

# Miata Sounder



THE FIRST OFFICIAL UNITED STATES MIATA CLUB

September/October 2018

## Sunset Auto Trail VII

September 16, 2018 @ 9:15am

### Host: Allan Ohlsen

railtrail@hotmail.com

Meet @ Randy's Diner  
10016 E Marginal Way S,  
Tukwila, WA 98168

Long before Interstate 90, before U.S. Highway 10, even before the Lake Washington floating bridge, there was the Sunset Highway. It was the main east/west route from Seattle to Spokane and beyond from about 1914 to 1940, snaking through many small towns and communities along the way.

Join us for our seventh tour, especially if you are new members, as we trace the historical route of the Sunset Highway (Primary State Highway 2, not to be confused with present day Hwy 2) from the south end of Seattle, through Renton, Issaquah, Snoqualmie, and North Bend all the way to Snoqualmie Pass.

We'll take the back roads with a just a tiny bit of freeway, going from urban to suburban, to rural, and all the way to the Cascade mountain wilderness. There will be a couple of fun "zoom-zoom sidetracks"

thrown in for fun, culminating with a switchback road that will put a smile on everyone's face.

We'll stop for a short break at Snoqualmie Falls, and after we reach the summit and finish we'll have lunch at the Summit Pancake House. We will meet at 9:15am at Randy's Diner at the south end of Boeing field on E. Marginal Way in South Seattle and leave around 9:30 am for the tour.

CB radios are HIGHLY encouraged for the historical snippets and trivia you may hear along the way, and cameras for what you may see. The tour should last until about 2 pm giving you the rest of the day to enjoy.

**Continued on Page 5**

### *Inside this issue*

### *Page*

SUNSET AUTO TRAIL VII	1
SPOT THAT THING	2
LEGAL STUFF AND PSMC BOARD MEETING	2
UPCOMING EVENTS, NEWS ABOUT MIATAS, AND MIATA HELPFUL LINKS	3
MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION LUNCHEON	4
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	5
TIPS FOR PLANNING A DRIVE	6
MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON/TIPS FOR PLANNING A DRIVE CONTINUED	7
GREAT NORTHWEST GATHERING OF MIATAS IN PICTURES	8
MISS VIKING FEST PARADE PICTURES 2018	9
IN FONDEST MEMORY, SUNSET DRIVE & PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED	10
LEAVENWORTH AUTUMN LEAF FESTIVAL PARADE	11



## Legal Stuff

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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)

Classified/members	free
Classified/nonmembers	\$20
Classified/business	\$20
Business card	\$20/mo
	or \$180 per year paid in advance
Quarter Page	\$35
1/2 Page	\$65

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# Spot That Thing

## October 6, 2018 @ 3pm

### Hosted By Charlotte Fellers

Location: Target, 4053 Factoria Square Mall SE, Bellevue, WA

If you like to win stuff, then consider joining a few other Miatas as we participate in the fifth and final Spot That Thing Drive on October 6 at 3 p.m. In this all-new route, you'll enjoy a fun rallye-type drive.

You'll get a set of driving directions and a page of photos that correspond to sights you will see on the drive. You'll need to take note of the mileage when you "Spot That Thing."

This all-new route takes us to Mercer Island to check out the scenery and beautiful homes that have been built there. Views from some areas are truly breathtaking, so make sure you are prepared with a clean windshield.

The drive start-to-finish will take about two hours, and should end in time for happy hour at the Islander Restaurant and Bar on Mercer Island, where we'll reconnect and award a fun prize to the winner! No need for speed here; just

enjoy the scenery and keep your eyes peeled for the "things" along the route.

This will be mostly an urban drive, so make sure you are ready for a little traffic and most likely, some road construction. We'll start from the parking lot of Target at Factoria Mall (this is a change from the originally announced starting point, due to the original starting point costing money for parking!) The Driver's Meeting is at 3 p.m. sharp and we'll leave around 3:15.

Directions to Target at Factoria Mall:

From I-405 North or South, take the Coal Creek Parkway Exit and head toward Newcastle (east of the highway). Just after the exit, turn left at 128th Ave. SE (there's a traffic light). After about 1.2 miles, you should see Wal-Mart on the right and immediately after that, Target. Turn right into the parking lot and look for other Miatas.

## Upcoming Events — Something for Everyone!

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

**September:** Sep 08 Whatcom and Skagit Counties Select Tour

Sep 15 2018 Canadian Rockies Rendezvous

Sep 16 Sunset Auto Trail VII

Sep 20 Hot Lava 2017+1

Sep 22 Leavenworth Autumn Leaf Festival Parade

**October:** Oct 02 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

Oct 06 Spot That Thing!

Oct 13 PSMC Planning and Board Meeting

**November:** Nov 06 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

**December:** Dec 01 Membership Appreciation Luncheon

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

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

## News about Miatas

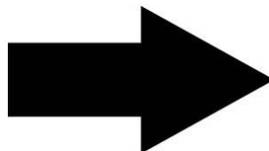
“Why I said goodbye to my Miata”

After 22 years, the world has changed — and so have I.

<https://www.mnn.com/green-tech/transportation/blogs/why-it-was-time-say-goodbye-my-miata>

**Miata Helpful Links**

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



# Membership Appreciation Luncheon

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

### Hosted by PSMC Board

Location: Azteca Mexican Restaurant,  
Southcenter,

Contact Charlotte Fellers

It's the end of the year and time to look back on all the great times we've experienced as a club.

This year the 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

2 corn tortillas smothered with a choice of Azteca's Famous salsas Mole, Crema, Ranchera, Verde, or Original. topped with jack cheese. Filled with your choice of ground beef, picadillo, cheese, or chicken. Served with refried beans and Mexican rice.

### MACHO BURRITO

A huge flour tortilla filled with refried beans, Mexican rice, your choice of chicken, ground beef, picadillo, chile verde, or chile Colorado. Topped with burrito sauce, cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, cotija cheese, and crema Mexicana.

(The anchor means it is one of the most popular dish on the menu!)

### TACOS AUTHENTICOS

Three Tacos made with house made corn tortillas and filled with charbroiled chicken breast, or pork carnitas, finished with onions, cilantro, and tomato. Served with salsa verde, Mexican rice, and refried beans.

### DELUXE TACO SALAD

Choice of Ground Beef, Chicken, Picadillo. Layered with Lettuce, Pico de Gallo, Cheddar Cheese, Sour Cream, Guacamole. Served inside a crispy flour tortilla.

### FAJITA BURRITO

Flour tortilla stuffed with choice of grilled chicken or pork carnitas, Mexican rice, and refried beans, grilled onions and peppers. Topped with arroz con pollo sauce and garnished with pico de gallo, sour cream, and guacamole.

**Continued on Page 8:**

# President's Message

By Charlotte Fellers

I hope your summer is going well. We've certainly had some great "top down" weather this summer. Maybe you've had a chance to take advantage of that.

I am currently in Colorado at a condo on a mountaintop next to a ski area. I bought the condo a year ago and have been spending some wonderful quiet and scenic days here. Labor Day Weekend offered a surprise bonus—a music festival at the ski lodge just down the hill. Just step outside and listen for free! (That's always a good price).

I drove the Miata to Colorado by way of Ashland, Oregon, where I enjoyed seeing one of the plays at the Ashland Shakespeare Festival. I was reminded of the trip the PSMC took in 2007, where we all went to a Shakespeare play together and did some wine tours in the area. If you went, you probably recall it was called the "007: Shaken(speare) Not Stirred" drive. Tom and Cindy Smith provided everyone with a CD of 007 music from every James Bond movie. As I recall, they also had a trivia contest (I didn't win).

The next leg of my drive to Colorado took me through Northern California and near Mt. Shasta, and it was here that I had to put the top up because the smoke drift from the California fires was so prevalent. Once I got to the Reno area, it wasn't so bad any-

more, so off came the top! I spent a little time in Virginia City and visited a fascinating little museum that told the story of the Comstock Mine. The town relies on tourism for most of its revenue, if I don't miss my guess.

I spent the night in South Lake Tahoe, thanks to a recommendation from one of our members, Karen Cooper, who has family in the area. I enjoyed watching the sun go down on Lake Tahoe and come up again the next morning before I took off for Carson City and a tour of the Nevada State Capital (touring state capitals is my "thing"). I headed out on the "Lonliest Road in the United States" that goes from Carson City to Delta, Utah. It's lonely, all right. During my stop in Delta, Utah, I spent a couple of hours touring an interpretative center that was the site of one of the internment camps that housed Japanese citizens during WWII.

I finally arrived in Colorado the next evening, after driving through rain all day. It was worth it as Glenwood Springs is one of the most scenic areas of Colorado in my opinion.

The year is wrapping up pretty quickly back in Washington. We do have a Skagit and Whatcom tour hosted by Tom Millar in September. This is a new drive, so I hope if you are in town you can go support Tom's efforts. **Continued on Page 10**

## Tips for Planning A Drive

Have you thought about planning a drive for club members but didn't know where to begin? If you have an idea for a drive, here are some tips that might help with the planning.

1. If you have a Thomas Guide, it can come in handy for mapping out a drive before you start. It's also accessible to take along in the car to make adjustments in case of roads being closed or under construction.

2. If you are more tech-savvy, consider using some of the online map helpers, such as Google Maps or Mapquest. You can lay out a drive with exact mileage and a route that works well for the drive.

3. Make sure you think about turns. Making left turns at lights can be problematic if you have a large group that needs to make a left turn. Instead, consider doing an "around the block" of some kind and make it a right turn if you can. It will be easier for your group to stay together.

4. When you are writing instructions, more detail is better. Just saying something like, "Make a left at Mile Marker 12" may not work too well, if Mile Marker 12 has fallen over or is not obvious. If there are landmarks or specifics that will help people stay on track, then don't be afraid to add the details, such as, "Watch for the red barn on your left and the turn will be right after this barn. As soon as you

turn right, get in the center lane and stay there for 2.5 miles so you will be set up to get in the left lane in 3 miles."

5. Plan a bathroom break at the start and perhaps halfway through the drive if it's more than an hour.

6. It's easy to get carried away with too many stops. A stop to stretch your legs after a half hour is not a bad idea, but once every 4-5 miles is a little too much leg-stretching. Strike a balance so you can get to the destination.

7. Consider a food stop at the end of the drive. It gives club members a chance to compare notes about what they saw on the drive and get to know other club members.

8. If you consider a food stop, be sure to check out several options, check with management to make sure they can accommodate the group, and call ahead the day before your drive to pre-arrange the stop. Giving restaurants a heads up that 12-20 people will be showing up at a particular time can help managers plan for personnel to take care of your group.

9. Run through your drive a couple of times to make sure your mileage and turns are as correct as you can make them (this is usually a work in progress). Then modify your instructions to reflect any changes you made. It's

**Continued on Page 7**

# Membership Appreciation Luncheon

## **Continued from Page 6:** FAJITA BURRITO

Flour tortilla stuffed with choice of grilled chicken or pork carnitas, Mexican rice, and refried beans, grilled onions and peppers. Topped with arroz con pollo sauce and garnished with pico de gallo, sour cream, and guacamole.

## BANDERA SALAD

Green salad topped with choice of grilled marinated chicken or pork carnitas. Finished with mushrooms, tomato, avocado, and cheddar cheese.

## AZTECA BURGER

½ lb all beef burger grilled with bacon, American cheese, and a poblano pepper, served with leaf lettuce, tomato, onion, and Azteca seasoned fries.

## GRANDE COMBINATION

Choose two of the following items: Enchilada, Tamal, Taco, Tostada, Burrito, Chimichanga, Chalupa Served with Mexican Rice and Refried Beans

## FOR DESSERT (YOUR CHOICE)

Flan

Chocolate Mousse

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

The address for Azteca in Tukwila is:

17555 Southcenter Parkway

Tukwila, WA 98188

## Tips for Planning A Drive

### **Continued from Page 7**

helpful to take a navigator who can write down mileage or other directions while you are driving.

10. Check the list of potential attendees and make enough copies of your instructions for everyone who is registered, plus a few extra copies for those who may show up at the last minute and didn't get a chance to sign up.

11. Come to the PSMC Fall Board Meeting October 13 at Lee Johnson Mazda to get your drive on

# Great Northwest Gathering of Miatas

## In Pictures



# Miss Viking Fest Parade Pictures 2018



**In Fondest Memory:  
Elsje Houghton**

**President's Message  
By Charlotte Fellers**

We are all shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of Elsje Houghton. Elsje was diagnosed with bladder cancer just a few weeks ago.

Elsje and Ray have been a huge part of our club. We all had a chance to enjoy the wonderful trips they co-hosted to Chelan, their wine tasting drives, and their great company.

We have many fond memories and extend our deepest sympathies to Ray and family at this unexpected loss. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

**Sunset Auto Trail VII  
September 16, 2018 @  
9:15**

**Continued from Page 1**

Driving directions to Randy's: From north or southbound I-5, take exit 158, E. Marginal Way . Go west to E. Marginal Way , go north (right) about three blocks and Randy's will be on the right.

Please RSVP on the PSMC website or to Allan Ohlsen @ 206-245-7027

**Continued from Page 5**

Allan Ohlsen is hosting his Sunset Auto Trail VII again this fall (Sept. 16), which is a fun and beautiful drive that follows the road that was used to travel from Cle Elum to Seattle in the "good ole' days" before I-90 was built. You should take this drive if you haven't had the chance before. You won't be sorry!

The final parade of the year is the annual Leavenworth Aspen Leaf Parade on September 29, 2018. Our parade coordinator, Bill Hughes, can't be there, but you may want to go. It's a fun parade with a VERY appreciative and big audience lining the streets and enjoying the changing of the leaves.

One of the final drives of the year is the "Spot That Thing" Tour of Mercer Island on Oct. 6. We'll start up the First Tuesday and Third Thursday Cruise-In events as well come October. Check the website for details.

**First Tuesday North-End  
Cruise-In Social  
October 2, 2018 @ 5:30pm  
McMenamin's in Mill Creek,  
13300 Bothell-Everett  
Highway #304,  
Mill Creek, WA**

**Leavenworth Autumn  
Leaf Festival Parade  
September 29, 2018 @ 10am Safeway in  
Leavenworth, WA**



This is the last parade of the year and also one of the most enjoyable, with sunshine almost guaranteed so please come out for a fun drive and to help carry a group of hard-working scholarship winners in a beautiful city during it's Autumn Leaf Festival!

The Miss Viking Fest court needs eight (8) drivers to drive our young ladies down the streets of Leavenworth, where large crowds cheer us on. We could get by with less if any cars are able to carry 2 girls each. (2 of the Viking Fest court are "Little Miss" Viking Fest girls)

The in-town meeting place will be the Safeway parking lot in Leavenworth between 10:00 and 10:15am, moving over to the check-in area by 10:45 at the latest. The parade starts at noon, so we need time to park, shine and decorate (if you choose to do so) the cars.

**PSMC Planning and  
Meeting Board  
October 13, 2018  
@ 11am  
Lee Johnson's  
Mazda in Kirkland,  
WA**

**OFFICERS -**

President: Charlotte Fellers  
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 Vice President: Ross Scott  
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 Past President Ross Scott  
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 secretary@pugetsoundmiataclub.org  
 TREASURER: SEAN MCGRUFF  
 treasurer@pugetsoundmiataclub.org

**DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE -**

MIKE SPRINGER AND TOM MILLAR

**APPOINTED POSITIONS -**

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 ASSISTANT WEBMASTERS: CHARLOTTE FELLERS  
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 membership@pugetsoundmiataclub.org  
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR: BILL BELL  
 editor@pugetsoundmiataclub.org  
 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  
 222 Wells Ave N  
 Renton, WA 98057

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*