

I should note that Bill Close really wasn't comfortable with using the RX-7 suspension parts on this car, but I don't have the money to swap it all out for Miata gear. Furthermore, the 1800cc motor is slightly big for the fiberglass and barely fits. Bill suggested that I replace it with a 1600cc motor, but again, I don't have the money to swap it all out. My wife made me promise that this car wouldn't cost a whole lot more than the initial cost (for now).

Speaking of my wife, I have to note how incredibly supportive and gracious she is regarding me working on this car. She's a fantastic person who understands how this silly dream of mine is actually important enough to sink money into. She's also excited about taking it for road trips in a few years (though I don't think she understands how little luggage one can fit in the "boot."

For all you Lotus geeks out there, Bill Close also owns what's known as the Broadspeed Lotus Elan. Apparently, there's some history to this car and Colin Chapman himself used to drive it. Again, I'm not a car nut by any means, but Bill says this car's been in hardcover books and the Broadspeed engine alone in it is worth something like \$40-50K.

If any of you live in Mesa, AZ or nearby, I would love to meet you. I would ESPECIALLY love to see your working Lotus/Locost to help inspire me to get to work!

Did I mention that I'm also trying to finish my master's degree in the meantime?

Oh, and I don't know how to weld (YET!!). Haha. My friend is letting me borrow his MIG welder for an extended period of time--after all, borrowing does keep costs down--and I assure you that I will learn to weld before letting the thing near a car.

Attachments:
File comment: Broadspeed Elan



broadspeed-3.jpg [52.49 KiB | Viewed 1242 times]

File comment: Broadspeed Elan



broadspeed-2.jpg [109.04 KiB | Viewed 1240 times]

File comment: Broadspeed Elan



broadspeed-1.jpg [65.43 KiB | Viewed 1237 times]

File comment: CMC upper A-arm tack welded in place