

MIATA SOUNDER

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



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1st Friday Formal

November 3, 2006 @ 7 PM
Pellini Restaurant, Seattle

By Ohlsen & Lazur

It's that time again! Time for another First Friday Formal and November is a great month to go "steppin' out" in style. In memory of George Lazur, we will be dining at one of George and Gayle's favorite fine dining establishments, Pellini Restaurant. Located on the 28th Floor of the Madison Renaissance Hotel in downtown Seattle, the skyline views and elegant ambiance are breathtaking. The meal prices are quite reasonable and the wine list is extensive. There is both valet parking and a public garage located in the lower level of the building. And yes, Pellini's will gladly validate your parking. This will be a special evening. If you have never attended a FFF, it's a great opportunity to get dressed up and be with other PSMC friends. Come see why this is a favorite place to dine. The event will be open to the first 20 people so dust off your tux and get your RSVP in today.



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PSMC Planning & Board Meeting

Sunday, Nov. 5, 2006 @ 2 PM
Ben Dews Club-
house Grill
6501 6th Ave.,
Tacoma



Hosted by the PSMC Board; Article by
Dustin Locke

Let's Bring In The New Year By Planning For It!

Do you have good ideas? Are there suggestions that you would like to make that would make the Puget Sound Miata Club even better? If so, you should plan on attending the Planning Meeting in November! These Planning Meetings are where we discuss new ideas and map out our events for the up and coming year. If you want to make 2007 a great year for our club, then you should head out and make your ideas heard!

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Veteran's Day Run

Sat. November 11, 2006 @ 9:30 AM

Discovery Park, Seattle

Hosted by Smith & Weber

Think of Cindy's Graveyard-to-Graveyard Tour. Now think of it with a twist – a military twist. And think of it as stated in Dustin's President's message this month: that Cindy's events are fun and educational. So with that in mind:

Do you know what war the *Star Spangled Banner* was penned? Or what war the White House burned? How about the war that was behind the presidential campaign slogan "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too?" Do you know what famous movie star was a recipient of the Medal Of Honor? Or how about how many Medal of Honor Recipients are buried in Washington State?

Veterans continued on page 2

CALLING ALL VETERANS!



Don't forget! The Smiths and Webers would like to honor all of our PSMC Veterans **ALONG WITH ANY OF THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS WHO HAVE SERVED OR ARE SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES** on our

Veteran's Remembrance Run, so please, send in your Service Photo (OR THEIRS) along with any pertinent service information to Cindy Smith @ tomaci@verizon.net for a special surprise relating to the run. The deadline for submitting photos will be Wednesday, November 8th.

upcoming events

Turkey Teaser

Sunday Nov. 19, 2006 @ 12 Noon

Mucho Beuno, Renton

Hosted by Sean & Pam McGriff

Join us again (or for the first time) for this annual autumn event. This is always a great time of year to drive through our local roads and neighborhoods. With the change of the season, the fall colors are always a visual delight.



Let's meet at high noon at our favorite Mexican restaurant: Mucho Bueno, at the corner of Park Ave N and N 3rd Street in downtown Renton. We'll send the first car out at 12:30. That is, if I get there on time!

Be sure to bring your good eyes, because there will be plenty of questions to answer and turkeys to hunt as you wander down the roads.

Let us know if you can make it. Send your RSVPs to psmhome@comcast.net, call (425) 430-0255 or RSVP via the website calendar at www.ps-miata.org.

Directions: From the **NORTH:** Take 405 to exit 4, Sunset Blvd N; right turn on Bronson Wy N; right on Park Ave N; left into parking lot before N 3rd St. From the **SOUTH:** Take 405 to exit 4B, Bronson Wy N/Mapley Valley Rd/169; turn right on 169/Maple Valley Rd; right turn on Park Ave N.; Left turn into parking lot before N 3rd St.

Holiday Light Run

Sat. December 16, 2006 @ 6PM
Bellevue QFC

Hosted by Andrew & Dustin Locke

Twinkle, twinkle little star. Well, twinkle, twinkle little Christmas Lights anyhow! Andrew & I will be leading the last Run of the Year with our Holiday Lights Run! We will be leading a group of Merry Souls along some of the twinkling avenues and streets of our local neighborhoods. And if that wasn't enough to really put you in the Holiday Spirit, the Run will end at our home on Lake Washington for some Hot Cocoa, Christmas Cookies and maybe even a Holiday Movie.

Directions to the Bellevue QFC: From I-405, take WA-522, right on 108th Ave; left on Northrup Way; left on Lake Washington Blvd, which turns into Bellevue Way. QFC will be on the left. From I-5, take WA-522, take Bellevue Way NE, staying right, QFC will be on the left.



Coming January 2007: Skagit Eagle Tour

Saturday, January 13, 2007

Hosted by Weber and Brandt

No info on this tour yet, but we wanted to get it out there early so you can get it on your 2007 calendar. More info coming soon to a Sounder or website near you!



A Miata In A Pear Tree PSMC Holiday Party

Sat. December 9, 2006,
6PM - 11PM

Renton Community Center

Price Per Person: \$25.00

Article by Dustin Locke



Do you hear what I hear? I hear the Annual Puget Sound Miata Club's Holiday Party sneaking up on us yet again! Yes, it is time to hang up the Holly and head out to the Renton Community Center to participate in the festivities! We will once again be decking the Halls of the Community Center for our party brought to you by the PSMC Board.

This year promises to be a sleigh load of fun. From 6PM – 7PM we will have our social hour, dinner will be served from 7PM – 8PM, door prize drawings and awards given out from 8PM to 9PM and although we may not have any Fred or Gingers in the group, we will be dancing the night away to the music provided by DJ Dabbs.

We have once again booked the Renton Technical College to provide a festive meal, which would put the Ghost of Christmas Present to shame. Our entrees for this year will be your choice of Prime Rib, Champagne Salmon or Vegetarian lasagna. In order to get the head count in for the caterer, **YOU WILL NEED TO RSVP DUSTIN LOCKE WITH YOUR ENTRÉE CHOICE BY DECEMBER 6TH** at sapphirexae@yahoo.com.

For those of you who don't want to drink and drive (or don't want to drive the long way home after a fun-filled night with your PSMC friends), we have a block of 10 rooms (with both king and queen beds) reserved at the Quality Inn (formerly the Silver Cloud Inn) at the rate of \$75.00 per night. **THESE ROOMS WILL BE HELD UNTIL NOVEMBER 10TH – WHICH IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER.** At that time they will be released to the general public.

And don't forget to bring an unwrapped toy (not to exceed \$10.00) to put under the tree for the Toys for Tots program. Your generosity will be rewarded when a special child, who would not normally receive a gift on Christmas morning, finds that Santa did not forget them.

The cost of this year's event is \$25.00 per person. Advance payment is preferred but if you need to, you can pay at the door. Please send your check, written out to PSMC to

Dustin Locke
4301 Lake Washington Blvd NE #1110
Kirkland, WA 98033

There is "snow" way to bring in the Holiday Season and spread some Holiday Cheer like partying with your fellow Miata Club Members. So don't be a Grinch . . . come on out and participate in all of the fun!!!



event aftermath

Run Around the Bases - Double Play

By Dennis Thompson
All photos by Lindanne Gores

The morning of August 20th was clear and comfortably warm as five Miatas lined up at Heidelberg Field in the shadow of Cheney Stadium in Tacoma. After exchanging pleasantries, boasts, and lies, the enthusiastic group took off for first base, Garfield Park. We drove past UPS (that's University of Puget Sound – no brown trucks were in sight), through the edge of Old Town Tacoma, past Annie Wright School, and on to Garfield Park. There two teams were formed, and a one-inning Whiffle Ball World Series was held. Much creative play ensued, including a pinch runner for a batter (?) who ran from home plate to first base screaming at the top of her lungs the entire way to frighten the first base player to drop a thrown ball. It worked!

After working out a few kinks from the strenuous game, the group headed to second base, Owens Beach in Point Defiance Park. We again drove by Annie Wright School, through the heart of Old Town Tacoma, along Commencement Bay, through the one-lane tunnel (Let's get some better sounding horns for next year, okay?), in to Point Defiance Park, and on to Owens Beach. The participants of each car were given a list of baseball jargon terms to match with their meanings. Gayle Lazur and Joanie Hughes got all 15 right! It looks like the host (that would be me) is going to have to get trickier next year.

We then left Owens Beach and drove the beautiful Five-Mile Drive through Point Defiance, stopping at most of the viewpoints. We left the park, drove through North Tacoma, over Highway 16, and on the Titlow Beach Park for our third base activity. There we had our Dress-like-a-Mariner's-Fan team competition. It looked like a runaway for one team, until Charlotte Fellers' navigator, Judy Spencer, showed everyone how quickly it could be done.

We then all headed back to Cheney Stadium where most of the participants took in the Tacoma Rainiers/Las Vegas 51's game. Unfortunately, unlike last year when the Rainiers had a marvelous comeback, the home team lost 4-3. Oh well, there's always next year for the Rainiers, and for Run Around the Bases III – Three Strikes Yer Out.



It wasn't all about running around the bases; there was even time to just sit back and enjoy the scenery.



Getting ready to go run bases at Cheney Stadium.



Batter, batter, batter! Tommy gets ready for that "fast ball!"



It wasn't just the Miata running around bases on this tour!



Pretty little Miatas all in a row.

event aftermath

Gathering up “The Gathering”

By Dustin Locke

Photos by Lindanne Gores

I'm sure we have all had those events in life where you plan and plan and plan, and then in an instant, the event is just a memory. That is certainly how the 2006 15th Annual Gathering felt for me. We planned it out for months and then just like that, it was all over and we were left with just our memories. But what great memories we have though! Granted, I have not been around to participate in the previous years' events, but I think that 2006 turned out very well.

First of all, I would like to say that none of the Gathering's fun would be possible without the help of our Board. They worked hard, came up with wonderful ideas and we managed to put on a really wonderful event. I would like to thank those people who really were instrumental in making this event a success. This would never have been put together without the help of Bonnie & Larry Lohkamp, Maury Fugitt, Sandy McKnight, Charley Drake, Sarah Hunt, Mike Springer, Gayle Lazur, Andrew Locke, Jim Hightchew, Patrick McSherry, Stuart Sable and Mindy Bohnas. These folks all were just wonderful in taking on this huge undertaking. We also, as a board, cannot begin to express our thanks to Bill and Wendy Cooper. Several times every year the Coopers open up their home for all of us to have a wonderful place to get together and have fun. It takes a very generous kind of person to do this and yet generous just doesn't seem to do Bill and Wendy justice. I think I speak for us all when I say they are a real asset to our club and are just all around great friends.

If you didn't make it to the Gathering, man did you miss some fun! There was something for everyone. We had our very own 'Queen of the Registration Desk,' the very lovely Sandy McKnight, checking people in and welcoming everyone at the gate. Once you were welcomed in, it was as much fun as you could handle in a day's time. We had vendors' onsite providing information and services. There were several games to choose from depending on what you felt like doing. You could drive though Coop's Miata Maze while shooting at targets for points and time, and there was the ever-popular Trunk Stuffing game as well as the Blind parking game. You could even compete for time to see who could get their tops down the quickest. We had someone there taking dents out of cars, another person was doing paint work to make our Miatas shine. We also had a rep from Lee Johnson Mazda on hand with the all-new Mazda CX-7 SUV. Of course, one of my favorite events was the Concours Car Show. We had three categories and the cars were judged and awards handed out.



A favorite at the Gatherings is seeing old friends and catching up with all the latest Miata news, just like Sandi & Fred Holler and Patrick McSherry (right) did!

Lunch was catered by the Armadillo BBQ, and there was plenty of socializing and laughter to be found throughout the day.

All of us working that day really got in our exercise! I think everyone would agree that the work was well worth the payoff. Everyone enjoyed a day of games, food, events and having fun with fellow Miata Friends and Family. I know I'm already thinking about "The Gathering 2007."



Lindanne gets a new windshield, courtesy of Roger Cantaloube (above), while Tommy tackles the maze (below).



I've seen plenty of cockpit covers in my time, but this one has to be the most original!

event aftermath

Leavenworth Parade & North Cascades Tour II

Sept. 23-24, 2007

By Bonnie Lohkmap

Photos by Thomas Millar

For Larry and me, our day started at o'dark-thirty so we could meet Frank Shriver & Carol Kus at the Starbucks in Mukilteo (yes, Larry finally got a Saturday off to do something with the club). Of course, getting up at o'dark-thirty was nothing compared to Frank and Carol's start to the day; they had to catch the 5:30 AM ferry from Clinton! After fueling up on latte's and breakfast sandwiches, we were off to Monroe to meet up with two other couples, Wayne & Lois Kanaby and John & Linda Mann, who had just bought their car the previous week and decided this was a great way to start out with the club. Once introductions were over, we caravanned over Stevens Pass, stopping for a well deserved leg stretching – and more coffee – at the little rest stop just outside of Leavenworth. Once arriving in Leavenworth, we met up with Mindy Bohnas and her group, who had all met in North Bend for breakfast before the drive to Leavenworth, and then we proceeded to our lineup spots for the parade.

It turned out that the folks who originally RSVP'd for the North Cascades Tour decided to show up and do the parade as well, so we ended up having a total of 13 cars for the parade. Therefore, PSMC was very well represented, carrying three different groups of royalty and having cars in the club spot. And as usual, there was a great crowd at the Autumn Festival Parade. We even had our own photographer as Tom and Cynthia Millar decided to sit out the parade and take some wonderful pictures for all of us to share. It was really nice to have someone other than a driver taking pictures as driving in a parade and taking pictures at the same time can be on the tricky side (like the picture I took once of a rear view mirror as I turned the car when I snapped the picture!).



Frank Shriver and Carol Kus look like they are just having way too much fun during the Autumn Leaf Parade in Leavenworth.

After the parade, we drove to Smallwood Harvest just outside of town and did some fruit and vegetable shopping. While we were there, Tom and Cynthia caught up with us and then we were all off to Wenatchee to have lunch at the Chateau

Leavenworth continued next column

Leavenworth continued from previous column

Fairlepoint Winery. Arriving at Chateau Fairlepoint, we were served a wonderful lunch, which consisted of Cesar Salad, Tomato Basil Soup (it was to die for), Chicken Parmigan Penne Pasta, and Vineyard Sandwiches. Originally only anticipating fifteen for lunch, we ended up with twenty-three, which the chef said was not a problem and happily accommodated for the extras that showed up. After lunch, Debe, the owner, took us on a private tour of the winery and barrel room, where we tasted wines straight from the barrel and learned some interesting facts about winemaking.

From there, we all headed to the Best Western Lakeside Lodge in Lake Chelan for the night. Imagine our surprise when we found out that PSMC's special king sized room rates were actual suites with separate bedroom, kitchenette, and living room, complete with balconies with views of the lake! Upon arrival, some headed for the pools (2) and hot tubs (2) while others went to town to find refreshments for the evening. Gathering later in our room, we had a real potluck of foods, drinks and desserts.

At the 8:00 AM breakfast meeting the next day, A.J. and Vicki, our hosts for the next segment of the trip, handed out our trip information, gave us a quick briefing and then it was off to gas up before the trip. Of course, gassing up just wasn't for the vehicles. When pulling into the gas station, I spotted an espresso stand, so Carol and I deserted our husbands and made a bee-line over for lattes. When we got back to the gas station, there stood our husbands and all the other cars lined up and ready to go waiting on us. At least Larry and Frank forgave us when they saw we brought them lattes too.

Tops were down as we started our beautiful, scenic drive to Winthrop as the weather was once again gorgeous. At Winthrop, our lunch stop, we all started in separate directions, with some going shopping, some sightseeing, but the majority of us ended up at the Winthrop Brewery for lunch, where we had some great burgers and pizza.

Heading for home over the North Cascades, we only had five cars remain with the group as a few folks decided to stay in town and a couple of others went home on their own. All I can say is that I can't believe what a beautiful drive it was. Living in Washington for 23 years, I have never been over this road. I am more of a beach person instead, growing up 8 blocks from the

Leavenworth continued on page 7



The scenery was breathtaking as it was, but add a Miata or two and then see what you get!

event aftermath

Walk to D'Feet ALS

By Gayle Lazur

Saturday, October 7th dawned overcast and cool – great weather for a walk, especially one for such a good cause. However, I would not be joining the walkers this year – I had twisted my ankle the night before – but I did go down to see everyone off. It was nice to see Cindy Smith, Randy and Rosa Umemoto, Allan and Cheryl Ohlsen, Dustin and Andrew Locke and Ed and Laurie Egerdahl (from Gallagher's Mug Club) at the event. As always, there were a lot of people gathered to help raise funds in support of the local ALS chapter and to help fund research to find a cure for this disease. I appreciate the support that all the members of the Miata club have given me over the last several months and your continued support at this walk was especially gratifying since this was the first walk since George passed away. Thanks to all of you and the rest of my supporters I was able to raise \$1500 to donate to the local ALS association to provide much needed help to families struggling with all the impacts of this disease. I am sorry that I was not able to walk with you but do know that both George and I were with you in spirit.



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ocean in San Francisco. The scenery, though, was breathtaking.

We stopped at the summit for a group photo, stopped again at the Ross Lake overlook and then headed down out of the mountains. As John & Linda broke away from the group around Arlington to head for home in Anacortes, they told us they really enjoyed their first activity with the club and had a great time. The feeling was mutual as we all enjoyed their company on the run too. The tour ended in Arlington, where we made one last latte stop before heading for home.

It was indeed a wonderful weekend and we all look forward to next year. And just to put a little twist in the end, when any of you next see Mindy Bohnas, ask her what she was doing with the sliding screen door to the balcony in Larry and Bonnie's room???????



"The North Cascade's Group" at the summit: John, Linda, A.J., Cynthia, Bonnie, Vicki, Larry and Mindy. (with Tom behind the camera!).

Backroads to Bavaria IX

October 6-8, 2006

By Duncan & Dee ('99 Silver "Road Dancer")



This ninth sort-of-annual Miata weekend in Leavenworth, sponsored by Club Miata Northwest, has evolved into a major stand-alone event which attracts Miata/MX-5 enthusiasts from all over the planet. On Friday, Oct. 6th, we joined the CMNW west siders' tour from a dampish Monroe, gathering some Canadians and more PSMC Miatas on the way. Part way to Stevens Pass the sun came out (sort of) and some brave souls stopped to put their tops down. The foliage was turning on the west side, and as we gained altitude it changed more, and on the east side it was stunning.



Zooming along the Backroads to Bavaria. Photo by Duncan Johnson.

At the Enzian Inn (which is located where the locomotive roundhouse was in Leavenworth's railroad days) we got registered and frolicked through the very sociable car wash setup which the hotel and host club had arranged. There were about 104 cars from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, California, Canada and a couple of dozen Australians in borrowed Miatas. Even organizer John Hewitt had been an exchange teacher there and invited his Australian Miata/MX-5 buddies to come join the fun. PSMC names on the roster included Bell/Lemire, DeSolver, Hewitt, Mott, Paul, Rust, Schimek, Visconti and your authors. Actual attendance may have varied.

Saturday morning was sunny and after the Enzian Inn's fantastic brunch, everyone wiped the dew (and some frost!) off their cars and put the tops down. First activity was an Australian Poker Run (drive around a scenic road route and at the checkpoints draw cards to make a poker hand to win prizes). Duncan feared they'd be using the dreaded "Australian Deal" practiced in sleazy waterfront bars (dealing from "down under"), but in reality they just used Australian playing cards so nobody could run to the store and buy a winning hand of cards to cheat. More on cheating below. The route went up into the wilderness along Icicle Creek, and the zooming was gentle because some major cross-county run/jog/walk event was happening on that route, plus bicyclists, hikers, rafters, rock climbers, etc. were also using the road. The tour came around Leavenworth and finished in Peshastin at Smallwood's Harvest ("farm fun in the summer sun")

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event aftermath/autocross

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which is a super farm stand selling all sorts of produce and good things to eat, flowers & plants, wines, amusements for the kids, etc. There we had "Professor Mario's Show & Shine," a car



At "Professor Mario's" Shown n Shine at Smallwood Harvests, just outside of Leavenworth. Photo by Duncan Johnson.

show on the manicured lawns of Smallwood's venue. Each person (not car) who attended the weekend event got a nice ballot; nice way of voting. There were the usual awards, such as Best Exterior, Best Engine, etc. but there were also some new categories to vote for: Best Wheels, best License Plate and/or Frame, Obviously a Garage Queen (a car that doesn't get driven), and Needs An Extreme Makeover.

Back in town we all broke for lunch and many opted to walk around Leavenworth (Oktoberfest was happening big time in the streets) and answer the Trivia Quiz which was sort of a gimmick rally without the cars. At 2:00 PM everyone headed out for the Fall Colors Tour. The Miatas went west on US2 through Tumwater Canyon, turned north to Lake Wenatchee (brilliant blue in the fall sunshine), twisted across Chiwawa Loop Road (which is going on our list of "Private Roads" we don't tell the public about), through the village of Plain, and zoomed up and down a corkscrew hill climb course (or World Rally special stage) to cruise through Chumstick Valley and back to town. Couldn't have been a nicer afternoon run.

The hotel catered a wonderful dinner banquet for us and then came awards. The organizers figured out how to squelch the cheating that always happens on a poker run. First, they encouraged cheating, even asking us enroute what cards we needed. But they were playing with marked cards! Only cards from one certain deck counted for anything, and whoever held one with a certain letter on it got a random prize! Ha-ha! The whole thing was a huge exercise in socializing. Similarly for the trivia hunt, where winners were just drawn. And if your door prize number was chosen, you got the pick of the table. The car show actually was scored, and those winners got to pick nice prizes; OBTW, Dee's "Road Dancer" got the prize for Best Interior (custom silver leather, silver carpet & brushed aluminum trim – or "al-u-min-i-um" for your British Commonwealth Traditionalists). During dinner Mother Nature treated everyone to a 4.6 earthquake, which rattled the windows and sloshed the liquid in the beverage glasses. Sunday wrapped up with a goodbye brunch and promises to meet again. Zoom-zoom!

PSMC at the Nationals

Photos by Denise Williamson



Alan Dahl.



Glen Hernandez

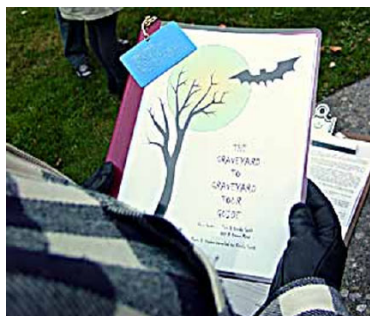


Congratulations to Enrique Garcia (in the above two photos); he was the only PSMC member to win a trophy at the Nationals this year winning 6th Place in STS2.

So You Want To Put On A Run

By Cindy Smith

The last thing I was going to do when Tom and I joined PSMC in September 2000 was to put on a run. However, some things just seem to have a mind of their own. Like when I told Tom that, sure, okay, let's join the club, but let's just take it slow and enjoy the events; let's not get too involved, and before we knew it, Tom was on the board. And then we did a run, then another and another and another and before I knew it I was on the board and then somehow I became president and now here I am as editor. Whoa! Talk about things snowballing.



Cindy's Tour Guide to her first tour, *The Graveyard-to-Graveyard Run*. Photo by Eric Bass.

Well, I promise you, that if you would like to organize a run, you don't have to be nominated for president or volunteer to take over the editorship of the Sounder. All you have to do is have a little creativity and a whole lot of fun.

I remember the first run Tom and I ever put on for the club. We had been thinking of doing a run but had yet to **come up with an idea for a run**. When we did, it was a bit of a fluke. I was into genealogy at the time and was hunting down "lost" ancestors buried away in hidden cemeteries for people from different regions. As Tom and I were driving down this wonderful, twisty back road looking for a cemetery, I made the comment, "With all the neat roads we've been on today, we ought to put on a graveyard tour." Never, I repeat never, say a statement like that around Tom; because the next thing I knew, Tom had **put the run on the calendar**, and voila! the Graveyard-to-Graveyard Tour was good to go.

But boy, did we have fun! **Planning out the route** was pretty simple; it was just a matter of which cemetery would be first and which route would be the most fun in a Miata. The Snohomish County Thomas Guide came in perfect in helping us with that. Consulting the Guide – and maps in general – really helped us to **minimize left-hand turns**. It can get really scary when you are trying to get large groups across busy intersections. Then of course, since the tour was over 80 miles, and since folks really enjoyed getting out and exploring the cemeteries (I did have them looking for particular graves), there was the issue of where to **find "relief stations"** as there is only so much coffee

Run continued next column

November Autocross

For details see wwscc.org

- 7 BSCC Monthly Meeting at Tony's Pizza
- 14 NWR/SCCA Solo Committee Meeting at Bill's Bodacious BBQ in Renton
- 20 WWSCC Council Meeting at Rogue Brewery in Issaquah

Run continued from previous column

the body can handle. Finally, to make sure the route was flawless there were the pre-runs. To **do a pre-run** is a must in any tour. Problem with maps is that roads are changing all the time. I can't tell you how many times we've mapped out a route only to find out a road no longer exists. Of course with me being nervous about my first run, I think I did about six pre-runs in all. By the time the tour actually came, I was downright dreading doing the drive.

For me, the hardest part of putting together a tour is to **find a restaurant that can accommodate a large group** on a busy Saturday or Sunday afternoon, especially one **that will take separate checks**. You can't have a tour without eating at the end; I mean that's what this club is all about: driving, eating and fellowship. But you know, for all the tours we have put together, we've always managed to find one.

While finding the restaurant may be my hardest task in putting together a run, my favorite part is to **organize the run**. I love putting together "detailed directions." With the Graveyard Tour, I put together a booklet complete with driving directions and all the histories of the cemeteries and their pioneer inhabitants that we would be visiting. Karen Read, our veteran co-host for the event, sadly told me, though, that most people wouldn't read it, so I came up with a quiz and prizes for all the right answers. (Guess what? They read the booklet.) Then we came up with toe-tags to attach on the booklets from the LA Coroner's Gift Shop (yes, they do have one) along with a variety of tacky prizes. With our Haunted Places Tours, Tom even cuts a CD of Halloween tunes. However, putting on a run doesn't need to be that detailed. Tours in this club have ranged from the elaborate Cheap N Cheezies that the Umemotos and Coopers put on to the laid-back, impromptu "Can Your Miata Come Out And Play" Runs. Shoot, with us, you can always tell if it is a "Cindy Run" or a "Tom Run" just by the directions we hand out – that is, if we hand out directions (Tom Run!).

Finally, before the actual tour, we made sure to **learn PSMC's Guidelines to Caravanning**, which is covered in PSMC's pamphlet, Road Wise and which comes in everyone's new member packets. Knowing how to breadcrumb, running with your parking lights on, maintaining a good separation between cars (called accordioning) and learning how to do a proper "LeMans Start" (where all the cars pull on to the road in unison and which most often becomes the "Arkansas Start," as Tom likes to call it) really helps to keep a run safe and fun.

All in all, it has been very rewarding putting on runs for this club. Hell, I'm still doing it, so it must be. So if you've ever been cruising down the back roads and thought "Hey, this would make a neat drive for the club," or if you have an idea for a run in mind, why not **come on down to one of our planning meetings** (see page 1) or give me a holler at tomaci@verizon.net and see about getting your feet wet. We promise we won't bite and we promise that if you need any help in any part of the tour (planning, pre-running, restaurant finding, co-hosting), that we'll find an "old timer" who can help you.

Well, hope to see you all on a run real soon. Better yet, hope to be on one of your runs real soon! For now, though, I've a Veteran's Remembrance Run to put together.

Miata Therapy

By Dale Weber

Those of us that drive Miatas, or any other “lesser” convertible, know how therapeutic it is to go for a drive with the top down on a nice day. Sometimes, I think we forget just how special that feeling is and keep it too much for ourselves.



On August 30th of this year, Regena was running a little late after making numerous errands on her way to work at the Park Shore Retirement Community in Madison Park. Therefore, upon arriving, she pulled up into the building’s breezeway to unload the trunk before parking the car. As she did, one of the gentlemen of the house was just returning from his morning walk. He is undergoing chemo treatments for cancer and is having a pretty tough time of it. He remarked to Regena about what a magnificent car she had and how much pleasure it must give her to drive it on such a beautiful day (well, it is a Miata). She, of course, answered in the positive – and then realized he just might enjoy a ride. So off they went for a 15 minute drive.

When she started the car, he turned to her and said “that engine sure sounds good!” Regena wasn’t sure that he could actually hear the exhaust but perhaps he could feel the vibrations through the car: a true car guy. During the drive, his smile grew larger by the mile!

This got me to thinking about the concept of “paying it forward” or “giving back.” One of our club’s goals is to provide some service to the community and we try to fulfill that by participating in parades. And while it is very rewarding to see the smiles on parade watchers’ faces as your Miata gives them a “wink,” I think it might be at least as rewarding if we were to go en-mass to several retirement communities and offer rides in our fun little cars. Wouldn’t you like to see something like this on next year’s calendar?

Maybe we could even get a movement started in car clubs around the nation so when it’s our turn to be “in the home,” someone in a fourth generation Miata will stop by to offer us a ride!

Just food for thought.

New Faces

We hope to meet you at an event soon!

By Randy Umemoto



T.J. McGeary	Seatac, WA	91 BRG
Pete Harris & Mary Rasmussen	Kirkland, WA	02 Laser Blue
Jack & Mary Ann Wise	Sequim, WA	96 White
Julie Bean	Langley, WA	04 Titanium
John & Linda Mann	Anacortes, WA	02 Yellow
Rob & Kelly Meldrum	Edmunds, WA	94 Red
Bill Bell	Lynnwood, WA	06 Copper Red

Familiar Faces

Try a new Miata Event this year!

Michael Colovos	95 Montego Blue	1 yr
Donna & Carl Benson	92 Black	14 yrs
Darrell & Stephanie Hooper	99 Green Mica	3 yrs
Mike & Lourea Garka	99 Sapphire	8 yrs
Fred & Sandi Holler	05 Lava Orange	7 yrs
Sean & Pam McGriff	93 White	9 yrs
Rick Hardy	99 White	2 yrs
Eric & Janice Fisher	92 Red	7 yrs
Lary Hamasaki	99 Green Mica	8 yrs
Dan & CJ Keables	01 Emerald Mica	3 yrs
Robert & Jacqueline Schouten	99 Silver	7 yrs
Lissa & Dave Mayer	06 Red	1 yr
Raymond & Elsie Houghton	97 Marina Green	9 yrs
Bill & Nancy De Selover	99 Silver	3 yrs
Fredrick & Bev Rudd	01 BRG	9 yrs
Frank Shriver & Carol Kus	93 Red	6 yrs
Dean & Pamela Hiestand	92 Sunburst Yellow	2 yrs
Brian Louderback	92 Mariner Blue	3 yrs
Andrew Burns	97 Montego Blue	1 yr
Charley & Nancy Drake	95 Merlot	5 yrs

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

Wow, November already! November always reminds me of that first Miata urrr ummmm . . . Ship (yeah, that's it . . . ship) that landed at Plymouth Rock. Not to be confused with Chrysler-Plymouth Rock that is!



As I write this, I have just finished the ALS Walk and would like to thank everyone who showed up and walked. It was a great opportunity to catch up with friends, enjoy some beautiful scenery and most of all, do it all for a good cause. And I hope everyone had tons of fun at the Haunted Places Tour! Tom & Cindy always make sure to make that an awesome event.

Coming up in November we will be having our First Friday Formal (start dusting off your top hats now!) and of course, we will be continuing the tradition of the ever-popular "Turkey Teaser Run." This is a really fun event where you race around some beautiful back roads trying to spot as many turkeys as you can along the way. Sean and Pam also throw in some Trivia along the way. Who do you think will win this year? You will just have to come and find out!!!

Another really interesting event is coming up soon too. I am speaking of the "Veterans' Remembrance Run." Tom, Cindy, Dale and Regena have been working hard to put on this event. More than just a run, it is a remembrance of all of our Men and Women who have risked their lives to protect our freedom. This event will follow some very beautiful roads across our beautiful region, all while providing us with some very interesting information. This is one not to be missed!

The last event that I would like to mention is the Planning Meeting scheduled for November 5th. This is the place to make your voices and ideas heard. If you have some suggestions, we are more than happy to hear them! This is your club, so please come out and help make a difference. As the weather turns cooler and cooler, we tend to find ourselves with less and less events on the calendar. As much as I hate to say this, our cars do have tops! We can always do an event in the cold, so if you have any ideas or suggestions for events, we are more than happy to put them on the calendar (despite what Jack Frost has to say about it).

With that said, I hope everyone has a great November and a wonderful Thanksgiving! Happy Beginnings to a Wonderful Season Everyone!

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*



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APPOINTED POSITIONS

Insurance Coordinator	Bonnie Lohkamp
Data Coordinator	Randy Umemoto
Parade Coordinator	Bonnie Lohkamp
Asst. Parade Coordinator	Lindanne Gores
Sounder Editor	Cindy Smith
Webmaster	Unfilled
Autocross Rep	Denise Williamson

WEB COMMITTEE

Webmaster/EIO	Unfilled
Assistant Webmaster	Mindy Bohnas
Classified Ads/Specialty Programmer	John Young
Special Graphics	Mike Springer
Forum Administrator	David Whooley

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

Bonus Question: The picture of R.W. Moore Jr. was taken in Northern Italy on March 15, 1945. In the left hand upper corner is written, "To Toots, with love, Bob." Who's Toots?

2006 Calendar

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

November 2006

- 3 First Friday Formal, hosted by Ohlsen (see page 1)
- 5 Planning and Board Meeting in the Southend, hosted by PSMC Board (see page 1)
- 11 Veteran's Day Run, hosted by Smith and Weber (see page 1)
- 19 Turkey Teaser, hosted by McGriff (see page 3)



December 2006

- 2 Shelton Christmas Parade
- 9 PSMC Holiday Party, hosted by PSMC Board (see page 3)
- 16 Holiday Light Run, hosted by Locke (see page 3)

Classifieds

PARTING OUT MAZDASPEED MIATA. I have plans for the drivetrain and much of the interior, but the rest of the car is available. Damage to front, hood, LF fender, driver's door. Own an M2? Add a Mazdaspeed rear spoiler or hide that muffler behind the best looking M2 rear ever (I know you've been staring and fantasizing). Add that cool MSM interior rearview mirror & paint the cap to match your car or leave it Lava Orange to make it easy to find your car in a parking lot. Seats are black leather w/silver stitching. Also available from our '95: 4.3Torsen, 5spd trans, brake calipers & near new rotors. Pricing: 10% under Mazmart or best offer. Contact Mark Brandt at mardan.brandt@verizon.net or (425) 742-7930.

PARTS FOR SALE

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

NEW BLACK SOFT TOP with glass back window for M1 Miata; still in box; asking \$625.00. Call Steve Andersen at (425) 432-1051 and leave message.

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.

Coming in 2007

In August 2007

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Not Stirred**



May 18 - 20, 2007

Miatas in Moab III
Return of the MX-5s

image from www.utahmiataclub/miatasinmoab/index.htm

4th Annual

LeMay Museum

AMERICA'S CAR MUSEUM

Fabulous Fifties Sock Hop!

Saturday
November 18th!

The LeMay Museum is proud to announce our 4th Annual Fabulous 50's Sock Hop!

Dance the night away to Danny Vernon's 'Illusion of Elvis'

Enjoy dinner, dancing and silent auction knowing that all proceeds benefit America's Car Museum!

The night starts with a social hour at 6:00 pm. Dinner at 7:00 pm followed by a silent auction and dancing!

Don't be late or left in the dust. Last year sold out so get on the ball and get your tickets today!

Cost:

\$60 / LeMay Museum member
\$75 / Non-member

Participants must be 21 or older!

To reserve a table for 10 people or to order tickets over the phone please contact our Museum Administrative offices at (253)779-8490 or toll free at (877) 902-8490.

Location:

The LeMay Museum
325 152nd St. E, Tacoma, WA