

# Miata Sounder



THE FIRST OFFICIAL UNITED STATES MIATA CLUB

August/September 2022

## Great Northwest Gathering of Miatas

10a.m. August 6, 2022

**Hosted by: PSMC Board**

**Location: Griot's Garage, 3333 S. 38th St, Tacoma, WA**

It's time again to mark your calendars to attend the annual Gathering of Miatas. As in past years, we have scheduled the cabana at Griot's Garage in Tacoma for our event this year.

If you have never been to Griot's in Tacoma, then you are missing out! It's a great place to stock up on your car polishing supplies. As one of our partners, Griot's Garage welcomes us every year to host our gathering in their parking lot. Additionally, they sponsor a one-hour tech program where they explain the use of the car maintenance supplies they sell and why they are such good products. Their address is: 3333 S. 38th St, Tacoma. You can check out their website at [www.griotsgarage.com](http://www.griotsgarage.com).

We'll start off at 10 a.m. with the "Drive-In" to Griot's and to give you an hour to spiff up your car. Then the Tech Program begins at 11 a.m. followed by lunch, which will be provided by your PSMC Board of Directors.

Please RSVP so we can have a head count for the food order. Update: When arriving at the Gathering, please park in the following areas on the grass: NA - South Side nearest Griot's Building; NB - North Side farthest away from Griot's; NC - West Side nearest the trees; ND - East Side nearest the street. Following lunch, you can view the Miatas and vote for the People's Choice winners.

Please bring something to sit on just like you would bring to a picnic! (i.e.: a folding chair or blanket). There is a large grassy area surrounding the bbq pits for this purpose.

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## 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
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# The President's Message

## By Tom Millar

Ah summertime, brings me back to the summer of '69 when I graduated from high school and was awaiting my entry into the U.S. Coast Guard. "Hot Fun in the Summertime", by Sly and the Family Stone, was playing on the AM car radio and life was good, without a care in the world. Having just graduated from Skyline High School in Oakland, CA that June I thought I



had the world by the tail. Little did I know that life was about

to change in a profound way for this eighteen-year-old lad as "real life" was about to set in!

Cindy and I recently returned from the Willamette Valley Miata Club's now famous Explore Oregon event, held in Grants Pass this year. This

was a fabulous time, memories of which we shall cherish. One of the highlights of the event was meeting and talking with Tom Matano, a picture of Tom and I is included in this writing. For those of you who may not know, Tom Matano is the original designer of the Miata. Tom frequently makes an appearance at large Miata events and is a key-note speaker; telling the story of the Miata, its' inception and getting to the final result. I felt fortunate when Tom signed the inside of my trunk lid with the inscription, "Always Inspired".

The month of June kicked off our summer events with Bill Bell leading the pack with two great rides while I hosted the "Summer Splendor" drive which proved to be a bit on the wet side but great fun nonetheless.

The momentum kept going in July with Dee and Duncan's Two Lanes to Oregon ride which took  
**Continued on Page 8:**

# Coop's Miata



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

**Coop's Miata**  
**20929 Southeast 232<sup>nd</sup> Street**  
**Maple Valley, WA 98038**  
**Phone: (425) 432-9666**  
**Email: [wcoopster@comcast.net](mailto:wcoopster@comcast.net)**  
**[www.coopsmiata.com](http://www.coopsmiata.com)**

## **FULL TUNEUP**

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- Timing belt
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- Clutch fluid replacement
- Coolant change
- Spark plug replacement

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

**Olympic Drive  
Northwest II  
8:30a.m.  
August 13, 2022**

**Kruze Kitsap  
9:30a.m.  
September 17, 2022**

**Host: Bill Bell**

**Location: 8:30am Port Gamble  
General Store**

If you missed the first drive on June 11, 2022, you're in luck. We are driving it again. We will meet at the General Store in Port Gamble, WA for breakfast (Optional) at 8:30 a.m., followed by the driver's meeting at 9:30 a.m. in front of the store. The drive begins at 9:45am and we will be stopping at the Point No Point Lighthouse near Hansville, WA, North Beach Park, Fort Worden Historical State Park next to Port Townsend, WA, and driving Chicken Coop Road. with a bathroom at each stop to our final destination restaurant in Sequim, WA.

Please bring warm clothing, sunglasses, sunscreen, as we will be at sea level, in the hills, and a camera to take pictures of the beautiful areas of the Olympic Peninsula and maybe Vancouver Island. The drive with rest stops will take around 4 hours depending on the amount of time at each stop. You might want to bring a light snack for the road. Please bring your State Discovery Pass. We will see you there!

**Host: Jim Alexander**

**Location: Safeway, 8196 WA  
Hwy 104, Kingston, WA**

This will be a fun trip on some backroads in Kitsap County that I'll bet you've never driven before.

Plan on taking the Edmonds - Kingston ferry departing about 9:00 AM. (Summer schedules aren't published as of this writing so look for an edit once we get closer.) Arrive Kingston about 9:30 and follow the ferry traffic off the boat and up the hill. We'll meet at the Safeway parking lot at 8196 WA HWY 104. We'll depart about 10:00 and make our way on some great back roads towards Seabeck and the sound end of Hood Canal. We'll stop for lunch in Belfair, and then head towards Bremerton, Bainbridge Island, and finish in Kingston.

South Sound folks may want to take the Bainbridge Island ferry back to Seattle rather than completing the trip to Kingston. Jim can be reached at:

jimloveskath@gmail.com  
206 619-4244

**First Tuesday North-End  
Cruise-In Social 09/06/2022  
5:30 PM The Rock - Wood  
Fired Pizza, 1918 201st Place  
SE, Bothell**

**First Tuesday North-End  
Cruise-In Social 10/04/2022  
5:30 PM The Rock - Wood  
Fired Pizza, 1918 201st Place  
SE, Bothell**

# **Mt. Baker Run**

## **8a.m. August 20, 2022**

**Host: Tom Millar**

**Location: 304 East College Way,  
Mt. Vernon, WA**

The Puget Sound Miata Club will be having a Mt. Baker Run on August 20, 2022. We will be meeting in Mount Vernon, WA 8am to the east of Jack in the Box, 304 East College Way, Mount Vernon, Washington 98273. We will be in the parking lot between Jack in the Box and Bigfoot Java. After the driver's meeting, we will depart for Chuckanut Drive to Bellingham for our first stop and then on to Hwy 542 to Glacier, WA.

There is a \$5 charge to drive in the Mt. Baker National Forest if you do not have a annual pass. We will head to Artist Point at Mount Baker to explore Mount Baker and the beautiful sites in the area. If you would like some history about Mount Baker, check the USGS link: <http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/volcanoes/baker/>

[baker\\_geo\\_hist\\_115.html](http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/volcanoes/baker/baker_geo_hist_115.html).

Estimated departure from Mt. Vernon is 8:20 am and stopping off in Bellingham and the National Forest Rangers Office in Glacier, WA.

We will have lunch at Milano's on the way down. Bring a jacket in case it is cold and windy at Mt. Baker.

From I-5: take Exit 227, Hwy 538 and head east about .2 of a mile and it will be on your right, the south side of Hwy 538. Zoom Zoom!

**Special First  
Tuesday North-  
End Cruise-In  
Social 5:30pm  
August 2, 2022  
Burgermaster,  
18626 Bothell-  
Everett  
Highway,  
Bothell, WA**

# "MAHOGANY AND MERLOT "

## Hosted by Tom Millar

**Time:** 10a.m. on September 30, 2022;

**Ends:** 2p.m. on October 2, 2022

**Location:** Monroe Plaza Parking Lot across from Chevron Station, Hwy 2, Monroe, WA

The Mahogany and Merlot event is a wonderful experience that is returning after a five-year hiatus. The event features vintage hydroplane races on Lake Chelan. Hydroplane boats named Lady Bardell and the Oberto boat are two of the regular hydroplane boats that will be participating in this event. Mahogany and Merlot also features a vintage wooden boat, on the water display with old boat builder names like Chris Craft and Owens. There will also be a vintage care display in the nearby park lot near Campbell's Resort.

Special room rates at Campbell's Resort are available for those participating in the event, which includes PSMC. These special room rates range from \$172 - \$202 per night. Please make sure to reference the Mahogany and Merlot event to receive these special rates (509)682-2561.

We will begin our drive at the Monroe Plaza parking lot on Friday at 9:30 a.m. with a driver's meeting, and will be departing at 10:00 a.m. Our journey will take us over

Steven's Pass and we will proceed to the Tunnel Winery outside of Chelan. We will enjoy fine wines and a picnic lunch on their beautiful grounds, so please plan on bringing a lunch. We will also stop at another winery before heading to Campbell's Resort.

Friday night will be on your own for dinner and there are several restaurant venues to be enjoyed in the Lake Chelan area. Saturday morning will afford the opportunity to wander around the wooden boats exhibits, car show, craft booths and take in the views of hydroplane racing which go on throughout the day.

At approximately 11:00 a.m. there will be a tour of three wineries in the Lake Chelan area for those who wish to participate. Saturday evening will feature a group dinner at a restaurant (yet to be identified). After dinner Cindy and I will be having a get together in our room for those who wish to come.

Sunday morning we will meet for breakfast at the resort before departing, in time to miss the traffic on Highway 2. The ride is still a bit in the planning stage but we wanted to get out some information so that you can make plans and reservations.

# Leaves To Lunch

## 9:30a.m.

### October 22, 2022

**Host: Ross Scott**

**Location: Monroe Plaza across from Monroe Chevron, Highway 2 in Monroe, WA**

Join me for a great, colorful drive as we explore some interesting back roads in the north end of the Puget Sound and, hopefully see some beautiful autumn leaves.

A somewhat different route than the "Drive To Lunch" with the same destination, this is a meandering 50-mile drive along scenic back roads to lunch at the famous Rhodes River Ranch, located just outside of Oso, WA. It is on the second floor of a horse arena, with a glass wall for a view of the horse venue. There is no special event scheduled for this day, but people can be observed working their horses from time to time.

The lunch menu is quite extensive and is moderately priced. There are gluten-free items on request.

From here, everyone can make their way home through Arlington to Highway 9, and from there, connect to I-5 if desired. Of course one can always trace the route in reverse, or get lost on the maze of parallel roads on return.

We will meet up at 9:30 AM in the Monroe Plaza parking lot across

from the Monroe Chevron on Highway 2 at the east end of Monroe. Driver's meeting will be at 9:45 for a 10 a.m. commencement of activities.

#### **Monroe Plaza**

19829 US 2,

Monroe, WA 98272

And end up at:

Rhodes River Ranch

22016 Entsminger Rd

Arlington, WA 98223

(360) 474-8313

This will be about a two-hour drive with one rest stop for the weary.

#### **DIRECTIONS FROM I-5:**

Take Highway 2 exit east in Everett. About 40 miles from the exit.

#### **HIGHWAY 522:**

Drive north on Highway 522 to the end in Monroe and take Highway 2 east.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

# The President's Message By Tom Millar

## **Continued from Page 2:**

participants on the back roads through Washington and Oregon, meeting up with Explore Oregon. Bill Bell hosted a couple of rides, including a first-ever drive which included a mini-golf event! Ingvar Carlson resurrected an old time favorite, "Miata Fly-In", which by all accounts was a great success, especially as it brought in some 19 participants!

Our momentum continues in August with Ross and Nancy Scott hosting a "First Tuesday North End Social" at the outdoor, Burgermaster, in Bothell, fitting for a nice summer evening! Be sure to take in our annual Gathering of Miata's at Griot's Garage in Tacoma which will feature a Miata car show, a complimentary lunch for PSMC members, a raffle and a "people's choice" & trophy presentation for the best car, awarded by Miata generation: NA-ND. This event is always a big draw and by my count this morning we are up to 42 participants, with a couple of weeks to go! Later in the month Bill Bell will lead a reprise of his ever-popular Olympic Drive Northwest and I will conclude the month's ride lineup by hosting a revised Mount Baker ride which is still under construction.

As summer wanes in September, we will see a new ride event, "Kruze Kitsap", hosted by Jim Alexander

which is already boasting some 20 participants! Doug's Miata is hosting a "Miata Mingle", with details to follow. At the end of the month, I will be leading the Mahogany & Merlot overnight event to check out some cool vintage hydroplane racing boats, classic mahogany wood boats and some great Chelan wineries.

With summer in full swing, we are seeing some great participation in our rides and while conversing with folks at our events I am sensing people are having a wonderful time. I look forward to seeing everyone on our drives as our summer season continues. In the meantime, keep on "zoom-zoom'in"!

Tom

**Doug's Lynnwood Mazda  
Mingle Event  
11a.m. - 3p.m.  
September 17, 2022**

On September 17, 2022, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, Doug's Lynnwood Miata will be hosting a "Mazda Miata Mingle Event" to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Miata and the 100th anniversary of Mazda. Details are still being worked through so keep an eye out for further information as this event comes together!

# Summer Splendor - Back Roads of Snohomish County June 18, 2022



# Olympic Drive Northwest

## June 11, 2022



# Miata Island Hopping Drive

## June 25, 2022



# Miata Island Hopping Drive Continued



# Miata Three Rivers Drive July 9, 2022



Photos courtesy of Nancy Scott,  
Tyler Gaudio, Tom Millar, Duncan  
Johnson, and Bill Bell

# TWO LANES TO OREGON 2022

## As Seen In The Rearview Mirror

**By Duncan & Dee in her 2019 Orange "Zatarah"**

There's an amazing thing even after having been in the motor hobby for many years: you're always discovering something new. Here are some navigational revelations after our July drive called "Two Lanes To Oregon" in which a small pack of

the South Puget Sound area, but that wasn't the case. We had 10 cars on the drive and 8 of them started with us, all the way from Tumwater. People want to be out and about after Covid lockdowns and apparently Miata drivers want to drive any back road somebody can find.

Second item: Airbnb is your friend. We didn't know how people would adjust to in-season high prices at hotels along the way. No problem. Folks just bypassed the price gougers and did Airbnb instead.

Third item: Google Maps can be the tour host's friend, too, but it can also sure be your worst enemy. Google supposedly sees everything, but the enemy part comes because Google knows only what is in its database and it gives driving directions from that, and those directions may not be what you find out there in the real world. For example, in Tri-City, Oregon, the route Google proposed to us said, "Turn right onto Gael Lane." But when we magnified their map for a closer look we discovered Gael Lane was on the left, and the desired roads to the right were something else entirely. So we re-wrote our own driving directions to say:

**Continued on Page 15:**



Miatas sports-motored to WVMC's big "Explore Oregon" meet in Grants Pass without ever using a freeway.

First item: Setting up the route wasn't that difficult as we already knew a lot of favorite twisty roads though Oregon. We just had to stitch them together into a smooth flowing drive. We spread the drive across three days: Puget Sound Area to Astoria, Astoria to Eugene, and Eugene to Grants Pass. We had thought that maybe a lot of Miata drivers would want to join up in Astoria to avoid a "dawn launch" from

# TWO LANES TO OREGON 2022

## As Seen In The Rearview Mirror

### Continued from Page 14:

23.8 In Tri-City right (west) at Gael Ln crossing I-5 toward Riddle. Becomes Pruner Rd., then Riddle Bypass Rd.

We do use an old paper road atlas ("Oregon Territory ?") to help resolve things. Or the most professional approach is to do a pre-run and adjust any issues. If you don't mind looking like a flake, one could just get to the turn point on the real drive and figure it out on arrival; after all we are among Miata friends here.

Fourth item: Fun Miata roads often are very scenic roads with natural wonders, quaint small towns, awesome views, etc. Multiple times out in the middle of nowhere people got on their walkie-talkie radios and exclaimed, "This is really beautiful scenery!" The twisties are fun to drive, but head-down navigators really should look around and "smell the roses" along the way (or new-mown hay, manure, sawmills, etc.)

Fifth item: Miatas have been around long enough that we are now dealing with modified cars in club events, like lowering from more aggressive suspension. In the village of Drain, Oregon, there is a lovely little city park with an old covered bridge (and nice restrooms)

that makes a convenient pit stop just when everybody needs one. Caution: the driveway entrance to that park is really steep. Lowered cars had to park outside on the street and their people walked in. Small inconvenience, but one to remember. (We have owned lowered cars in the past, shame on us.)

Sixth item: Miata enthusiasts don't take a shortcut just for efficiency. The drive south out of Eugene was a long one because we were hopscotching back and forth across I-5 as we stayed on back roads plus surviving bits of old Highway 99 that roughly paralleled the freeway. When we got to Canyonville we were at a decision point. The I-5 freeway there has been built over all the old surface streets so there is no easy parallel route; our drive would go halfway to Crater Lake and back to stay on the twisties. We offered the option of leaving the tour and going direct down the freeway if someone needed to arrive early, but the bigger pack of cars took the long way around.

What wasn't a revelation was that the actual Explore Oregon meet functioned as advertised. We'll attend next year, wherever it happens (not yet announced.) It was fun and not too hard to produce a drive to get there. Your turn to take the lead in 2023????

## Upcoming Events — Something for Everyone!

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

**Aug:** Aug 02 Special First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

Aug 06 Great Northwest Gathering of Miatas

Aug 13 Olympic Drive Northwest II

Aug 20 Mt. Baker Run

**Sep:** Sep 06 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

Sep 17 Kruze Kitsap

Sep 25 Miata Mingle

Sep 30 Mahogany & Merlot

**Oct:** Oct 04 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

Oct 06 Surf N Safari 2022 Miata Regional - San Diego

Oct 08 PSMC board meeting

Oct 22 Leaves To Lunch

**Nov:** Nov 01 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

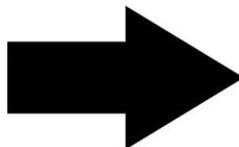
**Dec:** Dec 03 PSMC Holiday Luncheon

Dec 06 First Tuesday North-End Cruise-In Social

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

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**Puget Sound Miata Club website link:  
<http://www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org/>**



# Great Northwest Gathering of Miatas 10a.m. August 6, 2022



**Continued from Page 1:**

## **Directions to Griot's Garage: Traveling I-5 South:**

Take Exit 132A (S 38th St West toward Tacoma Mall)

At the stoplight, bear right onto S 38th St. Go 3/4 of a mile to Griot's Garage on the right (white building with red stripes.) Last intersection is S Lawrence St.

## **Traveling I-5 North:**

Take Exit 132, take second 38th St exit after overpass (S 38th St West toward Tacoma Mall)

Bear right onto S 38th St. Go 3/4 of a mile to Griot's Garage on the right (white building with red stripes.) Last intersection is S Lawrence St.

## **From Gig Harbor:**

On HWY 16, take exit for Union Ave. Turn right onto S Union Ave. Turn left onto S 38th St., then another left onto S Lawrence St. Griot's Garage is on the left (white building with red stripes).

**PSMC Holiday Luncheon  
11:30a.m.  
December 3, 2022  
Azteca Mexican Restaurant,  
Southcenter, Tukwila, WA  
Please check the PSMC  
Events Calendar website**

### **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 MCGRIFF treasurer@pugetsoundmiataclub.org

### **DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE -**

BILL COOPER AND BILL BELL

### **APPOINTED POSITIONS -**

WEBMINION:	SEAN MCGRIFF
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](http://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*