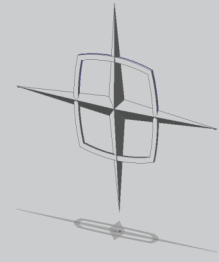


# Continental OBSERVER



Vol. 61

-Lincoln and Continental Owners Club-

Spring 2020

## Director's Message:

### Upcoming Events

- ♦ August Gathering  
New Britain, CT  
September RRLR  
Hartford, CT

### M.A.R. Officers

**Directors:** Owen Clarke  
& Gary Convertino  
**Vice Dir.:** Pat Arcieri  
**Secretary:** Robert Yurick  
**Treasurer:** Pat Arcieri

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Dear MAR Members,  
I hope that you are remaining safe and healthy during these difficult, unprecedented times. The pandemic is hard for everyone we know, as all our lives have been impacted. I am thinking of you, your families, all medical staff, first responders and essential workers as we face many new challenges. In light of CoVid19, I do have a special request to which I ask for your response. It is noted in an article on p. 3.

We have had many cancellations of spring and summer car events. The Rhinebeck show and the National Show were both canceled. To be cautious, we have also moved our MAR scheduled summer gathering in Connecticut from July to August. We are suggesting a "virtual" car event in July instead.

You will find the details about the upcoming calendar events in this newsletter and we ask that you read it carefully in order to reply **now** if you think that you have interest in possibly attending one of the future events. With the restrictions and conditions changing due to the pandemic, we will need to know if you are interested so we can keep you in the loop if the events change.

Many of our MAR LCOC members are also in the LZOC and Road Race Lincoln. With membership numbers showing a decline, it is important that LCOC, LZOC, LOC, and RRLR all support one another. Please consider the opportunity that member Allan Wilcox has organized for September in Hartford, CT that is outlined in an article on p. 5. This event is open to all four Lincoln clubs.

Please also read about our event in New Britain, CT. (on p. 4) and take note of the October and December events listed in our calendar.

I do hope that I will get to see you in person at one of our future events but in the meantime, I wish you all a safe motoring season to enjoy your Lincolns. If I do not see you in person, I hope that you will get the opportunity to take some drives in your classic Lincoln and post a photo on line on our MAR facebook page to keep in touch.

Peace and Good Health.  
Owen T. Clarke, Jr.  
MAR Co-Director

*Do you ever wonder why we drive on parkways and park on driveways?*

## Message from your editor, Linda Clarke

Normally, we would be sharing photos of our Spring Opener in Rhinebeck at this time, but due to the pandemic, it, like so many other events, were canceled. Here is a photo from our yard....our Rhinebeck Show ... the Clarke version ... The mask is a reminder of being safe.

*Linda Clarke, Editor*

principallinda@msn.com  
68 North Cross Road  
Staatsburg, New York 12580



The Rhinebeck Show ????????

## Vintage MAR



Looking back when our region was founded in 1959, Lincoln production numbers and prices may be enlightening. In that year, 26,906 Lincolns were built. The least expensive was the Coupe at \$4,902. The most expensive was the Model 23A Limousine that cost \$10,230.00. If you were able to attend the Eastern National Meet, you would have seen Bill White's model 23B. It is one of 78 built in 1959. The model 23A had a divider window and a leather front seat. There were only 49 of them built. Bill White has a wealth of knowledge about these 1959 Lincolns. He told me that they had 350 horsepower. The models were Lincoln, Lincoln Premiere, and Lincoln Continental Mark IV. What is very interesting to me is that the wheel base on all three models was 131.0 and the length was 227.1 on all three of these models as well. If you are able, check out You Tube.com 1959 Lincoln Continental Executive Sedan.

*Owen Clarke - clarketrustee@msn.com*

## MAR QUIZ

There have been many greats in the **most influential automaker** category. One person that is lesser known than Henry Ford or Ransome Olds was a mentor to both men. He was the first person to build and drive a gasoline-powered car on the streets of Detroit way back in 1896. He is not a household name even though he holds over 40 automobile patents. Do you know who this person is that impacted the automobile industry?

ANSWER on page 7

## CoVid 19      How We Can Help

We hope that you and your families have remained safe and well during these difficult times. We have heard from many MAR members and are thinking of all of you as you cope with the pandemic. Thankfully, hard times often bring out the best in people and one of our members made a superb suggestion. He asked us to pass it along. Gregg Merksamer noted that many of us cannot attend the Car Meets that we had planned to attend during the coming months. He suggested that each member contribute the money that they would have spent traveling to the canceled events to a local charity of their choice. There are many food banks, medical & essential workers groups, and non profits that urgently need help. Gregg has already given to the Food Bank in NY. Thanks, Gregg for sharing your idea!

In addition, Owen has been thinking about how MAR could financially contribute as an organization. Owen feels that we, as a Club, worked together to make our ENM a success. We did it together and made a profit together. If Owen hears support to donate a \$ 500.00 contribution to Feeding America on behalf of the Mid Atlantic Region he will do so from the Club. He will **not** do it **unless** the Club members express their strong support in favor of the donation. Please contact Owen if you agree or disagree with this idea. For instance, if he only hears back from 10 members, that is not enough to proceed. Owen needs to hear from you.

**Please respond to Owen at [clarketrustee@msn.com](mailto:clarketrustee@msn.com) or call 914-474-7055**

(We will report back on the members' response to this request in the next issue.)

### LCOC Membership

We have seen the memberships to car clubs change over the years. Brad Luse told me that when he was LCOC President (1990-1994) there were 4,400 members. In the report that I received as of March 2020, we have 2,195 members. New York is the 8th largest membership state reporting 92 LCOC members while California has the largest membership reported with 276 LCOC members.

However, not all National members join their local regions. Our regional MAR membership is about 1/3 of the National membership from our states.

The National numbers from our major states are NY 92, NJ 68, CT 31 and RI 11 for a total 202 members. I feel that it is very important that I point out these facts. If you live in one of these states please help find missing MAR members. Gary Convertino and I have been reaching out to members who join the LCOC and asking them to consider joining MAR. Gary became a member of MAR when one of our members reached out to him. It works. That is what it takes to attract new members!

Please note that we do have members who live in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Delaware. Some have moved even further but remain in MAR. Please note that we do share PA with the Philadelphia Region and therefore I only reported the membership numbers for four of our states.

The bottom line is....WE ALL need to help attract new members to MAR.....

Please reach out to possible new members, Owen

**NEXT EVENT ....** We are hoping that we can continue with our plans for an August 8th gathering in Connecticut

We hope that we can meet in New Britain, Connecticut on August 8th for a gathering of MAR Lincoln owners to say hello and catch up on what has been happening since we last saw each other.

Has anyone added a new Lincoln to their collection (*I know of two members that have*) or has anyone taken up a new hobby during the pandemic?

Jonathan Bruzas has offered to arrange for us to visit the New Britain Museum of American Art and then go out for a late lunch/early dinner at an excellent, near-by German restaurant before we head home. With the cancellation of the National Show in August, we could move this regional event to an August date.

The plan is to meet at the New Britain Art Museum by 12:30 in the museum parking area in preparation for a tour at 1:00 PM. Admission cost is 15.00 or 12.00 for seniors. They have a café at the museum if you get there early and want a snack. The museum address is 56 Lexington St. New Britain, CT 06052.

The restaurant is East Side Restaurant and they will have a special lunch menu for us. Their address is 131 Dwight St. New Britain, CT. (We will keep the lunch cost reasonable with a set menu of their best items.)

These plans were in the works before the pandemic and now we are hoping that with social distancing, we can still come together abiding with any regulations as needed for this event. By moving it from July to August once the National Show was canceled, we will remain cautiously hopeful that everything will be open.

**If you are interested and think you might attend, it is important that we know so we can keep you in the loop. To reserve a spot please contact Linda Clarke now so she can keep a list of all possible attendees.**

**Please RSVP to Linda at [principallinda@msn.com](mailto:principallinda@msn.com)**

**If your name is on the list, we will keep you updated should plans change.**

We thank Jonathan for volunteering to host this event for MAR.

For questions call Jonathan Bruzas Cell: 860-416-4600

or

Linda and Owen Clarke at 845-889-8891

## RRLR Eastern National Meet September 9-12 All Lincoln Clubs Welcome

Allan Wilcox has been busy planning the RRLR ENM to take place in September in the Hartford, CT area. This Meet is open to all four Lincoln Clubs and since the National gathering in Michigan has been canceled, this might be a great chance to get together with other Lincoln owners for some great activities. There is a registration fee to attend the meet, but scheduled individual events will be a la carte and you will pay for only the events that you sign up for and wish to attend.

The **tentative** schedule is:

- Arrival on September 9th (or 10th)
- September 10th (Thursday)—three choices of tours (optional)
  1. Wickham Park, Manchester, CT with Bob Yurick
  2. Hill Stead Museum, Farmington, CT led by Walt Blackenship
  3. New England Air Museum, Windsor Locks, CT with Allan WilcoxHospitality Room Open  
Evening—Dinner on your own—Hotel has dining facilities
- September 11th (Friday)  
AM—Tour of the Mark Twain house in Hartford, CT with lunch  
PM— Private Auto Collection Tour  
Friday evening dinner at an Italian Restaurant in Hartford
- September 12th (Saturday)  
AM—Tour of TV personality Wayne Carini's business in Portland, CT with Wayne as our host and lunch included  
PM—Our own Lincoln Show, open to any Lincoln, with People's Choice Awards  
Evening Banquet at the *Hartford Marriott Farmington*, the host hotel, with awards and possibly a guest speaker



**Contact Allan Wilcox at [notval65@gmail.com](mailto:notval65@gmail.com)**

**Let Allan know of your interest now so he can keep you updated as the Meet plans are confirmed.** With the unknowns of the CoVid 19 Fall status, it will be imperative for Allan to have your contact information as he proceeds. Forms with fees and sign up information will be available at a later date.

You may make your hotel reservation now, which can be canceled later in a timely manner, without penalty, if plans should change, at the **Hartford Marriott Farmington**, 15 Farm Springs Road, Hartford, CT 06032. Phone 860-678-1000. **Reservation phone number is 800 228-9290.** You must mention Road Race Lincoln to get the room rate of \$109.00 per night.

## 2020 Event Dates

- July ....** Classic Car Appreciation & Sharing: **A VIRTUAL EVENT**  
Post a photo on line during July— **SEE BELOW**
- August 8** New Britain CT—Visit Museum and Early Dinner  
Contact person Jonathan Bruzas - Details on PAGE 4
- September 9-12** RRLR—Eastern National Meet —Hartford, Connecticut  
Contact person Allan Wilcox See PAGE 5 for details
- October 4** Newport, Rhode Island — More information will follow  
Bring your classic Lincoln to the site of a classic mansion!  
A great location to display beautiful automobiles  
Contact person—Gary Convertino
- October 18** Gathering of Old Cars at Mills Estate on the Hudson River  
Staatsburg, New York Contacts—Owen & Linda Clarke
- December TBD** Anticipated Holiday Gathering in Northern New Jersey  
For a Holiday Festival and Dinner  
Contact person Gary Convertino

## July Event

What is a “Virtual” Lincoln Car Show?

The pandemic has limited our ability to gather for a traditional car show. So how can we still feel together but not actually be together in July.

We challenge you to take your Lincoln out for a drive during one of the weeks around Classic Car Appreciation Day and take a photo of your car to post on our MAR Facebook Page. Our Facebook contact info is:

<https://www.facebook.com/LCOCMAR/posts/773747362828191:0>

If you do not do Facebook you can e-mail your picture to Margaret Faure at [mfaure47@gmail.com](mailto:mfaure47@gmail.com) and she will post it for you. Please include your name and the location of the photo. It will be a good way to “see” some of our MAR members out and about.



# Classified Ads

Please submit classified ads for the next issue of the Observer by 8/15. They are published free of charge for MAR LCOC members.

## For Sale 1980 Mark VI Signature Series *Very Good Condition*



Unique Headlights  
Well Maintained; Excellent Driving  
Interior in Great Condition  
Everything Works  
58,000 miles  
\$6,000 or best offer  
Located in Rhode Island  
Call Gary Convertino at 401-573-9408  
or e mail: [gconvertino@cox.net](mailto:gconvertino@cox.net)



## Wanted

### Help a Member Find Something They Need:

'55 Lincoln Tail Light Housing  
Contact Bill White: [MARAUDER1551@aol.com](mailto:MARAUDER1551@aol.com)

## MAR PROJECTS: Decals for Lincolns V 12's to 1970's

The Mid Atlantic Region has had many projects in years past. Projects are the way that clubs can sell Lincoln-related merchandise to benefit their own region. Our last surviving MAR Project is our **decal sales project**. For many years Bob and Anne O'Hara took this on. Owen tried it for several years and sold a lot of our decal merchandise. Now Paul Wilson has the reins. Paul has decals for engine compartments to help LCOC owners complete their authenticity of their cars. The **decal sales** is our only MAR project and MAR is the only LCOC source for the decals. Recently, we received \$32.00 for two sales. You might say, "no big deal" but it is important in that it made two customers happy and reduced our inventory. So please help someone find what they are looking for. Paul's e mail is [PBW295@verizon.net](mailto:PBW295@verizon.net)  
His address is 29760 Oliver Wolcott Drive, Millsboro, Delaware 19966

(Request information sheet with your SASE & indicate Lincoln year when ordering)

Answer to MAR QUIZ:  
Charles B. King

Mid Atlantic Region Lincoln  
and Continental Owners  
Club

Observer Editor:  
Linda Clarke  
68 North Cross Rd.  
Staatsburg, NY 12580

**Mid Atlantic  
Region Managers  
At Large**

Nick DeSpirito	'20
Ray Faure	'20
Robert Yurick	'20
Joe Armstrong	'21
Gary Convertino	'21
Allan Wilcox	'21
Pat Arcieri	'22
George Caswell	'22
Owen T. Clarke, Jr.	'22

Directors serve for a  
3 year term.

Membership secretary  
position is voluntary.  
Membership secretary is

Robert Yurick  
820 Reservoir Road  
Cheshire, CT 06410

MAR Regional Dues are  
\$15.00 per year.  
(National membership is  
required). DUES need to  
remain current to receive  
the Observer.



When Joseph Barnes was in the service he drew a sketch from  
memory of his Mark II Lincoln that he left at home, with,  
as you can see, very interesting modifications!  
Joe shared his sketch with us and we thought his art work was well  
worth sharing with you, gracing our back cover.

**Mid Atlantic Region**



**61st Year**



*Joseph Barnes*