

The *Continental* Star
Fall 2022



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



On the cover: Tony Russo's 1929 Lincoln Model "L" Sport Phaeton at the Dearborn Inn

The Continental Star

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

Fall 2022

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Director's Message

Dear Philadelphia Region Members,

Wow, where has the time gone? It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as your Director for the Past 15 Years, and I am looking forward to the next year and the events we have planned as a club.

The Centennial Homecoming celebrating 100 years of Lincoln was truly a memorial event that I will never forget, and I for one am looking forward to the Eastern National Meet next year, and I encourage everyone to attend a National Meet if at all possible.

This year's AACA Hershey Meet was very special, as the Philadelphia Region was well represented at the Grand Lincoln tent with all 4 Lincoln car clubs to recruit new members, and we had a record new members sign! Big success! Thanks to all the Philly Region members who attended!

The Peddlers Village Show in partnership with the Cadillac LaSalle Club was a giant success, and we are planning an even bigger show next year, so stay tuned!

The annual membership meeting and banquet was held at the Trump National Golf Club and Country Club in Pine Hill New Jersey and was well attended. We will continue to look for locations convenient for our members.

As we look toward next year's events, we are always open to your recommendations regarding new events or car shows. Just let us know!

In closing, I would like to thank you all for being members of the Philadelphia Region of the LCOC. Remember... this is your club! It's what you make it, so please attend any club activities and events, and also let us know what we can do for you! We need your help to move the club forward!

Wishing everyone and their families a very happy holiday season, and a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

Continentially yours,
Carl Villone
Philadelphia Region Director



Philadelphia Region LCOC Club News

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

It's been the best of times and the worst of times. There are more car shows and meets to attend, car values have increased, and the great feeling of being able to visit with our Lincoln friends cannot be understated. In this issue of the Continental Star, we unfortunately must report on the loss of three of our friends. Indeed, the loss of just one longtime friend is difficult, but three in such a short time? The worst of times. This hobby is a welcome escape from the daily stress of work, politics, economic pressure, and the other things we observe in life which makes us shake our heads and wonder where the sanity has gone. When we're talking about Lincolns and automotive history, we free ourselves, if just for a moment, from the everyday worries. But the loss of our friends brings the everyday back into our moments. After all, our hobby is more about the people who share our love for classic automobiles than it is about the cars. Enjoy life and friends while we still can. Attend car shows and events and savor the moments.

Larry Highbloom

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Carl Villone has been named Manager of Commercial Advertising for the national LCOC. Read all about it in this issue!
- ***We have winners!*** See the sections on the Centennial Homecoming concours judging meet, the Members News section for Fall 2022 Hershey concours judging award winners, and the sections on the Continental Cruisers and Peddler's Village meet award winners.
- It's RENEWAL TIME!! If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please print the membership/renewal form on page 22 and mail it directly to Lee Caleen...don't forget your check! Please note the new annual dues rate of \$25.00.



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 materials 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.

In Memoriam

This is a section of the Continental Star we hope we don't have to frequently publish as by its very existence it means we've lost a good friend. In this issue, we unfortunately report on three friends we have lost.

Ray Bickert

In Memoriam by Ron Ross:



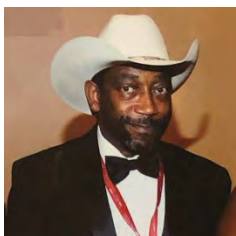
"Oh, you are there." Must have heard that salutation a thousand times when Ray called me. I will miss that the frequent dialogue and discussions we had.

Ray and I met in the late nineties. Not surprisingly, since both of us owned Continental Mark II's, we bonded almost immediately. At some time, we had the opportunity to buy two Mark II parts cars. We decided to buy the cars, salvage the usable parts, and sell them. We became partners and best friends. During our tenure of selling parts, we helped fellow Mark II owner's in the USA, Europe, and South America.

We had a lot of fun and made a lot of friends. We even made a few dollars. I shall certainly miss my partner and best friend.

These are things you should know about Ray. Ray was born in Philadelphia, PA and was 83 when he passed away on July 19, 2022. Ray was married to his wife Maureen for 50 years. Ray was a car aficionado, a past Director and Treasurer of the Philadelphia Region of the LCOC. Ray was also a retired Air Force Colonel. Ray was funny, an expert at witty banter, and always quick with a comeback. He was a good friend, and he will be missed.

John P. Dancy



John P. Dancy, of Primos, PA, passed away on July 5, 2022, at the age of 59, survived by his wife, Valerie. John was a member of the Philadelphia Region of the LCOC, a member of the Continental Cruisers and a former United States Marine. John was also President of the Lincoln Mark VII club. Always interested in technology, John created the first internet search engine for finding a doctor. John was active in the collector car hobby and attended many meets and shows with his 1986 pink Lincoln Mark VII he called "Pinkin." A "one of one," factory pink Lincoln, "Pinkin" won a 1st Place, and a Lincoln Trophy at the 2021 Eastern National Meet in Morgantown, PA. John also owned a 1987 Mark VII, a 1984 Mark VII Turbodiesel, two 1984 Mark VII LSC's, a 1987 Mark VII LSC GTC, a 1990 Mark VII LSC, and a 1990 Mark VII LSC Special Edition. John loved his Mark VII's. As a demonstration of John's commitment to the Lincoln community, one of John's last acts was to donate "Pinkin" to the Lincoln Heritage Foundation. John was beloved by his many collector car friends. A touching video tribute to John on YouTube can be



found [here](#). If you are reading a printed hardcopy of the Continental Star, the YouTube video tribute can be found by typing the web address <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNweClgk3UY> into an internet browser.

Eve Smith

Eve Smith and her Husband George were big Lincoln and Cadillac owners and aficionados from the South Jersey and surrounding areas. George Smith passed away in 2017, but his wife Eve still carried on their tradition showing their 1957 Continental Mark II, and their 1957 Lincoln Premiere. Eve passed away in April of 2022. Her presence will surely be missed.

Sunshine

- ❖ Carl Villone is fighting a health issue which recently resurfaced. Our thoughts, prayers and wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Carl.

Member News

This section of the Star focuses on newsworthy events involving our members. ***Didn't know we had celebrities in the club?*** Now you do.

- ❖ Philadelphia Region club Director, Carl Villone, was recently appointed to the position of Manager of Display Advertising for the national LCOC. Congratulations, Carl. In this position, Carl is responsible for seeking out advertising opportunities for the Lincoln and Continental Comments and website, and products or services pertaining to Lincoln and Continental motor vehicles or related product or services. If you're keeping score, and I am, the Philadelphia Region has three national LCOC executives as members of our local club. Tony Russo is National Chief Judge, Jim Cappello is National Membership Chairman, and now Carl joins as a national LCOC Manager. So that means the Philadelphia Region will be featured prominently in the national Continental Comments magazine, right fellas?
- ❖ Tony Russo received a Senior First award at the fall 2022 AACA Hershey show for his gorgeous 1929 Lincoln L Sport Phaeton, (our cover car for this issue).
- ❖ Carl Villone received a Repeat Preservation award for his outstanding 1978 Lincoln Continental Mark V Diamond Jubilee at the fall AACA 2022 Hershey meet.
- ❖ Jim Cappello also scored a First Junior award for his 1989 Lincoln Town Car at the fall AACA 2022 Hershey.
- ❖ Mike Bradley and his mother, Marilee Bradley, were featured in an article in the July 2022 issue of the Business Report, a magazine about notable businesses and events in the Delmarva area of Delaware. The article focused on Marilee's 1979 Lincoln Continental Mark V, Designer Series Cartier Edition. The Henry Ford Museum reached out to Mike via the President of the LCOC and asked if Marilee would provide the car to the museum as part of its celebration of the 100-year anniversary of Henry Ford's purchase of Lincoln. Mike and Marilee agreed, and Ford Motor Company sent its exclusive shipper to Marilee's house and picked up the car on March 31st and returned it to her in perfect condition before Easter Sunday. By the way, Marilee turned 100 years young on November 23, 2022, having been born a mere ten months after Henry Ford's purchase of Lincoln! You can view a video about the history of Lincoln and see Marilee's Mark V [here](#). The web address for this video is <https://autos0to60.com/lincoln-100th-anniversary-archive-experience-at-the-henry-ford-museum/>.

Editor's Note – if you have a newsworthy item regarding a member of the Philadelphia Region of the LCOC please forward it to your faithful editor. Thank you.



Welcome – New Philadelphia Region LCOC Members

Here is a list of new Lincoln Lovers who have joined our Philadelphia Region since the last issue of the Continental Star.

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Vehicle</u>
Gary Faircourt	2015 MKS
Windell Lilly	1964 Lincoln Continental Convertible
Andrew Miller	1960 Lincoln Continental 1964 Lincoln Continental 1965 Lincoln Continental
David Otto	1989 Lincoln Town Car

Event Calendar

This calendar includes some notable events in PA as well as MD/VA/DC for our Continental Cruiser friends during the first half of 2023. These dates are tentative and will be updated as we get new information.

Event	Date	Location	For More Info...
Winter LCOC Executive Board Meeting	1/11/23 - 1/14/23	Orlando, FL	For LCOC Directors and Managers only
Philadelphia International Auto Show	1/28/23 – 2/5/23	Philadelphia, PA	Philadelphia Auto Show — Philadelphia's Premier Auto Show Event (phillyautoshow.com)
Philadelphia Concours d'Elegance	6/24/23	Philadelphia, PA	Philadelphia Concours d'Elegance Event
Spring Carlisle	4/19/23	Carlisle, PA	Spring Carlisle Carlisle Events
Carlisle Ford Nationals	6/2/23	Carlisle, PA	Carlisle Ford Nationals Carlisle Events
Carlisle GM Nationals	6/23/23	Carlisle, PA	Carlisle GM Nationals Carlisle Events

Lincoln Centennial Review

The Lincoln and Continental Owners Club, (“LCOC”), was the host of the Centennial Homecoming held from August 7th to August 14th this past summer. The Centennial celebrated the 100th anniversary of the purchase of Lincoln by the Ford Motor Company in February 1922. This “once-in-a-lifetime,” weeklong celebration started in Dearborn, MI, and continued on to Hickory Corners, MI, home of the Lincoln Motor Car Heritage Museum located in the amazing Gilmore Car Museum campus. The museum was conceived, designed, and funded by the Lincoln Motor Car Foundation, which was established by the four major Lincoln enthusiast clubs – the Lincoln Owners Club, Lincoln-Zephyr Owners Club, Road Race Lincoln Register, and the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club. Members from all four of the Lincoln enthusiast clubs brought their Lincolns to the Centennial.





Attendees stayed at the Dearborn Inn, in Dearborn, MI. This historic inn was built by Henry Ford in 1931 across from what previously was the Dearborn airport, which is now the location for Ford's vehicle test track. The walls of the Dearborn Inn are adorned with pictures and artwork all about Fords and Lincolns. In preparation for the scheduled Centennial meet to take place on Saturday, the 13th, mechanical judging we performed in the parking lot of the Dearborn Inn. The parking lot full of amazing Lincolns looked like a show field.

The entire week included some pretty amazing events for Lincoln lovers! Our

first night together was Sunday evening where we all enjoyed a fantastic dinner at Fair Lane Estate, the home of Henry and Clara Ford. Joining us at Fair Lane was Edsel B. Ford II, great grandson of Henry Ford. Edsel held court and mingled with the many Lincoln fans, posed for pictures, and held a brief talk and also answered a few questions. On the right is a picture of Edsel with Carl Villone. Below is a picture of Edsel with Rusty and Anya Rentsch.

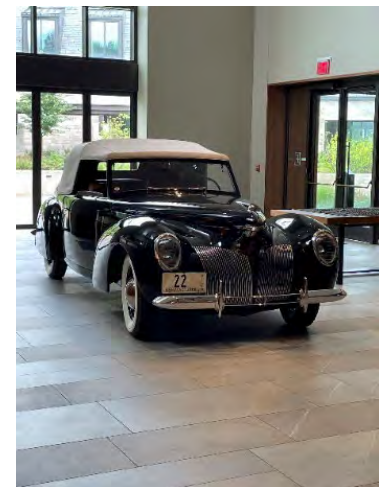


Fair Lane Estate is an amazing home. We toured the garage where we imagined Henry and his Chauffeurs climbing in his various Fords and Lincolns, we ate dinner in what used to be Henry and Clara's indoor pool, and we walked the same floors and stairs the founder of Ford Motor Company walked. Such history! That's Mike Stinson in his 1970 Continental Mark III to the right in front of Henry and Clara's house.



Monday and Tuesday had similar schedules during the day. Attendees had their choice on both days to partake in a guided tour of the Edsel and Eleanor Ford Estate, a factory tour of the Ford River Rouge plant, or a visit to the Henry Ford Museum. Naturally, good Lincoln lovers chose "all of the above," and we had two days in which to visit all the attractions.

Edsel and Eleanor Ford's Estate is in Grosse Pointe Shores, MI. The Estate sits on the shore of Fords Cove off of Lake Saint Clair. In addition to the Estate, the grounds include a Visitor Center, which has dining areas plus a collection which contains arguably one of the most famous of Lincolns, the 1939 Lincoln Continental prototype, the forerunner of the 1940 Lincoln-Zephyr "Continental Cabriolet," later changed to Lincoln Continental. The group enjoyed lunch in the visitor center, and we wandered the grounds of the Estate.



The tour of the River Rouge factory was just as fascinating, but what a difference compared to the Ford Estate! At River Rouge we saw the latest in factory automation at work building the Ford F-150 pickup. Robots were swinging doors and windshields around and placing them in the exact location measured to the millimeter. Every 51 seconds a new F-150 rolled off the end of the line. Fascinating! But unfortunately, no cameras were allowed in the plant! To the left is a picture from the observation deck overlooking the factory.



Dinner on Tuesday evening was at the famous Henry Ford Museum. This museum celebrates all things “industrial.” While there were tons of classic and important vehicles, the museum also has aviation exhibits, power exhibits, furniture exhibits, and of course a giant Alleghany steam locomotive... all under one roof. After cocktail hour we enjoyed dinner with Lincoln executives including Joy Falotico, President, Lincoln Motor Company.

Below are just a few photos of the exhibits and attendees. The lady to the left in the far-right picture is Joy.



Wednesday was another picture-perfect day. Everyone packed up their Lincolns and gear and headed to Ford World Headquarters, aka “The Glass House.” We parked our Lincolns in the lot directly in front of the building and demonstrated our love and support of all things Lincoln. Joy was there with additional Lincoln staff, and we wandered the inner sanctum of the Glass House and saw new and future Lincolns and enjoyed lunch in the employee cafeteria or the food trucks outside. Lincoln staff were available to answer any questions we might have about future vehicles.

After lunch we gassed up our cars and began a Lincoln caravan heading west to Kalamazoo where we would bunk down for the rest of the week. The drive was roughly two hours at 70 MPH which our Lincolns can do with ease. We received a lot of “thumbs up,” from the other motorists as the Lincoln caravan headed west.

Thursday in Kalamazoo was beautiful and not a cloud in the sky. After breakfast, attendees drove their Lincolns to the fabulous Gilmore Auto Museum, in Hickory Corners, MI. Optional driving tours for Thursday and Friday



included visiting the W.K. Kellogg Manor House and Gardens, the summer home of W.K. Kellogg, the inventor of toasted Cornflakes, and his second wife Dr. Carrie Stains. Check out the Lincolns gracing the driveway at the Manor House. An alternative driving tour took attendees through the historic town of Marshall, MI. A third alternative was to view the amazing car collection of Bill Parfet.



On Thursday evening we had a cookout next to the Lincoln Heritage Museum on the Gilmore campus. Lincolns were parked all around, the food was terrific and there was also an auction of Lincoln parts, memorabilia, clothing, you name it. And gift baskets, too. Check out the crowd around the auction items in the picture below.

The schedule for Friday was similar. There were quite a few Lincolns being spiffed up and polished in the parking lot of the Four Corners Sheraton on Friday in preparation the meet on

Saturday at the Gilmore Auto Museum. Too bad a lot of that spiffing up work went to waste...

Saturday was show day! Now remember, so far this recap of the Centennial events mentioned the weather was picture perfect. In Dearborn and Kalamazoo, and on up to Hickory Corners, we had our convertible tops down and the sun shining off our chrome. So, since Saturday is show day would you like to guess if our string of great weather continued?



Johnny! We have a winner!
OF COURSE, it has to rain on show day! It's right

there in the National Meet Concours Rules, "It must rain on show day," section whatever, whatever, paragraph "Oh darn." The day started out cloudy as the Lincolns took to the show field at the Gilmore Museum. Rows and rows of beautiful, clean, polished, magnificent Lincolns parked on the grass. Check out the great lineup of 1970's Lincolns in the picture at left. The field was ready by 10:00AM. But the rain beat everyone and started around 9:00AM. And it rained. And it rained. Buckets. Drenching our beautiful babies. As they say

in Hollywood, "the show must go on!"

The judging team was ready! They donned sophisticated rain gear designed specifically for judging classic automobiles in a downpour. See Mike Bradley and David Bradley modeling the variations of this space age rain protection, at right. The judges and owners kept calm and carried on! Trunks were opened, if just briefly, and towels were ready. Judges wrapped their judging sheets in clear plastic and wrote under the plastic to record their findings. And it rained. The temperature dropped into the mid-sixties, after all, it is Michigan. Luckily the wind was not an issue. Below are some pictures of the show field during the day. Did I mention it rained? All day and into the night.





But hey, we love Lincolns, which are expertly engineered and tough vehicles. Are we going to let a little, (OK, a lot), of rain ruin our day? No way. Judging was completed and we rushed back to the hotel and changed into dry clothes for the evening awards banquet. The banquet was terrific with great food and drink, and we were seated in the main room of the Gilmore Auto Museum right next to the Corvette exhibit.

Quite a few of our Philadelphia Region members won awards at the Centennial meet. Here is a list of the awards received by our region members:

Class	Award	Owner	Vehicle
Primary	Lincoln Trophy	Carl Villone	1978 Lincoln Mark V
Senior	Edsel Ford Trophy	Tony Russo	1929 Lincoln Model L Sport Phaeton
Senior	E.T. Gregorie Trophy	Mark Lankford	1940 Lincoln Continental Coupe
Senior	Millenium Trophy	Mike Bradley	2002 Lincoln LS Sedan
Senior	Original Trophy	Mike Stinson	1970 Lincoln Mark III
Emeritus	First Time	James Cappello	1989 Lincoln Town Car Sedan
Emeritus	First Time	Rusty Rentsch	1956 Lincoln Premiere Convertible
Emeritus	Third Time	Pat Arcieri	1979 Continental Mark V
Primary	First Place	Carl Villone	1978 Lincoln Mark V
Primary	Third Place	John Curry	1969 Lincoln Continental Mark III
Senior	First Place	Mike Bradley	2002 Lincoln LS Sedan
Senior	First Place	Lawrence Highbloom	1962 Lincoln Convertible
Senior	First Place	Mark Lankford	1940 Lincoln Continental Coupe
Senior	First Place	Tony Russo	1929 Lincoln Model L Sport Phaeton
Original	First Place	Mike Stinson	1970 Lincoln Mark III

Sunday dawned cloudy, but at least it had stopped raining. We said our goodbye's packed our gear and our cars and headed home. We had an incredible week filled with fun and good times with our fellow Lincoln lovers. We enjoyed great food and drink and the camaraderie of our fellow Lincoln enthusiasts. Here's to the next one hundred years for Lincoln!



Continental Cruisers Car Show

The Continental Cruisers held their Auto, Bike and Truck Show on September 17, 2022, in Upper Marlboro, MD. Carl Villone, Mike Stinson, Jim Casilio and Theresa Lauro of the Philadelphia Region made the trip down south to participate and show their Lincolns. All in all, there were 65 participants. There were 50 trophies awarded, plus gift and gas cards. Five large gift baskets were given out to ladies who registered a car for the show. The Tuskegee Airman's Award went to the oldest vehicle registered, in honor of the Cruiser club's Treasurer's Father (JC) who turned 100 years old this September. Everyone had a good time. Mike Stinson won the Best Lincoln trophy, and James and Theresa received the President's award. See some pics below and on the next page.





Fall Hershey

The Fall Hershey meet was held from October 4, 2022, through October 7, 2022. As anyone who participates in the classic auto or truck hobby knows, Hershey is one of the most heavily attended gathering of classic car aficionados. Sponsored by the AACA, the meet includes a concours judging show, an auction conducted by R.M. Sotheby's, a huge car corral where classics are offered for sale, and hundreds, if not thousands of vendors of classic car parts, memorabilia, literature and more.

Representing the LCOC, the Philadelphia Region shared a tent onsite with the Lincoln Road Race Club, The Lincoln Zephyr Club and The Lincoln Owners Club. 25 new members were signed up for the national LCOC.

Several Philadelphia Region members received AACA awards. See the Members News for a listing of the award winners. Below are some pictures of action at Hershey.



Peddler's Village Show

The annual Peddler's Village car show and meet was held on October 16, 2022. The weather was fantastic! A beautiful, crisp fall day just perfect for a nice Lincoln cruise and visit with friends. It didn't rain on show day! Well, the Peddler's show is not a national meet, so we didn't violate the "it must rain on show day," rule of the National Meet Concours Rules. The meet was held in conjunction with the Cadillac-LaSalle club. There was a wide variety of different makes and models registered for the show.

We had a field crowded with fabulous cars and quite a crowd! Many thanks to Mike Stinson, Jim Casilio, Theresa, Tony and Carl for arranging and executing a great show. Pics of the Peddler's Village show are below and on the following pages.





The award winners at the Peddler's Village show and meet are as follows:

<u>Award</u>	<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Car Owner</u>
Best in show	1960 Dodge Polara Convertible	Scott Nickett
Best "Non-Open" Non-Lincoln	1970 Oldsmobile 442 W-30	Jim Diamantes
Best "Open" Non-Lincoln	1956 Chevrolet Bel Air Convertible	Steve Mebs
Directors Choice	1978 Lincoln Continental Town Coupe	Ron & Deb Ladley
Longest Distance	2014 Lincoln MKZ	Rusty & Anya Rentsch
Managers Choice	1936 Ford Convertible	Frank Suntheimer
Best Pre-1967 Lincoln	1964 Lincoln Continental Convertible	Wendell Lilly
Best 1967 – 2022 Lincoln	1997 Lincoln Town Car	Dennis Ragucci

Annual Banquet

The annual Philadelphia Region meeting, and banquet was held on November 20, 2022, at the Trump National Golf Club, in Pine Hill, NJ. There were 30 Philadelphia region members in attendance. Presentations were made by the clubs director, Carl Villone, membership Chairman, Lee Caleen, Peddler's Village Chairman, Jim Casilio, our treasurer, Jim Cappello as well as your faithful editor. During the meeting, the attendees approved two items – raising the annual dues to \$25.00 and approving a scholarship donation of \$500 to be made in memory of Chris Ritter,



Librarian for the AACA. Attendees dined on a variety of great dishes, there was a cash bar, and everyone had a good time catching up on news and events.



Member Car Spotlight –Theresa Lauro & Jim Casilio’s 1956 Mark II

A Car With Connections

As told by Jim Casilio.

It is the connections that we made with a certain make or model car, that usually began many years ago, that drives us to seek out and buy that car. Some people then refer to them as “our collector car” but most often we just refer to them as “our car”. When we purchase them, it is because of that



obvious long-standing connection. Sometimes there are some other connections that lead us toward a different car. These may be connections that we know of and some we become aware of later.

Theresa and I had the opportunity to purchase our 1956 Mark II from fellow long time Philadelphia LCOC members and friends Ray and Maureen Bickert.

Ray joined our region shortly after it was chartered and was a mainstay of our club for many years. He served as our Director, Manager and was the co-chair for our first and very successful LCOC national meet in 2007. We know Ray loved his Lincoln's and was always seen driving a late model. However, Ray's connection car was a Mark II. When I asked why he answered, "That was 'the' car the year I graduated from high school".



After serving our country and retiring from the Air Force as a colonel, Ray got his Mark II. Ray, along with Philadelphia region charter member and fellow Mark II owner Ron Ross, had an enjoyable enterprise for many years. They found and sold Mark II parts to folks across the country and around the world. They were known as the Mark II guys. Ray calculated that they earned approximately 6 cents an hour from this endeavor. But both would let you know that the friends they met and the knowledge that they gained was both priceless and enjoyable.

It was a conversation with Ron Ross in the summer of 2021 that led me to call Ray and go take a look at his car. Ray had not had the opportunity to use his Mark II much over the previous few years but with a little help from his son Ray Jr., we quickly got it running.

But in reality, the deal was solidified way before that test drive in Ray's neighborhood. When Theresa saw her first Mark II in person (Ray's car), just like many of us, she was immediately struck by the very distinctive styling that is a Mark II.



There was another connection for me to this car. Ray had the motor rebuilt and all the mechanical work done by Fran Stoker. Fran was a long-time member of our region however, many of us also remember Fran as the Ford Master Mechanic that he was. He helped countless of us with our cars and when you got your car back from Fran, you knew it was done right. Knowing that Fran had done all the mechanical work, including a complete engine rebuild, gave me the confidence to know that even though the car appeared solid, the mechanicals were solid as well. That is the kind of confidence you had in Fran's work.

Unfortunately, we lost Fran several years ago, and this July Maureen and her family, along with all of us, lost Ray.



With just some TLC, mostly to the fuel system, along with a couple of push rods, and some new Coker tires, the Mark II was ready for the road. Ron Ross was always available on the other end of the phone help get her roadworthy. If you want an interesting story, ask Ron to tell you how he took a completed submerged 1957 Mark II and turned it into the trophy winner that is it today.

Our first venture out with the Mark II was the Duryea Days show on Labor Day weekend in Boyertown. It is a nice show with a lot of shady grass parking. I've been fortunate enough to own a 1963 Continental Convertible for many years. That car is certainly a conversation starter whenever it's out and about. However, Theresa and I were not prepared for the level of interest and conversation that happens when you pull into a car show with a Mark II. It resonates on such a strong level with many people. Most recall having seen one when they were 7,8, or 9 years old and the impression that it left stuck with them for well over 50 years. As there were only a little over 3100 Mark II's ever produced, many people have not seen one in a long time. For some younger folks, it is their first time ever seeing one.

In early September we joined Mike Stinson and Carl Villone and drove the Mark II to the Continental Cruisers Show in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. That was the Mark II's first long trip in quite a few years. The car performed perfectly, and we had a great time at the show. It was one of the most fun car events that we ever had the opportunity attend.

Although Ray owned his Mark II for many years, I don't believe it ever made appearance at our annual meet in Peddler's village until this year. We were very happy to be able to join our fellow club members there for our largest fall meet in many years.

We have let you know about some of the connections that brought us to this car, However, a few months after Theresa fell in love with the car, we discovered another and quite unusual connection. After researching and decoding the build date on the Mark II we discovered that it was built in January of 1956. Looking further we found the date in January of 1956 that the Mark II left the assembly shop. That day happens to be the **exact same day** Theresa was born!

I am happy to report that both are running strong after 66 years and look to do so for a long time to come!



At the Auction”

Recent sales of Lincolns at auction.

Vehicle	Auction	City	Date	Sale Price	Comments
1963 Lincoln Continental Convertible	Mecum	Kansas City	12/3/2022	\$96,800	Ground up restoration with some modifications. Triple black with custom wheels.
1979 Lincoln Mark V	Mecum	Kansas City	12/1/2022	\$15,400	Burgundy, white top, 40,556 miles.
1958 Lincoln Continental Mark III Convertible	Barrett Jackson	Houston	10/21/2022	\$82,500	Presidential black, tan interior, black top. Formerly owned by King of Belgium
1948 Lincoln Continental Cabriolet	Mecum	Chattanooga	10/15/2022	\$71,500	Dark blue, Tan convertible top, blue/grey interior.
1940 Lincoln Zephyr Coupe	Mecum	Dallas	9/8/2022	\$59,400	Green, tan interior. CCCA Full Classic. From the Butler Estate collection.
1935 Lincoln Model K V-12 Roadster	Mecum	Monterey	8/19/2022	\$198,000	Maroon, tan interior. LeBaron coachwork. AACA National First, CCCA Full Classic.
1956 Lincoln Mark II	Barrett Jackson	Las Vegas	7/1/2022	\$47,300	White, blue interior. A/C

**Sale price includes buyer commission.*

Classified Ads

Philadelphia Region Golf Shirts

For anyone who would like a Philadelphia Region LCOC embroidered golf shirt, we have limited sizes left. They are \$40 each and can be reserved in advance by emailing james.e.cappello@comcast.net Payment can be done at the banquet. The sizes available are Medium - Blue (Only 1 Left) Large - Blue - (Only 3 Left) XL - Blue (Only 5 Left) 2XL - Black (Only 4 Left) 3XL - Black (Only 4 Left) Orders will be reserved and confirmed. Get 'em while you can!



Philadelphia Region of the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club Membership Application and Data Sheet

Date: _____
 Name: _____ Spouse: _____
 Street: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 Zip: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Car(s) Owned:

Year: _____ Make & Model: _____

Year: _____ Make & Model: _____

Year: _____ Make & Model: _____

If you have more vehicles, please list them on a separate page

I am a member of the National LCOC: _____ (Signature)

Lincoln & Continental Owners Club Member Number: _____

You must be a member of the National Lincoln & Continental Owners Club in order to join the Philadelphia Region. If you are not a member, please log on to www.lcoc.org and follow the membership application instructions. Please return this application form with a check made payable to the Philadelphia Region LCOC and mail both to the Membership Chairman:

Lee. M. Caleen
15 Stauffer Road
Bechtelsville, PA 19505
(610) 367-1848
leeslincolns@yahoo.com

You can order the Custom Designed Lincoln Fender Cover for only \$19.95 UPS shipping included when paying your dues. Your membership includes a subscription to the Continental Star, and you will also receive announcements of shows, tours, and other club events.

Annual Dues Amount:	\$25.00	<u>\$25.00</u>
Fender Cover Amount:	\$19.95	_____
Total Enclosed:		_____



The Back Page...



Your faithful Editor's 1962 Lincoln Convertible in front of Fair Lane – the former home of Henry and Clara Ford, Dearborn, Michigan.

