



# Lotus Lines

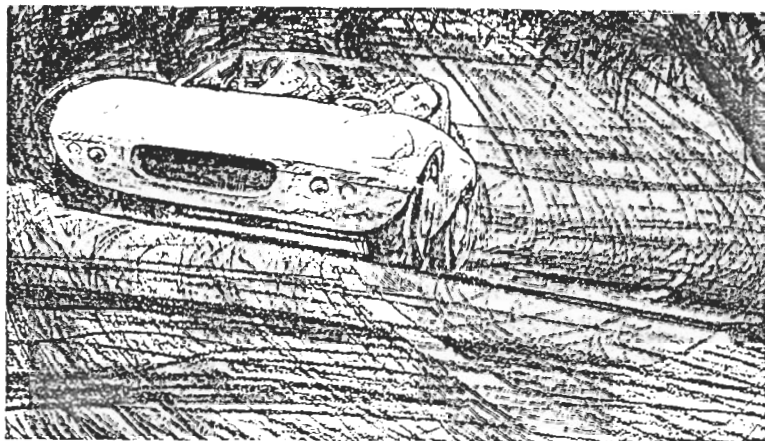
MARCH / APRIL

4th Year of the Club.....37th Year of the Make

## CHAIRMANS RAMBLINGS

-- JOHN DANIELS

ALAS! ALACK! Another couple of months have come and gone, and I find myself with only one true love (operational) in my life. As the ground hog did not see his shadow, I know that spring is just around the corner. Because of this, I took a casual stroll thru my two car garage. In this two car garage I found the following items: one 20 gallon hot water tank, one solar heat pump, one radial arm saw, two large storage cabinets, several shelves (all full), many, many odds and ends, one 1957 B.S.A. motorcycle (burned out magneto), one and one half 1951 M.G.T.D. (disassembled for restoration), one 1977 Triumph TR7 (ring and valve job in progress), and finally one 1974 Lotus Elite (jammed clutch). The last four items are the reason for my opening statement, as I have always had two loves in my life. My number one love has put up with me for exactly 30 years as of February 27, and hopefully will continue to do so for another 50 years. My number two love has almost always been English vehicles. Whenever I begin to wonder why I love these vehicles, I only need to step into my garage and admire the wonderful lines of any one of them. Then I will open the hood (bonnet to you fanatics) and longfully let the beautiful workmanship of any English engine remind me of minutes on the road. This is where the frustration comes in, for it seems that the time between problems can only be measured in minutes, not miles or years. This fact and an old MGB got the best of me in January 1980. I traded the "B"



THIS ONE DOESN'T SNARL

and many dollars for a brand new Mazda RX7. Five years and 78,000 trouble free miles later, I discovered I was bored. Actually I stumbled onto a sad little Lotus on a specialty car lot north of Seattle. After looking the Lotus over good, I went home and argued with myself for over a week. Did I want to go back to an English car? Did I want to trade total dependable, fast, good handling for an English car? In the end it suddenly dawned on me. Yes! The RX7 was a fantastic car and did everything well, but, it didn't have a soul. All English cars have a soul. I will never stray again.

Now that I have that out of the way, we can get back to Lotus business. The December meeting was a Christmas party at Noel and Bobbie's house with a Europa tech session put on by Jim Kerbach. The January meeting was hosted by Steve Bator in his shop in Kirkland. Outstanding session concerning rebuilding of car seats by one of Steve's employees. As usual,

the Bator's meeting resulted in a very large number of running Lotuses. Several new members made the meeting including Micheal Gallos and Don Francis

Well I don't have any super buys in cars this time, but I did find a good book store. Robert's Bookshop, 3508 SE HWY 101, Lincoln City, OR 97367 has a Series I Europa manual for \$25.00 (he'll dicker price). The Vintage Emporium, 6613 E. Mill Plain, Vancouver, WA 98661 has several misc. Lotus books.

In closing I offer the following bit of useless but great information. The extremely functional and very usefull Black & Decker folding workbench was designed by Ron Hickman, who did the work in designing and building the Elan, which is also an extremely functional and very fun producing vehicle. Sometimes referred as the best British roadster ever built. Hope to see you all at one or more of our upcoming events.

## CLUB OFFICERS

John Daniels, Chair, 788-2729; Nikki Daniels, Membership, 788-2729; Gary Wood, Newsletter, 652-7817; Terry Elmore, Club Liaison, 334-5768.

## OVERHAUL/RESTORATION TIPS

### -RANDALL FEHR

(Ed: Randall Fehr just recently completed a body off restoration/overhaul of his Elan S3 FHC)

The original plan was to give this 86,000 mile Elan S3 its first overhaul and get it back on the road in a month. It has been in the garage since Halloween and by Christmas the frame was out, head still in the shop, oil/water gauge in California, etc. As of mid-January, working full time on the Lotus it is almost ready to run. What follows, may make the job simpler for somebody, especially those in the Seattle area.

### SHOP WORK:

Autosport of Seattle (A.K.A. Johnny's Machine) seemed to know the "Twin-Cam", so I proposed the job to them. I needed the works on the block and head (bores, balancing, grinding, guides, etc.). The estimate was close to \$500.00 for labor. Parts would come to about \$700.00, totaled from a recent Dave Bean price list. Autosport is a Lucas/Girling and AE outlet, but they spent a lot of time searching for parts, many of which came from Bean.

### MANUALS AND ADVICE:

Several resources have been invaluable: Miles Wilkins' new Lotus Ford Twin-Cam overhaul book; The Elan Shop manual; The Elan price list and parts catalog; and the Dave Bean Elan catalog. Together, these covered everything from "What's this thing" to how to get it and where it goes. When the books fail, Jeff at Dave Bean can help. He even crawled under his Elan to tell me where to route the fuel line.

## PARTS & SUPPLIES:

In the search for alternatives to Bean, local shops have been little help. Autosport was the best with its extensive stock of Lucas/Girling parts. BAP/Geon couldn't locate some very basic items, or couldn't beat the Bean price, even with an SCCA discount. Nonetheless, Neil Bryant at BAP on Capitol Hill was helpful and enthusiastic even if his efforts didn't pan out. For hardware, Tacoma Screw Products couldn't be stupefied. Every screw, nut, bolt and lockwasher needed was on the shelf. Look for tools at Hardwicks Swap Shop: spring compressors, ring compressors, pullers, stud removers, etc., all at 20% or more discount.

### TEARDOWN:

Lay out everything logically as it comes off and keep it all that way through cleaning and reassembly. Think of an exploded drawing. The main bearing caps are numbered, but the rods may not be - keep them with their caps. The Wilkins book will warn you what else to be careful with. You'll need help getting the water pump out of the front cover. Don't bust it or your Tiwanese puller. Autosport has seen at least one of these now, and will do it in ten minutes. To get the valves out, you will need to make an extension for the spring compressor jaw. KD #385 needs a piece of pipe (PVC), 1 inch diameter by 4 inch, to go between the spring retainer and jaw. Cut a slot in the pipe (like an organ pipe) to gain access to the collet keys.

### MACHINING:

Tell them NO BEAD-BLASTING on the head. My relatively new cam bearings were "toast" probably because the last valve job included bead-blast. Ask them to "tank it" instead. They'll think you're an idiot.

## BUILD UP:

Use STA-LUBE Moly-graph or similar moly grease for assembly. Autosport recommends a rinse with brake cleaner just before assembly. Machining oils, dust and rag lint are washed away, and the stuff evaporates completely. Have on hand: HYLAMAR; RTV Silicon; Permatex #2. Recommended by Wilkins and the "Oil Leaks" section in the Bean catalog.

### MISC.:

Paint for the block is NAPA/Martin Senour Silverline 626 Grey (Ford). Cam cover paint (early standard valve with "LOTUS" on sides) is NAPA/Martin Senour 7959 Blue (Olds). Al's Auto Supply has a clutch aligner for \$2.00; it helps. Schuck's has air trunking (intake air hose) that fits perfectly, CRP brand, #P319-325. COSTCO has a two-ton engine hoist for \$230.00 if you're that serious. You could make a sling and put the whole car up on the bench with this mighty picker.

### NEXT TIME:

Running in additional costs.

(Ed: Randall reports he is on the road now and expects to have more notes for another news letter.)

\$18K 9 pp \$7995 \$994 \$9900 \$K mi. 0552 12,500 whis. 05pp \$989 GLE 2-JEEP s.p/b. \$9999 2-0900 Laura 358)pp	<p>★ LINCOLN SALE ★ Star Linc. Merc. 818/247-1903 LINCOLN-WE BUY USED CARS! RAY FLADEBOE LINC/MERC 213/925-0481 714/761-4061</p> <p><b>Lotus</b> '74 ELITE prof rstrd prev shown \$16Koboi679nao)pp/714-780-1973 '79 ESP Ltd Ed.L'd.Xint Bst ovr \$16K (stannvn)pp 818/991-3535 '89 ESPRIT 20 more HP over '88 model.Any in stock \$63,900 Silver Star Lotus 818/889-2122 ★ Lotus Sales-Service-Parts ★ 818/841-0911 213/849-1274</p> <p><b>VICTORY LOTUS</b> LOTUS OF BEVERLY HILLS SALES—SERVICE—PARTS ★ 213/659-6441 ★</p> <p>LOTUS Huge Inven. New/Used Call For Test Drive Home/Office Kensington Mtrs. 213/437-0602</p> <p><b>Maserati</b> '84 Btrbo MINT! Wrnty. 19,000mi \$9650. (Joz328)pp 714-730-5425 '84 Btrbo</p>	CI Sa 8 MA SEI So '88 Bo / Bo ★ To Me Us Pu Ma Fi CF 91
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 18, 19 1989 Ocean Beaches, LOTUS, Swim Pools, LOTUS, Hot Tubs, LOTUS, Food, LOTUS, Fun, LOTUS, Bowling (??)  
Please see Nikki Daniels article in this newsletter.
- April 22 1989 Regular meeting at Peter Miles shop. -- 1:00 PM -- See map this issue.
- May Daffodil Festival and Autocross
- June Bob and Sheri Crichton, Tulip Tour
- July 16 1989 Picnic, Beach Party, Swim, Meeting, etc., Hosted by Gary and Sandra Wood
- August 13 1989 Vashon Run, Hosted by Dave and Alice Larson
- September ALL-BRITISH meet in Portland, Oregon

SECOND ANNUAL LOTUS DASH TO OCEAN SHORES

-- NIKKI DANIELS

Well, that time of year is upon us again. The SECOND ANNUAL LOTUS DASH TO OCEAN SHORES is scheduled for March 18. I have tentatively reserved six sets of connecting rooms at the Sands Motel (on the beach). One room in each set has a queen sized bed, kitchen and bath, and the other room has two queen beds and bath. There are four sets on the second floor with an ocean view and two sets on the first floor with a partial view (not much!). The prices for the rooms are (including tax):

Ground floor: kitchen unit \$44.32  
 bedroom unit \$44.32  
 Second floor: kitchen unit \$47.09  
 bedroom unit \$47.09

Each set of rooms sleeps six, and can be split up any way you like. If you have someone you would

like to share with, please send your names and payment together. I will try to put everyone where they want to be, but it will have to be on a first come basis. THE DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8.

Those of you who went last year will attest to the fun that was had by all, including Richard, Margo and Ian, whose car broke down in Aberdeen! We will again meet at the Denny's in Fife around 10:00 AM Saturday. It is a short walk to the beach, pool, sauna & hot tubs. Last year we had a crab feed which was great, so hope to do it again! Sunday morning they will have a buffet brunch at the Ocean Shores Center. We all went last year, ate too much, and had a great time.

Note: John didn't want me to mention it, but there is a bowling alley in town. Maybe we could start an annual challenge. What do you think?

SEND PAYMENT TO NIKKI DANIELS BY WEDNESDAY MARCH 8  
 1132 312 NE, CARNATION, WA 98014 PHONE: 206-788-2729

CLIP AND MAIL

SECOND ANNUAL LOTUS DASH TO OCEAN SHORES

YES! SIGN ME UP! \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE: KITCHEN ROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
 BEDROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
 WHATEVER \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL BE SHARING WITH \_\_\_\_\_  
 I AM WILLING TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 I AM NOT WILLING TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE \_\_\_\_\_

I WANT TO PAY MY 1989 DUES NOW (\$15.00) \_\_\_\_\_

UNPAID MEMBERS WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE MAILING LIST

JAGUAR

ROVER

LOTUS



SHADOWFLIGHT  
Motor and Coach Works

206-328-5812 1506 A. 11TH AVE SEATTLE, WA 98122

BILL REHBERG

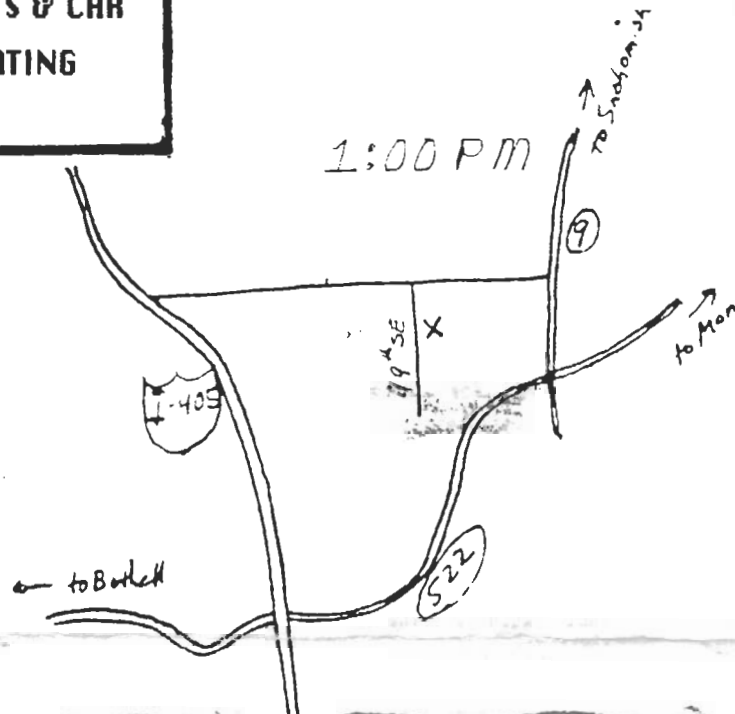
BODY & PAINT

COMPLETE  
RESTORATIONS

PARTS & CAR  
LOCATING

storage for autos available

APRIL 22 MEETING  
PETER MILES (HOST)  
23029 49TH AVE. S.  
BOTHELL 485-6811  
(So. Snohomish Co.)



EVERGREEN LOTUS CAR CLUB  
John Daniels, Chairman  
11232 312th NE  
Carnation, WA 98014 USA

FIRST CLASS MAIL



DAVE & ALICE LARSON  
ROUTE 4, Box 423  
VASHON, WA. 98070

1989 CLUB DUES \$15/YEAR DUE NOW

Send payment to Nikki Daniels, Membership Chair, 11232 312th NE, Carnation WA 98014.