



LINCOLN AND CONTINENTAL OWNERS CLUB

FLORIDA REGION NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 2017



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This year has really flown as it seems that it was just yesterday that I was writing the same message a year ago.

The past year was very successful for the Florida Region. Our year began in Stuart when we toured the Elliott Car Museum and thereafter enjoyed lunch together at a local restaurant situated on the water. In October we attended the unveiling of the 2017 Lincoln Continental at Parks Lincoln of Tampa where our members also enjoyed the excellent food and beverages that were catered for the event. Terry Sparks' Lincoln was also on the showroom floor to contrast the differences between the Lincolns of the 1970's (when Parks opened their current location in 1979) and the current era Continentals. Thank you General Manager Terry Mulane and all of your staff for making us part of your event.

In November we had a very successful turnout for the St. Petersburg Yacht Club annual car show at Vinoy Park in downtown St. Petersburg. This year the Lincoln Continental was the premier car at the show thanks to a very generous contribution by AutoNation Lincoln of Clearwater. Thanks to General Manager Bob Geiger and your staff for making this a successful event.

On December 3 the club was well represented at a car show at Parks Lincoln in Longwood where in conjunction with the

show we held our annual meeting with the election of officers and Board of Managers. Thank you Fred Kaufman for your diligent effort and coordination of this event. The Board of Managers along with myself thank all of our members who chose to participate in last year's events. I again look forward to the friends that I've made since being elected the Director and to the camaraderie that was enjoyed by all of us.

We are in the process of planning events for the 2017 calendar year as well as pursuing a location for the 2018 Eastern National Meet that we committed to having in the State of Florida. I ask that anyone who is interested in helping with any event to contact either myself or Assistant Director Terry Sparks to express your interest in making this year and the 2018 National meet a success.

Until we meet again-

Glen Wirtanen, Regional Director

Phone: 727-360-4376

Email: beachmanglen@aol.com

NEXT LCOC REGIONAL EVENT – SAVE THE DATE AND MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Reservations have been made to tour the Miami Auto Museum at the Dezer Collection on March 25, 2017. We will meet at 10:00 am at the museum located at 200 Northeast 146th Street North Miami, Florida 33181. Phone: 305-354-7680.

After the meeting the members and guests will adjourn and travel to a nearby restaurant for lunch and camaraderie. Hopefully we can have a large turnout of our members in the South Florida area.

LCOC SHINES AT ST. PETE YACHT CLUB EVENT ATTENDED BY OVER 7000 SPECTATORS

by Terry Sparks

On November 6, 2016, LCOC members proudly displayed their collector Lincolns on a beautiful Sunday at the Vintage Motor Classic in St. Petersburg. Sponsored by the St. Pete Yacht Club, this event has become an annual gathering of several hundred collector cars of all types and makes. With the generous support of Autonation Lincoln of Clearwater, Lincoln was the featured marque of the 2016 Event. Lincolns representing seven decades of the marque garnered the attention of event visitors with the prime location directly in front of the Yacht Club entrance by Straub Park. Autonation brought two new Lincoln Continentals for introduction to the crowd of auto enthusiasts.

LCOC members came from around the state to show off their beautiful Lincoln automobiles. Leroy Waldren from South Florida brought his beautiful '42 Continental which he drives as often as he can. Representing the decade of the 50's, we had Steve Peabody's gorgeous '56 Continental which was highlighted in our last newsletter. Gordon Lindsey brought his stunning 1958 Mark III Convertible which was originally a part of the South 40 collection in Mims, Florida. New members, Jerry and Cande Erdek drove a cream colored '60 Lincoln Landau which drew lots of attention. We were fortunate to have two wonderful examples of the slab side 60's Lincolns on hand. Chris Dunn brought his '64 convertible and James and Sandra Spillane drove their 1967 convertible. Paul Cubakovic from north of the Tampa Bay area wowed the crowd with his jade and white '76 Mark IV. I brought my recently acquired dark red '78 Mark V which nearly duplicates the one my parents bought new. Paul Guzinski from Palm Beach drove over in his flawless '89 red and white Town Car while Joey Larson of Tampa drove his '89 Town Car, the Lincoln seen on a recent cover of "Comments" and driven all the way from Southern California earlier in 2016. John

and Dale Richter came up from South Florida in their recent model MKZ and Glen Wirtanen was there with his '03 Town Car. LCOC member Terry McCoy recently sold his classic 1925 Lincoln, but the new owner showed up with this exquisite example of early Lincolns. The decade of the 1930's was well represented with an amazing 1931 Lincoln Berline owned by Robert Joyner of St. Pete. His family acquired this beautifully restored classic over a decade ago from the Auburn, Cord, and Duesenberg Museum collection.

Vintage Motor Classic rules only allow judging of pre-1980 cars. Since Lincoln was the feature marque, we were allowed to show current Lincoln models in addition to those older vehicles. Furthermore, Lincolns were judged separately from all the other marques on display that day. In making arrangements for this special event, we asked an Autonation representative to handle judging of the pre 1980 Lincolns on display. Robert Grissom graciously accepted that responsibility and carefully considered each car in the judging process. LCOC members were fortunate to receive a number of special awards.

The Vintage Motor Classic 2016 set an attendance record for its 15 year history with an estimated 7,000 visitors on hand. Great weather and a beautiful setting in Straub Park overlooking Tampa Bay helped to make this an outstanding event. We appreciate the invitation from the St. Pete Yacht Club to participate as the featured marque and the generous assistance from Autonation Lincoln Clearwater in making this a reality.

LINCOLNS AT ST. PETERSBURG YACHT CLUB VINTAGE CAR SHOW

Right: Lincoln lined up at St. Pete Yacht Club

Below: The Lincoln cars in the show field.



Left: Former LCOC member Terry McCoy's 1925 Lincoln Berline.

Right: 1931 Lincoln Berline owned by John Joyner in St. Petersburg, Florida.



LEROY WALDREN'S 1942 LINCOLN

TERRY SPARKS' 1978 LINCOLN MARK V



JUDGE ROBERT GRISSOM (ORANGE SHIRT) FROM AUTONATION LINCOLN IN CLEARWATER AND REGION DIRECTOR GLEN WIRTANEN PRESENT TROPHIES TO ALL THE LINCOLN AWARD WINNER

THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE ST. PETE YACHT CLUB WHO MADE THE CAR SHOW POSSIBLE.

LINCOLN LONGWOOD EVENT AND FLORIDA REGION 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

by Terry Sparks

For the second time this year, a Parks Lincoln Dealership provided an opportunity for LCOC members to participate and show our collector Lincolns. Parks Lincoln of Longwood just north of Orlando invited Lincoln, Mercury, and Edsel owners to show their cars at the dealership on December 3, 2016. LCOC member, Fred Kaufmann, deserves recognition for his efforts with the Parks people to make this show a reality. As in November at the St. Pete Yacht Club, we were fortunate to have another beautiful sunny day almost a month later. For car collectors who enjoy driving and sharing their special cars with others, good weather makes a car show so much better.

Members of the Edsel and Mercury Cougar Clubs showed up in force with their cars. Having owned several Cougars through the years, I really enjoyed traveling down memory lane with the examples on display. LCOC members and non-members brought a



CARS ON DISPLAY AT PARKS' LINCOLN

number of Lincolns to the show. Since the cars were spread out in several different areas at the dealership, it was difficult to keep track of the Lincolns and LCOC member cars on hand. I will not attempt to list them all because I am certain I would overlook someone's car. The Longwood location in central Florida

made it easier for members in this part of the state to participate.

One year was better represented than any other model year in Longwood. Each of us probably has a favorite model year, but I think we may all agree that 1956 was extraordinary for Lincoln and Continental design. Ben George drove his sleek Premiere convertible in black with a two tone black and white interior.



BEN GEORGE'S 1956 LINCOLN PREMIERE

Wayne Leithner brought his Premiere two door coupe in a two tone blue and white combo, exemplary of the beautiful color combinations that were available in the 1950's. Warren Wubker drove his award winning '56 black Continental Mark II. It is always a joy to see this elegant automobile! Warren also has a '56 Premiere which, along with the Mark II, won awards at the Mid America National Meet in Dayton, OH this past summer.

After lunch time, Parks provided an area in the dealership for our annual Florida Region meeting. Highlights of that meeting are provided in Glen's comments in this newsletter.

We appreciate both Parks Dealerships for offering two outstanding venues for LCOC members to participate in 2016. The Florida Region looks forward to future opportunities with Parks and any other interested Lincoln Dealer in Florida willing to host a car show event. As the Lincoln Motor Car Company improves on its luxury car image in the years to come,

it appears that recognizing the one hundred year history of this great marque may well prove to be a great asset.



LCOC member Fred Kaufman accepting his trophy

If you know of a local Lincoln Dealer in your part of the state that may be willing to host an event, please contact Glen or Terry so that we may plan an event for the Florida Region.

Florida Region Buys New Banner



Region Director Glen Wirtanen coordinated the purchase of a 4' by 8' vinyl banner to give more visibility to the Club and our admiration for our Lincolns. The banner was made by City Signs in St. Petersburg and was first displayed at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club Vintage Car Show and at the car show at Parks Lincoln in Longwood. We had several people inquire about joining the club after noticing the banner.

National Officers Re-elected

A telephone conference call was held on November 12 with the National Board of Directors and Regional Directors to elect the National Officers for the operation of the Club for the 2017 calendar year. All officers from 2016 were re-elected, and are:

President: John Talbourdet,
Massachusetts

Executive Vice-President: Bob Johnson,
Minnesota

Vice President Regions: Pat Corbett,
Texas

Secretary: Darren Klinger, Indiana

Treasurer: Jack Shea, Fort Meyers (from
the Florida Region),

Annual Meeting in Longwood Elects 2017 Regional Officers and Board of Managers

The annual meeting of the Florida Region was held at Parks Lincoln in Longwood, Florida at 2:00 p.m. on December 3, 2016. The following were elected officers of the Region:

Glen Wirtanen, St. Pete Beach, Region
Director

Terry Sparks, Safety Harbor, Assistant
Region Director

Reginald Brown, Clearwater, Secretary

Jack Shea, Fort Meyers, Treasurer

The following members were elected to
the Board of Managers:

Fred Kaufman, Longwood

Mike Meyers, Ormond Beach

Anthony Modini, West Palm Beach

LINCOLN RAFFLE STILL IN LIMBO

As was mentioned in a previous newsletter, the National Board while meeting in Tampa in January, 2016, approved a motion to participate, with the Lincoln Motor Car Foundation Museum, in a raffle of a new Lincoln Continental to raise funds for the foundation. The foundation currently operates in the State of Michigan as a non-profit corporation and is recognized by the IRS as a 50(c)(3) corporation, which allows donors to deduct their contributions on their individual tax returns. The intent was to have the four sponsoring Lincoln clubs sell 4000 raffle tickets nationwide at \$50 each, which would raise a total of \$200,000. A new Lincoln Continental, along with an allowance for Federal Income Taxes would be awarded to the winner of the raffle, with the remaining funds being kept by the Foundation to fund and endowment to support the operating costs of the museum. The raffle is to be held on an annual basis.



An application was submitted in April, 2016 to the State of Michigan for a license to hold this raffle on a nationwide basis. As of the middle of December, the State had not yet issued a license and has requested additional information from the foundation and its member clubs concerning their fundraising and operational activities.

As soon as the license is approved, the region will get at least 20 tickets to sell for this raffle, since many of our members have expressed an interest in purchasing some tickets. Hopefully it will be shortly, since the drawings are going to be held

at the Museum during the second week of August during the annual Lincoln homecoming. We'll keep you posted.

REGISTER EARLY FOR 2017 NATIONAL MEET

There will be no Regional meets in 2017 as the Club will be celebrating the 100th year of Lincolns' incorporation. The celebration will be from August 7 – 13, 2017 at the Lincoln Motor Car Foundation Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan, located just north of Kalamazoo. The meet packet for the meet are now available to LCOC members at the museum National website (www.lincolncarmuseum.org). Early registration is highly encouraged as it is expected that the hotel rooms and guided tours will fill quickly.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2018 NATIONAL MEET WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU NOW!!!!!!!

Last January, at the National Board meeting held in Tampa, the Florida region committed to hosting the Eastern National Meet in 2018. We are currently in negotiation with a hotel to be the host property for the meet. We need members who are interested in being part of this meet and taking a leading role in some area of the event, including a meet chairman. The meet dates will be Wednesday, May 2nd to Sunday May 7th, 2018. Proposals from several properties were considered and our first choice has all the amenities to hold the meet. We are still in negotiation with the hotel and hopefully a contract will be signed within the next two to three weeks. Information as to the location and the suggested driving tours is expected to be provided in the next newsletter. Please contact Region Director Glen Wirtanen or Assistant Director Terry Sparks if you wish to assist with this meet.

CLUB OFFICERS AND MANAGERS

Region Director

Glen Wirtanen , St. Pete Beach, FL
727-360-4376 – beachmanglen@aol.com

Assistant Regional Director

Terry Sparks, Safety Harbor, FL
813-810-8985 – mtstampa@aol.com

Secretary

Reginald Brown, Clearwater, FL
912-399-4555 – the70lincolnman@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jack Shea, Fort Meyers, FL
239-433-3642 – jshea3642@comcast.net

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Fred Kaufman, Longwood, FL

Mike Meyers, Ormond Beach, FL

Anthony Modini, West Palm Beach, FL

We would like to hear from you

The Florida Region Newsletter is a publication of the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club – Florida Region. We encourage all members to submit articles and pictures for inclusion in the newsletter. Perhaps you can write an article or submit a picture of a car that was close to your heart. Send your submissions to beachmanglen@aol.com or the70lincolnman@gmail.com.

We would like to hear from you!!!

2017 REGION EVENTS

February 25 (Saturday): Planning meeting at the Residence of Terry Sparks for volunteers who wish to assist in hosting the 2018 National Meet. We need members to step up to get make this event successful. Most importantly, we need someone to become the meet chairman.

March 25 (Saturday): The Florida Region will tour the Miami Auto Museum at the Dezer Museum in North Miami (146th Street), Florida.

August 6 – 13: Members will participate in the Lincoln Homecoming Meet, both in Dearborn, Michigan and at the Lincoln

Motor Car Foundation in Hickory' Corners, Michigan.

November 4 (Saturday): The Annual Meeting and election of officers and Board of Directors will be held in Pinellas Park, Florida at Quaker Steak and Lube on U.S. 19.

November 5 (Sunday): The Florida Region will participate in the St. Petersburg Vintage Car Show in downtown St. Petersburg at South Vinoy Park. This is an annual car show sponsored by the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. We hope to have a separate area set aside for LCOC members' cars.

FOR SALE



1994 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series. A two owner Florida car since new, very clean and fully sorted out and serviced by Lincoln Land in Clearwater. An uncommon and attractive color combination of dark blue with white leather and blue piping. Everything works on the car, it has new Firestone white wall tires, and it's been to North Carolina and Georgia in the past year with no problems. You can talk to John or Chris at Lincoln Land about the car, or contact the owner at the70lincolnman@gmail.com. \$4995-