

# The *Continental* Star

Ron Ross

Philadelphia Region Founding Member

1932 – 2024



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We dedicate this special edition of the Continental Star to Philadelphia Region Charter Member Ron Ross





## Director's Message

About My Friend and Colleague Ron,

He was always there for you, to support you and help with any task, or just to give advice. Nothing was too big or too small for him to handle.

I first met Ron at the 2002 New Hope Auto. He was judging the Lincoln Class. At that time I owned a 1979 Continental Mark V Bill Blass Edition and this was its first show. Ron came over to me and introduced himself and then went about his business to judge my car. I ended up with a 3rd place prize for my car. After it was over I asked Ron what deductions were taken so I could correct them. He gladly shared his expertise to help me correct what was needed.

Ron encouraged me to join the LCOC National and then the Philadelphia Region, which I readily did with his help. I became good friends with Ron over the next 3 years. We attended the Peddlers Village, New Hope, and the Ambler Car shows together.

In 2008 Ron and I were together at the LCOC National Meet in Lancaster when Ron approached me and asked if I would consider taking over as Philadelphia Region Director. After a little gentle nudging (he bought me dinner) I accepted the position where I have been for the last 17 Years.

Over the years, Ron and I have run the Philadelphia Region together. Ron in different capacities either as Membership Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Director, and everything else in between. He was always there to help.

In 2015 the Philadelphia Region hosted the Eastern National Meet in Glen Mills Pa, and in 2021 in Morgantown, Pa. at the Classic Auto Mall where Ron served as trophy chairman. Just an example of whatever the job, Ron was always there to assist. Sending out communications to the members assisting with membership renewal, and any Mark II technical advice to whoever needed it. Ron, along with his good friend Ray Bickert, were affectionally known as the Mark II Partners. They parted out Mark II's and helped folks all over the world with parts and even more importantly, sound advice.

In 2022 I was diagnosed with bladder cancer and needed chemotherapy, along with an operation. During my three month stay in the hospital Ron took care of running the Philadelphia Region and assured me that everything was going to be ok. "Don't worry I have everything under control", and he did. Ron always kept in contact with me to see how my recovery was going, and to see if I needed anything.

I was happy to be able to award him the Andy F. Goldenberg award at the 2021 Eastern National Meet for his efforts for the last 40 years of service to the club.

In 2024, Ron started to experience health problems. I visited him when I could and encouraged him to get strong so he could attend the 2024 Eastern National Meet in Morgantown, Pa. I really wanted him to attend the Meet as it was close to home for him, and it was a chance to show his Mark II again. Ron's health prevented him from attending and I really missed him at this meet in October.

In the past few years, we have lost some truly great friends including Ray Bickert, Tony Russo, and a few days ago Ron. Please keep all of them in your prayers.

Ron, we will miss you and may the good Lord hold you and keep in the palm of his hand forever.

Your Friend and Colleague,

Carl Villone



## Ron's 1957 Continental Mark II.

One of only 447 produced in 1957.

Purchased by Ron in 1983 after the car was "submerged" at a used car garage in Norristown.

Ron began a 10 year restoration to turn it into the show winning car that it is today.

This includes an LCOC primary first at the 2007 Eastern National Meet in Cherry Hill, NJ.



Ron with his 1956 Mark II at Wings and Wheels in Blue Bell, PA

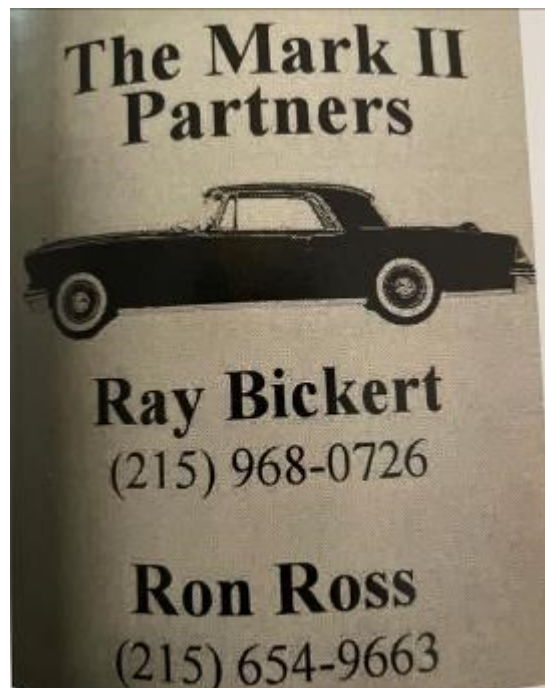


Ron's 1998 Mark VIII at the 2021 LCOC Eastern National Meet in Morgantown, PA

Ron and his good friend Ray Bickert helped Marks II owners across the world.

They parted out many Marks II's. Along with reasonably priced parts they provide sound advise.

*"We didn't make much money, but we met a lot of great people and we had fun" - Ron*



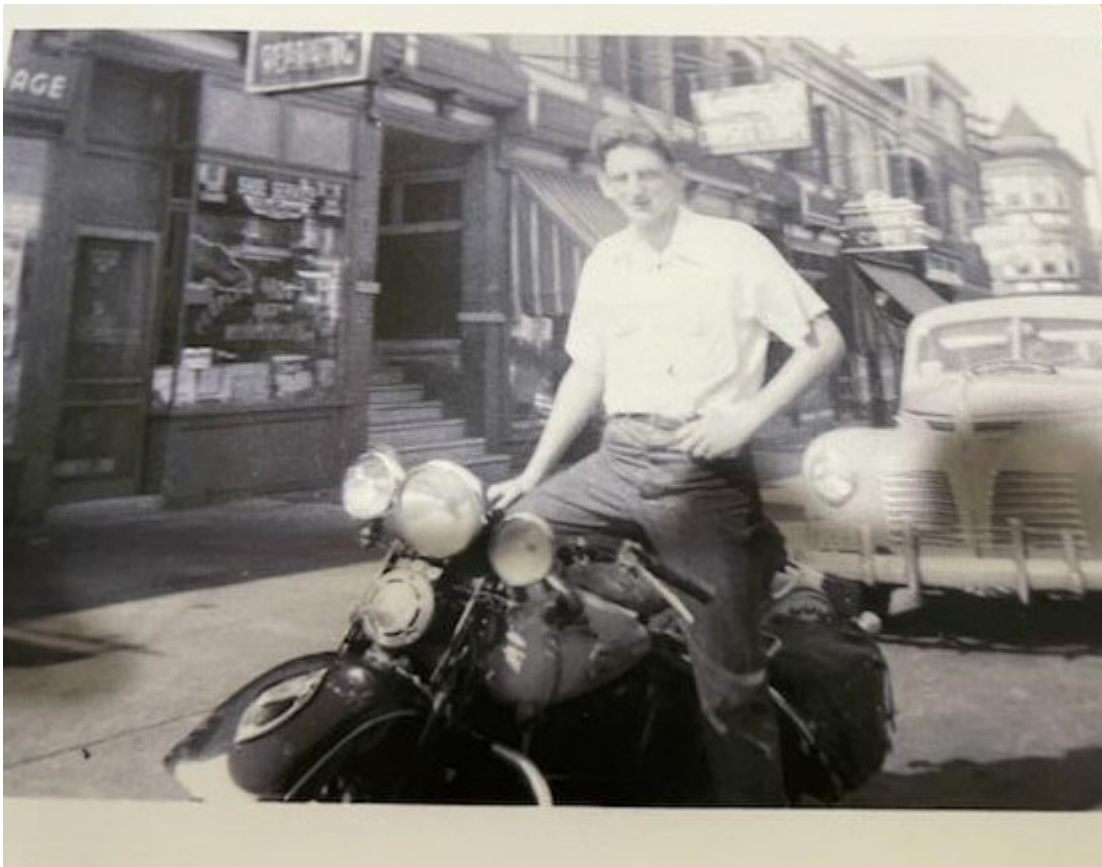
Ron with his white Versailles being judged at the 2007 Eastern National Meet in Cherry Hill, NJ



2010 Wings and Wheels in Blue Bell, PA



Carl, "George Burns", and Ron at the Philadelphia Region Dinner in 2009



Ron on the go in the 1940's Philadelphia



A few years later with his granddaughter Valerie





Ron—Top row on the left with the 2021 LCOC Eastern National Meet Committee in Morgantown, PA



Ron—Top row, 2nd from the left ,with the 2015 LCOC Eastern National Meet Committee in Glenn Mills, PA