

Excitement is building daily for the upcoming **2023 LCOC Mid-America National Meet** in Springfield Illinois! The Meet dates are from Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. The host hotel is the beautiful Crowne Plaza Hotel.



Springfield, Illinois, is an easy drive from almost any state. You will find that all the major interstates run to or through Central Illinois. Plenty of trailer parking will be available for those who wish to not drive their classics to the show.

While we can't guarantee cloudless 80-degree days all during the Meet, September is normally the best weather of the whole year, so hopefully we find no rain in our forecasts.

For several years now, this event has been in development and with all the scheduled activities, tours, special guest speakers and tech sessions that are lining up, it is clear this will unfold as a Meet that will be remembered for many years by all who attend. We expect it to be a very well attended gathering, going well beyond 100 classic Lincolns. It has been several years since we have held a meet in the middle part of the country and Lincoln owners are eager to get out to tour and show their cars.

It would be wise to register as early as possible. Cornerstone Registration will be handling all aspects of this Meet except for the hotel details. Attendees will need to reserve a room at the hotel. There is a link on the registration page to the Crowne Plaza Hotel website to reserve your room at the special LCOC room rate.

Unlike our Meets in the past, we have scheduled a Wednesday afternoon tour ahead of our traditional "Early"



Bird" light dinner. This tour will begin at 1:00 pm with a bus pickup at the Crowne Plaza Hotel for a tour of the Dana Thomas House designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. This house is perhaps the most complete of all the early Wright dwellings. It was never significantly altered and has over 100 pieces of original Wright designed oak furniture and 250 examples of art glass windows, light fixtures, and lamps.

Thursday morning will begin nice and early with an 8:30 am bus pickup at the Crowne Plaza Hotel with the first stop at the Lincoln Home National Historic site. The Lincoln Home has been completely restored to its 1860 appearance and reveals much about Lincoln as husband, father, neighbor, and politician. Next stop is at the highly regarded Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. This state-of-the-art facility was carefully designed with exacting historical detail. It tells the entire life story of our nation's 16th president.



On Thursday afternoon at 1:20 pm there is another bus pickup at the Crowne Plaza. The first stop is the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. Unlike any other presidential museum in the U.S., it features high-tech exhibits, interactive displays, and multimedia programs. Next stop is Lincoln's Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery. The 117 ft. granite tomb houses the remains of Abraham Lincoln, his wife and three of their four sons. At the entrance to the tomb, there is a huge bronze bust of Mr. Lincoln where visitors from all over the world have stopped to rub the nose of the statue for good luck.

The day will conclude with a wonderful buffet and welcome jazz party planned at the Lincoln dealership in Springfield, Green Lincoln of Springfield. Mr. Colin Liss, General Manager of Green Lincoln, will have a reserved area in front of the dealership and will also have some lucky attendees park their classic Lincolns inside this beautiful showroom from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We will have highly talented jazz musicians to entertain us while we enjoy hors d'oeuvres. Green Lincoln is a short easy 10-to-15-minute drive from our host hotel and will be a wonderful conclusion to a great day.



Friday morning plans for an amazing driving tour of the beautiful Central Illinois countryside. The tour will depart at 8:45 am. The tour route will take participants down the beautiful east side of scenic Lake Springfield. The destination is south of the lake to the garage and antique vehicle collection of Don and Vickie Henley. After viewing all of the Henley's amazing collection, the driving tour heads back out to cross Lake Springfield on a beautiful 1930's bridge and cruise to the Route 66 Motorheads Grill and Museum. After reviewing the Museum's incredible Route 66 artifacts and memorabilia, a delicious lunch will be served before the classic Lincolns head back to the Crowne Plaza.

As is tradition, on Friday afternoon there will be a general LCOC club meeting with all key officers in place to answer questions and give an update on the club's future. After the meeting, comes the tasty casual dinner buffet and auction. The auction will have an exciting new twist that you will not want to miss! This new auction plan is meant to encourage rarer higher quality items, stay tuned for details.

In addition to the various tours, Dick Koop will be providing a tech session on maintaining and bringing old leather back to life.



Of course, Saturday is show-time! This is always fun, and this year will be no exception with the show field packed with exquisite Lincolns and Continentals. Finally, the "Main Event" of our 2023 National Meet, the formal awards banquet! This will be a formal, black-tie optional, event. There will be a very special speaker from the Lincoln Motor Company to give us insight into the past and future of our favorite US company!

Please keep in mind the "International Route 66 Mother Road Festival" will be going on concurrent with our Meet so there will be vintage cars everywhere you look. Also, please note that Wednesday and Thursday's bus tours are limited to a maximum of 50 people due to bus size. This means some of the tours and events will fill up quickly so PLEASE enter your registration without delay.

See you in September!