



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



# LOTUS LINES

Newsletter for the Evergreen Lotus Car Club - January 2009

## RAMBLINGS FROM THE CHAIR:

We have a lot of fun things to do in 2009. Please keep checking the event section of our club website, as things change as we try to plan the year's event schedule. Our website is now totally controlled by



Don Christopher. Mark Clear at Microsoft helped us for many years, and a great big "thank you" to him for his efforts. However, we reached a point of expansion, and our site now has a lot more capacity, including multiple video capability. The slight cost to the club will be well worth the change. Don is doing a great job keeping up with my constant changes and maintaining everything. Look for some really cool additions to the site in the near future.

seems fitting.

We also have some shop tours spread out through the year. Some new and some old ones that we haven't seen for a few years. I have gotten positive responses from shops that are involved with SOVREN, and they appreciate our

contribution to the Checkered Flag Club. Speaking of the SOVREN Historics, this year will be a celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Chevrolet and Vintage IMSA cars will be featured. Vic Edelbrock will be the guest celebrity and our friend Tom Armstrong is sure to be there with his stable of vehicles.

We have overnight trips planned for the

## EVENTS

**February 5**  
 ELCC Monthly Get-Together  
 Mercer Island, WA

**February 21**  
 J & L Fabricating Shop Tour  
*See Details inside*

**February 28**  
 Seattle Roadster Show  
 Seattle, WA

**March 5**  
 ELCC Monthly Get-Together  
 Mercer Island, WA

**March 7**  
 NWAIfaClub Driving School  
 Bremerton Motorsports

**March 29**  
 NWAIfaClub Lapping Day  
 Bremerton Motorsports

**April 2**  
 ELCC Monthly Get-Together,  
 Mercer Island, WA

I am still looking for that perfect place for our **1st Thursday monthly meetings**. So, next place to try is the historic old Roanoke Inn on Mercer Island. It seems to be in a central location, good prices, food, and spirits with plenty of parking. We'll give it a try February 5th, weather permitting. See you there!

We plan to go karting again at K1 Speed in Redmond. Like most, I would prefer Sykart, but they are still too busy on a Saturday morning. Besides, the electric "green" karts provided us with a lot of fun last year, and are a little more environmentally friendly. With the Lotus connection to the Tesla Roadster, it only



**WHAT IS IT, AND HOW DID IT RELATE TO THE ELCC HOLIDAY PARTY?**

**The Phil Smart Mercedes-Benz 21st Annual PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORICS VINTAGE RACES**  
**JULY 3-5, 2009**

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of CHEVROLET  
 With Guest Celebrity, Vic Edelbrock  
 Featuring Historic IMSA Pacific Raceways  
 Kent, Washington

presented by Edelbrock  
 sanctioned by SOVREN RACING  
 sponsored by MULVANNY G2 ARCHITECTURE  
 Seattle Children's  
 us  
 CCS  
 JACOBSON CONSTRUCTION  
 For race information, call (206) 987-2777 or visit our web site at www.northwesthistorics.com \$25 single day / \$40 3-day  
 Poster contributed & printed by The Windward Communications Group Poster art & production by Doug Kirk

*continued inside*

## What was it?

It is the view across the West Track, at Spring Mountain Motorsports in Pahrump, NV. Last year I took the plunge and attended the two-day Lotus Performance Driving School at Spring Mountain. The word Pahrump is an anglo-adaptation of the local native name pah-rimpi which means, essentially, spring mountain. The exact translation is almost certainly different, but it is a reference to the mountain in the background that has an underground spring, which supported the native community and those that have followed to today - at least that's what the flyer at the motel said. Spring Mountain is a private pseudo-country club track where members can turn hot laps, run a kart, or store a formula car in one of the posh garages. Their track set-up includes two smaller circuits at 1.5 miles and 2.2 miles that can be combined for an 18turn 3.1 mile track. Their primary commercial business is a Corvette Driving school on the east track, the Lotus Performance Driving School runs on the smaller 1.5 mile west track.

*continued next page*



## ELCC TRIVA

### Who has hosted the most Annual Holiday Parties?

Last Months Trivia Question: What ELCC crisis occurred in late-1987, as documented in the newsletters editions from that time? Growing pains. The Nov 1987 newsletter was a one-page hand-typed edition lamenting the lack of member participation and late dues payments. However, just two months later, the newsletter is a multiple-page, computer-generated edition describing great club participation, and the number of club officers had tripled to three.

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](mailto:chair@elcc.org)

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

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

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

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

Printed By K&H Printers

Layout by Jessica Vets Design - [jvets15@mac.com](mailto:jvets15@mac.com)

## 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](mailto:classifieds@elcc.org) or by calling (206) 686-7326 by the 10th of each month.

1985 Lotus Turbo Esprit. 45K miles. Used as a regular driver, Lotus maintained, BRG/Gold, BBS wheels, CD, A/C, \$14,800. Robert Ewens (509)447-3344 (home) or (509)280-2478 (cell).

Lotus 18/21 Formula 1 Grand Prix Car UDT LAYSTALL Team Car, 1961 - SOLD!

**Brooklands British Car**  
[www.brooklandsbritish.com](http://www.brooklandsbritish.com)

**Austin • MG • Triumph • Lotus  
Sunbeam • Morris**

**Parts - Service - Restoration**

8235 So. Tacoma Way  
Tacoma, WA 98499 USA  
1-253-584-2033

# JAE

Jay and Jeff



805.967.5767  
 805.967.6183

**Independent Lotus  
& English Ford  
Parts and Service**

## 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.cascadesportscarclub.org>

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.icscc.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>

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.

Lotus Esprit V8, Gear box parts, (Different al, Transmission, Pinions) (Bellevue)  
Open Gearbox from a 1999 Lotus Esprit V8 with 20K miles. Parts in great condition, individual parts quoted upon request. Call Alan at 425-453 1111. Bellevue Auto House

Lotus 340R\*\*\*#6/8 in US!\*\*\*\* MOTIVATED SELLER!!!! - \$64900 (Portland, OR)  
1,495 miles. 360-910-2272 or [erick@grantdevelopment.com](mailto:erick@grantdevelopment.com)

2006 Lotus Elise Factory Supercharged. BRG/ Black, 4,437 miles. \$39,950. This car that Lotus sent to the EPA to do all of their smog certification and fuel economy testing that had to be done before the model could go on sale to the public in the U.S. Sold as new, full factory warranty till January of 2011. For sale by Park Place in Bellevue. (425) 562-1000

## WHAT IS UNDER THE TESLA ANYWAY?

At the ELCC Officer's meeting, after a discussion of funds and calendar planning, we got around to talking cars. Spawned from a discussion regarding the Lotus role in the Chrysler Electric, shown at the Detroit Auto Show, we inevitably discussed the Tesla Roadster. I posted that despite the magazine articles, it didn't seem that the Tesla was built upon an Elise chassis, but rather the Europa. Here's my argument. The key chassis dimensions for the Tesla are: wheelbase 2352mm, front track 1466mm, and rear track 1492. For the Elise/ Europa - 2300mm, 1457mm, and 1507mm. And for the Europa 2330mm, 1457mm, and 1490mm. Certainly the suspension geometry would need to be adjusted for the heavier Roadster, however, the Tesla also has the lower door sills of the Europa which radically changes the moment of inertia of the frame rail and the forces transferred to the rest of the chassis. Also consider that the Europa was released, fairly quietly, a bit before we really started to see the Tesla. The Tesla has its own unique frame and chassis that like the Europa are based upon modifications to the basic design of the Elise/Exige's - bit longer here, bit shorter there - but it is not an Elise chassis. I still hold it is more of an adapted Europa than an Elise/Exige. (Ed.)

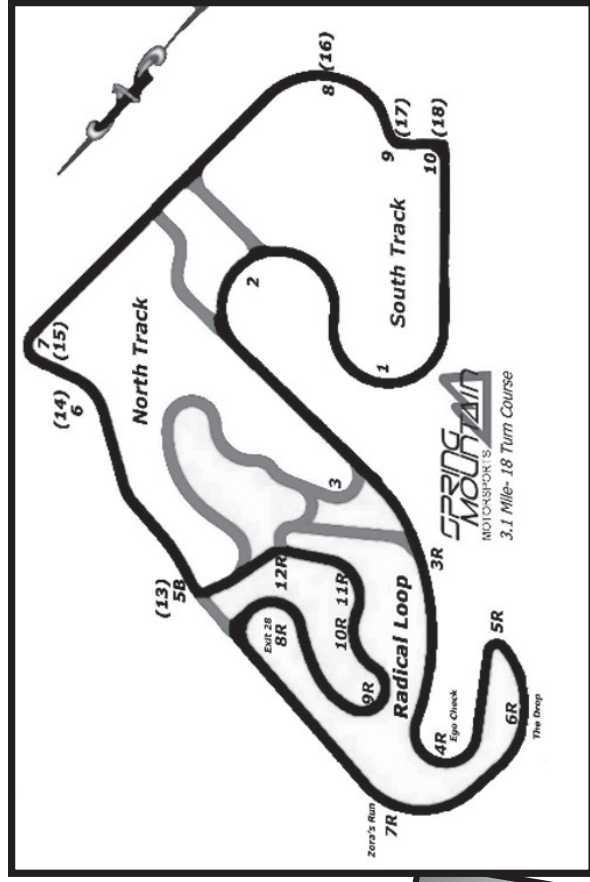
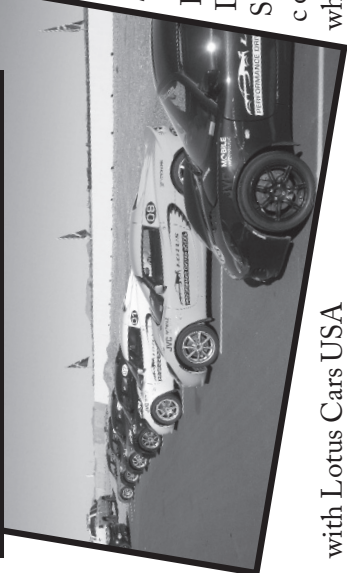
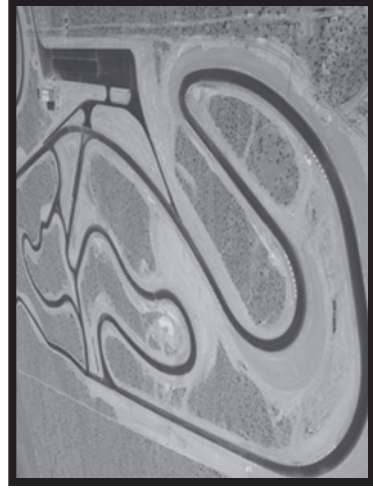
**When Added Lightness Meets Added Power**  
Introduce yourself to the new Family of Supercharged Lotus

425 562 1000  
13710 NE 20th St, Bellevue, Washington  
www.ParkPlaceLtd.com

Lotus Bellevue at  
**PARK PLACE LTD**

## WHAT WAS IT?

continued from previous page



The Lotus Performance Driving School is connected who provides over another heel-toe session then track stints the rest of the day. It was a bit spendy, this year it'd be hard to liberate the coin, but I drove half a dozen different Elises and Exiges and got tons of track time. A more in-depth article is in the works, stay tuned.

with Lotus Cars USA the cars. These are the cars that are brought over and made available for journalists etc. to test drive and write about in our favorite car rags. The two-day course is based upon the one offered at the factory in Hethel and included one day of car control exercises, covering some of what the NW Alfa Romeo Club Novice Driving School does like

## EVENT DETAIL

### J & L Fabricating Shop Tour

Saturday, February 21, 10AM

Host: Mark Sterner

111A 23rd Street Southeast  
Puyallup, WA 98372



We visited J & L about three or four years ago, and it continues to be one of my favorite race car/fabrication shops. Owner Louie Shefchik has been kind enough again to give our club a shop tour of his latest projects. Last time, we saw everything from Can-Am race cars to high performance street vehicles, as well as formula cars and other interesting restoration projects.

It is a real privilege to have the opportunity to see the shop, so I hope that we have a large turnout for this event. See you there!

[www.jandlfabricating.com](http://www.jandlfabricating.com)

## EVENT DETAIL

### 2009 Seattle Roadster Show

Saturday, February 28, Meet at 10AM

Host: Mark Sterner

Meeting point: 6017 Airport Way S.

Across the street from Smarty Pants, in the parking lot.

Event Location: Quest Field Event Center

800 Occidental Ave. S.

The Seattle Roadster show is "pure eye candy" for the car enthusiast. A large variety of show cars, full hot rods, and racecars are displayed beautifully with marvelous paint jobs and mechanical creativity.

Like last year, we will meet at the parking lot at SmartyPants at 10AM. Drive your family car, as we will need the passenger capacity to carpool to Quest Field. Parking is \$10 per car, so we can save by going together. We'll spend a couple of hours walking around, or until our legs turn to lead. Afterwards, back to SmartyPants for some lunch, if you have the time. See you there!

[www.hotrodshows.com/srs.html](http://www.hotrodshows.com/srs.html)

Admission: \$16 general admission, \$12 seniors, \$9 children 6-12 (free under 5)

## For classic Lotus restoration and repair . . .

Mechanical  
Electrical  
Interior  
Fiberglass  
Paint

High standard of workmanship for performance, reliability and beauty.

## RANDALL FEHR RESTORATIONS

30 South Horton Street Seattle WA 98134 ☎ 206 622 7469

# ELCC.ORG 10TH ANNIVERSARY

By Don Christopher  
 2009 marks the tenth anniversary of the Evergreen Lotus Car Club web page [www.ELCC.org](http://www.ELCC.org).  
 The first ELCC web page was created by Mark Clear, who not only managed the content but also arranged free hosting on a server at Microsoft. Over the past decade, ELCC.org has attracted many new members and the free hosting saved the club approximately \$2000 thanks, Mark!

A couple of years ago, I took over the management from Mark. I've updated the look-and-feel of the site, enhanced a few areas (for example, adding more

**Searching for ELCC Photos & Lotus Lines Newsletters**  
 We are constantly on the look-out for old ELCC photos and newsletters to add the ELCC.org web page archives. Please have a look at the following web pages. The missing photos and newsletters have no individual links. If you can help, please contact Don Christopher ([don.christopher@comcast.net](mailto:don.christopher@comcast.net), 425-445-5910).  
 Photo archive: [http://www.elcc.org/archives\\_event\\_photos.htm](http://www.elcc.org/archives_event_photos.htm)  
 Newsletter archive: [http://www.elcc.org/archives\\_newsletter.htm](http://www.elcc.org/archives_newsletter.htm)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Average unique visitors per month                              | 1019  |
| Country location of unique visitors [including search engines] | USA (80%), France (6%), Sweden (4%), Japan (3%), Canada (1%), UK (1%), Rest of World (5%) |
| Most referrals per month                                       | Google (61%), Yahoo! (12%), MSN (7%)  |
| Most referrals per month [excluding search engines]            | Lotus Group plc (4%), Golden Gate Lotus Club (2%), Dave Bean (1%), Park Place Motors (1%) |
| Most common search phrase leading to ELCC.org                  | Lotus car club  |
| Most popular areas of ELCC.org                                 | Photo archives, Newsletter archives, membership info                                      |
| Most downloaded file   | Jan-Feb 1997 Lotus Lines edition  |
| Most / Least busiest day of week                               | Tues (16%) / Sat (12%)  |
| Monthly bandwidth  | 2.1 GB  |

ELCC event photos, some going back more than two decades), and added new features (an archive of past newsletters, creating a Google newslst).  
 Very recently I moved the site to a new server. At twenty cents per day, it costs more than Microsoft's free server. But it's more reliable and we have hundreds of times more storage space. The new server also tracks some interesting statistics like those shown in the tables for Q4 2008.

# RAMBLINGS FROM THE CHAIR:

*continued from first page*  
 Vancouver BC ABFM and the Portland ABFM/SOVREN Historics. Remember to have a current passport or EDL for the Canadian ABFM. The Portland ABFM is really fun. If you get tired of standing by your car, you can always go watch the vintage races going on at the PIR track right beside the show area. You can even walk over the track on the pedestrian bridge and take a wild ride in a Land Rover on the Motocross track!



your donation amount to your membership renewal/calendar order check made out to the club. Be sure to mark the renewal form below the regular box with "Checked Flag Club" and the amount so we can keep the donations separate. I know that times are tight, but the kids at Seattle Children's still need help regardless of the economy. We also have club window cling decals for all members, that will be included with your calendar order or perhaps mailed out with the club roster.

Robert and Jessica Vets have overcome some issues involving travel, time, and moving to a new house while taking over the printed newsletter. Their efforts have produced some great issues. Very professional looking and interesting, with perfect printing and careful mailing by Mark Parker. Mark also prints our club calendars. Sean Lane and Andy Keck's joint effort at designing and organizing this years calendar resulted in a very high quality beautiful Lotus photo collection, and on thicker stock so the pages won't fold over. Hope everyone will order at least one, a bargain at \$15 each. What a team we have and what a year to look forward to!

Hope to see you all soon.

Anyone else with some great driving route ideas, please come forth, and host an event!

Let's take advantage of the lower gas prices while we can.

Don and Andy Keck started the Google Group a while back, and it has taken off nicely. We have had some fun discussions on the Google Group (examples-Dan Gurney for President, power slides or gymkhana preference, Lotus Cortina brakes, etc.) and it is a great tool for ANY member to communicate with the whole club with one e-mail. Not to mention that Andy is also doing a great job as treasurer, paying the bills, and coordinating all of the details (including the Socializrs) necessary to keep the club operation running smoothly.

Alan Perry's lap top is humming with all of his membership duties. Another big job, but he has gotten a handle on

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## Economy Got You Down?

If you've watched your 401k evaporate, been slammed by the real estate market, had your stock account depleted, or all of the above, know this: you are not alone! Regardless of where you started this recession (can we call it a depression yet?), it has hurt us all and may continue to do so. So what can you do when your trip to Aruba fleeted away with Fannie Mae?.....Get involved with your car club, our car club, the Evergreen Lotus Car Club. Hell, we can all share in some Wall Street trash talk, diss' the politicians or better yet, enjoy some good ole motoring and car talk.

We've got some great plans for club activities this year including: a retake on last year's lapping day - we're taking a different approach; All British Field Meet excursions for Vancouver, Seattle, and Portland; a few drives with or without a car show or picnic on the other end; and some great social gatherings.

## GET INVOLVED

**WRITE an ARTICLE** (or get the details to the editor, and he'll write for you)

**HOST an EVENT** (Mark, Alan, or Andy will help you out, just come up with an idea)

can make this a better experience.

The price of gas is low and a nice drive with good company here in the beautiful North West is a great way to enjoy the things life has to offer. Join in and help are Chairman make this a memorable year for ELCC.

# Specialty Cars

**AUTO SERVICE LLC**

Serving English, Italian and other cars of special interest such as Vintage and Antique automobiles. Owner Graham Willie has been servicing Lotus and other specialty automobiles for more than 35 years.

From major service to electrical troubleshooting to simple diagnostics, we have the tools and experience to get your vehicle right and back on the road.

We look forward to meeting you and your specialty automobile...

Located in Bellevue, Washington

**Services are by scheduled appointment only ...**

**425.818.5074**

**TheShop@SCAutoServ.com**

*Evergreen Lotus Car Club members will always receive 10% off labor charges when they mention this ad.*