

LOTUS



48/4

reMARQUE



September-October 2020, Volume 48, No.4, \$7.50

The Official Publication of Lotus, Ltd.

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
DENVER, CO
PERMIT #353

Address Services Requested

LOTUS reMARQUE,
PO Box 15390,
Bradenton,
FL 34280, U.S.A.



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 - utah lotus
WILLIAM TAYLOR - jochen rindt

LOTUS, LTD. BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

TONY VACCARO: president
(716) 861-1412
BRIAN VACCARO: vice-president
(716) 861-4001
MIKE PEARCE: treasurer
(205) 612-8211
CORA GREGORIE: corresponding secretary
(941) 900-1481
JIM ROBERTS: recording secretary
(205) 322-0650
DOUG MILLER: director at-large
(716) 472-1103
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

To access the "Members Area" section of the Lotus, Ltd. website (www.lotusltd.com) please request a password reset from info@lotusltd.com. All passwords are case sensitive, that use upper and lower case letters as supplied to you by our webmaster. Once you have your new password, you can change it after you log in. In fact, it is best to change it from the one we provide. Direct all e-mail about the website to Brian.Vaccaro@lotusltd.com.

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

LOTUS *re*MARQUE is published bi-monthly by Lotus, Ltd.

P.O. Box 15390, Bradenton, FL 34280, USA, an independent car club not affiliated with Group Lotus, Lotus Cars USA, Classic Team Lotus, or any of their subsidiaries or affiliates. Lotus, Ltd. annual membership dues, which include a subscription to LOTUS *re*MARQUE, are \$50 (new members) and \$45 (renewals) in the U.S., \$55 (new members) and \$50 (renewals) elsewhere. All dues are payable in U.S. dollars by domestic check or international money order. Your current membership expires on the last day of the month that appears above your name and address on the back cover of this issue. One separate renewal notice will be sent to you during your expiration month. Current members may renew using PayPal by logging in to the Members Area of the club's Web site. Lapsed members who wish to rejoin must send payment to P.O. Box 15390.

Lotus, Ltd. accepts no responsibility or liability for the validity of information and articles supplied by contributors, vendors, advertisers or advertising agencies. Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writers and contributors, and do not necessarily represent the views of Lotus, Ltd., or its officers and directors. Use any technical advice at your own risk. Copyright © 2020 Lotus, Ltd. All rights reserved.

September-October 2020: Volume 48, No. 4

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



Rich Shea



Foster Cooperstein



Tony Vaccaro



William Taylor

PRESIDENT

It is very clear that the auto hobby has taken the same hits as our sports, movie, stage, and any number of pastimes during this "never before" time of our lives. I sincerely hope that you, all our members, are staying safe and well.

It is good to see that some of our affiliate groups are getting out with a limited number of events, staying socially distant, and practicing safe distancing in regard to protecting each other from the COVID-19 virus.

Your Lotus, Ltd. board has been hard at work on our new Lotus, Ltd. calendar. It will make a great holiday gift this year. Please see elsewhere in this issue of *ReMarque* on where to purchase it. I would like to thank all the Lotus, Ltd. members that sent in the photos of their cars to be included in the calendar. I would especially like to thank William Taylor, our *ReMarque* editor, for all of his efforts in working on the calendar. Besides making an excellent Christmas gift (to yourself or another Lotus fanatic), you'll be helping out the club in a year where our Lotus Owners Gathering wasn't possible.

As most of you know, Lotus, Ltd. holds a board meeting once a month, usually on the third or forth Wednesday of the month. The past few months we have moved to ZOOM to hold our meetings. I would like to invite any of our local club affiliate officers, or really any other members, to join us on the ZOOM call for the first half hour of the meeting to tell us what your local group is doing, or if just want to meet us and tell us what you would like to suggest for the club. We are limiting this to 4 club members per month. If you are interested in joining, please send me an email. The time for the "open" part of the meeting is 7:30-8:00 Eastern Time on our monthly meeting date.

LOG 40 is now set for September 2021 and we are all really looking forward to seeing Salt Lake City and all of our Lotus friends again. During this time of the year, The Lotus, Ltd. board is usually hard at work preparing for the upcoming LOG, so it is strange to not have that work and that responsibility in 2020.

It is time again for Lotus, Ltd. elections. Please see elsewhere in this issue of *ReMarque* for more information regarding the positions and submission deadlines. Please consider running for a position on the Lotus, Ltd. board.

Living the Lotus Life has been difficult around here in LOONY land. I can't ever remember a time when I have driven my Lotus cars so little. I doubt I have 500 miles total this year. This will get better and the times will change. I am sure of that.

Keep the Lotus faith!

Tony Vaccaro
President, Lotus, Ltd.



The 2021 Lotus, Ltd. Calendar

IS AVAILABLE TO ORDER TODAY !!!

The 2021 Lotus, Ltd. Calendar has been printed and is available to order today for immediate delivery!

Every year Lotus owners come together to celebrate their favorite marque and friendships at the Lotus Owners Gathering. This bond of friendship is what brings us together each year, and many of us count down the days until we get to see each other again. Early in 2020 the Lotus, Ltd. board decided there was no better way to mark off the days until our next LOG than an official Lotus, Ltd. calendar. Well things changed and, despite the fact that LOG 40 has been postponed until September 2021, the decision was made to go ahead.

The first ever Lotus, Ltd. calendar has now been produced and following the unexpected COVID delay the calendar will now cover the 15-months from November 2020 through to January 2022.

The cover and each of the 15 months feature 17 stunning images of club members cars that were sent in earlier this year. The final page of the calendar has images of all the cars that came close but unfortunately didn't make the main pages. Each month opens up to a full 12x18-inches and shows the car image as well as the month.

This is a calendar to be used, and although there are no upcoming 'events' listed by date (we're sure you can understand why) except LOG 40 of course, which we know will go ahead, each day has ample space to write in what is happening in your world. Public Holidays and Important dates that aren't subject to change have been listed, as well as number of significant Lotus Anniversaries that we thought you might like to know about.

You can order now for delivery in plenty of time to start using the calendar on November 1st, or to hide away for a Christmas present for all your friends and family who will simply love it.

You can order from the Lotus, Ltd. website at lotusltd.com or from the Coterie Press website at www.coteriepress.com.
Please be aware that 100% of the sales value of each calendar sold through Coterie Press will go to Lotus, Ltd.

need a Holiday Gift what c
buy yourself one as
get one for you



best Birthday Pres
good for all Lotus

SIZE: 12x9 inches (12x18in open)

PAGES: 32

IMAGES: 27

**PRICE \$15.00 + shipping of \$3.50 on 1-2 copies.
Shipping on orders of 3 or more will be charged at \$2.00**

TO ORDER YOUR CALENDAR TODAY

***SIMPLY VISIT the Lotus Ltd Website at www.lotusltd.com
go to www.coteriepress.com (latest products)
or call Coterie in Denver on 1-303-933-2526***



RIP Jochen

CTL Remembers it is 50-years since the death of the 1970 World Drivers' Champion



Leading the Lotus Life!

by Tony Vaccaro

Images © Tony Vaccaro, Coterie Press

At times, owning a Lotus can lead to unusual events. With the community as small as it is within the United States, word can get around quickly when a non-enthusiast needs the help of a dyed-in-the-wool fanatic. Being well-known in Buffalo, New York led to one such story happening at the end of 2019.

In October of 2019 I received an email from a lawyer looking to clear out the remaining assets of an estate for her client. This client had a 1969 Elan fixed-head-coupé, right hand drive with a big valve twin cam engine. As with many Lotus cars in these circumstances, the engine was no longer within the physical constraints of the body. The lawyer was looking for someone locally to provide a value on the car and to potentially purchase it from the estate. Given the state of the Elan, the car was very much a project car. From the few pictures we were shown, its condition was too good to be just a parts car. The chassis and motor appeared to be decent, despite not being married together at this time. The car also came with the original factory warranty paperwork from when the owner had purchased it new. After nearly two months of emailing back-and-forth, we secured and retrieved the Elan, which was located in a sleepy upstate New York town.

We picked up the Elan on a rainy Saturday morning and swiftly transported it back to our storage garage. This being December with cold weather setting in, we didn't even open the hood. We only pushed it into place and threw a car cover over it. The Elan had a glassed-in rear spoiler and an air dam on the lower half of the front clamshell. We assumed that we'd be back in a few days to properly go through the Elan and put together a game plan to work on it. Little did I know I'd be in the hospital for the next month. And, little did we all know that the COVID-19 Pandemic would follow.

Due to my personal health issues, and the health issues our nation faced, I didn't see the Elan for another six months. The original plan was to rebuild the car with my son, Brian, over the coming years. We haven't had a true project car to work on together and this proved to be the perfect opportunity to do so. Plus, Brian has a soft spot for right-hand drive British sports cars, having recently purchased an Austin Mini (right-hand drive, as well). As with most well-laid plans, this was put into question as COVID-19 dragged on. I made the hard decision to respond to a gentleman in the UK looking to buy a project Elan. Hoping for a sale to try to recoup

what I spent from the estate sale, I sent the Elan's documents to the potential buyer.

Trying to sell project Lotus cars can sometimes be tough. We were lucky, though, in that we found a really interested party in England who wanted to restore the car and drive it on real 'Lotus roads'. We were excited that would be going home after coming to the States over 50 years prior. After we sent the VIN and initial paperwork over to the prospective buyer, he began to research the provenance of the car. What we assumed to be a simple sale turned into a month-long hunt to find out the true origins of this Elan.

As I have mentioned it is a FHC with a right-hand drive setup. The engine is a big valve version with Dellorto carburetors. Despite the paperwork describing an S3 Elan, it was visibly closer to an S4 with the distinctive squared-off rear fenders. The interior and dash, as well, were more reminiscent of an S4. The Elan is yellow with the distinctive aero features on the exterior of the car. This wasn't a surprise to us, as we knew the last owner was an autocross enthusiast. What was surprising, however, was that the VIN in our documentation turned up identifying it as a notable car owned by a previous Lotus F1 racing driver and World Champion. What was even more surprising is that this VIN is well-known, well-documented, and owned by another person in the UK.

With my current recovery from the hospital coming along nicely, I managed to visit the storage garage with my son to lay my eyes on the car for the first time since February. We confirmed that our car's VIN matched that of the warranty

