



# Lincoln and

# CONFAB

# Continental

Western Region Lincoln and Continental Owners Club Publication

Volume 37, No 2, Feb., 2008



*John Rutenberg's 1980 Continental Mark VI Sedan at Bakersfield.*

## John Rutenberg's Continental Mark VI Sedan

John Rutenberg of Los Angeles brought a deep red 1980 Continental Mark VI Signature Series Sedan to the Western Region 2007 Fall Meet in Bakersfield. He bought the car a few years ago from Chuck Goode of San Diego. This is a high point car with 32,000 miles. It was previously shown at the Western Region 2007 summer picnic in Yorba Linda Regional Park. It has nearly every option offered on the Mark VI that year including leather seats. Most of the seats were velour. This car in 1980 listed for \$26,000 which equates to about \$140,000 today. Basically it was the S-600 Mercedes of its day. In 1980 and 1981 Lincoln only built about 2,000 of these Signature Series cars in the two door and four door combined.

Some of the special standard equipment on the Signature Series was the gold option, painted wheels to match the body, deck lid to match the roof, special carpet, bumper stripes to match the body, license plate frames to match the body, turn signal lamps

to match the body, special gold and red stripes that go down the center of the body, etc. This car has the 351 Cleveland engine with Variable Venturi carburetor.

The headlights include touring lights which you turn on at dusk and then at dark the touring lights automatically flip out of the way and the standard headlights appear. The touring lights are a throwback to the twenties when classic cars had touring lights for twilight driving but they were not automatic. Touring lights were a Mark VI option. A sunroof was the only option not ordered for this car. The car does not have a sunroof because it has a coach roof padded top, not a full padded top. In 1980, you had to order a full padded top to

**(Continued on Page 6)**



*Touring light position.*

*Standard headlights position.*



## Board of Managers & Officers LCOC Western Region

### Board of Managers

Mike Gribble.....2009  
Geoff Weiner.....2009  
Marv Wendt.....2009  
Norm Hoskins.....2010  
Shirley Richards.....2010  
Tom McCarthy.....2010  
Bob Gee.....2008  
Bruce Hutchinson.....2008  
Bob Reed.....2008

### Director

Mike Gribble.....(951) 204-8685  
[mrgrestgroup@msn.com](mailto:mrgrestgroup@msn.com)

### Assistant Director

Norm Hoskins.....(714) 970 3813  
[norhos@msn.com](mailto:norhos@msn.com)

### Secretary

Marv Wendt.....(760) 375 5337  
[marvnjan@iwvisp.com](mailto:marvnjan@iwvisp.com)

### Treasurer

Bob Reed.....(805) 581-4866  
[chambersheetmetal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chambersheetmetal@sbcglobal.net)

### Membership

Shirley Richards..(818) 992-4537  
[lcocwesternreg@msn.com](mailto:lcocwesternreg@msn.com)

### Confab Staff

Tim Howley, Editor [t.howley@cox.net](mailto:t.howley@cox.net)  
Phone (760)739-0332  
Tom McCarthy, Associate Editor,  
[tfmccarthy85@verizon.net](mailto:tfmccarthy85@verizon.net)  
Phone (951)698-4300

### Projects

Baron Night.....(714) 523-1909

### Webmaster and Northern California Activities

Jeremy Sanford....(916) 488-3936  
[jsanford@surewest.net](mailto:jsanford@surewest.net)

### Southern California Activities

Norm Hoskins  
H (714) 970-3813 [norhos@msn.com](mailto:norhos@msn.com)

### Central California Activities

Joe Caillau [jcaillau@aol.com](mailto:jcaillau@aol.com)

### Sunshine Girls

**North**, Georgette Poole..(408) 371-7653  
[geopole@comcast.net](mailto:geopole@comcast.net)

**South**, Helen Hutchinson (818) 360-3865  
[HBHutchinson@Verizon.net](mailto:HBHutchinson@Verizon.net)

## director's message

We just had our kick-off dinner and board meeting at the La Vie en Rose restaurant in Brea. See Tom McCarthy's article and John Walcek's pictures describing these events. Many areas of activities and events were discussed about our club at the meeting and in future months you will see that things are really moving ahead.

Our next event is a Day at the Races arranged by Karen Frazier on March 8. Please call her to make reservations as soon as possible. The cut off date to sign up is March first. Then it's Fabulous Fords Forever at Knott's Berry Farm on April 20. The cut off date to sign up is April 7. As is the case with everything in the new computer world you can down load an application by going to [www.fordcarclubs.org](http://www.fordcarclubs.org) and download an application or call them at 626-969-0620. We are planning to have a group breakfast like we did last year at the Courtyard Room buffet restaurant next to the Chicken house at 9:30. We will meet outside the Courtyard Room at 9:15 and go in as a group. Cost for the breakfast is in the \$11.00 to \$12.50 range.

Plans for the Western National Meet are really starting to come together but we always need more volunteers to sign up to help so if you would like to participate please contact me or Norm Hoskins. The host hotel is the Irvine Marriott. The show will be at William Mason Regional Park in Irvine. A tour of the Art Astor car museum is planned for Friday. He has one each of every Ford made for the 50's thru 60's. With 900 cars on display in 200,000 square feet of space it is a must see. We will serve a lunch during the tour. We are also planning a boat tour of Newport Bay. Mark your calendars for October 8 to 12. This is the first National Meet we have had in southern California since 1999. Our summer picnic will be held at Mason Park on July 20 to familiarize our members with the location of the park for the meet.

*Mike and Janet*

The Continental Confab is published and mailed every six weeks. Dates as published annually. The deadline for submitting articles and ads is 20 days prior to the planned mailing date. All articles and ads should be submitted in writing to: 1780 Iris Way, Escondido, CA or e-mail [t.howley@cox.net](mailto:t.howley@cox.net).

Western Region dues are \$30 a year; add \$10 for Western Region membership outside the U.S. (Canada or Mexico). All dues are payable in U.S. currency to Western Region Membership Chairman, 9318 Chaparral Road, Canoga Park, California 91304-1206. Membership in the Western Region of LCOC is open to all parties interested in Lincoln Continental automobiles. Ownership of a Lincoln automobile is not necessary to join LCOC. You must, however, be or become a member of the National LCOC to be eligible to join the Western Region. Dues are in addition to Region dues. The Continental Confab is the official publication of the Western Region LCOC. It is distributed by First Class Mail to Western Region Members. Material contained in the Confab is intended to be as factual as possible, but neither the Western Region nor the editors assume any responsibility for the correctness of the material or its sources. Nothing in the Confab may be reproduced without the written permission of the editors and the Western Region Board of Managers. Car-related marketplace ads are free to members, except those conducting a commercial enterprise. Ads will run for three issues. Advertisers must contact editors to extend or modify ads. Non-member ads are \$10 per issue, with a three issue minimum. We request you notify editors when vehicle or parts are sold. All free ads are subject to editing and space availability. The deadline for submission of articles or ads is the 20th of the month prior to the issue requested. Publication and mailing shall be the first of the month, bi-monthly. All article contributions may be submitted in writing to: Confab, 1780 Iris Way, Escondido, CA 92027.

## Coming Events

### Southern California

#### Saturday, March 8th

A Day at the Races  
Santa Anita Park, Arcadia, CA

#### Sunday, April 20th

Fabulous Fords Forever &  
Brunch  
Knott's Berry Farm  
Buena Park, CA

#### Sunday, July 20th

Annual Membership Picnic  
George Mason Park  
Irvine, CA

#### Saturday, September 6th

Lincoln's at a Dealership  
Today Lincoln Mercury  
Oxnard, CA  
Wednesday to Sunday

#### October 8th to 12th

Western National Meet  
Marriott Hotel  
Irvine, CA

### Northern California

#### Sunday, April 6th

Towe Auto Museum  
Sacramento, CA

(This has  
been  
changed  
from April 13)

#### Sunday, June 1st

Membership Picnic at a Winery  
Cline Cellars  
Sonoma, CA

#### Sunday, August 10th

Blackhawk Auto Museum  
Danville, CA

### Central California

#### Saturday, March 1st

Fresno Blossom Trail Ride  
Fresno, CA

# A Day at the Races

Saturday, March 8th Santa Anita Park  
Arcadia, California

GATES OPEN: 10:30 a.m. RACES BEGIN: 12:30 p.m.

GROUP AREA: "FRONTRUNNER" Santa Anita's glassed,  
indoor gourmet dining room

SPECIAL PRICE: \$55.00 includes, valet parking, program,  
admission & Lunch

ATTIRE: Ladies: Dress or Suit Men: Sport Coat and  
Slacks/Suit/collared shirt or turtleneck (no denim, athletic shoes,  
ball caps, visor, t-shirts etc. ..

Call Karen Frazier if you have questions)

**CUT OFF DATE: February 24th, 2008** (we need to mail you  
ALL your tickets)

COORDINATOR: Karen Frazier P.O. Box 720687 Pinon Hills, CA  
92372-0687 Phone: 760 868-1466

PAYMENT: Make check To: L.C.O.C and mail to Karen Frazier



## *Fabulous Fords Forever*

Knott's Berry Farm, Buena Park

Sunday, April 20

This year, we again plan on having a Brunch at the Courtyard Room, which is within the Park and reasonably close to our show area. We plan to meet outside the restaurant at 9:15 a.m. and go into the restaurant as a group at 9:30 a.m. This gives us time to get our cars in place and get over to the restaurant.

This show is open to all vehicles of Ford vintage and has a capacity of nearly 2,000 cars – and it almost always sells out. The vehicles are parked in groups per brand vintage. There is no judging except for a few overall awards – basically it is a fun show with lots of visiting and viewing. The show closes to late cars at 10:00 a.m. sharp and is over at 3:00 p.m. Our Club shares a booth in the General Area with the LZOC Club and manning rests primarily with Baron Night, our Projects Manager.

Consider joining us this year – it's a casual way to start off the year with your car.

Website: [www.fordcarclubs.org](http://www.fordcarclubs.org) <<http://www.fordcarclubs.org/>>

E mail: [info@fordcarclubs.org](mailto:info@fordcarclubs.org) Many of these issues also have a flyer outlining how to register on line or by mail.

# Valentine's Day Kickoff Dinner

February 9



*Above: Geoff Weiner, Bob Parker, and George Richards.  
Below, some of the gang at the registration table.*



*Above, Mike Gribble with  
Larry and Karen Frazier.  
Right, Marv Wendt wins  
the 50/50 raffle jackpot.*



*Right, the 2008 Western Region  
Board of Directors:  
Left to right back row, Bruce Hutchinson,  
Norm Hoskins, Shirley Richards, Marv  
Wendt, Geoff Weiner.  
Front row left to right, Bob Gee, Mike  
Gribble, Tom McCarthy, Bob Reed.*

Visit us on the  
World Wide Web Region:  
[www.lcocwestern.org](http://www.lcocwestern.org)  
National:  
[www.lcoc.org](http://www.lcoc.org)



**Joe Caillau's Early  
Spring Fresno  
Blossom Trail Tour  
Saturday, March 1, 2008  
Enjoy the Lush and Verdant  
Countryside of the  
Rural Central Valley**

It will wind through the foothills of the Sierra southeast of Fresno and west of Kings Canyon/Sequoia National Park. We will stop frequently for photo opportunities galore, and lunch in charming and quaint downtown Reedley. There will be "pit-stop" opportunities along the way. After lunch the tour will conclude.

We will lunch at the Main Street Cafe, 1052 G Street in Reedley. The menu is interesting, varied and reasonably priced. Breakfast is served all day. The charming Mennonite Quilt ing Center and attached International Crafts Shop are up the block. Many of the quilts are for sale.

The Hotel Burgess, just around the corner, is a newly restored hotel now made into a bed and breakfast. They have plenty of antiques and collectibles for sale. Other gifts and collectibles shops are nearby. The Reedley Museum is another interesting attraction but it closes at noon. Hwy. 99 is approximately 10 miles west of Reedley. The tour is approximately 90 miles and 6-plus hours. Take Herndon Avenue eastbound off Hwy. 99 and go approximately 13 miles to Willow Avenue. We will depart at 8:30 a.m. sharp from the Target Shopping Center at the northeast corner of Herndon/Willow Avenues in northeast Fresno.

Be sure your "driver" has a full gas tank (there are numerous gas stations along Herndon to fill up and allow for a "pit-stop" before departing) and is up to the task of negotiating the easy-driving good foothill roads.

Information may be had by contacting me, Joe Caillau, at (559) 299-5537 or eMail at [jcaillau@aol.com](mailto:jcaillau@aol.com). We would need a head count to advise the restaurant.

**Kickoff Dinner  
February 9**

The annual Kickoff – Valentines Dinner was held on Saturday, February 9th at the La Vie en Rose Restaurant in Brea. The turnout was very good with members coming from Ventura, Santa Clarita, Pinion Hills, Palm Springs and closer locations.

This was our second visit to this Restaurant for this event and the facilities and food lived up to its original reputation.

After dinner, Mike Gribble briefed the group on the ambitious region plans for 2008 as well as items/actions taken at the Board Meeting earlier in the day. Also outlined were plans for the Western National Meet in Irvine in October and a request for volunteers to make it a success.

Karen Frazier did her usual outstanding job selling 50-50 tickets. Marv Wendt went home \$210 happier as a result.

Next year, plan to attend this fun event. Usually, it moves to various locations in Southern California in order to accommodate more members.

**LCOC 2008 Events  
in Northern California**

Ever since the 2005 Western National Meet in Sacramento LCOC in Northern California has been quieter than a night in a monastery. But now Jeremy Sanford, Sacramento, has plans for revival.

April 6 the club will meet and tour the well known Towe Auto Museum in Sacramento. The club is a member of the museum and therefore there should be no admission charge. This will be a free event.

June 1 will be the Western Region Northern California Picnic. The picnic will be at Cline Cellars in Sonoma.

Cline Cellars is an easy drive from both San Francisco and Sacramento. It is located at the southern end of the Sonoma Valley. The property has lush

lawns with picnic tables and ample parking. The winery will provide wine tasting at the picnic site or in the wine tasting room for \$10 a head. The event will begin at 11 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. The cost of \$20 per person will include wine tasting, lunch, and a tour of the winery. The cost will be \$10 for children with no wine tasting.

August 10 the club will meet and tour the Blackhawk Museum in Danville. The museum admission price is \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors, children, and students. After the museum tour there will be an optional drive tour to the top of Mt. Diablo at a cost of \$6 per vehicle. The time of the gathering will be 10 a.m.

For further information contact Jeremy Sanford, 2680 Park Hills Drive, Sacramento, CA 95821. Phone 916-488-3936. E-Mail Jeremy at [jsanford@surewest.net](mailto:jsanford@surewest.net)

**Southern California  
Annual Picnic  
George Mason Park  
Irvine,  
California  
Sunday, July 20**

Norm Hoskins reports that this year's picnic will be moved from Yorba Linda Park to George Mason Park. This is the same location that has been reserved for the show field for the Western National Meet in October. Reports are that the park has been improved since the 1999 Western National Meet. By having the picnic here we can get acquainted with the layout and plan spacing well in advance.

Nancy, Janet, Mike, and Norm will put on their usual fine fare and activities to add to the event. Be sure to put this date and location on your calendars. Look for more information in future issues of *The Confab*.



*John Rutenberg's 1980 Lincoln Versailles.*

**(John Rutenberg continued  
from Page 1)**

get a sunroof. Very few Mark VIs were sunroof quipped.

**Rutenberg's Lincoln  
Versailles**

John also has a 1980 Lincoln Versailles in two-tone turquoise with leather bucket seats and only 7,900 miles. The Versailles was originally owned by a woman whose husband worked for Ford. She only drove the car to church and to have her hair done. John bought the Versailles from the executor of the estate.

John is an expert on the much misunderstood and much maligned Variable Venturi carburetor which was standard on both the Versailles and Mark VI. He rebuilt the Variable-Venturi carburetor on the editor's 1978 Lincoln Versailles which nobody else was able to do. A lot of Versailles

owners will toss out the Variable Venturi and replace it with a two or four barrel aftermarket carburetor and sacrifice the incredible smooth operation of the Variable Venturi.

In rebuilding, the Variable Venturi you must start with a carburetor which has never had its adjustments tampered with. They are set up at the factory forever. You have to replace all of the sensors plus rebuild the carburetor because everything must work and work together in order for the system to function properly. If you don't replace about five parts and rebuild the carburetor to exact factory specifications you will never be able to get the car to run properly or pass a smog test in California. John says it only takes

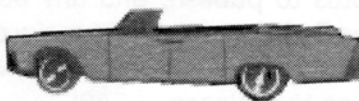
one bad sensor to keep the whole system from running right. And once the carburetor is back together it is very difficult to trace down the problem if everything is not replaced. Moreover, a lot of these parts can only be tested with Ford Rotunda specific machines. Finally, in rebuilding the carburetor you must hook up the vacuum lines as they were originally.

Very recently the Versailles has become somewhat of a cult car and LCOC members are picking up very original low mileage ones which are not easy to find after some 30 years. But they do not always run right and they may not even run at all because of carburetor problems. Furthermore, original Versailles have a problem of losing their engines at around 100,000 miles. On the editor's 1978 Versailles the crankshaft was worn out at 100,000 miles. On another one the crankshaft broke at 100,000 miles. Who knows why this happened but it is a familiar story with the Lincoln Versailles. The cars are also becoming scarce because hot rod builders love to use the Versailles suspension system with four wheel disc brakes.



**Scott Pepper's 60's Lincoln Service**

Engine  
Rebuilding



*New & Used Parts*

Complete  
Convertible  
Electrical  
Restoration

**(530) 878-1452**

800 Pepper Ranch Rd.  
Applegate, CA 95703



AMERICAN COLLECTORS INSURANCE, INC.

**Classic Car & Street Rod Insurance**

**1 (800) 486-7110**

*The "Collector" Coverage You Need,  
At a Price You Won't Believe!*



**CHRIS DUNN** 1956 - 1997 LINCOLN PARTS  
**LINCOLN LAND, Inc.**

CARS - PARTS - SERVICE

2025 Gulf to Bay Blvd.  
Clearwater, FL 33765

1928 Sherwood St.  
Clearwater, FL 33765



Phone: (727) 443-3646

Phone: (727) 446-2193

Fax: (727) 443-3632

Fax: (727) 447-6179

1-888-546-2727 • [www.lincolnlainc.com](http://www.lincolnlainc.com)

Email: [lincolnlainc.com@worldnet.att.net](mailto:lincolnlainc.com@worldnet.att.net)

Geoffrey A. Weiner

Daniel F. Weiner



**LINCOLN PARTS INTERNATIONAL, LLC**

Lincoln, Mercury, Ford  
Parts and Cars  
Located, Purchased, Sold

10074 Buckwheat Road

Phelan, CA 92371

Web: [www.lincolnpartsinternational.com](http://www.lincolnpartsinternational.com)

Phone: 760-868-6408

Order: 800-382-1656

FAX: 760-868-6428

E-Mail: [lincolnparts@surfcity.net](mailto:lincolnparts@surfcity.net)

Body Work Paint Restoration

**Atlas Auto Body**

30 Years in Business

8647 Lindley Ave.  
Northridge, CA 91325  
(818) 885-9754



**KEITH JOHNSON**

1961-67 CONVERTIBLE ELECTRICAL SPECIALIST



**JOHN C CASHMAN**

COAST TO COAST ON SITE SERVICE

[www.convertiblelincolns.com](http://www.convertiblelincolns.com)

(813) 390-1950

25+ Years Experience



**MARK II's 2ND CHANCE**

New & Used Parts for your  
'56 & '57 Mark II

**RUSS UPTON**

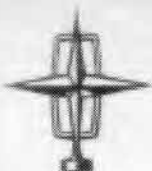
(480) 946-4917 (H) • (480) 941-8983 (O)

(480) 941-3407 Fax

Email: [motpu@yahoo.com](mailto:motpu@yahoo.com)

6730 E. McDowell, #103

Scottsdale, AZ 85257



*Doctor*  
**DETAIL**

9 4 9 • 6 5 0 • 0 2 0 4

**DARREN C. McKENDRY**

2011 PLACENTIA AVENUE  
COSTA MESA, CA 92627

AUTOMOTIVE RECONDITIONING  
PROTECTION & APPEARANCE

**1956-57 MARK II & 50's LINCOLN PARTS**

**Largest Inventory of NOS, New, Repro,  
Rebuilt & Used Parts Available!**



**FREE CATALOG**

Please advise your Mark II serial number.

Visit our Online Catalog at:

[www.markii.com](http://www.markii.com)

**CUSTOM CAR COVERS**

Custom tailored from over 46,000  
computer generated master patterns  
for any vehicle 1900 to date, ensures  
you a custom tailored fit. 10 fabrics,  
including Duraflannel™ and our NEW  
weatherproof, lightweight WeatherShield™.  
Most Lincoln's from \$114.95



Jack Rosen

**Mark II Enterprises**

**Order Toll Free  
800-57-MARK2**

1751 Spruce Street F • Riverside, CA 92507

Inquiries: (951) 686-2752 • Fax: (760) 770-3324

E-mail: [info@markii.com](mailto:info@markii.com) • Internet: [www.markii.com](http://www.markii.com)

## marketplace...



1985 Givenchy Continental, black with burgandy accents. California car, paint, chrome, interior and trunk virtually perfect. Every accessory including sunroof, wire wheels, premium sound, ABS brakes, keyless entry, auto-dim mirror, coach lamps, power door locks, lighted visor mirrors, power reclining seat backs, power trunk, cruise. Cold air. New tires, detailed engine. \$6,500. (626) 441-1718 (CA)

1979 Lincoln Continental Town Car Coupe, Dark Red Metallic Moondust Paint. Roof Coach. Red Leather Interior. Tinted



Windows. Town Coupe Option. 400 CID V8 Engine. Premium Bodyside Moldings. AM/FM W/Quad 8-Track Tape and C/B Radio. Turbine Spoke Wheels. 100% Original. One owner Documented 160,000 original miles, \$11,500.00 OBO Call Jose (626) 319-5993

1980 Lincoln Versailles. The engine has a bad crankshaft but otherwise this is a solid, complete car with a good interior and everything is there. It is almost too good to part out. The price is only \$800. For full details contact Tim Howley

in Escondido. t.howley@cox.net

Phone 760-739-0332 or e-mail:



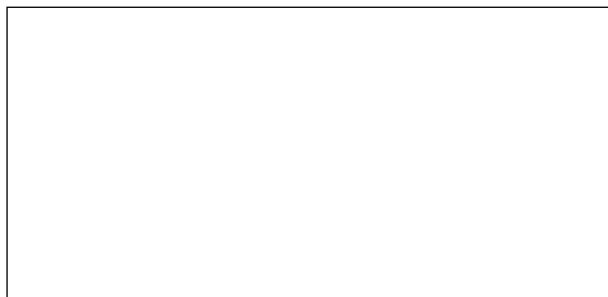
1988 Lincoln Mark VII LSC. Original owner, 11,000 miles, that's eleven-thousand miles. Equipped with all factory options, California car, stored and sheathed - immaculate show condition.

Color: Regatta Blue, clear-coat, metallic with Shadow Blue interior. For more details on this almost new LSC please call at either home (818) 360-4342 or business (800) 672-4683. \$24,500.

1979 Lincoln Town Car, Collector Series, owned since new in October, 1979. Well maintained with 156,000 miles. Dark Blue with velour interior. A #3 Plus using the Old Cars Price Guide. Always garaged. Collectors only please!!! \$6,000 obo. Contact Roger Hobin @ (916)487-5525

1975 Continental Mark IV. 54,000 original miles. Family owned since 1975. Interior & exterior aqua blue diamond firemist. Velour interior. Interior, exterior, engine excellent condition. Always garaged. Make offer: 714-777-5028

POLICY: Ads will run for three issues. 50 words maximum!! The advertiser must contact the Editor to extend or modify ads. Ads are NO CHARGE for Western Region members; non-member ads are \$10.00 per issue, with a three-issue minimum on the initial ad. Photo ONLY if space permits. We request that you notify the Editor when the advertised item is sold. Thank you.



TO AN IMPORTANT MEMBER

Join us for  
A Day at the Races!  
March 8  
Santa Anita Park!

9318 Chaparral Road  
Canoga Park CA 91304-1206

WESTERN REGION

