

# The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club [www.gglotus.org](http://www.gglotus.org) March/April 2023



Photo Credit: Jon Rosner

Don Nester, Ken Gray and Lee Cohee (L to R) share some fond memories of Roberta Bean during her Celebration of Life event January 7, 2023, in San Andreas.



Photo Credit: Kiyoshi Hamai

Campo de Bocci greets the GGLC after the club's Hazel Chapman Memorial Drive on January 28, 2023. The event featured exciting roads, beautiful scenery and lots of good fun. See page 3 for more details.

## March/April Meet-ups

### Casual March Drive

**Saturday, March 25, 2023**

**8:30 AM (gather) — 9:00 AM (depart)**

**Organized by Brian Van Winkle**

**Meet at Peet's Coffee, 1110 Blossom Hill Rd., San Jose.**

*We return to the South Bay on this drive that begins on the Almaden Expressway and ends at the Gizdich Ranch in Watsonville. Participants will have the option of two different routes depending on their desired level of challenge. Both options end with no-host pie and/or lunch at the well-known Gizdich Ranch Pie Shop and Deli.*

### BBQ/Swap Meet/Shop Day

**Saturday, April 22, 2023**

**11:00 AM**

**Organized by Mike Ostrov and Jon Rosner**

**4119 Santa Rita Rd., El Sobrante**

*Mike opens his shop in El Sobrante for a GGLC favorite event featuring a shop project day and an informal swap meet/parts sale. Jon will be in charge of a fantastic BBQ that will follow. See page 8 for more details. Please contact Jon if you have a potluck item to share at the BBQ "jon—at—roscotech.com" or (925) 288-1750*

## Message from the Prez Is it Spring Yet?

by Jonathan Schreiber

Hello GGLC,

Rumor has it that good weather is just around the corner. I, for one, can't wait!

Meanwhile, I hope whatever winter projects you tackled in the off season are wrapping up well for you.

The GGLC has a great calendar of events ahead, including new AutoX locations, more track days, and we are also working on some clever new style events to mix things up a bit. Stay tuned to learn more about all of that.

March kicks off GGLC motorsports fun with a track day at my favorite track, Sonoma Raceway, followed by an AutoX at one of our two new venues, Laguna Seca. Later on, we will have a casual drive—ending with pie stop—in the South Bay.

I hear you ask: “What? An AutoX at Laguna Seca?” Yup, the GGLC is exploring a few new sites to keep AutoX alive and thriving in Northern California. (Editor's note: see separate article about the 2023 AutoX season and the new venues on page 10.)

Of course, I am excited about both the track and AutoX seasons starting, but, if I am honest, my winter has been uneventful on the car project front. I spent more time in friends' garages



than my own “helping them” (read: heckling and kibitzing) with their winter projects. I am sure you will learn more about those projects as they get closer to completion.

I wanted to be writing today about someone local taking delivery of a brand new Emira, but that, it seems, has not happened yet within our club.

In the interim, Lotus has been making some automotive news with the Eletre as well as other news about an electric Lotus sedan.

Will we see these come stateside? Will they carry enough Lotus pedigree for the die-hards among us? Only time and test drives will tell.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at upcoming events. Be safe out there as the weather continues to fluctuate from gorgeous days to snow in the bay.

As usual, if you have an idea for an event, want to volunteer to lead a drive or organize a meet, please do not hesitate to reach out.



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# 2023 Hazel Chapman Memorial Drive Recap

## January 28, 2023

by *Kiyoshi Hamai*

The 2023 Hazel Chapman Memorial Drive featured a driving tour of the South Bay. The weeks leading up to the drive looked ominous, however, with 11 WET Pacific storms battering Northern California. Fortunately, the rain stopped, and it pretty much dried out the week prior to the drive, and then it rained again the day after the drive, just as I had planned!

### The Start:

We gathered in southern San Jose on Cottle Rd. I counted over 20 cars with about 30-35 folks. Our cars, that included Elise, Exige, Evoras, Esprit V8 and a couple of Miatas, a BMW, a Ford RS, a couple of Porsches, were a colorful relief to mundane sea of black, white and silver vehicles hanging out in the parking lot.

There was enough time to grab a latte from Starbucks, greet and meet the attendees. To call out a few of the folks attending - Tom & Cherie, Joel, Brian & Sia, Jake & Kelly, Lowell, Vince, Jake, Rob & Joy, Dan, Mark, Brandon, Gorkem, Norm, Cynthia, Chris & Joanne, Ray, Grinil, Renee, Bryan, Wayne, Tim, Tanmay, Cristian, Connor, Jim, Carla, and I'm certain I'm missing a few (my apologies). Thank you all for spending the day with the GGLC.

### On Route:

After a brief drivers' meeting to discuss the route and a



(continued on p. 4)

## KAMPEÑA MOTORS

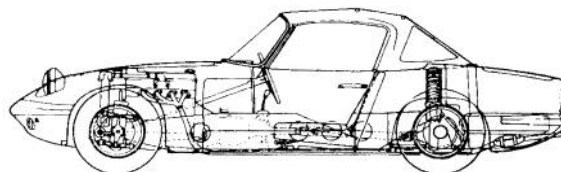
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few reminders about on-road courtesy, we mounted up and headed out.

The first leg was east out Silver Creek Valley Rd just to get out of the urban area. This led us out to San Felipe Rd which cuts through the hills east of Hwy 101. We then turned west onto Metcalf, past the Metcalf Motorcycle Park, down the steep section to Hwy 101. We paralleled the highway on Malech, which crossing Hwy 101, got us onto Bailey.

We continued on Bailey and then to McKean Rd where we turned right and passed Calero Reservoir. Following McKean we made our way to Almaden Rd and headed south toward New Almaden and then passed Almaden Reservoir. Then a right onto Hicks Rd and a couple of miles to a left onto Mt Umunhum Rd.

The stretch of road up to Mt. Umunhum, is fairly wide, a bit bumpy, but in good repair; and the scenery is spectacular. As you climb up to the summit (about 3500 ft), the road follows a ridge allowing you to see Santa Cruz and Monterey Bay on your left and the Almaden hills to your right.

We maintained a nice, casual pace considering the rather bumpy pavement, some lingering rain runoff and dirt/mud, and an occasional cyclist. Arriving at the near empty summit parking lot on Mt. Umunhum, we lined up our colorful contingent.

A few non-Lotus visitors were startled and delighted by the impromptu car show that was followed by lots of selfies, photos on Instagram and lots of questions about the cars.

We spent the next half-hour exploring the summit, wondering about the big cube building (ex-radar enclosure) and enjoying the vistas and scenery. It was then about a half hour drive down the hill and to Campo di Bocce in Los Gatos.

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## Calendar

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Activity</u>       | <u>Location</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| March 2     | Track Day             | Sonoma          |
| March 16    | GGLC/Sacto Dinner     | TBA             |
| March 19    | AutoX—Round# 1        | Laguna Seca     |
| March 25    | Casual Drive          | San Jose        |
| April 1     | GGLC/PCA AutoX School | Salinas Airport |
| April 2     | Practice AutoX        | Salinas Airport |
| April 8     | AutoX—Round# 2        | Crows Landing   |
| April 20    | GGLC/Sacto Dinner     | TBA             |
| April 22    | Shop Day / BBQ        | El Sobrante     |
| April 23    | LCOSC/GGLC Track Day  | Chuckwalla      |

All dates and events are tentative.  
Please see [www.gglotus.org](http://www.gglotus.org) for current information about upcoming events.



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

and giggled at our errant bocce ball throws, and we marveled at how an inanimate thing like a bocce ball has a mind of its own!

Thanks to all that attended. It was a delight for Laura and me to see you at this kick-off event for the new year as we begin what should be an exciting 2023 of Lotusing

### Pizza & Bocce:

Arriving at Campo di Bocce in Los Gatos, we filled up their alternate parking lot. We filed into the spacious facility and

were guided to courts 3 and 4.

The next 2 hours were busy and fun as we consumed an assortment of pizzas, soft drinks and salad while playing a few games of Bocce. We laughed

# Hot Wheels Launches New Lotus Models

*Abstracted from a Lotus Press Release*

The Lotus Emira sports car and the Evija all-electric hypercar have recently been launched as Hot Wheels toy cars. Dima Shakhmatov, product design manager for Hot Wheels, answers questions about the creative process.

## Why did Hot Wheels choose to produce these new Lotus cars?

This is an exciting time for Lotus with the launch of new, fresh, and desirable cars. With its dramatic styling, the Evija is one of the most exciting and visually interesting electric hypercars we've seen. The Emira will be the last Lotus with an internal combustion engine, and it was felt important to mark this by including it in the Mainline.

## What is the Mainline?

Mainline is our core range of 1/64 vehicles. These are available widely in toy shops and supermarkets, and they come in the familiar blue-carded blister packs. Within the Mainline there are themed series and both new Lotus cars are in 'Exotics'.



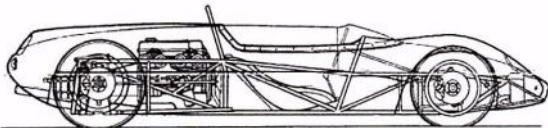
## Is this the first Lotus Hot Wheels has created?

No, we have enjoyed a long relationship with the marque. In the 1960s we created a diecast of Lotus' turbine IndyCar, the Type 56. Then in the 1980s, we produced a 'Royal Flash' Lotus Esprit. Since then we have created many more including the Sport Elise, 340R, Evora GT4, two further iterations of Esprit (S1 and V8), as well as concept cars including the M250, and the Lotus Concept from the Designer's Challenge series. Lotus is very popular here in our design studio!

## How long did it take to create the Emira and Evija, from first sketch to the finished product?

The Hot Wheels team recreated both the Emira and Evija from scratch in our U.S. design studio. We started with some creative ideas, sketches and renders, then CAD design supplied by Lotus, before moving to the 3D printing of initial prototypes ahead of the design sign-off by both our designers and the team at Lotus. Just like in Hethel, once design and engineering are happy, we start making the tooling, and then cars can flow down our own production line. The process took us about a year for each car.

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### Any particular challenges with creating the design in small scale?

Our Mainline cars are toys with an RRP of £1.75, so sometimes we have to be creative. It was particularly challenging to capture all the complexity of the Venturi tunnels on the Evija.

We achieved this using the interior plastic to provide a vibrant contrast. At the rear, the LED lights are very fine, so we have printed these around the tunnel exits. Another challenge is to get this car looking 'just right' at this scale. This is very much an enthusiast's car, and Lotus owners are really passionate, so we did a lot of work to get the form of Evija to look right at 1/64 scale. As such, we had to tweak Lotus' design by elongating or enhancing elements, so the overall look and stance are correct. Evija is such a dramatic car, we wanted to keep as much of that in the model, all within the restraints of it being primarily a toy.

### What testing was done with the scale Lotus?

Like all our cars, we track test the prototype Emira and Evija to ensure they will offer high performance just like the real ones! We wanted to keep the sweeping low front overhang and track-hugging splitter of Evija so it's not best suited for our stunt or loop sets. That said, its low, sleek form should make it popular for flat tracks or racing around the living room. And just like the real Emira, this model is a bit more versatile but still should offer high performance.

### How did you choose the colour of the car?

For Emira, the colour honours the Seneca Blue car seen at its launch, now with added Black Pack. We also opted for a wheel design that looks a little like the diamond-cut forged alloy wheels available on the full-scale car. For the Evija, we've opted for the iconic colours of green and yellow. It's a Lotus after all!

### Hot Wheels isn't necessarily known for EVs. Is it important to have EV models like the Evija for kids and adult collectors?

The automotive world is transitioning rapidly to alternative powertrains. Models such as the Evija offer inspiring performance-oriented electric cars for us to create and enable the current generation to 'own' and 'drive' these aspirational cars. Representation of EVs such as the Evija in our range can show the kids that future cars do offer performance, desirability and sustainability.

### Do you need to be a car fan to do your job?

Yes, one needs to be a car fan to the core. It's an important part of our jobs, as we always try to be ahead of design and car culture trends. And we still need to design custom 'builds' in 1/64 scale. All of us are very passionate and are car fans. Also, we have a very mixed international team, so it helps with variety and the global appeal of our toys.

## GGLC Volunteers

by Jonathan Schreiber  
and Kiyoshi Hamai

As with most clubs, the GGLC relies on a small group of passionate volunteer members. And the GGLC is not unique in this regard, as it ALWAYS finds itself in need of new folks to help operate the organization.

Besides our officers, we have quite a few event organizers; some have been with us for years, like John, Scott, Matt, Liyan, Owen, Lawrence and Colm. Additionally, we have core of folks responsible for club operations, like Dave (Membership), Mel (Sponsors) and Joel (Editor). There are also leaders at the regional level like Jim, Carlos, and Dan.

### GGLC Web Master

We are pleased to announce that we have a new GGLC Web Master, Greg Epstein – [webmaster@gglotus.org](mailto:webmaster@gglotus.org). Greg is already working on overhauling the club website. Thank you, Greg!

### GGLC Video Dude

We want to thank Ben Beams for his years of service as the club's Video-Dude. His amazing videos have captured the fun and excitement that characterize GGLC events, and he has documented many "How To", GGLC Promos, and more.

Ben has stepped away from the post, and that means the club needs a new Video-Dude. Are you that person? If you are interested in the role, drop a note to Jonathan at [Prez@gglotus.org](mailto:Prez@gglotus.org).



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# BBQ + Swap Meet + More At Mike's Place Saturday, April 22, 2023

by Jon Rosner

On Saturday, April 22, at the crack of 11:00 AM, there will be a brief GGLC Meeting marking the beginning of a busy Tech Day, Swap Meet, Garage Sale, and BBQ at Mike Ostrov's Shop at 4119 Santa Rita Road, El Sobrante. (Just minutes from I-80)

Among other things, we will be celebrating the end of needing to discuss: "I've got a new water feature in my backyard", as our recent rainy-season-on-steroids winds down.

Another special note is that Jimmy Kilroy has a new automotive project that he has just

finished and that he plans to bring to Mike's.

On the new acquisition front, Jackie Feakins has sold her Evora....aArRGghH!...but she bought a Tesla roadster (sort of a Lotus Elise) in Seattle, and she plans to take a unique shortcut on her drive from Seattle to Chicago in her new purchase by stopping at our BBQ in El Sobrante.

And then there is Charlie Rockwell, who will be in Thailand for his nephew's wedding; but he plans to join us at the BBQ on his way home to Southern California.

Finally, if that is not enough excitement for you, Keith

Frank has brought his distributor testing machine to Mike's shop where he will be testing distributors as well as talking about issues involving side-draft carburetors.

We hope that we will not be facing any COVID-19 restrictions this time, and we should have plenty of smoke from the BBQ to keep politicians and other invasive pests away.

There should be lots of food, plenty of opportunities to do a few bits of technical work on your car, and probably at least one opportunity to run for the fire extinguisher! (For extra safety and security, we have ex-prez Jackie Feakins in charge of the Fire Patrol Command.)

This should be a fun day!



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(For those who arrive without something to share, we will be glad to put you to work cleaning up after our small mud slide.)

**Pot-Luck Food Options:**

- Main dish (Rosner is making BBQ chicken)
- Beef dish
- Veggie dish
- Beverage
- Soda pop
- Green salad
- Veggie plate
- Bean salad
- Potato chips
- Chocolate
- Potato salad
- Chocolate cake
- Cheese assortment/dip
- Dessert (DID SOMEONE MENTION CHOCOLATE?????)
- Pie (chocolate cream or strawberry rhubarb....)
- Paper plates and napkins
- Forks, knives, spoons
- Paper or plastic cups
- Extra fire extinguisher....
- Any ideas....CHOCOLATE!!!!

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Kevin at speed

# Exciting New Venues Featured as 2023 AutoX Season is Announced

by Colm Gavin and Kiyoshi Hamai

The 2023 GGLC Autocross Season is about to start!

We hope that you all had a nice winter break, and that you are now ready to do some autocrossing. The big news this year is that we have been able to add two new autocross venues! Gone is the Cow Palace, but it is replaced by two new sites: Laguna Seca and Salinas Airport. Please see the accompanying site layouts.

## 2023 GGLC Autocross Schedule

- Sun, 3/19 - Laguna Seca
- Sat, 4/1 - PCA/GGLC AutoX School, Salinas Airport
- Sun, 4/2 - Practice, Salinas Airport
- Sat, 4/8 - Crows Landing
- Sat, 5/20 - Laguna Seca
- Sat, 6/3 - Salinas Airport
- Sat, 7/22 - Laguna Seca
- Sat, 8/12 - Salinas Airport
- Sat, 9/9 - Salinas Airport
- Sat, 9/30 - Crows Landing
- Sun, 10/22 - Salinas Airport

### Laguna Seca Lakebed

The Laguna Seca Lakebed area is the parking area between the outsides of Turn 2 and Turn 5. The area is about 200ft wide by 800ft long. Expect courses to be on the tight side, and they will be running from end to end. It is also important to note we will be mandated to adhere to Laguna Seca's 90dB noise limit, so please be mindful of this.

### Salinas Airport

Located on the south end of Salinas, the Airport is a popular destination for private aviation.

Please note that the Salinas Airport is a live facility. Access to the site is controlled, so you

will not be able to come and go freely.

The autocross area is on the northeast side of the facility, and it consists of a "Pad" that is about 150ft wide and 1100ft long plus a 1900ft long taxiway. There are no noise restrictions.

### Class & Rules Changes

There are a few small changes since last year:

A combined Lotus Evora and Emira class

The Lotus open class is replaced with a Lotus Replica class (which uses the SCCA PAX)

A modified points system for the Lotus Elise classes (further details soon)

We will follow all local, state, and federal COVID restrictions.

There are 9 points-earning events on the schedule, with an additional school and practice event at Salinas. In order to be eligible for a trophy, you must have participated in at least 2 points events. Don't worry if you cannot attend all the points events as your worst 2 events will be dropped from your season point total.

Our first event is scheduled for Sunday, March 19, at Laguna Seca. Registration should be open by now on [motorsport-reg.com](http://motorsport-reg.com).

Let us know if you have any questions. You can email Colm at "autocross—at—gglotus.org".



Laguna Seca



Salinas Airport



# 2023 GGLC Lotus/UK Tour—Update #2

by Kiyoshi Hamai

This is an update on the GGLC UK Lotus Tour. We are still working to finalize the costs. There has been a delay in pricing the package as we sort out the cost of hiring a van and driver. Those costs have significantly increased since the 2016 tour.

We can, however, share a bit of news about the plans.

## When:

September 3-8, 2023

## Master Tour Guide:

The GGLC Lotus Tour will be led by Richard Parramint. Richard's involvement with Lotus began in the late 1960s when he worked at the factory as a teen, and it continues today with Classic Team Lotus.

## Itinerary (not final):

Group tour that begins at London-Heathrow and...

*Day 1*, collect folks at London, Heathrow and drive to hotel

*Day 2*, visit Hornsey/

Cheshunt old Lotus factory locations and head to Norfolk

*Day 3*, visits to:

- Lotus Hethel factory,
- Classic Team Lotus,
- Ketteringham Hall, East-Carlton Manor,
- Colin and Hazel's final resting place.

*Day 4*, possible Lotus track day and/or Lotus Driver Academy on the Hethel Track (optional)

- Lotus Dinner – group dinner with friends of the GGLC along with ex and current Lotus folks

*Day 5*, head to the Goodwood Revival (optional)

This is rough itinerary, which is subject to change. Most likely there will be other "special" things to see and do and people to meet.

## Cost:

Final cost is still TBD (our trip in 2016 was \$5600 per couple). The cost will include tour

transportation (while in the UK). Hotel cost are included, but meals are not.

Transportation to and from the UK is not included. You may want to take few extra days on either end of the tour to visit other places in the UK or elsewhere in Europe.

In order to maximize the experience, we are going to try to keep the size to about 12-15 (19 is capacity). All Lotus enthusiasts are invited, however GGLC members and their guests will be given consideration should we reach capacity. Note that, based upon the initial response, we are very close to full.

## Exciting Rumors & Options:

September 8–10: Goodwood Revival. Add to the tour at extra cost. GGLC member Chris L. is scheduled to be there driving his Lotus 27. And it is rumored that Lotus will be the featured marque.

September 16–17: Lotus 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Hethel. It is rumored that Lotus will have a huge 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the factory. Stay an extra week and join the festivities!

So, what do you think? This will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Excited?

We would like to get an idea of those who are interested so that we can firm things up and get real costs. If you are interested, please send me an email and indicate the number in your party, [marcom@gglotus.org](mailto:marcom@gglotus.org).



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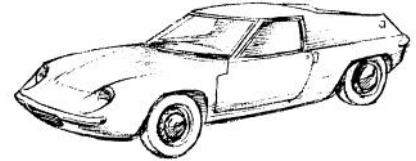
(non-commercial ads are free to GGLC members and will run for 2 issues before requiring renewal)

**For Sale:** Lotus type 47 race car (Chassis # 47gt75) \$130k. Very few modifications from the way it was first raced in the U.S. Southeast during the late 1960s. Delivered from the factory to Lotus Southwest in 1968. This car is one of the later Lotus 47s, and it comes with a documented history since new. Vintage raced from 2010 to 2019 (including the Monterey Reunion & CSRG races). Ideal for a collector of factory-original race cars. Car is located in Hollister, CA. Some spares and original, uninstalled, items included. For detailed information, email Don at don-hogue—at—charter.net with the subject line “Lotus 47gt75”.

**For Sale:** Europa S2 seats. I have three bucket seats and two sets of rails for an S2 Europa. The seats are located in Mendocino. Please contact Jerry for photos and descriptions. gshuck—at—gmx.com

**For Sale:** 2017 Lotus Evora 400. Red w/Black Forged Rims. Black (wrap) racing stripe center of hood, roof and spoiler. Used as daily driver, 23k miles. I recently retired so car mostly sits in garage. Asking \$70k. Located in south Orange County. Contact: markkonno—at—cox.net.

**Wanted:** Lotus-related license plates. Contact Foster, email: Fjc—at—totlanelit.com, or phone: 617-965-2058



Mark 46


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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 2023, the GGLC Officers are: President—Jonathan Schreiber, Vice President—John Zender, Treasurer—Laura Hamai, Event Coordinators—John Zender & Scott Hogben, Membership Chairman—David Ellis, Secretary (Acting)—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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