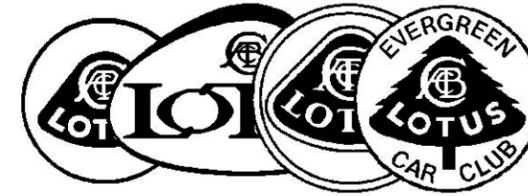




Evergreen Lotus Car Club
P.O. Box 40481
Bellevue, WA 98015-4481



Lotus Lines

Newsletter for the Evergreen Lotus Car Club
 June 2006

Management Shakeup At Lotus

It's spring, so it must be time to change management at Lotus.

At the top, Kim Ogaard-Nielsen, who became CEO of Group Lotus eighteen months ago, has stepped down to "pursue his other entrepreneurial interests". He has been replaced with someone who has had the job before. Mike Kimberley is back. Kimberley served as CEO from 1983 to 1991, Managing Director of Lotus Cars from 1976 to 1983 and rose up through the ranks at Lotus after joining in 1969. In August of last year, he joined the Boards of Group Lotus and Lotus Group International. He is also chairman of the Executive Committee of Lotus Group International.

After Kimberley left Lotus, he ran Lamborghini for a couple of years. Bob Braner was in charge of the US subsidiary of Lamborghini during this period. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that Bob Braner is now replacing John English as President and CEO of Lotus Cars USA. Duke Hale, who appointed English, left Lotus earlier this year.

Proton took the opportunity of the announcement to reassert their view of the importance of Lotus. "PROTON strongly believes that LOTUS has a critical role to play in the Proton Group to enable it to become a successful automotive engineering and manufacturing group and a prominent brand globally. Hence, PROTON will continue to provide strong support to LOTUS and its group of companies. In view of the above, PROTON has set up a special team to provide close and specialist support to Mike and the management at Group Lotus Plc, to address the key opportunities for LOTUS for the future."

Kimberley noted "All specialist sports car companies operate in volatile and highly competitive markets. However, sales of the Elise are moving ahead in the USA and are being further enhanced by the new introduction of the Exige model. I can assure our customers, business partners and all who watch this iconic marque with interest, that LOTUS is a highly valued and integral part of the PROTON Group."

Braner noted "This is a very exciting and dynamic time for Lotus Cars worldwide. Both the Elise and Exige have already made a huge impact in the USA with their sensational driving and ownership experience. I look forward to leading the team here as we work to expand the brand's position, appeal and reach. We are also looking to further enhance the value of the Lotus retail dealer franchise, as we move towards the launch of our new super-sportscar."



ELCC Drive Without A Clever Name

When: Saturday, Jun 3rd, 9:30am-Noon
 Where: Drive starts at parking lot next to the McDonalds at Exit 7 near Renton
 Host: Andy Keck, 206-390-3870, andykeck@mac.com

See page 5 for details.

Lotus Corral at the Vintage Races

When: Saturday, Jul 1st-2nd, arrive by 9:30am
 Where: Pacific Raceways, 31001 144th Ave SE, Kent
 Contact: For tickets and corral passes, Andy Keck, 206-390-3870, andykeck@mac.com

See page 5 for details.

Lotus Summer BBQ

When: Thursday, Jul 6th, 6:00pm Happy Hour, 7:00pm dinner
 Where: John Schneeman's home, 3543 SW 171st Street, Burien
 Host: John Schneeman, 206-444-6370

See page 5 for details.

Editor's Note

I can't believe that it is already June. Where is the time going? The nice thing is that it is only six months until newsletters are every other month instead of monthly!

Just a reminder - this is a club newsletter, not a place for just Andy and me to sound off. This newsletter is much more interesting for everyone when we get submissions from different people.

If you want to submit something, but need help writing it, let me know.

The turnout for the tour to the Museum of Flight Restoration Center was excellent. Bus Stop Espresso was almost surrounded by Lotuses at the start of the tour. We picked up a couple of cars at the planned Shell station stop and a few more cars went straight to the Restoration Center. Read more about it in next month's newsletter. I'll run a few photos this month to whet your appetite.

It is interesting that Kimberley is back in charge of Lotus. Kimberley kept the company afloat after Chapman died, which is a good thing, but he was also in charge when a number of dumb decisions were made at Lotus. Did anyone really think that having Rolls-Royce do warranty work on Lotuses would turn out well? Or making tons of Esprits for the US with almost no service organization before the Rolls Royce deal (killing Lotus' reputation in the process)?

Who knows? Maybe it will come out better this time.

Lotus Lines is the official newsletter of the Evergreen Lotus Car Club. Opinions expressed in *Lotus Lines* are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the ELCC or its officers. Use all technical information at your own risk. Please submit all articles, art work, advertising, and photographs to the Editor. All other official business should be directed to the Chairman. Other Lotus clubs are welcome to use the material printed in *Lotus Lines*, provided that the ELCC, *Lotus Lines* and the author are duly credited. The ELCC is not affiliated with and does not represent Lotus Cars Ltd., Group Lotus, Team Lotus, or any Lotus related organization.

Membership in the ELCC is \$20/year, with the membership year starting in January, and is prorated in three month increments. Membership includes a club roster and a subscription to *Lotus Lines*.

Contact the Editor for business ads rates in *Lotus Lines*.

Contact ELCC at:

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P.O. Box 40481
Bellevue, WA 98015-4481
<http://www.elcc.org>

The ELCC officers are elected bi-annually and currently those officers are:

Chairman:	Andy Keck andykeck@mac.com	(206)390-3870
Membership:	Jim Taylor jimtaylor@seanet.com	(206)232-2237
Treasurer:	Dave Billings elcc@bilcoh.com	(206)241-2167
Editor:	Alan Perry alanp@snowmoose.com	(206)855-9464

Printed by K&H Printers

Great Cars: Lotus

This is a little different from my usual reviews; I am reviewing a DVD this month.

A few weeks ago I was channel surfing very early in the morning and, on KBTC (channel 28), I saw a show called *Great Cars*. It turns out that *Great Cars* is a series and the episode was airing was about the Volkswagen Beetle. At the end of the show was a URL and phone number for ordering this and other episodes in the series. I went to the web site and, to my surprise, there was an episode on Lotus.

The episode is 25 minutes long. As you might imagine, it is hard to fit the entire history of Lotus into 25 minutes (well, more like 23 when you subtract the opening and closing credits). The surprising thing is that halfway through the show, it only gets as far as the early 60s. Actually, the producers of *Great Cars* seem to have taken a hint from Lotus. The *Lotus Story* videos cover 1948-1959 in the first volume, 1959-1962 in the second volume, 1963-1968 in the third volume and 1968 onward in the last volume.

Overall, I liked the show. It uses an interview with Colin Chapman from the mid-60s to allow Chapman himself to

explain some of the things that were going on with Lotus. (In the interview, Chapman extolls the virtues of the Elan by claiming that at 100 mph it gets 30 mpg fuel economy.) The show also features a lot of archival footage of the early cars in action and modern footage from an open day at the factory in Hethel and a Lotus Ltd. LOG event.

The show has a small factual errors, such as stating that GM bought Lotus in 1984 (a few years earlier than when it actually happened) and stating that the funds that Lotus raised by going public were used to fund the F1 team. There are some surprising omissions as well. There is no mention of Chapman's pioneering use of non-automotive sponsors to fund the F1 team, the Lotus 49/Cosworth DFV engine or even Proton buying Lotus. Also, events are presented in a way that obscures the timeline.

Still, given the rarity of shows like this about Lotus (which makes no sense given Lotus' influence on motorsports), I am just thankful that this show was made, let alone not completely botched.

If you want to order a copy for yourself, the URL is www.greatcarstv.com and the Lotus show is episode #405.



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Classified Advertisements

Classified advertising for ELCC members is free. Pricing for non-members is available on request. To submit ads and for business ad rates, contact the Editor. Also, please remember to inform the Editor when you want the ad to be removed.

Car Wanted: 1960s vintage (1964-1970) Lotus Elan S1-S4 convertible. John J. Garvey, jgarvey2@cox.net.

For Sale: 1991 Elan (M100). This car has been an amazingly reliable daily driver from the time I bought it until my Elise replaced it. It has less than 39,000 miles and is in very good shape. The car is in Bellevue and can be seen at: <http://www.galos.net/mike/CarsForSale>.

Parts Wanted: Original side curtains and top for mid/late-60s S2 Seven (black with white piping preferred). Also looking for original tunnel carpet (red with white piping) and owners manual for same car. Don, 425-357-1476, don.christopher@att.net.

For Sale: 1974 Lotus Elite, white w/tan & black interior. Has won second & third place at ABFM in past. Car is mostly original and close to "correct". Would need cosmetic restora-

tion to be show competitive, but runs and looks good for a street car. \$3000 "as is", not currently licensed. Call Don Francis @ 206-723-4731 for details.

For Sale: 1977 Esprit S1, 44,XXX miles. Engine rebuilt, balanced and assembled by Autosport Seattle. Rebuilt Delorto 45 DHLA carbs. Painted original Lotus Yellow by Showcase Auto Body in Kirkland (1999). Ceramic coated headers, new OEM muffler, custom aluminum radiator, Turbo water pump, triple HO SPAL fans, new stock size tires, original Wolfrace wheels, rebuilt brakes including MC, all new cables, too much more to list. Photo documentation of most of the restoration and all receipts. Awarded "First in Class" at LOG 25. Started life in WA and now resides in MN. Dave Lindemann, dindemann@aol.com, (651)762-8561.

For Sale: 1964 LOTUS 23 REPLICIA, meticulously built, Rob Walker colors, 1700cc crossflow w/ sprint cam, street-licensed, spirited performance, pix avail. \$28,000 OBO. John Schneeman, jmschneeman@msn.com, (206) 854-6706 (WA).



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Event Calendar

ELCC events are listed in **BOLD**

- June
- 3 ELCC Drive Without A Clever Name**
- 11 BSCC Autocross #4, Bremerton
- 15 NWARC Lapping Day, Bremerton
- 17-18 SCCA Regional Autocross #4, Packwood
- 19 Sacramento Area Miata Owner's Association (SAMOA) Track Day, Thunderhill Raceway
- 30 SOVREN Pacific Northwest Historics (Day 1), Pacific Raceways
- July
- 1-2 SOVREN Pacific Northwest Historics (Day 2-3), Pacific Raceways**
- 2 BSCC Autocross #5, Bremerton
- 4 BSCC Autocross Practice, Bremerton
- 6 Lotus Summer BBQ, Burien**
- 8-9 IRDC Driving School and Track Day, Auburn
- 9 SCCA Regional Autocross #5, Packwood
- 22 Western Washington All-British Field Meet, Bellevue Community College**
- 23 SCCA Regional Autocross #6, Bremerton
- 26 IRDC Track/Education Day, Bremerton
- 28 NWARC Lapping Day, Pacific Raceways
- August
- 11 BSCC Track Day, Bremerton
- 13 BSCC Autocross #6, Bremerton
- 17 NWARC Lapping Day, Pacific Raceways

Car Clubs

- BMWCCA: BMW Car Club - Puget Sound Region
425-481-9571 <http://www.bmwpugetsound.com>
- CMCS: Corvette Marque Club of Seattle
425-486-2309 <http://www.corvettemarqueclub.com>
- NWARC: Northwest Alfa Romeo Club
360-766-4405 <http://www.nwalfaclub.com>
- WWSCC: Western Washington Sports Car Council
206-255-0658 <http://www.wwscc.org>

Racing Clubs

- BSCC: Bremerton Sports Car Club
360-697-1761 <http://www.bscc.net>
- CSCC: Cascade Sports Car Club, Portland, OR
503-543-8161 <http://www.cascadescc.com>
- IRDC: International Race Drivers Club, Seattle, WA
206-781-8199 <http://www.irdc-racing.com>
- ICSCC: International Conference of Sports Car Clubs
425-226-1338 <http://www.icsc.com>
- SCCA: Sports Car Club of America, NW Region
206-292-0500 <http://www.nwr-scca.org>
- SCCBC: Sports Car Club of British Columbia
604-824-7277 <http://www.sccbc.net>
- SOVREN: Society of Vintage Racing Enthusiasts
206-232-4644 <http://www.sovren.org>
- TC: Team Continental, Portland, OR
503-645-9058 <http://www.teamcontinental.com>

From The Chair

You might recall that when I last filled this space, I was desperately begging for club members to send in their requests Car Corral passes for this month's upcoming Pacific Northwest Historics. I was mildly concerned (freaked out?) that I hadn't gotten any bites up until that point, but I am glad to report now that it looks like we'll have very healthy attendance, especially on Saturday. I'm really looking forward to it. There's a possibility that I'll have a couple of extra passes should anybody have a change in plans as the date approaches. Just give me a call if you're interested.

I'd like to thank Sean Lane for putting together May's event, the tour of the Museum of Flight's restoration facility. I'm sure you'll read more about it elsewhere in this newsletter, but it was a great time with nice turnout and plenty of Lotuses parked on the lawn. What made it extra exciting is that Sean's contact at the facility seemed to drop off the face of the earth not too long before the details of the event had to be set in stone, or at least printed in newsletter. Nice job.

With all the airplanes and airplane pieces packed into their hangars, I was in heaven. There was way too much stuff to look at and I probably took two hundred photos. And that's the source of my only disappointment in how the day went. I came home, transferred all the pictures to my computer and came to the sad realization that it was probably not the best idea to buy a brand-new camera and literally unbox it as I was loading my car to head out to our meet-up point. Some

Member News Compiled from members

Members seem generally very pleased with the 2006 Membership Roster, particularly the printing and the cover (good work, K&H Printing).

Some folks have found that they are not listed in the "Lotus Owned By Member" or "The Neighborhood" sections at the back of the roster. If this is the case for you, please inform the Newsletter Editor or the Membership officer. It is obviously too late for this year's roster, but there is always next year!

ALAN PERRY completed his stint as Media Relations

test photos and a little time with the manual would have been helpful. So what I got was a lot of photos that I'd be embarrassed to show my dog. Sorry Alan. I hope your photos came out better than mine. [Editor's note: I thought the photos that he sent came out fine. You can see them for yourself on the next page.]

On a happier note, I've got a date for our August event, a group drive up the Windy Ridge route to Mt. St. Helens. Mark Saturday, August 19th on your calendars. I know August is traditionally a difficult month to round up a good crowd of people because of vacations and other obligations, but that's why I thought that it would be a good month for this trip. Given that this drive will be more miles and more hours than our typical outing, I imagine that interest will be somewhat less than usual, so why not put it in the month where attendance would be low anyway? Also, I was planning to do this drive one way or the other, so I'll invite you all along and we'll make a picnic of it. And we'll drive the only road that's so twisty that it made me carsick as a driver.

A small bit of business: I'm looking for a volunteer to help organize one of this fall's events. Give me a shout if you have a little free time this month or next and want to help out.

Hope to see you at the next event!

Officer for the Olympus International Rally without going (any more) insane.

JOHN SCHNEEMAN is reportedly looking in to getting another Lotus. His Elise is very nice and would seem hard to top (or miss seeing). Any guesses what he might want now?

Don't you want to know about more members than the ones that the Newsletter Editor talks to? Submit your Member News item today!

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Museum of Flight Restoration Center Tour Photos by Andy Keck



Miscellaneous Lotus News

Lotus has announced that their new supercar, the car to fill the vacancy left by the Esprit, will be built at Hethel with production starting in 2008. The "efficiency and flexibility" of Hethel was cited as the reason.

Lotus Sport Cadena will be running a third Lotus Sport Exige GT3 in the British GT Championship. The new car will be raced by Paul Whight and Chris Randall. The other cars will be driven by Barrie Whight and Gavan Kershaw and George Mackintosh and Sam Blogg. While the new car is being built, P. Whight and Randall will drive the Exige GT3 prototype.

Lotus Sport Cadena have not gotten off to a good start. The first race was held on May 21 at Donington Park. Whight/Kershaw DNF'ed after 4 laps. Whight/Randall were

classified 4th of 4 GT3 cars, 6 laps down from the class winning Aston Martin. Mackintosh/Blogg were classified 3rd, 4 laps down.

The Lotus Esprit used in the James Bond film *For Your Eyes Only* is up for auction on eBay. It is not being sold in the normal auction format. Instead, it is being sold in a more conventional auction on 17 June as part of a collection of James Bond items. The estimated price is between \$250k-\$350k. The eBay item number is 6629607970, if you want to check it out.

The Canadian magazine *Western Driver* has an article about the return of Lotus to Canada. The online version of the article can be found at <http://www.westerndriver.com/default.aspx?ID=168>.

What Significant Lotus Is This? The Answer

Last month, we showed photos of a significant Lotus and asked what it was. The photos were close-ups of the suspension, engine, interior and a mirror. We got one (yes, one) response. Randall Fehr got it wrong at first. However, with a simple hint, he figured it out.

The Lotus pictured was the Esprit Type 105 (X180R) that won its debut race in the SCCA World Challenge in 1990 at Sears Point. The photos were taken during the re-prep after the Sears Point race. The Esprits would go to win four races, six pole positions and six fastest laps.

ELCC Drive Without A Clever Name

When: Saturday, Jun 3rd, 9:30am-Noon
Where: Drive starts at parking lot next to the McDonalds at Exit 7 near Renton
Host: Andy Keck, 206-390-3870, andykeck@mac.com

Erase whatever you already have on your calendar. ELCC will be going on a club drive starting and ending from the Renton area. We'll meet in the parking lot next to the McDonalds at I-405 exit 7 (NE 44th St.) north of Renton. We'll drink coffee and go over the route maps with an eye towards leaving by 9:30. We'll drive for two to three hours and finish at a place where the hungry among us can have lunch together. The current choice is the Cedar River Smokehouse, but if there's substantial outcry for another choice then I'll make the adjustment. In between we'll have fun in the twisties and maybe get some pictures for the calendar.

Word on the street is that I'll have room for a navigator. Email or call Andy Keck (andykeck@mac.com) for more details.

Directions:

- From I-405 North or South near Renton, take Exit 7 (NE 44th St).
- Look for the parking lot next to McDonalds and park there.

Lotus Corral at the Vintage Races

When: Saturday (Sunday), Jul 1st (Jul 2nd), arrive by around 9:30am
Where: Pacific Raceways, 31001 144th Ave SE, Kent
Contact: For tickets and corral passes, Andy Keck, 206-390-3870, andykeck@mac.com

Join us at the Pacific Northwest Historics. Watch some vintage races. Check out some neat cars in the paddock and corral.

Car corral entry includes a dash plaque, goody bag, program, eligibility for trophies for cars in various age categories, and possible raffle prizes. Participation on Saturday and Sunday will include the opportunity to take a few parade laps during the lunch break. Most of us are there on Saturday, but some prefer Sunday.

A pass gets a car plus the driver into the Car Corral. The pass is \$40 for the entire weekend (Friday through Sunday) or \$25 for an individual day. The cost per ticket for each extra passenger is the same, with a \$5 per day ticket available for children between 7 and 16.

Directions:

- From Hwy 18 between Covington and Auburn, take the SE 304th/SE 312th exit.
- Turn Left at the end of the exit ramp.
- Turn Right at the track entrance.
- Stay in the Left lane until you get to the line for the corral, just before the paddock.

Lotus Summer BBQ

When: Thursday, Jul 6th, 6:00pm Happy Hour, 7:00pm dinner
Where: John Schneeman's home, 3543 SW 171st Street, Burien
Host: John Schneeman, 206-444-6370

Instead of First Thursday at Smarty Pants, John will be hosting a BBQ at his house. John hosted a BBQ there a couple of years ago and it went over well. Be sure to bring a Lotus or two.

Directions:

- From I-5 North or South near Southcenter, exit at Hwy 518 west (exit 154) towards SeaTac Airport.
- Turn Left onto Hwy 509 south.
- Take the S. 160th St. exit.
- Turn Left onto Sylvester Road SW. Sylvester Rd becomes SW 172nd. SW 172nd becomes Maplewild Ave SW.
- Turn Right onto SW 171st Street.
- 3543 is on the Right.