

The Continental Star

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LINCOLN AND CONTINENTAL OWNERS CLUB

TEXAS GULF COAST REGION

BI-MONTHLY

January-February 2009

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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 3rd 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.

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.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Another year has passed and with it our Club has experienced growth in members and automobiles. The Texas Gulf Coast Region of the LCOC continues to grow in numbers with new members and their respective Lincolns. Also some extra Lincolns were acquired and added to member's stables. As the last twelve months have passed we also mourn the passing of some past and current members....to them we pay homage and give thanks for helping build this club.

Our Christmas Party at the Houston Yacht Club was a great affair with wonderful food, great food and a lively gift exchange. It was a beautiful day and the fine Lincolns in the parking lot were a very nice sight. Driving to the Club through Shore Acres was a very eye opening experience as we witnessed the damage and destruction of Hurricane Ike. Our hearts go out to the residents there.

Our January meeting was held at Big Daddy's BBQ on the North West Freeway and our attendance was graced by several new members, a potential member and their fine Lincolns and we welcome them all into the fold.

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February Meeting

Sunday, February 15, 1:00
Texas Land & Cattle Co.

Come join us (and drive your Lincoln!) We're getting together at the Texas Land & Cattle Co., 12710 Southwest Freeway, Sugar Land.
Directions from Houston:

South on U.S. 59, exit at Airport Road/Kirkwood.

Stay on the outbound feeder road through the lights at Airport and Kirkwood.

After passing Kirkwood, take a right into the Fountains shopping center by the Fuddrucker's restaurant. Texas Land & Cattle is at the corner.

The Fountains has a large, decorative lake in the front. Don't drive into it.

New Parts

Welcome to new member Bruno Hernandez! We got to see his 1969 Lincoln Continental sedan at the barbecue hosted by the Vagues in November. There aren't that many '69 sedans around—none in our local club, as far as I know—and Bruno's is an unusual and attractive color combination. It has the deluxe wheel covers, which were a great design.

Also welcome to Jeff Carowitz who just bought a 1979 Lincoln 2 dr. coupe! This car is unusual in being a coupe and in not having the Town Car package. And, of course, it was the last of the BIG Lincolns. In pictures, it looks to be in outstanding condition. This is Jeff's first Lincoln. He says it reminds him of rides in his grandfather's 1978 LTD, which was also cream in color.

You can see both cars on the website. Hold –CONTROL- down and click on these links:

[Bruno's 69 Sedan](#)
[Jeff Carowitz' 79 Lincoln Coupe](#)

Click on any of the pictures to see a larger image, or click on "Slideshow" in the UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER. Thank you!!! to Gary Birk for the picture of Bruno's car.

March Meeting

Saturday, March 14, 11:00
Coldspring, TX

By Bill Love

Our March meeting will be on **Saturday**, March 14 at our house in Coldspring. We can meet up at the house about 11:00 am. and then all go to the town square for antiquing or shopping or just hanging out with our old Lincolns. Then about 1:00 pm, we'll go back to the house for a barbeque dinner and meeting.

We are furnishing everything except chairs. (*Editor's note: You're on your own for towing, too.*) Menu will be barbecue, potato salad, cole slaw, beans, bread and dessert. We will eat in the yard, weather permitting.

Coldspring is an historic town, founded in 1847. Although only about 700 in population, it is the county seat of San Jacinto county. It is a very quaint place, and some of the same families have lived their for about five generations. I think our members will really enjoy looking around the town.

It will be between an hour and an hour and a half drive for most people. Driving directions, courtesy of GW:

Head out of Houston on the Eastex Freeway, Hwy 59

After about 32 miles, exit toward FM 2025 to Coldspring

Turn LEFT onto FM 2025/Belcher St.

Follow FM 2025 for about 15 miles

Turn slight RIGHT onto TX 150

After 1.5 miles, turn LEFT onto Patrick St.

Turn LEFT onto Berry St. (dirt road)

(Editor's note: Place Lincoln in 4 wheel drive mode.)

House is 51 Berry St.

Bill's cell phone: (409) 771-0333

GW's cell phone: (409) 771-3037

Salado 2009

By Glenn Kramer

If you have reservations at the Stagecoach Inn for the 2009 Salado meet, please call the Stagecoach (254-947-5111) and verify that your room reservations have been changed to the new weekend: Thursday, April 23 through Sunday, April 26.

All LCOC members are invited to the 2009 Mid-America Meet at scenic Salado, Texas. The meet will be held at the height of Bluebonnet season in central Texas and nature always provides a beautiful backdrop of blooming wildflowers for our fabulous Lincolns. As always, the meet will be hosted by the historic Stagecoach Inn in Salado.

The town of Salado is charming, with plenty of shopping and is a short walk from the Stagecoach Inn. The meet will be a special edition of our All Texas Meet held here every year for the past 20 years. This 21st version will be even better with lots of new friends coming from all over the U.S. The meet will be more like older LCOC meets in that the emphasis will be on fun and friendship, rather than lots of events.

This year's Mid-America will be an

affordable, approachable way to meet old friends, make new ones and see the finest Lincolns in the world. The Stagecoach Inn is giving us rates of \$79-99 per night. Call (254) 947-5111 and be sure to ask for the LCOC rate.

The meet will start on Thursday night with a welcome gathering around the pool and hospitality suite. Friday will feature a driving tour of the area and our traditional get together at LCOC member Doc Ellis' garage, featuring an open bar and barbecue dinner. Saturday will bring the show, followed by a dinner and separate awards ceremony. There will be a special guest speaker, silent and live auction and other surprises. But the main theme will be fun. It's been that way for 20 years and now, with new friends coming for the first time, it will be even better.

Sue Willy

We are sorry to report the passing of Sue Willy on January 14. Dick and Sue Willy were long-time members of the Texas Gulf Coast Region. A few years ago, we had wonderful time at a picnic they hosted in their beautiful yard in Angleton. Sue spent countless hours restoring and furnishing the house in the period in which it was built, and it was delightful to walk through it with her and share her enthusiasm.

2009 Calendar

Sunday, February 15 1:00	Texas Land & Cattle 127210 Southwest Freeway, Sugar Land
Saturday , March 14 11:00	Bill Love's & GW Cornelius' house Coldspring, TX <i>Page 3</i>
Thursday, April 23 – Sunday, April 26	Salado All-Texas Meet/Mid-America National Meet Salado, TX <i>Page 4</i>
Saturday, May 2 - Sunday, May 3	Keels and Wheels, Seabrook, TX
Sunday, May 17 or Sunday, June 21	John Prestwood's collection? Or Glenn Kramer kegger?
June?	Northpark Barber Shop Kingwood
October?	All-Texas Fall Meet

From Also Ran to First Place

Here is Part 2 of Jonathan Liston's article on restoring his award-winning 1966 Lincoln Continental convertible:

Baker's Auto had the right combination of an opening in their schedule, provided reasonable assurance that they could have the car ready for the '97 Mid America Meet and exhibited the attitude that the final product would be a prize winner. In addition, Ron Baker and Steve Ouellette were fairly familiar with the car since they had already supplied many parts and much advice. I selected Baker's Auto and Richard Liana, Feeding Hills, MA to do the restoration. In July 1996 the car was shipped to Baker's Auto in Putnam, CT., with all systems working except for the gas gauge and with a minor leak at the left side exhaust manifold gasket.

After evaluation and finalization of a game plan, I visited Baker's in early October by which time the engine had been removed for repair and detailing. The engine compartment was detailed after the original corroded battery tray was cut out and a new one fabricated and welded in place.

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From Also Ran to First Place

(from page 5)

By Halloween, the car was ready to go to Rich Liana's for body repair and refinishing. After removal of the old paint, Rich indicated he had taken off enough paint for three cars. When he got down to bare metal, there were more bad spots than we had first suspected.

The front edge of the hood had an oversized hole for a '67 style ornament. A double layer steel patch was smooth butt-welded in place and was then drilled to the correct size to accept a '66 Lincoln star base.

The front corners surrounding the rear deck opening were rusted through. These had been previously filled with plastic without any consideration for the mounting of the weather stripping. (Remember my wet trunk on the trip to my first LCOC show in Salado?) The plastic bondo was removed and repairs done with butt-welded, smooth ground inserts.

The original flip panel and package tray, which both had badly rusted edges were completely replaced.

The deck lid was also replaced. The bottom edge of the original was rusted through near one hinge and some previous repairs had been poorly done.

The right rear door was virtually unusable. Previous repairs had been poorly done using a welded flap and a lot of plastic. The drain openings on the bottom of the door had been plugged and the door bottom was badly rusted internally. Rich fabricated and fitted a new door to the vehicle by using a good sedan door with the convertible switch bucket cut from the old door then fitted, butt-welded and smooth ground.

The right rear quarter panel/fender was removed and replaced with a good used one.

On the right front fender previous collision damage was repaired and slide hammer holes welded.

The car was sealed, primed, and reassembled.

The interior was treated to a new carpet set. Interior center post covers, kick panels, rear inner quarter panel covers, in short, all internal plastic parts were either replaced with NOS or excellent used parts dyed to match the new.

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From Also Ran to First Place

(from page 6)

All new weather stripping and rubber components were added. The deck lid front edge weather stripping got special attention. It hasn't leaked since; (not even at the '97 Mid America Meet, dubbed the Houston Hurricane Meet by those in attendance).

New door sill emblems, new FOMOCO script headlamps, new body moldings and fasteners were installed. Five new original style tires were fitted on newly refinished rims.

The car was returned to Baker's and new correct top fabric and pads were installed over the newly refinished top frame.

While the engine was out it had been reworked with heads pulled, new exhaust manifolds resurfaced, oil pan pulled and cleaned, new main seals installed and new brass freeze plugs fitted. The power steering box was replaced and the power steering pump rebuilt. The engine was reassembled with new wiring, hoses, fittings and other accessories, completely detailed and then installed. A new stainless steel exhaust system was installed.

The brakes were reworked including new emergency brake cables; new stainless steel brake lines from front to rear and to each wheel were installed. The rear axle seals were replaced.

Mid-February through late March was spent installing a new, correct date windshield and surround chrome, assembling door interiors, window gears, tracks and housings, mounting the cowl panel with new rubber, windshield wipers, installing and adjusting deck lid cylinders and system, and adjusting the top limit switches; and adjusting the top switches, and adjusting, etc., etc. The front seat base was refinished and the seat cushions were upholstered with identical-to-original black leather in the original pattern.

By the time I made a mid-March visit, the car was nearly completed. A few minor adjustments here and there, the rear springs set, the under chassis redetailed, and she was ready to go.

The car was picked up by Intercity Lines, Inc. on April 17, 1997 at Baker's Auto in Putnam, CT and arrived in Houston on April 22, just two days before the start of the LCOC 1997 Mid America Meet in Houston. I arrived home just a day later after nearly four weeks on the road.

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From Also Ran to First Place *(from page 7)*

On the five-mile drive to the meet in extremely heavy weather it started to hail. Fortunately, we were near the entrance of the only covered garage within miles and were able to duck in and wait out the storm.

(Jonathan's car faces the judges in the next Continental Star.)

Director's Report *(from page 1)*

Elections were held at the Vague's home in November at our annual picnic BBQ event. Dean Forbes and Keith Steber were elected to the Board of Managers, and Paul Youngjohn was re-elected to another term. Your Director remains for yet another year. A great time was had by all in attendance at the Vague's and several of our members became fire fighters as there was a small smoldering fire underneath the back seat of the Pariza's Mark IV that was caused by an over heating of the exhaust system igniting the sound deadening insulation under the seat.....those fire extinguishers really do work and always keep them handy. John will attest to that.

As many of our members already know our own Glenn Kramer has been elected as President of the LCOC and we are proud of him and his accomplishments. We know now that the LCOC is in good hands as I witnessed by attending the National LCOC board meetings held here in Houston for three days in January. When he was elected there were no National Meets scheduled for the 2009 calendar year. Our board of managers and members stepped up to the plate by offering to make the Spring Salado Meet a national meet. It has materialized and will be the Salado Mid-America LCOC Meet the last weekend of April. Plans are marching forward, and it should be a very nice event. Keep tuned for more information as it becomes available. Since this event is run by volunteers any and all offers to help will not be turned down. We need your assistance.

We all look forward to our meeting in February and hope to see you and your Lincoln in attendance.

May all your Lincoln travels be good, safe and enjoyable...happy motoring!

Bryan Felt, Director

The Photo Album

Hold –CONTROL- down and click on any of the links in blue:

Click on any picture to see a larger image, or click on “Slideshow”
in the UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER.

Thank you!!! to Gary Birk and Mike & Frances McNeil for the pictures.
Thanks to Thom Liston for the Stainless Steel Ford and Gas Station sets.

Barbecue at the Vague's
November, 2008

[Barbecue at the Vagues'](#)

1936 Ford –
Stainless Steel!
*(Guess how many knives, forks, and
spoons were melted down to make
this car!)*

[Stainless Steel '36 Ford](#)

Holiday Party
December, 2008

[2008 Holiday Party](#)

Old Gas Stations
*(Is that Bill Prince's T-bird in front of
the Sinclair?)*

[Old Gas Stations](#)

January, 2009 Meeting –
Big Daddy's

[1-17-2009 Big Daddy's](#)