

The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club www.gglotus.org October 2005

That Was The Week That Was, again *editor*

Does anyone else remember that this was the name of a 60's TV news and comedy show, about a Texas-born President who started a war he couldn't get out of? After guarding clotheslines at the Naval Training Center in San Diego, I got my first car, a TR3, and started learning the wonders of Lucas electrics and S.U. carburetors. Now we have our cars run by chips on circuit boards, and they don't quite look like the old TR, either. BUT, the beautiful driving experience is still there. My Elise has become my daily driver though I didn't intend it to. It's just too much fun to drive, and the mileage makes it a rational decision. I don't mind all the looks, either. I've almost come to the point where if someone doesn't look, I figure they're brain-dead losers. 'Non-car' people, well, they're in a different, narrow world. More fun for us, as long as they get in the slow lane and stay there!

Well, the multitude of late summer and autumn events are still in full force. Some great ones over; many this month and next.

Hey, come out to the Classic Sports Racing Group (CSRG) Charity race at Infineon on November 15th and 16th. See Lotuses from the Fifties onward, along with all the great marques we love. Many of us club members will be there with our cars, battling the Porsches and Alfas.

We've also got wine tasting and touring, our last track day of the year and more events this month.

Our club won the Club Participation Award at the 27th annual Palo Alto British Car Meet., a prize that goes to the club who's members brought the greatest number of cars to the Meet. Roy Nakamura accepted the award (below). This was the GGLC's 11th win for the Club Participation Award, but it's been over 10 years since our last.



Please place this image on your loved one's pillow. Christmas is coming!



October Meeting

Friday, October 21st

Host: Scott Hogben

Calendar

October 14-16	CSRG Charity Race	Infineon Rcw
October 15-16	California Autumn Classic	San Juan Batista
October 15th	ALMS	Laguna Seca
October 17	GGLC Track Day	Buttonwillow
October 21	GGLC Meeting	Host: Scott Hogben
October 23	GGLC Tour & Wine Tasting	Los Altos
October 23	Marina Festival	Brisbane
November 18	GGLC Meeting	Host: SF Auto Show
November 19-27	San Francisco Auto Show	Moscone Convention Center

for more and up to date information these GGLC and other events check the GGLC website at www.gglotus.org

Remember:

Chapman Report by Email

by David Anderson

Join the folks getting the Chapman Report (CR) via email (pdf) instead of postal mail by sending a note requesting the CR via email to "ggmail@gglotus.org". Be sure to specify what email address it should be sent to. You will get your monthly Chapman Report sooner and the club saves expense. Of course this is your choice — unless you tell us to use email you will continue to get the CR via the postal service.

Keep us up to date on your change-of-address. Once in a while we lose a member because we don't get notification of a move so the CR gets returned to us "no forwarding order".

P.S.: Those getting their CR by email will generally be getting it five to ten days prior to its postal delivery date. Also make sure that your email accepts it, so it is not listed as SPAM. editor



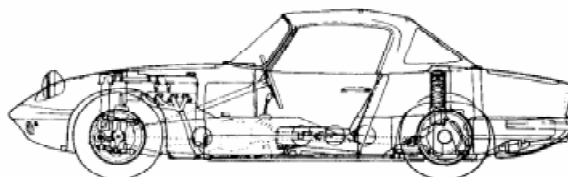
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More Views of the Historics Weekend *editor*

More examples of fine cars at the weeks events, starting with a fine Alfa on page 2, from the Alfa Romeo Museum in Milano, and is parked at the Pebble Beach Concours. Below are three examples of Lotuses at the Monterey Historics, starting with a pristine example of a Mk. 15, followed by Dan Gurney's Mk. 19, then a Type 47 on the right. Also shown are the Chaparrals cruising through turn 3 and the Lotus display of new Elises.



San Francisco Auto Show And GGLC Meeting *editor*

The San Francisco International Auto Show is asking the Golden Gate Lotus Club to participate in a Lotus exhibit for the 2006 San Francisco International Auto Show, November 19-27, 2005 at Moscone Convention Center.

We believe an exhibit featuring classic Lotus race cars and vintage cars from the past will be one of the highlights of this year's show. Therefore, the special Lotus exhibit will be included in our extensive advertising campaign, featured on the KRON-TV Preview show and highlighted in the numerous newspaper and magazine special sections.

The club is in the process of finding good examples of the variety of both road and race cars that that best represent the Lotus History. We are limited by space to about 20 cars. These cars must be on display for the duration of the show. If you are interested in showing your car and can have it there for 10 days, please contact me at chapmanreport@gglotus.org. They will also provide 24-hour security to insure the safety of the cars.

In appreciation of your participation in the Lotus exhibition at this year's San Francisco International Auto Show, each car owner will receive an invitation (good for two people each) to the VIP/Media Preview, two weeklong VIP passes and ten single day individual passes good anytime during the entire run of the show.

With over 400,000 spectators expected at this year's show, the San Francisco International Auto Show is the largest exposition of any kind held in northern California and the second largest auto show held in the western United States. It is the only auto show held in northern California that is supported by the major manufacturers and features their top displays.



It's Been 1 Year!

By Kiyoshi

It's difficult to believe but one year has passed since Laura and I picked-up our Elise. How time flies!

The news about this first year is as much about what didn't happen as what did happen.

What Happened?

But, first a quick refresher, in early September 2004 Laura and I traveled to Atlanta. The plan was to pick-up our Magnetic Blue Elise at Lotus Cars USA, drive to Birmingham Alabama and attend the Lotus Owners Gathering. After LOG we'd then head up into Tennessee, then drive into the Smokey Mountains via "The Tail of the Dragon" and then return to Atlanta. We'd board a plane and the car would be shipped to Silicon Valley Auto Group in Los Gatos.

That's how our Elise adventure began...

The Elise arrived in Los Gatos in mid October, it had nearly 1000 miles on it so I asked SVAG to do the 1000 miles service. I picked up the car on a Thursday and the following Sunday I drove down Hwy 25 from Hollister to Coalinga and down to Buttonwillow for the GGLC Track Day.

With 1300 miles on the odometer at the end of track day I continued south on Hwy 33 into Ventura. It is an amazing stretch of road; one that I suggest everyone drives at least once in his or her Lotus! After a few days of business in Torrance I met Laura at LAX and we drove back up Hwy 101 and stopped in Santa Barbara. The following day traveled up the coast on Hwy 1 and arrived home, nearly 2000 miles on the odometer.

In the next few months the Elise went to a couple club meetings, a GGLC Tech Seminar and Run, the GGLC Holiday Dinner and a couple Lockheed Sports Car Club Autocrosses. By the end of the year there was nearly 3500 miles on the odometer.

As winter turned to spring there was another GGLC Track Day at Buttonwillow with 38 Lotus cars of which 28 were Elise. Then later that

week I did pace car/instruction duty at the inaugural Marque Madness event at Laguna Seca. Two very fun days in one week! The odometer turned over 5300 miles.

Before I knew it, it was time for the 2005 WCLM and the Elise was towed behind the Lightning up to Tahoe. Another track day at Reno-Fernley, driving around Lake Tahoe, the WCLM Autocross, a run to Reno to the National Automobile Museum, the Concours and there was over 6000 miles on the clock.

And as the year closes I'll have about 7500 miles on the car and the Yoko 048s are ready to be replaced.

In the first year the Elise saw the dealer once, for the 1000 mile servicing and then again for about 3 minutes to get an ECU dump just because I was curious to see what it said about my driving. I haven't had to add oil, water, or any other fluid. In the first year I basically washed and waxed (I found Rejex worked really well and have started using it on my other cars), and put gas in it!

It's averaged about 27.75 miles per gallon, routinely getting 29 to 31 mpg on the highway and about 16-18 mpg on the track. The best mileage was a tad over 33 mpg.

The Elise continues to get looks

from other drivers and pedestrians. There's camera photos getting pointed out the windows of passing cars on the highway, kids smacking into poles on their bikes with their heads twisted around staring at the car.

What Didn't Happen?

What didn't happen you ask?

- Nothing fell off
- Not even one drop of oil
- Didn't add any coolant or brake fluid
- Didn't experience any brake fade even on track
- Started EVERY time
- Windows worked every time

Things I learned

The Elise is handmade and that means it comes with a few rattles, but overall fit and finish is quite good. You can hear the gearbox, the suspension and rocks flicking off the bottom. Big bumps cause loud crashing noises and a jar to your bottom.

The headlights need re-aiming and have a very sharp cut-off at the top. Like other Lotus the wheel/tires are sensitive to balance.

Did I mention there are not cup holders! Who needs them!

I had to adjust the height of the brake pedal to my liking, which required me to get into "Lotus"



position.

The little plastic buttons that hold the carpets down come loose and go under the seats and rattle.

I've learned to slow way down over speed bumps, go up and down driveways and dips at angles and how to semi-gracefully get in and out of the Elise with the top up. The air filter gets incredibly dirty. It seems to suck in a LOT of stuff, rocks, leaves and fortunately I haven't found any dead small animals in there.

There are some pretty significant blind spots to the rear quarters and you really have to twist around to see out the back when in reverse.

If you overcook a corner the Elise will understeer and in really tight corners you can get some inside rear wheels spin (autocross situations, but not track).

Did I mention the brakes are really good? The radio speakers are marginal and I've got a small bass induced buzz in the right rear speaker. But, then who really is listening to the radio when there's that lovely sound coming from the engine bay?

The A/C works, well sort of. Some the early cars like mine need to have the evaporator sensor relocated so they don't freeze up. Once that's done all is well.

The top is easy to put up and down, but lack a way to secure it in the boot and it slides around. That's easily fixed with a pair of straps I added to the floor of the boot.

It is possible to get an amazing amount of "stuff" into the boot, but you need to pack it into smaller backpack-sized soft bags and squish it around.

Did I mention you NEED Starshield, the clear bra option?

What's the Real Bottomline?

I haven't put 7500 miles on a Lotus in a single year... EVER!!!

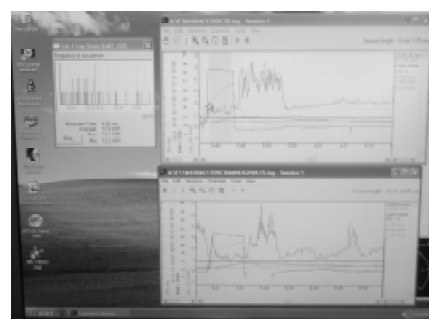
You can actually treat an Elise like a real everyday car! There are Elise owners who have put 15-20 thousand miles on their cars in a year and all they've needed was gas and regular oil changes!

The Elise puts a grin on my face every time I get in it!



Tune-Up At Mike's *editor*

Mike Ostrov hosted a Weber tuning session, lead by Keith Franck and his wide band lambda Innovate sensor/software. It was amazing to see what a laptop with the proper software can do for even an old car, such as this Elan. We are planning to have another seminar with Keith in the future, and I encourage others to come and see what is possible to get your car really dialed-in. It was obvious that it could also save you lots of \$\$ in repair bills later. **VERY HELPFUL**



The California Autumn Classic *Press Release*

This is one of the friendliest and most relaxed of the multi-marque British car events in Northern California. Every make car has a separate class and trophy. Judges are all volunteers from different area British car clubs. Wives and friends always enjoy this event because of the museums, the old Historic Mission and many antique shops, bakeries, etc. to browse through.

The weekend starts off with an afternoon back roads tour on Saturday. Approximately 50 cars of all makes take part in the day.

Sunday morning is for viewing the approximate 140 cars from twelve different clubs, awards are started at 1:30 PM. First place winners also receive a free 8x10 color photo, of them in their car, receiving their trophy.

All event profits are donated to The Christian Children's Fund, a non-sectarian charity helping children around the World in dire need. Almost \$1,000 is raised each year for the charity.

To attend The California Autumn Classic coming up October 15 and 16, 2005 log on to: www.autumnclassic.100mregistry.com

Auto Show

Press Release

From: Paul Diamond
San Francisco International Auto Show
300 Valley St., Suite 303
Sausalito, CA 94965

Dear Lotus Club Members and Owners,

The San Francisco International Auto Show is asking the Golden Gate Lotus Club to participate in a Lotus exhibit for the 2006 San Francisco International Auto Show, November 19-27, 2005 at Moscone Convention Center.

We believe an exhibit featuring classic Lotus race cars and vintage cars from the past will be one of the highlights of this year's show. Therefore, the special Lotus exhibit will be included in our extensive advertising campaign, featured on the KRON-TV Preview show and highlighted in the numerous newspaper and magazine special sections.

The San Francisco International Auto Show will provide all materials needed to produce a quality exhibit including, but not limited to space, carpet, drapery plus plant and floral arrangements. We will also provide 24-hour security to insure the safety of the cars.

In appreciation of your participation in the Lotus exhibition at this year's San Francisco International Auto Show, each car owner will receive an invitation (good for two people each) to the VIP/Media Preview, two weeklong VIP passes and ten single day individual passes good anytime during the entire run of the show.

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Marina Festival

Press Release

The City of Brisbane's Marina will be celebrating a Marina Festival on Sunday October 23rd from 10am to 4pm.

We are inviting a few select car clubs to come enjoy the festival and participate in a free Show & Shine on the Marina Green lawn and adjoining parking lots.

Your club members are invited to come proudly display their cars to the public and to enjoy the festival.

Live music by the jazz group "Lava Lush and the Playa Playboys" with front woman Trey Taylor who's performed at many of SF Jazz clubs;

Free boat tours of the marina, docks open to the public for in the water boat displays, demonstrations and tours along with a ship from the maritime museum, lots of unique and unusual boats;

This event is free to the public and free to participants and we hope that you will join us for a fun and memorable Autumn Sunday on October 23rd from 10am to 4pm.

I only ask that those wishing to participate to please contact me with an approximate number of cars from your club that you anticipate arriving. An e-mail will suffice, please identify your club, too.

We need to do some logistical planning to make sure everyone is accommodated and together. We would request that your club arrive by no later than 10am. Please advise me of any special needs.

Event staff will be on site the day of the festival starting at 8am to accommodate all participants. Please follow their directions.

Please visit the City of Brisbane's website at <http://www.ci.brisbane.ca.us/html/cityDept/marina/whatnew.asp> to view a flyer and photos from past festivals. Or, you can call us 7 days a week at (650)583-6975 for more info or to RSVP.

Lotus Bytes:

editor, et al

2006 GGLC Calendar Photos
NEEDED!!!

Do you have a favorite picture of your Lotus (taken within the past 12 months)? Submit it for the 2006 GGLC Calendar!

Requirements:

Digital photos of 3 meg or larger email to webguy@gglotus.org

Photos will be posted on the GGLC website and open to voting for the month of November. Calendars will go on sale in December.

Thanks,

Kiyoshi Hamai

EBay Watch:

editor

Holy CAR

"This is the only Exotic Car World-wide that on the holy soil of the Papstes with holy water was BaptizedHistory

First!

You have to now that this auction is not for everybody. The person who will have this car has to now, that He/she is the only person who has a car that is Baptized on Holy born ground from Papst Josef Benedikt IIV. I am a very religious Person.

After the Car was bought, I hat it Baptized from a High Ranking Holy Man, I can not say the name."

This Lotus-built Opel finally sold for about \$20K. Wait until the American buyer finds out he can't get it into the U.S. from Germany!





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GGLC Tour And Wine Tasting *by Kiyoshi*

GGLC Private Wine Tour & Tasting at the Byington Winery

Sunday, Oct 23, 2005

Meet at 9am & depart at 9:15am

Andronico's
690 Los Altos Rancho
Los Altos, CA 94024

Bring or pick-up deli sandwich at Andronico's for picnic lunch after the tour & tasting.

We will leave from Andronico's and take a leisurely drive up to Hwy 35/Skyline, then Hwy 9 to Boulder Creek and up Bear Creek Rd to the Byington Winery. We must arrive in time for our 11am Private Tour with tasting to follow.

Space limited to 30 GGLC members. RSVP required. RSVP to Kiyoshi at webguy@gglotus.org



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More Classifieds

Wanted: I am looking for a Lotus Elan from 1963 to 1973 to purchase.

Convertible. Please email photos, details and price. Thank you. JOHN J. GARVEY, jgarvey2@cox.net, 405-760-3883, 1724 Dorchester Place, Oklahoma City, OK 73120

FOR SALE: Lotus 7 A. New reinforced chrome moly frame, new suspension and Spax shocks, all new hydraulics, 2 rib cage transmissions, close ratio gear set, 2 BMC 1100 blocks and cranks, new APT prepared cylinder head with valves and springs, 2 Triumph 10 rear axle housings (one with no cracks), Wingard tail lights, original radiator and fuel tank, proper red upholstery material from England, etc., etc. Needs aluminum skin and hood. Assembly required. Will not separate. \$8000 firm. Locater in Templeton, CA (805)434-2980

For Sale: 1977 Lotus Sprint (Eclat) been sitting in garage for 20 years. \$4000. Contact Chuck Nelson hansel@aol.com

The Chapman Report is published monthly by the Golden Gate Lotus Club, PO Box 117303, Burlingame, CA 94011. The GGLC is a non-profit incorporated car club and is not affiliated with Group Lotus, Team Lotus or Lotus Cars USA. The GGLC's annual membership dues are \$25.00.

Opinions expressed in the Chapman Report are those of the authors and do not represent those of the GGLC or its officers.

Submissions to the Chapman Report are accepted and encouraged. Please email them to chapmanreport@gglotus.org in MS Word, rtf or ASCII text. Submissions may also be mailed to Jim McClure, 11238 Bubb Road, Cupertino, CA 95014.

2003 GGLC Officers are: President: Faisal Khan, Vice President: Pete Richen, Treasurer: Laura Hamai, Event Coordinator: John Zender, Membership Chairman: David Anderson, Secretary: Jon Rosner

Chapman Report Staff: Editor: Jim McClure, Circulation Manager: Tom Carney, Advertising Manager: Mel Boss.

Classifieds

(non-commercial ads are free to GGLC members and will run for three issues before requiring renewal)

For Sale: 1971 S2 Europa \$1500 or best offer. 64k miles on engine. New water pump, battery, and hoses. Ran last month but then the starter died. Has some body damage to rear. Almost all original. This is a good project car or a great parts car. Please call Cody at 925-356-6965.

For sale: four minilite (genuine) wheels, bolt on 31/4x4, 13x5 with mounted set of avon 5:00x13's includes lug nuts(7/16&1/2). both wheel and tires brand new, never run. correct offset for lotus elan and spitfire. for info call Joel Mauser 209 477 4198 or email mauserja@aol.com (8/05)

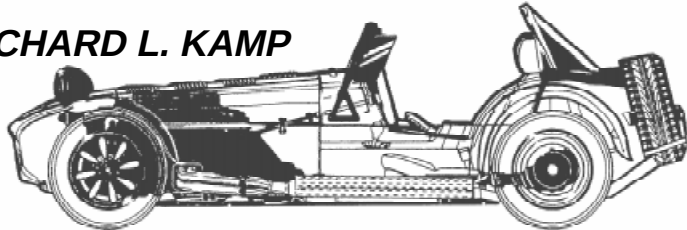
For Sale: We are selling our 1993 DeDion Caterham. I have had the car since 1994 and purchased it thru 7's & Elans. It has the 1700 Super Sprint, oil cooler, limited slip, adjustable seats, heater. The car has the original optional 16" tires and wheels and also a set of 13" wheels w/Avon tires. \$27,500. contact Gene: phone 530-722-9127, fax 530-722-9119, email bbg@c-zone.net.

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FOR SALE: 1. Elan Series One body only. Needs some glass fibre remodeling and attention to the rear lamp panel. No title. 2. Elan FHC Series 4. Almost complete. missing a few mechanical bits: ie engine tranny, backbone chassis, suspension, diff. Great project or starter car. Title available. 3. Elan knock off (4), bolt on steel wheels (4) and one set (4) Europa factory alloy wheels. Sensible offers considered. All items FOB El Sobrante, CA. Mike Ostrov (510) 232-7764 or mikeostrov@webtv.net

For Sale: 1977 Esprit S1, nearly flawless interior, top half engine rebuilt, new radiator, new tires, etc. Receipts for all work done. Located in Walnut Creek, CA. Contact Paul Aichele 510-752-3204/ aichele@pixar.com (9/05)

For Sale: Lotus 7 and Formula items Gearbox, heads, bell housing, konis & springs, 11" rearwings, rebuilt starter, quick lift, 6 sets 2.25" I.D. springs, race mirrors. Call Don at (650) 347-0572 or 7lotus7@prodigy.net (6/05)

First Class Mail

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