

MIATA SOUNDER

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



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Love the Robe!

Part III in the Search for Madonna: Party Time!

By Cindy Smith

Can you believe that 5 months have passed since Stephanie and I were at the Madonna Inn? It's been so long now that sometimes it feels like we were never there. But then I'll run across some of Stephanie's photos and I remember and I can't help but chuckle.

Our day started off quiet enough: no alarm clocks; no early morning rush to get the car packed. We had until 2 PM, when the San Luis Obispo Grand Get Acquainted Tour started, to pretty much do what we wanted. Not wanting to go shopping or go to the Morro Bay car show, we figured that after our breakfast with the Lewis's and Locke's, we would just amble over to the local shopping center to find some "hors d'huerves" for the evening's Room Hopping Parties. Needless to say, I was a bit surprised when we were joined by Andrew and Dustin; I thought that they would be heading off with some of their SDMC cronies. Then again, the two of them and Stephanie had had their heads together, doing a lot of whispering and laughing. Something was up, and while at first they didn't want to compromise me in any way, they finally took me into their confidence: it was "pay back time" for Bruce (And you do know what they say about paybacks!) Apparently, Bruce had been constantly teasing Andrew for his lack of "joviality" during the last Madonna tour, and Stephanie's involvement became a shoo-in when Bruce blinded her the night before with his camera-phone flash on the Hearst Castle bus. Although I can't take any credit for the prank they later pulled, I did manage to put in my two cents worth: like the fact chocolate frosting would work better than pudding for what they had in mind – and ooh, look! Chocolate Reddi-whip! The rest of the morning was getting the "prop" ready and then it was time for our afternoon run.

That's where the SHARP LEFT! SHARP RIGHT! SHARP! SHARP! came into play. Like the day before, Stephanie and I tried to slide in towards the rear, but, again, SDMC wasn't having any of that. However, no matter how spirited the drive, I wasn't going to have it be said that it was too bad that lady from Washington didn't know how to drive! Let me just say the drive was spirited; it was a blast; but I think I can say for both of us, we were a bit relieved when



"Hey Deuce, Love the Robe!" Photo by Stephanie Smith.



Everybody Smile! Photo by Tom & Marna Wood.



On the afternoon run. Image from <http://socalm.com>.

the road finally straighten out. The drive ended at Big Bad Bubba's BBQ in Paso Robles, where the food was good and the poor waitresses were overwhelmed but still managed to keep our rowdy crowd happy. Then it was back to the Madonna Inn and that infamous room tour.

Somewhere along the way, someone came up with the great idea that for the room tour, everyone should don the pretty, fluffy PINK bathrobes that the Madonna Inn provides for their guests. Bruce Lewis, however, likes to embellish his evening's attire by adding shower cap and complimentary toilette paper stuck to his foot. Unbeknownst to him, that night he had an additional "accessory"; one, with the help of his wife, we were able to get past him without his notice. When joining the evening festivities, it was all I could do to contain myself and quip, "Looking good, Bruce!" Of course, by this time, Stephanie, Andrew and Dustin were out rolling with laughter in the parking lot! It wasn't until "Aunt Pam" laughed and said, "Bruce, I just love what you've done with your robe!" that Bruce (or as he is now known, "Deuce") noticed the long, dark, brown "hash" mark streaking down the backside of his robe! At first, I didn't think we were going to get him out of

Madonna continued on page 4



MIATA SOUNDER

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Event Masters are encouraged to get their event info to the editor as soon as possible to ensure all members can plan for the event.

Send your submissions to:

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ps-miata.org

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

upcoming events

Mixed Doubles: Miata & Corvette Cruise out to South Bend



Sunday, Sept. 3, 2006 @ 8:00 AM

Country Cousin Restaurant, Centralia

Sponsored Jointly by PSMC & CdeO, with Breakfast & Tour hosted by Dee Dahlke (PSMC) and Duncan Johnson (CdeO)

MEET FOR BREAKFAST at 8:00 AM at Country Cousin restaurant in Centralia, Wash. Take Exit 82 (Harrison Ave. and Outlet Malls) off Interstate 5, go west on Harrison, immediately west of the freeway turn right into restaurant. If you can't wake up that early for breakfast, you may join us in the parking lot in time to launch on the back roads cruise through the Willapa Hills twisties, shortly after 9:00 AM. **For those attending breakfast, please send an RSVP to Dee Dahlke at toadhalla@yahoo.com (or phone 253-845-2424) so they can let the restaurant know how many are coming.**

ARRIVE at South Bend about noon for the 44th consecutive running of the "Come And Play On Labor Day" parade; we'll be staging behind the police station. Parade starts at 1:00 PM. Both clubs are registered entries and we may carry or escort dignitaries.

POST PARADE LUNCH at (your choice) the local fish fry at Rosa's brother's house (all are welcomed) or motor up the road to Aberdeen and Billy's Bar & Grill (exbordello).

[For PSMC parade information, please contact Bonnie Lohkamp at blohkamp@comcast.net (425-347-0361) or Mindy Bohnas at fun4sun@wavecable.com (360-895-0931)]

Run Round Rainier V

Sunday, September 10, 2006

Enumclaw Safeway @ 8:30 AM

Hosted by Suart Sabel



Image from www.nps.gov/mora

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 10th, 2006 for the fifth annual "Run 'Round Rainier!"

This event is a full day of beautiful vistas, forests, and great twisty roads. We will circumnavigate majestic Mt. Rainier, starting and ending in Enumclaw, WA.

This drive is 178 miles long and will take us to a maximum elevation of 6,400 feet (at Sunrise). Each car will be required to pay an entrance fee of the **new rate** of \$15.00 at the White River entrance to Mt. Rainier National Park. Those folks 62 and over can buy a lifetime Golden Age Passport for \$10.00.

We will stop at Paradise for lunch. Bring a picnic lunch, or visit the snack bar at the Jackson Visitor Center. With construction underway at Paradise, parking may be an issue (i.e. a bit of a hike from the cars to the visitor center).

We will have a driver's meeting at 8:45 AM and will depart the Enumclaw Safeway at 9:00 AM **sharp**, returning at around 4:30 PM. [The Enumclaw Safeway is located at 152 Roosevelt Ave E. Please check Mapquest for specific directions from your area if you are unsure of its location.]

If attending, please RSVP for this event!

upcoming events

North Cascades Hwy Tour '06

Sept. 23-24, 2006

Hosted by McGranaghan, Bohnas &
Lohkamp



Q: Would you like to attend the Leavenworth Parade, but don't like driving over and back home again on the same day?

This event is designed to fill in where the Leavenworth Parade leaves off. After the parade, we will drive somewhere for a late lunch/early dinner, then on to Chelan to stay the night. (Plans are still in the works for lunch, but our early ideas are in either in Cashmere where there are several choices, or on to Wenatchee to have a nice meal at the Chateau Faire Le Pont Winery. <http://www.fairelepont.net>)

Q: Would you like to tour a beautiful highway on one of the last great days of Summer but can't make it to the parade?

Then RSVP, make your reservations and meet us at the Lodge in Chelan! We will start off early Sunday morning from Chelan following Alternate 97 through Pateros, Methow, Twisp and onto Hwy 20 through Winthrop and over the North Cascades to Marblemount, Darrington and terminating in Arlington.

Plans include a stop in Winthrop for lunch, some quick sightseeing, and fuel if needed. This daytrip will include many beautiful vistas with relatively low traffic density (since it is Sunday) and some possible high speed (safety encouraged) avenues of travel. The entire tour will take approximately 4 to 4.5 hours (including the lunch stop).

We have a block of 10 rooms reserved at the Best Western Lakeside Lodge, located at 2312 West Woodin Ave, Chelan, WA 98816. Phone (509) 682-4396. Website: <http://www.lakesidelodge.net> There are 3 rooms with 2 queen size beds and 7 rooms with a single king size bed. All rooms have microwaves, mini fridge, etc. and a balcony. Free continental breakfast provided. The rate we have negotiated is \$129.00 per night (reg. \$199). **Please mention the Puget Sound Miata Club and call the local phone number above.** This rate is good for Friday as well as Saturday night. **Reservations were to be made at the hotel no later than August 20, 2006. If you still want to go and haven't made your reservations yet, you will be on your own in regards to hotel reservations and rates.**

Please check the website or in the September Sounder for updates and directions. And don't forget to RSVP for the Leavenworth parade also. (If you are doing both events). For questions please contact: A. J. McGranaghan - mcgranaghan@juno.com, Mindy Bohnas - fun4sun@wavecable.com, or Bonnie Lohkamp - blohkamp@comcast.net

Ed. Note: Plans are in the works to visit the Chateau Faire Le Pont Winery during the run to Chelan on Saturday; however, confirmation with the winery was not available at "press" time. Please keep your eye on the website for further developments.

September Parades

More info at www.ps-miata.org

Sept. 3rd: South Bend Labor Day
Parade @ 1:00 PM

Sept 9th: Mukilteo Parade @ 8:00 AM

Sept 23rd: Leavenworth Autumn Leaf Parade @ 10:00 AM



Walk to D'Feet ALS

Sat., Oct. 7, 2006 @ 9:00 AM

Seward Park, Seattle

PSMC Rep. & Host: Gayle Lazur

Hard as it is to believe, it has been almost a year since the last walk. So much has happened, both good and bad. Unfortunately, George lost his fight with ALS and will only be with us in spirit this year, but with your help we can make this another successful effort. So far a cure has not been found for this devastating disease, but with the continued efforts of researchers around the world, I know a cure is not far off.

Your support for both George and me during his illness was a gift I will always treasure. Please join me this year in celebrating his life and helping to raise funds for the local ALS chapter. These funds go to help patients and their families deal with this disease – by providing respite time for the family caregivers, by providing necessary equipment at no charge, by providing education to help families deal with all the stages of the disease and to fund research so a cure can be found.

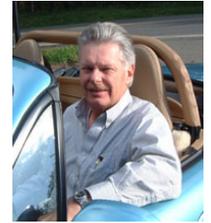
This is a 5 mile walk around Seward Park in Seattle. The route is paved and level. Check-in starts at 9:00 AM and the walk starts at 10:00 AM. Dogs on leashes are more than welcome to attend as well. We will gather for a group photo before the walk. We raised \$3000 last year and I would like to be able to raise at least \$3200 this year. So please go to the ALS Walk website, http://walk.alsa-ec.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ALS_SignUp and register to walk with George's Group. Please check to see if your employers have a matching gift program. If so, please take advantage of it to double the impact of your donation.

Thank you again for all of your support – let's get ready to walk!

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO SEWARD PARK:

From the North: Take I-5 S towards Seattle; Take the W Seattle Fwy/Columbian Way exit (exit #163A); Keep LEFT at the fork in the ramp; Merge on onto Columbian Way S; Turn Slight Right onto 15TH Ave S; Slight Left onto S Columbian Way; Slight Right onto S Alaska St.; Right onto Rainier Ave S/ WA-167; Left onto S Orcas ST, which becomes Lake Washington Blvd S.; Right onto S. Juneau St. Seward Park is straight ahead.

From the South: Take I-5 N towards Seattle; Take the Martin Luther King exit (exit #157); Merge onto MLK Way S/ WA-900 W; Turn Right onto S. Henderson St.; Left onto Rainier Ave. S/ WA-167; Right onto S Orcas St., which will become Lake Washington Blvd S.; Right onto S. Juneau St. Seward Park is straight ahead.



upcoming events

OysterFest Run

Saturday, Oct, 7, 2006, Noon -1 PM
Seward Park, Seattle



Hosted By Allan Ohlsen

George Lazur always loved good food, a spirited drive and a little adventure with his friends. In this spirit, immediately following the ALS walk at Seward Park in Seattle, we will shoot down to Shelton for the OysterFest.

OysterFest is held once a year at the Mason County Fairgrounds located in Shelton and features oyster shucking contests, art and entertainment, wine tasting and microbreweries, lots of seafood and of course, the tasty oyster. OysterFest is only \$3.00 to get in and parking is free.

The departure time for the drive to Shelton will be around noon-1pm. We will proceed to I-5 to Hwy 101 in Olympia and onto Shelton. Not doing the ALS walk but still want to be part of this drive and event?? Call Allan @206-245-7027 around noon Oct. 7th, and we'll try to hook you up with us.

See driving directions to Seward Park from ALS walk event.

Haunted Places 2006

Saturday, Oct. 28, 2006, 9:30 AM
Conway Shell Grocery & Deli,
I-5 Exit 221



Hosted by Smith's & Birman's

Theater ghosts, women screaming in pain, lobotomies performed and cremated ashes left abandoned in a warehouse. And of course, what would one of Cindy's Haunted Places Tours be without a cemetery thrown in? This year we will be visiting our ghoulish friends and places in the Mount Vernon and Bellingham areas, and we have found some wonderful back roads to get there. So come on out, enjoy the drive, the stories and the music as Tom is putting together a new CD (I know, you would think he would be out of Halloween Songs by now!).

We will be meeting at the Conway Shell Grocery and Deli off the I-5 exit 221 at 9:30 AM. (Take a right turn at the end of the exit ramp and then an immediate right into the Conway Shell Grocery and Deli.) We will have a drivers' meeting at 9:45 and leave promptly at 10:00 AM. Please RSVP, either using the website or to Cindy at tomaci@verizon.net so we can let the restaurant know how many will be coming.

Oh, and by the way, **DON'T FORGET YOUR FLASHLIGHTS!**

Madonna continued from page

His room, but then he took it all in great stride and eventually became the hit of the evening.

Stephanie and I took his good-hearted threat of payback seriously that night. Before falling asleep, we managed to pull Stephanie's bed in front of the door (remember, we were sharing a suite with them), and since we were leaving in the morning before Bruce would be stirring, we figured we would be safe – for now.

Return to Tofino: Deadline Approaches!

October 11-15, 2006

Hosted by Bill Aycock, Don Bojarski & friends



Well, you've read about it. You've heard all about it from PSMC veterans. Now's the time to get it together and make your reservations for Tofino (with a little help from our friends) in October.

The plans are coming together. We'll be meeting up in Tsawwassen, BC on Wednesday evening, October 11th, then taking the BC ferry to Vancouver Island on Thursday. Continuing across the island, we'll arrive at Middle Beach Lodge that afternoon. Your event hosts have some activities in mind, but mostly the time is yours to plan, or not to plan. If you want to sit and watch the waves roll in, Middle Beach is the place to do it. Some of us may be taking a trip to the hot springs, or just walking the shops in town. There's a great dinner planned at the Lodge for Saturday night, and probably another group reservation will be made at a local eatery Friday night.

The scenery is unbeatable. The socializing with your PSMC friends will be fun. All you need to do is make the reservations. **There is a September 1st cutoff on reservations so we can finish planning the trip and making arrangements.** Here is what you need to do:

First, call the Middle Beach Lodge 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, October 12 – 14. 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

Second, you should make a reservation at the Coast Tsawwassen Inn for October 11. We have a block of rooms available there 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. If you decide to drive up and meet us Thursday morning, let us know so we can get you the correct ferry time.

Finally, email Bill Aycock at totrod@mac.com to get on the confirmed list for the trip. More information will be provided to the people on the confirmed list, so be sure to RSVP.



The Headlands. Image from www.middlebeach.com

PINOT NOIR & COVERED “KISSING” BRIDGES

Part I: Friday

By Christy Driscoll & Cisco Castro

Photos by Christy Driscoll (unless otherwise noted)

Down the roads we went on a slow, leisurely crawl . . . okay, so we like to go a little faster than most of the group.

However, the day viewing the bridges, and the wineries we went to on Friday, turned out to be a very enjoyable day. The sun was out, tops were down and the scenery was outstanding. I enjoyed the covered bridges not just for the quick kisses, although quite enjoyable, but also because they created some great photographs. After a nice picnic, the day was topped off by some outstanding wineries: particularly Airlie and Eola Hills, which were our favorites. Of course, Cisco found out if you flirt with the girls at Eola Hills, you can taste some of the wines not offered on the menu (and getting more than the usual pour too).

The weekend turned out to be a great opportunity to see some sights, visit with friends and break off to find some great windy roads, definitely putting the Miata through its paces – found that rev limiter!



Part II: Saturday & Sunday

By Dee Dahlke & Duncan Johnson

Saturday we scheduled a late morning start, so everyone was back to the deli to fill the picnic coolers for lunch, and there was time to give the Miatas a quick cleaning with Meguiar’s Final Inspection. Must look good for The Public at all times, of course. Everywhere we had driven on Friday the farm fields were dusty, either from cutting hay or combining wheat, and some places giant sprinklers were irrigating crops, sometimes catching us in the overspray, which felt good on a top-down sunny day, but spotted the cars. This was to be a three winery day, and our group was a bit smaller as some cars dropped out to visit local family, etc. First stop was Chateau Bianca, just west of Rickreall on Highway 22. They feature German-style wines, however they released some new Pinot Noir that very morning, so Puget Sound Miata Club was the very first to taste it. They also had an animated tasting room hostess whose accent belied her origins in Da Bronx, New Yawk. The winery has a nice picnic area, which we commandeered for our lunch. The adventuresome walked around back and took a look at the on site bed-n-breakfast inn, which is fully booked for months in advance. They also have spaces with hookups for about three RVs, to accommodate folks who like to drive in “whale migrations.”



At the Hoffman Bridge. Photo by Duncan Johnson.

After lunch our next run was to Yamhill Valley Winery, which is close to McMinnville. Being hard-core sports car people, our leaders took us on a very scenic route, avoiding anything that might be called a main highway. The first leg went north on Perrydale Road to the village of the same name. We had tried to run that road in the other direction a few years back, but were confounded when it turned to dirt, and we had to turn back. This time it was all paved, and besides grooving the corners, we spotted a kid’s tree house atop a giant stump, and in Perrydale itself, an ancient and rusty steam tractor under the canopy of what must have been a corner gas station 75 years ago. It looked like a mechanical dinosaur fossil waiting to be displayed in some museum. We went through a couple more once-prosperous villages and then

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Above photo taken by Bev Rudd.



event aftermath

Wine continued from page 5

found our route describing a semicircle around the big federal prison at Sheridan. We personally know an alumnus of that place; really, it does make sense to pay your income tax rather than being totally defiant of your Uncle Sam. Nuf Sed.

The Yamhill Valley winery has a koi pond filled with those giant orange goldfish, and they start a feeding frenzy any time a human comes near to watch: even more if you throw fish food. There is a dazzle tape stretched above the pond to discourage the Great Blue Herons, Ospreys and Bald Eagles from fishing there. On this trip we saw a remarkable number of big hawks, and also big bird nests (one with mother eagle's head sticking out of it.) The Yamhill Valley tasting room opens onto an elevated deck surrounded by giant oak trees, not a bad place to sip at all. Also present in the driveway were a sleek first-generation Datsun 240-Z Coupe, and its supposed offspring, the current Nissan 350-Z convertible. To this reporter's eye, that car's styling evolution has not progressed very well; when are they going to stop this torture of innocent sheet metal?

After taking a back roads long-cut around McMinnville to Amity, we arrived at our final winery of the day: Firesteed, just off Highway Niner-Niner-Whiskey, as we say in radio-land. This is a totally different winery, being a production operation that buys grapes (as well as growing them) and produces thousands of cases of wine a year. It may not be Gallo, but it's no mom-n-pop shop either. Here our ebullient host Michael gave us the full tour, and we were amazed to learn that wine barrels cost \$900 to



*Our Fearless Leaders with Michael at Firesteed Winery.
Photo by Duncan Johnson.*

\$1100 apiece and give only about 5 years service at most. No guarantee either, as they are hand made from natural wood. If one is a leaker, the winery is out the price. So the used half-barrels for your garden at \$15 to \$25 don't look so bad. Tasting was on a patio with a view that went for miles over vineyards and farmlands that look like The Way America Should Be. This is the season that church calendars describe as "Ordinary Time" and if sipping wine and eating cheese in Firesteed's surroundings is "ordinary," well, that's plenty good for us. The tastings involved several limited-release special label varieties. Much purchasing followed, as one might expect. Michael taught us a parlor trick involving wine corks and the webs of your thumbs; those who mastered it will be demonstrating at future PSMC events. Dinner was a "victory banquet" at Murphy's Grill close to the hotel, followed by a party at the tour leaders' suite, at least for those who wished to stay up past their bedtime. Not the geezers among us, however.

Wine continued next column

Wine continued from previous column

Sunday morning our group had a 9:30 reservation for the fabulous brunch at Eola Hills. Prior to that, however, we all had to engage in the panic drill of Re-Packing The Miata, which was a cross between loading the cubbies of an Olde English picnic basket and solving a large-format Rubik's Cube, given all the additional Purchases which had to be accommodated. "Putting your toothpaste back into the tube" pretty well describes it. When it was time to head out to brunch, the group realized the prescribed route involved a series of left turns through busy traffic, not something recommended for a formation of small cars. We (Dee & Duncan) stepped forward with a shortcut we had divined a couple of days earlier, and which had only one left turn, plus that was protected by a traffic signal. So we got to lead the last lap of the event! Brunch at the winery involved many trips to many counters for Eggs Benedict, omelets to order, waffles, crepes and all the fixings, with two glasses of champagne or wine included in the surprisingly modest price. After everyone was sufficiently bloated, there was an organized trip home up the freeway for some and alternate routes for others, including some favorite back roads to McMinnville and Hillsboro, then the fun plunge down Cornelius Pass, followed by a run along the Oregon side of the river.

CALLING ALL VETERANS!



On Saturday, November 11th, the Smiths & Webers will be hosting a Veteran's Remembrance Run. We would like to honor all of our PSMC Veterans, so please, send in your Service Photo along with your service information to Cindy Smith @ tomaci@verizon.net for a special surprise relating to the run.

So, who is PFC R. W. Moore (pictured above)? Which war was he in? And what was his unit? Come to the Veteran's Remembrance Run and find out! And for those of you who want to unravel the clues to these questions, there will be a special prize! Clues can be found somewhere in this and upcoming Sounders.

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

West Lewis County Fun Run

By Dale & Regena Weber

This may have been Rick & Sue Wilson's earliest attempt at hosting an event but you would never have known it! For example, Rick had the folks at Rick's Place (no relation) at the Vader exit just off of I-5 to open *early* just so we would have coffee & a selection of pastries as we gathered for the driver's meeting.

Nine Miatas joined in for a wonderful drive thru the country! There were a couple of old friends that we hadn't seen on a run for a while & it was great to see them again. And it was just as rewarding to meet a new member on her very first club event! We traveled the twisty Boisfort Hi-way thru the Boisfort Valley, then Lost Valley before a brief return to civilization in the metropolis of Pe-EI.

From Pe-EI we ventured back into the wilderness where the Wilson's shared one of their little secrets of the area... Rainbow Falls State Park. Although there wasn't a rainbow at the falls on this day, our Miata's created their own rainbow of colors and attracted a lot of attention from others enjoying the park!

After a stop at the park we visited the old Claquato Pioneer Church, which was built in 1858. I believe it's the oldest standing building in the state of Washington.



Claquato Pioneer Church. Photo by Dale Weber

The run ended at Sowerby's British Restaurant Cuisine in Chehalis for lunch. The restaurant and staff were delightful and we all had a great time sharing each other's company.

Rick & Sue, thanks for showing us a textbook example of how to prepare & host an event! We can't wait for your next one!!!

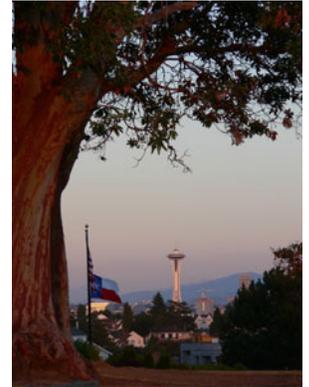


Time for some chow at Sowerby's! Photo by Dale Weber.

Starry, Starry Night

By Dustin Locke

We had the unique experience of being able to enjoy our Miatas by moonlight on August twelfth. The ten cars who participated met up at Hamilton Viewpoint in West Seattle, which provided us with our first breathtaking view of the evening. From then out it was a night full of scenic water views, speeding along bridges and viaducts and sweeping city light views. We went all around Seattle, sweeping in and out of a city that provided us with some amazing roads and views. This run really showcased our Emerald City and provided many different roads and driving styles to suit everyone. We were even lucky enough to get some fellow Miata enthusiasts to join us from Eugene Oregon. We ended the run in a picturesque setting at Kerry Park which is located in the hills along the northern end of Seattle. It was there that the group toasted the end of the run with an assortment of Martinelli's Sparkling Cider. This was a great run that I think everyone who attended was truly happy that they did.



One of the many spectacular views of the night. Photo by Dale Weber

A big thank you to our friends, Dale & Regena Weber, who orchestrated this wonderful and very beautiful run.



When we got to Hamilton Viewpoint, there was a wedding going on . . .

But, hey, we didn't mind; we got music with our picnic! Photos by Dale Weber



Miatas in the Twilight. Photo by Dale Weber.

Coop's Garage

By Bill Cooper

I received two responses from my August "Coop's Garage." One requesting that I cut down on the verbiage to save space, and two, an acidic question related to my abilities as a writer. No one asked any questions to answer this month which, I assume, means either everyone's Miata is running fine or no one read the article. There is a third possibility that my ego won't allow me to consider. If you missed the article and don't know what I am talking about, I asked readers to send me questions, via email, regarding issues with their cars they would like to know more about or/and how repairs can be made. My email address is wcoopster@comcast.net.



Randy in West Seattle (a fictitious person) wrote. "When I come to a stop with my lights on in my 90-97 Miata my rpms drop way down and the car shudders. It seems like it is going to quit running. Is there something I can do?"

Dear fictitious:

Your cars idle changes with conditions and age. The primary change that takes place is in the fuel supply in the combustion chamber related to the fuel injectors. When they become clogged, over time, the amount of fuel delivered is reduced. This reduction will cause your symptom. Other less common causes are the addition of power drawing lights or equipment, bad plugs and/or plug wires, carbon build up and/or leakage around the valves or low compression in one or more cylinder(s).

We suggest that before you attempt to treat the symptom you first treat the problem. There are a number of good gasoline additives on the market designed to clean your injectors. Used as directed they work well. I suggest, as regular maintenance, you add the recommended amount to your tank every second tank full. The problem should clear up. DO NOT add more than the called for amount. You will end up gumming up the system and creating an even worse condition.

If you are impatient or your problem is one other than injectors and you don't mind readjusting your idle again later after you have cleaned them, here is the procedure we use to set idle.

Tools: Flat head screw driver, small paper clip

1 Warm up the engine to operating temperature

2 Find the Diagnostic box on the driver's side fender in the engine compartment. (See Figure 1)

3 On the inside of the lid of the box is a pin ID chart. Using your paper clip, jumper between TEN and GND. (If you accidentally get into B+ you will burn the #*^! out of yourself and blow a fuse.)

4 Using your screw driver, adjust the idle screw on the throttle



Figure 1

Coop continued on page 11

Miatacross 2006

By Sean McGriff

It was a bright and stormy day. . .

Well, it wasn't that stormy, but we did get some good wind and rain a couple of times. That made for some slippery runs for us non-experts! The three bouts of rain did not dampen the spirits of the competitors though.



Bah ra mu! Photo by Denise Williamson.

The PSMC standouts were Dieter Beldi taking the top spot in Open Street and Time Only PM, Glen Hernandez 1st in Pro Stock, Denise Williamson taking 3rd in Women's Street Tire – Stock, Thom Rhom finishing 4th in Novice AM, Samuel Miller 8th in Novice PM, Dianne Miller 2nd in Women's Novice PM, Jesse Fuller 15th in Time Only AM, and yours truly getting dead last in both Open Street and PM Time Only.

For the PSMC club classes Mindy Bohnas and Charles Vu finished one – two – in the Stock class while Brian Louderback and Charley Drake did the same in Non Stock.

This years event had 135 entrants (including double runs) and many spectators. We finished the day with fine burgers and brews at McMenamins with a few of the other drivers.

Thanks to all those that helped make this year's event a success! Special thanks to: Dieter Beldi, Mindy Bohnas, Bill "Coop" Cooper, Dennis Fleischman, Hans Adomeit, Russ Hill, Noel Aquino, Karl Coleman & Amy Olson, Erika Cowan, Charley Drake, Gale Lazur, Bonnie & Larry Lohkamp, David Whooley and Fastmike Lilljord.

Hope to see more of you next year!



Jesse Fuller (and passenger) at the 2006 Miatacross. Photo by Denise Williamson.



Russ Hill zooming down the course at Miatacross. Photo by Denise Williamson.

Conefusion

By Denise Williamson

I'm cone-fused, even more than usual. Why? Because there have been so many events since my last article, that I don't know where to start! July-mid August is the busiest time of year (event-wise) for local autocrossers.



The place to be on July 9 was in Packwood for SCCA #5. The four PSMC members did well. Tim Irwin placed seventh in the Street Tire class, and Dieter Beldi placed first in the Street Mod 2 class. Alan Dahl won a fifth place trophy in Open PAX, and Glen Hernandez placed eighth. Alan and Glen also placed high in the Top Indexed Times for the event, fifth and eighth respectively.

July 16 was the WWSCC "Sports Car Spectacular" in Everett. Dieter Beldi won a second place trophy in Open Street (all of .08 out of first), and Alan Dahl finished sixth in the PRO1 Class. Dieter also had the fifth top un-indexed time of the day. The same weekend was the SCCA National Tour in Denver. Glen Hernandez won a third place trophy in G Stock in a Mini Cooper S, and Enrique Garcia won a second place trophy in Street Touring S2 in a borrowed Miata. Enrique was .212 out of first place.

SCCA #6 was held July 23 in Bremerton. There were 113 entrants, four of whom were PSMC members. Alan Dahl won a second place trophy in Open PAX in his '06 Miata, and Glen Hernandez placed fifth in a '02 Subaru WRX. In the Street Tire class, Tim Irwin placed fifth in his '94 Miata. The fourth member shall remain anonymous; as rumor has it he went on a little excursion. Alan and Glen again placed high in the Top Indexed Times for the event, this time third and ninth respectively.

PSMC's "Miatacross" was July 30 in Everett. Despite the sketchy weather, 135 entrants got five runs each. Dieter Beldi won first place in Open Street with a 50.709 (beating former National Champion Mar Snell), and Sean McGriff was ninth with a 60.324. In Women's Street Tire 1, I was third with a dirty, indexed 49.485 (darn cones!), while Russ Hill was ninth in Street Tire Touring with an indexed 46.220. Thom Rhom missed some gates, but placed fourth in Novice AM, and Ed McGeary was right behind him in fifth. In Novice PM, Samuel Miller had four (!) clean runs to place eighth. Diane Miller drove the same car with three clean runs to place second in Women's Novice PM. All of the novices made *significant* improvements from their first to last runs. I saw lots of smiles, so maybe they'll be back for more. Glen Hernandez not only assisted some of the Novices, but he placed first in a very competitive PRO1 class with an indexed 38.990. There was also competition in the two PSMC classes. Mindy Bohnas and Charles Wu ran in the PSMC-Stock class, but Mindy came out ahead with a 64.365. Brian Louderback and Charley Drake (in his beautiful super-charged Merlot) ran in the PSMC-Non Stock class, with Brian running a 60.199 for the win. Dieter, Sean, Mindy, Coop, and many others worked hard to make this event successful, so make sure you thank them the next time you see them!

Last for this article, but most certainly not least, is the SCCA ProSolo held August 5-6 in Packwood. This event was crazy

Conefusion continued next column

September Autocross

For details see wwscc.org

- 2 SSSCC – Event #7, Summer Sizzle at Dust Devils Stadium in Pasco
- 3 NWR/SCCA – SCCA Regional #7 at Bremerton
- 3 SSSCC – Event #8, Summer Sizzle at Dust Devils Stadium in Pasco
- 4 BSCC Event #7 at Bremerton
- 5 BSCC Monthly Meeting at Round Table Pizza in Gig Harbor
- 9 OR/SCCA – Practice Day at Packwood
- 10 BEAC – WWSCC Championship #8, Enduro XXVIII at Everett
- 10 OR/SCCA – Event #8 at Packwood
- 11 NWR/SCCA Solo Committee Meeting at Bill's Bodacious BBQ in Renton
- 17 ACE – WWSCC Championship #9, Dogfight at Everett
- 19 WWSCC Council Meeting at Rogue Brewery in Issaquah
- 23-24 SCCA Topeka ProSolo Finale at Heartland Park
- 23 SSSCC – Event #9, Blacktop Fever at Tri-City Raceway in Pasco
- 24 SSSCC – Event #10, Blacktop Fever at Tri-City Raceway in Pasco
- 24 CSCC – WWSCC Practice, Mere Mortals at Everett
- 26-29 SCCA Solo II Nationals at Heartland Park

Conefusion continued from previous column

and cone-fusing, but looked fun nonetheless. In a Pro, two cars autocross on similar courses simultaneously, and then switch sides. There is a LOT more to it, but it makes my head hurt to think of indexes, reaction times, breakouts, sandbagging, etc. on a weekend let alone during the week. How they keep it all straight, I will never know. There were 19 Miata drivers in six classes, which was kind of fun because they were all so different. The first part of a Pro consists of combining your best times from the first and second days. For this part, Glen Hernandez placed fourth in G Stock, and Alan Dahl placed third in C Stock. The second part of a Pro consists of three "Challenge" rounds: The Ladies Challenge, the Bonus Challenge, and the Super Challenge (there are different types of qualifiers for each). Glen made the Super Challenge, and lasted through three rounds. This was a fun event, but the next event I'll write about will be even more fun: the SCCA National Tour in Packwood. At this writing, there are over 250 entrants!

As always, if you're interested in autocross, you can visit www.wwscc.org or email me at autocross1@ps-miata.org. Happy autocrossing, and don't forget sunscreen!

PSMC Couple of the Month!

Article and photos contributed by Ron & Julie Krohmer

"The time of his life!" That's how Ron sums up Saturday, June 3rd, when Ron Krohmer and Julie Springer were officially joined in holy matrimony in a sunset ceremony at the historic San Marcos Resort in Chandler, Arizona.



Long time PSMC Members, Ron joined in early 1994 when he purchased "Blackie," a '93 black with tan top and interior. Julie joined in 1998 when she moved to Seattle with her '92 Mariner Blue. Both original owners, their cars are as different as night and day. Julie's is pretty much stock while Ron's is very customized with chrome everywhere, including the super charger.

Both were active in the parade unit and after Ron finally got the courage to ask Julie on a date, it was only appropriate that it be a PSMC event. So, on September 26, 2003, they joined the group heading to Yakima for a tour of that scenic area. They got off to a shaky start when they made a wrong turn out of the parking lot in Yakima and lost the group. But with a little help from Allan Ohlsen, they were able to rejoin the group and spend a delightful day getting to know each other and not get lost again.

It only seemed appropriate that the two cars should be a part of the wedding festivities. And festive it was, with a tropical theme that was colorful and just like the perfect Miata run, it was FUN, FUN FUN!

Julie and Ron are now living happily-ever-after just east of Phoenix in Gold Canyon. They have connected with other PSMC "snowbirds" that went south for the winter and look forward to many more. Their plans for the future just might include a 2007 hard-top convertible Miata. Odds are it will be blue (if Julie has anything to say about it!).



New Faces

We hope to meet you at an event soon!

By Randy Umemoto



- Daniel & Lynanne White Poulsbo, WA 92 Sunburst Yellow
- Li Tan & Charles Wu Seattle, WA 94 Red
- Vernon Collins Fall City, WA 91 White
- Laurie & Ron Doering Battle Ground, WA 94 Red
- Gary & Sandy Miller Tacoma, WA 94 Black

Familiar Faces

Try a new Miata Event this year!

- Larry & Bonnie Lohkamp 02 Silver 4 yrs
- Edmund Chaney 96 Black 5 yrs
- Heidi Knaus 95 Merlot 1 yr
- Richard & Barbara Gates 96 Red 1 yr
- Robert & Judy Lemley 03 Grey 2 yrs
- Michael Ulrey 03 White 3 yrs
- Julie & Ron Krohmer 92 Mariner Blue 8 yrs
- Ken & Valerie See Brookner 99 Black 6 yrs
- David Conover 01 BRG 4 yrs
- Dianne & Samuel Miller 96 Black 1 yr
- John & Barb Young 00 Mahogany Mica 5 yrs
- Martin & Margaret Brinck 95 Red 10 yrs
- Kevin Gilbert & Faith Young 90 Red 4 yrs
- Jeannette Ostro & Brian Dose 95 Red 1 yr
- Ric & Judy Seymour 97 Red 8 yrs
- Pat & Dick Foster 90 Mariner Blue 14 yrs
- Tom & Meredith Cleveland 00 Mahogany Mica 1 yr
- Dana Ruth Wilber 99 White 1 yr

Remember

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



Roadster Ramblings

By Dustin Locke, PSMC Prez

Hello PSMC'ers!

Now that it is September, that means we made it through another 'Gathering'. I hope you all had a chance to head down to Coop's for it and participate in all of the fun. I would like to thank those folks who helped out and contributed to make the 2006 Gathering a success. With an event like this, there is not just one person who can do it all. It was a real team effort and our volunteers and Board members really stepped up and contributed a lot. I would also like to thank our vendors that contributed by donating prizes for a giveaway. I think that we had a very nice mix of prizes and giveaways. I certainly hope that the 2007 gathering is just as fun, I'm sure it will be.



Since it is September now, we still have a few months of great Miata activities to enjoy the great weather with. We have the Mukilteo Parade, Run Round Rainer V, the Leavenworth Autumn Leaf Parade and the North Cascade Tour II all coming up this month. With only a couple of months left of great weather, now is the time to catch up on some sun, great roads and fun with your Miata friends!

It is also always a great time to put on your own run. We are always looking for fresh, new ideas for drives and events. So if you have a thought, why don't you put on an event and share the fun with everyone!

I hope to see you all at an event soon. I know you will definitely find me cruising around Rainier on the tenth!

Coop continued from page 8

housing so that the idle is the same with the jumper in or out. (See Figure 2)



Figure 2

- 5 Turn on the lights and heater blower fan.
- 6 With the jumper still in place, rev the engine to high rpm and let go. If the engine shudders when it reaches idle turn the idle screw (counter clockwise) in ¼ turn increments until, when you rev and release, the engine stabilizes without shuddering.
- 7 Remove the paper clip.
- 8 Check for normal function.

Idle is suppose to be set at 850rpm. The computer idle is set there. By toggling between the computer idle setting and the mechanical you don't need a tachometer. The built in dash tach does not read accurately at the low end so don't count on it.



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MEMBERSHIP

The club operates as a non-profit organization and relies primarily on volunteer services. However, sponsorship of events, the publication and mailing of the 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

Clue #2: PFC R. W. Moore's campaigns took him to Rome Arno, the North Apennines Po Valley, Naples-Foggia (all in Italy) and Southern France. For his dedicated service, he was awarded the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal. He was also awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action in Pisa, Italy.

2006 Calendar

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

September 2006

- 3 South Bend Labor Day Parade (see page 2)
- 9 Mukilteo Parade
- 10 Run Round Rainier V, hosted by Sabel (see page 2)
- 23 Leavenworth Parade
- 24 North Cascade Hwy Run, hosted by McGranaghan (see page 3)



October 2006

- 6-8 Backroads to Bavaria IX, hosted by CMNW
- 7 ALS Walk, hosted by Lazur (see page 3)
- 7 Shelton Oyster Fest Run hosted by Ohlsen (see page 4)
- 12-15 Return to Tofino, hosted by Aycock, Bojarski and Friends (see page 4)
- 28 Haunted Places Tour, hosted by Smith & Birman (see page 4)

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

December 2006

- 9 PSMC Holiday Party, hosted by PSMC Board
- 26 Tacoma Holiday Parade
- 16 Holiday Light Run, hosted by Locke

Coming in 2007

**007: Shaken (-speare)
Not Stirred**



Classifieds

PARTS FOR SALE

Oris Windstop with mounting brackets. \$100.00. Call (253) 891-3770

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

FOR SALE: 12 Foot Craftsman Rowboat with 4hp Evinrude motor. Has paddles, lifevests, wheels and anchor. Good for river fishing; can fit in the back of a pickup. \$1,000 Call Tom at (360) 668-5508.



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.

Miata Ambassadors Needed: Approximately 20 Australian MX 5 Club members will be visiting the Pacific Northwest in late September and early October to not only partake in Backroads To Bavaria, but also to tour our beautiful region. Hosts are needed to help collect our Australian guests from the airport, provide a guest room for 2 - 5 nights and offer guidance to & from the various start & finish points of each daily activity. An itinerary of the planned events, which you as host are welcomed to join, is listed at www.clubmiata.com/events/2006/BackroadsIX/MX5-Clubs-Members-Adventure.htm. If you think you would be interested in hosting an Australian guest, please contact John Hewitt at john-hewitt@hotmail.com or phone him at (425) 238-5536. For more information on being a host, please go to www.clubmiata.com/events/2006/WAMiataAmbassadors/Articles/WAMiataAmbassadorsInvite.htm

Coming in 2007

Miatas in Moab III
RETURN OF THE MX-5s

image from www.utahmiataclub/miatasinmoab/index.htm