

The *Continental* Star  
**Winter 2023**



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



*James Cappello and his 1983 Emilio Pucci Mark VI was winner of the Elliston H. Bell Founders Trophy in Springfield, Illinois at the Mid-America 2023 Meet.*

**The Continental Star**

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

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**Director's Message**

Dear Philadelphia Region Members,

As this year comes to a close, it's that time where I reflect back on the previous year.

This year has proved to be one of the most difficult that I and my family have ever had; I'm sure though that some of you, if not all, could certainly relate. I endured quite a lengthy hospital stay as I went through a very serious operation; Not to mention weeks of chemotherapy and rehabilitation. Thank the Lord though that I am feeling exponentially better and looking forward to an exciting and productive 2024.

This year was jam packed with many great car shows from the LCOC! The Eastern National Meet in May was held in Knoxville, Tennessee while the Mid-America Meet in September was held in Springfield, Illinois. Both meets were very well attended, which was such amazing news to hear!

More to come in the following pages on these two events.

I was contacted by the organizers of the Radnor Hunt Concourse D'Elegance to show our Continentals and Designers. Club members Tony Russo, Mark Langford, Bill Shelley, Mike Stinson, Mike Bradley, Pat Acierie attended along with myself.

With the holidays upon us as evidenced by going through the radio stations, Christmas music is already being played! Time to get your Christmas hams and all your shopping completed; So, deck the halls and set the table for the holidays.

Until next time, may the Good Lord hold you and yours in the palm of His hand. Have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Continentially Yours,  
Carl Villone  
Philadelphia Region Director



## Philadelphia Region LCOC Club News

### EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Summer leaves have changed color and fallen to the ground; those leaves ushering in the annual change to winter. I'd like to take a second to introduce myself as I am the Continental Star's newest Editor! My name is Michael Villone, son-in-law to the clubs Director Carl Villone. Some of you guys may remember me from the 2015 Eastern National Meet when I handled most of the technical & registration aspects of that meet. It is my absolute pleasure to be this years Editor! I will make it my number one priority to maintain the integrity of this publication. In this issue, we will be highlighting the events that have taken place in the last quarter including the Mid America Meet, Peddlers Village, Hershey and Radnor Hunt. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season! Happy Holidays & Happy New Year!!

*Michael Villone*

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### \*\*ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Philadelphia Region LCOC will be hosting the 2025 Eastern National Meet in Gettysburg Pennsylvania. The event will be held from September 17 through September 21. **Make sure to SAVE THE DATE!!**
- The 2024 Eastern National Meet is going to be happening sometime in September 2024. Details are being hammered out now!
- Have a wonderful and happy holiday everyone. Happy New Year as well



**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.

Sunshine

- ❖ Our hearts and prayers all go out to the family of Tony Russo as well as his wonderful wife, Fran.

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.

- ❖ Your previous Editor had to step down from his role because he has some new & very exciting things happening in his life! So as a club lets welcome his replacement & new Editor Michael Villone to the club! We know that he will continue to do everything he can to ensure the integrity of our wonderful publication. If you have anything you’d like to submit for the next publication, just shoot Michael an email at [comments.lcoc@gmail.com](mailto:comments.lcoc@gmail.com).

*Editor’s Note – if you have a newsworthy item regarding a member of the Philadelphia Region of the LCOC please forward it to your new 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.

<b><u>Member Name</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown</u></b>	<b><u>Vehicles</u></b>
Sean Houck	Baltimore, Maryland	1976 Lincoln Continental Mark IV Emilio Pucci Edition
Wendell Lilly	Silver Springs, Maryland	1964 Lincoln Continental



## Event Calendar

This calendar includes notable car shows and related events for 2024. These dates are tentative and will be updated as we get new information.

Event	Date	Location	For More Info...
Philadelphia Auto Show	1/12/24 to 1/21/24	Philadelphia, PA	<a href="#">Philadelphia Auto Show   2024</a>
AACA Annual Convention	2/08/24 to 2/10/24	Chantilly, VA	<a href="#">AACA Annual Convention</a>
Hamburg Swap Meet & Car Corral	03/03/24	Hamburg, PA	<a href="#">Hamburg Swap Meet &amp; Car Corral</a>
Southeastern Spring Nationals & Grand Nationals	04/04/24 to 04/06/24	Charlotte, NC	<a href="#">2024 Southeastern Nationals &amp; Grand Nationals</a>
2024 Eastern Spring Nationals	06/20/24 to 06/22/24	Saratoga Springs, NY	<a href="#">2024 Eastern Spring Nationals</a>
New Hope Auto Show	08/11/24 to 08/12/24	New Hope, PA	Stay tuned for updates in the Continental Star
Haddonfield Auto Show	09/07/24	Haddonfield, NJ	Stay tuned for updates in the Continental Star - Details are in the works!
2024 Eastern Fall Nationals	10/08/24 to 10/11/24	Hershey, PA	<a href="#">2024 Eastern Fall Nationals</a>
Peddlers Village: LCOC & Cadillac La Salle Club	10/13/24	Lahaska, PA	Stay tuned for updates in the Continental Star - Details to follow!

## **\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\***

The Philadelphia Region LCOC will be hosting the 2025 Eastern National Meet!! The Meet will be held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; September 17<sup>th</sup> through September 21, 2025.

You WON'T want to miss this very exciting event!!





## **Anthony Russo** **February 27, 1953 -- November 23, 2023**

Anthony R. "Tony" Russo, 70, a long-time resident of Skippack, PA, passed away after an illness on Thursday morning, November 23, 2023, at Bryn Mawr Hospital. He and his wife, Fran Fusco Russo celebrated their 21st wedding anniversary on June 8th of this year.

Born February 27, 1953, in Philadelphia, PA, he was a son of the late Anthony G. and Jeanne (Lembo) Russo. He was a 1971 graduate of Bishop Kenrick High School and earned his bachelor's degree from Cabrini College in 1975. He was the owner of Collegeville Financial Insurance Group for many years.

An avid horseman, Anthony was a co-founder of Ivy Hill Therapeutic Equestrian Center. He spent many years of his youth trail riding and competing in Western-style horse shows, where he won several ribbons for his riding skills. He was a member of Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church as well as the Commercial Club at Port Indian. He enjoyed time on the water, boating and wakeboarding and belonged to the Norristown Boat Club. Anthony enjoyed cutting and packaging his own meats, a skill he learned from his father. His greatest satisfaction, however, came from working on and collecting antique automobiles. He belonged to several antique car clubs, including the Lincoln Continental Owners Club, where he served as the National Chief Judge. Anthony won countless prizes, trophies, and accolades for his cars over the years.

Those who knew him often observed that Anthony always had a smile on his face. He was the type of person who would light up a room when he entered it, and he made countless friends wherever he went. Anthony loved singing Frank Sinatra songs, and shared his talents whenever he had the chance, to the delight of everyone who heard him. He was funny and generous and will be terribly missed.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his sister, Rosemary Gehrlein and her husband, Steven, of Betzwood, PA; and his beloved nephew, David Bradley and his wife, Meredith Dean, of Princeton Junction, NJ. He was preceded in death by his brother, Joseph N. Russo, in 1972.



## Eastern National Meet – Knoxville, TN – May 31 thru June 4, 2023 – James Cappello

Wednesday May, 31<sup>st</sup> was the beginning day of the show and a travel day for most. I arrived after a 5hr drive at about 1PM to check-in to the host hotel, the Holiday Inn Cedar Bluff Road in Knoxville, TN. The weather was picturesque the entire trip and we had several wonderful tours setup. The welcome reception Wednesday night was well attended for being a smaller show and the group was very intimate at the same time. There were several newcomers to the club showing for the 1<sup>st</sup> time which is always great to see. I think I was one of the few Philly Region LCOC members in attendance and I decided to show my 1983 Lincoln Mark VI Pucci Edition for the 1<sup>st</sup> time since the acquisition. I decided to trailer the car in since it is still sitting on the original Royal Seal tires the car was purchased with. Thursday's tour was at the Titanic Museum and was a true delight as the curators had so much knowledge they wanted to share. After the detailed tour and the pictures we headed off to lunch at the Sunliner Diner which was straight out of the 1950's with the cars, the décor and the staff attire. The food was wonderful and we all enjoyed our lunch tremendously. After we left there we had time to do some relaxing, car cleaning and mechanical judging before the evening festivities began. Dinner was on our own and we had a group that went to a local spot to grab some food before retiring at the hospitality suite and the hotel bar. The group was fun to hang out with and we had plenty of laughs while getting to know some of the new people in attendance.



Friday we started our day with the included continental breakfast at the hotel and we drove off to the Manhattan Project which is where they made the atomic bombs for World War II in Oak Ridge TN. The drive was picturesque as we made our way thru the Great Smoky Mountains. The tour talked about how the project was top secret and all of the things that needed to do in order to keep it that way. If you worked on the project you were provided base housing and other amenities so you didn't have to leave the compound. The town was literally bought out by the government to keep the project a secret. That was only the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the tour. We then headed to the American Museum of Science and Energy to put together what we had learned about atomic bombs and how that were created. All of the information was very fascinating and putting it together then made all of the difference in the world. From there we headed to Calhoun's Melton Lake Peninsula Restaurant for lunch on the water and an afternoon to finalize our mechanical judging and car cleaning if that was still needed prior to the dinner and Friday night auction. Somehow I was coerced into running the auction and while the event was smaller, I still managed to raise roughly \$2700 for the club. I made sure the people who attended had 2 things needed for the auction, booze and a bidders pass. You can't do anything needed without either. We had a lot of laugh and ended the night at the hotel bar after the hospitality suite was closed down for the night.

Saturday was show day, which is what every Lincoln Club member waits for. The judges breakfast started at the crack of dawn aka 7AM, which for us late night bar people was way, way, way, too early to even think about judging. I had a judging team assembled and we talked about the cars we had and the strategy to get them taken care of. The weather



was beautiful once again and even proved to be hot hat afternoon reaching about just below 90 degrees. Needless to say the sunburns were sneaking up on us. My day started with an exciting turn in which my trailer was blocked by not one, not two but 3 cars so that lead me to running around for 2 hours trying to find out who they were and getting them moved. It really is nice to have a mobile garage until something like that occurs. The show ended up have about 45 cars, 37 I believe were judged. The group really had a great time and the smaller show actually allowed for some sightseeing of my own. That is not something I normally have a lot of time to do. The banquet was very nice and I ended up winning the Primary Lincoln Bucket for my car which was awesome since it was the 1<sup>st</sup> time it had been shown. The previous owner of the car actually came down for the day to see the car and admire the other Lincolns on the show field. Sunday there was time for pictures, packing and heading back to the Charlotte area to catch up on rest and give my son Jack a big, big hug. We don't spend a lot of time apart as he is only 3yrs old and I will soon start bringing him to meets that are close enough as he loves daddy's Lincolns. Overall it was a wonderful meet and I am glad I was able to attend and represent the Philly Region.



## Mid-America Meet – Springfield, IL – September 20 thru 24, 2023 – James Cappello

Wednesday, September 20th was the beginning day of the show and a travel day for most. I arrived after a 13hr drive at about 2PM to check-in to the host hotel, the Crown Plaza Springfield in Springfield, IL. The weather was fairly nice the entire trip and we had several wonderful tours setup. The welcome reception Wednesday night was well attended and a much-needed relaxer after trailering the distance we did. There were several newcomers to the club showing for the 1<sup>st</sup> time, which is always great to see, and many regulars as well. There were several Philly Region members in attendance including but not limited to Tony Russo and David Bradley, Mike Bradley and Lee Caleen. I decided since I won the Primary bucket on my 1983 Lincoln Mark VI Pucci Edition that I would try my hand at the senior perpetual trophy this time. I decided to trailer the car due to the 800-mile journey to get to Springfield.



This show was a little different as they decided to set up a tour on Wednesday afternoon for anyone who was able to arrive late morning/early afternoon. I had planned on attending that but after the hours on the road and the little bit of sleep the night before, I could barely keep my eyes open. Thursday's tour was to the Abraham Lincoln Home and the Lincoln Presidential Museum. There was a second tour set up for the Lincoln Presidential Museum and the Tomb of Lincoln as well that I didn't attend. Instead of the afternoon tour Tony Russo, David Bradley, Benji Price and I decided to dine on some Midwest BBQ for lunch which was very tasty. That night we had an event planned at Green Lincoln in Springfield where they rolled out the red carpet with dinner, live music and spot on match for Abraham Lincoln Himself. Many of their customers were invited to meet the club members and see the beautiful Lincoln's on display. The weather was good enough to hold any rain off until after we arrived back to the hotel. I was able to get the car back in the trailer and keep her clean from any weather. The hospitality suite at this event was fantastic and well prepared for the amount of people they had attending.







Friday, we started our day with the included continental breakfast at the hotel and we drove off to a private tour of Henley's Garage. There we saw so many beautifully restored and original cars that it was very hard to pick your favorite. The Henley Family greeted us with lite snacks and refreshments and allowed us to tour the property. Mr. Henley even drove his 1920's Model A Fire Truck Conversion around the driveway for all to see and enjoy. John Walchek loved that and took several pictures which I am sure you will see in an upcoming magazine. From there we headed to Route 66 Motorheads Bar and Grill Restaurant for lunch. The place was packed with every square inch with some kind of motorcycle and car memorabilia. The food was great, and we had our own private room. The weather decided to go from beautiful with a passing shower to 3 hours of a down pour I had never seen. That afternoon there was time to finalize mechanical judging and car cleaning if that was still needed prior to the dinner and Friday night's auction. We had a lot of laughs and ended the night at the hospitality suite.

late night bar people was way, way, way, too early to even think about judging. I had a judging team assembled and we talked about the cars we had and the strategy to get them taken care of. The weather became beautiful once again and really turned out to be a great show day. The show ended up having about 70ish cars, 60ish I believe were judged. The group really had a great time and the show field allowed for some sightseeing of my own. The banquet was very nice, and I ended up winning the Elliston Bell Trophy for my car which was awesome since it was only the 2nd time it had been shown. As anyone knows, that is a huge honor in itself and I was very proud to have received such an honor.

Sunday there was time for pictures, packing and heading back to the Charlotte area to catch up on rest and give my son Jack a big, big hug. The drive took a mere 14 hours by myself and it was mostly wide open road until I hit the mountains of North Carolina. Overall it was a wonderful meet and I am glad I was able to attend and represent the Philly Region along with our other members who attended.



## Member Car Spotlight

[Article by Mike Bradley]

As a crazy Lincoln lover, not only do I love the cars, but crave the hunt as well. I decided to "thin the herd" and sell one; what do I do...continue the hunt. In recent years, I've had very good luck with National Craigslist searches. Recently (within the past 6 years) I have found a 1969 Mark III with 13K miles, a 1969 Thunderbird with 9,700 miles and 1979 Collector Series Mark V with 4,200 miles. I was up to 16 cars and decided to sell one, so I listed my 1976 Black



Diamond Mark IV. I was in no hurry to sell and back in September a fellow club member called to purchase the car. After it was picked up, I realized that my only Mark IV was gone. I have 3 Mark





III's, 7 Mark V's and an empty nest. So, it was back to Craigslist and I started to fish around. Then what shows up, a 1973 Mark IV in Minnesota with 20K original miles; the posting also had over 100 photos. It was priced a bit higher than what I wanted to spend but, I made an offer anyway. The dealership countered but it was still too much. It was listed on eBay two times...the first one, I didn't meet the reserve but on the second one, I most definitely did! When I

received the car, it was an untouched original with no paintwork and very few flaws. You will most likely see the car at a meet in the future. Every time I think there are no more, one inevitably pops up; it's uncanny.



## "At the Auction"

*Recent sales of Lincolns at auction.*

Vehicle	Auction	City	Date	Sale Price	Comments
1956 Continental Mark II	BringATrailer	Salem, OR	September 2023	\$28,500	Black with White & Red Upholstery, 368ci Y-Block V8, Three speed Automatic, Power windows
1970 Continental Mark III	BringATrailer	Sebastopol, CA	March 2022	\$16,250	Repainted Red, 90K miles, Dark red leather, 15" wheels,
1974 Continental Mark IV	BringATrailer	Tustin, CA	February 2023	\$4,500	Dark blue/Blue interior. Cruise Control, 15" steel wheels
1979 Continental Mark V	BringATrailer	Santa Fe, NM	September 2023	\$20,500	Teal with blue velour interior, A/C, Power steering
1982 Continental Mark VI Coupe Bill Blass	BringATrailer	Sioux Falls, SD	April 2022	\$27,250	Black/Candyapple with black leather interior. A/C. 15". Cruise control
1941 Continental Cabriolet	BringATrailer	Addison, IL	August 2023	\$19,555	Tan exterior/brown interior. Odometer reads 36K miles. Dual 6V batteries.
1960 Continental Mark V Convertible	BringATrailer	Torrance, CA	March 2021	\$50,000	Repainted Polaris white. 430ci V8. A/C, Dual antennas, Power windows

*\*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](mailto: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!



Photos



# Philadelphia Region Lincoln and Continental Owners Club Membership Application and Data Sheet

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 LCOC National:

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 in to [www.LCOC.org](http://www.LCOC.org) and follow membership application instructions. Please return this application form with a check made payable to the Philadelphia Region LCOC and mail both to the Club Treasurer, James Cappello (see below) address at bottom of page.

You can order the Custom Designed Lincoln Fender Cover shown in the Classified Section of this newsletter for only **\$25** plus S&H. 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
Lincoln Fender Cover	\$25.00
Shipping & Handling	\$10.00 (pick up free)
Total Enclosed	\$ _____

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The Back Page...



*Your faithful directors, 1978 Lincoln Continental Mark V Diamond Jubilee edition in front of the Shell station replica at the Gilmore Museum located in Hickory Falls Michigan.*

