

# Miata Sounder



THE FIRST OFFICIAL UNITED STATES MIATA CLUB

November/December 2018

## Membership Appreciation Luncheon

December 1, 2018 @ 11:30am - 2pm

### Hosted by PSMC Board

Location: Azteca Mexican Restaurant,  
17555 Southcenter Parkway, Tukwila,  
WA

Prizes! Giveaways! Goodies!

Help us celebrate the end of the year  
and our great club as the 29th year of  
our existence comes to an end.

This year the membership appreciation luncheon will be at the Azteca Mexican Restaurant in Tukwila. We'll start off with a lunch featuring a limited but varied menu that includes dessert if you wish to order it. Following lunch, we'll take a few minutes to recognize those club members who have contributed to the club by hosting drives, drive-in dinners, and other events throughout the year, including service to the club as board members. This event will cost \$17 per person and includes lunch, coffee, tea, or soda, and dessert (if you want it). You'll also have a few opportunities to win door prizes.

Alcoholic beverages are available to order for an extra charge on your own.

Here is the menu for this event, pre-selected by the Board:

ENCHILADAS, MACHO BURRITO,  
TACOS AUTHENTICOS, DELUXE  
TACO SALAD, FAJITA BURRITOBAN-  
DERA SALAD, AZTECA BURGER,  
GRANDE COMBINATION, FOR  
DESSERT (YOUR CHOICE) FLAN OR  
CHOCOLATE MOUSSE.

Please sign up by Tuesday, Nov. 27  
if you plan to attend, so we can have  
an accurate count for the restaurant.  
Additional information can be found  
at:

[http://  
www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org/](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org/)

Come On and Join the Party!

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## Legal Stuff

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<b>Event Aftermath</b>	<b>Contributors</b>

The *SOUNDER* is published several times a year (as close to the first of the month as possible). Many months are combined. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month. All articles and ads are due by then, so as to be included in the following month's publication.

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

Send your submissions to:

**Miata Sounder**

[sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org](mailto:sounder@pugetsoundmiataclub.org)

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# Whatcom and Skagit Counties Select Tour

**Hosted By Tom Millar**

**Aftermath by Ross Scott**

It was a cool misty morning, September 8th, as we headed out for the rendezvous outside of Burlington. As we headed north, the pavement and sky varied between dry and somewhat sunny and damp and semi-liquid. No worries though, at 60 MPH, even rain cannot touch us. Only the call of the wild causes us to pull off under a service station canopy, put the top up and rest

By the time we arrived at



the Holiday Market outside of Burlington on Highway 20 the skies had eased and we were back in Roadsterville. After the driver's meeting, we departed on a n enjoyable drive, bolstered by fun goodie bags supplied by Cindy Millar. The drive had a nice mixture of forested roads and

water views passing through the micro-towns of Edison and Bow. After a stop on the Chuckanut to stretch and enjoy the view, we continued on to skirt Lake Padden and Whatcom Lake with a rest stop at the Sudden Valley Market.



From there, we looped back along scenic roads to Edison, where we thoroughly enjoyed lunch at the Edison Saloon. Great food and atmosphere!

I want to thank Tom and Cindy Millar for such an enjoyable drive. Cindy for some munchies and things to think about as one wends one's way along the scenic route. Tom for coming up with a route that is both beautiful and entertaining, but with a minimum of complications, such as stop lights and traffic. Fun time! Keep Zooming!

## Upcoming Events — Something for Everyone!

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

**December:** Dec 1 Membership Appreciation Luncheon  
**2019**

**January:** Jan 8 Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

**February:** Feb 5 Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

**March:** Mar 5 Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

**April:** Apr 2 Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

Apr 27 MG Car Club 38th Annual Tulip Rally

**Additional Events Will Be Added At Any Time. Please check back at:**

**<http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org/page-1624266>**

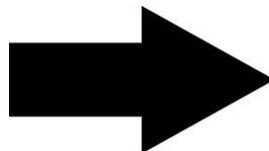
News Article: 5 things to know about the 2019 Mazda MX-5 Miata

Link:

<https://autoweek.com/article/car-news/5-things-you-need-know-about-2019-mazda-mx-5-miata#ixzz5Wi31BiHJ>

## Miata Helpful Links

<https://www.miata.net/>



# President's Message

## By Charlotte Fellers

We are already nearing the end of the year, and you know what that means: the annual Membership Appreciation Luncheon. This used to be called the "End of the driving season" luncheon, but since what we really do is recognize club members who have contributed "above and beyond" the name has been changed to better reflect the event.

I hope you will consider attending this event on Dec. 1, starting at 11:30. We've found a great, friendly staff at the Southcenter Azteca that is anxious to host us this year. The price is right too, at only \$17 per person for lunch. This includes chips, salsa, and bean dip upon arrival to quell those early-day hunger pangs; lunch selected from a menu of their most popular dishes; and dessert if you have room for it. Alcoholic beverages are available if you are prone to have a margarita every time you see bright colors and hear mariachi music in a restaurant, but you'll need to pay for those on your own.

The board has voted to offer some surprise door prizes and we think you'll enjoy these treats this year. It's likely that most who attend could walk out the door with some kind of prize, so why not take advantage of an opportunity to canoodle with your friends from the PSMC for lunch before heading out to your pre-holiday events. This exciting event is on the

calendar on the website, where you can pay in advance via PayPal or be invoiced to pay later. We need to have some kind of head count for the restaurant so please make a reservation today and let us know you are coming so Azteca can be ready for you!

You know how you reach a "certain age" and then you are always 29 on your next birthday? Well, as it turns out, the Puget Sound Miata Club turns 29 around December 10, when the club got a charter from Miata USA as the very first Miata Club in the United States. It was long before the first Miatas ever hit the road in this country, and this speaks well for the foresight of the originators of the club who organized themselves early on to make it all happen.

I'm bringing this up because next December, the PSMC will host a 30th anniversary party. We are making plans now to bring an exciting venue to life for this blowout time. We are excited to celebrate the great car that is the Miata but also the great people who have chosen our club as their "Miata home." The date is fluid at this point until we can lock down pricing and a venue, but keep it in mind and as plans come together, we will be releasing details.

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# President's Message

## Continued from Page 4

Do you remember the 20th Anniversary Party? We held it at the Ballinger Lake Country Club and we had a slide show of 20 years of PSMC photos, music, cocktails, a commemorative wine glass and some fabulous prizes to win. The food was pretty good at that event too. You can bet that we'll be doing something equally as terrific at the 30th anniversary party next year so prepare yourselves!

This is the time of year when things calm down considerably for the club. We are shifting to indoor social activities for winter so we don't need to worry about driving long distances in cold, rainy, top-up weather. This month initiates our Cruise-In's for both the north-enders and south-enders. You can see these events on the website. You can just show up without registering and there will be other Miatas at the events to compare notes with. The north-end cruise-ins are the first Tuesday of each month and the south-end cruise-ins are the Third Thursday of each month, so join the fun.

Some of you recall me bringing my mother along on Miata drives in past years. Well, she up and moved to Wichita, KS about two years ago, (I am still scratching my head over that decision). I used to take a lot of teasing from certain club members (Paul Jaeger, I am talking about you!) who just did not let up when my navigator could not figure out how to read directions. About the time we were supposed to turn, she would say "I think

there's a turn coming up here pretty soon," and then we'd be a half-mile down the road. Consequently, we were always lost, turning around in the middle of the road, and getting to our destination an hour behind everyone else. A few times, everyone was already finished eating lunch when we got there!

Mom, though, was a good sport about getting in the car and coming along. She is happy living in Wichita (again, I cannot imagine why) and so each year for Christmas, I hop a plane to visit for a week or so. She misses her friends she made here in Washington, but she doesn't mind that the cost of living is much lower in Wichita than it was here, and I know she does not miss the rain during the winter. I really enjoyed having her along on those drives and I think about those days every time I get in the car to go for a drive. She's doing well there but has stopped driving altogether now and relies on my aunt to drive her or else she takes a cab when she needs a ride. Both of my brothers are going to meet me there too, so I am sure we'll have a nice time together. I recall when we were there last year, we stayed up until one a.m. one night playing cards! Mother has always enjoyed playing games of any kind and she's looking forward to that again this year.

On that note, I hope that wherever your travels take you this season, you have a wonderful time and stay safe and dry. Happy New Year!

# First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social Pictures



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# Event aftermath: MHMC Hot Lava 2017+1

*by Dee Dahlke & Duncan Johnson*

Last year's "Hot Lava" Miata meet in the Columbia River Gorge was postponed due to the forest fires which made the area uninhabitable. The hosts, Mt. Hood Miata Club, simply picked up the whole unused event and fast-forwarded it to September 20-23, 2018 as the "Plus One" version. Your on-site reporters saved our registration form and kept our event T-shirts clean for a year, so we plugged right in and attended. Hot Lava was such fun and so well executed that we offer a complete report to our own club.

"Road Dancer II" ('16 white) drove down leisurely on Wednesday along with Elicia Tamburine in her '17 red RF, so we could do the Hot Lava early-bird run on Thursday. From Bonney Lake we did the famously twisty Mud Mountain Road, only to find the rest rooms at the dam of the same name were closed to keep out the resident homeless people. Oops, no pit stop there. We went over Chinook Pass, the definitive western mountain pass in our book. Out of Naches we deviated onto some favorite back roads through hillside farms and orchards, left over from past rallies there. Lunch was at Miner's Drive-In (since 1948!) at Union Gap. Then over Satus Pass on US 97 with a yummy high calorie afternoon snack stop at the bakery at St. John Greek Orthodox Monastery, then west along the river and over the dinky narrow bridge (9' lanes with metal grate surface, eek!) and into Hood River, Oregon. Interesting funky

little town featuring water sports like kite surfing in the Columbia Gorge and winter sports at Mt. Hood bringing their attendant vibes, thus lots of craft beer and wine and dining venues. And no traffic! At least compared to the Puget Sound jam. The official Miata hotel was the Best Western Plus right on the river, very nice and they took good care of our group.

About 50 Miatas attended from all over North America; from Ontario and Michigan and Illinois and Florida and Nevada and SoCal and British Columbia plus us local yuks. How DO all those distant people discover this event and decide to participate? We noted the first-gen cars (1990-97) are getting scarce, 2nd gen (1999-2005) are numerous, but some starting to show their age, third-gen (2006-2015) are very popular (now quite affordable, plus they are the roomiest Miatas for those of us who shop in the Big & Tall department,) and the 4th-gen (2016-on) are now appearing in quantity. It's the natural evolution within any automotive marque.

The early bird run Thursday afternoon zoomed around the two-lane blacktop of the Hood River Fruit Loop with stops at farm stands, orchards and cideries, an antique junque shoppe (even a vintage Ducati Desmo motor-sickle on display!) , and tasting at Hood Crest winery. All that is the way farming is supposed to be at harvest season. Not vast corporate agribusiness! October's Bright Blue Weather

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# Event aftermath: MHMC Hot Lava 2017+1 Continued

## **Continued from Page 7:**

prevailed a couple of weeks early and trees were starting to turn color. Insert a squadron of zooming Miatas and the Sports Motoring atmosphere was perfect. Long may it prevail.

Friday we had a choice of runs, but we opted out of the big and popular one north to the back side of Mount St. Helens, as we had driven that route previously. Instead we chose the run across the river to Lyle, then up the canyons on Centerville Highway (do try that road some time!) twisting and curving through the dry farming of wheat and such to Goldendale, Wash. There were a couple of (ahem) amusing navigational hiccups when the lead car didn't exactly "have their mind in the game." Of course none of US have ever done THAT before. (Ahem, again.) After a pit stop we motored to the Stonehenge replica, which an area tycoon built a century ago to honor the many local boys slaughtered in War One; the lonely silence there makes it a moving memorial. The site overlooks the Columbia from on high, so high the BNSF and UPRR trains down by both sides of the river look like little Lionels. Tasting and snacking at Maryhill Winery followed, a big high end operation, then across to Oregon at The Dalles and through the Rowena Curves which are a hillclimb to an overlook along ye olde (c. 1915) Historic U.S. 30. Wear your driving gloves, zooming fans.

Saturday after a few rain sprinkles we

ran Klickitat Canyon, SR 142 on the Washington side, one of our favorite "private roads" (roads we don't tell RV drivers about.) One run made a loop to the west, but we had zoomed that in the past, so we opted for the version that offered an unexplored loop to the east. Fine, but somewhere along the way we came upon a Honda sedan fetched up atop a bridge guardrail and kind of fallen on its side, while a not amused state trooper pondered how to write up that one. We suggest it was front wheel drive understeer on a dampish road surface. After a terrifying canyon wall scramble with 1000-foot dropoffs we ended up back in Goldendale, and then reversed Friday's run down Centerville Highway, which again was the kind of fun road any petrol-head would like to drive both directions. Both of the day's runs ended up together at a nice little city park in the riverside village of Bingen, where the host club provided a picnic lunch (sandwiches, cookies, platters of local fresh fruit, etc.) We skipped the optional afternoon poker run, because it reprised the Fruit Loop and we always lose at poker ("one of a kind, deuce high.")

That night we expected the traditional rubber chicken banquet with overpriced beverages, but the host club had upgraded to a prime rib and salmon buffet, and there were so many prizes even we got to take home a Mazda T-shirt. Being thus overfed, we did not do the Sunday breakfast run which reversed the Rowena route to

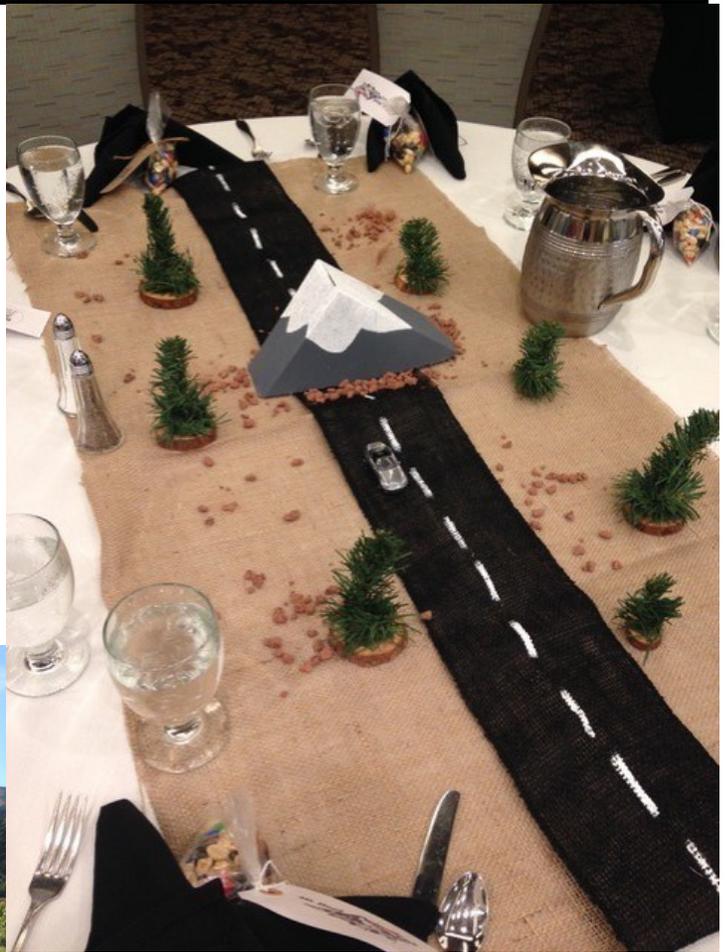
**Continued on Page 9:**

# Event aftermath: MHMC Hot Lava 2017+1 Continued

## Continued from Page 8:

The Dalles and a buffet breakfast at Cousins Resort there. Instead, Road Dancer scooted west in Oregon, crossed the Bridge Of The Gods, then along SR 14 and returned north on freeways which were unusually well-moving, only one brief stoppage on I-5, about as good as that route can possibly get.

Bottom line: Great meet, done right by Mt. Hood Miata Club. Couldn't ask for more.

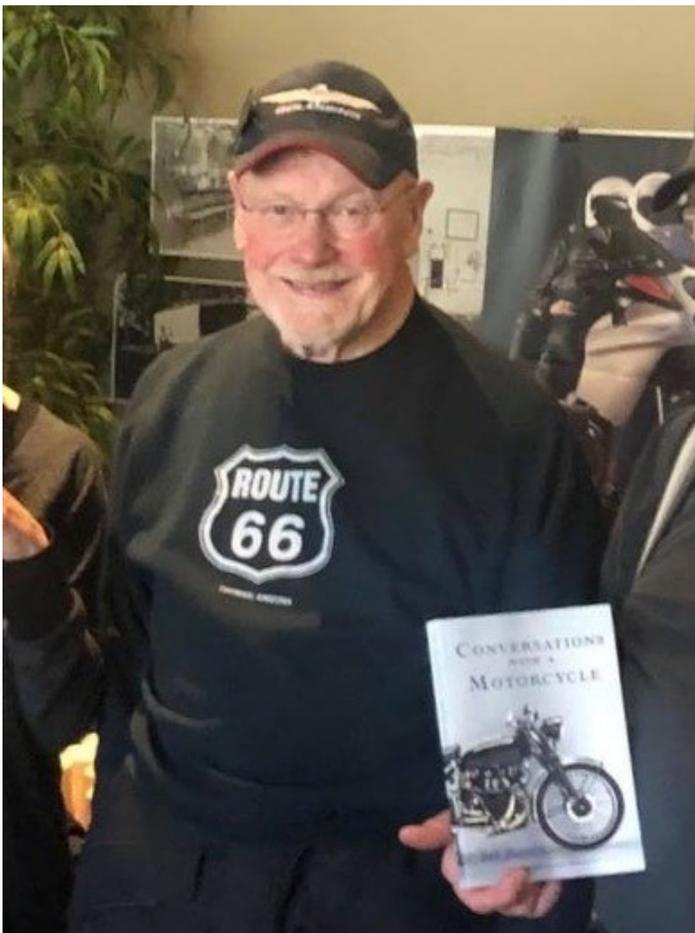


**The Next First Tuesday  
North-End Cruise-In  
Social will be in  
January 8, 2019 at  
5:30pm at McMenamin's  
in Mill Creek, WA.**

# Remembering Bob Mott

**By D.P. Johnson**

Bob Mott, former long-time PSMC member with wife Marti, died in a motorcycle crash on November 4, 2018. He was on a cycle club run through Capitol Forest near Olympia and the cause of the fall is undetermined. Bob was 82 at the time of his death.



The Motts and their Miatas were super active in PSMC events over the years. They were best known for their Aisle Of Honor run to the Allyn Cemetery for Memorial Day. Bob would lead a pack of Miatas to the cemetery where we would all respectfully enjoy the ceremony honoring service members who had died serving this fair land. At

the conclusion we'd zoom the back roads to the Motts' fabulous home in the deep woods somewhere beyond Gig Harbor for Marti's chili fest and beverages, and to admire whatever their latest home remodeling project might be. The most fun of those remains their fascinating bathroom PRHT (Power Retractable Holder of Trash.)

Bob had the engaging personality of a guy who could ride a Honda Gold Wing motorcycle with a BMW club and immediately switch to a Miata and be a perfect fit with all the groups. At the PSMC run to the South Bend Parade in 2012 for a post-parade diversion Bob arranged with nearby friends for the Miatas to drop in and see their show-quality restored 1912 Ford Model-T touring car. The "T" was reposing on the front lawn, magnificent in the low afternoon light with bright red paint and gleaming brass radiator and other trim. (This car was before Ford de-contented the Model-T to "basic black" to make it cheaper and speed production.) That day it hit this reporter: Bob had brought us to visit a car that was one hundred years old. could remember when Titanic hit the iceberg! What a class move by a man who personified "universal motor enthusiast."

The family has gathered to support Marti. At Bob's request there will be no memorial service.

## First Tuesday North-End

### Cruise-In Social Pictures Continued from Page 6



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PARADE COORDINATOR: BILL HUGHES

## MEMBERSHIP

The club operates as a non-profit organization and relies primarily on volunteer services. However, sponsorship of events, the publication and mailing of the newsletter, and operating supplies constitute a financial burden that must be met by the membership. **The Sounder is emailed as a PDF Link.** Make your Miata experience more enjoyable and join the club and participate. To keep the club meaningful and solvent, we need your support!

Club membership is available by going to our website at [www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org](http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org) or by sending your name, address, email, and a check for **\$30 (annual chapter dues)**. Puget Sound Miata Club

Sean Wells

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If you would like to contribute an article or you took photos of an event you'd like to share, remember these guidelines:

- Send 3-5 of your best photos, not 20-30.
- Send us your JPEGs since we need to Photoshop them anyway.
- When sending news items, use one space at the end of sentences, not two. It saves space in the publication.
- Send all written materials in Arial and as attachments, i.e. word doc or docx or file text.
- The deadline is the 15th of the next month. Please observe it!

**Thanks to the following Miata dealers and businesses who provide PSMC member discounts (simply show your PSMC Card):**

*Coop's Miata of Maple Valley (425) 432-9666*

*Doug's Lynnwood Mazda (425) 774-3551*

*Mazda of Everett (425) 353-3403*

*Louie Orrino at South Tacoma Mazda (253) 722-2888 / Cost plus 20%*

*Milam Mazda of Puyallup (253) 845-1766 /*

*University Mazda of Seattle (206) 634-1191*

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