$72.00+tax. To reserve your room contact the hotel at (503) 623-6000 and mention either my name (Ray Houghton) or the group reservation for the Puget Sound Miata Club. **PLEASE PUT THE RESERVATION IN YOUR NAME. YOU MUST RESERVE BY JUNE 15th OR THE ROOMS WILL NOT BE HELD. PLEASE RSVP TO HOSTS.** There is a wedding the same weekend so rooms are disappearing fast.

Please R.S.V.P by **JUNE 15TH** to the website or to: Ray and Elsje Houghton, Tel: (425) 483-6741; email Raymond.Houghton@verizon.net OR Paul Jaeger/Dawn Hayes, Tel: (425) 349-1729; email Couggyuy81@aol.com. Watch for further updates on the web and in future sounders. We look forward to seeing you all again.

Miatacross 2006

Sunday, July 30, 2006; Everett Boeing Plant, West Parking Lot



Join us for another exciting day with your Miata. It is a great way to get to know your Miata and get to know so many other people that enjoy their cars almost as much as we enjoy ours. Autocross is not only for the "racer" types; many people from different backgrounds, with different types of cars, join together and have a blast on these courses. Maneuvering through the cones really gets you in touch with your car. What a great way to have some clean, family fun! Bring the whole family; it's the perfect way to educate your children on the right way to control a car. There really is no better place!

Miatacross is one in a series of championship autocross events held every year under the Western Washington Sports Car Council (WWSCC). The points earned by every participant in each event go to their championship totals. At the end of the competition year, the WWSCC hands out awards based on the point standings. Also, many of the participants travel to Topeka, Kansas in early September for the National Championships! So, you can see how important it is that we host a professional and well-organized event.

This event does not run itself though. We need your help. Please volunteer for this year's Miatacross. You don't have to have autocross experience to help. Some jobs are as simple as manning the gate to have all entrants sign the waiver to helping out with registration. Please contact Sean McGriff by either phone (425.430.0255) or email (psmhome@juno.com) and we will find the right job for you.

Return to Tofino

October 11 - 15, 2006

Hosted by Aycock & Bojarski



In October, your Puget Sound Miata Club will be taking a trip to the wild West coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Amazing scenery and the wonders of nature await us with opportunities for whale watching, hiking, and lots of relaxing (check out www.tourismtofino.com). For our three night stay, we'll be staying at the beautiful Middle Beach Lodge in Tofino, B.C. Unfortunately, because of their popularity, they are not able to block out space for our group. That means you need to call them at (250) 725-2900 and book a room as soon as possible. Mention that you're with the Puget Sound Miata Club group and make the reservations for the three nights (12th - 14th). Many different types of rooms and price ranges are available. Note that there are two facilities at Middle Beach. We'll be staying at the Headlands. Please check out their website at: www.middlebeach.com. You also will need to make a reservation at the Coast Tsawwassen Inn for October 11. A block of rooms are available at a discounted rate of \$92 CDN, plus taxes. Call them at (800)943-8221 and mention that you are with the Puget Sound Miata Club. And don't forget to email Bill Aycock at totrod@speakeasy.net to get on the confirmed list for the trip. Updates will be provided as the planning progresses and you don't want to miss the fun. Be sure to check out the website at www.ps-miata.org for more information and a detailed scheduled. (Above image from www.tourismtofino.com.)

around the town



Pinnacle Mazda

SCCA Double Nationals

June 2 - 4, 2006

Okay everyone; we all know how you love to show-off your beautiful Roadsters. Now Pinnacle Mazda is once again giving our club members the opportunity to do just that! PSMC has been invited to join in the fun as Pinnacle sponsors the Spec-Miata Races at the 2006 SCCA Double Nationals at Pacific Raceways on June 2nd - 4th. Along with a special PSMC Car Corral set up for us to display our cars, Pinnacle will be offering "People's Choice Awards" for the top car choices that PREREGISTER for this event. In fact, they are even sponsoring a drawing for the voters!

Maximum accommodations are for about 40 cars per day, so there is a limited amount of tickets. Therefore, when making your RSVPs, please make sure that you will be able to attend.

To register for this event, contact Dustin Locke at sapphirexae@yahoo.com and Neil Bryant at nbryant@pinnaclemazda.com. Be sure to let them know your address and which day you plan to attend as your parking pass and ticket will be mailed to you. (sorry: only 1 race ticket per car at this time.)

And be sure to keep checking the web site for any future developments. Hope to see you all there!



West Penn MC's Miata Mountain Mania

June 15 - 18, 2006

Congratulations to the West Penn Miata Club! As of March 16th they exceeded their goal of registering 100 cars for their event. 125 cars will be attending Miata Mountain Mania, coming from as far north as New Brunswick, Canada and as far west as our "Lone Star State." Registration for this event closed on March 17th, but keep your eyes posted on their website for future developments. PSMC wishes West Penn Good Luck on their upcoming event. May you make lasting friendships and wonderful memories. For more information, check out their website at www.westpenmiataclub.com/mania.html.



Oct. 6 - 8, 2006, Leavenworth, WA

Coordinated by John Hewitt, CMNW

Backroads to Bavaria has been happening since 1995 and is thought by some to be one of the Pacific Northwest's favorite Miata/MX5 events. Bringing the Miata/MX5 community together from clubs throughout the region, the event occurs in conjunction with Leavenworth's Oktoberfest. The Enzian Inn, considered to be the best accommodation in the village, will be the base of all the action. Early registration is highly recommended as the event took a hiatus last year, plus this year a large contingent of Australian MX5 Club members will be joining the fun. For more information visit Club Miata Northwest's website at www.clubmiata.com/events/2006/btob9.htm or contact John Hewitt, event coordinator, at backroads@clubmiata.com or phone him at (360) 659-4248. A registration form may also be downloaded from www.clubmiata.com/events/2006/BackroadsIX/B2BFlyerPublisher.pdf.



July 14 - 16, 2006

"EXPLORE OREGON" is an annual premier three-day event, organized this year by the Willamette Valley and Mt. Hood Clubs. Be prepared to enjoy some of Oregon's most beautiful and historic scenery as we explore the awesome back roads of the North Willamette Valley, Cascade foothills, Cascade Mountains, Mt. Hood, and one-of-a-kind Columbia River Gorge.

Costs: \$35.00 per person (\$65/couple). Includes Friday kick off BBQ (there is an additional \$3/car Day Use Fee); the event banquet at Resort at The Mountain; attendee pack with event stickers, maps and schedules.

Lodging: Call Resort At The Mountain at 800-669-7666 (starting at \$89.00 plus tax: they're going fast on a first come, first served basis), Welches, OR. The Phoenix Inn in Salem on Hawthorne and Market is offering special rates for Friday, July 14th through Sunday, July 16th (\$79 for King and \$89 for double queen plus tax). Call 503-581-7400. Be sure to ask for "Explore Oregon" special pricing at both locations.

Sign Up Now: Send registration check or money order to WVMC, PO Box 70025, Eugene, OR 97401.

For more information and Event Schedule, please go to the Willamette Valley Miata Club website at www.oregonmx5.com and/or The Mt. Hood website at <http://mthood.org>.

Detailing Day 2006

By *Dustin Locke*

Well, Detailing Day has come and gone already, leaving nothing but great memories behind. What a sight of socializing, learning, hot cars and cleaning. There was something for everyone at Detailing Day this year.



Coop was gracious enough to again open up his place for our huge group of Miatafans. What a perfect venue for this event. We had a lawn area to display and show-off our freshly buffed beauties, an outdoor bar area to cook up lunch (thanks Tom Millar), a great “tent city” to socialize in and keep dry under and let’s not forget Coop’s workshop that just for the day was transformed into a professional Detailing Shop. So many things were offered to bring our Miatas to their best. We had buffing, waxing, interior steam cleaning, dent removal and even more. I didn’t see a single person without a huge grin on their face. There were Miatas of every year and color displayed on the lawn. This gave new members a chance to check-out what goodies people had on their cars and to see what fanatic maniacs we really are! In fact, I noticed more than just new members checking out the cars. I dare say we may be welcoming a new 2006 Copper Red into the club soon. Right, Sandy?

We had a great team of volunteers spending their entire day working hard to make our cars look gorgeous. I would like to thank our “Buff Guys” who made the day what it was: Tom Smith, Stuart Sabel, Ron Haworth, Jim Hightchew, Mike Springer, Joe Berretti, and Charley Drake. Aside from the actual Detailing, this was also our annual “New Members Day.” I saw several new folks enjoying the activities of the day. Several members who had let their membership expire also showed up to renew. I heard several of our new members say that this was an amazing event and how awesome it was to see so many people sharing a common interest and enjoying the company and the cars. I think that is exactly what this club is all about, great cars and even greater friends. I will definitely be seeing you at “Detailing Day 2007!”

A Day At Pacific Raceways



By *Tom Smith*

You may have seen Dustin Locke’s article about the PSMC day at Pinnacle Mazda. He mentioned that I was the winner of the raffle. The prize was a day at the Pacific Raceways Performance Driving School (www.proformancedrivingschool.com).

April 24th was one of the nicest days of the month. Sunshine, blue skies, and a day off from work to go play on the track. I had never done any track driving, except for a couple of MiataCross events in a parking lot. I was nervous and excited and didn’t sleep well the night before, but arrived well in advance of the start of classroom activities. One of the instructors saw the Miata and said, “oh, you’re going to have some fun today. This track is made for those cars.”

The day starts with an introduction to the school, the instructors, and some background about the Team Seattle 24 Hours at Daytona charity fund raising race that they participate in every year, and have won twice. (One stunning statistic: Team Seattle has raised over \$2 million for the Children’s Hospital Cardiac Unit. Way to go!) Then you get instructions in what to expect for the day, what exercises you will be performing in the morning, and a description of the lap sessions in the afternoon.

After the classroom familiarization, you go out for some driving exercises in your car. You learn about how it behaves in hard braking, what it feels like to make abrupt maneuvers, and how to avoid obstacles while maintaining control. Then it is another classroom session to discuss the track and how to drive it, and a few reasonably slow laps with the instructor up until lunch.

After lunch we started the lap sessions. The students are on the track by themselves for the first afternoon session to get familiar with how to enter and exit, what to expect when being passed or

Raceway continued on page 6

It was a Top Down Week

Part I of Searching For Madonna: Seattle to Capitola

By *Cindy Smith*

It was a little strange pulling out of my driveway on the morning of May 4th, the first day of an eight-day Miata adventure, which would include PSMC’s participation in the San Diego Miata Club’s SEARCH FOR MADONNA event. You see, for one thing, I was in the driver’s seat and for another, Tom hadn’t been running around like crazy getting the car packed, looking at his watch and just going through his pre-Miata adventure antics; he was already at work. That left me to do the “pre-Miata adventure antics,” which, of course, included packing the car and constantly reminding my daughter that we were running a bit late and did she make her bed and clean the bathroom up and by the way, could she walk the dog really quick while I finish up? And I found as I drove out the driveway that maybe – just maybe – those last minute packing chores and pre-adventure antics should be mine in the future. I mean, after all, it left me no time to think about my poor, old, crippled dog looking forlornly at me as I “abandoned” her to the backyard as I took off to have fun without her.



ZZZZloooooommm. Photo by Stephanie Smith.

Top Down continued on page 6

event aftermath

Top Down continued from page 5

And if the morning were any indication of the fun we were to have, then it was going to be a grand adventure. The top was down, the sun was out, the hint of summer was in the air; you couldn't ask for more.

We slid into Kirkland around 8:45 AM to hook up with Dustin and Andrew Locke, our tour hosts for the first part of the trip. The plan was to do a two-day speed run to San Luis Obispo, home of the infamous Madonna Inn, stopping one night in Ashland, Oregon (my home town) and another in Capitola, California (Andrew's old stomping grounds). And speed run, it was. I've never traveled with men before who didn't have to make a pit stop every hour on the hour; in fact, we only made two stops: one in Portland for lunch and to top off the gas tanks; and one when *I* needed the pit stop. The only other thing of interest in zooming down I-5 was trying to get a picture of our hosts in their car. Every time I would slide out to go around Dustin, the bugger would slide out in front of me; I would slide back in the right lane and so would he – right in front of me. It took some finagling, but we finally managed to get the picture.

When we hit Ashland, Dustin and Andrew went directly to the hotel to check in, but Stephanie and I had to do the thirty-second tour of the ol' hometown. That included the drive through Lithia Park, cruising Main Street and checking out to see if the old Safeway store with the tile mosaic of the Shakespeare Theater was still standing (my dad did the tile work – and yes, it is still there). For dinner, Andrew and Dustin decided on whatever could be delivered would be the perfect way to end the day, but for Stephanie and me, dinner at Callahan's, an Ashland establishment since 1948, was in order. Plus it gave us a good excuse to finally drive on some wonderful backroads and to check out my childhood home.

Day Two dawned the same way as Day One: not a cloud in the sky, summer in the air and another early morning to hit the road. Stephanie and I had to be in Sacramento at noon to have lunch with my brother and my niece, so we were on the road by 7:30 AM. Dustin and Andrew chose to sleep in and would meet us later in Capitola.

Day Two of freeway driving and still nary a peep from my "co-pilot" on when it would be her turn to drive. However, she was busy learning to take pictures while zooming down the road – a skill that came in real handy when we hit Hwy 1. We did manage to stop a time or two at vista points for those wonderful photo-ops; after all, we were on vacation even though we had a pretty strict time schedule. And in spite of taking the time to stop to take pictures, have lunch with my brother and getting stuck in a San Jose traffic jam; we still made it to Capitola before Andrew and Dustin. We were even starting to wonder if they were going to make our 7:30 PM dinner reservations at the Shadowbrook Restaurant



Photo-op at a Mt. Shasta view point. Photo by Cindy Smith.

when they finally knocked on our door to let us know that they had arrived and gee, would it be all right if we walked to dinner; it's only about a mile? I looked at Stephanie's two-inch heels (I at least had on pumps) and she said walking in her heels for about a mile would be a snap.



Capitola, CA. The view from the trestle. Photo by Stephanie Smith.

Be very wary when Dustin and Andrew ask if you can walk a mile to dinner. Very wary! It might have been a mile; I swear it was longer, but that might have been because we had to walk over a train trestle on our way to dinner. It was for the view, you know, which was a really pretty view, and which also made the walk BACK to the hotel longer (we avoided the train trestle and walked through town). Not to mention that at least a fourth of the walk was over train tracks. Try doing that in heels. Needless to say, Stephanie's shoes came off for part of the walk. Dinner, by the way, was fantastic.



Try walking across this in heels, ladies! Photo by Stephanie Smith.

Next Month: On to the Madonna Inn.

Raceway continued from page 6

passing another, and general safety tips while building up confidence to increase their speed on each successive lap. By the third lap session it was similar to Driver's Ed class: the instructor was hitting the imaginary brake well before I was hitting the real one! But that didn't stop the huge smiles on our faces as I progressed to faster and faster lap times.

All in all, the day was full of excitement and fun. The instructor works to keep you safe within your capabilities and all were professional with the critiques. I had a great day of driving my car in ways that I never can on the regular streets in traffic. As I told my co-workers the next day: it has been a long time since I've had that much fun with my clothes on.

Ragtop to Riches

By Dustin Locke

We all love to customize our cars, right? After all, it's those little tweaks, bobbles and custom touches that make our Miatas truly ours and truly unique. When buying my 06' Miata, I had many new colors and combinations to consider as many of the NC's colors were completely new to the Miata. I have always been a big fan of Blue with Tan leather, so I was saddened to learn that this was not a possible combination on the all-new Miata. Sure, there was a Blue and certainly there was Tan leather to be found but you could not get them together. Bummer! I still ended up buying the Blue Miata but with a black interior. In fact, I didn't even end up with leather. Apparently the Blue color was something of a rarity and there were none to be found in Washington except one single model, fully loaded with everything except the leather. I jumped on it and figured I could deal with that later. The only other item that I didn't care for was the vinyl convertible top. I have upgraded many of my previous Miata tops to canvas and once you do that, vinyl seems sub par. After ripping out my entire interior and replacing it with a Brand New factory Saddle (tan) Leather interior, I was pretty happy. I now had the world's only Winning Blue with Saddle interior Miata in the world! What could be better? A matching factory Saddle colored Canvas soft top, that's what!

I purchased a new factory Saddle colored canvas top and it came with the entire folding frame assembly. Now, what to do with it? I didn't trust myself to start yanking apart the roof of my new car. So, I did what I normally do in these situations. I called my good friend Tom Smith! In his usual friendly way, he told me



Getting down to business. Hey, those can't be instructions lying there on the car, can it? Photo by Dustin Locke.

to head over to the house and we would take a whack at it. I was super nervous! If everything didn't go perfectly with the install of the new roof, I would end up with the world's most expensive Jacuzzi come the next rains! We started attacking it to get the original top out of there. We had no real directions so it was all learn as ya' go. We had a few moments of odd, puzzled looks exchanged between us but then the moment came when we lifted the black vinyl top out and placed it on the ground next to the car. I have done this exact same project on M1s and M2s

before and this was radically different. You basically had to remove every single part from the seat back to get the top out. It was eerie seeing my brand new Miata sitting there with all of its innards removed and scattered on the ground beside it.



Bits & pieces all over the place; now, how do they go back in? Photo by Dustin Locke.

After a few deep sighs and a couple of quick prayers to the "Miata Gods," we were off on our adventure to install the new top in place. It took us a good three hours or so to remove the old top and frame. Now that we knew where all of the bolts and fasteners were, the installation of the new top was done within about an hour and a half. It was a great feeling raising that new canvas top up for the first time and feeling it successfully latch down to the windshield. It was on and looked great. Half the battle was done. Now came the real test, does it make weird noises while driving? Tom and I jumped in the car like two excited kids with a new toy and headed down the street to discover if our efforts paid off. Cindy and Andrew just stood in the driveway shaking their heads....probably searching for memories of why they married us. We were happy as it gets pulling the car back up to the house after our test-drive to find that the new top was totally and completely noise-free!! Since this day I have been caught out in two nasty rain storms and not a drop made it into the car.

Neither Tom nor I knew what we were doing at the start of all this. We jumped in and gave it our best and that is what this should be all about. It is one thing having a great new goodie on your Miata but it is an entirely different feeling knowing that you and a good buddy did it yourselves!



All done and lookin' good! Photo by Dustin Locke

autocross

April Autocross Results

By Denise Williamson

It's going to be a busy autocross season! This time there are four autocrosses to cover, from Bremerton to Packwood to Atwater, CA. First up is Bremerton Sports Car Club's second championship event of the year, which was held on April 9. Although only two PSMC drivers were there, they both did well. Tom Slipp won a second place trophy in Sports C, and Dieter Beldi (3rd in Sports Prepared) had the fourth unindexed Top Time of the Day.



SCCA #2 was held on April 23 in the shadow of Mount Rainier in Packwood. The weather was beautiful and a fun time was had by all (as usual). This was a popular event for PSMC drivers, the majority of whom were in the Street Modified 2 class. Dieter Beldi won a 3rd place trophy, but hot on his heels were Enrique Garcia (5th), Brett Wilson (6th), and Rickey Carlson (8th). Tim Irwin placed 5th in the Tire class, and Chris Halstead placed 4th in the S2 class. In the OPAX class, Glen Hernandez won a 5th place trophy, and Alan Dahl placed 8th. For indexed Top Times of the Day, Glen placed 6th and Alan placed 9th.

There were SCCA autocrosses in Atwater, CA on two consecutive weekends. The Atwater National Tour was held 4/29 – 4/30. Glen Hernandez won a third place trophy in G Stock (.074 out of first place). Enrique Garcia also won a third place trophy, but his was in the STS2 class. The next weekend (5/6 – 5/7) was the Atwater ProSolo and two more third place trophies. Glen again won a third place trophy in G Stock, and Alan Dahl won third place in C Stock.

Stay tuned next month for action from four events from Everett and Bremerton. As always, more information can be found at www.wwscc.org. Happy autocrossing!



Dieter Beldi (top picture) and Enrique Garcia (lower picture) compete at the SCCA # 2 in Packwood. Photo by Glen Hernandez.

June Autocross

For details see wwscc.org

- 3 OR/SCCA – Practice Day at Packwood
- 4 OR/SCCA – Event #5 at Packwood
- 4 BEAC – WWSCC Championship #2, Autopilot XXXII at Everett
- 6 BSCC Monthly Meeting at Tony's Pizza
- 10 ACE – Ladies Practice at Everett
- 10 SSSCC – Event #4, Boys & Their Toys at Tri-City Raceway
- 11 SSSCC – Event #5, Boys & Their Toys at Tri-City Raceway
- 11 BSCC Event #4 at Bremerton
- 13 NWR/SCCA Solo Committee Meeting at Bill's Bodacious BBQ in Renton
- 17-18 NWR/SCCA – SCCA Regional #4 at Packwood
- 19 WWSCC Council Meeting at Rogue Brewery in Issaquah
- 24 TS – WWSCC Championship #3, Understeer at Everett
- 25 TS – WWSCC Championship #4, Oversteer at Everett



Enrique Garcia (left) and Glen Hernandez (right) receive their trophies at the Atwater National Tour. Photos by Glen Hernandez and Jake Nygaard.

Remember

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



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

Miata Roll Cage Building, Part II: Rear Braces & Mounting Plates

Article and photos by Doug Chase

Ed. Note: Due to its size, Doug's article is being published as a four-part series. May's Sounder covered the first steps in building a roll cage. For a refresher, check out the Sounder archives on our website at www.ps-miata.org.

[After welding the main hoop mounting plates and bending the front hoop], the rear braces and mounting plates came next:



The picture below is looking into the trunk to see where the bottom ends of these braces land:



Now the hard part. Making the front strut tower braces. This is difficult because you only get one chance to drill the correct hole in the firewall. After spending a couple hours with a ruler, straight edge, level, plumb bob, and calculator, I bullseyed the left one:



Next up is the right one.



Continued next column

Continued from previous column

I made mounting boxes where the tubing hits the front strut towers. If you're trying to figure out the perspective on the photo below, the camera is above the cowl at the rear of the engine and is looking at the left strut tower. Those capped off brake lines are where the master cylinder used to be. It needed to be removed for welding access.



The strut tower braces are also finalized in shape and length, and are tacked in place.



Next Month: Main Hoop Diagonal and Harness Bar

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*

New Faces

We hope to meet you at an event soon!

By *Randy Umemoto*



Bob & Sally Thomas	Shelton, WA	99 Sapphire
Tina & Arlie Gridley	Kennewick, WA	01 Midnight Blue
Ken & Pat Baldwin	Federal Way, WA	92 Red
Lynn & Kim Speck	Enumclaw, WA	06 Black
Pat Barrett & Carol Miner	Anacortes, WA	01 Twilight
Carol Maher	Olympia, WA	96 Silver Z3
Jeff Jay	Bothell, WA	01 Silver
Russell & Deborah Hill	Kent, WA	91 Red
Steve & Barbara Harrold	Port Orchard, WA	06 Copper Red
Loren & Elizabeth Finley	Gig Harbor, WA	
Myrna & Ron Eller	Maple Valley, WA	96 Montego
Jim & Mary Ehrmin	Lynnwood, WA	92 Black
Steve Anderson	Maple Valley, WA	94 White

Familiar Faces

Try a new Miata Event this year!

Jett & John Ritter	97 Black	6 yrs
Greg & Lyann Rust	92 Black	6 yrs
Fred & Sandi Holler	05 Lava Orange	7 yrs
Tim & Jenny Irwin	94 White	4 yrs
Jeffrey & Cynthia Sorensen	Blue	13 yrs
John Powers & Chrissy Lewis	00 Gold	1 yr
Marilyn Huckleberry & Tom Mackey	99 Sapphire	7 yrs
George & Sandra Swayze	99 Blue Mica	6 yrs
Dale & Regena Weber	92 Sunburst Yellow	7 yrs
Judy & Wright Krause	99 Green	4 yrs
Suzanne & Raymond Gardner	06 Red	2 yrs
Jeff & Patti Johnson	99 Silver	2 yrs
James & Debbie Thorpe	96 Red	3 yrs
Alia Best	99 Red	1 yr
Yvonne & Gary Shimek	97 Red	8 yrs
Sophia & Patrick McSherry	97 BRG	5 yrs
Charlotte Fellers	90 White	2 yrs

PSMC Elections, Board Meeting & Pot Luck

Saturday, June 17, 2006 @ 11AM

Coop's Miata, Maple Valley

Hosted by your PSMC Board

We will be holding our annual club elections this year on Saturday, June 17th, 2006 at 11:00AM at Coop's Miata in Maple Valley. All members are encouraged to attend so that you have the opportunity to meet your new - and returning - officers and to find out what exciting new happenings may be in store for the club's future.

We will have the elections first, so please be prompt in your arrival. After the new officers and board members have been installed, there will be a short board meeting which everyone is invited to attend. Once business is over, the social hour and potluck will begin. Please bring a dish for yourself with some extra to share with your Miata family. The club will supply liquid refreshments (non-alcoholic).

Nominees are:

For Chief Officers: President—Dustin Locke (new); Chief Executive Officer—Maury Fugitt (past president); Chief Communications Officer—Bonnie Lohkamp (returning); Treasurer—Sean McGriff (returning)

For Director at Large: Bill Aycock—(returning); Charley Drake—(returning); Jim Hightchew—(new); Gayle Lazur—(new); Andrew Locke—(new); Larry Lohkamp—(new); Patrick McSherry—(returning); Stuart Sabel—(returning); Mike Springer—(new); Dennis Thompson—(new); David Whooley—(returning)

[We hope to have someone available to take pictures of the new officers and board members so that the website can be updated. If you are not able to attend be forewarned; we may have to use some existing and not particularly favorable photo till we are able to capture an official one.]

Please RSVP to the website link so that we can get an accurate headcount for the refreshments.

Directions to Coop's:

From the North: I-405 southbound; Take "Enumclaw/Renton" exit' Left at second light onto Hwy 169 (Maple Valley Hwy); Drive about nine miles; Right at light onto SE 231st, Stay in left lane and go up the hill to SE 210th : Turn left into Coop's (sign on the left)

From the South: I-5 north: Take Hwy 18 exit North Bend/Auburn: Take Maple Valley/Renton exit; Left over overpass on SE 231st, Stay in left lane and go up the hill to SE 210th; Turn left into Coop's (sign on the left)



Zoomin' with the Prez

By Maury Fugitt

Another month has zoomed by, no as a matter fact another year has zoomed by! This will be my last Zoomin' article as my presidency expires this month and a new tenure of PSMC will begin. I would like to thank all of the officers who helped me limp through my term and all the volunteers that so unselfishly contributed their time planning, organizing and hosting club events.



I would also like to thank the club members who opted to receive their monthly Sounder newsletters by e-mail in the PDF format. Over half of the members have elected to get their's by e-mail, saving the club quite a bit of money and allowing us to channel the money toward event costs. It is never too late to switch, just send me a quick e-mail and I will make sure your Sounder arrives on or before the first of every month!

Detailing Day was last month and a number of you took advantage of Coop's Miata/PSMC generosity and had your cars detailed. My heartfelt thanks go out to "The Buffer Guys": Stuart Sabel, Tom Smith, Joe Berretti, Ron Haworth, Jim Hightchew, Mike Springer, and Charley Drake. What a crew! Ibuprofen all around! Thanks to Tom Millar for doing a real bang up job as guest chef! Most of all, I would like to thank Bill and Wendy for loaning us their property for the day.

I should almost be healed from the sunburn I anticipate I will get at the Topless Sun Run in Kelowna BC by the time this newsletter comes out and am looking forward to a summer of Miata fun. Thanks for giving me a read for the last year and I hope to see you all on a PSMC event soon.

Zoom like you stole it—Maury



OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

CHIEF OFFICERS

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

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Bill Aycock Gayle 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

PSMC IS INVITED!

Join us June 3-4 at Pacific Raceways.
there will be prizes and fun!

Also take part in Pinnacle Mazda Day
on the 13th for a Performance
driving experience.

Contact the parts dept for more info.

Speaking of parts
remember to take advantage of
PSMC's discount.
up to 20% off Genuine MAZDA
parts. Show that updated member card!



pinnaclemazda.com 425-271-2700

June 2006

- 3 Shelton Parade
- 9-11 Portland Rose Cup Run, hosted by Weber (Event registration closed)
- 15-18 Miata Mountain Mania, hosted by WestPenn MC
- 17 PSMC Elections, hosted by PSMC Board
- 24 Port Orchard Parade
- 25 Guns & Roses II, hosted by Fugitt & McKnight (see page 1)
- 30-2 Historics, hosted by Springer (see page 1)



July 2006

- 4 Kingston Fourth of July Parade
- 8 Drive-in Movie Run, hosted by Locke (see page 2)
- 22 Miatas do LaConner - Bring Your Own Blanket, hosted by Mackey & Huckleberry (see page 2)
- 22 West Seattle Hi Yu Parade
- 27-30 Pinot Noir Wine Tour in North Central OR, hosted by Houghton & Hayes/Jaeger (see page 3)
- 30 Chinatown Parade
- 30 PSMC Miatacross (see page 3)

August 2006

- 12 Sundown/Twilight Run, hosted by Locke
- 19 Dog Day Afternoon, hosted by Mudie
- 20 Run Around the Bases II, Double Play, hosted by Dennis Thompson & Joanie Hughes
- 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 V, 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 hosted by Ohlsen/Smith
- 12-15 Return to Tofino, hosted by Aycock, Bojarski and Friends (see page 3)
- 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 Day Run, hosted by Smith and Weber
- 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 Locke

Classifieds

2001 MIATA LS FOR SALE

Excellent Condition

Only 23,500 miles

Emerald Mica with Saddle Tan leather interior

All LS model options: 6-speed manual transmission; Torsen limited slip differential; Larger brakes than non-LS models; Driving lights; BOSE AM/FM CD/Cassette radio with 6 speakers; Electric windows, mirrors & door locks w/ remote control; A/C, Cruise Control; 16x7 5-spoke alloy wheels

Brand new Kumho Ecsta ASX 205/45R16 tires; Robbins best Sun-Fast cloth tonneau cover – Saddle Tan in Color; Custom 2-tone striping; Headlight and Taillight bezels; "Invisible bra" front stone shield includes headlamp protection; Sheep Skin seat covers – have kept leather seats looking like new; Always garaged and serviced by Coop with synthetic lubricants; The matching factory hardtop is included but optional

Coop's opinion – "A Cream Puff"

Reduced Price: Now Asking \$16,000 or will sell without the hard top for \$14,500

For more information, call Leeza or Ken Visconti (425) 557-7875 (home) or (206) 963-8255, -8256 (cells)

1999 MIATA FOR SALE

Emerald Mica w/Tan Leather

Always Garaged – Not a Daily Driver
53,000 miles

A/C; Cruise Control; Bose audio AM/FM CD/Cassette w/ door mounted tweeters; Power windows; Door Locks; Side mirrors; Antenna; Power assisted steering; Fog lamps; 3 spoke Nardi leather wrapped steering wheel; Torsen limited-slip differential; 15" 5 spoke alloy wheels w/locks

Nearly new 195/50R15 Toyo Proxes 4 tires; Front air dam; Side sills; Rear mud guards; Factory windblocker; Hard dog roll bar w/tan vinyl cover; Strut tower brace; Wicked loud horn; Padded leather console box cover (not a stick on); High flow grill.

Asking \$11,500.00

For more information, call (253) 891-3770

PARTS FOR SALE

Oris Windstop with mounting brackets. \$125.00. Call (253) 891-3770