

The Chapman Report



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

July 4th Celebration *editor*

On this holiday, we need to thank those who fought for our individual rights of privacy, right to confront any accusers, right to be considered innocent until proven guilty of a crime, right toOh, we lost all those rights.

At least we still got our guns, so we can help deport the poor, your tired, your huddled masses longing to be free... And we do have fireworks in Gilroy and a few other towns. They just want you to promise to take them back to your city and shoot them off. Their towns are already on fire. Over 1,000 fires in California right now. I'll just fire up my Elise and rip through the hills. The most fun per gallon of gas, you can buy. A work colleague has one of the new Vettes, "greatest top-end for the dollar". Unfortunately, he can't afford the gas to go over 80 with it.

The Corvette was the marque at the Palo Alto Concours. Only one Lotus was there, the Esprit of Harvey Lasky, who prints our newsletter. We NEED to get more Lotuses there next year. The Hayward Field Meet, sponsored by the SanFran Mini Club was also short on cars. Next year

We have a track day and an autocross this month (on a Sunday). Inside, a big article by Kiyoshi on the WCLM, along with two articles on the Lotus-built Tesla, my favorite bet to go Chapter 11 after their IPO, and their 'founders' can unload their stock. Histories coming!



Found at D&J Hobby in Campbell, \$2. I have an extra one for Jack and Judy Fitzpatrick, who have a Lotus 18 with number 18 on it.

July Meeting

Friday, July 18th, 7:30 pm

Host: John Zender

If you've never seen an Esprit with the body lifted off, this is your chance. We will start the social part a little early with a BBQ at 6:30. There will be hamburgers, veggie burgers, a simple salad, and some munchies. We'll keep the burgers flowing til at least 8 PM. It's not a potluck, but if you feel like bringing a dish you're certainly welcome to do that.

Ebay Watch editor

Elan, needs work. No chassis or other parts. Sold for \$1,575; I guess for the title, as this is really junk. An out-of-state title, also.



The latest 'fake' steering wheels have to be the many that are now on EBay and listed as 'Genuine Nardi'. they have to be fakes, unless

someone has bought the rights to the name. That's what a DeWalt tool actually is. DeWalt went out of business years ago but Black and Decker bought the name.

So many say they like the styling of the Elise S1; and they say they want great performance. So, why no bids on a Sun International, Honda powered one? You can easily squeeze 250 to 300 hp out of this car, and it's much lighter than the S2. It's also quite rare and legal!



Calendar

- July 8, GGLC Track Day, Thunderhill
- July 18, Club Meeting: John Zender, Mountain View
- July 27, GGLC Autocross, Marina
- August 15, Club Meeting, TBA
- August 15-17, Monterey Historics
Lotus Corral on the 17th

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

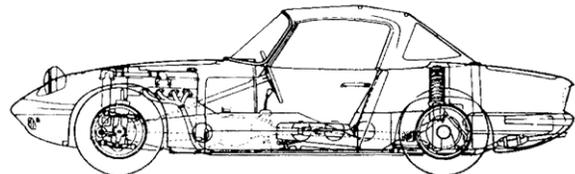
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West Coast Lotus Meet

by Kiyoshi Hamai

The 2008 West Coast Lotus Meet (WCLM) will be held October 2-5, 2008 in Canyonville, Oregon. The Golden Gate Lotus Club will host the 3-day event with assistance from other Lotus clubs on the west coast.

The WCLM will be a Lotus Celebration! Since the introduction of the Elise in 2004 to North America, there has been a renewal of the excitement for Lotus. The Elise was joined by the Exige and most recently the Lotus Two-Eleven and Exige S240.

The WCLM is set-up to be the ultimate Lotus experience for the loyal Lotus enthusiast.

The fun begins with an Opening Reception at the WCLM hotel, Seven Feathers Casino Resort Hotel in Canyonville, Oregon on Thursday October 2nd.

Also on Thursday, October 2nd will be an optional Solo I style time trials on a closed track at the Jackson County Sports Park in White City, Oregon about an hour's drive from Canyonville. The tight twisty course will challenge drivers to find the quickest way around.

On Friday, October 3rd WCLM entrants will an opportunity to explore the area. Beginning at the Seven Feathers Resort the WCLM day will kick off with a private tour of the CD Lumber Company, the largest producer of cedar lumber products in the U.S. You'll get a chance to see this huge saw mill

in action!

After the CD Lumber saw mill tour you'll have a choice of touring to Crater Lake or to the incredible Oregon Coast or visit some of award winning Oregon wineries.

Friday ends with an amazing and exclusive riverside Bar-B-Que of ribs and chicken on a private ranch. If you like fly fishing this spot is a piece of heaven with Steelhead and Salmon filling the South Umpqua River.

Saturday, October 4th is another busy day for the 2008 WCLM. The day opens with the WCLM Autocross. This is an opportunity for every WCLM entrant to enjoy their Lotus near its limits. The WCLM Autocross will run all day. Those who tire of autocross can elect to do one of the tours.

Saturday evening will open with the WCLM cocktail hour followed by the WCLM Banquet at the Seven Feathers Resort. After the WCLM banquet you can see the Cabaret show (the WCLM will reserve an entire show just for our delight!) or entertain yourself by trying your luck at one of the slots, card tables, craps or poker games.

The 2008 WCLM will conclude on Sunday October 5th with the WCLM Concours and Awards Picnic. The WCLM Concours will be set among tall pines and fir trees.

And after the WCLM awards are announced you'll sadly have to say good-bye to all your

WCLM friends, but the memories and stories will last a lifetime.

The 2008 WCLM will be headquartered at the Seven Feathers Casino Resort and Hotel. Special rates have been negotiated for WCLM entrants.

There's more information and registration will open shortly at www.gglotus.org. There will be a special reduced registration price for early bird entries.

The all in one registration fee includes Concours, Reception, Picnic, Bar-B-Que, Autocross, Tours, Saw Mill Tour and Cabaret show. There is a separate fee for the optional WCLM Time Trials.

For more information and the most up-to-date information about the 2008 WCLM visit the GGLC web site, www.gglotus.org.

WCLM Contacts:

Peter Griffin
griffinp@dcwisp.net

Kiyoshi Hamai
webguy@gglotus.org



New 'Nardi' steering wheel

Battery

from Business Week

Robert Bosch and Samsung SDI <006400.KS> have signed a contract to form a hybrid electric vehicle battery joint venture to boost their presence in the next-generation energy business, Samsung said on Monday.

The 50:50 joint venture in South Korea is named SB LiMotive and will be launched in September. It will start production in 2010 with initial capital of \$20 million, according to a Samsung statement.

A Samsung spokesman said that a minimum of \$500 million would be invested in the venture over the next 4-5 years.

Samsung SDI, which produces flat screens and lithium-ion batteries, has focused its energy business on components for mobile goods such as notebook computers, handsets and MP3 music players.

It has already been jointly developing hybrid electric vehicle batteries with a top auto maker and plans to expand its energy business in earnest with the establishment of the venture with Bosch, its statement said.

Samsung has been supplying batteries for electric tools to unlisted Bosch <ROBG.UL>, the world's biggest automotive supplier.

Samsung said the hybrid electric vehicle market would grow sharply, backed by tightened environmental rules and soaring oil prices.

It plans to increase the portion of re-chargeable batteries, including lithium-ion batteries, to more than a fifth of its sales by the end of 2008 from 18 percent in 2007.

(Reporting by Kim Yeon-hee; Editing by Jonathan Hopfner)

I put this article here because these companies are two of the heavy-hitters in electronics and battery technology. If anyone can create a better storage technology, they can. They also have great resources, research labs and MONEY, that will be needed to improve electrical storage. ed

One For The Money

edited Tesla press release

The board of directors at Tesla has a new member today as Larry Sonsini has joined the party. The presence of Sonsini as a member of the Tesla team is of particular importance moving forward because of his area of expertise. Sonsini is Chairman of Silicon Valley law firm Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati and **a specialist in IPOs and mergers and acquisitions.** This is important because Tesla chairman **Elon Musk has previously declared that the company will be going public, likely sometime in 2009.**

According Tesla's Darryl Siry, Sonsini "is the most influential lawyer in the valley and has extraordinary experience with corporate structuring, IPOs, governance, and M&A." Sonsini will be providing guidance to the board on how to move forward. Sonsini has previously been involved in the Google IPO and the Hewlett-Packard/Compaq merger. The plan is to use the proceeds from the IPO in part to fund the development and production of the WhiteStar sedan and the future lower-priced high-volume model. Meanwhile founding board member Laurie Yoler will shift over to the limbo of the Tesla Motors Advisory Board.



How mellow were the Cotswolds, the countryside to the west of London? 70's police scooter

Two For The Show

from Lewis Page, *The Register*

California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger - famed for his uncanny resemblance to an electric machine clad in an unrealistic fleshy cloak - has managed to ensure that noted electrical car company Tesla will base future manufacturing in areas under his rule.

Tesla Motors, maker of the well-known but troubled \$100k Roadster battery supercar, had planned to produce more modestly-priced cars in New Mexico.

"To see this company build a plant in New Mexico drove me absolutely insane," Schwarzenegger said, quoted by Reuters. "My administration ... does not like to lose."

California managed to secure Tesla's new plant by offering a tax exemption on manufacturing equipment to zero-emissions vehicle builders. Tesla is presently headquartered in California, and has its design team there, but much of the assembly on the present Roadster is done in the UK by Lotus (its body is basically an Elise).

The Roadster was long held up by technical difficulties, and while it finally went into production in March it will be produced for an indefinite period with what Tesla describes as an "intermediate solution" transmission. **The company says that this will be durable and reliable, but won't deliver the Roadster's one truly supercar-like capability - the much-touted 0-60 mph in four seconds ac-**

celeration.

Instead, production Roadster transmissions **will be good for sixty mph in just under six seconds - a bit more like \$40k hot hatchback acceleration than true supercar poke.** (The Roadster has never pretended to be a supercar - or even a hot hatch - **in terms of top speed, maxing out at a very ordinary 125 mph.** But acceleration is a lot more relevant than top end to normal road drivers.)

The new Tesla Model S (previously aka "WhiteStar") is intended to have broader appeal than the Roadster, being substantially lower priced and featuring five seats rather than two. Both it and the Roadster will still have the main, crippling downside of all-electric cars - a long recharge time once the battery pack is flat, making such vehicles unsuitable for long journeys or other sustained use. The Roadster is said by its makers to run flat after just 165 miles of "aggressive highway driving", and hours of recharging is pretty much a deal-breaker for ordinary mortals - common in the UK, at least - who must park their cars on the street overnight.

That said, Tesla has previously mentioned plans to offer range-extended variants fitted with supplementary petrol generators that might stretch out a battery charge as far as 400 miles (unlike a normal hybrid such as the Prius, these cars would then flake out; the generator can't use-

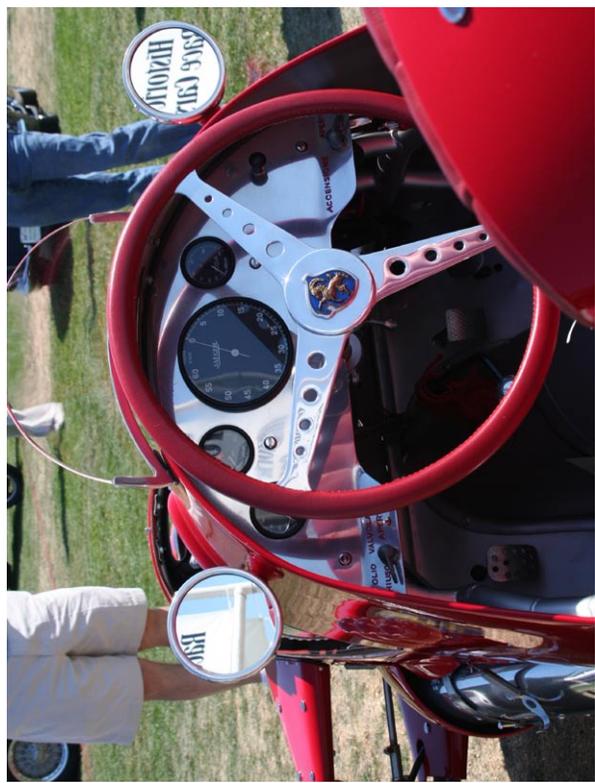
fully propel the car on its own, it just ekes out battery life). These plans evidently won't disqualify Tesla from getting the California tax break, though it refers specifically to zero-emission vehicles.

Company founder and main money man Elon Musk - also of PayPal and SpaceX commercial spaceflight fame - is now firmly in control at Tesla, following boardroom battles with other early players last year. Apart from tussles with fellow Tesla founders, Musk is also embroiled in a legal scrap with bodywork designer Henrik Fisker, who he says pirated tech secrets from Tesla and stiffed the company with a deliberately bad body design for the new mass-appeal cars now to be made in California.

The new models will now use bodywork with major creative input from Musk himself, and are expected to start rolling off the Northern California line - location as yet unspecified - in "late 2010".

Of great concern to California residences is that this deal will cost taxpayer dollars. The governor has agreed that the state would buy the equipment and machinery needed for local production, then lease it to Tesla at a cheap rate. If Tesla were to go 'belly-up' and disappear, Californians will still be making payments on machines that no one else needs. Do we close more schools and libraries to make up the difference? ed

Pictures From An Exhibition



Palo Alto Concours





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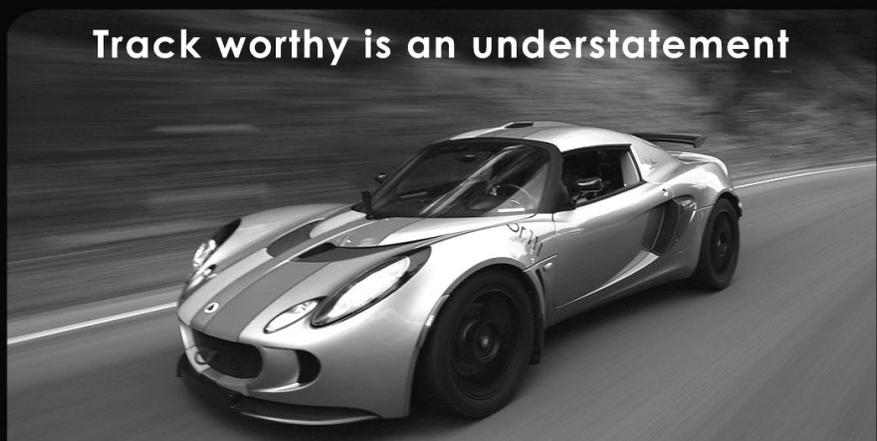
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Submissions to the Chapman Report are accepted and encouraged. Please email them to EDITORGGCLC@YAHOO.COM in MS Word, rtf or ASCII text. Submissions may also be mailed to Jim McClure, 11238 Bubb Road, Cupertino, CA 95014.

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Track worthy is an understatement



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Classifieds

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

For Sale: 2005 Lotus Elise Sport. 4350 miles (really) Soft top only, Midnight blue. Like new, needs a good home (or some use). All original / no mods. \$35,000.00

bshields@shieldsmfg.com
503 625-9394

For Sale: Lotus Exige S – 2007 – 7000mi. Track / Touring Pack. LSD Starshield.

Dark Metallic Blue. Stock with 4 points. \$55K OBO, Paul LaHaye @ 707 292-5485 (5/08)

For Sale: 1 Europa TC street engine \$2500, 5 Lotus brand alloy wheels with tires-\$500. , 1 good Europa TC radiator w/ fan - \$100. , 1 Europa rear glass \$10. (3/08)

joel_farber@sbcglobal.net

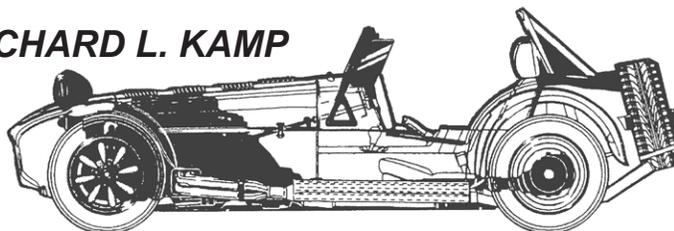
For Sale: 4 new Sprint Donuts complete with new Nyloc nuts. These will fit the Lotus Elan from 1963-1070 \$350. These cost \$540 eogorman@comcast.net or 925 484 1697 (4/08)

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