

MIATA SOUNDER

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



Inside February	
2-3	Socials/FFF All City Rally Moab/Kelowna
4-5	Cockpit Cooking Deuce Review Gore's Open House Hangovers
6-7	Happy Crap Eagles & Geese Autocross
8-9	Autocross Coop's Garage
10-11	Car Gal New/Familiar Dustin
12	Calendar/Classifieds



PSMC New Domain Name

UPDATE YOUR BOOKMARK NOW!!

www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org



Why is the Domain name changing?

Unfortunately, as you may know, our Webmaster for many, many years, Eric Bass, passed away last year. As he was paying for the club domain name and hosting service out of his own pocket – saving money for the club – he had the domain registered in his own name.

The Web Committee made every possible effort to have Network Solutions, who is the registrar for the old domain, swap the domain to being held by the club. Basically, they refused to do so, recommending we retain a lawyer or acquire a new domain. A new domain was the less expensive route to go, so hence, we have a brand new shiny 2007 model domain name. The new domain name was put into effect on January 15, 2007.

For comments or answers to your questions, please direct them to our new acting webmaster, John Young, at webmaster@pugetsoundmiataclub.org.

2nd Sloppy Sat.

Feb. 10, 2007 @ 10:30 AM

Woodinville Top Foods

Hosted by McGriff & Smith



Don't bother to wash your car or clean the windows. Just fill up the windshield washer and gas tank and join us for the Second Sloppy Saturday on February 10th. We are going to hit the back roads where the sand trucks have recently been pouring mountains of traction assistance throughout Snohomish County during the most recent weather event. And the way the weather has been this year, there is likely to be a lot of dirt and crud still on the roads.

Sean has planned the last two years, so this one is going to be a "Tom Run." If you aren't familiar with a Tom Run, it goes like this: Show up at the appointed time, get some vague instructions if I had a chance to do a pre-run, and follow the Miata in front of you. With luck, we will stay with the original planned route. If not, we do some creative detours. We will get to our end destination at Eddie's Trackside Tavern in Monroe eventually, but it drives Cindy crazy because she's the planner in the family.

Directions to the Woodinville Top Foods (17641

Second Sloppy continued on page 2

Final Red Wine & Chocolate

Sun., Feb. 18, 2007

8:30 AM, Pier 52, Seattle



Hosted by Smith

We've done the prerun and it looks like we just might be able to pull off visiting a winery in each of the designated areas. However, The North Sound Winery Association has asked for NO GROUP TOURS OVER 15 PEOPLE. As of now, we are at the 15 mark, so we are working with the association to accommodate our group. **Therefore, it is very important if you plan on attending this year's tour, to RSVP me at tomaci@verizon.net as soon as possible**, so I can get the details worked out.

Tickets are \$20 per person and are now available online at www.northsoundwineries.org or you may purchase them at the door.

Please note: You must be at the Bainbridge Ferry Terminal at Pier 52 in Seattle in order to catch the 8:45 AM Ferry.

Directions to the Seattle/Bainbridge Island Ferry: **From I-5 North or South**, Take the 4th Ave/Safeco Field exit [Exit 164 (South)/164B

Wine continued on page 12



MIATA SOUNDER

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PUBLISHING

The *SOUNDER* is published monthly (as close to the first of the month as possible). The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each 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:

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ADVERTISING

Classified - member.....free
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pugetsoundmiataclub.org

Visit our website for the latest club info, links to other Miata sites and more.

upcoming events

PSMC MONTHLY SOCIALS

Saturday, February 3, 2007 @ 6:00 PM

John & Linda Mann Residence
 3317 H Ave., Anacortes



Ed. Note: Depending on the turnaround of the Sounder from the printer to your doorstep, this event maybe "old" news. However, for those who receive the Sounder via email, there will be plenty of time for you to RSVP the Mann's and join in the fun.

February's social will be held at John and Linda Mann's home in Anacortes at 6:00 PM on Saturday, February 3rd. The one at Larry's and Bonnie's was so much fun and had such a great turnout, the Mann's wanted to host one.

Bring your gift of gab, a potluck dish to share, a little BS and we will have some fun. Please, wear shoes that are easily removed as the Mann's "didn't use [their] brains" (their words, not mine!) and had an off-white carpet installed.

Please RSVP using the website, email the Mann's at johnmann28@comcast.net or call 360.299.4563.

Directions to the Mann's residence at 3317 H Ave., Anacortes: **I-5 North or South:** Take the Anacortes/ Burlington exit (exit #230) and head west towards the San Juan Islands on Hwy 20; Stay on Hwy 20 until you arrive in Anacortes (do NOT follow Hwy 20 left to Oak Harbor). At the end of the road, turn right onto Commercial (the main ave.); left turn at 32nd (first traffic light); left turn on H Ave. (it is a staggered block with I Ave going right); the Mann's will be the 4th house on the left.

Saturday, March 10, 2007 @ 6:00 PM

Tom & Cindy Millar Residence
 14621 32nd St., Mill Creek

March's Monthly Social will be held at the home of Tom and Cindy Millar at 14621 32nd St. in Mill Creek. The Millar's are still in the planning stages, so make sure you keep an eye on the website and next month's Sounder for updates and driving directions.

This is fast becoming a popular event, so you won't want to miss out. Hope to see you there!

Second Sloppy continued from page 1

Garden Way NE) (avoiding downtown Woodinville): **From North or South I-405**, take Hwy 522 towards Monroe/Wenatchee (exit 23A); once on Hwy 522, merge over one lane; take the NE 195th Exit (second exit once you are on 522); turn right at the signal (Woodinville-Snohomish Rd NE); at the second signal (and 'Y'), bear right, keeping on the Woodinville-Snohomish Rd NE). Left turn on NE Mill Rd (signal); right turn on Garden Way NE (signal); Top Foods will be on your right hand side.

Remember

You can now get your Sounder via email instead of snail mail. It's easy, just send an email to sounder@comcast.net



upcoming events

First Friday Formal

March 2, 2007 @ 7:00 PM

Villa Nouva Ristorante Italiano
Bothell



Hosted by *The Lohkamps*

Larry and I will be hosting the March First Friday Formal at Villa Nouva Ristorante Italiano, a new Italian restaurant located at 17917 Bothell – Everett Hwy in Suite 103, Bothell (425.486.1428). We recently discovered this restaurant and found it wonderful. Villa Nouva Ristorante Italiano offers a variety of pasta dishes, veal and seafood, all prepared in traditional Italian cooking. Along with their numerous entrees, they also offer wonderful appetizers, desserts and a great selection of wines.

The private room the owners have reserved for our group will accommodate up to 20 folks, so RSVPs will be closed after we reach our limit. If you would like to join in a wonderful PSMC tradition and experience the great food at Villa Nouva Ristorante Italiano, please RSVP thru the website, email us at blohkamp@comcast.net or call 425-347-0361.

Directions: **I-5 North or South:** Take the 164th St. SW exit (exit 183); turn right onto 164th St. SW; Right turn on Bothell – Everett Hwy. Go 1 mile; restaurant will be on your left. **I-405 North or South:** Take Exit 26 (WA-527 exit), going towards Mill Creek (right turn coming from the South; left turn coming from the north); go 3.2 miles. Restaurant will be on your right,



May 18 – 20, 2007

Hosted by The Utah Miata Club

Moab, Utah is the gateway to Arches National Park and Canyonlands National Park. Visit Dead Horse Point State Park and see for yourself the dramatic red cliffs scaled by Tom Cruise in the movie *Mission Impossible*. This is redrock country at its best! Fill your days with short or long drives. There are plenty of roads to go zoom zooming. Or go shopping, hiking, fishing, biking, river rafting, take a tour of the local winery or go horseback riding. Whatever tickles your fancy! Each day we will split up into small groups and do whatever activity suits our whims at the time. Each evening we will gather for a social hour or two and share our stories with each other.

We have the entire Best Western Canyonlands Inn reserved for our group. We also have a large block of rooms set aside for our group at the River Canyon Lodge. For more information, rates and reservation information go to www.utahmiataclub.com/miatainmoab/info.htm.

All City Rally XXVII

Sunday, April 22, 2007

Hosted by *Corvettes de Olympia*



PSMC Liasons Duncan Johnson & Dee Dalke

Mark your calendars! The 27th annual running of the All City Rally, hosted by the Corvettes de Olympia will be held Sunday, April 22, 2007. This 65 to 75 mile cruising type gimmick rally will be held in the Olympia, WA area and is open to all cars and clubs (Miata teams have participated in the last few years). While all roads are paved, this is not a speed event. Trophies, dash plaques, and a huge raffle of door prizes are awarded at the finish.

Proof of insurance is required and there is a brief tech inspection at the start. All proceeds go to the Corvettes de Olympia scholarship fund for automotive students at the South Puget Sound Community College.

Watch www.corvettesdeolympia.org for details of time and place as they are developed, or call Meagan Renick at 360.459.007 or email her at notdads@hotmail.com. More information will be

May 25 - 27, 2007

Registration for TSR is now open. Download registration and clothing order forms online at www.okmiataclub.com and clicking on the Sun Run link. All of the information is supplied there. Questions will be answered on our forum via links on the home page. If you have any problems with the forum, please email Matt Scaife at mortgages@17-MRTG.ca or mattschaife@invis.ca. **However, please register and post questions on the forum instead of mailing Matt directly.**



Our guest of honor this year is Mr. Takao Kijima from Mazda Japan; he is the MX-5 program manager. Due to this special event, we have increased registration to 350 Miata enthusiasts. As a result, we moved our venue to the Coast Capri Hotel. We will also be hosting an "Arrive and Drive" Autocross (\$10 entry fee), with Mazda Canada supplying a fleet of 2007 MX-5s and other Mazda vehicles to test out on the autocross track. And finally, once again, we will be fundraising for the BC Transplant Society. This year in addition to a 50/50 draw and the clothing sales, we will be holding an almost live, online silent auction, where the winning bidder will receive a roll bar and its professional installation during the weekend. This is being supplied by Chris and Peter from Eunos Custom Automotive in Vancouver. In addition, we will also have a silent auction which will include gift certificates for items supplied by you, your clubs and a variety of corporate sponsors. When arranging for auction items, please be sure to supply gift certificates and not actual items to aid in transporting said items. Last year, the Canadian Rockies Club donated \$200 to our fund raising efforts, which was very generous and highly appreciated. This year I'd love to see each club come out with a gift certificate that we can place in our auction. All sponsors will be named on our auction web page.

upcoming events

Cooking in the Cockpit

Coming June 8-10, 2007

Hosted by Andrew Locke

You may have read about this event in last month's Sounder or heard whisperings of it from other club members. If you read on, however, you'll finally get all the juicy details about this brand new weekend-long event.



Cooking continued from previous column

we'll look forward to spending a nice festive evening with other PSMC folks at the hotel.

On June 8th, 2007, Dustin and I will be leading you down to Cannon Beach, Oregon for a two night stay in this charming beach town on the beautiful coast of Oregon. We will be staying at the rustic, yet amenity-rich Inn at Cannon Beach (www.atcannonbeach.com). This hotel features rooms in log cabin-style buildings in a beautiful garden setting, yet it is only a block from the beach. All rooms include gas fireplaces, DVD/VCR players, microwaves and refrigerators. Many rooms also feature Jacuzzi-style bath tubs. Also, for those of you who like to travel with man's best friend, the Inn at Cannon Beach is pet friendly.

We have negotiated a group rate (\$149-\$179 per night) and have reserved a block of rooms for this event. When calling to reserve your room (for the nights of June 8th and 9th), please be sure to mention that you are part of the PSMC group. To reserve your room, you can call 800.321.6304. It is important to note that **you must reserve your room by April 27th** to secure the group rate!

We will be meeting on Friday, June 8th at 9 AM at the QFC parking lot in Bellevue (2636 Bellevue Way) to begin our fun weekend. After taking a nice, scenic drive down the coast to Cannon Beach, we should arrive at the hotel by early-to-mid afternoon. At this point, you can take some time to get settled and get some rest and grab a bite to eat for dinner. In the evening, following dinner,

Cooking continued next column

On Saturday, June 9th, we'll spend the day exploring Cannon Beach. Saturday evening, however, will be the main event. We will take a short drive over to the EVOO Cannon Beach Cooking School for a private cooking class. The class that we will be attending is a hands-on interactive course called "Small Plates with Wines" featuring a full meal consisting of 4 courses paired with 4 wines. You will also get a souvenir booklet of all of the recipes to take home with you.

The cost for the EVOO cooking class will be between \$95 and \$149 plus 18% gratuity per person. The cost will depend upon how many people we wind up having in our group. To attend the class, you must call the Cannon Beach Cooking School in advance (877.436.3866) and put down a \$75 deposit per person. It is important to note that **you must put down your deposit by April 8th**.

On Sunday morning, we will lead the group from Cannon Beach back home, arriving in the Seattle area by mid-afternoon. So, there you have it. Dustin and I hope that you will be able to join us on this driving and cooking fun-filled adventure. If you do join us, I'm sure that you'll have a great time. For those of you that have read or heard about the trip that Dustin and I lead to the Madonna Inn last year, you know how wild and fun those Dustin and Andrew trips can be!

Above images from left to right from: www.evoo.biz, www.atcannonbeach.com and www.cannonbeach.org.

007: Shaken (-speare) Not Stirred

August 13 - 18, 2007

Hosted by Smith, McSherry & Houghton

Okay, long story short (if you want the uncut version, check out the article on the website calendar at www.pugetsoundmiataclub.org).

The Smith's, the Houghton's and The McSherry's (who met on the first Shakespeare Tour!) are going back to Ashland for the Shakespeare Festival August 13th through August 18th. And along the way, we are stopping at Crater Lake. If you want to enjoy in the festivities you must:

- Reserve a room at the Best Western Newberry Station in LaPine, Oregon for Monday, August 13th. The rate for these rooms is \$79.00 a night. These rooms will be held until August 1st, when they will be released to the public. Call 541.536.5130 to make your reservations (or visit them on their website at www.bestwesternoregon.com/hotels/best-western-newberry-station).
- Reserve your rooms in Ashland at the Windmill Inn and Suites. Rooms available are "Run of House," meaning that you are free to choose the type of room you would like, depending on the availability at the time of booking. For reservations call 541.482.8310 or go to www.windmillinns.com and click on the Ashland home page. Make sure you mention our special group code – **0814PSMC** – to get our special rates. Rooms will be held until July 14th, when they will be released to the public.
- If attending any of the plays, order your tickets. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING YOUR OWN TICKETS!** For more information on ticketing, seats, and the 2007 playbill, go to www.orshakes.com. We recommend you get your tickets as soon as possible as they sell out fast – especially the Friday and Saturday performances.

We now have 13 cars signed up. Time and space is running out! If you plan on going, you need to make you plans now. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 360.668.5508 or drop me an email at tomaci@verizon.net.



event aftermath

Deuce Review

By *Dustin Locke*

Twas the Deuce before Christmas and all through Issaquah, not a creature was stirring.....wait that's not true! Actually about six Miatas (and one del Sol) were stirring on December 23rd. We all gathered in Issaquah to hear the tale of Deuce (my Dad) and for a nice afternoon run. We were treated to a great lunch at XXX Root Beer and then it was time to hear the story of Deuce.

Five people were in on this Gag Run from the very beginning; Cindy, Tom, Andrew, Stephanie (Tom & Cindy's daughter) and my Mother. What we didn't know is that my dad (Deuce) had found out about this event in advance and was ready for us. Once the group got outside for the driver's meeting, Deuce had a little surprise for all of us contributors. He had formed melted tootsie rolls to look like piles of dog-do, then he shellacked them and hung them from ribbon as necklaces. He even made them in different sizes. The people he thought had the most to do with this prank event got the larger piles (lucky us)!! Everyone was laughing so hard that the people heading into the restaurant probably thought we were getting ready to board the short bus back to the home.



Charming necklace, don't ya think? Photo by Bruce Lewis.

My Dad and Andrew quickly commandeered our new 2007 Miata, leaving my Mom and I to drive Tom and Cindy's Emerald Mica. Why didn't I just drive my del Sol you ask? I would love to have done that, but Stephanie snapped up the keys to that in about .5 seconds. That is one awesome car-gal right there!! From that, it was off for a drive along the lake winding our way through the mountains heading towards Snoqualmie Falls. It poured pretty much the whole time, but we didn't really mind. We were out with friends and family having fun. It was a great day to have fun with my family and Miata friends and I think everyone had a really fun time.

I wonder what new legendary prank we will have to pull on my Dad this year to be able to have more events like this one??? Watch out Deuce, the Washington people are plotting!!!



The Madonna Inn-stigators: from left to right: Dustin, Steph, Andrew & Cindy. Photo by Bruce Lewis.

A Great Time at the Gores' '06 Open House

By *Allan Ohlsen*

'Tis the season for getting together with family and friends, and that's what we did as several of us got together at the Gores's home for some socializing fun. Braving the weather and rush hour traffic on a Thursday afternoon/evening proved challenging while crossing the Narrows Bridge en route to Gig Harbor. The trip was well worth it; Tommy and Lindanne were great hosts as they opened their beautiful home to us.



Cheryl & Lindanne tickling the ivories. Photo by Allan Ohlsen.

Getting together like this is a great opportunity to get to know one another better. As we snacked and enjoyed drinks, we were shown the many pictures of their families, got to share information about our families and got to see Lindanne's carpentry skills. She has a lot of talent and most of us were envious of her new <drool> Makita sliding-compound miter saw. We also discussed future PSMC events and possibilities for drives and BBQ's, sort of a mini-planning meeting. Ya know, this is how many events we enjoy so much are conjured up: over coffee or drinks with club friends in settings such as this. Let's do more of them!

Thanks again to Tommy and Lindanne for a wonderful evening with friends.

Hangover Run

By *Dustin Locke*

Yes, it was the Hangover Run but thankfully no one was actually hung over except those who missed the run to nurse headaches (you know who you are).



Start of the run; start of the New Year. Photo by Tom Smith.

Eight Miatas braved the cold and rainy Monday to meet us in Bothell. Unfortunately the weather never cooperated enough to allow any of us to drop the tops. From the starting point we headed onto some of the most beautiful back roads of Snohomish and Monroe. It rained the entire time and we even encountered snow along some of the roads. It was as nice a drive as one can have with the top up, which was still pretty darn fun. We wound



Start of new friendships. Photo by Tom Millar.

our way through the twisties and found ourselves at the Monroe Alfy's. We had an entire dining room reserved for us (even though we only took up one table). We had a full Salad / Soup and Breadstick Bar. This afternoon was spent driving, eating and socializing with good friends.

event aftermath

It Was A Happy, Crappy Holiday!

Article by Cindy Smith

Photos by "The Fam-damily"

As I sit down to write this, I have to shake my head in disbelief. I mean, who knew that joining Andrew and Dustin Locke and the San Diego Miata Club on their annual trek to the Madonna Inn would have me searching Toots's paddock for the most perfect "road apples."

It all began when I *innocently* (did you catch that Deuce – *innocently*) became involved in **Andrew's** (got that again, Deuce?) quest for revenge against his father-in-law's torment the previous year. I mean, hey, all the adults (and I use that term loosely) took off that Saturday morning and left me alone with the "kids." What else was I to do but tag along with them to the grocery store, especially since I needed to pick up some appetizers for the evening's party. Wasn't my fault that the kids confided in me nor was it my fault that my culinary expertise was listened to. For heaven's sake, everyone knows that chocolate icing makes better "hash marks" than pudding, and if you are going to put whipping cream in the pocket of a bathrobe, you ought to stay with the theme and get the chocolate flavored kind!

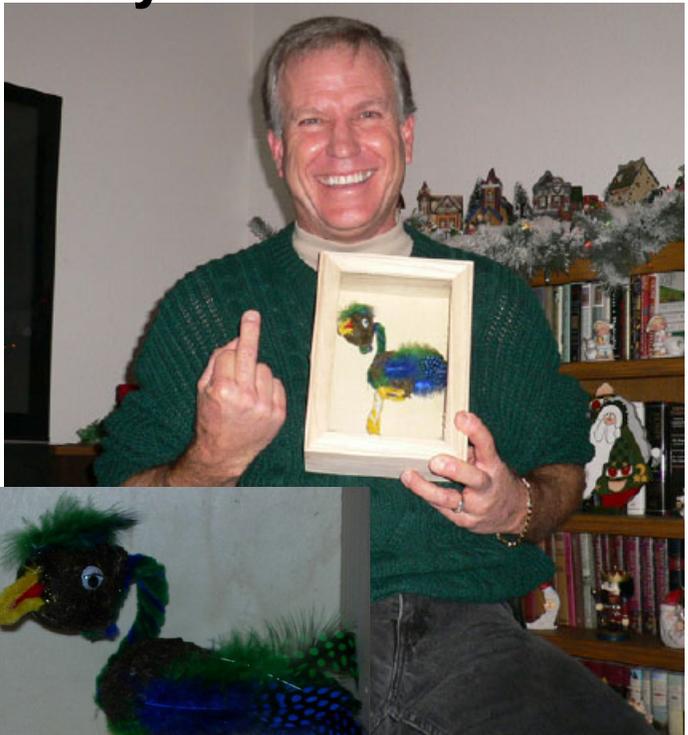
For the most part, I was able to keep a fairly low-profile. Deuce, aka Bruce Lewis, suspected that I played a bigger role, but most of the razzing and gag gifts went to my daughter, Stephanie. The friendly banter that went between them that weekend somehow indicated to Deuce that Stephanie was more involved than she was. I still haven't figured out why Andrew hasn't caught more flak for all of this since he really was the main instigator (catch that one too, Deuce?)

However, when Deuce nicknamed my daughter "Douche" and presented her with her namesake's product, I decided it was time to quit lying low. You do know what they say about the quiet ones. It was time for him to get his comeuppance! So, I put on my thinking cap to figure out a way to get more than even. Suddenly, I remembered that one of Tom's friends used to make "Turd Birds" out of horse manure and that they sold like hotcakes at the local flea markets. And, gee, I just happened to have a horse in the backyard! Still, I might not have gone through with the project had Tom not been persistent in getting me out to Toots's paddock. (And then he had the audacity to tell me that they weren't round enough. I told him if he didn't like their shape, he needed to take it up with Toots.)

I had all my supplies ready to go, including the "road apples" all nice and shellacked (courtesy of Tom) when we went on the *Deuce Before Xmas Run*. Tom wanted me to present Deuce with the gift then, but I just wanted to wait and see, especially since the Lewis's and Locke's were spending Christmas with us. Let me tell you, it didn't take me long to put Ms Turd Bird together once I was presented with my very own "Doggie-doo necklace" by Deuce (see *Deuce Review* on page 5). At least mine is made with the "real thing."

With this group, one-upmanship is the name of the game, so I'm a bit apprehensive of what may be coming through the door next.

But I'll be ready.



Above & left: "Deuce" & his new "pet," Ms Turd Bird.



Looks like someone's tiara got mussed during the whipped cream fight!



Well, we looked like a "normal" family at the beginning of Christmas dinner!

Eagle & Snow Geese Disappointed by Cancellation of Miata Tour or Good Things Come to Those Who Wait

By Mark Brandt

Though it is increasingly clear that we are a “wired” club, I worried that someone wouldn’t get word of the cancellation of our “Eagle Hunt” on Saturday, January 13th. Just in case there were people that had not RSVP’d (see? There are reasons to use that feature!) or did not check the website for the latest information, I decided we should drive up to Arlington and wait it out in the back parking lot at Denny’s.

Promptly at 8:30 AM, with no club members in sight, three immature eagles flew up to Denny’s, circled twice and landed in a small knot of pine trees nearby. We scrambled to pull out the “travel” binoculars and as we flipped the caps off, two more eagles arrived, with a gorgeous adult landing briefly in the top of the tree not 30 yards from our car. WOW! And I thought the only eagles we would be seeing on Saturday would be from Philadelphia.

We began to put away the binoculars, congratulating ourselves on getting up early “just in case,” when I saw a pair of huge snow geese gliding in for a landing in the field north of Denny’s. They disappeared from sight just before landing, so we headed east on our intended route, looking for more geese. We gave up quickly and turned around, only to encounter an adult eagle, which was finishing off a scrap of salmon on the far bank of the Stillaguamish. The Stilly is so close to the road at that point that the eagle was probably just 40 yards away. He (or she) finished off the snack and flew off, so we merged back onto the highway to head for home. However, I noticed a side road that promised a better view of the field the snow geese landed in. We stopped, and over the next 15 minutes, watched as 40 to 50 snow geese arrived in waves, sometimes just two, occasionally a group of a dozen, gracefully gliding in and flaring out for perfect two point landings. Amazing!

If you are now up in arms that we cancelled the tour, let me frame the scene at Rockport that Saturday morning: 15 degrees, 2 inches of ice on the ground and a fresh ice pellet storm forecasted for the early morning. As if patches of black ice on Hwy 20 was not enough!

We made the right decision to cancel the tour, and I guess I made the right decision to show up “just in case.”



A Day At The Races

By Denise Williamson

Would you like to give autocross a try? The first thing you’ll need to do is find out the date, time and location of the next event. The most comprehensive regional website is the Western Washington Sports Car Council at www.wwscc.org. At this website, you will also find directions to the event, any event-specific news, run order, rulebooks, a forum, and much more.



Get there early! You’ll need time to do all of the things laid out below.

Registration

The first thing you will need to do is find out the registration requirements for the event. If preregistration is required, the information will be available on the website. One thing to note is that even if preregistration is required, prepayment is not. I highly recommend preregistering, even if you’re not sure if you’ll be attending. Preregistration will save you time, someone else reading your messy handwriting, having to manually enter your information into the database, etc.

Upon arrival at the autocross site, the first thing you’ll need to do is find the registration table. Even if you’ve preregistered, you’ll still need to pick up your timing card, etc. At registration you will show your driver’s license, rulebook, and membership card (if applicable), pay the entry fee (usually around \$25.00), buy a rulebook (if you don’t already have one), and receive a timing card and coursemap. Fill out your timecard **clearly** and **completely**. After registering, you will need to get your worker assignment and get your car teched.

Don’t be late! The hours for registration and tech are clearly posted on the website.

Worker Assignment

Everyone who autocrosses contributes by working during the event. It could be anything from timing/announcing (for more experienced folks) to working the course (resetting cones knocked over by cars). When the person handing out worker assignments assigns you to a job, they will say something like, “You’ll run 1 and work 3.” You will need to remember this, so you might want to write it on your coursemap. Do *not* write it on your timing card. What “run 1, work 3” means is that you will autocross during the first run group, and you will work during the third run group.

Tech

You will need to prepare your car for tech inspection. Empty your car (including the trunk) of loose objects; remove the floor mat from the driver’s side; change your tires (if applicable, and/or if you’re not a Novice); remove hubcaps/center caps (if applicable); put your helmet in the passenger seat (if you have one); put your magnetic numbers on your car. If you don’t have any magnetic numbers, Tech usually has white shoe polish/glass chalk to write the number on your window or windshield. When

Races continued on page 8

autocross

Races continued from page 7

you're done doing all of this, put your timing card under your wiper and drive to the tech area (you'll see cars with their hoods up). Once there, open your hood and trunk. The tech inspectors will check your battery, tires, helmet, etc., plus a couple of other things.

Walk the Course

After you've returned from tech inspection, you will need to go on some coursewalks - the more the better. This will help you a lot. If possible, find someone experienced to walk with. Don't be shy! Most folks are more than happy to help you out and share driving tips.

Driver's Meeting

Before the start of your session, there will be a driver's meeting. The meeting is mandatory, as rules and event-specific instructions will be explained. The grid your run group is assigned to ("A" or "B") will also be announced.

Grid

Grid is where people line up their cars before they autocross. Make sure your timing card is under your wiper and that you've remembered your helmet. If you don't have a helmet, you can borrow one in exchange for your driver's license. Make sure you return the helmet after each run, as a lot of folks need to borrow them. Children and pets are not allowed in grid under any circumstances. Children 16-17 may be in grid **only** if they are driving in the event. Pets are not allowed on the Everett Boeing lot at all, not even in your car.

Competing

Now is when all of those coursewalks you did will come in handy. When it's your turn, just drive at a speed that you are comfortable with. Looking ahead while you are driving will help you tremendously. You will get three or four runs, depending on the event. Your best time will be the one that counts. If you miss a gate, you will get a ten second penalty added to your time. Cones will cost you two seconds each.

Trophy Presentation

After everyone in your session (morning or afternoon) has finished running, the results will be audited. When the audit is complete, there will be a trophy presentation.

After-Event Social

After the conclusion of the day's event, there is usually a gathering at a local restaurant for food, beverage, lies, and spirited discussion of the day's events.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: When do I show up: Morning or Afternoon?

A: It depends on what class you will be running in. If you will be running in Novice or Novice Ladies, you can run during either session. If you are in any other class, the website will have information on when your class will be running.

Q: Do I need special race tires?

Races continued next column

February Autocross

For details see wwscc.org

- 4 WWSCC TS Slush #2 At Bremerton Raceways
- 6 BSCC Monthly Meeting at Round Table Pizza in Gig Harbor
- 10 NWR/SCCA – WWSCC Coneheads Banquet at FX McRory's in Seattle
- 13 NWR/SCCA Solo Committee Meeting at Bill's Bodacious BBQ in Renton
- 19 WWSCC Council Meeting at Rogue Brewery in Issaquah
- 25 WWSCC ACE Slush #3 – Another Chili Event at Bremerton Raceways

Races continued from previous column

A: No. If you would like to run on street tires, you can run in just about any class. There are also Street Tire and Street Tire Ladies classes. If you are a Novice, you must use street tires. Race tires are not permitted for Novices.

Q: What do I need to bring?

A: Handy things to bring: tarp (to protect the contents of your car from rain), non-alcoholic beverages, food (there isn't usually food at the site), umbrella/hat, sunscreen, camera, folding chairs.

Q: What if I have a question?

A: There is a contact person for every event, and their name/email will be on the website. If you are unable to get a hold of them, you can contact me (Denise) at autorex1@pugetsoundmiataclub.org. At the event, ask anyone - autocrossers are a pretty friendly bunch!

Remember this photo of Christy Castro? She had a ball the first time she went autocrossing at the Ladies Practice Autocross Course last year, and so will you! Come on out and see what her smile was all about! Photos by Cisco Castro.



Coop's Garage

Injectors vs Crap Gas

By Bill Cooper, Coop's Miata



I have had some inquiries recently regarding slow and/or stumbling acceleration. In most cases, the complaint states that the car runs fine at idle and high RPM but hesitates in the transition. Some also report that the car doesn't have the acceleration that it once had.

These characteristics can be signs that you are not getting sufficient fuel under load conditions which generally means blockage in the fuel system, improper O2 sensor readings to the PCM, low fuel pressure, vacuum leakage or a dirty air filter or intake.

The most common cause is dirty injectors.

Here is a comparison picture of two injectors. The one on the left is dirty and limits fuel flow while the one on the right evenly and adequately disperses the fuel.



Coops continued next column

Coops continued from previous column

Injectors work in balance with the engine management system. In order for the system to work efficiently, there should be no irregularities in the flow patterns from injector to injector. Seldom, if ever, do injectors fail at the same time or the same rate. This can create an imbalance in the performance of individual cylinders. The effect of imbalance in fuel distribution was never better demonstrated than by early supercharger and turbo equipped Miatas. Limited fuel delivery capability caused a leaning of the fuel mixture in the #4 cylinder, last on the rail, under heavy acceleration. This fuel starvation which is similar to the fuel reduction caused by clogged injectors lead to overheat and, in some cases melt down. Increasing fuel pressure with the use of high pressure pumps and fuel regulators corrected these difficulties to some degree but it wasn't until the addition of electronic injector duration control, which evened out the flow, that the problem was entirely overcome. My point: Injectors all need to be working at the same flow rate and at maximum efficiency for your car to run correctly.

Almost all injector failure is a result of clogging instead of mechanical or electrical. Fuel gradually contaminates injectors in the form of a varnish residue. There are four ways in progression to clean this residue from your injectors. We always start with the easiest and least expensive. **Correct and faithful Maintenance**

My best advice here is to quit using crap gas and, if you do, be prepared to add the additives necessary to keep all of the fuel delivery and control components clean. I recommend a **Polyetheramine** based cleaner. It is more expensive than polysibutylamine, polyisbutylene succinimide and polyisobutylene phenylamine based cleaners, but it doesn't cause carbonization in the combustion chamber or require fluidizers to counteract the carbon build up in the injectors. Pump gasoline contains about 10% of the dosage recommended by Industry sources. (1,000 ppm). **Techron Concentrate Plus** (registered name) is your best bet and is available at most parts stores. Do not believe any clerk that tells you they are all the same!

In next month's article we will discuss on-car options to cleaning your injectors as well as off-car cleaning and replacement. These are the parts where we get into the picture. In the mean time, try it the easy way. It's just possible you will be so happy with the results that you can ignore next month's continuation all together.

You know, in the long run, buying good gas that cleans your injectors and fuel delivery system as you drive will result in better fuel economy and keep maintenance costs to a minimum. There used to be a commercial that went along the lines "You can pay a little now or pay a whole lot later." It will never be truer than when it comes to your choices in gasoline and the maintenance of your fuel system.



ATTENTION!

Tentative Date of Miatacross '07

Dieter Beldi has tentatively reserved Miatacross '07 on the Western Washington Sports Car Council Calendar for **August 5th** and will be submitting a request to acquire the Everett Sight.

Year after year, only a handful of PSMC members have been making Miatacross happen and be the successful fundraising event it has been. HOWEVER, PSMC needs folks with experience at various positions in order to make Miatacross a success, and **NOW** is the time for our members to gain the skills needed to help put on this event. **PLEASE, we need more PSMC Members to come forward and to attend as many local Autocrosses as possible to learn these skills.** If you are willing to learn what it takes, please contact Denise Williamson, Sean McGriff and/or Dieter Beldi as soon as possible.

Our club needs you (yes, that means YOU!).



You Might Be a Car Gal If . . .

By Bruce Lewis

There seems to be two schools of thought on what comprises a "Car Gal." One is the Lady who has a more feminine style with her car, and the other who is more of a do-it-yourselfer driving enthusiast, so with that in mind:



On the Feminine side:

- ... you put your top up when you leave the hair salon.
- ... you have no idea why the seats move so far back.
- ... you can't pack enough for a three day trip into a Miata's trunk.
- ... you have no idea how to open the hood, or why you would want to.
- ... you have a Yanni CD in your stereo.
- ... you have several changes of clothes on board at all times.
- ... you have anything that could, even remotely, be considered "bling" on your car.
- ... your umbrella matches your car ... (Hmm, I have one of those?)
- ... you keep Beanie Babies in your cup holders.
- ... you put flowers on your dash for car shows.
- ... you get your nails painted to match your car.
- ... you think lighted mirrors on sun visors are the industry's greatest innovation.
- ... you think a spoiler is someone who shows up late for Bunko.
- ... you care more about the destination than the roads to get there.
- ... you have your CB antenna adorned with flowers as a center piece on your dining room table.
- ... you have ever referred to your Miata as "cute".
- ... you have an air freshener on board.
- ... you have ever shopped for car accessories at Micheal's, Joann's, Nordstrom's or Hallmark.
- ... you think that "cat back" is a stray on your back porch.
- ... you totally love your Miata!

On the driver/enthusiast side:

- ... you have Meguiar's on your Christmas list.
- ... your Miata takes precedence in the garage, over ANYTHING!
- ... you put a car cover on your car, ... in the garage.
- ... your first-aid kit in the trunk includes Meguiar's Quick Wax or Detailer.
- ... you know what claying a car is and do it.
- ... you can change your own oil, flat tire and do a brake job.
- ... you know more about the workings of your car than your male mate.
- ... if you can't find your wheel brush so you use your vegetable brush in a pinch.
- ... your most recent Internet-dating-gee-he-was-perfect-until-he-flaked-out-guy dumps you, so to make yourself feel better, you go and get your oil changed.
- ... your fella knows that you'd rather have chrome slotted rotors instead of jewelry for Valentine's Day.
- ... you soothe your wounds from a bad dating experience by hitting the twisties.
- ... you'll risk a bad hair day rather than drive with the top up.
- ... you're more familiar with a dipstick than a lipstick.
- ... your weekly cleaning routine includes checking tire pressure.
- ... you can pack a complete wardrobe for a two-week trip in your Miata's trunk.
- ... you know your way around a shop manual better than a recipe book.
- ... you drive an automatic and can drive circles around guys with 6-speeds.

Car Gal continued on page 11



OFFICERS/DIRECTORS WEB COMMITTEE

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Data Coordinator	Randy Umemoto
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Asst. Parade Coordinator	Lindanne Gores
Sounder Editor	Cindy Smith
Webmaster	To be determined
Autocross Rep	Denise Williamson

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Webmaster/EIO	To be determined
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 pugetsoundmiataclub.org or send your name, address and check for \$30 (annual chapter dues) to:

Puget Sound Miata Club
3901 SW Hanford
Seattle WA 98116

New Faces

We hope to meet you at an event soon!

By *Randy Umemoto*

Larry & Carol Pauls	Edmonds, WA	99 Red
Bonnie & Michael Myers	Lynden, WA	07 Copper Red



Roadster Ramblings



By *Dustin Locke, PSMC Prez*

Rainy Days and Miatas Missed

Ah' February, a month of love and romance. To be honest, at this point in time, the only thing I could really fall in love with is a long stretch of great weather! Lately, there has been this odd thing above my head when I drive my Miata. It attaches to the windshield, it makes the interior quiet and dark and there is a piece of glass in the back of it. I'm not sure what it is, but I just know it's not supposed to be there! Oh well, only a few more (gulp) months of this right?

As I write this, I am in my hotel room in Orlando as I am on vacation to Orlando, Disney World and then onto Miami to visit family. I am enjoying it very much, but I am really missing a member of my family. The one I am missing is shapely, weighs around 2,500 pounds and is green. No, I am not talking about Aunt Esther in her Saint Paddy's Day Moo-Moo. I am missing my Miata. Vacations usually seem to make folks miss their homes and loved ones. However, vacations usually make me miss my little Miata. I don't know about any of you, but I will not rent any other type of vehicle but a convertible. Right now I have a 2007 Mustang convertible to get me around Florida. Don't get me wrong, it's great to enjoy the sun in a convertible but this tuna boat is no Miata! Every time I drive it, I imagine how great it would be to cruise around this tropical, sunny climate in my own little roadster. Oh well, I guess there really is no such thing as a totally perfect vacation.

The nasty weather in Seattle aside, we do have a couple of neat events coming up this month! On the tenth we have the Second Sloppy Saturday Run. These runs are always fun! Just fill up the car and come on out, no cleaning is required! Also in February, we have the Red Wine and Chocolate Tour. Tom and Cindy have been putting this event on now for several years and this will be the final one. Let's make certain to end this awesome tradition with a bang!! Mark your calendars for the eighteenth if you want to be there for the farewell to this tour.

Well, my water logged friends and family, I must be off. It's time to go lay by the pool and drink some daiquiris (please don't hate me)!

Car Gal continued from page 10

- ... you care more about the roads to get there than the destination.
- ... you have a "girls kick ass" bumper sticker.
- ... you say, "navigator"?? ... "shut up and sit down baby, mama's driving!"
- ... you understand what Coop is talking about.
- ... you spend more tricking out your car than you do on makeup.
- ... the first piece of mail you look at is the Moss Motors catalogue.
- ... you can drop the top one-handed while stopped at a traffic light.
- ... you totally love your Miata!

Familiar Faces

Try a new Miata Event this year!

Bill & Kathy Hughes	92 Silver	12 yrs
Maury & Sandy Fugitt	96 Red	3 yrs
Bill Read	93 Black LE	13 yrs
Thomas & Diane Regan	91 Red	14 yrs
Tao & Ngocnga Jiang	91 White	1 yr
Bruce & Debbye Lewis	99 Sapphire	1 yr
Robert & Marti Mott	03 Garnet Red	4 yrs
Rickey & Susan Carlson	90 Red	4 yrs
David & Karen Whooley	97 Marina Green	3 yrs
Nathan & Casey Allan	90 Red	3 yrs
Kim Shellabarger	99 Black	7 yrs
Dave & Vicki Nelson	92 Mariner Blue	13 yrs
Thomas & Cindy Millar	01 BRG	2 yrs
Stuart & Beth Sabel	96 Starlight Mica	3 yrs
Dennis & Nellie Butterfield	90 White	2 yrs

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

2007 Calendar

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

February 2007

- 3 February Monthly Social hosted by the Mann's
- 10 Second Sloppy Saturday hosted by Smith & McGriff (see page 2)
- 18 Red Wine & Chocolate hosted by Smith (see pg 3)



September 2007

- 2 South Bend Parade
- 29 Autumn Leaf Parade in Leavenworth
- 30 No. Cascades Hwy III hosted by McGranaghan

October 2007

- 27 Final Haunted Places Tour hosted by Smith & McSherry

November 2007

- 4 Southend Planning Meeting hosted by PSMC Board
- 11 Veterans' Day Run (tentative) hosted by Smith & Weber
- 18 Turkey Teaser hosted by McGriff

December 2007

- 2 Shelton Holiday Parade (tentative)
- 8 PSMC Holiday Party hosted by PSMC Board
- 15 Holiday Lights hosted by Locke

April 2007

- 13 First Friday Formal hosted by Springer
- 21 April Social
- 14 PSMC Nominating Meeting hosted by PSMC Board

May 2007

- 5 Detailing Day hosted by Cooper
- 12 Sequim Parade
- 18-20 Moab hosted by the Utah Miata Club
- 19 Poulsbo Parade
- 25-27 Topless Sun Run hosted by OVMC, Kelowna, BC

June 2007

- 1 First Friday Formal hosted by Ohlsen
- 2 Shelton Parade
- 8-10 Cooking in the Cockpit hosted by Locke (see page 3)
- 16 PSMC Elections hosted by PSMC Board
- 30 Port Orchard Parade
- 30 - 4 Historics hosted by Springer

July 2007

- 4 Kingston Parade
- 7 Mercer Island Parade
- 14 Hurricane Ridge hosted by Bell
- 20-22 Curious Gorge hosted by Weber
- 22 Chinatown Parade (tentative)
- 28 Silverdale Parade (tentative)

August 2007

- 5 Miatacross (tentative)
- 11 Run to Mt. Baker hosted by Bell
- 13-18 Shaken(speare) Not Stirred hosted by Smith, McSherry & Houghton (see page 4)
- 26 PSMC Gathering hosted by PSMC Board

Wine continued from page 1

(North)]; Off ramp goes to 4th; take a right on 4th, go one block to Royal Brougham and turn right; go 4-5 blocks (driving in between Safeco Field and the new Seahawk stadium) to Alaskan Way, make sure you are in the right hand lane, turning right on Alaskan Way. WSF is about 1.2 miles to the north; get in left hand lane and follow overhead signage. (When doing the prerun, Royal Brougham was closed due to construction; if it is still closed, just follow the detour signs.)



Classifieds

FOR SALE

1990 SN 571 MIATA
 Manufactured in April of 1989
 Two tone Red/black
 New soft top
 1993 Engine conversion
 Competition sway bars
 KYB/AGX shocks
 Eibach springs
 Body stiffeners
 Custom air intake
 Car is prepared for competitive driving
 Immaculate interior
 No discussion priced at \$3,000.00
 Call: Coop's Miata
 425.432.9666