



The Lincoln Log



A publication of the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club
Hoosier Region

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Indiana LCOC Board of Managers 2021

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Notes from the director

Dear Hoosier Region Members:

Happy Halloween to those that enjoy this most popular holiday! Eleanor loves to set out MANY of her Halloween items throughout our home. Some of her decorations are from her days 40 years ago going to a ceramic studio painting the pieces before being fired in the ovens.

Several Hoosier Region members attended the 2021 Eastern National Meet in Morgantown, Pennsylvania, on October 20-24. You can read all about this event in an upcoming issue of the *Lincoln Log*.

The Hoosier Region is ending 2021 on a strong note, with three more great events, including a trip to Lafayette on October 30. This was a great success. Up next was a trip to Spencer, Indiana, to the Hilltop Restaurant on Saturday, November 6. Our final event for 2021 will be the Hoosier Region Christmas Party on Sunday, December 12. Hope to see you all at our upcoming events!

Continently yours,

Joe S. & Eleanor Columbe

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NEXT HOOSIER REGION EVENT

Holiday Party
Sunday, December 12
1:30 p.m.

Bynum's Steakhouse
3850 S Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46217

***Watch your email for additional details!**



One of Joe Columbe's many fine Lincolns that live at Lime Rock Farm. *Photo by Tim Turner.*



A Car Enthusiast Picnic

By Allan Tharp

Every year my dad and I await another marvelous day spent at the Columbes' Lime Rock Farm, and this year brought an extraordinary lineup of both cars and car enthusiasts. This event has been a tradition since 2011, except for a one-year cancellation for heavy rain. We are all so incredibly thankful for our unbelievably gracious hosts, Joe and Eleanor Columbe. They do so much work to plan and prepare for this picnic, and no matter what, it turns out to be a great time eating, talking about cars, looking at cars, and enjoying one another's fellowship in the

Top Ted Hilton helps Joe Columbe reveal the brand-new Columbe Coachdoor Continental! **Right** The "show field" at Lime Rock Farm. *Photos by Tim Turner.*





hobby.

My dad and I debated back and forth, trying to decide on what car we wanted to take. Each year we have attended the picnic, we have brought a different vehicle, so we had to try and continue that tradition. We settled on the 1956 Continental Mark II. The car seemed to be running quite well, and all the other vehicles had one issue or another, but that's old car ownership. Luck was on our side because the car ran effortlessly there and on the way back! The drive could have been more comfortable if our air-conditioning had worked, but fortunately, vent windows make a huge difference on a hot day.

As we came up the long stone driveway, we were greeted

by quite the gathering of cars. Joe had invited several car clubs to the picnic this year, and we had a staggering attendance of about 80 individuals this year! The groups with members in attendance included the LCOC Hoosier Region, LCOC Southern Ohio Region, Cadillac & LaSalle Club Indiana Region, Early Birds of Hoosier Land, Classic Car Club of America Indiana Region, Rolls-Royce Owner's Club Racing Region, and the Professional Car Society Indiana Region. I admit I am very partial to Lincolns, but seeing these other makes was quite spectacular. It is not very often I get to experience a Rolls-Royce up close and personal, a very rare site for car events I attend. Also, I enjoy seeing the 1955 through 1957 two-seater Thunderbirds. Those are timeless classics. The oldest



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE Charlie Mullen's magnificent 1931 Lincoln Town Sedan. The Columbe's brand-new Coachdoor Continental caused quite a stir! A 1956 Continental Mark II, courtesy of Rhett and Allan Tharp. A hungry crowd chows down at the palatial Columbe home. Photos by Tim Turner.



car present was Charlie Mullen's 1931 Lincoln Model K. His car is a beautiful example of a design created by E.T. (Bob) Gregorie and Edsel Ford.

The car I most anticipated seeing was Joe's 2020 Lincoln Continental Coach Door Edition. The Coach Door Edition of the Lincoln Continental was a stretched version of the Lincoln Continental and incorporated the recognizable center opening doors. It was a design reminiscent of the 1961 Lincoln Continental, which was the first Continental to have center opening doors, and the advertising in 1961 called them "Continental Doors." The car was parked at the front of the house, hidden by a car cover that was only to be removed at noon by Joe. The Coach Door was a perfect edition to Joe's collection of luxurious Lincolns.

A huge thank you again goes out to the Columbe's for the box lunches. COVID has prevented us from having a pitch-in. On the bright side, the desserts within the boxes are so delicious! Now I am wondering how this year's picnic can be topped next year. One thing is for sure; the Tharps will try to bring a Huntsman Red 1956 Lincoln Premiere Coupe for 2022 .

Allan Tharp is an LCOC member from Bloomington, Indiana.



Lincoln's Return to Gilmore

By Allan Tharp

Since 2014 Lincoln owners have been gathering for an event we call the Lincoln Homecoming. The homecoming was held at the Lincoln Motor Car Heritage Museum at The Gilmore Car Museum on August 12-15, 2021. This event combined club members from all four Lincoln clubs: the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club (LCOC), the Lincoln Owners Club (LOC), the Road Race Lincoln Register (RRLR), and the Lincoln Zephyr Owners Club (LZOC). If you are new to Lincoln motoring, you might be wondering why all the clubs? Three of the clubs are year-specific. The LOC focuses on 1920-1939 Lincolns, the RRLR focuses on 1949-1957 Lincolns, and the LZOC focuses on V-12 Zephyrs and Continentals from 1936-1948. The LCOC focuses on all years of Lincolns. When you combine all these clubs at the museum, you get quite a collection you will see nowhere else.

Several months before the gathering was held, I decided I wanted to bring my 1970 Lincoln Continental Mark III to its first-ever event. While inspecting the car for this almost 300-mile journey, we noticed the front passenger side caliper was leaking. This led us down the road of completely overhauling the front braking system, with the rear already having been done a couple of years ago. Having that brake adventure behind us, we thankfully had a very non-eventful trip to Kalamazoo, Michigan. We even managed to average 14.8 MPG on the way there and back. Not bad for a car weighing over two tons.

ABOVE Joe and Eleanor Columbe's 1969 Lincoln Continental Coupe rounds the bend by the museum during the Lincoln Homecoming. *Photo by the author.* **RIGHT** Paul Temple's 1989 Lincoln Mark VII. *Photo by Jeff Shively*



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If you have ever been to the Gilmore Car Museum, you know how much there is to see, and when you add some Lincolns on the lawn, that overloads the senses. I have to add a plug here for the Lincoln Motor Car Heritage. Given you receive this newsletter means you are already a Lincoln fanatic, and this is your museum. They are always seeking new cars to exhibit, and all of them are exquisite examples of their respective model years. The Lincoln Motor Car Heritage Foundation board of trustees keeps the incredible story and legacy of the Lincoln Motor Car Company alive to be experienced by all since the museum's opening in 2014.

My dad and I were so excited to see the 1961 Lincoln Continental Convertible that just came on display in the museum. He is currently in the middle of an ongoing restoration project of one just like it. If you haven't been, you should make it a trip and

ABOVE Allan Tharp's 1970 Continental Mark III.
RIGHT Mark Platt's 1948 Lincoln Continental
 Cabriolet **FACING PAGE** Vaughn Koshkarian's
 1956 Continental Mark II *Photos by Jeff Shively.*





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ABOVE *Best of Show*. Charles Wood's 1964 Lincoln Continental Convertible. **BELOW** Al Longley's 1958 Lincoln Continental Mark III Convertible. **RIGHT** George and Sally's Diner at dusk. *Photos by Jeff Shively*



stay for a couple of days. Plus, if you have a car just like one in the museum, they can aid in an authentic restoration when you take a lot of photos at different angles.

The Hoosier Region of the LCOC had great attendance at the event. The members we had in attendance included: Joe Columbe, David Columbe, Jeff Shively, Paul Temple, Gary Stapleton, John Madden, my father Rhett Tharp, and myself. As always, it is fantastic to catch up with our friends from the Hoosier state. It also allowed me to meet up with LCOC club members I hadn't seen for a while from as far away as California. I do not believe you could ask for a friendlier crowd of car enthusiasts. Joe and David came up with a 1969 Lincoln Continental Coupe. Paul attended with his 1989 Lincoln Continental Mark VII Bill Blass.

Festivities for the first evening included an incredible dinner involving a very delicious pig roast and an auction. There were all kinds of Lincoln manuals, advertisements, models, one 1970-1971 Lincoln Continental Mark III wheel cover, and even a 1978 Lincoln Continental Mark V Diamond Jubilee tool kit at the auction. The proceeds were considered a donation to the Lincoln Motor Car Heritage Foundation. Not a bad way to donate your money!. As the evening came to a close, we were off to sleep for the most important day, show day!

Saturday was show day. My dad and I woke up early to get out and wash the car. Upon drying the car, I noticed some-

thing was hanging down underneath. Unfortunately, that "something" was my alternator belt. We were very fortunate because the auto store nearby had the belt, and the nearby Firestone store had time to install it. Thanks to Joe, we had someone to transport us to the parts store and make sure we made it to Firestone. About two hours later, we had a new alternator belt, and we were on our way to the show. When you arrive late to a car gathering, you always make a grand entrance.

This year's theme was "Marks Through the Ages." We had fabulous examples of each Mark present. I wish we had taken a photo of them all in order, but maybe next year. Outside of the Mark series, we had several other examples of many other model years displaying the rich design history of Lincoln. As evening came, we transitioned to the awards banquet. It was incredible to see those individuals who had put some serious effort into their cars be recognized. As usual at any car event, it must have been hard to choose. There were some outstanding Lincolns present, along with some outstanding owners. Next year I hope the Tharps can participate again with another Lincoln.

Allan Tharp is an LCOC member from Bloomington, Indiana.



