

The Chapman Report



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Photo Credit: Jerry Bassler

L to R: the Carneys (Tom and Cherie), Charlie Rockwell (background), Jon Rosner, and Marci Camacho all enjoy renewing friendships at Mike Ostrov's shop, tech sessions, and pizza party. See Jon's story about the steamy day on page 3.



Kiyoshi Hamai assumes his alter ego garb as the designer of the 2024 WCLM's popular Funkana event. Find out more about what happened in Clearlake in his story on page 9.

Nov/Dec Meet-ups

Note:

As we go to press, a Casual Drive/Get Together for the month of November 2024 has not yet been organized.

Please check the club's website and Facebook Group on a regular basis for details to come.

Editor

Holiday Party

When: December 7, 2024
5:30 PM cocktails, 6:30 PM dinner

Where: Focaccia
201 Haskins Way
South San Francisco

Details: Learn more about this event on page 8 and the club website where you will find a reservation link

Message From the Prez: —Time to Wrap the Year—

by Jonathan Schreiber

As we wind down another fantastic year for the GGLC, it is hard not to smile when looking back on all we have done.

Our recent 2024 West Coast Lotus Meet (WCLM), based in scenic Clearlake, CA was a resounding success, with incredible drives, unforgettable gatherings, and the unmistakable camaraderie that makes this club so special. A big thank you to everyone who attended, helped plan, or contributed in any way to the 2024 WCLM—events like this are truly a team effort, and your enthusiasm made it all worthwhile.

But don't worry, the year's fun is not over just yet! We still have a few events on the calendar, including our annual Holiday Party on Saturday, December 7. Join us for an evening filled with fun, games, dinner, and drinks as we toast to a wonderful year and all that is to come in 2025. It will be the perfect chance to relax, celebrate, and connect with fellow Lotus enthusiasts before we kick off another exciting season.

As an aside, and a personal garage update, I can report that I recently completed an unscheduled upgrade on my Exige. After a solid twelve-year run, the Nitron Singles fitted to my Exige finally gave out. While I would have preferred it to be a planned upgrade, I am excited to be swapping in Penskes. It's going to be a big change, but one I am very much looking forward to.

Now back to club business—WE NEED YOU! As we look ahead to the new year, I would like to extend an invitation to anyone interested in getting more involved with the club. We are always looking for fresh ideas, new perspectives, and helping hands. In particular, we are seeking members who might be interested in taking on some key roles in the club. If you'd like to help shape our Chapman Report as the editor, assist with motorsports communications and marketing, or officially lend Colm a hand

in running our AutoX program, please reach out! And speaking of the Chapman Report, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Joel for his incredible 15 years of service as chief editor. His dedication has been invaluable, and he leaves big shoes to fill.

Whether you are a longtime member or new to the club, your contributions are more than welcome. Thank you all for your continued enthusiasm and support.

Let's make 2025 another incredible year for the Golden Gate Lotus Club!




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Old Friends, Good Food, and Plenty of Heat Were Featured at El Sobrante Get Together October 6, 2024

by Jon Rosner

When the weatherman predicts 101 degrees F, even the local critters do not generally venture out. However, this adage does not seem to apply to Lotus owners and enthusiasts. They are indeed a hearty lot, and no less than 36 intrepid souls made the journey to El Sobrante in the blazing Bay Area heat on October 6 for a multi-functional event at Mike Ostrov's shop that featured food, shop talk, a swap meet, and plenty of good fun.

It has been about three decades since Donny and Marci Camacho hosted their event in Occidental, but they made the trek to El Sobrante for this get together. Larry Glenn was also aching for a few bits for his old Elite and came to El Sobrante from Burbank to check out Mike's stash. Charlie Rockwell made the trek from near San Diego, while Mike Drouin came from Lodi, and Mace Gjerman came down from north of Santa Rosa in Hal's old Evora. In addition, Lowell and James McCoy came out of Colfax, and Tom and Cherie Carney drove their lovely green and white Europa from Burlingame so that it could keep company with several old Elites, a smattering of Elans, and Andy Shank's impeccable Abarth, which was tucked away in the back of the shop.

Hot pizza, cold green salad, potato and macaroni salads, potato chips, Coke on ice and lots of other treats made for a nice repast as a light breeze cooled us

off a bit in the shade. Meanwhile, Keith Frank had a rapt audience with bent ears seeking clues about the mysteries of the Weber sidedraft carburetor.

The good news is that no one melted, and everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves. Last, but not least, it was a great treat to see so many smiling faces from the last 30+ years of the Golden Gate Lotus Club!



Photo Credit: Jerry Bassler

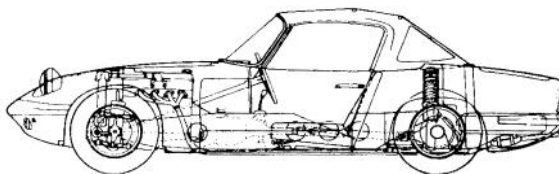
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4,083 Miles / To Texas and Back, Part 1

by Kiyoshi Hamai

ROAD TRIP!! The question was: tow or drive the Elise to Austin, TX for the Lotus Owners Gathering 43 (LOG43) scheduled for September 27-29, 2024.

The decision to go to LOG43 was made easier when former GGLC'er Scott Whitman asked me for advice and assistance with the Track Day and Autocross activities he was chairing for LOG43. What ensued were regular meetings with Scott and a couple of folks from the Houston SCCA Solo team in addition to strings of emails with the Harris Hill Raceway track management. The Houston folks are very experienced autocrossers, and they were ultimately responsible for putting the event together. My "job" was easy, just lend an "ear".

Drive vs. Tow

Once Laura and I decided to attend, the great debate began, DRIVE or TOW? Tow was the easy answer, but that choice offered little in the way of adventure opportunities. Towing also meant keeping to the Interstates and wider roads (i.e., less fun). In true Texas spirit, we decided to go "BIG" and drive the Elise.

Car Prep

I knew car prep would be important, I did the usual stuff: filter, oil, brake/suspension checks, etc. However, I was apprehensive about putting an additional 3-4k miles on my Toyo 888R tires. I already had about 2k miles on them, and getting another 4k miles on the trip would likely do them in. Plus it was likely that any drive through a thunderstorm on those tires would likely be an adventure. I decided to mount a set of All-Seasons on my second set of wheels.

Fortuitously, I spotted a set of Rota wheels for an Elise shod with General (brand) All Season tires for sale. I contacted the seller and bought the wheels and tires for about the price of a new set of Continental tires. Treaded, "yes", Performance, "no" (as I would learn later).

Next up; in an effort to enhance seating comfort, I added some padding squares of gel foam. It also made sense to mount the hard top for some weather protection during those anticipated long, sunny days.

Road to LOG43

We departed early morning on Sunday, September 22. This day we had to get in some distance: including 527 miles on I5, CA58 through Bakersfield, a lunch stop in Tehachapi (recommend Kohnen's Country Bakery), Barstow, I40, and ending the day in Needles, CA—with dinner at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant, a Route 66 staple with a big gorilla poised over the entryway!

Day 2, required another early departure with plans to get to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon by noon via I40 and then AZ64. We did take a small detour through Williams, AZ. If you are a fan of the movie "Cars" or enjoy "Carsland" at California Park at Disneyland, then



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Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
Nov 8	GGLC Track Day	Laguna Seca
Nov 24	LCOSC/GGLC Track Day Big Willow	Rosamond
Dec 7	GGLC Celebration Dinner	So. San Fran- cisco

All dates and events are tentative.
Please see www.gglotus.org for current information about upcoming events.

driving through downtown Williams is a MUST!

We finished Day 2 walking round the South Rim, dinner at the El Tovar Hotel, and taking in sunset at the Canyon. Just 236 miles for the day.

Day 3 was another big driving day: 313 miles to get in plus stops in Winslow, AZ to stand on the legendary Route 66 corner, visit the Petrified Forest National Park and end in Gallup, NM at the famous Hotel El Rancho. The Petrified Forest was a surprise when you see acres and acres of thousands of giant logs of petrified trees—it was amazing!

Day 4, was a short driving day (200 miles) to get from Gallup, NM to Santa Fe, NM. We spent the afternoon exploring the downtown area around the Santa Fe Plaza, visiting a few of the many, many galleries, and spend some time in the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum.

Day 5, Thursday September 26. We need to get in big miles (410 miles) today to reach Austin, TX the next day. We ended the day in Snyder, TX, but we made an hour stop in Lubbock, TX to take in the Buddy Holly Center on Crickets Ave! The exhibit was simple, and chronicled Holly's sadly abbreviated life.

LOG43

Day 6, Friday September 27. We departed Snyder, TX early as we needed to get in nearly 300 miles to get to LOG43 HQ in Austin. Our route was mostly 2-lane, a lot on FM roads, "Farm to Market", think straights and 90 degree turns and bumpy. Driving through Brady, TX we stopped at an Ace Hardware to find a way to tighten the handle on the E-Brake. Eventually we arrived at LOG43 got unloaded, got into our room, parked and went through LOG registration.

It was good fun to see old



Scan to see the current GGLC calendar on your mobile device.

friends and get caught up.

Day 7 featured the LOG Concours, Autocross, and Banquet. Up early, we headed to meet Scott at the Autocross site to help with setup. We stayed until 9:30 and then slipped over to the Concours site. There must have been 80-plus cars. Laura and I decided to depart early, grab lunch and get back to the autocross site to help with registration. We stopped by a deli and ran into Joldsha from GGLC and decided to have lunch with them.

(continued on p. 6)

(cont'd from p. 5)

We returned to the autocross site, the course was set and we prepped registration. By 1:30 the course was hot, and the drivers were taking their 3 runs. About 3:30 we decided to head back to the hotel and get ready for the banquet.

The banquet was in the hotel ballroom, and it was emceed by our UK friend, Richard Parramint. As always, Richard entertained the crowd and paced the presentations, awards and guest speaker, automotive journalist, Sam Smith.

On day 8, we joined about 60 cars at Circuit of the Americas (COTA) for some parade laps and on-track photos. COTA was buzzing with preparations for the upcoming USGP. The track and facilities are impressive and certainly Texas-sized. (The track width is easily 6-8 lanes!)

Day 9, Monday September 30, featured the LOG Track Day event at Harris Hill Raceway in San Marcos, TX, about 45 minutes

south of Austin. Harris Hill is a club track, 1.8 miles long with 11 turns, lots of elevation changes, and road camber that is rarely flat, so you're always busy. In other words, a great track for a Lotus!

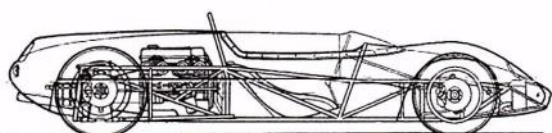
Our plan was to hang out for an hour or so and then get on the road for Carlsbad, NM. But then... I had been in email threads with Scott and the Harris Hill raceway GM (concerning insurance for the LOG track day), nothing special, but we were in the clubhouse, and I hear, "Hi Kiyoshi, remember me?". I turn around it's a familiar looking face, who then says, "I'm Rod Metz. I lived in Folsom and was a GGLC member!" Turns out Rod was part of the GGLC Sacramento group and moved to Texas pre-pandemic, and he is now the General Manager of Harris Hill Raceway. We chat a bit, but Rod is called away to attend to business.

Scott starts the drivers' meeting and introduces the drivers to the "BOZO" sign, a GGLC staple!! Way to go Scott, so funny and so appropriate!

While the meeting is going, Rod grabs me and says, "Do you want to go on the track?" "Of course! But, I don't have a helmet." "Just keep it 'slow'..." A few minutes later I'm on track, the sole car, doing a few laps. What a FUN track, technical, challenging and quick. The General tires on the Elise aren't too happy, locking up under brakes, squealing when pushed in the corners, and making me wish for 888Rs or RE71s or A052s. Nonetheless, it was unexpected and great fun! Thank you, Rod!

(Editor's note: this is the end of Part 1 of the Hamai's TX road trip saga. Part 2 (the trip home via Tucson, AZ) will appear in the January/February 2025 Chapman Report. Meanwhile, check out the adjacent photos from Part 1.)

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GGLC Annual Celebration Dinner December 7, 2024

The GGLC Annual Celebration Dinner is ON!

This year we will be at Foccacia in So. San Francisco on Saturday, December 7, 2023.

Cocktails will start at 5:30pm with a no-host cash bar and snacks.

Our Buffet Dinner will follow at 6:30pm. The buffet includes:

*SALAD - Seasonal Green

*DINNER ENTREES - Angus Beef Short Ribs, Grilled Fillet of Salmon, Chicken A La Carte, and Vegetarian A La Carte

*DESSERT OPTIONS

(Note: Red & White wine are included with dinner).

Following dinner, we will introduce the 2025 President and other officers and present awards to the GGLC's 2024 Autocross champions. And, of course, we will have the infamous GGLC Gift Exchange.

GGLC Gift Exchange

Everyone attending is encouraged to participate in the Annual GGLC White Elephant Gift Exchange. To participate, bring a wrapped, unwanted "gift" item from your garage. Please make sure your gift is EPA-friendly, non-toxic and clean. You will have the opportunity to exchange your selection for another "gift" during the exchange.

All this for the bargain price of \$45 / person.

Note that parking at Foccacia is plentiful and free. In particular, there are no gates or bumps to contend with.

**RSVP and SIGN-UP BY
11:59pm December 1, 2024!**

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2024 WCLM— A Quick Recap

by Kiyoshi Hamai

It's over! The 2024 WCLM is in our rearview mirrors, and it is time to offer HUGE KUDOS and THANKS to the 2024 WCLM Team.

Listed in alphabetical order, this team was made up of: Mark Alloy, Mel Boss, Bryan Ciriemele, Greg Epstein, Rob Esser, Kiyoshi Hamai, Cris Moreno, Rahul Nair, Jonathan Schieber, Lawrence Sher, and Phil Sykes.

Of course, the team also had lots of help from Michelle Ciriemele, Joy Soleno, and Laura Hamai.

As for statistics: the 2024 WCLM saw 109 Lotus enthusiasts gathered together at the

Konocti Harbor Resort in Kelseyville, CA, and they brought 52 Lotus cars ranging from 60s Elans to the latest Emiras.

The WCLM started on the afternoon of October 17 with registration and a dinner/reception. There were 3 events on Friday, October 18, beginning with a longish drive through the redwoods to the coast and back to the Resort for the WCLM Funkhana.

The Funkhana competition consisted of 3 events, a Gravity Race, from a dead-stop coast down a hill in neutral for time (best time was about 18 seconds), then a parking challenge where the driver was blindfolded while being instructed and guided into parking slots by the navigator (the passenger). That was followed by the final challenge of tossing Frisbees from your car into targets.

The final Friday event was dinner at the Resort Marina followed by a Drive-In movie!

Saturday, October 19, was a big day beginning with the WCLM Concours held in nearby downtown Lakeport. Under sunny skies, the cars lined up on Park Street with scenic Library Park and Clearlake as backdrops.

After the concours lunch, many took a short drive to Lake Berryessa and then we assembled at the hilltop Boatique Winery for the WCLM Banquet.

Sunday was the final day of the WCLM and began with an Autocross at the Resort. Then at noon we held the final WCLM gathering featuring lunch, awards and farewells.

(continued on p.10)



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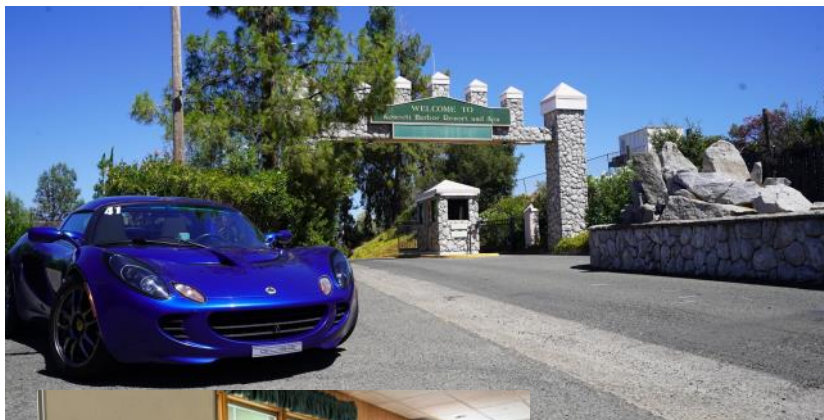
WCLM Sponsors

A meet of Lotus enthusiasts the magnitude of the 2024 WCLM is not possible without the generous financial support from our friends and Lotus-related businesses. We thank these folks for their support of the WCLM and Lotus Community! Here is a rundown of those sponsors:

Event Sponsors – Boardwalk Lotus (Banquet); Greg's Race Parts and Hethelsport (Concours, Funkhana and Auto-cross); Inokinetic (Drive/Rallye); Trackspec Autosport (Reception and Movie).

General Sponsors – Dave Bean Engineering; Dietsch Motorsports; JAE Lotus Parts; Los Gatos Luxury Cars; Spencer's Motorsports.

Thanks for coming, and be sure to check out the adjacent small sample of the many photos from a collection of the fun 2024 WCLM activities!





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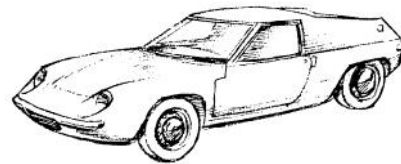
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For Sale: Dave Bean's custom-made, all-aluminum trailer for his 26R Elan. Currently owned by (and CA-registered to) Dave's nephew. Dimensions: 158" to V, 128" deck, 64" between fenders. New tires and spare, built-in ramps. Wheels are 26R style converted from knock offs to studs. Trailer is located in Puyallup, WA, but I make occasional trips to the Sacramento/Fairfield area and can deliver the trailer to that area if an arrangement is worked out. Asking \$3900. Contact Greg at "glovel2000—at—yahoo.com" or (253) 332-3157.



For Sale: Set of 5 Michelin XAS FF tires, size 165 HR 13. Brand new, never mounted. Three were manufactured in January, 2022, and two were manufactured in June, 2023. Located in East Bay Area. Asking \$900. Contact Kevin at:

Kjmaloney2 — at —
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Contributions to the Chapman Report are accepted and encouraged. Please email them to chapmanreport-at-gglotus.org in MS Word, rtf or ASCII text.

For 2024, the GGLC Officers are: President—Jonathan Schreiber; Vice President—Rob Esser; Treasurer—Laura Hamai; Event Coordinators—John Zender & Scott Hogben; Autocross Coordinator—Colm Gavin; Membership Chairman—David Ellis; Secretary (Acting)—Scott Hogben; Advertising Manager—Mel Boss; Marketing & Comms—Kiyoshi Hamai; Website Manager—Greg Epstein. Chapman Report Staff: Editor—Joel Lipkin; Copy Editor—Noni Richen; Circulation Management Team—Tom & Cherie Carney.

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