

# The Continental Star

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LINCOLN AND CONTINENTAL OWNERS CLUB  
TEXAS GULF COAST REGION

BI-MONTHLY

May-June, 2010

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**THE CONTINENTAL STAR**, our official newsletter, is published bimonthly. Personal automotive advertisements are listed at no cost for members. For information, including commercial advertisement rates, contact the Editor.

Our monthly meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month unless otherwise announced.

Membership in the national Club (LCOC) is a requirement for joining the local club (TGCR). Annual membership in National is \$36 and Local is \$30. National dues run for a year from the time you join regardless of month. Members joining the local club in the last quarter of the year have their local dues automatically renewed for the next year.

## DIRECTORS REPORT

Wow – is it May already? It seems like just yesterday we were getting ready for the Salado Meet. This year is flying by, but that could be because of all the fun events we've experienced so far this year, and with more to come.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Salado Meet for 2010 was a record event this year with 41 cars registered and over 75 people at our awards banquet and ceremony. Plus we saw a few more Lincolns and their owners drop by that weren't registered that we met. We were also blessed with meeting new members and their cars from all three Texas regions, some of whom took home trophies. It was a fun filled weekend that everyone who attended enjoyed.

*(continued on page 5)*

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The contents of **THE CONTINENTAL STAR** are intended to be as factual and accurate as possible; however, the club assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of its contents. Articles by members are not necessarily endorsed by the club or its officers. Letters to the Editor are encouraged and may be printed unless otherwise requested.

## May Meeting

Logan's Roadhouse  
Sunday, May 23, 1:00

We'll eat lunch in a private room and start a food fight.

If we arrive about 12:45, we will probably be able to park our cars together.

Directions:

Hwy 290  
Outbound feeder road just north of Bingle

Map:

<http://maps.google.com/?q=12950%20N.W.%20Freeway+TX+77040>

## June Meeting

LaGrange Airport Air Show  
**Saturday**, June 5, 10:30

The La Grange Airport has an air show on the first Saturday of the month. They encourage car clubs to come out and show their cars and look at cars from other car clubs. Oh, yeah, there are some planes, too. BBQ is for sale on the grounds. For those wanting to caravan, we'll probably gather on I-10 west of Houston on Saturday morning. Watch your e-mail for details.

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## July Meeting

George H.W. Bush Presidential Library  
College Station  
**Saturday**, July 17

Meet somewhere on 290 and caravan to College Station. Watch your e-mail for details. Library website: <http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu/museum/>

# History Lesson

*Anniversaries that have come and gone since the last edition  
of the Continental Star*

February 5, 1952 - Walk/Don't Walk signs for pedestrians were introduced in New York City.

February 6, 1952 - The first pedestrian stupid enough to believe that motorists would obey the sign was flattened in New York City.

February 16, 1852 - Henry and Clement Studebaker founded H & C Studebaker in South Bend, Indiana. They offered blacksmith services and built wagons. Tragically, Clement was run over in 1912 while trying to nail a horse shoe to a Model T.

February 17, 1934 - The first Drivers Ed high school course in State College, Pennsylvania.

February 25, 1919 - Oregon was the first state to tax gasoline—a penny a gallon.

February 26, 1930 - Traffic lights were installed in New York City.

February 26, 1930 - Traffic lights were ignored in New York City.

March 1, 1937 - The first license plates for the purpose of identifying individual vehicles were issued by Connecticut. (*Ed note: This doesn't sound right to me.*)

March 10, 1964 - The first Ford Mustang was produced. (It was introduced to the public in April, 1964.)

March 30, 1947 - Preston Tucker announced that he would produce a radical new car, the Tucker. He would manufacture 51 of them, of which 47 survive

April 1, 1970 - American Motors introduced the Gremlin, the first American sub-compact car. AMC would manufacture 10,000,000,000 of them, of which 47 survive.

April 4, 1923 - Firestone began producing balloon tires (inner tube inside the tire.) That means Firestone also invented the flat tire, which they later perfected.

April 15, 1924 – Rand McNally published its first comprehensive road atlas. Women were thrilled. Men asked, “What’s this for?”

May 12, 1847 - William Clayton invented the odometer. To his friends, William was known as “Rollback Bill.”

# Sensational Salado

It was a terrific All Texas LCOC meet in Salado on April 23 and 24! We usually have about 30 cars, but this year we had 40 registered, and some volunteers joined the party. The quality was exceptional. In my opinion, it was the best overall collection of cars I've ever seen in Salado, including the National meet last year.

There were lots of cars we hadn't seen before, including:

- Richard Lucier's low mileage, red 1971 Mark III. We now have two high quality Mark IIIs in the Region.
- A beautiful 1964 sedan in silver that belonged to Gail Remy from Georgetown. I thought it was the top slabside.
- Greg Center's red 1979 Continental Mark V, one of an extraordinary array of Mark Vs.
- Donna Ritterbusch's 1979 Lincoln Continental in its first outing in 15 years.
- Bill Kunowsky's 2000 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series.

Dean and Diana Forbes showed their legendary 1956 Mark II, which appeared for the first time at Salado with a windshield.

Another highlight was Greg Alexander's and Jayson Melanson's 1958 Continental Mark III 4 door sedan, which is now in top condition.

The weekend started with information on the proper motor oil for older style engines. Pat Corbett (Lone Star Region Director) arranged for an expert to speak to members on the subject. Here is my non-technical, non-accurate summary:

Recently, most motor oils stopped including ZDDP (zinc ethylpropolenetriphenolexla.) (I may not have that quite right.) This chemical protects the tappets on old car engines. A ZDDP additive is available, but it isn't very effective unless the chemical is blended in when the oil is refined.

The expert recommends using diesel motor oil or racing oil. Both include ZDDP.

Continuing on the theme of lubrication, we assembled at Doc and Micki Ellis' City Garage for the usual Friday night fest. At the awards ceremony on Saturday, Pat Corbett expressed the appreciation everyone feels for the Ellis' great hospitality over the years.

Who won at Salado? See page 7.

**[See page 8 for links to pictures from Salado!](#)**

## Director's Report

(from page 1)

The weather forecast for Friday night was more than 70% rain, and at first when everyone arrived for the annual BBQ it was overcast and cloudy. Later on came a downpour that lasted for about 15 minutes. However, the BBQ was still a big success with the addition of the Lone Star Region finding the last tent in Austin that kept everyone dry (at least on the outside). Fortunately the rain moved through quickly Friday night and the rest of the weekend was sunny and dry. Our warmest thanks go out to Donald "Doc" Ellis for again hosting the BBQ at his City Garage – an event that everyone looks forward to with gusto each year. Everyone in attendance was well fed and lubricated throughout the evening.

### **Mark you calendar for Salado 2011: April 15, 16, 17, 2011.**

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone from all three Texas regions who participated, and made this a record event this year. Also, thanks to those who worked very hard to make everything go smoothly and fun for everyone, not to mention those who helped with judging, our cars. Special thanks goes to, Brian Brown of Dallas, TX who did a great job with the photography and power point presentation for our Awards Ceremony. Door prizes were awarded, trophies were presented and a good time was had by all.

Both the Texas Gulf Coast and Lone Star regions gained a new member each over the Salado weekend. Please join me in welcoming Texas Gulf Coast's newest member, Richard Lucier from Calvert, TX. He arrived in and showed his stunning 1970 Mark III with a very rare factory sunroof. We look forward to seeing Richard and his other Lincolns at our future events. So far we have signed up four new members this year in our region, but the task of new membership is still at hand. It's our members that make up our group and continue the long lasting fellowship, and everyone's continued participation keeps us all going. Keep a look out for other vintage and newer Lincolns and their owners who we can sign up – the more the merrier.

We have more exciting events scheduled in the coming months, so please plan to attend all that you can. Next month (6/5/10) we'll be taking a "drive trip" to the La Grange Airport Air show in La Grange, TX. In July (7/17/10) we have another "drive trip" scheduled to visit the George Bush Presidential Library in College Station. Both outings will give us an opportunity to caravan in our fabulous Lincolns and get them on the road as well as clean out any cobwebs.

(continued on page 6)

## For Sale – Continental Crème Puffs

**79 Collector's Series TC** Nothing wrong, stainless exhaust, redone details such as Chiropractically correct seats front/rear, and bright memories. Something we can haggle over, and come to a great deal for both of us. Let me know. I would like this car to stay in the TX family, and/or LCOC. SELLING...not profiting.

**63 Lincoln Convertible** Started its new life as a BAKER restoration, paint by Rick Liana, someone spent a LOT of money. Engine bay powder coated and detail finished mechanically by Arthur Apple. Bought by Tim Wrightman, football jock of Chicago Bears Super Bowl and UCLA Hall of Fame dude, then .... bought by ME...of all people. Great Memories...beautifully maintained and loved upon. SELLING Something around or south of \$28 k (realistically) will do. Both cars offered here before I go national, because I want these cars to enjoy the south and be "around". I am losing my mind, keeping my 58, and buying a 100% Electric LEAF. My ability to fiddle with more than one child is passing. Call Greg K Alexander, DC (281) 798-2460.

**Pictures:** [G. Alexander's For Sale](#)

### Director's Report

*(from page 5)*

In September many in our group are planning to attend this year's LCOC Mid-America National Meet in Lincoln, Nebraska. More information about meeting up for a caravan will be forthcoming as the time gets closer.

Don't forget the All Texas Fall Meet in Palestine, TX – Dates: October 8, 9, & 10, 2011 – host hotel to be announced.

Thanks again to all the members who make up our group. It's you, who with your fellowship make it fun and enjoyable in attending our events. And the cars – what, can I say but wow! What great Lincolns we have in our midst.

Until next time, here's to happy & safe motoring in the wonderful world of our Lincolns & Continentals.

Gary Birk  
Director, Texas Gulf Coast Region

# All-Texas Salado Meet 2010

## OFFICIAL WINNERS

### 1940 - 1960

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | 1958 Continental Mark III – Greg Alexander, Jayson Melanson |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | 1957 Lincoln Premiere Convertible – Bob Hardisty            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | 1941 Lincoln Continental Coupe – Jim, Mary Jo Vague         |

### 1961 - 1969 Convertible/Sedan/Coupe

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | 1962 Lincoln Continental Convertible – Joe, Lana Hill         |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | 1969 Lincoln Continental – Pat Corbett                        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | 1963 Lincoln Continental Convertible – Hank, Charlotte Henley |

### 1969 - 1976 Mark III-IV-V

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | 1977 Continental Mark IV – Bill Love, GW Cornelius |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | 1979 Continental Mark V – Greg Center              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | 1978 Continental Mark V – Wayne Orr                |

### 1970 - 1979

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | 1970 Lincoln Continental Coupe – Tommy Glazener, Tim Bagley |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | 1979 Lincoln Continental Sedan – Donna Ritterbusch          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | 1972 Lincoln Continental Sedan – Kurt Wetterling            |

### 1980 - 1989

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | 1986 Lincoln Town Car – Bernard Birk      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | 1980 Lincoln Versailles – Mort Wetterling |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | 1988 Lincoln Town Car – Eric Jackson      |

### 1990 – 2000

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | 1997 Lincoln Cartier Town Car – Bernard Birk    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | 2000 Lincoln Town Car Signature – Bill Kunowsky |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | None  |

### Best Of Show

- 1956 Continental Mark II – Dean, Diana Forbes

### Bluebonnet Award - Best of 2008 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners

- 1977 Lincoln Continental Town Car – Paul Youngjohn, Dean Theiss

### Betty L. Gray/Ladies Choice Award

- 1956 Continental Mark II – Dean, Diana Forbes

### Hardship Award

- 1979 Lincoln Continental Coupe with wipers permanently in the 2:00 position –  
Jeff Carowitz

# The Photo Album - Salado

Hold **-CONTROL-** down and click on any of the links in blue:

Click on any picture to see a larger image, or click on "Slideshow"  
in the UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER.

Thank you!!! to Bill Love and Gary Birk for the pictures.

**People!**

[On the Road to Salado](#)

**Cars!**

[40s, 50s](#)

**Party!**

[Friday Night at the Garage](#)

**Cars!**

[60s](#)

**People!**

[Saturday Dinner](#)

**Cars!**

[Mark III, IV, V](#)

## For Sale - Another Crème Puff!

1979 Lincoln Town Car 44,901 original miles, 2 owners - we're the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Original paint, original Michelin spare tire w/chalk marks from factory, original plug wires with 1979 stamped on them.

Exterior paint, chrome, glass, top and bright-work in excellent condition. Interior is "factory/showroom" new. Even the Cartier clock works. Power antenna works. Absolutely NO RUST anywhere.

Runs, drives and rides as new. Engine and drive-train in excellent condition. Car comes with original owner's manual, factory window sticker, copy of the title from the original owner, original build sheet, all receipts - replace/repair.

Car is available for inspection any time. Call Bernie @ 281-376-9622 or Gary @ 281-251-8950.

**Pictures:** [Bernie's 79 For Sale](#)