

The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club www.gglotus.org May/June 2019



Linda H. (aka Lead Foot Lulu) welcomes friends and guests to a very special AutoX Wedding celebration at the Marina on April 7, 2019. Learn more about this amazing event in the story starting on page 6.



Spotted at Tom and Stephanie's place on April 20, 2019: a striking example of a Lotus Exige that was strategically parked at Tom's unique address.

May/June Meetings

WEDNESDAY — SUNDAY
May 15 – 19, 2019

2019 West Coast Lotus Meet
Folsom, CA
(Headquarters Hotel: Lake Natoma Inn)

THE Lotus event of the year is almost here. Be sure to check out the final details of the planned fun activities on Page 4.

SATURDAY, June 8, 2019 — 4:00 PM*

Annual GGLC BBQ in Danville
Hosts: Mel Boss and Darlene Kasl

***BBQ will be served ~ 6 PM**

Thunderhill Raceway Park Track Day / 3-Mile Circuit March 25, 2019

by David Anderson

While heavy rains were forecast for the day (beginning several weeks prior to this track day), it turned out that the rain started at 7 AM, and it was essentially gone after about 11 AM.

The clouds remained all day, though, so there was no way to be sure that the rain would stay away. The temperature was consistently around 50°F all day, and winds were light. Probably due to the forecast, participant turnout was less than what we normally would have at a Spring Thunderhill track day.

A few of the folks who turned up never did actually get on track, however, feeling, no doubt, that the wet track was not to their liking.

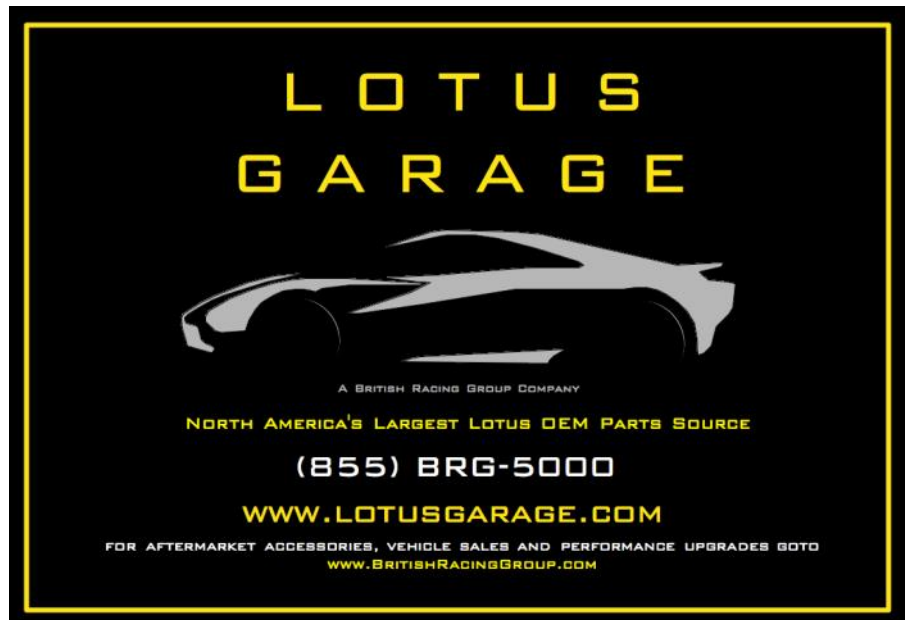
During the 8:15 AM Drivers' Meeting, Turbo (the starter) emphasized the importance of staying on track because most areas off-pavement were very wet indeed. His important advice was that if you are unable to stop you should go straight off and not attempt to turn while in the dirt and mud. The mud can easily catch the wheels and throw the car sideways, which could quickly become a rollover, ruining your day, for sure.

Lotus cars on hand were six Elise/Exige (or so) and one Seven. Rob Dietsch had put Hoosier Wets on my #214 Elise, which made driving in the first few sessions (the wet sessions) a surprisingly fun experience.

This was actually my first time on such tires (because it rains so seldom here in the San Francisco area). With those tires, if there is a slight bobble, the car nearly catches itself, just as if the track were dry. Grip-wise, the car feels much like it does on a dry track, but with just a bit less traction everywhere. Indeed,

there is no doubt that true rain tires are amazingly effective in taming a slippery track.

We switched to dry-weather Hankook tires for the 11 AM session (fearing that the now, nearly dry, track would destroy the Hoosier wets). But then, a little acceleration in a damp spot (turn 12E) lead to a spin (4 wheels off) and there was no way to catch it: once the rears lost traction they simply had none. Luckily, however, your scribe was able to drive back on the track with just a bit of mud on the tire sidewalls.



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After a spin (or 4-wheels off), the normal procedure is to drive around to the starter's stand in the hot pits (keeping a good pace, not going slowly) to have a word with the starter. But, in this case, Turbo did not think anything needed to be said so he just waved me back on track.

After the noon lunch break, perhaps half of the drivers decided to call it a day.

Many thanks go out, however, to all of the drivers who turned up for this challenging, cold and dreary track day event.



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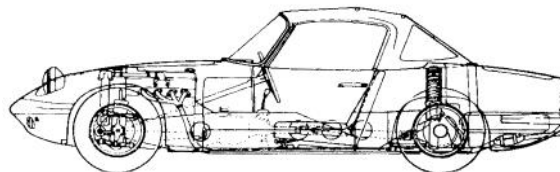
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Final Countdown: 2019 West Coast Lotus Meet May 15–19, 2019 — Folsom, CA

by Kiyoshi Hamai

LAST CHANCE! Registration for the 2019 West Coast Lotus Meet (WCLM) closes May 5, 2019!

Registration Details:

The WCLM registration fee includes all events, drives, shows, museum entries, autocross and meals except for the optional WCLM Track Day.

The WCLM registration fees (per entrant) through May 5 are \$360 for members and \$410 for non-members. Note that all current members (and their spouse or significant other) of any regional, national or international Lotus club qualifies for the Lotus Club Member price.

No registrations will be accepted after May 5. (please email the event chairman after May 6 at wclm-chair@gglotus.org)

The WCLM registration fee does not include hotel. Entrants are responsible for booking their own accommodations.

To register go to: www.gglotus.motorsportreg.com

About The 2019 WCLM:

The 2019 WCLM is hosted by the members of the Sacramento Chapter of the Golden Gate Lotus Club. They are excited to invite Lotus enthusiasts from around the globe to the Sacramento area and the California Gold Country.

The event will be five days of total Lotus celebration starting Wednesday, May 15, and ending Sunday, May 19.

Mike Tatro, 2019 WCLM Chairperson, says that final preparations are done, and that he and the entire 2019 WCLM Committee now await Lotus folks from across the western U.S. to converge on Folsom, CA.

WCLM Headquarters:

The 2019 WCLM will be headquartered at the Lake Natoma Inn (702 Gold Lake Dr., Folsom, Ca 95630) in the heart of Historic Folsom.

We recommend you make your hotel reservations at the Lake Natoma Inn online at:

www.lakenatomainn.com.

Be sure to use the WCLM group code “6046435”. OR use this URL to go directly to the Group Booking site: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/13381?groupID=2411110>

The WCLM group rate is \$149/night for double occupancy with either two Queen beds or a single King bed.

Group rates are subject to availability. Week-ends are busy, so we encourage you to make your reservations ASAP.



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Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 7	SDLC Meet-up	San Diego
May 11	AutoX, Round #1	Marina
May 11	Breakfast/LCoSC	LA
May 15-19	West Coast Lotus Meet	Folsom, CA
May 16	Track Day (2-mile West track)	Willows
May 25	SDLC Meet-up	San Diego
June 2	AutoX, Round #2	Marina
June 4	SDLC Meet-up	San Diego
June 8	Breakfast/LCoSC	LA
June 8	GGLC BBQ	Danville
June 29	AutoX, Round #3	Marina

See www.gglotus.org for additional information about upcoming events.

2019 WCLM Schedule (tentative, subject to change):

Day 1 - Wednesday, May 15 (late afternoon)

- Registration at Lake Natoma Inn
- WCLM Meet & Greet at Red Bus Brewing Co.

Day 2 - Thursday, May 16

- WCLM Optional Track Day at Thunderhill Raceway Park—Thunderhill West
- WCLM Autocross at Thunderhill Raceway Park OR
- Sacramento Guided Driving Tour
- Open evening to explore and enjoy Historic Folsom.

Day 3 - Friday, May 17

- WCLM Gold Country Drive/Rallye with stop at Lava Cap Winery
- JAE WCLM Funkhana
- JAE WCLM BBQ at the CarMichael Vintage Vehicle Collection

Day 4 - Saturday, May 18

- Folsom Cars and Coffee. Special parking for WCLM Lotus cars.
- Hethelsport WCLM Lotus Concours in Historic Folsom
- Dave Bean Engineering WCLM Wine & Beer Tasting and WCLM Banquet & Awards

Day 5 - Sunday, May 19

- Dixon British Car Meet (optional)
- Drive to Old Town Sacramento, final stop at the California Auto Museum
- WCLM Lunch at Selland's Outdoor Patio on Broadway



Scan to get current GGLC calendar on your mobile device.

2019 WCLM Sponsors:

The WCLM cannot happen without the financial assistance of our sponsors: Lotus Cars USA, Dave Bean Engineering, JAE, Turbo Hoses, Hethelsport, TrackSpec, RD Enterprises and The Historic Folsom Association.

A GGLC Special Event: —AutoX and Wedding— April 7, 2019

by Kiyoshi Hamai

In the March/April 2019 *Chapman Report*, I wrote about the 2019 GGLC Autocross Season, including a small mention about a private event that was scheduled for the second half of the day of the event scheduled for April 7, 2019. However, our avid autocross participants may have had a “heads up” that that special event centered around the GGLC hosting a wedding at the Marina AutoX site.

Not just any wedding, but an Autocross Wedding, perhaps the first of its kind (are you listening Guinness World Records?)!

But before getting to this unique event, we should start with the morning AutoX prac-

tice. One might imagine that after nearly 5 months away from any autocross competition the GGLC’s “well-oiled” machine might show signs of rust.

If you thought that, then you would be WRONG! Nope, we arrived on site at 7 AM, the course was set-up, we had our drivers’ meeting and, BAM—everything was ready as the first car and run of 2019 took the green flag at 9:01 AM! What rust?

Everyone got 6 runs, the switch-overs between run groups were completely uneventful and all three run groups were done by 12:30 PM.

Then...

Let me go back in time to May, maybe June, 2018. Linda, aka “Lead Foot Lulu”, had recently said “YES” to Gerry’s proposal to marry!

Many GGLC members may know Lulu by her silver Elise which wore “83” on its sides in 2018. She and Gerry have been inseparable for a few years and their love grew.



Anyone seeing the couple could only bask in the glow from their boundless devotion.

It seemed like just a simple suggestion at a GGLC AutoX in 2018: Jen Dietsch came up to me and said, “Lulu asked if she and Gerry could get married next spring at a GGLC AutoX. What do you think?”

“What? Are they serious?”
“Oh my, OF COURSE!”

And with that started nearly a year of planning and ideas; and after our 2019 AutoX dates were set, we took aim at bringing the wedding plans all together for the afternoon of April 7, 2019. (We also should note that as part of this journey, the Dietsch family moved to Oklahoma!)

We planned a wedding-appropriate AutoX course, a vegetarian-friendly lunch was ordered and suitable decorations were pulled together.

So, at the appointed hour, Lulu drove up the aisle in her Elise and joined Gerry under a white canopy with their friends seated on each side and surrounded by Elise and Exige cars. There was no reversing, the GGLC’s Autocross Wedding was happening!

And with the exchange of vows, a declaration of marriage and exchange of rings Lulu and Gerry, got back into their Elise and roared under the canopy

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and between the cones straight on to the AutoX course for the First Drive!

What followed were congratulatory toasts (using sparkling cider), cake, and some more autocrossing fun!

It was, indeed, a glorious celebration as captured in the accompanying photos. All best GGLC wishes to the bride and groom!





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March 2019 Happenings at The San Diego Lotus Club Chapter

by Lawrence Sher & Ron Schramm

Sunday, March 10, 2019.

Today's drive was as interesting as it was adventurous. In addition to clear roads—outbound, at least, as cooperative fellow motorists gave way to allow us to pass at a reasonable pace—and crisp, clear spring weather, the drive also provided a unique opportunity to study both botany and entomology. Who would have thought?

The base group met at North County Fair shopping center, and they departed at the crack of dawn, 0700. As this was the first day following the change to daylight savings time (Spring-forward), most all of us were a bit sleep deprived, having only had about 5 hours' sleep.

Our route carried us east and upward for about 20 miles via Highland Valley Road. We drove through the occasionally blinding sunrise to Packard's Coffee Shop in Ramona where a second group of participants joined us.



With our full entourage assembled, we motored on for another 50 miles overall to Santa Isabel via Old Julian Highway, then Julian and down to Borrego Springs via Hwy 78 and Banner Grade.

The combination of vehicles, from 60s iron and on up to new supercar performance machines, provided a great display of sporting automotive advances over the past 50 years. The seemingly extreme body motions of the Alfa tiptop, the various exhaust notes of the Italian 4-cylinders, the baritone of the Triumph 6 in the TVR up to the basso profundo V8 of the big cat coupe and siren scream of the 570 were all blended into an awesome soundtrack from where I sat. This automotive symphony made for a great drive to our stop for breakfast.

Breakfast was served at the Borrego Springs Resort. As we were departing, our eclectic group of cars attracted quite a bit of attention from the other patrons at the resort while our own entourage managed to snap a few "selfies".

After breakfast, we journeyed east another 5 miles into

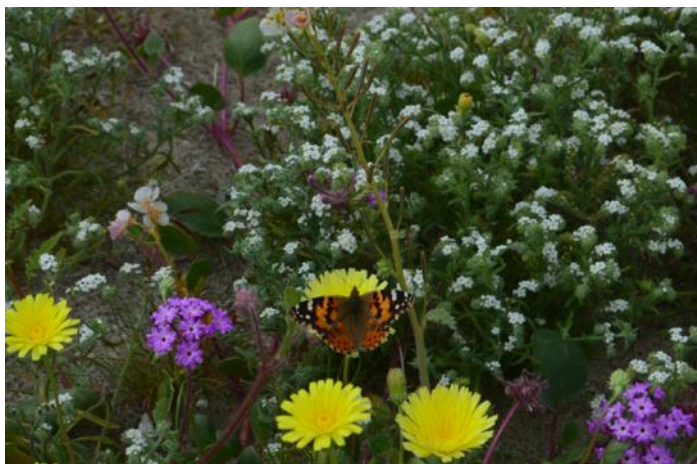
the Anza Borrego State Park to check out the spring bloom of our desert wildflowers. From head height, the spacing of the flowers makes the coverage seem relatively sparse. And the fragrance, a pleasant blend of sage and jasmine, was subtly intoxicating. We saw desert lilies, ocotillo, parish poppies, desert dandelions, evening primrose, sand verbena, chichory, encrypt and five spot.

In addition to the delicate floral landscape, a virtual cloud of butterflies—Painted Ladies—provided a delightful flight of joy to the scene. A closer exploration at ground level revealed caterpillars that, in a few weeks' time, will devour these delicate flowers, as well as the flying insects that help to pollinate them.

No trip of this type is complete without an automotive issue of some sort. On this occasion, Emil made the mistake of attempting to close his sunroof with one hand while cruising at 60 mph in his TVR. This is normally a two-hand activity in order to ensure that the leading edge of the fabric sliding panel stays square in the open roof aperture.

Unfortunately for Emil, the front of the roof came out of the track and slapped back against that gigantic and virtually unobtainium wraparound rear window on the TVR. Luckily, there was no permanent damage other than the loss of one of the anti-vibration plastic guides, which are, hopefully, replaceable.

After a brief roadside stop to see if we could find the missing bit of plastic on the roadside that came to no avail, we put the top back into its track and resumed our drive homeward with a short stop in Santa



Isabel to pick up a fresh Julian Apple Pie to take home.

Many thanks to Steve for motivating us to get out and take part in this delightful morning of fun exploring, food and driving.

(continued on p. 10)




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SDLC Go-Kart Outing.

The recent and on-going winter rains have been a welcome respite from our persistent drought. But they have also been anathema for our typical cool-winter SoCal driving days!

However, this situation gave the SDLC a welcome opportunity to organize a Go-Kart outing at K1 Speed in Carlsbad later in March.

We had a great turnout with 23 folks showing up for this event, which required two separate run groups as the venue can only accommodate 12 drivers on track in a single session.

Competition was fierce in both groups, with the result that there was lots of close racing. F1 this was not, as evidenced by abundant passing. An example was Steve Goyette, leading, and Dan Gibson who went back and forth all evening, as passing was difficult, but not impossible, on the narrow track.

Did I mention that the competition was tight? 17 of our drivers were lapping within 1 second of the fastest lap time. This made for some outstanding dices. (And for just a bit of contact as not everyone was getting it done using the same lines!)

Following the hot competition, Don Anderson was heard to ask the age-old question: "Who needs brakes?"

All-in-all, it was a great evening and event!



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Annual Club BBQ In Danville

June 8, 2019

editor

So another year has rolled by, and it is time once again for the club's annual BBQ at Mel and Darlene's place in Danville on Saturday, June 8, 2019.

This fabulous event will feature some of Mel's gourmet specialties like stuffed portobello mushrooms, grilled tri-tip and deep-fried turkey. See page 1 for driving directions to Mel and Darlene's.

The fun should get started about 4 PM with food service beginning around 6 PM—and a club business meeting might even happen a little later!

A contribution of a salad or dessert for the BBQ would be nice, but is not required. Please RSVP to Mel for the BBQ by June 6:
(darmel-at-sbcglobal.net).

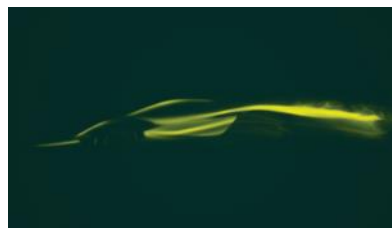


Coming Soon?

Abstracted from online sources

Lotus has shown a teaser image of a new concept, which will usher in the automaker's electric era. The Type 130 hypercar concept will be shown later this year in London, but this aerodynamic teaser is the first glimpse of its shapely flanks. The Type 130 is said to be in "advanced stages of development."

According to Lotus, the Type 130 will spawn a production version, which will be the brand's first all-new vehicle in 11 years. It will be partially bankrolled by Lotus' Chinese parent company, Geely, which also owns Volvo. Despite that, the hypercar will not be built in China, but in England. An earlier *Autocar* article estimated the eventual price at around \$2.6 million.



News also broke last month that Lotus is bringing another new car to market, but that one is likely to retain internal combustion technology along with engineering ties to older Lotus architecture, as it

forms a sort of "bridge" between current Lotus products and its future cars.

Lotus also noted some of its "firsts" when describing the upcoming concept, which it calls "the world's first full-electric British hypercar." The 1995 Elise was the world's first aluminum and bonded extrusion construction production car, while the 1957 Elite was a production first in the sense that it first brought the composite monocoque within the reach of customers. Between those, there was a lot of groundbreaking F1 knowhow: e.g., ground effects for the '77 Type 78, carbon fiber for the '81 Type 88 and active suspension in 1983.

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Classifieds

(non-commercial ads are free to GGLC members and will run for 2 issues before requiring renewal)

For Sale: Elise car cover - 'CoverKing' custom fit, in light grey. Roughly 18 months old. Nothing wrong with the cover, but I now have another so this needs to find a new home. Asking \$50. Buyer collects from Palo Alto. Contact Phil (415) 341-2624 or email waltonholt -- at -- gmail.com

For Sale: Lotus Super Seven Series 3. Registered in CA as 1967, (no SMOG req'd). Likely built for Autocross from Catherham and Lotus parts. (Does not appear to have ever been raced in any form.) Only 15,126 miles as it was in storage for many years. Ford Kent 1600 Crossflow, bored to 1700cc, new Kent 234 Fast Road cam, lifters, valves and guides. Dual Weber 40DCOE carbs, SS headers, new Electromotive direct ignition and coils. Aluminum sides, hood and interior (fenders and nose are black). A few dings on fiberglass, but all aluminum panels in excellent condition. Extra parts include new diff, Accusump, Kent 244 Rally cam, driving lights, and

misc. parts. Very fast and nimble. Would be perfect for Autocross, but a blast to drive on the street! Asking \$24,000. Will deliver in N. Cal., (delivery negotiable elsewhere.) Contact: Jim in Sacramento, (775) 721-9455, or jim.flakus -- at -- gmail.com.

For Sale: Lotus Eleven parts: rear end (complete with brake calipers), steering box and radiator (with reservoir). Parts located in Visalia. Contact: Jeff at (805) 503-9988 or jefflj22 -- at -- gmail.com.

For Sale: '06 Lotus Sport Elise. Yellow with silver stripes. Low mileage (19K), limited-edition car (#48)—the 1st of 50 special editions in U.S. Featured in numerous auto magazines. Certificate of Provenance and photos available on request. Car is located in

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Wanted: Lotus 23. Looking to purchase a Lotus 23 for the 2019 racing season. Prefer a car that is CSRG eligible, but will consider all. Please reply to jgrosseto -- at -- icloud.com or call (209) 588 9490 with details.

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