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PO Box 15390,
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LOTUS *re*MARQUE

Produced by: Coterie Press Ltd. 303 933 2526
5 White Birch, Littleton, Colorado 80127, USA

Direct questions or submissions to: coterieltd@aol.com



CONTRIBUTORS:

WILLIAM TAYLOR - editor-in-chief
DAVID NAGLER, REED FIGLEY - assistant editors
VIOLET CRUZ - designer
FOSTER COOPERSTEIN - magazine watch
TONY VACCARO - leading the lotus life
RICH SHEA - log40
ROSS ROBBINS - loco lockdown drive
WILLIAM TAYLOR - Exige History

LOTUS, LTD. BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

TONY VACCARO: president
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MIKE PEARCE: treasurer
(205) 612-8211
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WES SPERA: director at-large
(720) 343-0862
ROSE PERRY: director at-large
(978) 771-8588
ED REAGAN: director at-large
(860) 824-4824
DOMINICK MUNOFO: senior adviser
(581) 486-7951
DAVID NAGLER: insurance & track event instruction adviser
(845) 469-6001

FOR TECHNICAL ADVICE, CONTACT YOUR TECH REP:

DAN CURCIO - federal elise S2 - (262) 554-4921
JIM SCHERER - europa S1 - (908) 479-6074
BOB MURRAY - europa S2 - (804) 227-3363
LLOYD CAYES - europa TC - (919) 556-7793
MIKE OSTROV - elite (early) - (510) 232-7764
ATWELL HAINES - esprit - (862) 812-4925
GARY DAVID - cortina, scale models - (330) 467-1074
MIKE PEITSCH - twin cam shim exchange - (920) 733-2118

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For questions regarding your membership
or club matters please send an email to:
info@lotusltd.com

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Lotus, Ltd. e-mail: info@lotusltd.com • Website: www.lotusltd.com



Rich Shea



Foster Cooperstein



Tony Vaccaro



William Taylor

PRESIDENT

First let me say I hope all the Lotus, Ltd. members are staying safe and well during this unprecedented time in our lives. One of the great things about our hobby is that we can still tend to our Lotus cars while being stuck in our homes. Washing, waxing and cleaning cars is something we all can do while practicing safe distancing and quarantining.

I am sure most of you are aware that we have postponed Lotus Owners Gathering 40 until September 10-13, 2021. The Lotus, Ltd. board of directors and the LOG 40 organizing committee decided to take this action after numerous discussions during the months prior. The emails and phone calls received from our members and participating vendors made it very apparent to us that postponement was the right decision.

We cancelled our Performance Driver Education Day at Watkins Glen scheduled for June 17 as the Glen decided to cancel all driving events that had in-car instructors, like our event. This has been a strange year, but it is nice to know that the Glen has penciled us in for next year already for a similar date. We're also exploring the possibility of a two-day school. If you would be interested in a two-day school, please send me an email so I can gauge interest in this expanded option.

For the past few years, Lotus, Ltd. and the Mercedes-Benz Club of America have been working together to bring you our Performance Driver Education Days, each club allowing our members to attend each other's events. I am happy to announce that the MBCA is hosting a Performance Driver Education Day on September 26 and 27, 2020 at Summit Point Racetrack in West Virginia and all Lotus Ltd members are invited to participate. They have full weekend or single day registration available and camping is allowed at the event. As I write this message, on June 28, registration is currently open and available on www.motor-sportreg.com. Schedules, event packets, and tech forms are posted on the registration page. Please contact me if you need any help in finding or registering for the event.

I would like to thank all of you that submitted photos for the upcoming Lotus, Ltd. calendar. We expect the calendar to be available in September and I am sure you are as excited as I am to get one. Details on how to order our new calendar will be forthcoming in *ReMarque* and on our website, www.lotusltd.com. It will make a great Christmas present for any Lotus girl or guy.

The weeks and months of 2020 are slipping by quickly. It seems to be quicker than any other year! To that end, the Lotus, Ltd. board has been discussing holding virtual tech seminars in September for our members. All of us are going to miss going to LOG this year and it would great to get together for a tech seminar. If you would like to host a tech seminar for the members, please contact me. We would love to see what you are good at and to dispense that knowledge to the other members of the club. All seminars would be held on a ZOOM call. Please let me know if you interested in either attending or presenting.

Until next month, please stay safe and keep well. Don't forget to give that Lotus a "pat" on the fender just for being there!

Tony Vaccaro
President, Lotus, Ltd.

Cover Image: Litchfield Lotus Group gathering at Lime Rock. Image © Jay Frankel

LOTUS *re*MARQUE



“Friday the 13th” on Sunday the 28thand so do Litchfield Lotus

by Walter Irvine

Images © Jay Frankel, David Nagler



Isolation-touring during COVID is a thing. So we found as 16 Lotus lovers responsibly gathered at Lime Rock Park for the inaugural Litchfield Lotus Group meet and of course to drive. The cars and their servants were diverse: Super 7, Europa, Esprit, Evora and Elise were all represented along with their drivers and +1's.

After socializing at a distance we grouped for the obligatory pictures on the start/finish line, then overlooking the two autocross courses, and finally in “the pines” a shaded area overlooking the track’s big bend and left hand turns.

We were then off on an hour-and-a-half tour that included a covered bridge in Cornwall, a shoreline section along Lake Waramaug finishing up at the wonderfully ‘New English’ - Falls Village Inn. Tree lined roads, zero contributions from law enforcement, the requisite in-route breakdown/victorious return to service and most importantly the camaraderie that can only exist sans internet contributed to a successful first outing.



The group is made up from the tri state (CT, MA, NY) area and plans to use Lime Rock Park as it’s meet up point from which we (iso) tour through Litchfield, Dutchess and Sheffield counties combined with compelling point of interest stops.

And Friday the 13th? Our route took us past numerous filming locations from the movie “Friday the 13th Part 2.” Suspense, horror, adrenaline and a gaggle of Lotus cars; coincidence?

We look forward to our next gathering in Dutchess County, NY (date tbd) and welcome any and all who fly the Lotus flag with pride. Upward and onward, in a Lotus.



Leading the Lotus Life!

by Tony Vaccaro

Images © Tony Vaccaro, Richard Parramint

For the past 34-years, one weekend always had a special meaning for me. It was LOG weekend and it has always been a large part of me living the Lotus Life. On Thursday night, I would pack up my Lotus for the trip to the Lotus Owners Gathering.

Packing for LOG was always different depending on what car I was driving to LOG. In my early Elan days, the boot would be packed full, with tools and parts taking up about a quarter of the space. I always brought a spare set of points, condenser, fan belt, distributor cap, rotor, throttle cable and about 25-foot of 16-gauge wire. The reason for the wire is that once I was trying to figure out how to wire something on an Elan and I called Ray at RD Enterprises for some help. After discussing it with him for a while, he told me that I was going to have to come to the realization that I am just going to have study the Elan wiring diagram till I know it by rote and by gosh he was right. I do know the Elan wiring diagram completely and the 25-feet of wire would allow me to fix or bypass just about anything on the car. In my middle Caterham years I would load up the boot of the Caterham with tools and the same parts that I would take in the Elan, but I would add a water pump, spare distributor and antifreeze. I would pack all my clothes on the luggage rack that hung off the back of the car. In my later Elise years, all I would pack are clothes. No tools and no parts, not even a screwdriver.

All the trips to LOGs have been an adventure. On Friday morning, I wake up and already feel my pulse starting to race, the smile slowly growing on my face. I used to wonder what the adventure was in these LOG trips and I decided it was the adventure of not knowing if I was going to make it to LOG! While I never did NOT make it to LOG, there were some very close calls and late arrivals! As is LOG itself, the trips

to LOG are all about the friends you travel with and their Lotus cars. There is a special bond created when you travel to LOG with your Lotus buddies!

My first trip to LOG 6 in Vermont I drove without any other Lotus cars as I had just heard about Lotus, Ltd. and LOG. My friend Bill and I planned it at the last minute and did not pre-register. I did not have any close Lotus friends yet and I did not know it at the time, but I was about to meet the future of my Lotus Life at LOG 6. The trip was not as exciting as LOG, as the trip east from Buffalo consisted of replacing three quarts of 90 weight rear end lubricant I deposited all over the cars following me on the New York State Thruway. There was a casting pinhole in the aluminum part of my differential, and we filled that thing up three times on the way to LOG. We did not get to LOG until very late Friday.

One of the most memorable trips to LOG was our trip to LOG 9 in State College, PA. I was driving my 1971 Spyder Elan and we were being led by Will Burnham and Bill Baldwin. We had a group of about eight Lotus cars and I am still friends with most of the drivers to this very day. This was the trip where we found our favorite roads, Route 144 and 44 through the Black Forest in west central Pennsylvania. Route 144 and 44