

The Continental Star

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

BI-MONTHLY

Nov-Dec, 2011

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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 3rd 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.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

We have just enjoyed our annual BBQ and potluck for 2011. This year our hosts were **Dean** and **Diana Forbes** at their new home in Katy. It was a great venue and everyone had a good time and lots of good food (as usual). We couldn't have asked for better weather either – no rain, not too hot, not too cool, just right. We had a lot of Lincolns in attendance with their owners and other classics as well.

As you know each annual BBQ we have elections to the Board of Managers. We have eight seated on the board and their terms are for three years. They're staggered so as one third of them will have their terms up each year. This year we reelected **Dean Forbes**, **Paul Youngjohn** and **Keith Steber** to the board for another three year term. Congratulations to them as they bring a lot of energy,

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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.

Miniature Shasta Travel Trailer

By Bill Prince

[Ed. Note: With the end of the NASA space shuttle program, TGCR member **Bill Prince** retired. However, you don't need to worry about how he is spending his time. And yes, there is a Lincoln connection.]

About 3 months ago, my daughter and son-in-law bought my grand kids two little 3 month old dachshunds. They are sisters named Lucy and Penny.

So I thought that I would design and build an interesting dog house. After some thought, I decided to build a miniature vintage Shasta (with wings) travel trailer, about 1/3rd scale. And I thought that I would use polished aluminum sheet for the outside skin. And on top of that, I thought that it would be neat to form the aluminum just like a real trailer. Of course the question was: How to do that? Well, I figured it out.

However, after about a month of part-time work on it, it was becoming apparent that the trailer was going to be too nice to give to the dogs. So I started to add more details to it. Now, I plan on showing it in the AutoRama and then just keeping it on display in my living room!

It is about 3 ft long, 2 ft wide, and 2 ft tall. I even have a starburst clock inside. (I made a miniature one.) It has a black and white floor, working jalousie windows, and will have miniature vintage travel stickers! The frame and sides under the skin are made of primed 1/2" treated plywood. It may weigh around 100 lbs, but I have not weighed it yet.

In the AutoRama, I will call it the "Short Short Trailer" starring Lucy & Penny, the Dachshund Sisters.

[Unbelievable – Ed.] **Pictures:** [Bill Prince's Mini Shasta Travel Trailer](#)

By the way, this relates to Lincolns! How? Well, in the *Long Long Trailer* movie starring Lucille Ball & Desi Arnaz, they drove a 1953 Mercury. However there was a flip-flub. The car pulling the trailer up a steep mountain road was a 1952 Lincoln! The reason was that the Lincoln had the power to pull the long and heavy trailer up the mountain, but the Merc could not. Recall the Road Race Lincolns of that era.

Membership Application Form

A membership application form is added to the end of this *Continental Star*.

Canadian Chrome, Eh?

TGCR member **Thom Liston** passed along some pictures and information on a remarkable collection of cars. They belong to Ted and Sharon Forbes of Sooke, British Columbia, Canada. According to the story that accompanies the pictures, they restored each car. The photos are good, and the cars look great. The collection:

55 Mercury convertible	56 Meteor Crown Victoria
55 Meteor (Canadian Mercury) convertible	58 Mercury convertible
56 Mercury Montclair convertible	58 Pontiac Parisienne (Canadian Pontiac) convertible
56 Ford Skyliner	59 Chevrolet convertible
56 Mercury (Canadian Ford) pick-up truck	59 Edsel convertible
56 Mercury Sun Valley	59 Oldsmobile convertible
56 Meteor convertible	64 Mercury convertible

Pictures: [Ted & Sharon Forbes Collection](#)

The e-mail with the pictures has a few lines about each car. If anyone is interested, let me know, and I'll forward the note.

We Have A Banner!!!

By Gary Birk

Yes, everyone, the Texas Gulf Coast Region has a new banner. It was unveiled at our Annual BBQ on Sunday, November 6. Everyone who attended and got to see the unveiling thought it to be wonderful.

The Board of Managers has been working on this for some time now. And with the help of **Keith Steber's** artwork, everyone's input, and **Paul Youngjohn's** contact with the manufacturer we finally have a banner to be proud of and to display at our events.

Thanks to everyone involved in finally making this a reality.

Otto's in August

These pictures from our August visit to Otto's Barbecue in Sugar Land will remind you of those balmy August days and nights.

Pictures: [Otto's - August, 2011](#)

Thanks for the pictures to Gary Birk!

Northpark Barber Shop - October

The weather was perfect, there was a great variety of cars, and we showed seven Lincolns and one Caddy at this annual show. Great time!

Pictures: [Northpark Barber Shop - October, 2011](#)

Thanks for the pictures to Gary Birk!

History Lesson

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

August 26, 1957: The first Edsel rolled out. Several spectators pointed and laughed.

October 13, 1957: Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra introduced the Edsel on an hour-long special. Neither would be caught dead behind the wheel of one.

October 19, 1982: John Z. Delorean was arrested and charged with drug trafficking and money laundering. In an FBI sting, he was filmed arranging a multi-million dollar cocaine deal. Delorean owners everywhere ransacked their glove compartments, trunks, and spare tires.

Delorean's defense was entrapment, and a jury agreed. He was acquitted.

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Cars & Parts

1987 Lincoln Town Car - 44k miles, velour interior. Like new inside and out. \$7,000 firm. (TGCR member) **Sonny Stephenson** (832) 282-4546

Pictures: [Sonny Stephenson's 1987 Town Car](#)

1986 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Has been garaged all its life. Original paint which is still very strong and runs great and is loaded. Less than 55K miles. The only item that needs attention is the glove compartment door, which is bowed out of shape. A replacement is \$50 at the dealer or on the internet. The driver seat shows normal wear, and you might want to shampoo it, but there are no rips or tears in it and all other seats are perfect. Comes with Purple Heart License plates, clear title, all stickers up to date. Will take reasonable offers - motivated seller. Contact DJ @ (409) 5999-7525.

New Radiator for 1963 Lincoln Continental - I am with Brassworks; we restore & replicate radiators for classic cars. We are well known for our Ford Model Ts & As, but we regularly restore all other types of vehicles. We recently replicated a radiator for a Lincoln Continental. Long story short, this is an extra radiator without an owner that we dub "orphan" around here. We don't like orphans sitting around, so we are taking \$220 off this radiator & selling it for \$500. I do not know if there is a span of years that this radiator will fit, but it was intended for a 63 Lincoln Continental sedan. If anyone is interested, would like more info, double check dimensions, etc., call us direct at (800)342-6759.

Holen Johnson

The Brassworks
500 Linne Rd Unit I
Paso Robles, CA 93446
(805) 239-2501
www.thebrassworks.net

Holiday Party

The 2011 holiday party is coming up—Sunday, December 11, 2011. The site will again be the beautiful Houston Yacht Club. Bring your Mark for a class portrait. Invitation and details on pages 9-10. **RSVP by Friday, December 2!**

Director's Report (from page 1)

work and insight to our region. It's a pleasure working with them and the other board members to help make this such a wonderful group.

The director's position, however, is an annual term elected by the Board of Managers from within the Board. This year the Board has elected me again for another year's term. I can't thank everyone enough for all their support in the past and look forward to working with you all again this next year.

As I stated at the BBQ we really do have a great group of members. Everyone is always willing to help out whenever and wherever they can within the club. It's very positive to others entertaining the idea of joining. Our group's camaraderie is infectious too. Membership is the lifeblood of the organization, and without our members we have nothing but ourselves and our cars. Unfortunately we have lost a few members this year due to illness and their passing. They will surely be missed but will always remain with us in spirit and in fond memories. Let's make some more memories this year by getting more people involved to join our group.

December is coming up and we'll top off the year with our Annual Christmas Party at the Houston Yacht Club. Everyone knows this is one of the highlights of the year and it's a well-attended event.

I wish to congratulate again the re-election of our Board Members **Dean Forbes, Paul Youngjohn** and **Keith Steber**. And I again thank them and you all for your support and confidence in me to remain as your Director for 2012.

Gary Birk

More Glory for Gary

At the barbecue this year, National LCOC President **Glenn Kramer** announced that **Gary Birk** is the new Executive Vice President of the National club. Gary succeeds Art Whitmire, who passed away after a short illness.

The National club is in very good hands!

History Lesson (from page 4)

November 2, 1902: Andrew Riker sold his first Locomobile. (Apparently, Mr. Riker didn't speak Spanish.) It was a Model C with four cylinders, and a gasoline engine that cranked up a mighty 12 horsepower. The price was definitely mighty--\$4,000! Or if you prefer, \$333.33 per horsepower.

November 10, 1903: Patent No. 743,801 was awarded to Mary Anderson of Birmingham, Alabama. Her invention was a "window cleaning device for electric cars and other vehicles to remove snow, ice or sleet from the window." No, it wasn't her husband. It was windshield wipers.

Secret Code

(The source of this information is the website www.classicmustang.com, copyright 1998, Howard Duffy.)

When I saw a part number like C2SZ-20778-B, I figured:

- (1) Someone at Ford is as bad a typist as I am; or
- (2) It was the name of the engineer, who was Czechoslovakian.

Actually, there is some method to the madness of numbers and letters.

C3VB-14529-A: The decade in which the part was made.

- A** for the 1940s
- B** for the '50s
- C** for the '60s
- D** for the '70s
- L...** is for the way you look at—no, wait, that's different.

C3VB-14529-A: The year in the decade—in this case, 1963.

C3VB-14529-A: The make of the car.

- C** for remanufactured parts between 1966 and 1975
- F** for outside sales beginning with 1962
- L** for 1958-60 Lincoln and for Mark series beginning with 1969
- P** for Motorcraft and Autolite beginning with 1962
- R** for Rotunda (Ford Europe) parts from 1962 to 1969
- S** for Thunderbird starting with 1958
- V** for 1961-1981 Lincoln
- And there are many others.

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Secret Code

(from page 7)

C3VB-14529-A: The “source” of the part.

B is body and electrical product engineering

C is a chassis part from Powertrain and Chassis Engineering

E is an engine part from Powertrain and Chassis Engineering

F is the electrical and electronics division of Product Engineering

H is the climate control division of Product Engineering

J is the Ford parts and service division of the Parts and Service Engineering office

V is the Vehicle Special Ordering and Engineering section

W is the transmission and axle engineering part of Powertrain and Chassis Engineering

Y is the Ford parts and service division of the Parts Engineering Office for the Lincoln-Mercury Division Service Parts

T is for I’m Tired of reading about this, even though there are many others.

C3VB-14529-A: The part number. Enough said.

C3VB-14529-A: The “version.” If you see the same part number with a later version (–B, –C, etc.), the later version will also fit. But if this was C3VB-14529-B, the same part number ending in –A might not fit.

Some parts are stamped with a code showing the date of manufacture.

Whew! This is almost as interesting as fantasy football. It really puts the *numb* in numbers. But it’s one more thing to argue about at the next meeting.

I Read It On The Internet, So It Must Be True Department

The 1958 Edsel included some interesting features:

- Self-adjusting brakes—a first.
- Floating speedometer that glowed when a pre-set speed was reached. Neat-o keen-o... when it worked.
- The transmission was locked in Park until the key was turned—a first.
- Hood hinged in the front for safety. Not so safe, I guess, when you’re working on something, the wind is blowing from the front of the car, and the hood conks you on the head.
- Electrical hood release with switch inside the car.
- 60/40 front seat split.

Texas Gulf Coast Region

Holiday Meeting

Sunday, December 11, 2011

The Houston Yacht Club

1:00 PM

The December Holiday Meeting of the Texas Gulf Coast Region will be held at The Houston Yacht Club, in La Porte / Shore Acres, overlooking beautiful Galveston Bay. (Directions below) The Commodore's Room on the second floor of the Spanish Mission-style clubhouse will be our meeting spot.

Come join us at this National Historic Site and home to the oldest yacht club in Texas, where we'll enjoy the warm friendly atmosphere, beautiful views of Galveston Bay, our own sumptuous buffet and the camaraderie of fellow car-lovers in a festive holiday setting. You are heartily encouraged to drive your Lincoln.

The buffet will be available for us starting at 1:00 PM. The cost of \$ 25.00 per person includes meal, non-bar drink, dessert and gratuity. This cost is based on our having a minimum of twenty-five persons. Bar drinks are available on a cash bar basis. So please try to join your fellow Lincoln lovers for this fun event. And drive your Lincoln for a great photo-op. If you have a Mark II – Mark VIII, please bring it.

We need your reservations with check by Friday, December 2. Use the Reservations Form below for reply.

The gift exchange that we have done in the past is so popular that we will do it again this year. To participate, bring a wrapped gift for a person of your same gender, the cost of which is about \$ 10. We'll exchange them in the same round-robin fashion as before.

HOLIDAY MEETING RESERVATION FORM

Return by Friday, December 2, 2010

Name _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Number of Buffet reservations at \$ 25 each _____

2012 TGCR Dues included **\$ 30 *** _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED **\$** _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TGCR

***SAVE-SAVE-SAVE ! Why not also enclose your check for 2012 TGCR dues in the same envelope and save postage and an extra envelope. Or better yet, write only one check for \$ 55.00 for both the Holiday Buffet (\$25) and your 2012 TGCR dues (\$30), and save even more ! Such a Deal !**

**Mail to: Malcolm Perry
 Treasurer TGCR/LCOC
 4156 Meyerwood Drive
 Houston, Texas 77025**

Holiday Meeting Driving Directions:

From Houston take TX Hwy 225 east to TX Hwy 146

**Go south on TX Hwy 146 through the city of La Porte to Choate Road.
(Choate Rd is called Shore Acres Blvd. to the east of Hwy 146)**

As you reach the intersection of TX Hwy 146 and Choate Road / Shore Acres Blvd., you will encounter extensive road construction. Be alert, drive carefully.

Turn left (east) onto Shore Acres Blvd. Note: Do not exceed speed limits.

Cross Old Hwy 146 at flashing light. Continue on past Shore Acres Police Dept.

(If you exceed the speed limit here –30 mph – you will make a holiday donation to the Shore Acres Police Benevolent Fund)

Go to Sunrise Dr. (Stop sign)

Turn right (south) onto Sunrise Dr., continue to Baywood St.

Turn left (east) onto Baywood St.

Drive to end of Baywood St. directly into Houston Yacht Club



**LCOC & TEXAS GULF COAST REGION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

DATE: _____

NAME: _____ **SPOUSE:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone (H): _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Phone (O): _____ **Fax:** _____

LINCOLNS & CONTINENTALS OWNED

YEAR: _____ **MODEL:** _____

VIN-ID #: _____ **COLOR:** _____

PLEASE LIST ADDITIONAL VEHICLES ON BACK OF THIS APPLICATION

PLEASE LIST A BRIEF HISTORY, AND A PICTURE, IF AVAILABLE OF YOUR VEHICLE FOR OUR FILES. WE LIKE TO FEATURE NEW MEMBERS' VEHICLES IN OUR BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, IF AGREEABLE WITH YOU.

NATIONAL LCOC DUES ARE \$42.00 ANNUALLY. LOCAL TGCR DUES ARE \$30.00 ANNUALLY AND RUN FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31. MEMBERS JOINING TGCR IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THE YEAR HAVE THEIR FOLLOWING YEAR'S DUES RENEWED AUTOMATICALLY. NOTE: THIS APPLIES ONLY TO OUR LOCAL TGCR AND NOT THE NATIONAL CLUB.

JOINING THE NATIONAL CLUB (LCOC) IS A PREREQUISITE TO JOINING THE TEXAS GULF COAST REGION OR ANY OTHER LOCAL REGION.

THE TOTAL COMBINED ANNUAL DUES FOR BOTH NATIONAL (LCOC) AND OUR REGION (TGCR) IS \$72.00 FOR NEW MEMBERS. MAKE ONE CHECK FOR \$72.00 PAYABLE TO TGCR/LCOC AND THE TGCR WILL MAIL A CHECK TO THE LCOC TO COVER YOUR DUES FOR LCOC ALONG WITH PERTINENT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CAR, SAVING YOU TIME AND POSTAGE. MAIL YOUR CHECK TO:

**MALCOLM PERRY, TREASURER TGCR-LCOC
4156 MEYERWOOD
HOUSTON, TX 77025 / H: 713-664-1415**

The TEXAS GULF COAST REGION (TGCR) is one of 22 regional clubs that make up the national organization, the LINCOLN & CONTINENTAL OWNER'S CLUB (LCOC). Membership in both clubs is open to anyone interested in Lincoln and Continental vehicles. Ownership of a Lincoln or Continental is not a requirement. However, membership in the national organization (LCOC) is a prerequisite to joining a local region.

The national club (LCOC) was formed in 1953, by former Ford Motor Company employees and enthusiasts in Michigan, to recognize and preserve the historically classic 1940 through 1948 Continentals. As interest spread, other regions were formed and other models of Lincolns and Continentals were invited to join. Today there are LCOC members in Europe, Japan, and South America, with regional clubs in Norway and the United Kingdom, making LCOC a truly international organization.

The local Houston club, TGCR, was formed in 1986 and is now one of the most active, vocal and recognized regions in the national club. One of our local members is currently the LCOC National President.

Locally we have regularly scheduled monthly meetings, usually held on the 3rd Saturday or Sunday of each month, unless otherwise announced. These meetings alternate between informational meetings and driving trips to local places of interest to our members. The meetings provide members an opportunity to learn more about their cars and the enjoyment of driving them. Meetings and activities include a restaurant stop where we can "kick tires" and enjoy social camaraderie.

Each spring, TGCR joins with the other Texas regions at a weekend meet and show in Salado, TX. Each October, we meet with the other Texas regions for a second weekend meet in a city to be determined each year. TGCR has also had ad displays at AUTORAMA, and individual cars have been displayed at numerous local car events including "Wooden Keels & Classic Wheels" and the Houston Auto Show. Additionally we participate in all three National Meets held annually by LCOC, local charity events and promotions, etc. Our December meeting is a holiday dinner meeting.

LCOC holds 3 National Concours d' Elegance Meets annually, one in the East, one in the West and one in Mid-America. A regional club in each of these areas hosts each of these National Meets. The TGCR has been responsible for Mid-America Meets in Houston in 1989, 1997, 2001, and in Salado, TX in 2009. These meets consist of a 3-day weekend featuring a reception on Friday evening, a judged Concours d' Elegance

event during the day on Saturday, and a Saturday night dinner awards banquet. These meets regularly attract 100+ cars from all over the country.

LCOC membership includes *CONTINENTAL COMMENTS*, a quarterly professional publication, along with advice and assistance in securing parts, services, etc., to keep your collectible auto in top condition. In addition, TGCR members receive a bi-monthly newsletter, *The Continental Star*, with a schedule of our local activities, meetings and news relative to our local members.

TCGR members' cars range from LCOC Senior trophy-winning show cars to daily drivers to "projects in progress." Their diversity reflects the individual interests of the many members who share an appreciation for the care, maintenance, restoration and preservation of these fine motor cars. We have enclosed an application for your consideration. Remember, you must be a member of the National (LCOC) in order to be a member of the local region (TGCR). Call the numbers listed below if you have any questions.

We welcome your membership.

Texas Gulf Coast Region (TGCR)

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