

THE

# Continental

STAR



**SPRING  
2013**

PUBLISHED BY THE PHILADELPHIA REGION OF THE  
LINCOLN AND CONTINENTAL OWNERS CLUB



# THE CONTINENTAL STAR

Published by the Philadelphia Region of the  
Lincoln & Continental Owners Club

Spring, 2013

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## From the Editor



Simply put, your club NEEDS each of you to seriously consider serving on the Board of Managers!

Tragically, we have all lost a dear and dedicated friend, Bill Biché, recently. Bill passed away unexpectedly in February. His passing is sorely felt by his family and all who knew him. Please see the Memorial to Bill in this issue of the STAR.

Bill's passing has created an opening on the Board of Managers...and, there was already an opening due to Ken Dages retiring from the Board at the end of the year.

Please step up and become a Manager. Most of a Manager's involvement can be handled via email and telephone... Meetings are only quarterly, and you will be at the leading edge of all news and info coming into and out of our Region, and also in and out of the national LCOC. It is quite rewarding, as is evidenced by the fact that we have such long-tenured membership on the Board.

Please keep YOUR club strong! And, help it to reflect YOUR approach to the hobby! Contact Carl Villone or any Manager...contact info is in the Masthead to the left.

*Smoky Panepinto, Editor (panepintos@verizon.net)*

## POLICY ON EDITING ARTICLES FOR THE CONTINENTAL STAR

The submission of articles and Letters to the Editor is encouraged; however, it is the policy of the Philadelphia Region Lincoln and Continental Owners Club that material submitted to be part of any publication sponsored by this club will be rejected if, in the opinion of the Editor or other persons designated by the Board of Directors/Managers, such submissions contain statements that are inflammatory, contain personal opinions that could promote dissension among members, are disparaging to a member or member's car, and/or contain derogatory or uncomplimentary comparisons of one or more types of Lincolns. Submissions to The Continental Star are subject to unrestricted review and editing. Longer articles may be returned for revisions and all submissions will be edited for grammar, accuracy, clarity and length. The information and opinions expressed in the Continental Star by members and others are not necessarily those of The Philadelphia Region Lincoln and Continental Owners Club, its officers, directors, and staff.

# 2013 PHILADELPHIA REGION CALENDAR

Keep this calendar handy to plan your Show and Event Season!

PHILADELPHIA Region LCOC events in *Italics*



Month	Date	Event
April	24-28	Spring Swap Meet and Car Corral, Carlisle PA Fairgrounds
May	4	<i>Club Breakfast, Golden Eagle Diner, Bristol, PA 9 AM</i>
	19	Professional Car Society show event at Lahaska (Same venue as our Fall Club Meet! See the flyer on Page 7)
	30-June 1 <i>TBD</i>	AACA Spring Meet, Gettysburg, PA <i>Club Event/Cruise Spring Dust-Off</i>
June	7-9	All-Ford Nationals, Carlisle, PA
	12-16	LCOC Eastern National Meet, Dover Delaware. Look for info in this issue of the <i>Sta</i>
	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Club Manager's (Board) Meeting @ Ross's</i>
July	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Club Event - America On Wheels Museum Tour</i>
August	2-4	Das Awkscht Fescht, Macungie, PA
	10-11	New Hope, PA Auto Show
September	3-8	LCOC Mid-America National Meet, Tulsa OK
	<i>TBD</i>	Wings Field Vintage Plane/Auto Show, Ambler, PA
	8	AACA Auto Show, Haddonfield, NJ
	21	<i>Club Manager's (Board) Meeting @ Casilio's</i>
October	3-5	"Fall" Weekend, Carlisle, PA
	5	<i>Club Breakfast, Golden Eagle Diner, Bristol, PA, 9 AM</i>
	9-13	Hershey, PA Fall Weekend event
	13	<i>Club Event - Peddler's Village Car Show, Lahaska, PA</i>
	23-27	LCOC Western National Meet, Phoenix, AZ
November	2	<i>Club Breakfast, Golden Eagle Diner, Bristol, PA, 9 AM</i>
	10	<i>Club Event - Annual Meeting-Old York Rd. CC, Ambler,PA</i>
December	7	<i>Club Breakfast, Golden Eagle Diner, Bristol, PA, 9 AM</i>
	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Club Manager's (Board) Meeting @ Bickert's</i>

"Club" breakfasts are informal social gatherings. All are welcome. Typically held at the Golden Eagle Diner (Rte. 13 and Bath Rd., Bristol, PA) fall through spring, location and dates could vary. Members, spouses and friends are encouraged to come out - but confirm the date with Ray Bickert first, as events and shows often conflict. His contact info is on page 2. If you live in another area and would like to organize a regular get-together, please do so; or contact a Manager - we can help! It would be great to have other areas meet regularly.

## In Memoriam - Club Manager Bill Biché - 1929-2013



*Annette and Bill Biché at a recent  
Concours D'Elegance event*

On February 23rd of this year, William Joseph (Bill) Biché passed away peacefully at his home in Chestnut Hill (Philadelphia), PA. Bill was a marvelous individual who worked tirelessly as a member of our Board of Managers; but his involvement in the antique automobile hobby went far deeper. He is survived by his loving wife Annette, in addition to seven children and 19 grandchildren.



In addition to the LCOC, Bill had a long-time interest in the collection and restoration of antique automobiles of many makes. He was a very active and respected member and officer in several automobile clubs including the New England MG 'T' Register, the Buick Club of America, where he served as President, and the Antique Automobile Club of America.

Away from the car collecting hobby, Bill was an Engineering graduate of Syracuse University. He and Annette lived in New York State where he worked on a variety of government research projects, including the development of missile guidance systems, and the development of the Atlas rocket, which was the cornerstone for the US space program. He also worked on a number of other classified projects at the Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester before he and Annette retired to the Philadelphia area to be closer to their family.

Bill was a major player when our Region hosted the Eastern National Meet of the National LCOC in 2007. He and Annette were instrumental in the planning, organization and operation of the event. He will be missed in untold ways by the Philadelphia Region of the LCOC. Prayers continue for his family.

*(Bill was most 'ecumenical' in his appreciation of the automobile. Upon learning that I owned an all-original Bricklin, Bill, who sat on an organizing committee for the Concours D'Elegance of the Eastern United States, led an effort to have my Bricklin invited to the Concours, which happened for the first time in 2009. Smoky Panepinto, Editor)*





## Director's Message

*Dear members,*

I know the calendar says April, but it sure has felt like November! The warm weather will be here to stay before you know it, so let's start the year off right and get our Lincolns in shape for the Eastern National Meet! It will be held in our Region from June 12th to the 16th - about a month and a half from now.

Here is what we know so far: The Eastern National Meet will be held at the Sheraton Inn, Dover, Delaware from June 12th to the 16th. A low, discounted room rate of \$99/night has been secured for our club. You can reserve your room by phoning the hotel at 302-678-8500; make sure you mention the Lincoln and Continental Owner's Club so you get the special rate. Rooms are limited, so please make your room reservations as soon as possible. The cut-off date for hotel room reservations is May 13th at 12 AM.

This meet is being put together in short order, so please bear with us. A Meet Packet with all Meet Information will be available shortly. If you have any questions before the meet packet is available, please contact Mike Bradley in the evening at 302-629-6604, or call me (Carl Villone) at 551-427-2156.

The Dover area has a number of major attractions including the Dover Air Force Base, Dover Downs Race-track and a Casino. Mike Bradley is working on a Thursday trip to the Dover Air Mobility Command Museum as well as a tour through an excellent local brewery. Information will also be available about the other local attractions -- but you are encouraged to do a web search for any that may interest you.

Please start making plans to join us, as this promises to be one of the great shows of the year!

Sincerely, Carl Villone, Philadelphia Region Director, cvillone21@comcast.net

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## Continental STAR Newsletter Wins Award

Your club's newsletter has again been awarded the National LCOC Master Editor's Award. Congratulations go to member Kelly Saunders, who works his Photoshop magic for every issue. The award could easily be named Master Photo Editor, as Kelly's work creating the covers and his willing work 'cleaning up' other photos and graphics is truly remarkable. Final layout and printing is done with great expertise by Wilson Printing of London, Ohio. LCOC member Tim Wilson personally develops the final presentation of the newsletter. It is a pleasure having this work done by someone committed to our hobby.

*Thank you and Congratulations AGAIN, Kelly and Tim!*

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## Date Set for Our Fall Show/Meet

Our club's main event, the Fall Car Show and Meet at Lahaska, PA (near New Hope) will be a bit earlier this year, as we try and break the 2-year streak of bad weather... AND, it is truly "New and Improved," -- this year we have added a Rain (snow??) date.

Please mark Sunday, October 13th on the calendar; we hope for a great turn-out to wipe away the disappointment of the last two years. And, please reserve Sunday October 27th 'just in case' the weather pushes us. And, I promise to never again write about how great the weather was, no matter what. - Editor

# Classifieds

*If you or someone you know has a Lincoln or parts for sale, or are looking for a Lincoln or parts, please email Smoky Panepinto to place a free ad in our newsletter.*

**FOR SALE:** 1972 Continental Mark IV. All original, garage kept. 53,000 original miles. Excellent condition. White with white leather interior. Near Allentown, PA. Asking \$9,500 OBO. Email Ralph Alban at shear145@rcn.com .



**FOR SALE:** 56 Mark II - light blue with original interior. Good driver with some new parts. I have owned the car for 20 years and it is time to move on. Located in Baltimore, Maryland. Call Roger Karsk 410 591-2611 or email me rkarskbalt@aol.com. \$8,500.00.

**FOR SALE:** 1977 Mark V - featured as part of cover story in the Summer 2012 Continental STAR. It has EXTREMELY LOW mileage and is spectacular. Contact George and Eve Smith - email to 57lincoln@comcast.net; phone is 856-727-1150.



## Do our ads work? Read on!

*Here is a note from member Larry Zimmer, who had a 'Wanted' ad in the last STAR. - Editor*

Hi Smoky:

I received a phone call from (club member) Mike Bradley who lives in Delaware. He inquired, 'Was I still interested in obtaining a Black Diamond?' He saw the ad in the STAR. He owned one in addition to 10 other Lincolns but his was not for sale...but he had a friend who had recently passed away in Chicago and he contacted the wife for me and she indicated she would sell it: 39,500 original miles, original, everything 'show winner/pristine condition!' It's being shipped here next week . Can't wait.

*Thanks Again - Larry Zimmer*

## Club Fund Raiser

Mike Larum, a friend of our club, has graciously donated Lincoln Mark II jack straps to our region. These olive drab straps are exactly like the original straps used to hold the jack in place in the Mark II's trunk. They are available at a cost of \$29.95 each, plus shipping. If interested, please contact region manager, Ray Bickert.

## PHILADELPHIA REGION PROJECTS



### FENDER COVERS

Lincoln pride and protection with heavy, black, vinyl fender covers. Only \$19.95 each plus \$5.50 S&H, 2 for only \$37.50 plus \$7.95 S&H.

### MARK II CLOTH TIE DOWN STRAP

An excellent reproduction of the Mark II cloth tie down strap, complete with the foot-man loop. Only \$29.95 each plus \$5.05 S&H. Proceeds from the sale are used to help support scholarship awards to students in the automotive program at local Tech schools.



***Please order from and make checks payable to: Philadelphia Region of LCOC and mail to:***

**Ron Ross - 306 Welsh Road - Ambler, PA 19002**

**Panepinto-Continued from Page 8**

The car has also been in a wedding and many parades in communities in western Montgomery County, and is used regularly in Smoky's work. It is an absolute a pleasure to drive, and has proven to be quite reliable. A number of clients have asked for rides in the car - with the top down, of course! The classic, black Lincoln has definitely created some notoriety for Smoky in his Real Estate work, and also with his other hobby, playing in a classic rock band. A photo featuring the band with the car is included here.



Connie enjoys riding in the Lincoln, acknowledging that it is "the most comfortable car she ever rode in." She doesn't particularly enjoy driving it, though, due to its size. She has also pointed out to Smoky that there has been a clear pattern in their choices of convertibles -- they keep getting bigger!



*The Left Edge Band: Buddy, Tom, Eric, Smoky and Jack*




## The Northeast Chapter Of The Professional Car Society

*All cars and trucks are invited to our  
Twelfth Annual Spring Meet and Car & Truck Show  
Sunday, May 19th, 2013 (Rain or shine)  
Peddler's Village Routes 202 & 263  
Lahaska (Bucks County), PA*

The show field and registration will open at 9:00am  
Vehicles to be judged must be on the show field by 11:30am  
People's Choice Voting from 11:30am - 1:00pm - Awards at 2:30pm  
Dash plaques to the first 100 vehicles registered  
Pre-registration by Saturday, May 4th, 2013 is \$15.00 - Day-of-show is \$20.00

- All vehicles must have a visible fire extinguisher (please, no exceptions).
- Per PCS rules, caskets, skeletons, or other macabre items will not be allowed.
- Stretchers and appropriate emergency equipment are permitted.
- No alcoholic beverages or "For Sale" signs permitted.
- Awards will include Peoples' Choice Voting (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Place) and Chairman's Choice Award.

📍 **Questions? Contact Event Co-Chairperson, Fred Goerlitz [goerlitz@goes.com](mailto:goerlitz@goes.com) (908) 892-5075 or Co-Chairperson, Dan McCann [HeavyD27170@aol.com](mailto:HeavyD27170@aol.com) (732) 433-2024**

Mail this portion to **Fred Goerlitz 3 Ridge Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840**  
Please make checks payable (@ \$15 per vehicle) to **Northeast Chapter, PCS**

Name: Phone:
Address:
City, State, Zip:
Name of Car Club (optional):
E-mail Address:
Year & Make: Model & Body Type:

I, the undersigned do hereby state that my vehicle(s) currently carries liability insurance and further agree to hold harmless the Professional Car Society and its officers, the Northeast Chapter and its officers, and Peddler's Village for any accident, property damage, injuries, or theft which may occur to myself, my guests, or my vehicle(s) while attending or otherwise participating in this show.

Signature & date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Cover Story: Smoky and Connie Panepinto

## Perkiomenville, PA

Our cover story for this issue is about Smoky and Connie Panepinto. They joined the club in 2000, shortly after buying a black/red leather/white '63 4-door convertible from (then) club member Mike O'Boyle.

After attending several club events - particularly the Lahaska show, Smoky volunteered to help at the ENM our club hosted at Cherry Hill, NJ in 2007, and Connie helped knit hot-holders for the meet's Welcome Packets. Shortly after, Smoky was asked to serve on the Board of Managers. As a member of the Board, he now edits the club's Continental STAR newsletter. Smoky and Connie live in semi-rural Perkiomenville, PA; they have two sons, Marc and Mike. Smoky is a realtor and appraiser, Connie is an accountant with a non-profit organization.



*On the set of Transformers 3 at dawn*

The first car that first fascinated Smoky was a red '59 Ford retractable... unfortunately for him, it was about a foot long, and was made of polyethylene... it was a toy; he was 7 at the time. The car fetish grew along with him, and has always involved convertibles. In the years B.C. (Before Connie), he had a VW convertible (bought as a donor frame and platform for a never-built kit car) a Triumph Herald convertible, a Datsun 1600 roadster, and two Fiat 124 Spiders. He and Connie have owned a Fiat 850 roadster (really?...), a '66 Mustang convertible, 3 Chrysler LeBarons, the '63 Continental convertible they have owned since 1999, and a Toyota Solara convertible, his current everyday car. (Embarrassing but true, your club newsletter editor has owned no less than three Fiats...).



*On the set of Transformers 3*

A non-convertible Smoky bought new in 1976, a gull-wing Bricklin SV-1 ("Safety Vehicle") is also still in their garage...it is all original, and has 10,500 miles at this writing. Thanks to the

late Bill Biché, it has appeared in the Concours D'Elegance of the Eastern US.

The high point of owning the '63 convertible (so far) came in the autumn of 2010, when it was transported to Washington DC and appeared as part of the 'White House scene' in the feature film Transformers 3. The car appears, along with a sedan owned by member Gordon Taylor, approximately 5 minutes into the movie as several Lincolns arrive at the White House for a briefing with President Nixon. The car - and its owners - were VIPs on the set for the day. It was a great experience!



Another notable experience of the car's ownership occurred back in late 2000, when, shortly after acquiring the car, Smoky wanted to change over



from the original-size bias-belted tires to radials so he could enjoy driving the car. Then LCOC National President Doug Mattix helped Smoky quite a bit with this through an extensive e-mail exchange. This left a lasting impression about Doug's commitment to the marque, and about his generous nature. (The only time the bias-belted tires and original hubcaps have been back on the car was during the Transformers 3 movie shoot, as the scene required period-authenticity).

*Continued on page 7*