

Miata Sounder



THE FIRST OFFICIAL UNITED STATES MIATA CLUB

January/February/March 2022

“New Members' Welcome Drive”

April 30, 2022

Hosted by Ross Scott and Tom Millar

When: 11:00 a.m. at the Kidd Valley in Gene Coulon Park, Renton, WA.

Are you new to the Puget Sound Miata Club and yet to participate in a club event? Or perhaps you have been a member for the last two or three years, wondering what else your club has to offer? Maybe you're a long time member looking to meet new members, have fun and go for a great drive. Come check it out; this event is for you. Some of the goals of the PSMC is to see you get the most enjoyment from your Miata through club events and activities with like-minded people.

Meet at Gene Coulon Park in Renton near Kidd Valley and buy a takeout lunch there or at Ivar's or bring your own lunch. While in the past we have simply eaten lunch in the restaurant, we have adjusted to meet guidelines for social distancing. We will grab tables outside the restaurant where we'll socialize for a time and then have a driver's meeting

scenic and fun twisty roads. Some of your PSMC Board Members will be on hand, looking forward to meeting you, explaining “How we do it” and answering questions. This event is designed for the new member, but all are encouraged to join in. Please plan to come to this fun event and meet some terrific people that enjoy the Miata experience as much as you do. The plan is to start at 11 a.m. with lunch, social time and introductions. At around 11:30 or 11:45, we will gather in the parking lot for a “drivers' meeting” before heading off for a one-hour adventure of fun roads. It should end by 3 p.m.

Inside this issue

Page

NEW MEMBERS' WELCOME DRIVE	1
THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE/PSMC LEGAL ITEMS	2
COOP'S MIATA AD	3
DETAILIN' DAY/CONOURS D'ELEGANCE/	4/11
PSMC BUSINESS MEETING/ENGINE HEALTH DAY	5
“LEAVES TO LUNCH” PICTURES	6/7
“EYE ON MEMBERS”	8
TWO LANES TO OREGON - 2022	9/10
MIATA COFFEE CRUISE-IN	11
“2021 YEAR IN REVIEW” PICTURES	12/13
MIATA DESIGNER SHUNJI TANAKA DIES/A LETTER TO OUR MEMBERS	14-15
UPCOMING EVENTS/DRIVE/DEALERS/BUSINESSES DISCOUNT/MEMBERSHIP	16-18



The President's Message

By Tom Millar

Legal Stuff

STAFF

Editor	Bill Bell
Distribution	Sean McGriff
Mailing List	Ross Scott
Photography	Contributed

FEATURE WRITERS

Club Events	Event Masters
Event Aftermath	Contributors

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

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

The Chapter assumes no liability for any information contained herein; or injury or damage resulting from the use of this information. The ideas, opinions, maintenance or modification tips expressed are to be used at the reader's discretion. Individual contributors and/or the editors express no approval,

On this cool day in January, I reflected upon our past year. In many respects, It was a year of "firsts". 2021 marked a second year in our fight against a stubborn new corona virus, a year of record temperature highs and lows, a new year marking the beginning of a new Biden Presidency and a year of freedom with regard to being able to resume activities we once so took for granted.

We enjoyed a wonderful year in our Puget Sound Miata Club with club events that brought back attendance numbers not seen since the 90's and early 2000's. We just completed our January Puget Sound Miata Club Board Meeting where we had a good turnout, indicating strong interest in shaping the club and our palate of events for this new year. I must say, I was invigorated with the enthusiasm and creativity displayed in filling out our 2022 calendar of events that began with our last board meeting in October.

At the time of this writing, we have already had our Membership Appreciation Luncheon and all attendees had a good time of fellowship, recognition of members who created events this past year and a rambunctious raffle!

When looking at the 2022 calendar you will notice that we are planning this year's "Holiday Member Luncheon" in the first part of December, before the holiday madness takes hold. While in this "quiet" time of the year, with respect to our sports car interest, we are so looking forward to that time, coming soon, when we can get in our rides, drop the tops and once again embark on the highways and byways. Rest assured my fellow mialites, the best is yet to come.

Tom

**PSMC Board Meeting
April 2, 2022 @ 11am
Hosted By PSMC
Board Online
Zoom Meeting**

Coop's Miata



**10% Labor
Discount
for PSMC
Members!**

Coop's Miata
20929 Southeast 232nd Street
Maple Valley, WA 98038
Phone: (425) 432-9666
Email: wcoopster@comcast.net
www.coopsmiata.com

FULL TUNEUP

SPECIAL

**Includes Premium
Replacement Parts & Labor**

\$895

- Timing belt
- Front crank seal
- Cam seals
- Air filter
- Oil filter
- Fuel filter
- Differential oil change
- Transmission oil change
- Engine oil change
- Brake fluid replacement
- Clutch fluid replacement
- Coolant change
- Spark plug replacement

**Additional Specials
Available. See our
website for details.**

Detailin' Day/Conours d'Elegance/Swap Meet/Party May 21, 2022

Hosted by PSMC Board;

Date: May 21, 2022 @ 10am

**Location: Coop's Miata, 20929
SE 232nd St, Maple Valley, WA**

THIS IS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO GET YOUR CARS BUFFED AND SHINED UP, READY FOR THE SUMMER DRIVING WEATHER THAT IS (HOPEFULLY) JUST AHEAD. WE'LL COMMENCE THE ACTIVITIES AT 10 A.M. (NOT A MINUTE BEFORE).

This year's Detailin' Day will be at Coop's Miata in Maple Valley. Bill Cooper, a lifetime member of the club, has offered his property again to host this year's event.

One of our most popular events, the day provides all club members the chance to vacuum and buff their cars in preparation for summer driving and have lunch. In addition, you can bring any Miata aftermarket items and "add-ons" you may have and swap them with other owners who may need what you don't need. Finally, we'll vote on the "Best of the Day" after all cars have been detailed.

You can show up at 10 a.m. with your Miata and start the process with vacuuming your car. After that,

you can get in line for the buffing station, and follow that with a final coat of wax to bring your baby to it's finest shine. All supplies will be provided by the club and Griot's Garage in Tacoma, another of our sponsors for this event; all you need to bring is some polishing cloths for the final steps and your own elbow grease.

After all is over, Coop will host an "after-party" in the front yard for anyone who wants to relax in the beautiful spring weather, featuring fresh-baked lasagna.

The PSMC Board will provide a delicious lunch TBA, included as part of your membership. If you haven't joined this club yet, this is a great opportunity to do so for just \$30. If you want to join in the fun and get your car detailed, that's fine, too; cost is \$20 per car.

If you'd like to volunteer to help set up and/or clean up, we do need help with both. Pitching in throughout the day may be needed as well, depending on the number of cars that are lined up to be buffed and cleaned. You can contact Tom Millar to offer your services. This will

Continued on Page 11:

**PSMC Business Meeting
April 2, 2022**

**Engine Health Day
9:30a.m. April 9, 2022**

Hosts: PSMC Board of Directors
Date: April 2, 2022
Time: 11am-12pm

Host: Bill Cooper
Location: Coop's Miata, 20929 SE 232nd St, Maple Valley, WA

Place: This meeting will be on Zoom for anyone who wishes to join us.

Join Bill and the rest of the PSMC at Coop's Miata Garage and bring your Miata and get some advice and checkups. Please check back at the PSMC website for more details.

This is a regular quarterly meeting of the board where general business will be discussed. Planning for upcoming club-sponsored events will take place, along with updates to the calendar. If you'd like to volunteer at Detailin' Day, please jump in --we can always use more volunteers!

We hope you can join us!

**First Tuesday
North-End Cruise-
In Social, 5:30pm,
on Feb. 1,
Mar. 1, and
Apr. 5, 2022
The Rock - Wood
Fired Pizza,
1918 201st Place
SE, Bothell, WA**



“Leaves To Lunch” Pictures

October 23, 2021

Hosted By Ross Scott



“Leaves To Lunch” Pictures Continued



Puget Sound Miata Club

"Eye On Members"

Name: Brian Tress

1. When did you become a member of the Puget Sound Miata Club (PSMC)?

I became a member of the PSMC in mid 2021



2. What do you like to do in the PSMC?

I like to do the Flash Drives and attend the North Sound Cruise-In Social event at the Wood Fired Grill.

3. Why do you like Miatas?

I like Miatas because they are a simple but well appointed stylish car, have a reputation for being reliable, are fun to drive and are good value for money. They also have enough performance for me.

4. What year did you buy your first Miata?

I bought my first Miata in May 2015 - it was three years old when I bought it.

5. What are the current Miatas you owned now?

The Miata I currently own is still my first one - a Silver 2012 model retractable hardtop.

6. What is the farthest you have driven in your Miata?

The furthest I have driven the Miata is to Ellensburg and back.

7. What is your favorite drive? Because I have not driven the Miata really very far from home my favorite drives are actually those I have ridden on my motorcycle and I have three - they are Highway 20 (North Cascades Highway) over the mountain pass to Winthrop, the Going-to-the-Sun Road in Glacier National Park, Montana, and my absolute favorite is Highway 12 traveling from east to west over the Lolo Pass in Idaho.

TWO LANES TO OREGON - 2022 TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY, JULY 5-6-7, 2022

**TWO LANES TO OREGON - 2022
TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY-
THURSDAY, JULY 5-6-7, 2022**

**Open Event: All Miatas and All
Clubs Welcome.**

**Hosted by Dee Dahlke & Duncan
Johnson**

Email: ToadHallWA@yahoo.com

253-845-2424 Home Landline

**[253-327-4368 Navigator's Cell
on the Drives]**

Your hosts are attending the Willamette Valley Miata Club "**Explore Oregon 2021**" meet at Grants Pass, Oregon July 7-8-9. We'll be zooming there over three days on some favorite back roads from Puget Sound area with overnight stops in northern and middle Oregon. This drive is all on fun surface roads; no freeways.

There will be lunch stops all 3 days and maybe some attractions along the way (as Covid and schedules allow.) Detailed driving directions will be provided.

FRS walkie-talkie radios (not old CBs) suggested for this drive and the event. Rustic rest room supplies and in-car snacks are also suggested because some of this run is fairly remote.

=====
**DAY 1 (Tues. July 5): YOUR
HOME TO ASTORIA, OREGON.**

For those wanting to add an extra day of fun driving to get to Astoria, e-mail hosts at above e-mail for a South Puget Sound meeting place and time and well run together.

-OR-

Drive any route from your house to Astoria and meet us there if that is most efficient.

We all will gather in Astoria outside the Hampton Inn (201 39th Street) about 4:30 PM and decide where to go for dinner and socializing.

Make your own Astoria hotel reservations. (It is high season and high prices.) Your hosts will be staying at the Hampton Inn, 201 39th Street, Astoria, Oregon 97103, Phone 503-325-8888.

**DAY 2 (Weds. July 6): ASTORIA
TO EUGENE, OREGON.**

Our traditional trip is a two-day run to the beginning of the Explore Oregon meet. This option will begin in Astoria after you have found your own way there on your own time schedule. Meet at 9:30 AM, leave at 9:45 AM Weds. July 6, from Starbucks in Youngs Bay Plaza, 171
Continued on Page 10:

TWO LANES TO OREGON - 2022 TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY, JULY 5-6-7, 2022

Continued from Page 9:

South US-101, Warrenton, OR 97146 This is the standalone Starbucks, not the store inside Fred Meyer. To get there from Astoria, go south on US 101, around the roundabout and over drawbridge, staying on US 101, right at 2nd traffic light after bridge and just before Fred Meyer (Neptune Dr.) then right into strip mall with Starbucks. Should take about 15 minutes.

The Wednesday night stop will be in Eugene, Oregon.

Make your own Eugene hotel reservations; several choices are available.

Your hosts will be staying at Hampton Inn, 3780 W. 11th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97402. Phone 541-431-1225

DAY 3 (Thurs. July 7): EUGENE TO GRANTS PASS, OREGON.

Meet at 08:30 AM, leave at 09:00 AM Thurs. July 7, from the Hampton Inn. 3780 W. 11th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97402. Phone 541-431-1225

This will be an ambitious drive as we have selected unique and complex back roads to miss the direct I-5 route. We plan to arrive at Grants

Pass in time to check in with the hotel of your choice (options described on Willamette Valley website), pick up your registration packet and find your room.

=====

Please RSVP for this drive on our own PSMC web site calendar. IMPORTANT: Show your name, don't be "anonymous," so your hosts know who's coming along and where and when.

[NOTE: You must pre-register separately with WVMC for the Explore Oregon meet and make your own reservations at the official hotels (there are 2 choices) in order to attend the actual meet. See that host club's web site at <http://www.oregonmx5.com>.

**Annual Pacific
Northwest Historic
Car Corral
July 2 & 3, 2022
@ 8:00a.m.
Pacific Raceways,
Kent, WA**

MIATA COFFEE CRUISE-IN

Detailin' Day/Conours d'Elegance/Swap Meet/Party

South Puget Sound Special! MIATA COFFEE CRUISE-IN

More Miata friends would like to know you! Let's meet for coffee any Wednesday morning at 9:30 AM at Starbucks, 732 Shaw Rd., Puyallup WA 98372.

This is an unofficial gathering, nobody hosts it, there is no agenda, and whoever shows up are the right



people to attend. We're there every Wednesday.

You don't have to belong to this club or anything else. Just walk in and grab a drink. The enthusiasts chat-up one another and may check out whatever cool cars come to the lot. If you can't figure out the above, text 253-327-4368.

Continued from Page 4:

be an event that will need extra hands to help out.

Directions to Coop's Miata:

From I-405 take the Maple Valley Hwy. Exit (State Hwy. 169) at Exit 4. Turn right at SE 232nd St (you'll see the Park and Ride on the right and the fire station on the left). Go up the hill to Coop's Miata at 20929 SE 232nd St. Coop's is on the left.

**Summer
Splendor - Back
Roads of
Snohomish
County - June 18,
2022 @ 10am
Safeway Parking
lot on 134th Place
SE, Everett
Hosted By Tom
Millar**

“2021 Year In Review”

Pictures



"2021 Year In Review" Pictures Continued



Miata Designer Shunji Tanaka Dies at 75

By Chris Perkins via Car Buzz

Tanaka turned design-studio concepts into the production NA Miata.

The original Mazda Miata had many fathers. Bob Hall, the journalist-turned-product-planner who originally pitched the idea to Mazda boss



Kenichi Yamamoto; Tom Matano and Mark Jordan, who designed

the first concepts at Mazda's California studio and laid out a detailed future for the sports car; Toshihiko Hirai, the chief engineer, whom Hall credits as the true patriarch. There are others, including Shunji Tanaka, who turned the original concept into the production car we know and love. Per a Facebook post from a Japanese Miata Club he was involved with, Tanaka-san died earlier this month, at the age of 75.

Born in 1945, there is unfortunately little information on Tanaka's early life and career on the English-language internet, but his contribu-

tions to the Miata are documented in Brian Long's *Mazda MX-5 Miata*. While also working on what became the sixth-generation 929 in mid 1986, Tanaka—by then a 15-year Mazda veteran—was given the task of refining the designs created by Mazda's California studio. "When I found out that he was going to be the chief designer for the project, I felt that we got the right guy to maintain the subtle nuances of the surfaces we created in California studio," Matano told R&T in an email.

In an interview published in Long's



book, Tanaka said he wanted the car to reflect Japanese culture and values. He drew particular

inspiration from the Noh masks—which appear differently depending on the way they're looked at—made in his spare time.

A Letter To Our Members

To our Puget Sound Members,

Volunteers

It is amazing if you think about it. This club, and many others like it, are run completely by volunteers. No one gets paid, but people step up and contribute whether it is serving on the board, handling membership duties or even coming up with a drive. This is where you come in. We need more volunteers as people age out and relocate to other climes. Please let me, or a board member know you would like to help out. Maybe you have a skill like website management, or you are an accountant or a people person. We need or will need soon, these skills to perpetuate this club and make it as fun as it is.

Thank you,

Keep on keeping on!

Ross Scott

Upcoming Events — Something for Everyone!

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

Feb: Feb 01 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

Feb 02 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Feb 09 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Feb 16 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Feb 23 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Mar: Mar 01 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

Mar 02 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Mar 09 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Mar 16 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Mar 23 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Mar 30 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Apr: Apr 02 PSMC board meeting

Apr 05 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

Apr 06 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Apr 09 Engine Health Day

Apr 13 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Apr 20 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Apr 27 Miata Coffee Cruise-in

Apr 30 New Members' Welcome Drive

May: May 03 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

May 21 Detailin' Day/Conours d'Elegance/Swap Meet/Party

May 28 Drive to Lunch

Jun: Jun 04 PSMC board meeting

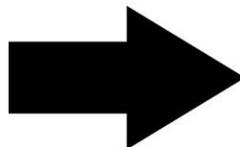
Jun 18 Summer Splendor - Back Roads of Snohomish County

Miata Helpful Link: <https://www.miata.net/>

Puget Sound Miata Club

website link:

<http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org/>



Chuckanut/Anacortes Drive July 9, 2022

before our great drive on some
Host: Bill Bell

If you want to enjoy a drive to La Conner, Chuckanut Drive, and Anacortes with many views, this is your event. Meetup will be at the Safeway Parking Lot in Smokey Point, Arlington, WA at 9:00am and driver's meeting at 9:30am and leave at 9:45am on July 9, 2022. This will be mostly a sightseeing drive to La Conner, a view point and twistys on Chuckanut Drive, and a view park in Anacortes. The cities we are visiting are La Conner, Edison Station, and Anacortes. There will be three bathroom stops with a Gas Stop. We will have the opportunity to purchase at three locations baked goods and drinks while in transit to our final destination at the Island Cafe in Anacortes.

While driving, you will see Mt Baker, beautiful landscapes, Cascade and Olympic Mountains, and Puget Sound. Please bring a light jacket, sunglasses, camera, water, sun-screen, etc. as we will be near the water, in the sunshine and hills. The drive with rest stops will take around 3.5 hours depending on the amount of time at each stop. Ends at: Island Cafe in Anacortes.



OFFICERS -

President:	Tom Millar president@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
Vice President:	Ross Scott viceprez@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
Past President	Ross Scott pastprez@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
Secretary:	Tom Millar secretary@pugetsoundmiataclub.org
TREASURER:	SEAN MCGRUFF treasurer@pugetsoundmiataclub.org

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE -

BILL COOPER AND BILL BELL

APPOINTED POSITIONS -

WEBMINION:	SEAN MCGRUFF
EVENTS CALENDAR/ASST. WEBMASTER:	ROSS SCOTT
MEMBERSHIP:	KEITH MEDLEAU 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 or by sending your name, address, email, and a check for **\$30 (annual chapter dues)**. Puget Sound Miata Club
Sean McGriff

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%

Puyallup Mazda of Puyallup (253) 845-1766 /

Lee Johnson Mazda of Seattle (206) 634-1191

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

Lee Johnson Mazda of Kirkland, (425) 947-4552