

The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club www.gglotus.org July/August 2021



Founding member of the GGLC, John Ridley, lets everyone know he had a winning ticket for a door prize at Barry Spencer's open house and lunch at his shop June 13, 2021. More photos from this fun day in Rohnert Park on are shown on page 11.



Ross Robins (left) from Lotus Colorado (LOCO) joins with Kiyoshi for an awesome few days in the Bay Area as part of his epic driving tour of the U.S. using his classic '65 Elan. Kiyoshi's story about their local adventures starts on page 3.

July/August Meet-ups

Anti-Social July Drive

Sunday, July 18, 2021

8:00 AM (gather) — 8:30 AM (depart)

Organized by Geoff Wise

(meet at Union 76 station, 14395 Big Basin Way, Saratoga)

A fun, casual loop drive using Hwy 9, Bear Creek Rd. and Hwy 35 with a stop in Boulder Creek. This drive starts a little earlier than others in an effort to miss some of the weekend traffic on Hwy 9.

Anti-Social August Drive

Saturday, August 21, 2021

9:00 AM (gather) — 9:30 AM (depart)

Organized by Dan Tsuchiya

(meet at Philz Coffee, 2248 Westborough Blvd., Suite 603, S. San Francisco)

We return to the coast on this drive that passes through Pacifica, Montara and Half Moon Bay before heading to La Honda on Hwy 84 with a final destination of the legendary Alice's Restaurant in Woodside.

Message from the Prez

A Busy Summer Season is Approaching Fast

by John Zender

Earlier in the year I made a commitment to get my Flamer Europa back to Bonneville to continue my effort to break the 150 MPH barrier. The date for this year's Bonneville speed week is getting closer, and I have had to make a decision about that commitment.

Unfortunately, I decided to bag the effort for this year. I already have a busy summer planned, even without the effort it will take to prepare for (and go to) Bonneville; and, on top of that, the Bonneville weekend became triple booked for me as LOG40, and an RV trip planned with Mom, all landed on the same weekend. In addition, Burning Man, and a visit to Sand Mountain with my desert car, are scheduled for the weekend prior, so it just turned out to be too much at once.

Maybe it will be next year for Bonneville and the Flamer. But, as for this year, Mom and I will have to miss seeing the gang at LOG40. (Editor's note: see Kiyoshi Hamai's information article about LOG40 on page 6.)

Regarding recent club events: we did a track day at Buttonwillow on May 29, and it was both fun and successful. It has been a few years since we visited this track, and I had forgotten how challenging and fun it is.

In an effort to keep things interesting, we drove the track clockwise in the morning and

counterclockwise in the afternoon.

Nobody seemed to get bored either, as the crowd was about half-and-half from NorCal and SoCal, which meant there were plenty of new Lotus faces and cars at the track. Thanks to the SoCal group for getting their people motivated, which definitely helped the event sell out.

Thanks also go to Barry Spencer for hosting the club for a very well attended and fun open house/lunch and drive at his shop in Rohnert Park on June 13. (Editor's note: see some photos from the Buttonwillow track day on page 10, and from Barry's open house on page 11.)

I just got home from a houseboat trip with my supercharged, 300 HP, WaveRunner. That means I am kind of worn out, so I will be cutting this column a bit short.

Happy Lotusing, and I hope to see you at our July and August meet-ups and drives.



Photo Credit: David Anderson

From the Archives:
John and his Europa "Flamer" take a paddock break during the September 25, 2012, Thunderhill track day.


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Two Days with Ross Robbins

by Kiyoshi Hamai

I had the honor and fun of joining Ross Robbins for two days in May that included his northbound drive on CA Hwy 1. It turned out to be a 600+ mile adventure for me that included sun, fog, striking vistas, windy roads, construction, and road food; not to mention encountering some awesome folks as we met up and caravanned with a few other GGLCers.

Who is Ross Robbins and What is the Deal?

Ross is a member of LOCO (Lotus CO), and he has taken several unique, long drives in his classic Lotus cars in the past. He dubbed this drive a “megatrip” to visit the four corners of the lower 48 states while taking in a few geographic fun spots. Ross selected his 1965 Elan S2 DHC as his assault “weapon” for this adventure, and, as much as possible, he wanted to avoid using freeways and interstates on the drive.

A big part of his trip was to solicit contributions to the Roundup River Ranch organization. (A note on the Roundup River Ranch—This 501(c)(3) organization is part of the SeriousFun Children’s Network, which is a global community of medical specialty camps founded by Paul Newman. Newman believed that kids with serious illnesses needed a place to “kick back and raise a little hell.” The first camp was called “The Hole in the Wall Gang” camp named after the fabled WY hideout of Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid. With the success of the first camp, Newman’s foundation opened similar camps across the U.S. The Roundup River Ranch is one of those camps, <https://roundupriverranch.org/>. Note that you can still donate to the Roundup River Ranch as a part of Ross’ epic trip by going to: <https://www.classy.org/fundraiser/3119273>.)

The Trip Begins: Eastern Loop

On April 11, Ross set out from his home in CO Springs aiming for his first milestone at the southernmost tip of FL. Six days later, he was in FL, and he had reached the end of leg #1. He then turned north heading to the northeastern most corner of the lower 48 in ME. On day #11, he met with near disaster when he hit a protruding rail, and a jarring bump blew the rear damper.

With an escort of NJ-based Lotus folks, he limped to RD Enterprises in PA, where Ray, long time Lotus part supplier, opened his shop. Fortunately, Ray had the parts, and, after re-building both sides of the rear suspension, Ross returned to the road.

On day #16, Leg #2 was complete as Ross made it to a place near Madawaska, ME. He now turned west for CO.

Day #21 marked three weeks, and Ross was able to spend a few days back home to take care of some laundry, cleaning, repair and rest before starting the Western Loop of his adventure.

Western Loop

On May 6, Ross set out toward the Southwest. His destination was Jalama Beach, CA, with a side trip to Death Valley (and the lowest point in the continental U.S.).

On Day #4, it was “Death in Death Valley.” Ross was leaving Death Valley, and climbing up the eastern side of the Sierra, when the Elan lost its clutch. I got a voice mail, “clutch slave cylinder is gone. Trying to limp to Goleta.” I sent a text to Jay at long-time classic Lotus parts supplier JAE in Goleta, and Jay was able to reach Ross. Jay had a new slave cylinder!

Dan Crow drove up from Anaheim and escorted Ross through Lancaster and then towards the coast avoiding traffic signals and anything resembling a stop. Somehow, Ross made it to Goleta, and he limped into a motel a few blocks from JAE.

Day #5 Jay found a shop (Honda repair) able to replace the slave cylinder, and at 8 AM sharp the Elan was on their rack. Then by 12 N

(continued on p. 4)

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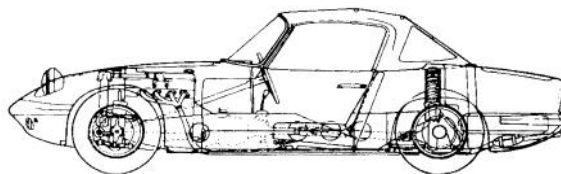
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(cont'd. from p. 3)

Ross was back on the road. I got a call from Ross, "meet you in Morro Bay".

My Day #1 with Ross – Morro Bay to Monterey

I drove south on Hwy 101, and met Ross in Morro Bay around 3:45 PM, and we started to head north on Hwy 1 past San Simeon. The sun was out, but it was a bit windy and cool. The drive was delightful, with little traffic on a Monday afternoon. A few stops for photos and leg stretches, as we met a couple folks from Oregon in Miatas who were heading south.

The closer we got to Monterey the cooler it got. Now with jackets on (and Ross with his flight cap and gloves in place) as dramatic, wind-whipped fog engulfed us.

We arrived in Marina around 7 PM. It definitely was a long day for both of us, but especially Ross. Rather than driving into town for dinner we decided to opt for the Denny's that was next door to our motel. What's that old saying, "You don't GO to Denny's, you END UP there!" So true!

My Day #2 with Ross – Monterey to Santa Rosa

Ross and I hit the road at 7:45 AM with plans to meet Mike in Aptos for breakfast. Mike selected a harborside resort in Aptos, saying traffic on Hwy 1 would start at the exit ramp we needed to take. Mike was wrong by about 300 feet!

We arrived and found Mike coming out the resort doors, waving and exclaiming the restaurant was closed because a 1000-gallon aquarium had burst overnight and flooded the restaurant! No worries: Mike hauled us off to a great café about a mile away and we had delicious and filling meal.

Good news, bad news. Good news traffic on Hwy 1 was gone! Bad news we were now running about 45 minutes behind. This meant our arrival in Half Moon Bay to meet Tom, Dan and Jackie would be delayed. The drive on Hwy 1 was traffic-free, except for a single-lane construction area, causing further delay for our Half Moon Bay arrival.

Eventually we did arrive and found the trio. A quick fuel up and off we went toward San Francisco and across the Golden Gate Bridge. I lead our 5-Lotus caravan on



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Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 10	SDLC / Galpin Open House	Van Nuys
July 17	GGLC Track Day/ Thunderhill West	Willows
July 18	GGLC Casual Drive	Saratoga
July 24	GGLC AutoX Round #7	Cow Palace
August 21	GGLC Casual Drive	South San Francisco
August 29	GGLC AutoX Round #8	Cow Palace
Sept 10-13	LOG40	Salt Lake City

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



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

Tom and I left Ross at Rohnert Park and headed home on 101. In my 2 days with Ross I made a big loop from Palo Alto to Morro Bay, up the coast to Rohnert Park and back to Palo Alto, a bit over 600 miles. It was fun, but tiring, I don't know how Ross can sustain doing this in his Elan for weeks. He must have an "Iron Butt"!

Ross Meets ELCC and Returns Home

Day #9 – Cape Flattery, WA.
Ross makes it to the Northwest most point of the contiguous U.S.,

(continued on p. 6)

Hwy 1 through Pacifica and Daly City following Hwy 35 (Skyline) past Lake Merced and to Sloat.

If you are ever in need of a scenic route to the Golden Gate, this is it. Since the Great Highway was closed, we took Sunset to Lincoln and then to the Great Highway. We continued past Sutro Baths, which led us onto Geary. Turning left at 34th Ave took us into Lincoln Park, past the Legion of Honor and onto El Camino del Mar. Were it sunny, we would have had a grand view of the bridge, but we had fog.

Continuing onto El Camino del Mar through the Sea Cliff neighborhood (with its 8-figure homes) we got onto Lincoln Blvd. and then through the Presidio to catch the bridge at the toll plaza. We crossed the bridge in swirling fog; and exited for Sausalito at Alexander Ave. before dropping down to Fort Baker, which was shielded from the fog, so we could see the north tower of the bridge. PHOTO OP!

We continued on Alexander to

Bridgeway through Sausalito and stopped in Marin City for a sandwich. We got started again around 2 PM and planned to get to Rohnert Park and Spencer's Motorsports around 4 PM. Easy to do if you take 101, but why not take the twisty way instead?

So, through Tam Junction, Hwy 1 to the Panoramic Hwy and into Stinson Beach. Staying on Hwy 1 to Tomales, we then headed inland past some very "rich" dairies and eventually arrived at Barry's shop.

Have you been keeping count of the road repairs Ross has needed? Hint, 2 so far, now here comes the third. Our caravan noticed the brake lights on Ross' Elan were non-op.

Barry to the rescue. A rapid diagnosis, brake pressure switch was bunk. He had a replacement in stock, and two minutes later Ross had working brake lights again. Ross continued on to Santa Rosa for his overnight stop, and the next day he met another buddy in Brookings, Oregon.

and the following day he catches a ferry to Oak Harbor and meets up with members of Evergreen Lotus Car Club. The ELCC caravans with Ross across the Cascades before returning to their homes.

Fast forward to Day #15, Ross meets with fellow LOCO members in the northern Rockies and arrives home in CO Springs, completing his epic journey!

Trip Statistics and Facts:

Start – April 11 / **End** – May 20

Days on the Road – 36

Miles Travelled – over 11,544 !

Where did Ross go?

- Card Sound Road, FL—the most Southeast point (reachable on public roads) in the contiguous U.S.
- Near Madawaska, ME—the most Northeast point in the contiguous U.S.
- The geographic center of the 48 contiguous states near Lebanon, KS.
- The lowest elevation town in the U.S.—Furnace Creek, CA (190 feet below sea level).
- Jalama Beach County Park, CA—the most Southwest point in the contiguous U.S.
- Cape Flattery, WA—the most Northwest point in the contiguous U.S.
- The geographic center of the 50 States near Belle Fourche, SD.
- The highest elevation town in the U.S.—Alma, CO at 10,578 feet.

For more fun info, check out Ross' blog at

www.xcountryelan.com.

Side Note: A Small World Story

Remember the delays caused by construction on Hwy 1? Ross got this email from his IT guy in CO Springs:

Hi Ross,

I'm enjoying the blog and your adventure.

While chatting with my daughter last night, we determined she was stuck in traffic with you in CA. She and her husband live in Manhattan

Beach, CA and were enjoying a road trip to the Napa Valley. She sent a few photos and I mentioned they looked like what you had described.

I mentioned I have a client touring the country in a 1965 Lotus and he is in Oregon and blogging about his trip. She said, "OMG! we were with him on the road! He was following a newer blue Lotus and had writing on his windshield." I sent her a photo of you and your Lotus and she confirmed it was you!

Small world!

LOG40 and the GGLC

by Kiyoshi Hamai

Recently I have been getting several questions from members about LOG40. Here are some FAQs and answers.

What is LOG?

GGLCers are familiar with the West Coast Lotus Meet (WCLM). Think of LOG, Lotus Owners Gathering, as the WCLM on a national level. Each year LOG is hosted by an affiliate of Lotus Ltd., the Lotus club that spans North America. As such, LOG attracts Lotus owners and enthusiasts from across the country.

Where/When is LOG40?

Where: Salt Lake City, Utah
When: September 10-13, 2021
More: <https://lotusltd.com/log40/>

What is Happening at LOG40?

Friday, September 10 – Check-in and opening reception.
Saturday, September 11 – LOG Casual Concours at Stillwell Field and panoramic photo. LOG Banquet with special guests
Sunday, September 12 – LOG scenic drives and Sunday Buffet Dinner
Monday, September 13 – Utah Lotus Owners Coalition (ULOCCO) presents a Lotus Track Day (separate event) at the Utah Motorsports Campus.

How do I Register for LOG40?

You must be a member of Lotus Ltd. to register for LOG. The GGLC has made an arrangement with Lotus Ltd. that allows GGLC members to get a temporary Lotus Ltd. membership for a discounted fee of \$30. Go to this URL for details:

<https://www.gglotus.org/ChapmanReport/LOG40-Entry.htm>

Note, however, that discounted early-bird entry ends July 24. We suggest you obtain your temporary Lotus Ltd. Membership before July 15 to avoid any last-minute hiccups.

(If you are already a Lotus Ltd member you can go straight to the LOG registration online page.) (The ULOCCO Track Day requires a separate registration on MotorsportReg.com:

<https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/utah-lotus-owners-coalition-track-day-motorsports-campus-510388>.)

Will There be a GGLC Caravan to LOG40?

Yes, there are two starting points being planned—one from the Bay Area and another from Southern California. If you are interested in joining either of these caravans contact Rahul or Lawrence, respectively.

N California: Rahul

blog@gglotus.org

S California: Lawrence

SDLC@gglotus.org

See you at LOG40 in Salt Lake City!

The San Diego Lotus Club Organizes More Fun Events

by Lawrence Sher

What a few weeks it has been! As the overall outlook begins to get better, and the COVID rates start to go down, we here at the San Diego Chapter of the GGLC are ramping up our events.

A few months ago (and after lots of planning and talking) we decided to get in touch with our

sister chapter, the Lotus Club SoCal, to see if we could organize a joint meet-up and drive.

All I can say is for those that joined us on June 13 is OMG—the outcome was totally awesome, and better than any of us expected.

Special thanks go to Ron Schram and Don Anderson of the San Diego Chapter and Owen Dong of the SoCal Chapter, you guys rocked and showed how amazing it can be when we work together.

In total, there were 14 cars split into two groups on the drive. Don Anderson (who is a



race car driver) led the fast group, while Ron Schram led the slow group. We started at North County Fair in the BJ's Restaurant parking lot. Our plan was to leave the parking lot at 7:25 AM and join with our LA sister chapter at the Sendero Marketplace in Mission Viejo for an 8:15 AM drivers' meeting.

We then proceeded to Lake Elsinore, and from there to Clinton Keith Road, then Mesa Road/Los Gatos Road to Carancho Road to Deluz Road to Cal Fire Station#14 and onto the Santa Margarita Preserve parking lot where we regrouped.

Believe it or not, the slow group beat the fast group to the meet-up as the fast group encountered a navigation issue (i.e., they got lost).

We then proceeded to Live Oak County Park and Rice Canyon Toad/Hwy 76, where we offered our SoCal friends an opportunity to join us for the rest of the ride back to North County Fair. Some chose to join us while others decided to head home.

Our route went from Couser Canyon Road to Lilac Road onto Old Castle Road then Valley Center Road to North




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(continued on p. 8)

(cont'd. from p. 7)

County Fair Road where we ended the drive with an amazing lunch and some great company at BJ's Restaurant.

Special Event Coming in July

Although many of us meet regularly on Saturday mornings at downtown Rancho Santa Fe for Cars and Coffee, we have plans for a special event on Saturday, July 10. I can assure you that this event is not to be missed as we will be joining with three other car clubs (namely, Lotus SoCal, Aston Martin San Diego and Aston Martin SoCal) to support a HUGE gathering at Galpin Motor Sports, 15500 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys.

Galpin plans on supplying food and drinks, as well as a customized and exclusive tour of their private vault. I understand from those who have been



inside the facility that it is stunning.

As an extra special feature of this gathering, Galpin wants this event to include the largest display of Lotus and Aston Martin cars ever to gather in the Continental U.S., so I urge you not to miss it. A special Thank You for organizing this event goes to Steve Meeks who always manages to go that extra mile for us all.

We also have some smaller events taking place in July and several more in the pipeline. If you are interested in knowing more about what is going on, or if you have any suggestions or ideas, please let your local chapter member know what you have in mind. Trust me, we won't bite, and we are always looking for the something new and different.

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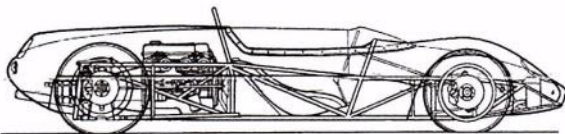
Scott (left) and John arrive at Buttonwillow
(Photo Credit: John Zender)



Some photos from the joint
GGLC/SDLC track day at Button-
willow May 29, 2021.
(On-track photos by Caliphotography)



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A Full Day of Cars, Food and Driving Featuring Barry Spencer's Shop June 13, 2021

Editor / Photo Credit: Jerry Bassler

Starting with two caravans from the Bay Area to Spencer's Motorsports in Rohnert Park, this GGLC June meet-up attracted a large turnout of members and cars. Lots of good food, an informal birthday celebration for Jerry Bassler and a local fun drive topped off the busy day.

Some of the fun is captured in the attached photos.



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Classifieds

(non-commercial ads are free to GGLC members and will run for 2 issues before requiring renewal)

For Sale: 2017 Lotus Evora 400, one owner, automatic, <15k miles. VIN: SCCLMDVN9HHA20145. Red over Beige. Car is stock except for stereo system, harness bar and Schroth 4-point harnesses, G-Loc brake pads & Ultradisc front rotors. Almost new Nankang AR-1 tires. The car is highly optioned. Always maintained by the dealer or InoKinetic. Needs nothing. Includes owner's manuals and original window sticker (MSRP \$105,230.). Car located in Riverside and has always been garaged. Asking \$77,999. Contact Ted at tgarland—at—ucr.edu, or (951) 328-0820.

Parts For Sale: Dual oil coolers removed from '06 Exige after 58k miles. No issues. Located in San Rafael. Best offer. Contact Jonathan at (415) 830-3441 or carphoria@gmail.com

For Sale: '07 Lotus Elise. Saffron Yellow over Black. With both hard and soft tops. Current milage: 25K. Two owners. Never tracked. Equipped with new tires. Car is located in San Mateo. Please use email for inquiries: smchcc—at—gmail.com.

For Sale: '66 Lotus Elan S2 Coupe. S/N 36-5905. One of the first 100 coupes built. Spyder chassis, Lita Springs all around, all steel Spencer-built engine at 85MM (140 bhp), SS header and exhaust. 3.55 final drive with Quaife LSD. Many spares including LAA graded block. Car located in Las Vegas, NV. Asking \$35K. Contact Mark at (702)-673-0671 or email mdefran@earthlink.net

For Sale: '07 Lotus Elise. Approximately 60K miles. One owner. Never tracked. Dealer serviced. All records. Make offer. Car located in San Jose. Contact Pat at t.patrick.hannon—at—gmail.com or (408) 768-8360

For Sale: '91 Lotus Esprit SE. Modified to be a twin of an X180R

without the cage. 17" OZ wheels and new Toyo Tires, 3" Borla SS exhaust with Alunox 321 SS header. Car located in Las Vegas, NV. Last dyno'd at 297 bhp. Asking \$35K. Contact Mark at (702)-673-0671 or email at mdefran@earthlink.net.

For Sale: '69 Lotus Elan S4 DHC. S/N 45-9216. One owner, 29,697 miles. CA car, always garaged and/or covered. Original fly yellow paint, no accidents. Car has not been driven since 1979 (there were no drivetrain issues at that time). Located in Davis, CA. B.O.O. \$25K. Contact Victor at (530)-756-4497 or wmaster—at—ggweb.com.

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

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THE CHAPMAN REPORT

