

The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club www.gglotus.org Nov/Dec 2014



GGLC Prez, Daniel Katz, is well equipped to capture car and participant action during the variety of events at the 2014 West Coast Lotus Meet. See some of the photo coverage on the following pages.



The iconic 1965 Lotus Type 38 "Smothers Brothers" Indycar shared the 2014 West Coast Lotus Meet banquet room at Reno's renowned National Automobile Museum.

Nov/Dec Meetings

Friday, November 21, 2014 – 7:30 PM
—Featuring Election of 2015 Club Officers—

Host: Scott and Carol Whitman

SATURDAY, December 13, 2014 – 6:00/7:00 PM

Gala Holiday Party (Cocktails at 6:00 / Dinner at 7:00)
Faz (Danville)

600 Hartz Ave.
Danville, 94526

(See more details on page 10. Note that space is limited so do not delay signing up on the club's website.)

Directions from 680 N in Danville:

Exit at Sycamore Valley Rd. / Turn Left at traffic light
Turn Right after crossing 680 onto San Ramon Val. Blvd
Stay Right at Y to continue onto Hartz Ave.
Faz restaurant is on the Right

Directions from 680 S in Danville:

Exit at Diablo Rd. / Turn Right at traffic light
Left at "T" intersection (Hartz Ave.)
Faz restaurant in on the Left after ~ 0.25 mile

Message from the Prez: Some Reflections on the 2014 WCLM

by Daniel Katz

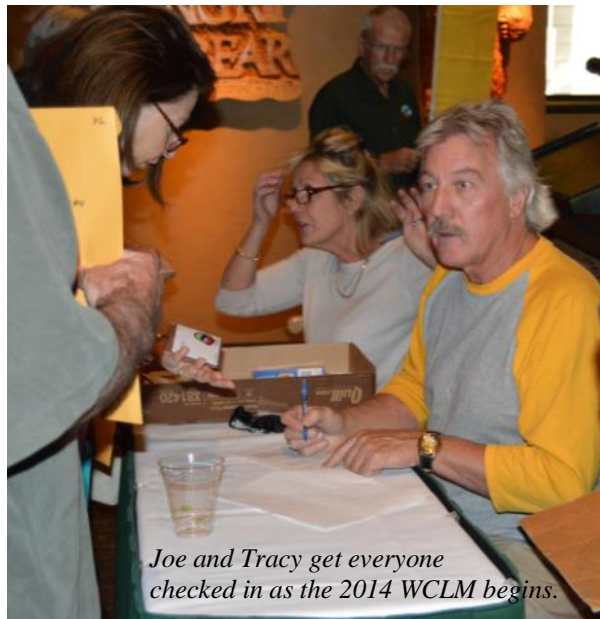
By every measure, the 2014 West Coast Lotus Meet was a great success. Registered entrants topped 100, and more than 50 Lotus cars participated in a number of fun events. This success was thanks to our generous sponsors and everyone that dedicated their time and energy to gather with fellow owners and make it all happen in the hills of the Lake Tahoe region. Some travelled from afar: Montana, Colorado, the Pacific Northwest, and San Diego, while others were more local and, sadly, were only able to join us for a day or two.

Most of all, this event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of Rahul Nair. He volunteered from the outset to take the lead, and he did a great job. Everything from the food and lodging to cajoling volunteers to help with the numerous events was arranged by him. His commitment included a site visit to check on the various venues beforehand. So a huge THANK YOU goes out to Rahul for his dedication to the club!

This gathering was one of amazing courage and strength for me personally—as well as my car. For all the fun we (and others) poke at the reliability of our cars, there weren't any breakdowns that I know of (except for a nail in a tire that

someone got and another person with a dead battery). What is amazing is that our Lotus cars of all ages and conditions, mostly managed to brave the altitude, road conditions, and other challenges of Lake Tahoe with no problems. This is a statement to how great our cars really are.

The WCLM commenced with a wonderful reception where everyone had the chance to meet old and new friends; then a number of drives, visits and competitions filled the next few days.



Joe and Tracy get everyone checked in as the 2014 WCLM begins.

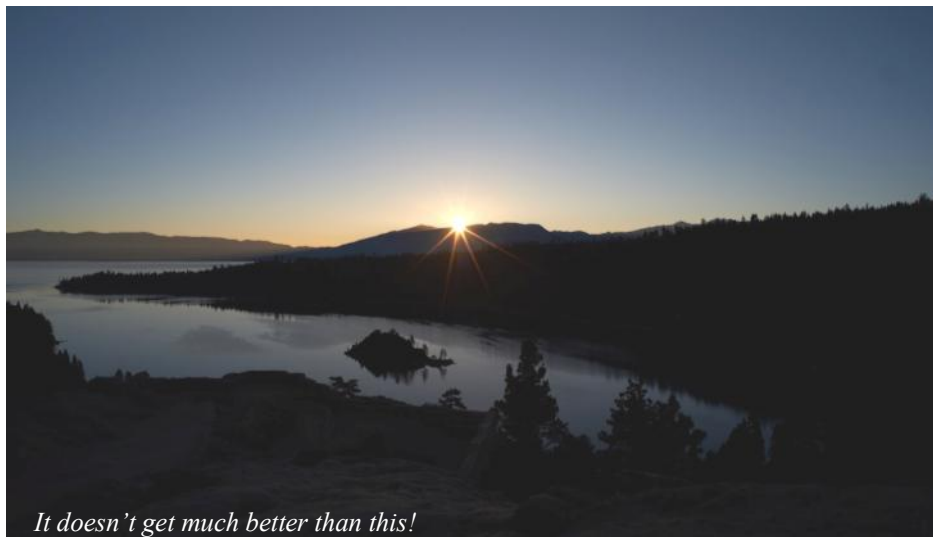
The highlight for me was the day of the spectacular sunrise drive around the lake. There were hardly any cars at that hour on a Saturday, and we started off by just driving around the east shore of the lake to a beautiful vista point overlooking Emerald Bay. I had only gotten about 2 hours sleep that night as I was anxiously anticipating the drive

and debating whether I should go or not. I'm really glad I did, however, because the combination of that road, with no cars, and driving with the crisp wind blowing in your face and a brilliant sunrise vista over the hills made for an especially memorable experience.

Since the autocross was cancelled later that day, I ended up spending the day in a completely different manner from many others. I followed Sarto Rocheleau, and we spent the day going around museums in Mormon Station aka Genoa (the first city in NV) and then to the NV State Capitol in Carson City.

I also decided to go to the Railway Museum there, and I eventually ended up in Virginia City where others in the group had been earlier that day. The city, an old mining town on a hill, was amazing. It was like being transported into the Wild West circa the 19th century. I met the sister of the owl from Blade Runner, bought root beer from a shop that had about 50 different brands, and then walked into a shop where the person working there was also from the East Bay.

The best part of the whole day for me though, was the drive from Virginia City to Reno. The sun setting on the horizon while driving down the mountains into Reno on one of the most fun and windy roads I have ever encountered was just pure bliss. Ending this euphoric experience with a wonderful WCLM banquet dinner at the National Automobile Museum



It doesn't get much better than this!

I hope to see you all again at LOG next year in Colorado Springs, or the next WCLM further down the road.

was the cherry on the top of a wonderful day.

Overall, this was an amazingly beautiful gathering of souls that was especially fitting for a car with soul. There are only a few photos here, but you can see more of the action and fun from the 2014 WCLM on pages 6 & 7.



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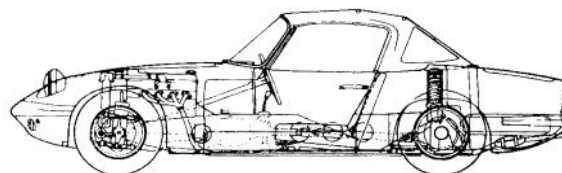
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Special UK Visitors

by Daniel Katz

We had surprise visitors from the UK to the Bay Area just a few days after returning from the West Coast Lotus Meet. Tony Shute of Lotus and Caterham fame and his wife were visiting their son Robin in the Monterey area. (Robin is currently working locally as a chassis engineer for Tesla.)

For those of you who may not know Tony, he was the Product Manager at Lotus for the Elise/Exige and Head of Product at Lotus. In his 20 years at Lotus, he helped bring significant cars like the Evora, Exige and Elise successfully to market before moving to Caterham as their Head of Product.

Rahul, Kiyoshi and I carpooled to Santa Cruz and met the Shutes at the Surfrider Café where Ben Beames joined us. Well known in Santa Cruz, the Café was a great little spot, and we had a lovely dinner discussing Lotus all evening. Although Tony and his wife, Lyn, were just visiting, their son, Robin, lives in the Bay Area and has recently rejoined the GGLC. He was at the last AutoX and will be joining some of our other events with his Exige. As an extra bonus of the Shute's visit, Robin was competing that week in his Formula Enterprise at the huge SCCA National Runoffs event at Laguna Seca. He had had a very successful racing season locally, and he finished his race on Saturday at the Runoffs on the #2 step of the podium. Congratulations, Robin!



We look forward to seeing Robin, Tony and Lyn again in the near future. It was a pleasure to meet such incredibly nice people who are also important members of the Lotus community.



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Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
Nov 6	Track Day	Laguna Seca
Nov 8-9	LotusCup USA	Pahrump, NV
Nov 19	Dinner/Meeting	Sacramento Chapter
Nov 21	Meeting/Social	Saratoga
Nov 29	Toy Run	Sacramento
Dec 6	Toy Rallye	Mt. View
Dec 7	Shriners Hospital Toy Run	Sacramento
Dec 10	Dinner/Meeting	Sacramento Chapter
Dec 13	Holiday Dinner	Danville

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



Scan to get current GGLC calendar on your mobile device.

On the End of My Term

by Daniel Katz

It has been nearly two years since I was first elected President of the GGLC. I have seen many changes in both the club and my life in this time.

As my final term comes to an end, I am confident that I will pass on my responsibilities to a worthy successor. The club officer candidates for 2015 are listed on page 10, and your President and Vice President choices will be announced at the November club meeting. You can vote at the meeting or ahead of time by emailing me (prez@gglotus.org).

Throughout my tenure, I have tried my best—given the limited

time I had available—to organize events, attend and chair every meeting, organize the holiday dinners, and many other things.

It is amazing how fast time has flown by. However, I will still be around to serve as a liaison for the club, and I expect to write articles and submit photographs for the *Chapman Report*. Anyone who wants to keep in touch may email me at crwecko@gmail.com from the beginning of the year.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve you all throughout this time.

The GGLC is not just a place to get together for mutual appreciation of the Lotus marque, but it is also a tightly knit community of kind-hearted people that are there for each other. It is in-

deed an uplifting place where lifelong friendships are forged.

I hope that you have enjoyed this time as much as I have. In these past few years my most treasured memories have been with the GGLC. I have truly found a new family with you all. Please remember that I am here for you should you need anything club-related, or otherwise.

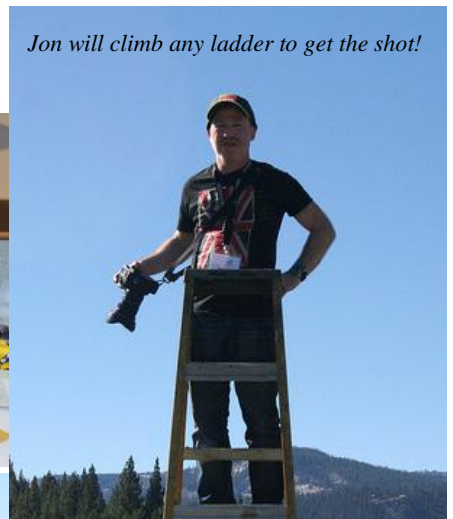


Photo Credit: Jon Stern

Fun Happenings at the 2014 WCLM

editor

These images capture just a small fraction of the exciting action at the 2014 WCLM, October 2-5, at Lake Tahoe. For more photos go to:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ggic/collections/>



Jon will climb any ladder to get the shot!



Photo Credit: Jon Stern

Ken Gray from Dave Bean Engineering presents a tasty WCLM Concours award to Mel Boss.



Tom and Cherie Carney share some memories on their 40th wedding anniversary at the WCLM banquet.



2014 AutoX Series A Huge Success

by Kiyoshi Hamai



The WCLM Funkhana co-conspirators—Kiyoshi, Tom, Barry and John (l to r)—check out the London Fog goggles before the event gets underway.



The 2014 GGLC Autocross Series came to a close on October 18, 2014, which had to be one of the best days ever at the Marina Airport.

The day's celebration was dampened by the reality that this could be the last GGLC Autocross at the Marina Airport as the FAA stated early in 2014 that this would be the last year motorsports activities could occur at the airport. We hold out hope that the FAA will change its mind and allow autocrossing to continue at this near-perfect site.

On that thought, however, we are pursuing potential new sites for 2015. If you have seen, or know of, a usable autocross site please let Colm Gavin know by dropping him a note at autox@gglotus.org. Okay, back to the story...

Attendance at the GGLC's Autocross Series in 2014 hit all-time highs with every event sold out. The GGLC's format of casual—yet competitive and supportive—autocross events has become popular, and it has gained enough of a reputation to attract entrants from Sacramento, Fresno and San Luis Obispo on a regular basis.

In total through the year, roughly 6,500 runs were made. We had 4 entrants attend all 8 events and 11 entrants attended 6 or 7 events. These regulars took nearly 100 runs each over the course of the season. How many sets of tires is that?!

(continued on p. 8)

One memorable highlight of the year was seeing Brian Turner wearing his own helmet after years of using one of the club loaners! Another highlight occurred mid-season when Jonathan Scheiber sold his Exige and went with something that would give him more power-induced slides and drifts, a Brunton Stalker. It took only 2 events before Jonathan opted off the instant-touch-of-the-throttle-tire-smoking-oversteer treaded street tires to a set of wide race slicks.

For the 2014 series, we retained the same class structure started in 2013. That is, 6 classes for Lotus cars and then a catch-all open class. Here are the final Lotus class standings :

OPEN CLASS

- 1st – Jason Sams (Elise)
2nd – Jonathan Scheiber (Exige)

RACE CLASS

- 1st – Ed Hunter (Elise)
2nd – Linda Heibert (Elise)

R-TIRE CLASS

- T1st – Alfonso Chartier (Exige)
T1st – Brian Turner (Elise)
3rd – Hiroshi Kanekura (Exige)

STREET CLASS

- 1st – Colm Gavin (Elise)
2nd – Michelle Chartier (Elise)

CLASSIC OPEN CLASS

- 1st – Jonathan Scheiber.
(Brunton Stalker)

CLASSIC STOCK CLASS

- 1st – David Anderson (Elan S4)

A very big CONGRATULATIONS to all our class champions!

A full list of the final points results can be found on the GGLC website at <http://www.gglotus.org/ggautox/2014SeasonResults.pdf>

The class champions will be honored and receive their trophies at the GGLC Holiday Dinner on December 13th (more details on page 10 and at www.gglotus.org).

And, as always, we thank all of the GGLC volunteers that make the GGLC Autocross Series successful and to Ben Beames, the GGLC Video Dude, who captures the fun and posts it on the GGLC's YouTube channel. So here's to Colm Gavin, Hiroshi and Sachiko Kanekura, Ed Hunter, Brian Turner, Ben Beames and the countless others, THANK YOU!

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Lotus of West Covina



Lotus of the Desert

LotusCup USA / Round 6

Sonoma Raceway at Sears Point

September 20-21, 2014

by David Anderson

It was a perfect weekend for racing with sunny days and temperatures in the 70's.

For this event, the Production class (normally aspirated Elise and Exige cars with stock engines) was the largest group with 10 entrants. There were close to 20 entrants overall.

DietschWerks was supporting five of us in Production, and Suspension Performance was also supporting several cars.

There were two practice sessions on both days plus a qualifying session, and finally a race for LotusCup USA. For example, Saturday practice sessions were at 9:10 and 11:10 AM, qualifying at 1:20 PM, and the race at 3:05 PM.

TrackMasters Racing was also using the day for their track-day sessions on the track, and they did a fine job keeping all sessions on time.

It was exciting to see that everyone raised their performance from last year here, and more than half the Production class field had best lap times in the range from 1:49 to 1:51. Of the GGLC Members, both Ross Jaffe and Patrice Gautier had podium finishes in the race. In the other LotusCup USA classes, the best overall lap time was around 1:43.



One of the side benefits of participating in this series is that LotusCup USA provides two or three track experts every weekend who make suggestions after a session (individually, privately) that are tailored to what the drivers did in the session. I

credit their suggestions for improving my times by more than a half-second per lap to a best of 1:51.0.

The last LotusCup USA races of 2014 will be at Spring Mountain Motor Sports, Pahrump, NV, November 8 and 9.

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Toy Rallye

December 6, 2014

by Kiyoshi Hamai

This annual charitable event is presented each holiday season, and it is jointly sponsored by The Rallye Club and the Golden Gate Lotus Club.

We start at Larry's AutoWorks, 2526 Leghorn St., Mountain View (see map below), where registration opens at 11 AM. There will be an optional beginner's rallye school (recommended) at 12 N, and the event wraps up by 4 PM at a local eatery.

The entry fee per car is a new, unwrapped toy worth at least \$15 (or a cash/check donation of \$25). Toys and monies will be donated to the EHC Lifebuilders, and they are completely tax deductible.

This event is an A-B style gimmick rallye. First and foremost, a gimmick rallye is not a race, rather it is a fun puzzle where your car is the game piece, and public roads are the game board. No experience is necessary, and you will compete only against entries with similar rallye experience. First-time rallyists are encouraged and will receive extra help.

Any car is welcome. Two persons per car is recommended, but you can have as many as legally fit in your car for a single entry fee. Don't forget pens or pencils, paper and a clipboard.

GGLC HELPERS WANTED!

The GGLC has co-presented "The Toy Rallye" for nearly 40

Vote for 2015 Officers November 21!

In keeping with the election season (and because we always do it this way), a slate of potential 2015 officers was nominated at the October meeting. The following four candidates were put up for the offices of President and Vice President (in alphabetical order):

Alan Austin
Jackie Feakins
Rita Satulovsky
Jon Stern.

And the following members have agreed to continue in their current positions (unopposed):

Scott Hogben, Secretary
Laura Hamai, Treasurer
David Anderson, Membership
Scott Hogben/John Zender, Events
Joel Lipkin, Chapman Report (Print)
Rahul Nair, Chapman Report (Online)
Tom & Cheri Carney, Chapman Report (Distribution)
Kiyoshi Hamai, GGLC Website.

You can vote by emailing prez@gglotus.org or at the November 21st meeting at the Whitmans'. President and Vice President will be chosen based on the first and second place vote getters, respectively.



years! This tradition stands as one of the few community benefit events we do. We encourage members to get involved with "The Toy Rallye" by either entering the event or becoming a volunteer worker. Typically, we need 4-6 individuals to help run the rallye checkpoints. Please contact me:

webguy@gglotus.org

if you can help. Otherwise, bring a friend with a new toy.

Holiday Party December 13, 2014

by Daniel Katz

Join us at Faz in Danville for the annual gala GGLC Holiday Party and gift exchange. Festivities start at 6:00 PM with refreshments (no-host bar) and hors d'oeuvres before dinner at 7:00 PM, featuring a fabulous Persian 3-course buffet with meat, chicken and vegetarian entrée options.

Price is \$35.00 per person including wine with dinner.

Space is limited; sign up via the club website **no later than Tuesday, December 9, 2014.**

Be there to help frock the new club officers, and be sure to bring an EPA-approved White Elephant gift from your garage to help Santa Tom cap off the fun evening.

Sacramento Chapter Shines In Its Inaugural Year

by Rick Buonassisi

The Sacramento chapter has just passed its one-year anniversary! We currently have 38 members in the chapter, and it has been an exciting year as we organized a variety of events and local activates. We try to have a special drive or event every month as well as our monthly meetings and some impromptu get togethers.

Some of our events have included: a Lotus camping weekend, the Shriners event for the Sacramento Children's Hospital, our Christmas lights viewing drive, a Delta drive and Blues Jam, a trip to the Ironstone Concourse de Elegance at Murphys, a tech day, a caravan to the 2014 WCLM at Lake Tahoe and even a drone photo shoot. We have also done some karting, a group visit to a showing of *Rush*, the CAM cruise, and more.

In the coming months, look for our second annual Christmas lights viewing drive sometime in early December. We also have 2 charity drives scheduled this year. Near-term, we received a personal request for our chapter to join the Modified Motorcycle Association toy run on November 29th. Then on December 7th we will once again support the Shriners Hospital for Children with their toy run. Last year we helped them gather over 1000 toys and raise \$8500.00.

We know that a trip to Sacramento represents quite a drive for Bay Area folks—I mean, I really know! That was a key rea-

son for starting the Sacramento chapter, but we would really enjoy seeing more Bay Area folks at our events. One special event we are planning for next year will be a drive along Highway 1 with a destination of Hearst Castle, where we will arrange for a private tour—maybe some Bay Area folks can join us?

Another suggestion that came up at a recent meeting was to find out what it would take to hire a car shipper to take our cars to and from Colorado Springs for next year's LOG event. Anybody else want to get in on this idea? Does anyone have a good contact in the car shipping industry that might be able to provide a quote?

Meanwhile, enjoy the Holiday Season and Happy Lotusing as we get revved up for next year!



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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.

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 2013, the GGLC Officers are: President—Daniel Katz, Vice President—Jackie Feakins, Treasurer—Laura Hamai, Event Coordinators—John Zender & Scott Hogben, Membership Chairman—David Anderson, Secretary—Scott Hogben. Chapman Report Staff: Editor—Joel Lipkin; Copy Editor—Noni Richen; Circulation Management Team—Tom & Cherie Carney. Advertising Manager—Mel Boss, MultiMedia Producer/Editor—Ben Beames, Website Manager—Kiyoshi Hamai.

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