

# The Continental Star

---

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LINCOLN AND CONTINENTAL OWNERS CLUB  
TEXAS GULF COAST REGION

BI-MONTHLY

June-July, 2012

**Director: Gary Birk**  
TEL 713-419-0212  
[gbirk10@yahoo.com](mailto:gbirk10@yahoo.com)

**Assistant Director: Steve Sawyer**  
TEL 281-358-4347  
[srsawyer42@yahoo.com](mailto:srsawyer42@yahoo.com)

**Secretary: Paul Youngjohn**  
H 713-290-0697 C 713-302-7439  
[pyoungjohn@gmail.com](mailto:pyoungjohn@gmail.com)

**Treasurer: Malcolm Perry**  
H 713-664-1415 W 713-850-1488  
[malcolm@mjslight.com](mailto:malcolm@mjslight.com)

**Editor: Neil Pierson**  
TEL 832-671-5644  
[neilpierson25@gmail.com](mailto:neilpierson25@gmail.com)

**THE CONTINENTAL STAR**, our official newsletter, is published bimonthly. Personal automotive advertisements are listed at no cost for members. For information, including commercial advertisement rates, contact the Editor.

Our monthly meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month unless otherwise announced.

Membership in the national Club (LCOC) is a requirement for joining the local club (TGCR). Annual membership in National is \$36 and Local is \$30. National dues run for a year from the time you join regardless of month. Members joining the local club in the last quarter of the year have their local dues automatically renewed for the next year.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As you know I have talked about membership briefly in the past, but I wish to bring it to the forefront at this time. We have in our region and LCOC National lost some members this past year. Unfortunately some losses have been due to members passing away who were extremely active and greatly valued by all of us. That's something that is not in our control. Some have been because they have sold their Lincoln and moved on. As with any club, membership is the lifeblood of the organization. I've stated before our Lincolns may have brought us together, but it's the camaraderie and binding friendships we have enjoyed that keep us together. We should never take this for granted and strive to encourage others who have interest to join our group and in the festivities we greatly enjoy.

*(continued on page 6)*

---

The contents of **THE CONTINENTAL STAR** are intended to be as factual and accurate as possible; however, the club assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of its contents. Articles by members are not necessarily endorsed by the club or its officers. Letters to the Editor are encouraged and may be printed unless otherwise requested.

# 2012 All-Texas Spring Meet – Salado

## OFFICIAL WINNERS

### **Best Of Show**

1997 Town Car Cartier, **Bernie & Eileen Birk**

---

### **Bluebonnet Award**

1950 Lincoln sedan, **Jim & Linda Paine**

### **Betty L. Gray Ladies' Choice Award**

1981 Mark VI Signature Series Coupe, **Gary Birk**

### **Doc Ellis Founder Award (Best 1<sup>st</sup> Time Showing)**

1963 Lincoln Continental, **Joe Northrop**

### **C. Michael Black Hardship Award**

**Don't ask.** And for the third time!

### **1940 - 1960**

1st Place      1956 Continental Mark II, **Dean & Diana Forbes**

### **1961-1967 Convertibles**

1st Place      1966 Lincoln Continental, **Keith Steber**

### **1961 – 1969 Sedan or Coupe**

1st Place      1963 Lincoln Continental, **Joe Northrop**

### **1969 – 1979 Mark III, IV, V**

1st Place      1976 Mark IV, **Rann Allen**

### **1970 - 1979 Sedan or Coupe**

1st Place      1979 Lincoln Versailles, **Bill Love & GW Cornelius**

### **1980 - 2002**

1st Place      1988 Town Car Cartier, **Paul Youngjohn & Dean Theiss**

**In the next *Continental Star*: Pictures from Salado**

# Concours d'Elegance of Texas

(Also see the *Houston Classic Auction* article on page 4.)

The Concours d'Elegance... wait. The French government must have a tax on vowels. Buy a couple of E's!

Anyway, the first Concours d'Elegance of Texas was held in early May at La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa on Lake Conroe. TGCR member **Ron Stein** is one of the Directors of the concourse.

**Dean and Diana Forbes'** 1956 Continental Mark II generated a lot of interest, and unlike some of the auction cars from the previous day, it was able to leave the field under its own power. Dean and Diana brought home a Best of Class award.

**Ralph Keller** also won a Best of Class award for his white, 1961 BulletBird Roadster. There are a lot of T-birds with fiberglass tonneau covers, but Ralph's is the real deal.

I volunteered for "Do Not Touch" duty and thoroughly enjoyed it. (It was a little disappointing that we volunteers weren't issued pepper spray, Mace, or tasers.) The setting was fabulous—a fairway on the heavily wooded golf course at the resort.

I was lucky enough to be guarding four concourse-level American cars: (1) A 1935 Packard 12 convertible sedan (meaning 4 doors); (2) a 1940 Packard Darrin sport sedan; (3) a 1940 Cadillac Town Car with body by Brunn; and (4) a 1937 Ford Darrin—who knew?—convertible cabriolet.

I *love* Packards and want to get up to Salado for one of their meets. But you have to know how to write a check.

The 1940 Packard Darrin sport sedan had a wonderful backstory: For many years, its whereabouts was unknown. But in the 60's, someone discovered it *in use* as a taxi in Mexico City. I can picture someone with a strange light in his eyes, shoving pesos at a confused taxi driver, and driving off in the taxi.

My favorite car in the show was the 1937 Ford Darrin convertible. It was in perfect condition, as all of the cars in the show were. But Dutch Darrin took a very attractive car, the '37 Ford, and modified the body in a way that was... perfect. I didn't know that Darrin modified Fords, and he didn't do many. In fact, this car is one of one. After this car, Darrin made a smart business decision and started to build his custom bodies on Packard frames.

**Website:** [Concours d'Elegance of Texas](http://www.concoursd'eleganceofTexas.com)

# Houston Classic Auction

*(Also see the Concours d'Elegance of Texas article on page 3.)*

On Saturday of the Concours d'Elegance of Texas, Worldwide Auctions conducted an auction of 120 or so cars (and one stage coach!\*) There were a lot of interesting cars:

- Lot 36 was a 1961 Lincoln Continental convertible. The color of the car is Rose Glow with a black top and black leather interior. Many of us are familiar with this car, as Gordy Jensen has shown it at several national meets. It is close to perfection.

The pre-auction estimate was \$90,000 - \$110,000, which I thought was pretty optimistic. For once I was right—it went for \$70,000 plus \$7,000 buyers premium. Nice car. But jeez.

- Also on the block was a 1956 Continental Mark II. Strangely, it was also a rose-colored metallic. It had a few flaws but good chrome, and the interior looked okay. However, Special Investigative Reporter **Dean Forbes** examined the underside and reported a lot of rust.

The pre-auction estimate was \$40,000-60,000, not out of line for a very good Mark II. This one went for \$35,000 plus \$3,500 buyers premium. If it needs a lot of repair, it may not have been such a great deal.

- The Gas Monkey Garage in Dallas brought a customized 1971 Lincoln Continental Mark III. It had airbags, 22" wheels, and who knows what else. Apparently, this car was done for one of those silly TV shows where for no reason at all, a car has to be completely redone in seven days, things go wrong, people snap at each other, and the car gets done on time anyway. (I think it gets done on time because half the show is filmed in fast motion.)

This was a Mystery Car, so no pre-auction estimate, but it sold for \$25,000 plus \$2,500. No comment.

*(continued on page 7)*

\* Somebody bought the stage coach. We can only hope they're going to open a competing hotel in Salado.

# Eastern National Meet

Chattanooga, Tennessee

By Special Correspondent James Simmons

The Eastern National Meet for 2012 was a fantastic show. The host property was the Chattanooga Choo Choo, a classic hotel that was placed in a 100 year old railway station. *(Editor's note: There were probably members at the meet who witnessed the construction of the station.)* Some of the "rooms" are actually old, private railroad cars--very deluxe accommodations in their day. (And apparently still considered luxury accommodations today. Cody Gray told me what he paid for theirs!)

On a personal note, I am sure that Doug Mattix and Art Whitmire were having drinks and kicking tires at the big Lincoln show field in the sky, smiling confidently as Carol Mattix and Carol Whitmire were here looking out for the rest of us who will be joining them later.

I did get some photos on the show field this afternoon. Take a look at this weekend's eye candy (and let me know if you cannot view them--the album is set to be viewable even if you are not a member of Facebook):

*(Editor's note: I had trouble with this link, but others haven't had any problem.)*

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.3709176380502.2149550.1608362457&type=3>

The next national meet is in Bloomington, Minnesota in August--a great escape from the Texas summer heat.

## Additional Notes

Besides **James Simmons**, the national meet was attended by some other TGCR celebrities: **Kent McClintock**; **Cody**, **Wendy**, and **Austin Gray**; **Glenn Kramer** and **Dawn Pirone**; **Sharon** and **Neil Pierson**. **Sal** and **Leesa Gottlieb** made a guest appearance on their way through town.

The only TGCR car on the show field was the Grays' 1997 Town Car, which won an award in the (I think?) Modified class. They drove the car from Houston.

*(continued on page 6)*

## Eastern National Meet (from page 5)

More pictures from Chattanooga:

**Pictures:** [Chattanooga - Sharon's Pics](#)

If you attended the Chattanooga meet, please send me your comments about the meet and any pictures you might have.

---

## Director's Report (from page 1)

I would like to remind everyone that Region Directors are given 5 free LCOC National memberships for those who are interested in joining but may be on the fence. The only stipulation is that these memberships be given only to those who currently own a Lincoln. The idea is that once we get new people in the door and involved, we as a group can keep them interested in continuing their membership. I urge each of you to seek out new members or people who you already know that have a Lincoln (or like many of us more than one) to get them interested in joining our group. I am available to speak or meet with these individuals if you need any help. Let's make this a successful year in increasing our membership so that we can reverse the negative numbers over this past year.

On another subject I wish to thank everyone who participated and helped in making Salado 2012 a very successful meet. We had 35 cars registered this year. It's starting to look more like a National LCOC Meet each year with the variety and quality of the cars. We had 8 Lincolns in attendance that had never been shown in Salado before. Every car on the field was stunning, not to mention it's always good to see and visit with our friends from the Lone Star and North Texas regions. Next year will be the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the All Texas Regional Meet in Salado, TX (lovingly known only as "Salado"). It should be a record turnout for this momentous event. So don't forget to mark your calendars and make your reservations at the Stage Coach Inn for April 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013. (Ed. Note: Remember, you have to make a reservation before the Stage Coach can lose it.)

Happy and safe motoring with your Lincoln.  
Gary Birk

# Lookin For A Lincoln?

## **1966 Lincoln Continental Convertible** - Purchased in Houston in 1974.

Exterior: Black, original paint. Original exterior chrome in very good condition. Glass is good. Top has been replaced and is in good shape. Original hubcaps included. Electrical and hydraulics are mostly original except as stated in service records

Interior: Maroon leather in very good condition. Carpet is in good condition.

Vehicle has never been restored but has been well maintained. Extensive service records. Transfer paperwork from original owners is included.

This Lincoln has been in Albuquerque NM since 1979 and garaged since 1982. Little or no rust or mold. Previous to storage, driven mostly for recreational purposes. The car has not been run in the last 2 years. It will need fresh gas and oil. Vehicle sold in "as is" condition. Transportation is the responsibility of the buyer.

\$6,500 or best offer. Joanne, ([505\) 263-6110](tel:5052636110), [jposen@houseloan.com](mailto:jposen@houseloan.com).

**Pictures:** [1966 Lincoln Convertible For Sale](#)

---

**1979 Bill Blass** - A great cruise-in car with just under 95,000 miles. Fresh tires from Coker and the tranny was rebuilt less than 1000 miles ago. Needs a windshield and the trim piece across the top of the windshield. \$4,500.00 as is, or the price will go up if I replace the windshield and find the trim piece. Leo Faust, (512) 924-1040.

---

**1988 Lincoln Town Car Cartier** - 125k mile, 2 owner vehicle. Sold new in Memphis, now in Houston. Paint, chrome, vinyl top and interior (perfect dash) near show. Always garaged with no sunburn, exterior or interior. Of course no rust or dings. Cartier appointments plus sun roof, wire wheels, factory CD and automatic rear view day/night mirror (very rare for 1988). Runs and drives excellent. Cold air conditioning. Transmission recently overhauled by Ford dealer. Michelin tires look like new. Personalized license plates – 'CR-T-A'

*(continued on page 8)*

## Lookin For a Lincoln?

(from page 7)

### 1988 Lincoln Town Car Cartier (continued) –

Current owner never used this Lincoln as an everyday driver. Power steering leak (slow) has recently developed. Driver's window works intermittently, (therefore probably switch needs cleaning) and driver's side rear window goes down but needs help rising. A new gear is included for repair. (Rear passenger side already has had new gear installed.) This is not a 100 point show car but with more detailing and repair of above items, it could easily be. Custom car cover included.

\$2,900 Charles, 281-448-8969 (home), (281-685-6339 (cell). If no answer, please leave a message.

**Pictures:** [1988 Lincoln Town Car Cartier For Sale](#)

---

**1941 Cadillac** - Pat Zucha at (512) 303-1984 or (512) 925-7261.

**Pictures:** [1941 Cadillac For Sale](#)

## Houston Classic Auction

(from page 4)

- For those with exceptionally bad taste, there was a 2003 Supercharged Hummer H2 that spent too much time in the chrome tank. I'm not sure how this fit into a "classic" car auction. Actually, I've never gotten Hummers at all. Seems to me, if you want to drive something that looks like an armored truck, get a job at Brinks, and they'll pay you to do it.

Lots of wonderful old cars, and almost all of them sold.

**Website:** [Worldwide Auctioneers](#)

# I Saw It on the Internet, So It Must Be True Dept.

On April 17, 1964, the Ford Mustang, a two-seat, mid-engine sports car, was officially unveiled by Henry Ford II at the World's Fair in Flushing Meadows, New York.

Well, okay... the Mustang wasn't a "two-seat" car. And, um, it wasn't a "mid-engine" car, unless you're saying the motor was halfway between the left and right sides. As for "sports car"...

---

## Stray Thought from the 2012 Eastern National Meet

How long will it be before we start doing mechanical and appearance judging on the trailers?

---

## What's Yer Story?

We'd like to learn more about your Lincoln, so send us the scoop. Let's make this everyone's newsletter (not to mention reducing the amount of Editor-generated drivel). Some things you could tell us about:

- What is your car (year, model)?
- How did you get interested in Lincolns?
- How did you find your car?
- How long have you had it?
- Have you had other Lincolns?
- What have you done to your Lincoln since you bought it?
- Do you take it to other shows?
- Anything unusual or special about your car?



## 2012 Calendar

---

<b>Saturday</b> , June 16	Niftee Fiftees & Party at <b>Glenn's</b> and <b>Dawn's</b> house
June?	Texas painted churches tour (Bring painting clothes.) Joint venture with TX Lone Star Region
July	Restaurant meeting
August	Suggestions?
August 14-19	Mid-America National Meet, Bloomington, Minnesota
September	Suggestions?
September 26 - 30	Western National Meet, Concord, California
October	Northpark Barber Shop (Kingwood) classic car show
November	Annual barbecue and election of Managers
December 9, 1:00	Annual holiday party

---



**LCOC & TEXAS GULF COAST REGION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SPOUSE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone (H):** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone (O):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LINCOLNS & CONTINENTALS OWNED**

**YEAR:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MODEL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VIN-ID #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **COLOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE LIST ADDITIONAL VEHICLES ON BACK OF THIS APPLICATION**

**PLEASE LIST A BRIEF HISTORY, AND A PICTURE, IF AVAILABLE OF YOUR VEHICLE FOR OUR FILES. WE LIKE TO FEATURE NEW MEMBERS' VEHICLES IN OUR BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, IF AGREEABLE WITH YOU.**

**NATIONAL LCOC DUES ARE \$42.00 ANNUALLY. LOCAL TGCR DUES ARE \$30.00 ANNUALLY AND RUN FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31. MEMBERS JOINING TGCR IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THE YEAR HAVE THEIR FOLLOWING YEAR'S DUES RENEWED AUTOMATICALLY. NOTE: THIS APPLIES ONLY TO OUR LOCAL TGCR AND NOT THE NATIONAL CLUB.**

**JOINING THE NATIONAL CLUB (LCOC) IS A PREREQUISITE TO JOINING THE TEXAS GULF COAST REGION OR ANY OTHER LOCAL REGION.**

**THE TOTAL COMBINED ANNUAL DUES FOR BOTH NATIONAL (LCOC) AND OUR REGION (TGCR) IS \$72.00 FOR NEW MEMBERS. MAKE ONE CHECK FOR \$72.00 PAYABLE TO TGCR/LCOC AND THE TGCR WILL MAIL A CHECK TO THE LCOC TO COVER YOUR DUES FOR LCOC ALONG WITH PERTINENT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CAR, SAVING YOU TIME AND POSTAGE. MAIL YOUR CHECK TO:**

**MALCOLM PERRY, TREASURER TGCR-LCOC  
4156 MEYERWOOD  
HOUSTON, TX 77025 / H: 713-664-1415**

**The TEXAS GULF COAST REGION (TGCR) is one of 22 regional clubs that make up the national organization, the LINCOLN & CONTINENTAL OWNER'S CLUB (LCOC). Membership in both clubs is open to anyone interested in Lincoln and Continental vehicles. Ownership of a Lincoln or Continental is not a requirement. However, membership in the national organization (LCOC) is a prerequisite to joining a local region.**

**The national club (LCOC) was formed in 1953, by former Ford Motor Company employees and enthusiasts in Michigan, to recognize and preserve the historically classic 1940 through 1948 Continentals. As interest spread, other regions were formed and other models of Lincolns and Continentals were invited to join. Today there are LCOC members in Europe, Japan, and South America, with regional clubs in Norway and the United Kingdom, making LCOC a truly international organization.**

**The local Houston club, TGCR, was formed in 1986 and is now one of the most active, vocal and recognized regions in the national club. One of our local members is currently the LCOC National President.**

**Locally we have regularly scheduled monthly meetings, usually held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday or Sunday of each month, unless otherwise announced. These meetings alternate between informational meetings and driving trips to local places of interest to our members. The meetings provide members an opportunity to learn more about their cars and the enjoyment of driving them. Meetings and activities include a restaurant stop where we can "kick tires" and enjoy social camaraderie.**

**Each spring, TGCR joins with the other Texas regions at a weekend meet and show in Salado, TX. Each October, we meet with the other Texas regions for a second weekend meet in a city to be determined each year. TGCR has also had ad displays at AUTORAMA, and individual cars have been displayed at numerous local car events including "Wooden Keels & Classic Wheels" and the Houston Auto Show. Additionally we participate in all three National Meets held annually by LCOC, local charity events and promotions, etc. Our December meeting is a holiday dinner meeting.**

**LCOC holds 3 National Concours d' Elegance Meets annually, one in the East, one in the West and one in Mid-America. A regional club in each of these areas hosts each of these National Meets. The TGCR has been responsible for Mid-America Meets in Houston in 1989, 1997, 2001, and in Salado, TX in 2009. These meets consist of a 3-day weekend featuring a reception on Friday evening, a judged Concours d' Elegance**

event during the day on Saturday, and a Saturday night dinner awards banquet. These meets regularly attract 100+ cars from all over the country.

LCOC membership includes *CONTINENTAL COMMENTS*, a quarterly professional publication, along with advice and assistance in securing parts, services, etc., to keep your collectible auto in top condition. In addition, TGCR members receive a bi-monthly newsletter, *The Continental Star*, with a schedule of our local activities, meetings and news relative to our local members.

TCGR members' cars range from LCOC Senior trophy-winning show cars to daily drivers to "projects in progress." Their diversity reflects the individual interests of the many members who share an appreciation for the care, maintenance, restoration and preservation of these fine motor cars. We have enclosed an application for your consideration. Remember, you must be a member of the National (LCOC) in order to be a member of the local region (TGCR). Call the numbers listed below if you have any questions.

We welcome your membership.

**Texas Gulf Coast Region (TGCR)**

**Director: Gary Birk**  
Tel: 713-419-0212  
[gbirk10@yahoo.com](mailto:gbirk10@yahoo.com)

**Secretary: Paul Youngjohn**  
Tel: 713-302-7439  
[pyoungjohn@gmail.com](mailto:pyoungjohn@gmail.com)

**Treasurer: Malcolm Perry**  
Tel: 713-664-1415  
[malcolm@mjslight.com](mailto:malcolm@mjslight.com)

**Continental Star Editor: Neil Pierson**  
Tel: 832-671-5644  
[neilpierson25@gmail.com](mailto:neilpierson25@gmail.com)