

The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club www.gglotus.org Sept/Oct 2023



Shinoo Mapleton, President of InoKinetic explains the special features of the unique 111RS while visiting the Bay Area and Trackspec's shop in Fremont. The GGLC thanks Jon Vo of Trackspec for facilitating this visit and informative exchange. More photos are available on page 3.



Photo Credit: Kiyoshi Hamai

Spotted August 18, 2023, at The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering. Formula 1 world champions Jenson Button and Emerson Fittipaldi along with Classic Team Lotus owner Clive Chapman (l to r) as they introduce # 66—the "Lost Lotus" reimagined CanAm car. Learn more about this amazing race car in Kiyoshi's stories highlighting the Lotus presence at the 2023 Monterey Car Week starting on page 4.

Sept/Oct Meet-ups

Note:

As we go to press, a GGLC Casual Drive/Get Together for the month of September 2023 has not yet been organized.

Please check the club's website and Facebook Group on a regular basis for details to come.

Editor

Casual October Drive

Sunday, October 29, 2023

9:00 AM (gather)—10:00 AM (depart)

Organized by Maks Shap

Meet at Bad Ass Coffee of Hawaii

**90 Mark West Springs Rd., Suite 100,
Santa Rosa**

Exploring the N. Bay: We start by heading N. to Healdsburg and then W. to the coast past Lake Sonoma and onto Skaggs Springs Rd. Next is S. to Jenner and the Bodega Bay area for lunch (lots of choices). After lunch, there are many options people can take to head home, but Maks will lead a group back to 101.

Staying over Saturday night + dinner in Santa Rosa area:

For those interested in a longer weekend option, contact Maks (maks.shap@gmail.com) for nearby motel suggestions. Maks can also organize a group dinner Saturday at a local restaurant but will need an RSVP with your details no later than Sunday, October 8.

Message from the Prez: A Time of Transition

by Jonathan Schreiber

As the summer season winds down, it is the perfect time to reflect on the incredible driving experiences we have shared as a Lotus community. We are in kind of a seasonal transition now; and with the days getting shorter, you may think we are slowing down, but fear not! We have plenty of thrilling GGLC events still in store.

Our calendar is brimming with exciting opportunities that range from track days to heart-pounding AutoXs, not to mention engaging meetups and drives. Let's make the most of the remaining driving season as we maintain and grow our passion for Lotus cars.

In terms of personal updates, I have a bittersweet announcement to share. "And then there was one." The time has come to bid farewell to my beloved family hauler Evora GT, as it embarks on a new journey with its lucky new owner. The car will be staying in the Bay Area, so keep an eye out for it on local roads and events. Before parting ways, however, I had the talented photographer Emma Lai (website: lai.media) capture the Evora's essence in stunning glory shots. I can't wait to share these images with you once I receive copies.

Back on the club front, the GGLC sent representatives to scope out Monterey Car Week and The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering.

Check out the following pages for a comprehensive update on these prestigious events from Kiyoshi. You will see that



Photo Credit:
Gorilla Tornado Photography
(Dave Jeffords)

Lotus continues to shine on the grand stage, and we are proud to be a part of it.

As we continue to thrive as a community, we're reaching out to our members for support. Volunteers play a vital role in running our events smoothly and keeping our club vibrant. If you are eager to contribute your time and enthusiasm, we will welcome you with open arms. Together, we can create unforgettable experiences for all Lotus aficionados.

Before wrapping up, mark your calendars for our annual holiday party and awards dinner in early December. It will be a time to celebrate the year's achievements, share sto-

ries, and bask in the warmth of our Lotus family. More details will be coming your way soon.

As the summer chapter of 2023 comes to an end, let's gear up for the exciting pages that fall, winter and beyond will bring.

Thank you for being an essential part of the Golden Gate Lotus Club, and I look forward to seeing you on the road and at our upcoming events.



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More photos from Shinoo Mapleton's Bay Area visit to Trackspec introducing the 111RS *(Photo Credit: Kiyoshi Hamai)*



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Lotus Makes a Splash at Monterey Car Week 2023

by Kiyoshi Hamai

Thursday, 08/17/23—The Day Before Quail—
Time at Laguna and The Evija Deliveries

Lotus “owned” Quail Lodge both Wednesday and Thursday, August 16-17. At various times, the hotel portico was filled with 8-10 Emiras, 5-6 Electres and a blue Evija. Quite a sight!!!

Add to that, there were 3-4 more Emiras in the parking lot and 3 Fittipaldi Evijas hidden away, not to mention Jenson Button’s personal Evija getting a place on the Lotus stand for The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering show on Friday.

Emira demo drives were featured, and they were met enthusiastically. From what I saw, nearly all the available slots were taken. The format was conducive to letting the driver really get a feel for the car. Drivers were able to drive solo in a lead/follow format in groups of 4-5 cars led by a Lotus rep. The pace was brisk on nearby canyon roads.



Thursday was the first time to see the Eletre in the flesh. IMPRESSED! No doubt, it is a full-size SUV—a bit larger than a Ford Explorer—but the shape, side, and rear exterior are fresh looks. Unfortunately, the cars were locked, so I was not able to get a good look at the interior.

After lunch in the Lotus hospitality area, I headed to Laguna. Arriving at the track the first thing I noticed was how dark (and black) the new pavement appeared. The berms were freshly painted, and I could see wider run-off areas around some of the corners. I can’t wait to feel the grippiness of the new tarmac at the GGLC’s Track Day in late October!

After parking near Turn 8 (the fabled Cork-screw), I followed the track side path past turns 9 and 10 to the paddock. As is typical at the Reunion, the paddock was overflowing with amazing cars.

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Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sept 3-11	GGLC / UK Tour Goodwood Revival	UK
Sept 4	GGLC Track Day TH / 3-mile	Willows
Sept 9	PCA AutoX	Salinas
Sept 21	Sacto Dinner	TBA
Sept 30	AutoX—Round# 8	Crows Landing
Oct 3	GGLC Track Day	Sonoma
Oct 15	All British Show	Blackhawk
Oct 19	Sacto Dinner	TBA
Oct 22	AutoX—Round# 9	Salinas
Oct 29	Casual Drive	Santa Rosa
Oct 30	GGLC Track Day	Laguna Seca

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

I started by seeking out fellow GGLCer, Chris Locke. Chris was running in the Historic F1 group with his ex-Andretti Lotus 77. It was not difficult to find him as he was near the end of the row filled with F1 and F5000 cars.

After a few minutes with Chris, I headed across the paddock, and along the way I passed a tent with a display of significant historic racing Corvettes. What an amazing and impressive display of Corvette race cars and prototypes!

After a brief stop to see the ex-de Angelis Lotus 91 brought to the Reunion by Classic Team Lotus, I went to find a good vantage point to watch qualifying for the Historic F1 group.

Chris went out on sticker tires. Between the new pave-

ment and fresh tires, he was one of the quickest non-ground effects cars. Indeed, he was some 2 seconds quicker than his best previous time!

Tucked away in the Camel Valley was a private Lotus evening, where 3 Fittipaldi versions of the Evija were shown with Emerson's Type 72 championship Lotus. Amongst the guests were 3 Evija customers who took delivery of their cars that evening!

Friday, 08/18/23—The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering

Rahul Nair joined me Friday morning. We were fortunate to have passes for the Quail courtesy of Lotus, and Rahul had a parking pass that got us into Lot C (across from the Lodge).

Parking at the Quail is a bit surreal, as the car park was



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

inundated with Ferraris, Bentleys, Astons, Lambos and high-end Bimmers, Porsches and Audis. If you had driven your Ford Focus, you would be the one with a rare car!

After parking, we made our way to the show entry. We showed and had our wristbands scanned, and then immediately found ourselves at the Gordon Murray stand for the start of the press conference.

(continued on p. 6)

The Lotus stand was in the center of the show. Three significant cars were on display: the Eltre and Jenson Button's Evija were on one side; while on the opposite side was a covered vehicle behind a sign reading "Type 66".

The Lotus press conference started punctually at 11:15am. The highly anticipated proceedings began with Simon Lane, Director of Lotus Advanced Performance, introducing the Type 66. The 66 was then fired-up to allow the crowd to hear the glorious percussive noise of a V8!

Lane briefly shared that the Type 66 was designed by Lotus in 1969 with the intent to race in the CanAm series in the 1970s. Clive Chapman was then introduced to relate how the Type 66 came to reality. Clive told the assembled crowd that about 10 years ago he found the design

drawings of the 66, and he showed those drawings to Russell Carr, head of Lotus Design. Carr had the physical drawings converted to CAD and 3D models and CG renderings, and he had models produced.

To help celebrate the 75th anniversary of Lotus, the Type 66 was built as a track-only vehicle. Exclusivity will be assured as only 10 cars will be built for customers.

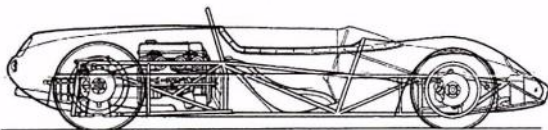
Weighing in at less than 900kg with carbon fiber body work, the 66 features a 830HP, 550 lb-ft, of torque push rod V8 in addition to a 6-speed sequential gearbox and race suspension. This very special car also features inboard spring/dampers,

carbon-ceramic brakes, modern race ABS and traction control.

Joining Simon and Clive on the stand, was Emerson Fittipaldi who expressed his desire to drive the 66 at Laguna. Emmo was also joined by another F1



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World Champion, Jenson Button. Quite amazing to have TWO F1 World Champions together on the Lotus stand. It was truly a bit of a pinch-me moment!

Jenson shared his thoughts about how the 66 harkened to the time when drivers “drove” and racing was real. He added his desire to drive and possibly own the Type 66 before raving about his Evija in Brawn white, green and black livery to commemorate his championship. The conference wrapped up with group photo of team principals along with Clive, Jenson and Emmo.

Here is the link to the GGLC video of the press conference - <https://youtu.be/Z20JpzcXw6A?si=z04yLQqZbWoUpdwy>

Later in the day, there was a “fireside chat” with Emmo and the Lotus 72 he drove to his first championship.

Eletre

No doubt, the Eletre is controversial for Lotus enthusiasts. It seems there are two camps: those who hate it and feel as if Lotus is abandoning them and the “Lotus Ethos”; and those who are open to change and en-



dorse, or accept, that Lotus needs to expand in order to survive, flourish and continue to build great sports cars (much in the same way that Porsche needed the Cayenne).

The Eletre featured on the Lotus stand was the extra spicy Eletre R in top spec, 905HP form. It was incredibly well received, and it attracted a constant crowd.

The Eletre, taken as an EV SUV is simply BRILLIANT. It hits all the right EV buttons: fast charging high voltage platform, excellent range, and strong battery management. As a luxury vehicle, it is innovative, roomy for both front and

rear passengers, comfortable and it has an airy, inviting cabin.

Some Emira News for North America

Of course, the big question is “When are we going to see Emiras?” Reading the Lotus and Emira Forums online is fraught with peril, lots of ugly words, lots of rumors, and lots of anger and accusations. But there seems to be some confidence that production of North American cars would start in the next few weeks, and that deliveries could be seen before the end of year.

Take this at face value, and it means there are not a huge stash of Emiras laying waste at some port of entry waiting for certifications and/or missing parts (one of the more laughable rumors floating about on social media). But it does mean that most of the parts logistics problems have been solved and many of the early production issues and faults have been identified and resolved in other markets.





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(continued on p. 8)

(cont'd. from p. 7)

Lotus Etna

An unusual surprise at The Quail was seeing a Lotus Etna in the Italian Designer collection.

You may recognize the Etna name as a volcano on Sicily, but not a Lotus. The Lotus Etna was shown at the 1984 British International Motor Show as a one-off concept car from Giorgetto Giugiaro. It was powered by a 909 4.0L Lotus V8 (essentially two 2.0L Lotus 907 engines).

So, to see it nearly 40 years later sitting on the grass at the Quail caught me completely off-guard.

Sunday, 08/20—The 2nd Annual Corkscrew Hillclimb & Pebble Beach

Sunday at Pebble, the Type 66 was featured on the Concept

Lawn. It looked stunning amongst other “out-there” concept cars.

Meanwhile, back at Laguna, the 2nd Corkscrew Hillclimb was held. To refresh your memory, the Corkscrew Hillclimb has cars making a standing start at the normal start/finish line, except they’re pointed towards Turn 11!

The Hillclimb takes drivers around Turn 11, then Turn 10 and 9. The culmination is going up the steep incline of the legendary Corkscrew opposite to the normal direction of travel with the finish at Turn 7! Repeating last year’s win in this unique event was Chris Locke in his Lotus 77! Congratulations Chris!!!

Conclusion

It was quite a week for Lotus. In the span of a few days, you were reminded of the Lotus heritage, saw Lotus of today, and got a peek at Lotus’ future.

The heritage will never be forgotten and kicked aside, as it is part of the Lotus brand. Also part of that brand is innovation, which is clearly seen in the new Lotus products being brought to market.

Part of what we as Lotus enthusiasts love about the marque is innovation and risk taking. Colin Chapman was never shy about risk. Not all of his ideas were successful, of course, but he understood standing still was certain failure.

Please see additional photos from Monterey Car Week on the following pages.



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Lotus Achieves Record First Half 2023 Sales

Abstracted from Lotus Press Release

Key achievements at Lotus for the first six months ending June 30, 2023, included:

- order book grew to approximately 17,000 vehicles worldwide for the Eletre, Lotus' first electric lifestyle hyper-SUV, and for the Emira,
- produced over 2,200 Emiras in its UK sportscar manufacturing facility, which is a 381 percent increase from FY22,
- filled the order book for Emira for the next two years,
- ramped up production of Lotus' lifestyle hyper-SUV, Eletre, this year in its first all-electric vehicle factory (customer deliveries began in China at the end of March, and Lotus expects to deliver to UK and European customers later this summer),
- expanded its global retail network to 193 stores, opening 24 new outlets over the first half of 2023,
- expanded into South Korea, one of the largest luxury markets in the world, through a partnership to sell Lotus vehicles with the leading regional automotive retailer, Kolon Mobility Group, and
- won nine awards won globally including 'SUV of the Year' for Eletre at GQ Car Awards and 'Best Performance Car' for Emira at UK Car of the Year Awards.

Additionally, Mike Johnstone joined the business as Chief Commercial Officer, bringing over 25 years of international experience in leading and growing automotive brands. He will be responsible for global business and product strategy, as well as international expansion.

Feng Qingfeng, CEO of Lotus Group said: "We set an ambitious goal in 2018, with the launch of our Vision80 strategy to transform the business from a traditional automotive brand to become an all-electric, luxury, mobility provider in ten years. We have spent the last few years laying the foundations for success and today's announcement demonstrates that Lotus is no longer the same business that it was in previous years. We are firmly on track to becoming a global performance brand by 2028."

Lotus plans to further ramp up production and sales for the second half of the year and expects the full year to surpass all previous years.



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GGLC Election Time—2024

Editor

It is time once again to cast your vote for the new officers of the GGLC. The current slate of club officers has agreed to carry on for 2024.

The current officers are:

- Prez—Jonathan Schreiber;
- V. Prez—John Zender;
- Secretary—Scott Hogben;
- Treasurer—Laura Hamai.

Write-in candidates are also welcome.

Please email your vote to: Prez—at—gglotus.org no later than Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

The winners will be inducted into their offices with appropriate pomp and ceremony at the club's Holiday Party.

British Car Show at Blackhawk

Editor

On Sunday, October 15, 2023, the Mini Owners of America—San Francisco are presenting their 33 Annual British Car Meet at Blackhawk. Lotus cars are welcome, of course, and we hope to have a great turnout representing the GGLC.

See:

[All British Motor Show](#)
for more details and to register.

Classifieds

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

For Sale: 2019 Caterham S3 310R. \$50K or sensible offer. Located in East Bay. Assembled and SB100 registered by me. The following factory upgrades included: 6-speed gearbox, vented front discs, uprated AP 4-piston racing calipers, track day roll bar, petty strut (never used), Momo quick-release steering wheel (alcantara), Tillett seats, full weather pack (heater, hood), aero screen, Avon ZZR tires, lightweight AGM battery. Car has covered 3,300 miles (including two track days) as of April 2023. Hands down the best street-legal analog driving experience you can have. Contact Simon for more details: surfsofa at gmail dot com; (415) 580-2847.



For Sale: Nankang AR-1 tires. Two stock-size fronts for Lotus Elise (195/50R16), new (heat cycled by Phil's Tire Service). \$400 for the pair or best offer. InoKinetic Items: THE BOOTIE \$100 (\$130 list)—To protect your car's boot; SILLSACK \$15 (\$20 list)—Custom soft glovebox for your Lotus; LFTSTRAP \$59 (\$100 list)—Lightweight fabric tow strap for your Lotus Elise/Exige/211. Lotus Evora Car Cover (brand new in box). Covercraft Ultra-Tect. Sku# C17358UG Color: Gray. \$200 (new cost: \$336 plus shipping). NOTE: this

cover will not fit an Evora 400 or Evora GT. All items located in Riverside, CA. Contact tgarland—at—ucr.edu: cell (951) 202-0743.

For Sale: 2008 Lotus 211. Chassis # 212. Green & Silver livery, \$69K. Approximately 4.5K miles. Trailer also available. Contact Mike: (831) 247-3027

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

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