

The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club www.gglotus.org Sept/Oct 2018



The GGLC turned out in force to help club sponsor Trackspec Autosports celebrate their 4th anniversary in Fremont on August 19. The club donated several valuable door prizes for the event, and about 50 Lotus cars were there to take part in the show along with a variety of other auto exotica.



Photo Credit: Les Ellis

Linda Hiebert (aka Lead Foot LuLu) demonstrates her winning style in her Elise at the July 28, 2018, GGLC AutoX at the Marina Airport. See Kiyoshi's mid-year summary of the busy 2018 GGLC AutoX season on page 2.

Sept/Oct Meetings

SATURDAY, September 15, 2018 — 10:00 AM

Hosts: Rob & Jenni Dietsch with Sebastian and Sullivan

SATURDAY, October 20, 2018 — 10:00 AM

Hosts: Kiyoshi and Laura Hamai

Mid-Season Review of GGLC AutoX Series

by Kiyoshi Hamai
Photo Credit: Les Ellis

The first four GGLC Autocross events of 2018 are in the books. As I write this, we are just a few days away from the start of the second half of the season.

So, let's get caught up.

The 2018 GGLC Autocross events have been more popular than ever! We continue to limit car entries to ensure that we maintain the quality our events at a high level. This year, the field size was increased from 69 to 72, and entry fees have remained unchanged from 2017.

The result has been an entry rush as soon as Colm opens registration and notifies our mailing list. All 72 entries are generally filled in a few days, and wait lists have become common, often with 15-20 people on them!

With the full entries, we have cut back slightly on the number of runs to 10-12 per day. That typically means 5 morning runs and 6 to 7 afternoon runs.

Colm has the group whipped into a well-oiled machine. The set-up crew arrives at the gate at 7:00 AM; by 7:15 the GGLC truck is unloaded; and the day's course is often set up and ready by 8:15 AM. We then hold a quick drivers' meeting, and cars are rolling by 9 AM. As a testament to the smooth organization of these events, it has become quite common for some of the participants to comment



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that the GGLC autocross events are the best in the area.

Plus, the GGLC is blessed with our own ace video dude, Ben! The action from each event has been captured and posted on the GGLCs YouTube channel. Check them out (see list below). (And, if you have not had the chance to see Ben's homage to the Lotus 38, you are missing out on his beautifully handcrafted and impressive work.)

The competition action has also been impressive throughout the first half of the season. Certain drivers have already built substantial leads in their classes. After 5 events (i.e., prior to August 26), and with 3 to go, it is pretty clear that some class competitions will go to the wire and others are just about set.

Here is the 2018 mid-season points summary:

CLASS LEADERS (name, car, points)

Lotus Open

Ben, Lotus 38 replica, 820
Pat, Seven, 560

Lotus Extreme

Scott, Exige, 760
Linda, Elise SC, 530

Lotus Moderate

Michael, Elise, 820
Hiroshi, Exige (NA), 800
Alexander, Elise, 650

Lotus Mild

Johnathan, Elise, 850
Colm, Elise, 590

Lotus Evora

Rob, Evora, 200
Adam, Evora, 160

Lotus Classic

David, Elan/Europa, 400

Open Class **Art, Kart, 1000**

You can find video highlight reels on the GGLC's YouTube channel:

Round #1, April 8 – <https://youtu.be/8T0-C9j5arM>

Round #2, May 5 – <https://youtu.be/6W622zDj3os>

- Round #3, June 2 – <https://youtu.be/qBXdLeRnwnM>
- Round #4, July 1 – <https://youtu.be/kFlTjuqvIIg>
- Round #5, July 28 - <https://youtu.be/zIiqSsqkoOw>



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GGLC Track Day at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca

July 15, 2018

by David Anderson

At 7 AM the racetrack was engulfed in fog, which hung around until nearly noon. Visibility was initially 1/4 mile, but improved to about 1/2 mile by 9 AM. Yet the overhead fog remained. Starting at ~ 70°F, the temperature slowly increased to just over 80°F by mid-afternoon.

So the weather was perfect! The track was in great shape with good adhesion everywhere, and nothing interfered with the grip levels all day; though, of course, the cars running in the early sessions (dealing with a cold track) did not have quite the grip that was ultimately available in the afternoon.

There were three 20-minute sessions in the morning and four in the afternoon for each of the usual three groups. As a result, there was plenty of on-track time available for participants. An additional track session from 4:30 to 5 PM was included as an open session (using intermediate group passing rules) for the first 40 cars to line up at 4:30 PM.

With the arrival of new management, some of the rules have changed at Laguna Seca. In particular, the lunch break is now 30 minutes and this allowed the track to stay open that last half hour to 5 PM. It looked to me as if the new track management also repainted the berms, etc, and it all looked great.



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The hardworking GGLC track day crew brought the club truck, snacks, water, and more for everyone on hand.

I counted 16 Lotus cars. Most were Elise/Exige but there was also an Esprit and two 2-Elevens to add some interest.

A wide range of other vehicles completed the entry list for

the event, and some of them were very interesting.

In addition to the usual on-track action, long-time GGLC member Jim McClure brought his 1949 Ford "Woody" Station Wagon into the paddock for a while; and quite a crowd gathered to check it out.

Your scribe was quite happy in Elise #214 from DietschMotorSports, and I

managed a personal best lap time for that stock-engined, normally aspirated, race-prepared car.



Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sept. 8	Breakfast/LCoSC	LA
Sept. 15	Members' Social / Tracy Meeting, BBQ	
Sept. 22	AutoX, Round #7	Marina
Sept. 27	Track Day	Thunderhill W.
October 6	Lotus Corral / CSRG Charity	Sonoma Raceway
October 13	Breakfast/LCoSC	LA
October 20	Members' Social / Palo Alto Meeting	
October 21	All British Motor Show (MOASF)	Blackhawk
October 21	AutoX, Round #8	Marina
Nov 10	Breakfast/LCoSC	LA
	See www.gglotus.org for additional information about upcoming events.	



Scan to get current GGLC calendar on your mobile device.

All-in-all it was a memorable day at the track.

There are two more GGLC track days this year (Sept 27 at Thunderhill W. and Nov. 13 at Laguna Seca), which means that there are still opportunities for you to have a fine GGLC track day experience in 2018.

Inaugural Lotus Club of San Diego Event Draws Large Group

by Ron Schramm

Sunday, July 1, 2018, dawned overcast and cool in Escondido on the northern edge of San Diego. As a result, our meeting spot in the North County Fair shopping center parking lot was pretty gray and misty at 6:00 AM. Nevertheless, it looked to be a perfect day for a San Diego County Back Country Drive—the inaugural social/driving event of the newly formed San Diego Lotus Club GGLC chapter.

At that hour of the morning, the mall parking lot was nearly deserted. I strung up the newly minted San Diego Lotus Club banner, and I then waited anxiously for the participants to arrive.

Given that this was the maiden outing for the SDLC, and my first time as an event organizer, I was not exactly sure what to expect, especially about the size of the turnout.

While waiting, the anxiety mounted: Did I have the waiver forms? Check. Something to write with? Check. A clipboard? Check. Camera? Check.

GoPros? Check. Members event swag? Check.

But not to worry. By 6:25 AM there were 3 more Lotus cars in the lot. Greetings and introductions started, and in the next 15 minutes we had a total of 24 participants and 17 cars.

It was time to get everyone signed in and take a few pictures. A quick review of the sign-in sheets showed that we were missing a few previously confirmed participants. We stalled for a few minutes before starting the drivers' meeting figuring that we could hold off until about 10 minutes before the hour and still make our planned 7:00 AM start. Sure enough, at 6:50 the last two participants arrived. Perfect!

I laid out the route plan, and Don Anderson took charge as Steward:

1. East up to Ramona via Highland Valley Road,
2. North and east to Santa Ysabel via Old Julian Highway,
3. West over Mesa Grande Road to the base of Mount Palomar,



4. North and west up East Grade Road to the summit of Mount Palomar,
5. Breakfast at Mother's Kitchen at the top of Mount Palomar at about 9:00 AM, and Depart breakfast by 10:30 down South Grade Road to be back in town around noon.

The entourage was divided into 3 groups before we saddled up and headed out. Don Anderson led the first group, Steve Goyette was in charge of the second, and yours truly guided the third.

The roads wound through coastal scrub, SoCal chaparral, and mountain pines; the elevations varied from about 600ft to almost 6,000ft at the top of Mount Palomar.

As we climbed up Highland Valley Road, the sky changed from gray overcast to light mist and a bit of fog. Not enough to activate windshield wipers, but enough to remind us that our SoCal seasonal “night and morning low clouds” had not left for the summer just yet.

By the time we passed through Ramona and made the turn onto Old Julian Highway, a distance of only about 7 miles, we were into cloudless blue



skies. Sunglasses were required as we continued east into the sun and then north.

Each of the groups made much quicker progress than initially anticipated such that we arrived at our Santa Ysabel checkpoint a full hour ahead of schedule. A quick roadside conference led to adding a nice detour up to Julian via Hwy 67 then back down via Wynona Road. This would get us to



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Mother's Kitchen right after their 9:00 AM opening so we would not have to wait in the parking lot before breakfast!

Breakfast at Mother's was very good, and the informal backwoods atmosphere encouraged camaraderie. After food orders were placed, the club T-shirts and caps made by Jenni Dietsch were distributed. They were a very big hit and much appreciated.

A special Thank You to Jenni for her yeoman's effort to get them printed and shipped to us in less than a week. Awesome job!

By 10:30 AM, everyone had finished eating, and we headed back down the hill via South Grade Road towards San Diego and home. Most folks made it back by about noon.

Good food, lively conversation, some new friends, superb weather, and great Lotus roads taken together added up to an excellent outing. Some of the key aspects of the drive are captured in this video link: <https://vimeo.com/277937559?ref=em-share>.

The final tally for the event: 26 participants in 19 cars; 13 Lotus, ranging from Rob Walker's beautiful Zetec-powered Elan Plus 2 up to Steve Meeks' red Evora 400.

The longest drive to participate belonged to Steve Meeks, covering a little over 100 miles from Indio to Escondido!

Most importantly, this was a great initial event for the members of the new San Diego Lotus Club. Stay tuned for more exciting drives and get togethers.

GGLC Sacramento Chapter Hosts a Variety of Club Events

by Mike Tatro

The Sacramento Chapter of the GGLC has had a very busy year thus far. In addition to our bi-monthly meetings, which we hold at members' homes and businesses, we have participated in several drives that featured not only roads our Lotus cars were made for but also some interesting destinations.

Sacramento River Delta Run

This drive was held on April 7, 2018. Unfortunately, the day started out rainy, and, as a result, we had only limited attendance of four hardy members. But, nevertheless, we ended up having a great day as the sun peeked through later.

Members' cars were an Elan M100, Elise, Exige and a Turbo Esprit. We drove the twisty river roads and back country of the Delta with a stop for lunch at the famous Foster's Bighorn Restaurant in Rio Vista.

Lunch was followed by a quick trip to the Grand Island Mansion, and a final stop featuring wine tasting at Bogle Vineyards. It turned out to be a fabulous day, and many of us drove "sans hoods".



Sierra Gold Country Run

This drive was held on May 12, 2018, and it included a nice group of 10 mostly Lotus cars.

After a stop at Wayne and Sherry Ellision's beautiful home in Nevada City, the group headed out on HWY 49. The first stop was Malakoff Diggins State Park, where we had a fantastic opportunity to explore this strip mining camp from the Gold Rush days.

After this visit, we continued on the great driving roads of HWY 49 all the way to Downieville in Sierra County. It was a great drive on clear roads, where light traffic meant that we could get full use out of our cars—and man did we.

We had a late lunch in the town followed by a 2-hour drive back home. This was one of the best drives yet!

West Side Run

This was our most recent drive, and it was held on June 24, 2018.

The drive featured a tour of Capay Valley and the west side of the valley. The day began at members Van and Catherine Overhouse's beautiful Victorian mansion outside of Woodland where we enjoyed a great brunch and Catherine's home-made scones.

A large group of Lotus cars plus a Porsche then headed out on the backroads that lead to our first stop at a lavender farm. This stop included a tour and a sample of lavender ice cream.

Then it was off to lunch at a local road house and final stop at Capay Valley Vineyards for a tour of the caves and samples of their fantastic wines.

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This run became even more memorable, as the week following our visit the areas we toured were engulfed by the County Fire, which sadly burned almost 100,000 acres of the route we

used. Fortunately, none of our stops were harmed.





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Our club is very active; many of our members are fixtures at Cars and Coffee in Folsom. We also participate in car shows around the region, and we host fun get togethers at various homes and businesses.

We are planning more drives in the coming months, and we encourage members from the Bay Area to come join us and see some different parts of this beautiful state we are so fortunate to live in.

There is no doubt we have great group of Lotus enthusiasts coupled with a diverse state to explore and probably the best driving roads in the country!

GGLC Lotus Corral at CSRG Sonoma Charity Vintage Races

by Kiyoshi Hamai

When: Saturday, October 6, 2018, 10:00 AM.

Where: Sonoma Raceway (Hwy 121 & Hwy 37)

What: The Classic Sports Racing Group (CSRG) has invited the GGLC to their 15th Annual Charity Challenge at Sonoma Raceway (<https://www.charityracing.org/#home-section>).

The CSRG is the oldest vintage race car club in the West, and the Charity Challenge is their showcase event. Expect to see over 300 vintage race cars competing in nine race groups. Each group will have a morning qualifying session and an afternoon race on both Saturday and Sunday.

The competing cars run the gamut from Production Sports Cars to F1, Formula Atlantic and Formula Ford and on to exotics like Maserati, Ferrari and Alfa Romeo, as well as dedicated Endurance race cars (e.g., Lola T290, Chevron B16), and Can-Am race cars (e.g., Lola T70 and McLaren M8). There is no doubt that Lotus will be well represented in the diverse race groups CSRG puts on the track.

At this event, CSRG will feature the Masters Formula 1 along with the finale of the Crossflow Cup for Formula Fords. Expect to see over 20 historic F1 cars take the green flag, including the immaculate Lotus 77 owned and driven by long-time GGLC member Chris Locke.

As a result of discussions with CSRG officials, the GGLC has arranged for a special Lotus Corral parking area to be set aside at the track. There will be no extra cost to park your Lotus in our Corral, and we would like to have 30-40 Lotus cars be there to put on a good Lotus show.

Please note, this is a charity event and ALL proceeds from ticket sales will go to local Sonoma charities. You can purchase your ticket on-line (half-price) here: <http://www.sonomaraceway.com/events/classic-sports-racing-group-charity-challenge/>. Or at the gate for full price. Note that veterans, children and seniors can attend at no cost. Your ticket provides free access to spectator areas and the paddock where you can meet the drivers and see the cars up close.

IMPORTANT INFO

—RSVP by September 20 at csrg-corral@gglotus.org to confirm your exclusive Lotus Corral space.

—Arrive at Sonoma Raceway on Oct 6 by 10:00 AM. We will have a GGLC representative at the gate with instructions and a corral pass for your car

—Stay tuned via social media for an announcement about 3 mini-drives planned to Sonoma



Raceway with starting points in: Sacramento, the East Bay, and the Peninsula, respectively.

—We will also organize a Grid Walk (especially before the F1 race) and a Paddock tour (find and point out the history/significance of particular cars)

—There will be 3-lap, at speed, track rides offered in one of the race cars entered for the weekend in return for a direct donation to the Speedway Children's Charities. Rides start at \$75. Passengers must be wearing long pants, close toed shoes, and a long-sleeve shirt, and they must be in good health

This will certainly be an exciting event for the entire family that features fantastic historic cars racing and our own GGLC Lotus Corral!

Be sure to RSVP before September 20, get your entry pass and join us for this fun day.

New GGLC Gear for September 2018

by Kiyoshi Hamai

If you have not visited the GGLC shop for GGLC Gear lately, you are missing out on some entertaining T-shirts, Caps and other gear that will proudly show your passion for Lotus and the GGLC!

As a reminder, the GGLC has partnered with Berm Designs (owned and operated by Jenni Dietsch) to offer unique designs incorporated into a variety of GGLC wearable items (i.e., shirts, caps and more).

So what can you find at the GGLC – Berm Designs shop? The range of products is extensive, and it includes the GGLC



Lotus Life T-shirt, GGLC caps, the Elise T-shirt and more. And to keep things fresh, we will also be announcing new designs every month, or so. Our newest design for September is entitled

“Seven Heaven”. See the inset above.

Order today by using the links to Berm Designs you can find on the GGLC website or Facebook page. Alternatively, you can go directly to www.bermdesigns.com.

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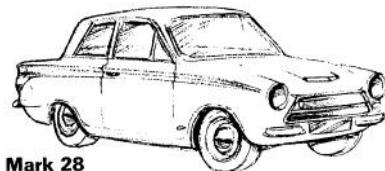
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<http://www.jeffchan.com/cars/xanthos/12june2018/>

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