

Lincoln and Continental Owners Club



Summer 2016

FLORIDA REGION DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

As Summer is nearing the end, we have had a successful year in the Florida Region as well as the conclusion of the Midwestern National Meet in Dayton, Ohio. The National Board of Directors meeting was held in Tampa in January. In June, Florida Region members toured the Elliott Museum in Stuart, Florida. Afterward we all adjourned to a local restaurant to enjoy a bit of camaraderie. The Mid-America National Meet was held in Dayton, Ohio from June 15-19. See the summaries written by Assistant Regional Director Terry Sparks in this newsletter.

Terry and I have been busy during the past several months in scouting sites for the 2018 Eastern National Meet. The dates will be May 2-6, 2018 at a location yet to be determined. We have had contact with four different venues, including sites on both coasts of Florida as well as one in central Florida. Three proposed sites have submitted proposals for our review. One site has turned us down due to parking issues. Although we now have one strong candidate for hosting the meet, we are still open to suggestions for the meet from the membership. The foremost requirement is parking availability for 20 trucks with car haulers plus a parking area for 80 – 100 for the day of judging. If you have any candidates, please contact me immediately as we wish to enter into a contract shortly.

FUTURE EVENTS

OCTOBER 13, 2016

On October 13, 2016, Parks Lincoln in Tampa is holding an event for the unveiling of the 2017 Lincoln Continental and grand opening of the newly rebuilt Parks dealership. The event will be held from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm on Thursday evening. Refreshments will be served and representatives from the Lincoln Motor Company will be present. Florida Region LCOC members are invited to attend. Please RSVP to Terry Sparks as soon as possible so that we may give Parks a headcount. (mtstampa@aol.com or call 813-810-8985 to reach Terry)

NOVEMBER 6, 2016

We have been invited to participate as the featured vehicle at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club annual car show on November 6, 2016. This is a Sunday and the show registration will begin at 8:00 am rain or shine. The Yacht Club has invited our members to bring their Lincoln automobiles that were built prior to 1980 to this event. The venue will be Straub Park which is immediately adjacent to the Yacht Club. Currently, we have eight members who have committed to bring their car. If you wish to participate, please contact Terry Sparks to get on this list. This show usually draws over 5,000 spectators. The cars will be judged by a non-professional group with an emphasis on originality, followed by a trophy presentation. Further information can be found at www.spyc.org/classic.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NATIONAL MEET IN 2018

Once again I am asking for volunteers to help plan the Eastern National Meet in May, 2018. Please call me or Terry Sparks to offer your services.

Please be safe and have a prosperous remaining Summer. And don't forget, drive your Lincoln (s)!

Until we meet again-

Glen Wirtanen, Florida Regional Director

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FLORIDA REGION VISITS ELLIOTT MUSEUM IN STUART

by Terry Sparks

An exclusive guided tour of the Elliott Museum in Stuart provided Florida Region members a fascinating visit to this truly fine collection of historical artifacts. Established by Harmon Elliott, son of the prolific inventor Sterling Elliott, the museum first opened in 1961 in honor of his father. As the collection grew, the original building became inadequate, prompting the creation of a new state of the art facility which opened in 2013. The scope of the museum has grown well beyond the inventions of Elliott and now includes a fabulous car collection in addition to a section devoted to Frances Langford, singer, movie star, and native Floridian. Langford grew up in Lakeland and eventually became a beloved resident of the Jensen Beach area.

John Giltinan, Associate Car Curator, with assistance from Don Gilbert, led our LCOC group on the Elliott tour. Before heading to the car collection and garage, John gave us a look at Sterling Elliott and his inventions. Sterling made improvements and enhancements to bicycles, quadracycles, tires, brakes, and steering mechanisms. Some of these designs contributed directly to the success of the automobile. As the owner of a bicycle company and a principal in that industry, Sterling also published a bicycling magazine with widespread circulation. He developed a highly efficient addressing machine to speed up the circulation of his publication. Eventually, he sold his bicycle company and opened the successful Elliott Addressing Machine Company.

After providing this background on the man who inspired the Museum, our tour guide, John, quickly transitioned to the part of the collection that car enthusiasts love most - the beautiful classic car collection. We began with a display of the three early forms of power for autos including steam, electric, and gasoline engines. A 1903 Stanley Steamer, a 1914 Detroit Electric, and a 1903 gasoline powered Cadillac showed us that there has been competition for the form of energy to power our autos since the very early days. This is perhaps even more relevant today as we look at how we power autos not only today, but many years from now. For those of us born in the 40's and 50's, there was no question about the dominance of the gasoline powered vehicle. Today, the changing marketplace offers hybrids and electric cars that challenge the dominance of the gas powered vehicle once again.



1941 Lincoln

The man who originated our beloved Lincoln motorcar played a major role in the early dominance of the gas powered car over steam and electric cars. After the Henry Ford Company became the Cadillac Automobile Company, Henry Leland proved that precision and efficiency of his gas powered Cadillac made his car much more practical than steam and electric cars. The latter two cars required frequent stops for either water or a battery recharge. Cadillac gave the owner a much greater driving range without stops. The 1903 Cadillac on display at the Elliott has serial number 113 indicating that it is one of the earliest models of this car.

From this display, John led us into a large open exhibition space where there were a number of exquisite classic cars to be seen. As Lincoln enthusiasts we were naturally drawn to a beautifully restored 1941 Continental Cabriolet in dark green. The prominent spot for this car at the Elliott seems most appropriate since the Continental was introduced to the world by Edsel Ford at his Hobe Sound estate located only a few miles from the museum. After enjoying this magnificent Lincoln, our attention was directed to the other classics around the room. These included a superb 1925 Springfield (American built) Rolls Royce, a recent model Rolls Royce, a 1914 Packard, and a 1947 Packard Clipper Sedan. The 1914 Packard was donated to the museum by Ralph Evinrude, president of the Outboard Marine Corporation and husband of Frances Langford. At one end of this large hall, we came upon a most amazing display case located behind a wall of glass. With closer inspection we discovered the Elliott's unique auto racking system in which autos are robotically maneuvered from place to place. On a rotating basis, an auto is selected, removed from its storage rack, and brought to a display turntable behind the glass wall noted earlier. The whole process is automated. Thus, the museum can efficiently store a large number of vehicles in a tight space and still be able to show them off, one at a time. Even the turntable has a special Sterling Elliott connection since he invented a form of auto turntable used in the early twentieth century. The Elliott Museum also owns one of the largest Ford Model A collections in existence.

John Giltinan had more surprises in store for us when he took us to the garage area not open to the public. The garage contains cars that may not be ready for display yet. However, the classics we saw there amazed and fascinated all of us. A 1905 curved dash Oldsmobile, two beautiful 57 Chevies, and the extremely rare 1953 Cunningham C3 convertible were among those we found in the garage. Briggs Cunningham, American racer and entrepreneur, devoted much of his time to racing cars, but he and his team put together the C3 as road cars. Equipped with a Chrysler hemi engine and sent to Italy for body work by Vignale, the C3 was actually completed in their plant located in West Palm Beach, Florida. Only twenty five C3's were built, twenty coupes and five convertibles. The Elliott collection C3, painted a gorgeous two tone blue and silver, must surely be one of the most beautiful autos of the 1950's era that I have ever seen. Thirsting for one more Lincoln surprise, LCOC members were delighted at the sight of a 1930 Lincoln L open front Town Car with body by Brunn. This exquisite formal car in blue and black provided us with proof that Lincoln holds a well deserved place among the great American luxury cars of that period. Not ready for display yet, the Lincoln L nonetheless made my heart beat faster as I gazed from the sleek greyhound hood ornament to the formal body with its elegantly appointed interior. Don Gilbert started the Lincoln's engine to show us how smoothly and quietly it ran. Don followed that with an opportunity for anyone to take a ride in one of the nearby Model A Fords.

Our visit at the Elliott naturally focused on the wonderful automobile collection and some of Sterling Elliott's inventions. However, there is a great deal more that we did not get to see. Permanent exhibits also include classic wooden boats, local Florida history, and tributes to both Frances Langford and the Evinrudes. A return visit to the Elliott Museum is a must.

We followed our museum visit with lunch at the nearby Dolphin Bar and Shrimp House in Jensen Beach. This beautifully situated restaurant has a Frances Langford connection since it was originally built by her as the Outrigger Restaurant in the 1960's. The Outrigger became a famous spot that hosted friends of Langford including Bob Hope and other show biz personalities. The current owners have sought to restore the original character of the polynesian style restaurant. They have also added a tribute to Frances Langford who was well known for her local philanthropy and civic minded concerns.



1930 Lincoln

Editor's Request: For a successful newsletter, we need your input. Please send your ideas and comments to either Glen or Terry (contact info under Board Member list). Perhaps you may want to write an article about your own Lincoln(s) or some Lincoln related topic. We want to hear from you!

MID-AMERICA MEET IN DAYTON, OHIO

by Terry Sparks

Since the Florida Region of LCOC has been tapped to host the Eastern National Meet in 2018, I wanted to experience how other regions handle such an event. Having met Tim Wilson, Mid America Meet Chair, at the national event hosted by Florida in 2010, I knew that the Ohio region event would be well run. Having made the decision to leave my Versailles at home, I could focus on the meet itself and the planned activities.

When my father decided that it was time for me to take over his beautiful Spinnaker Edition Town Car in 2007, I joined LCOC. With nine years of membership behind me, I have now been to two Florida sponsored national events, the dedication of the Lincoln Motor Car Heritage Museum in Michigan, and the Ohio meet this year. Each time I have had the opportunity to participate, I have been gratified by the experience and the opportunity to meet other LCOC members who share a passion for the Lincoln motor car. The Mid America Meet was not disappointing.

LCOC national events not only give us the chance to showcase our Lincoln autos, they also provide opportunity to experience the local history, culture, and flavor of the host location. I came away with a profoundly expanded appreciation of Dayton, Ohio and the remarkable history associated with this area. On Thursday, June 16, early arriving participants could visit the National Museum of the US Air Force located at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. I arrived on Thursday afternoon, so I missed this one. However, I heard great reports from those who went on the tour. On Friday morning, we were offered a tour of the magnificent Masonic Center in Dayton. Built in the mid 1920's, the building has 250 rooms and seven pipe organs located in the larger event rooms and assembly halls. Vermont, Tennessee, and Alabama marble make a dramatic statement of solid and beautiful detailing on the interior. Several of the large halls still have the original boldly colored woolen carpets in excellent condition. Our tour guide, a member of the Masons, gave us details about the building along the way. He also answered our questions about the Masonic Order and the several Masonic branches represented in the building. A highlight of the tour was a pipe organ recital by a Juilliard trained musician.

The lunch and afternoon tour options began at Carillon Historical Park which was within walking distance of our hotel if you chose to walk.

This beautiful park, with a landmark carillon marking the entrance, showcases the industrial and aeronautical history of the Dayton area. A museum complex contains artifacts and historical accounts of the industry found around Dayton. National Cash Register Corporation (NCR) began in Dayton during the late 1800's and remained headquartered there until just a few years ago. The museum has a large display of elaborate NCR cash registers used in the early days. These machines are so ornate that they are practically pieces of sculptured artwork. Two figures from the early days of NCR went on to found the Dayton Engineering Laboratories Company, better known as DELCO, which later became a major division of General Motors. In the late 1800's, Dayton also served as home of the Huffy Corporation which became one of the largest bicycle manufacturers in the United States. The Carillon museum pays tribute to all of these inventors and early entrepreneurs that made Dayton their home.

Perhaps Dayton's most famous residents were undoubtedly Orville and Wilbur Wright. It was here that they began their legendary pursuit of flying machines. Before this endeavor however, they owned a bicycle shop which served as a laboratory for their experiments. A replica of their last bicycle shop has

been built on Carillon Park grounds. The original was purchased by Henry Ford and moved to Greenfield Village. Attached to the shop is a large addition forming the Wright Brothers Aviation Center. The center holds numerous artifacts and the 1905 Wright Flyer III, the first practical airplane. To cap off a visit to the Carillon, LCOC members had the option to tour the Orville Wright mansion in Oakwood, only a few miles from the park. This visit provided insight into the lives of these two remarkable men who made such a huge impact on our world.

Of course, the main reason for my visit to Dayton centered around our beloved Lincoln autos. From the moment I arrived, there were always beautiful Lincolns to be seen in the front parking lot at the University of Dayton Marriott Hotel. Every decade from the 1920's to the most current was represented. Mechanical judging began on Thursday and concours judging took place on Show Day Saturday. While I enjoyed every Lincoln I saw, I was drawn to specific ones for various reasons. Terry and Peggy Kelly of Olmstead, Ohio, brought a 1949 Lincoln Sport Sedan which happened to look exactly like the one my parents owned when I was born. I have the pictures in my family Lincoln album to verify that. Michael and Diana Vickery of Illinois brought a 1979 Lincoln Versailles which was nearly identical to the one I special ordered for myself when I bought my first Lincoln. Jerry Seibert and Sue Sammons, also from Illinois, brought an absolutely stunning 1970 Continental Mark III, one model my parents never owned. However, I admired the Mark III from the very first one that arrived in my home town in 1968. That car was purchased by neighbors a block away from where we lived. At my fortieth high school class reunion, I saw the girl whose parents bought that solid black Mark III. We had a chuckle about it because her mother used to have their resident handyman wear a chauffeur's cap when he drove her to school in that Mark. There were numerous other Lincolns at the meet that brought to mind good memories, too many to express here. I must note that the Lincoln Motor Company provided the brand new Lincoln Continental for us to look over, but there were no test drives. Personally, I really love the elegant lines and sleek appearance of the new Continental. I look forward to a test drive some day. On Show Day Saturday, the field was full of Lincolns to behold. A number of cars came out of their enclosed vans for the first time. The sight of all these cars together was truly wonderful!

Florida LCOC members were well represented at the Mid-America Meet. David and Jean Bunch of Highland City, Florida, brought their 1946 Continental, the restoration having been completed just last year. Warren and Lori Wubker of Orlando brought a 1956 Lincoln Premier and a 1956 Continental Mark II. Both of these cars are absolutely stunning, in color and in restoration! I am happy to report that all of these Florida cars took awards in their respective classes. Congratulations! I look forward to seeing these cars again at Florida LCOC events.

The Awards Banquet on Saturday evening was a highlight for all of us, even those of us who did not have a Lincoln in the show. It was great to see the various LCOC members receiving recognition for the work they all put into preserving our Lincoln heritage. Each and every one of us contributes in some way to preserving that heritage. As a passionate historian myself, I cannot sufficiently emphasize the significance of preservation not only for our enjoyment and appreciation today but also for future generations.



1927 Lincoln L Best of Show

Two other Mid-America Meet activities should also be included in my report. First, there was an “on your own” opportunity to visit America’s Packard Museum located in downtown Dayton. Along with two new friends I met at Dayton, we managed to slip away for a couple of hours to do the tour. Paul and Lori Moulton of Ontario, Canada, joined me as we wandered through a fabulous display of Packards in restored, original, or preserved conditions. Dedicated entirely to Packard autos and products, the museum occupies the showroom, offices, and service department of the original Dayton Packard dealership! How appropriate is that to show off this amazing collection? It is recognized in the automotive collector world as one of the best auto museums in the country. To describe even just a few of the Packards we saw would require more space than a newsletter would permit. However, I must note a really beautiful red 1953 Packard Caribbean convertible once owned by Perry Como as one of my favorites.

Second, a special event took place on Sunday after the official conclusion of the Meet. Once award winners had been photographed by LCOC photographer, John Walcek, participants were invited to make a driving tour which concluded with a complimentary lunch at Tim Wilson’s home and business in downtown London, Ohio. This 48 mile trip took us through beautiful rolling countryside dotted with immaculately maintained farm land and a few quaint little towns along the way. Tim’s home occupies the second floor of his printing and graphics business in a building called the Brennan Loft. Tim rescued a Moller Pipe Organ from a chapel on the campus of Ohio University in Athens and had it rebuilt in the large open area of the loft. After a great lunch, we were treated to an organ recital by the classically trained musician who had performed for us before at the Masonic Center. This was an unforgettable experience!

Whether or not you have a Lincoln to take to an event does not matter. I thoroughly enjoyed attending the Mid-America Meet without a car to show or to have judged. First of all, this event brought together an amazing variety of beautiful Lincolns to be seen and enjoyed. Second, I had the opportunity to see

old friends and to make new ones, and all of us have a passion for Lincoln in common! Third, I saw a part of the country I had not been to in many years. Our Florida Region events offer the same opportunities. You, as a member of LCOC and the Florida Region, are welcome to participate in our events and you do not have to own a Lincoln to do so. I look forward to seeing more of you at an event in the near future!



Florida member Warren Wubker's Mark II and 1956 Premier

LIST OF UPCOMING FLORIDA REGION LCOC EVENTS

October 13, 2016, Thursday evening, 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Parks Lincoln of Tampa

Introduction of the new Lincoln Continental, Grand Opening of the newly rebuilt Parks Dealership

November 6, 2016, Sunday, beginning at 8 am

Vintage Motor Classic

St. Pete Yacht Club

FOR SALE



18 foot trailer with electric brakes. I will also throw in a Brand New Spare Tire and Rim, Heavy duty Hitch, also a Brand New still in the box, 10 X 18 foot canvas garage that can be put up anywhere. I am asking \$4,300.00 for all of it. It is a 2010 trailer. It has very few miles on it.

Robert Die <robertdie636@gmail.com>



The Rocky Mountain Region of the LCOC has been tapped to host the Western National Meet in the Fall of 2016.

Location: The meet will be held in Westminster, CO, (www.ci.westminster.co.us) which is a suburb about fifteen miles to the North and West of Downtown Denver.

The host hotel will be The Westin Westminster, located at 10600 Westminster Blvd. The hotel is a thirteen story elegant Award Winning Starwood facility with tons of amenities and a huge paved parking area that will accommodate all of our Lincolns and then some.



www.westindenverboulder.com
Go to their website and click on 'Lakehouse' under the photo gallery. It shows an adjacent inviting one-story building with large windows overlooking a lagoon that features an illuminated fountain. This will be our banquet room.

Events: We are planning an all day 50 mile tour to the picturesque mountain town of

Western National Meet Westminster, Colorado September 7-10, 2016

Estes Park, (estes-park.com) which is situated in the Rocky Mountain National Park, and is the site of the renowned Stanley Hotel.



(www.stanleyhotel.com)

The hotel was built by F.O. Stanley of steam car fame. You may recognize it as the setting for the Steven King thriller 'The Shining.' And if that doesn't impress you – it's reputed to be haunted! Lunch is scheduled at the hotel, after which a tour of the town and surrounding area is on tap via motorized trolley. There will also be time to stroll about and do some shopping. You gotta' have at least one T-shirt! The day will wrap up with a leisurely drive back to Westminster at a time and route of your choosing.

It wouldn't be an LCOC Meet without checking out at least one car collection.



1933 Lincoln Town Car

We're arranging a visit to the Cussler Museum in nearby Arvada. You may recognize Clive Cussler as the best-selling author of the Dirk Pitt adventure novel series. Clive is also a car guy, and has a collection of over 100 meticulously restored pieces,,,from drool-worthy marques like Duesenberg, Bugatti, and Isotta-Fraschini, to a humble 1946 Ford Club Coupe that he bought and restored because his wife had one in high school. He also has a row of chrome-slathered 1950's era American Beauties that will have you reaching for your sun glasses to cut down the glare.



Pay it Forward: Our Club, the RMRLCOC, has partnered with Denver's premier Lincoln Dealership, LANDMARK LINCOLN, in support of St Jude Children's Research Hospital. We are pledging a portion of our proceeds from this event to this worthy cause. We invite you to come to Colorado, have a grand time, and join us in this effort. Thank You.

Registration info and more details of the Meet will be forthcoming in the next issue of Comments 'Til then "Enjoy The Lincoln Ride" @

