



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



LOTUS LINES

Newsletter for the Evergreen Lotus Car Club - February 2008

RAMBLINGS FROM THE CHAIR:

I am really getting excited about the upcoming 2008 season, and having some fun with other Lotus club members doing "gearhead" things. We have a great team of officers and other loyal volunteers, all working to make the club more enjoyable for you. We have got a lot of different things planned. Take a look at our website. Even a club "store" is being planned, where you can order club logo apparel of all types and styles. Hopefully, something for everyone.

As your new chairman, I want to label our club activities this year into three types: Meetings, club functions, and club events. Our monthly 1st Thursday meetings will probably be at several locations, maybe rotating with the seasons (indoor, outside options, etc.). Hopefully, this will offer everyone a turn to meet at a more convenient location for them. Maybe a perfect location for a permanent spot will surface. Suggestions welcomed! A club function, with an organizer instead of a host, will be something of automotive interest open to the general public, but might be fun to do as a club group activity (carpooling/shared gas and/or parking expense, etc.). Sometimes an admission charge will be involved, but having fun sometimes costs money! Our usual club events and drives, with a host, will be those special occasions just for the club members and their guests. These are the ones that take extra time, effort, planning, and sometimes expense for the club to make the opportunity and experience happen for our members.

Another thing that I want to encourage is an "ELCC Car of the Month" article. This would provide a member

a venue to share with the rest of the club something about themselves, their Lotus (or related vehicle), car history, problems and solutions, interesting stories, 3 or 4 digital photos and whatever else you choose to submit. Not too long, maybe enough to fill one page of the newsletter max. If you are interested in being considered, please send your article to me at chair@elcc.org. I will make a selection and have it put in the newsletter as space permits. You could be a part of club history and be preserved in the archives, as well as have something to be proud of and impress your friends and neighbors!

With all of the stresses of present day life and society, the club events and functions can and should be used and enjoyed as "mental breaks". A couple of hours a month to "escape" can be very beneficial to your mindset. I know it has helped me personally a great deal over the past few years. The friends that I have made in our club "core group" have also made a difference in my life. I look forward to expanding that group from about 15 to at least 50 or more in the coming years. We have over 100 members, come join in the car fun and camaraderie, make yourself known! Life is and can be too short.

Andy Keck, Alan Perry, Robert Vets, Don Christopher, Mark Clear, Sean Lane, and Mark Parker are spending many hours to make sure that the club "engine" is well oiled and running smoothly on all cylinders. My job, as chairman, is to "supercharge" it on occasion. I hesitate to say "turbocharge" it, as I don't want to have to deal with the heat. But it is OK if I might be

continued on next page

Send in your picture, with the answer to be published...

WHAT IS IT?



Events

1 March

Seattle Roadster Show
 meet 10am @ Smartypants
 6017 Airport Way, Seattle
 see details inside

6 March

ELCC First Thursday Meet
 Smartypants @7pm
 6017 Airport Way, Seattle

9 March

WWSCC Slush#3
 Bremerton, WA
 TBA

29 March

Greg Whitten Tour 11am
 TBA

3 April

ELCC First Thursday Meet
 TBA

12 April

Land Speed Record
 Challenge Car Visit
 Spanaway, WA
 TBA

Message from the Chair:

continued from previous page

criticized "and take the heat" for straying from the traditional, at times. I will, at least, be giving it my best shot until someone else volunteers.

To introduce myself, I am a car and racing enthusiast to the point some have labeled me a "fanatic" or worse, but in a good way. My interests encompass any and all forms of racing, all series, all marques of cars, land speed record vehicles past and present, scale modeling, diecast car collecting, vintage memorabilia, books and artwork. I have always had the deepest respect and admiration for those designers, engineers, and drivers that have both succeeded and failed, because they at least tried. The risk takers, the gamblers, the racers, the ones that made something happen. Without them, we on the safe sidelines of obscurity, wouldn't have anything to talk or write about. Let's make it a memorable year for Evergreen Lotus Car Club!

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, 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:

Evergreen Lotus Car Club
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: Mark Sterner (206)870-0359
chair@elcc.org

Membership: Alan Perry (206)855-9464
alanp@snowmoose.com

Treasurer: Andy Keck (206)390-3870
andykeck@mac.com

Editor: Robert Vets (206)669-8444
editor@elcc.org

Advertising: Sean Lane (206)686-7326
classifieds@elcc.org

Printed By K&H Printers

Layout by Jessica Vets Design

EVENT DETAILS

continued from previous page

and body and paint perfection. Some you will love, and others you will hate, but it usually stirs up the creativity in all of us.

Legendary car designer and builder Chip Foose calls the Seattle Roadster Show his "favorite indoor car show". Even SOVREN mentions the show on its website, and will be manning a booth. Guest celebrities, live music, a model car display, plenty of booth displays and lots of food and drink vendors will make this a fun club function.

As a group, we can save a few bucks on parking. Meet near SmartyPants at 10AM on Saturday, March 1st. Let's meet across the street from SmartyPants (6017 Airport Way S.) in the parking lot. We could then carpool to the Quest Field Event Center and save/share on \$10 per vehicle parking expense. Maybe drive the family car to this event, if possible, with the most passenger room!

ELCC Tour of Greg Whitten's car collection

When: Saturday, March 29th at 11:00am

Organizer: Andy Keck, andykeck@mac.com

Where: TBD

Please join us as we tour Greg Whitten's garage. Some of you already know Greg and may be familiar with his cars as he has been a long-time member of the ELCC and has hosted us before. Others have seen the cars that he's brought to the All British Field Meet, like his GT40, his Aston Martin DBR 2 or the amazing 1935 ERA (Romulus) from last year's meet. It's hard to say exactly what we'll see, but I hear that there may be other new-to-the-collection cars like a Lightweight E-Type and the first Lola customer car from 1959. Final details like the exact start time and directions are still being worked out, so watch this space, look for the Evite, or email andykeck@mac.com for final information.

Classified Advertisements

Classified advertisements are free for ELCC members, and pricing for non-members is available on request. For adding or removing advertisements, please send them via email to classifieds@elcc.org or by calling (206) 686-7326 by the 10th of each month.

1970 Titan Mk6 Formula Ford.

Available in the spring. I am almost done restoring it, but have no desire to race it. Offering for sale now to allow buyer to select paint color, etc. while it can be easily changed. Ground up restoration. Low hours on engine. Lots of documentation. Spares package. \$17,000 obo. Alan Perry, alanp@snowmoose.com.

For Sale:

4 assorted tires (13") for early Lotus. \$25 each. Chuck Conti (206) 310-7884.

4 Cosmic wheels 6 x 5.5 x 13 with spacers lug nuts, and custom Lotus center caps. Good condition. \$300. Chuck Conti (206) 310-7884.

Looking for a Lotus car or parts?

The below ads have been spotted in various sources. Note: The below ads have no known affiliation with, nor are endorsed by, the ELCC. This info is being provided to assist members in their search for cars and parts.

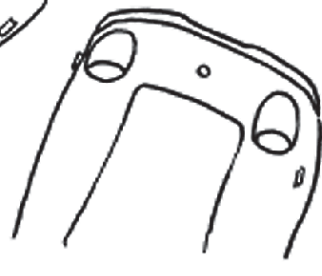
2005 Elise, yellow, 4K miles -- \$35K. Not many other details but price seems right, Bellevue dealer ad. Andy (425) 772-7270

Lotus 907 engine -- \$1000. Engine is still in car -- a '73 Jensen Healey. Illness forces sale. xjetman@aol.com or (253) 843-1774

2006 Lotus Sport Elise, #30 of 50 -- \$43K. Wayne (503) 724-9333



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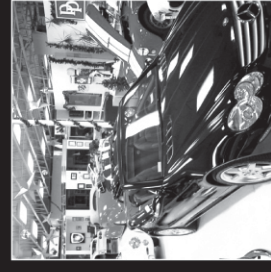
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425-481-9571
- CMCS: Corvette Marque Club of Seattle <http://www.corvettemarqueclub.com>
425-486-2309
- NWARC: Northwest Alfa Romeo Club <http://www.nwalfaclub.com>
360-766-4405
- WWSCC: Western Washington Sports Car Council <http://www.wWSCC.org>
206-255-0658
- Racing Clubs**
- BSCC: Bremerton Sports Car Club <http://www.bscC.net>
360-697-1761
- CSCC: Cascade Sports Car Club, Portland, OR <http://www.cascadesportscarclub.org>
503-543-8161
- IRDC: International Race Drivers Club, Seattle, WA <http://www.irde-racing.com>
206-781-8199
- ICSCC: International Conference of Sports Car Clubs <http://www.icscC.com>
425-226-1338
- SCCA: Sports Car Club of America, NW Region <http://www.nwr-scca.org>
206-292-0500
- SCCBC: Sports Car Club of British Columbia <http://www.sccbc.net>
604-824-7277
- SOVREN: Society of Vintage Racing Enthusiasts <http://www.sovren.org>
206-232-4644
- TC: Team Continental, Portland, OR <http://www.teamcontinental.com>
503-645-9058

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

Welcome to our first edition of the next series of the Evergreen Lotus Car Club's newsletter. You can see we've made a few changes to the look of the newsletter. The club event calendar is on the first page with the specific event details inside. The calendar, the classifieds, and advertising are being managed by Sean Lane. In the classifieds, he'll be adding some items found on web that might be of interest. As usual, we continue to report *Lotus in the News* as we find it.

On the back cover we'll try out a *What is it?* picture. Each month, I'll post a photograph without a caption for you to figure out what it is; the answer will be given the following month. This month's seems fairly straight forward, at first. It would be most fun if club members would send in photographs accompanied with a short article for the following month's newsletter.

I've been eyeing those pretty hard for the last year and am interested to know if anyone has replaced the factory dampers. Anybody set-up to pull OBD II data? Certainly, many of these topics are discussed on the web, but being able to meet up with a fellow club member at monthly gathering over a beer, dig into the matter, and see the results is what having a regional club is all about.

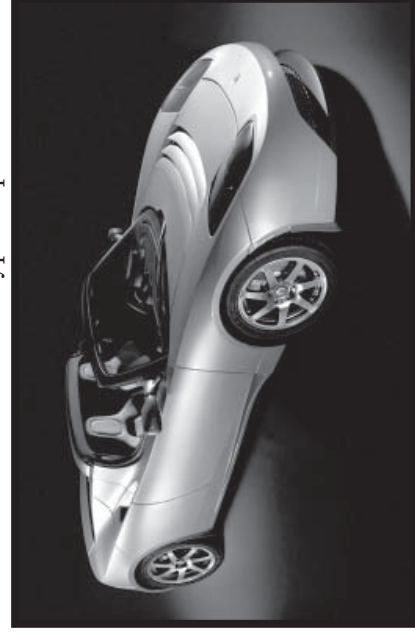
We've been trying to figure out how to promote a *Members Car* feature article each month. Many of our members' cars are unique and special with a great story to go along with them. Again, we'll help put the article together, just send us the details.

So starts our two-year adventure on the Newsletter, hope you enjoy it and look forward to hearing from you.

--the editor

Lotus in the News

February has turned out to be a pretty good month for the gang in Hethel in terms of press coverage. The Tesla Roadster had some type of press release along the rainy coast of Northern California and given that the vehicle is a Lotus customer product, these test drive articles have led to discussions of the Elise and other Lotus offerings. Through the Elise heritage is well established, the frame itself seems to be that of the Europa, though I haven't confirmed that. The Europa has a longer wheel base and lower sills than the Elise; both features that have been described for the Tesla.



Automobile has the most detailed description of the Tesla Roadster I've seen yet. *Autoweek*, in addition to their test of the Tesla Roadster, took a set of Loti offerings around Spring Mountain, including the new Exige S-240 and the way cool, if I only had the cash, 2-Eleven. The Exige S-240 is the super charged variant with larger brakes, bigger injectors, and a remapped engine. The additional ponies have got to be a thrill and now there really is no reason to keep that rear view mirror with the intercooler in the way. Some of the pundits claim the larger brakes were imperceptible compared to the standard pots. ParkPlace showed an Exige S-240 on their website last I checked it out. The S-111 is an Elise that has lost another 500 pounds and "all pretense of creature comforts", which includes half of the windshield and roof. This ultimate track car will run you \$80k. Finally, for those of us who didn't make it there, *Road&Track's* March issue has a nice article on the Lotus Owners Gathering 27 (LOG27) in Snowmass, Colorado last year.

EVENT DETAILS

Event: Seattle Roadster Show

(<http://www.hotrodshows.com/srs.html>)

When: Saturday, March 1st, 10am

Organizer: Mark Sterner

Where: Meet near Smartypants,

6017 Airport Way S, Seattle.

Admission: \$16, \$12 for seniors over 62,

\$2 off coupons at Baxter Auto Parts

This is one of the major car events of Seattle, with hundreds of hot rods, custom cars, muscle cars, motorcycles, and racecars. Vehicles displayed are literally "works of art", and are usually the finest examples of design, mechanical engineering, interior craftsmanship,



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MY VIRTUAL EUROPA

by Randall Fehr
Photo by Mark Price

The new edition of the Microsoft XBOX 360 console game Project Gotham Racing has the usual exotic cars plus classics from as far back as the 1950s. It includes the Lotus Exige, Cortina and Europa. In the promotional materials on line the animations look very accurate... I was contacted in late 2006 by an agent of Microsoft Game Studio who was specifically seeking a first-series 1966 Europa to photograph for the game. I told him I didn't know of a complete running first-series (Series 1, 300 produced) Europa anywhere near the Puget Sound, but that I did know of a complete running Series 1A (next 300 produced, 1967) parked in my garage.

A date was set and Jeff McCrory arrived to photograph the Europa under an overcast November sky. He took about 200 digital photos of the front, rear and passenger side. When rain started he moved the car inside and shot the interior. He explained that the photos are sent off to a studio in Edinburgh where they are used to create a three-

dimensional computer model. Body measurements from the manual are used for scale. Instrument pointers and shift lever are animated. The driver's side is cloned from the passenger side. The next day in an email exchange



CONSTRUCTORS 1963 1965" badge just before the fiberglass flies. I asked Jeff if the game used authentic audio of the engines. He replied yes, and that he believed a Europa was already in the can for sound.

The next month at the ELCC holiday party Andy Keck mentioned that an acquaintance at Microsoft was looking for a Europa to record engine sounds for Project Gotham Racing.

Mark Price of Microsoft Game Studio explained the procedure: the car would be run on a rolling-road chassis dynamometer with mikes on the tailpipe and around the engine bay. It would take a few hours but I would get a printout of torque and horsepower for my trouble.

The day before our session was the worst windstorm in ten years. When the power came back on we rescheduled and at the end of December on a cold clear morning

the Europa rolled onto the four-wheel chassis dyno at FAME in Redmond.

FAME technician Tim Hadfield tied the car to floor anchors front and rear and aimed a cooling fan at the radiator. Sound technician Keith



Sjoquist set microphones around the engine and tailpipe. Tim made a few test runs monitoring fuel/air ratio to be sure

the engine and carburetor were in good order for revving to redline. Keith set his levels and tried alternate mike positions. With the clear

to go, Tim got in the car and did the power and torque

to realism with the car sounds, were they as careful about the collision audio? Mark assured me they had spent a few days at a test facility recording crashes. But I had to know, when kids crash my Europa on Christmas morning will they hear metal crumple? No, they had smashed plastic Freightliner cabs to cover that.

I won't be surprised if I can hear my gear lever sizzle when I play the game. If I ever play - they've promised me a copy but no console.



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