

The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club www.gglotus.org January 2008

New Year's Resolutions *editor*

First, use the new email address when sending anything to the newsletter:

editorgglc@yahoo.com

This address can be accessed from any computer and any country, even a computer other than my nice new HP laptop, running Microsoft Vista. I haven't had a computer run this slow in over ten years, Win 95. It's embarrassing that Microsoft spent more than a Billion \$\$ to write this operating system. HP's suggestion to solve the problem was to sell me a newer computer running Vista Extreme, which is apparently guaranteed to be as fast as the old XP software.

Second: Remember how lucky we are to be able to buy nice toys like a Lotus. There are still so many people out there without a home or dinner tonite. The 'Poor' are not all 'lazy losers', as was discussed on EliseTalk a few months ago.

Third: The GGLC Holiday Party. OK, it's \$40, but the Il Fornaio is a pretty good restaurant.

Fourth: San Francisco Rod Custom & Motorcycle Show, SF Cow Palace, January 11, 12, & 13, 2008
info: www.sfcustomshow.com

Fifth: Send photos of Lotuses to this editor. Maybe stories of events, also. That way you won't be stuck with a photo of a Mini in the Lotus newsletter. On the other hand, the hope is that we work with the Mini Club at the "Hayward Field Meet" this

spring. This event is a combined car show and parts flea market for all British cars. We have been in need of a parts flea market for years, and Lotuses historically use parts from various British car companies.



January Meeting

*Holiday Dinner, January 12th, at
Il Fornaio in Palo Alto.
Check the Website for options and
reservation information.*

The Menu *editor*

OK, a non-Lotus related article, as nothing came in this month from other sources:

A number of issues ago, I had an article called "China Doll", in which I mentioned how many people were historically treated as property. I also mentioned that this practice still goes on. One reader felt that I meant that this is a government-sanctioned practice.

I don't know of any government that accepts slavery. But to say that many forms of this do not exist would be absurd. The most discussed is the world-wide 'Sex Trade', which is thriving even here in the bay area.

Ironically, I have noticed that this practice is more prevalent where the local government is

is in denial that there is a problem. China, along with many countries in Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe, have the worst record. Germany, Holland and Thailand have acknowledged that the Sex Trade is a reality and have attempted to keep it safe for all concerned, at least.

Now comes the Menu. Though this menu was placed between two restaurants, it is not a price list for food, but for young women. I found this on a major street in Hong Kong. China and Hong Kong deny that these practices even exist there. Hong Kong is even proud of their diligent police force. Possibly, they forget to walk along the streets of the Mong-Kok district, or to investigate the massage parlors with posters of

young girls in bikinis.

Sadly, the China Doll can still be sold, bought and rented.



Calendar

- January 12 Holiday Party Palo Alto
- January 29 Track Day Laguna Seca

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



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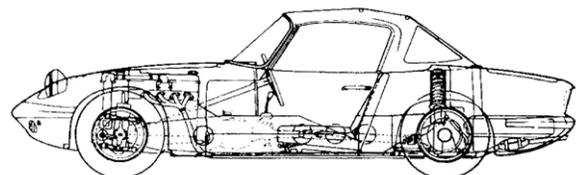
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Tesla Short Circuit? *editor*

Yes, Martin Eberhard is unhappy, but then so are all of the customers that have yet to receive a promised electric car. Not only was delivery promised, but the car was marketed as a viable vehicle with no engineering problems that had not been sorted out. Two articles follow:

Posted by Michael Kanellos
, CNet

“Tesla Motors founder Martin Eberhard, or at least a person who claims to be him on an on-line message board, says he’s not happy about being pushed out of the management team.”

(Credit: Michael Kanellos/
CNET Networks)

“On the Tesla Motors Club Web site, Eberhard, or a person claiming to be Eberhard, wrote this: “I have also signed a non-disparagement agreement with Tesla, so I must, by contract, be a bit careful about how I word things.

But I am also not going to lie about it. I am not at all happy with the way I was treated, and I do not think this was the very best way to handle a transition--not the best for Tesla Motors, not the best for Tesla’s customers (to whom I still feel a strong sense of responsibility), and not for Tesla’s investors.

Another post from the same person said that the employees threw him a party and that he left in tears. The news was first reported, I believe, on Earth2Tech. At least that’s where I saw it.

On Wednesday December 12,

Tesla Motors held a open town hall meeting for all of its customers. The meeting was hosted from San Carlos and made available via conference call to everyone who has put down a deposit. I spoke with Darryl Siry after the meeting, and he said a full transcript will be posted on the company web site shortly. In the meantime, frequent commenter here on ABG and elsewhere Tony Belding took notes and posted them on the Tesla Motors Club discussion board. Chairman Elon Musk and new CEO Ze'ev Drori provided an update on the status of the company and Roadster.

The weak link in the Roadster remains the transmission. The problem of surviving the process of shifting gears while the motor remains at full torque is a tough one to overcome. Both of the first two suppliers proved to not be up to the task. There are now two other transmission suppliers working feverishly in parallel to develop a robust transmission. In spite of these issues, production unit number one has been built at the Lotus factory in Hethel, England. That's Musk's car and it does not have a finalized transmission. Musk fully expects to have to replace the transmission in a few thousand miles.”

[Source: Tesla Motors Club,
Tony Belding]

Lotus Bytes

editor, Dave Anderson

Elan and Europa fanciers might want to purchase a copy of the December 2007 "Classic and Sports Car" magazine.

John Miles 26R and 47 are featured. Both cars now owned and raced by Pat Thomas, owner of Kelvendon Motors.

The officers for 2008 are:

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What happened to the following story? “Rumor mill has it that on November 15th, at the LA Auto Show, Lotus will announce that Arne Johnson will once again be at the helm of Lotus Cars USA.” I can’t find any information on this. Anyone know what happened, if anything?

EBay Watch *editor*

1972 Elan Sprint, series 4. I am the third owner of this car. It has always been garaged. 57,500 original miles. Looked very clean. Sold for @ \$19K



2006 Lotus Exgie - Phantom Black, @ 2K Miles. Owner wanted \$56K. Lots of improvements but still a used car. Didn't sell.



1992 Caterham Lotus Super Seven HPC Located in California and SB100 registered. Though bid to over \$28K, didn't hit an unknown reserve.



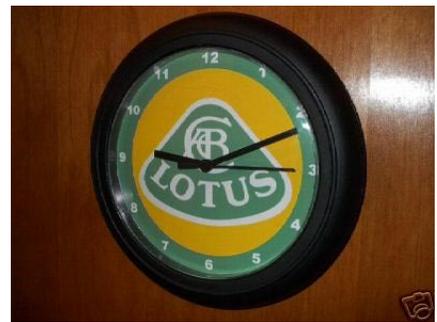
Sold for \$760 !! Lotus Elan Wood Steering Wheel "This extremely difficult to find original Lotus Elan Steering Wheel is in excellent condition. This wheel was removed from a 1966 Elan S3 in 1967 and packed away into storage."



1970 LOTUS EUROPA ~ "A GREAT WINTER PROJECT!!" OK, probably needs lots of work, but no bids? Where are those brave Lotus fans out there?



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

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More Classifieds

For Sale: 1973 Europa. Turbo charged, wide tires and wheel flares. Yellow with front to back wide black stripes. Only needs side mirrors and paint touch up. No stress cracks. Upgraded strong brakes. \$35,00.00 Joe at (916) 721-3324 or eve. (530) 886-0788. Joe Marman Day (916) 721-3324 > marmanla@localnet.com (10/07)

For Sale: 2005 ELISE.BRG with star guard and touring package. Soft and Hard cover. Low miles, 34000. Please contact Katherine at 831-595-6476 (11/07)

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Ph 951 296 6762 | sector111.com

Classifieds

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

For Sale: Fully Operational 2.17L 1991 Turbo Esprit SE Motor. Head completely rebuilt in October 2006 with nearly \$4K in new parts.

Price negotiable. Will share shipping cost with buyer.

Direct Inquires to:
Kukacg001@hawaii.rr.com
or call (808) 682-0709 and leave message. Short Video with sound available upon request to confirm operational condition of motor.

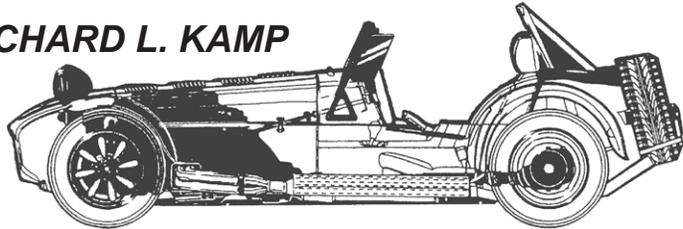
For Sale: Livery Green 1986 Lotus Turbo Esprit HCI for sale Very Quick Car, Unfortunately, I no longer fit.... 86,000 Miles, Runs Beautifully, Smogs Easily 5000 miles since complete engine rebuild by Barry Spenser (\$10K) 6000 miles since body restoration by S.J. City Autobody (\$10K) \$20,000 or Best Offer Call Oliver at 408-718-8363

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For Sale: 1987 Lotus Turbo Esprit 38,897 miles. In storage since 1999. Body and interior outstanding. Motor problem: one piston has been installed backwards! Motor needs clean-up, new matched piston set, and reassembly. G uigario body, dark metallic blue.

**Grey leather int. \$6000
Adrian 707.658.2098**

Wanted: 1. Elan S2 side-window glass. Lotus Part Number 26B0090 (two hole finger-lift style) 2. Elan S1/2 door key-lock cylinder(s). Left side Appears to be Part No. 26B6013 LH 3. Steel center-ring from an Elan Plus-2 alloy wheel (are there any busted or bent Plus-2 alloy wheels out there?) Contact Marc Charonnat, Cycling2003@comcast.net, 530-217-9611 (cell) (10/07)

First Class Mail

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