

The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club

www.gglotus.org

September-October 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Check the club calendar for more!

<https://www.gglotus.org/ggcalend/ggcalend.htm>

Upcoming Events

GGLC Autocross

Oct 17 - Salinas Airport

Nov 7 - Salinas Airport

GGLC Track Days

Oct 10 - Streets of Willow

Oct 16 - Sonoma Raceway

Nov 2 - Laguna Seca



Lotus BBQ, Swap Meet, Tech Shop Talk at Mike Ostrov's Shop

By Mike Ostrov & Jon Rosner

Hear Ye, Hear Ye - On Saturday, October 24, 2026 at the crack of 11:00 AM there will be a Swap Meet, Garage Sale, and BBQ at Mike Ostrov's Shop:

4119 Santa Rita Road El Sobrante, CA 94803 (just minutes off Highway 80)

Summer has passed, and we're cruising our way into delightful fall weather. The Usual Suspects are putting this event on their calendar AND one or two Marvelous People from deep in Lotus Club history have said that they'll attend.

Scott McDonald is still working on his Elite, Pete Kelleher has his up and driving, and Mike has two Elites running. There will also be a Tech Shop Talk with Keith Frank and his magic carburetor touch.

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/security we have an extra-long hose attached to the water bib.)

RSVP is mandatory: jon@roscotech.com (925.288.1750). And it's a potluck, so ask Jon what you can bring!

Message from the Prez:

by Jonathan Schreiber

On the Road Again

At the time of writing, LUG, the Lotus Gathering in Utah, will be underway, and I cannot wait to hear the stories from everyone who made the trip. The pictures and updates already coming in from members making their way there have been fantastic.

There is something special about a bunch of Lotus owners pointing their cars toward a distant destination and deciding that getting there is half the fun.

For everyone making the trip, have a fantastic time and, most importantly, get there and back safely. I am looking forward to seeing the photos, hearing about the roads, and probably hearing a few stories that somehow become more entertaining every time they are retold.

Back here at home, the GGLC calendar is still packed. Track days, autocrosses, meets, drives, and plenty of other events are on the schedule. It is pretty amazing when you stop and think about just how much this club does throughout the year. There really is something for everyone, whether your idea of a great car day involves chasing lap times, exploring a favorite back road, admiring cars in a parking lot, or simply hanging out with other people who understand why owning a Lotus is such a good idea.

And yes, the famous GGLC Holiday Party is happening again this year. We are still locking down the exact date, but expect it to be the first or second Saturday in December. Keep an eye on the calendar and watch for the official announcement. It would not be a proper end to the year without good food, good friends, and whatever questionable entertainment we manage to come up with.

As always, we want to keep doing more. If you have an idea for an event, a drive, a meetup, or something completely different, let us know. You do not need a detailed plan or a committee.



Sometimes all it takes is saying, "I know a great road. Who wants to come?"

That is how a lot of our best events get started.

So keep driving, keep sharing the stories, and keep the ideas coming. There is always another road to explore.

Lotus vs. the Dragon: Part Deux

By Mark Alloy and Rob Esser

Carving Corners, Historic Museums, and the Route 66 Journey Home (Days 11–21)

In the last issue we described our trip from the San Francisco Bay Area to meet up with our *Lotus versus the Dragon* friends.

There is a unique magic that happens when 80 Lotus cars descend on the border of Tennessee and North Carolina in the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains. Exhaust notes bouncing off the trees, camaraderie at the gas pumps, and a mutual appreciation for lightweight British engineering made Lotus versus the Dragon a wonderful event.

With the cross-country trek behind us, it was time to unleash our inner Lotus selves (and our Emiras) on some of the best driving roads in the world before heading home via a scenic, southerly route.

Lotus versus the Dragon (Days 11–13)

For three days, the Smoky Mountains became our playground. There was an awesome collection of Lotuses: about half were Emiras with the rest made up of Elises, Exiges, Evoras, Lotus 7s and even an M100. We split into organized run groups to conquer the region's iconic asphalt, a true jellybean mix of colors, customizations, and proud owners hailing from 17 U.S. states and Canada.

The Iron Butt Award: To our delight (and our lower butt's detriment), we officially won the event's "Iron Butt Award" for traveling the farthest distance to get to the start line!

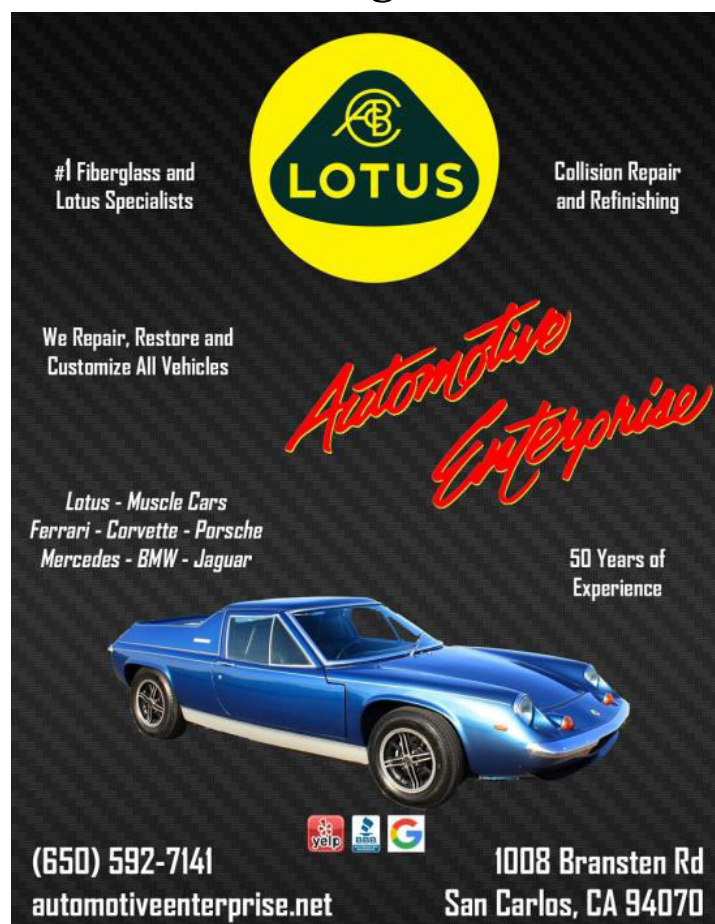
80 Cars on a Dam: On Day 2, we lined up all 80 Lotus cars directly on top of the massive, 480-foot Fontana Dam for an incredible photo op.

British Cars in British Weather: A massive afternoon downpour in Highlands, North Carolina, didn't stop us. As our



event organizer pointed out, these cars were built in sodden Norfolk, England. The wet-weather grip of the Emira was nothing short of eye-opening.

Lotus vs. the Dragon: Part Deux (cont'd)



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Emira vs. Elise: Having pushed our Emiras to the absolute limit in the fast group, we walked away incredibly impressed. While our Elises back home offer a raw, go-kart connection, the Emira is a masterpiece: perfectly balancing grand touring comfort with sharp, physics-defying agility when the roads get twisty.

Highlights:

- The Tail of the Dragon: Tight, relentless, back-to-back hairpins.
- Cheroke Valley Skyway: Wide, fast, sweeping curves with massive elevation changes.
- The wide variety of driving roads, bordered by rivers, lakes and beautiful scenery.
- The wonderful group of people and fabulous collection of Lotuses at this event.

Racing History & Southern Hospitality (Days 14–16)

Saying goodbye to the Dragon group, we pointed our cars southwest toward Alabama and Tennessee to begin our journey home.

The Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum: Located in Leeds, Alabama, this was a massive highlight. Thanks to a connection from our friend Ross, we received a private, behind-the-scenes tour from the museum's restoration manager, Lee Clark. Barber houses the world's largest private collection of Lotus race cars. Seeing everything from early-1950s Austin 7-based trials cars to glorious 1960s F1 cars was an absolute dream.

And we got to see the multimillion-dollar [sorry—confidential] car that Lee is restoring in the basement.



Lotus vs. the Dragon: Part Deux (cont'd)

An Arkansas Detour: While driving through Arkansas, we skipped the interstate to explore Ozark Wine Country (who knew there was such a thing!). While searching for lunch, the panini shop we saw advertised had closed a year prior and had been turned into a wine cellar. Fortunately, the friendly winemaker pointed us toward the Wiederkehr Wine Cellars and Restaurant a few miles away, located in an authentic, hand-dug 1880s cellar, where we had a great meal.



The Route 66 Pilgrimage & The Road Home (Days 17-21)

To get a true feel for what cross-country travel looked like before massive interstates took over, we spent the final leg of our journey chasing history across the American Southwest.

Elk City Route 66 Museum: For a \$5 entry fee, we stepped straight into the 1950s. We dressed up as "soda jerks," blasted Little Richard on the jukebox, and got to place the very first visitor pins of the season on their giant travel map.



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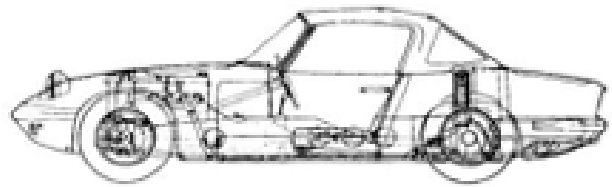
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Lotus vs. the Dragon: Part Deux (cont'd)

Cadillac Ranch & Buc-ee's: We braved the massive crowds at Texas's famous Buc-ee's (verdict: massive, but nowhere to sit and eat your brisket!) and visited the legendary Cadillac Ranch outside Amarillo. We proudly spray-painted the Lotus logo onto two buried Cadillacs...even if an eager tourist probably defaced our artwork five minutes later.

Highlights:

- Navigating the historic, artistic streets of Santa Fe and Madrid, New Mexico.
- Meandering down the iconic, dusty stretches of Route 66 in Arizona.



Home at last

As we finally pulled back into our own driveways in California, we took a look at the dusty, bug-splattered fronts of our Emiras. We amassed just shy of 7,000 miles, dozens of mountain passes, a few rainstorms, a handful of historic landmarks, and infinite smiles.

Our Emira experience was so much better than either of us expected. To set the record straight, it is possible to travel together for three weeks, eat almost every meal together, make endless small decisions, agree on whether to drive fast or slow,

deal with weather, crazy other drivers, occasional bad food, occasional lousy hotels (most were good), co-write a daily blog and get along famously, perhaps because much of the time was spent solo in our own cars! (We had walkie-talkies for when we felt sociable and radar detectors for safety). The seats and driving positions were very comfortable and infinitely adjustable. The only issues we had were a couple of random CELs that cleared up and equally random freezes of the entertainment screens. We learned so much about our Emiras through hours and hours of driving on twisty roads of every flavor, like an advanced canyon carving driving school on steroids. Our admiration and love of the cars continued to grow daily on the journey.

They say these cars are meant to be driven, and we did exactly that.



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GGLC at The Paddock Monterey

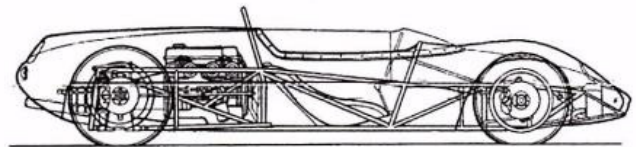
By Rob Esser with additional photos by Mel Boss

As part of the Monterey Car Week, GGLC participated in The Paddock event held on Friday 8/14. We started the day by meeting at a club member's home near Laguna Seca for an informal lunch and chinwag before driving our collection of cars in a convoy to the event at the Black Horse Golf Course. The organizers had allocated a Lotus corral on a sloping fairway and we arranged our cars to show them off in the best possible light. While we waited to be guided onto the fairway, three cars were pulled out and were sent to the front green where people would see them as they made their way into the event. There we had an Emira, an Evora, and an Elise showing off all that is brilliant with modern Lotus cars.

The event featured a wide mix of vehicles, including exotics, classic cars, JDM icons, and custom builds. There was a great crowd who enjoyed the cars, along with food and drink provided by excellent food trucks. It was a fun event for all who participated with plenty of time to view all the other cars and talk to their owners.



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GGLC 2026 Autocross Season Update

By Kiyoshi

While we take a break for LUG2026, we realize the GGLC's 2026 Autocross season has only two events remaining! It's been quite a year: six events done with two still to come.

GGLC AUTOCROSS NEWS

For years the GGLC autocross series has been led by Colm Gavin. But in 2026 Colm's availability on event weekends has been challenged by his

overseas travel schedule. Happily, the GGLC hasn't missed a beat with help from Will, Ed, Rob and myself as replacements when Colm is absent. Yes, it takes four of us to replace Colm!!

The GGLC summer autocross events have been popular. Our July autocross event at the Salinas Airport was a sell-out that attracted over 70 drivers. But the August event at Crows Landing was even more popular: 70 drivers made the entry list, with nearly 15 drivers on the waitlist.



We invite you to join the fun. Take on the challenge of trying to extract 100% from your car in a place and environment created to push the limits.

Event information can be found on the GGLC website and on MotorsportReg:
<https://gglotus.motorsportreg.com/>

2026 GGLC AUTOCROSS SEASON

What remains are two more events in the 2026 GGLC Autocross Season:

October 17, Saturday – Salinas Airport

November 7, Saturday - Salinas Airport

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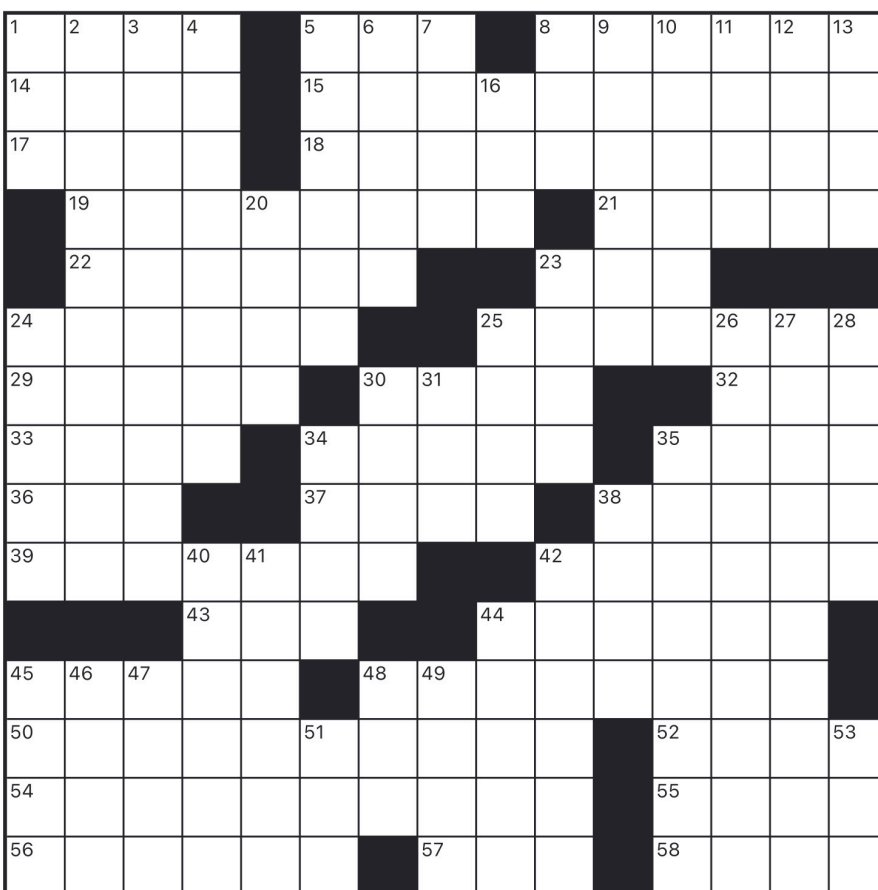
Lotus Position • Ken Neff

Across

- 1 Minor quarrel
 5 Compass heading, briefly
 8 Bogart's frequent costar
 14 Casual "no"
 15 "Lovergirl" singer
 17 ___ bene
 18 WD-40 container, maybe
 19 Document witnesses, often
 21 Lotus 2+2 introduced in 2008
 22 Lotus that became Wet Nellie
 23 Diamond stat
 24 Acquire
 25 Chronic complainers
 29 Casablanca actor Peter
 30 Those, in Spanish
 32 Sign before Virgo
 33 Castle defense
 34 Lotus named for Romano Artioli's granddaughter
 35 Where a Miura meets its fate in The Italian Job
 36 Airport board abbr.
 37 Nasty cut
 38 Lotus successor to the Elise, Exige, and Evora
 39 Lotus founder Colin
 42 Passed again on the track, perhaps
 43 Free (of)
 44 Troubles persistently
 45 Actress Sharon and family
 48 Ontario town across from Buffalo
 50 Elevator-safety pioneer
 52 Adolescent breakout
 54 Sign of a catchy tune
 55 Airport departure point
 56 Mid-engine Lotus introduced in the '60s
 57 Web-traffic strategy, briefly
 58 Otherwise

Down

- 1 Day star
 2 Superman's traditional changing room



- 3 Italian motorway
 4 "I agree with ___"
 5 Headline, as a movie
 6 "You have to ___ to believe it"
 7 "Those ___ the days"
 8 Eletre brake-assist system, briefly
 9 Single-celled organism
 10 Hobbes's pal
 11 Gas station brand
 12 Pants-on-fire sort
 13 Dunham of Girls
 16 Drag racer's power booster, briefly
 20 Two-time Indy 500 winner Luyendyk
 23 Got to one's feet
 24 Early Mesoamerican civilization
 25 Slam-dance
 26 Not quite circular
 27 Stands for
 28 "What a shame!"
 30 Lotus inspiration for the Mazda Miata
 31 Bro's sibling
 34 Old-fashioned "Yikes!"
 35 EV charging current
 38 Lack of difficulty
 40 Magician's cry
 41 Minor incident
 42 "Time to hit the road!"
 44 Pickling solution
 45 Head, in Paris
 46 Baseball family name
 47 Level
 48 Vain dandy
 49 Redding of '(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay'
 51 Psychiatric org.
 53 Shoe width unlikely to fit in a Seven?

Crossword Answers

Across

- 1 SPAT
- 5 SSW
- 8 BACALL
- 14 UH UH
- 15 TEENA MARIE
- 17 NOTA
- 18 AEROSOL CAN
- 19 NOTARIES
- 21 EVORA
- 22 ESPRIT
- 23 RBI
- 24 OBTAIN
- 25 MOANERS
- 29 LORRE
- 30 ESOS
- 32 LEO
- 33 MOAT
- 34 ELISE
- 35 ALPS
- 36 ETD
- 37 GASH
- 38 EMIRA
- 39 CHAPMAN
- 42 LAPPED
- 43 RID
- 44 BESETS
- 45 TATES
- 48 FORTERIE
- 50 ELISHA OTIS
- 52 ACNE
- 54 TOE TAPPING
- 55 GATE
- 56 EUROPA
- 57 SEO
- 58 ELSE

Down

- 1 SUN
- 2 PHONE BOOTH
- 3 AUTOSTRADA
- 4 THAT PART
- 5 STAR IN
- 6 SEE IT
- 7 WERE
- 8 BAS
- 9 AMOEBA
- 10 CALVIN
- 11 ARCO
- 12 LIAR
- 13 LENA
- 16 NOS
- 20 ARIE
- 23 ROSE
- 24 OLMEC
- 25 MOSH
- 26 ELLIPTICAL
- 27 REPRESENTS
- 28 SO SAD
- 30 ELAN
- 31 SIS
- 34 EGAD
- 35 AMPERAGE
- 38 EASE
- 40 PRESTO
- 41 MISHAP
- 42 LETS GO
- 44 BRINE
- 45 TETE
- 46 ALOU
- 47 TIER
- 48 FOP
- 49 OTIS
- 51 APA
- 53 EEE



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Classifieds

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

For Sale:

1962/63 Lotus Super 7

- Right-hand drive
- 1500 non-crossflow engine, four-speed
- Runs, drives and stops
- Pretty original condition, paint is a 20-footer
- Certificate of Provenance
- California title and plates
- Price: \$30,000

Car located in San Diego. If interested, contact Tom at tdesjardins@ucsd.edu



For Sale: S3 Drop Head Coupe in excellent condition, owned since 1972. Two custom-made German cloth tops, custom rear glass window, Toyo tires with Minilite wheels, fresh engine (<5,000 miles since rebuild), updated suspension and many other parts (alternator, starter, brakes, etc.) Lots of \$\$ invested over the past 52 years. A fair bargain, priced at \$45,000. Serious inquiries please contact me (Carlos) at: 702-524-1404 mauicarlo@gmail.com



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For Sale: After 20 years I'm saying goodbye to my beloved Esprit. This bad boy is a 1984 with a 2.2L turbocharged inline-4 and twin Dellorto DHLA 45 sidedraft carburetors. Engine rebuilt in 2017 (by Barry Spencer) after a thrown rod. 40K total miles. Runs well but needs some tune-up work (plugs, idle & carb adjustment, etc.). I'm in Redwood City if anyone wants to take a look. \$24,500 (650) 465-5356 / associationworks@comcast.net (Jeff)



Classifieds (cont'd)

For Sale:

OEM wheels from my 2000 V8 Esprit. Price \$600. They are in excellent shape. Tires are Toyo 285/35 ZR18 rear and Toyo 235/40 ZR17 front.

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