



LOTUS lines

EVERGREEN LOTUS Car Club

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Here we are again at last! It's been a long stretch since our last meeting so hopefully a lot of us will have the desire to attend the upcoming one. Saturday, the 16th of November, at 12:00 noon is the time. Terry and Lezlee Elmore's house in Snohomish is the place (the same location as this past summer's picnic, the address is listed above). If any of you have not been to their place yet, call them at 334-5768 for directions.

Summer's over and with it one of the best seasons for Lotus touring. Many of us saw it out with a triple-header -- a veritable orgy of Lotus events: the long-awaited "All British Field Meet" in Portland; a short reunion at Bellingham's Lotus dealer -- Dewey Griffin Imports; and the "Washington History of Motor Sports Festival," a fancy name for vintage and historic car races at S.I.R.

As you all should have been well aware, given Terry Elmore's efforts at publicity amongst us, Labor Day Weekend brought the 9th Annual "All British Field Meet" at Portland International Raceway, featuring Lotus as this year's honored make. It's difficult to describe the various highlights of a three-day weekend crammed full of Lotus adventures (and mis-adventures). All of us who went have our own stories -- those of you who missed it all should come to our next "regularly scheduled" meeting to hear them and see the pictures we brought back.

A few quick personal remembrances:

51 Lotuses on display Saturday + a couple more on Sunday - - - - 9 of them Sevens!
- - - - Two of Pete Lovely's vintage Lotus Formula 1's (But where were all the other vintage Lotus racers from the Northwest?) - - - - A pretty light blue early Elite which won "Favorite Lotus" - - - - A mouth-watering group of Esprits, late Elites, and a lone Sprint - - - - Elans and Europas seemingly stretched out to the horizon - - - - An unscheduled run out to the Malibu Grand Prix in Beaverton where Rob Roberts once again demonstrated superior autocross skills and put us all to shame - - - - Lotuses attending the awards banquet all parked in a carpeted display area - - - - Satch Carlson who proved to be better read than heard - - - - Our own Jim Kirbach winning First Place in the Europa category with his new black & gold JPS and Jim Orgill taking home the Third Place award in the same category - - - -

Sunday: A day for slaloming, swapmeeting, "Fun(?) Crossing," and a couple laps of P.I.R. to put all the Lotuses on display once again - - - - Terry and Lezlee Elmore playing musical chairs with their borrowed van and trailer and various troubled

Lotuses (Somehow there was always only one undriveable Lotus at a time!) - - - - The "miraculous" cure of the above-mentioned van of its breakdown on the way home - - - - And best of all, the many new friends we made in the Lotus community from Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia.

For those of you who crave further adventure of this sort, Lotus Ltd., the national Lotus club, announced in their August newsletter that a West Coast Lotus meet is being planned for March, 1986 at Morrow Bay, California. It will be co-sponsored with Lotus West, an L.A. club, and Golden Gate Lotus Club of San Francisco.

Starting with this issue, I've agreed to lend a hand with the compiling and editing of the Evergreen Lotus Newsletter. We're going to let Terry Elmore off the hook for a bit -- if he puts as much time and effort into his pile of Elites as he has in the past year into organizing the club and its newsletter, he'll have a Lotus of his own on the road before he knows it. Just think -- no more tours with a string of Lotuses suffering the indignity of swallowing the fumes of a diesel rabbit! But, seriously folks, I think we all owe Terry a hand (Clap! Clap!) and our thanks for getting the club off the ground. Now it's time for the rest of us to pitch in and do our share.

For those of you who may never have come to a meeting or event -- try just one! It's always a treat to get together and look over each other's cars and we'd love to see yours. As far as I know, there are no "concours" cars in the club (even Jim Kirbach's All British Field Meet First Place Europa is a "driver") and there are some of us one step up from being basketcases, so don't let that stop you. The "meetings" are pretty much informal B.S. sessions -- no Roberts Rules of Order, minutes, treasurer's reports, etc. This past year we've held and attended a number of events -- a garage tour of club Lotuses unable to attend under their own power, a backroads tour of Vashon Island and picnic, a Chuckanut Drive tour and picnic with the B.C. Lotus Club, the annual picnic at the Elmore's (beginning to sound like we eat as much as we drive, doesn't it), the Portland Labor Day Weekend trip, etc. etc. There will be more in the future -- come on out and join us.

There's probably a few of you sitting out in Eastern Washington, Olympia or the Olympic Peninsula who feel its too far to drive. Why not write in to the newsletter and ask for Lotus owners in your part of the state to come out of hiding and join you for a get-together in your area. Maybe some day you'll feel inclined to drive over to an event together or possibly tempt us to join you. (A meeting in Leavenworth or Winslow or Port Angeles maybe?)

Now a pep talk for those of you who have been participating all along -- Evergreen Lotus is still a young and small group. It will become what we make of it. If you like the idea of further adventures on the road -- organize a tour! We all have our favorite local twisty bits that would be fun to share with a string of Lotuses. Do you need some technical help with that Elan covered with dust and boxes in the garage? Hold a meeting at your house and probably someone will show up who has suffered with the same problem and who can lend advice or at least some encouragement. Wish the club was more into autocross activity? Talk it up at a meeting and lead a group of us to the next scheduled autocross.

What I'm trying to say is that I believe the more and wider variety of events we have, the more people we'll attract and the more fun we'll have. But it's not fair for us to always depend on someone else to organize things and then just show up.

Dave Larson

A Sad Note --

Those of you who were at Portland probably remember a sparkling white Lotus Seven that was trailered in late in the day. Although unfinished (it needed wiring and a bit of other work), it was by far the most highly modified and best constructed Seven present. It belonged to Don Duncan of Vashon Island, and he and his mechanic had been working feverishly against the clock to finish it in time for Don to run it at the S.I.R. Vintage Races. At the time Don was also undergoing chemotherapy, and I'm sad to say the clock won. Don passed away at the end of September. To those of you with Lotuses garaged and waiting for "some day a restoration," the message is clear -- don't wait 'til it's too late to enjoy the final product.

The other day I attended a swap meet and for under \$10 added three more Lotuses to my stable. I'm speaking, of course, of models. Many of us have diecast Lotuses on display at home (or maybe tucked away in a drawer). In a future issue I'd like to see if I can't come up with a list of collectable models -- diecast, plastic, kits or pre-built. If anyone out there has any information they can share in this regard, please write me or bring it to a meeting. Maybe sometime this winter we can have a mini-concours, a display of club member's cars in replica perhaps.





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