

Lincoln and Continental CONFAB

Western Region Lincoln and Continental Owners Club Publication Volume 37 No 5, July, 2008



Tim Howley's 1994 Lincoln Town Car can achieve 27 mpg on the road.

Town Car Economy Cars

by Tim Howley

With the price of fuel today you wouldn't think of Lincolns as economy cars, but there are some in recent decades that get pretty respectable gas mileage when driven on the road in automatic overdrive.

I have heard stories of Mark VII's getting up to 30 mpg. I have two of them, a 1988 Bill Blass and a 1988 LSC. I have attained as high as a steady 27 mpg on the road with both these cars, but that is on level ground, at a steady 65 mph and not fighting San Diego or Los Angeles traffic. A friend of mine who had a new one use to brag of around 28 mpg going between San Diego and Las Vegas.

My own experience with my 1994 Lincoln Town Car has been simply amazing. I have made several trips to the San Francisco Bay Area in that car, a trip to the Western National Meet in Albuquerque in 2004 and Scottsdale in 2006. It consistently gets around 27 mpg on the road and having the air-conditioner on or off seems to make little difference. The car's computer tells me that my average, all around

driving is approximately 17.5 mpg.

I have a friend who has a low mileage 2000 Town Car with the old engine. He cannot do better than 20 mpg under any conditions.

Larry Frazier has reported on his blue 1995 Signature Series Town Car: "I get 20 plus. On all the nineties series, I have gotten 20 to 23 miles to the gallon. If you hold the speed down to under 70 miles per hour, and preferably without the air-conditioner on, you can expect 20 to 24 miles to the gallon. But most of my travel is done at somewhere around 85 miles an hour with the air-conditioner running, and I still get 20 miles to the gallon religiously." On his '95 with over 160,000 he reported 20 miles to the gallon up hill and down.



Above, Larry Frazier talks about 20 mpg on his 1995 Town Car with some hard and fast driving uphill and down.

Right, Howley's Town Car now has about 110,000 miles. It has recently been retired for a 1993 Ford Escort wagon with a five speed.



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director's message

It is often said that people will not remember what you said but they will remember how you made them feel. With that said, here are some things to think about.

Our club lost a great person and loyal member when Jack Cassan passed away on May 18 from an accident while he was working on a truck the previous day. Many of us knew Jack and his wife Millie who have been involved in the club since 1975. They both touched the hearts of many people and we all need to hold Millie in our prayers and remember all the good things that Jack has done. We will all miss Jack's friendly personality and love for people and Lincoln cars and will always remember the way he made us feel.

With the crazy gasoline price situation unfolding before our eyes, Janet and I just returned from a Zephyr meet in Fortuna, California which was 750 miles away from our house. We took our 2007 MKZ (Zephyr) only because the new engine in our 48 has not been broken in yet and the rear main is leaking oil because the rings have not seated. In spite of the 24 miles we got to the gallon on the MKZ we still spent \$250.00 in fuel just to get there and back.

Our Western National Meet in Irvine is really centrally located in the middle of the state and it will cut down on long trips for the many local people who will be able to attend the meet. We have had many calls from out of state members who are anxious to fly to John Wayne airport and attend our meet. The request for packets so far has truly been outstanding. When is the last time you saw a hotel rate of \$119.00 per night for a Marriott hotel located 1 mile from an airport in Orange County? The hotel has a new number and code to register. The number is 1-866-440-3373 and mention code # LCOH

Finally, please join us at the summer picnic at William Mason Regional Park in Irvine on Sunday, July 20. Call Norm Hoskins and get registered for this fun event.

We look forward to seeing you at the picnic on the 20th.

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.

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

Sunday, July 20th
Annual Membership Picnic
George Mason Park
Irvine, CA

Saturday, September 6th
Lincoln's at a Dealership
Todey Lincoln Mercury
Oxnard, CA

October 8th to 12th
Western National Meet
Marriott Hotel
Irvine, CA

Saturday, November 15th
Annual Meeting Northern
California

Northern California

Sunday, August 10th
Blackhawk Auto Museum
Danville, CA

*Below, 2007 Western Region
Summer Picnic.*

Welcome New Members



*John Walcek photographing cars
at the 2007 Western Region Summer Picnic,*

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

This is the last notice before this event and the deadline for registration is July 14. George Mason Park is the location of the Show for the Western National Meet in October. Admission to the park is \$5.00 per car. The Picnic hours will be 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and the fee is \$10.00 per person.

George Mason Park 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.

Norm and Nancy Hoskins and Mike and Janet Gribble put on their usual fine fare and activities to add to the event. This year, all members involved in organizing the Western National Meet in October are particularly urged to attend as there will be a run through of events, and questions, problems, etc. can be discussed at that time. To sign up, contact Norm Hoskins at norhos@att.com (NEW) or (714)970-3813. Please send a check to Norm Hoskins, 5485 Vista Del Mar, Yorba Linda, CA 92887.

Directions to the Park:

Coming South from L A on the 405: Exit at Culver, turn right on Culver and follow to University. Park on the corner.

Going North from San Diego on the 405: Exit at Culver, turn left on Culver and follow to University. Park is on the corner.



Visit us on the
World Wide Web Region:
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National:
www.lcoc.org

Western National Meet

Marriott Hotel, Irvine, California,
October 8-12

Lincolns at a Dealership Today Lincoln Mercury Oxnard, California September 6, 2008

George Walker has again set up this well attended and enjoyable event. The dealership has treated us very well, providing snacks and lunch. The hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Our cars are displayed in the front of the dealership along with the new Lincoln and Mercury models. Fortunately, this year Lincoln has two new well accepted models to go along with our cars.

Call George Walker at (805)653-5300 to sign up. George needs a count for the dealership. Please give him a call.

1979 Lincoln Versailles Goes for \$200

The 1979 Lincoln Versailles is sold. The car was advertised in both the *Confab* and *Lincoln and Continental Comments*. There were several calls but not one LCOC member locally or nationally bothered to look at it, although a couple asked for photos. The lady wanted to sell the car. It had been sitting in her storage yard in Escondido, California, for 10 years. Nobody in the club bought it. Eventually a car guy in Escondido, not affiliated with any club, offered the lady \$200. She was insulted but decided that the insult was better than nothing or sending it off to Ecology. He does not know what he is going to do for the car but at \$200 he couldn't pass is up.

Things are starting to take shape!! As you read in Mike Gribble's Message, requests for Meet Packets are strong, the tours are set up, the Show Area is set up, the Perpetual Trophies that were awarded at Federal Way, Washington last year are being retrieved and all the other details are being addressed.

Plans are to review the organization at the Southern California Summer Picnic on July 20. Even if you are not on a Committee at present, please come to the picnic and volunteer for a Committee that is still in need of some help.

The Registration Packets for the Western National Meet are now ready. The Packets include a dinner for early attendees, Newport Harbor Cruise and Dinner, and a tour of the Art Astor Museum in addition to the traditional Friday night dinner and auction followed by the Saturday Car Show and Banquet.

The overall theme follows that of the very successful 1999 Western National Meet at the same hotel, *however* several changes have been made to adjust to today's times and to further improve the event.

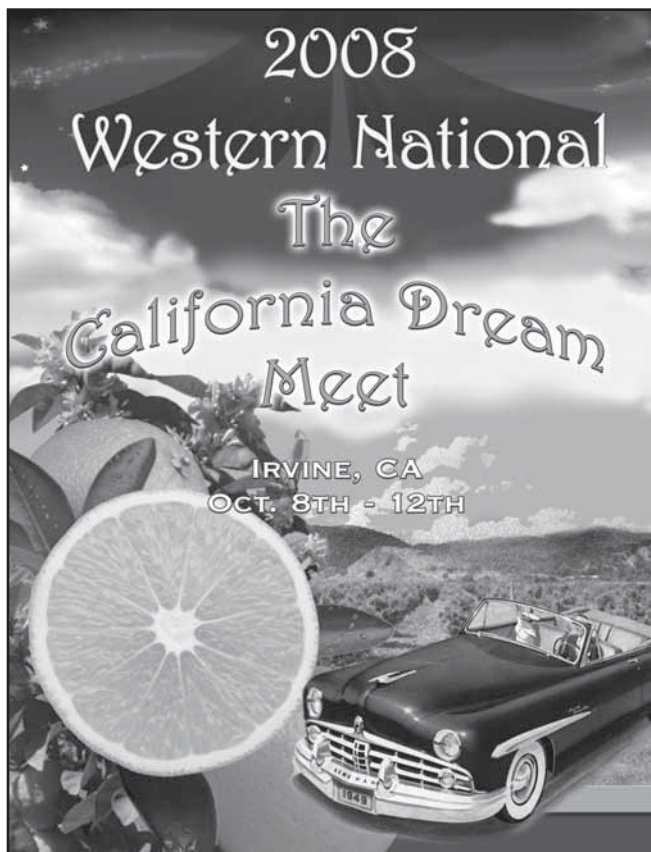
The packets are available as follows: You can E-mail to the Gribble's: Mike Gribble mrgrestgrp@msn.com You can phone the Gribble's: (951)204-8685. Or you can go to the Web Site: Region: www.LCOCWestern.org

Although gas prices are up, Mike was able to get very favorable room, parking and banquet rates at the Marriott. To make reservations at the Irvine Marriott Hotel call 866-440-3373 and ask for Group Code LCOH.

One of the key sources of entertainment and income is the Auction. To make it work, we need a very good Auctioneer (which we have), a crack crew administering the action (which we have) and interesting and "auction friendly" items. That's where we come

in. We need to accumulate items that will foster bids on bids and allow our Auctioneer to have some fun and get the bidding going. Remember, not all potential bidders know obscure parts so we need a combination of items. Please be on the lookout for items you would be willing to donate. Several of our members are assembling unique baskets for raffle, silent auction or the main auction. Your help is greatly needed.

Tom McCarthy



Northern California Membership Picnic June 1, 2008

The first Northern California Membership Picnic in several years was held at Cline Cellars in Sonoma on Sunday June 1, 2008 starting at 11 am. There was fun, food, wine, and friendship in the beautiful Sonoma Valley. Cline Cellars was 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 provided wine tasting at the picnic site or in the wine tasting room. The event began at 11 a.m. and ended at 3 p.m.

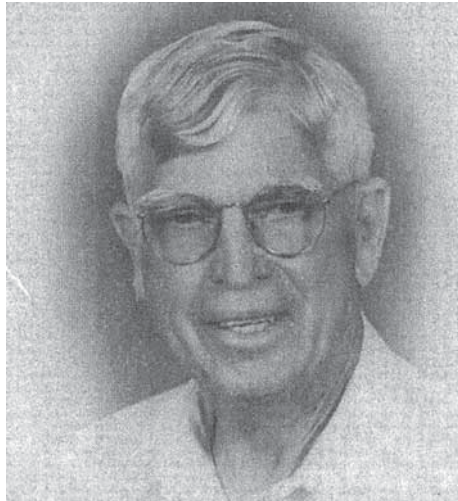
Blackhawk Museum Tour in Northern California

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 jsanford@surewest.net

Robert H. "Bob" Davis 1919-2008

On May, 29, the day of Jack Cassan's Memorial Service, Western Region members in attendance learned that Bob Davis had died in the early hours of that morning. Bob was President of LCOC from 1981-1983 and again in 1988-89. He was 89 years of age.

The last meet Bob attended was the Western National Meet in Ventura in 2002. He was in assisted living for several years. Bob was preceded in death by his wife June in 2004. He is survived by two daughters, their husbands, and two grandchildren. Funeral services were private.

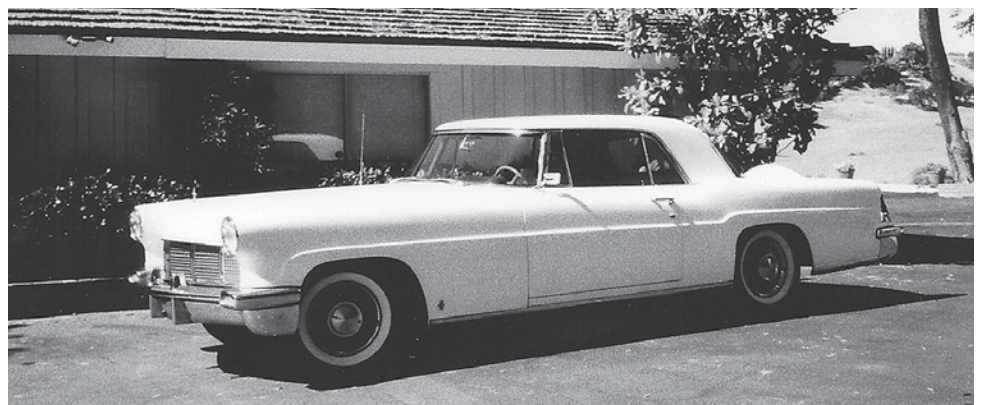


Remembering John Francis "Jack" Cassan

by Den Fenske

Jack Cassan was tragically killed as a result of a pickup truck accident on his own property on May 18. His Memorial Service on May 29 in Oceanside was attended by approximately 350 friends which included about 50 Lincoln and Continental Owners Club members. It was a beautiful service and a testament to his popularity.

Jan and I first met Jack and Millie in 1979 at a Lincoln Club gathering in San Diego. We were new and didn't know a soul. At the luncheon, it was Jack and Millie who asked us to join them at their table. It didn't take us long to know what friendly and loving people they were, and how knowledgeable Jack was about Lincolns.



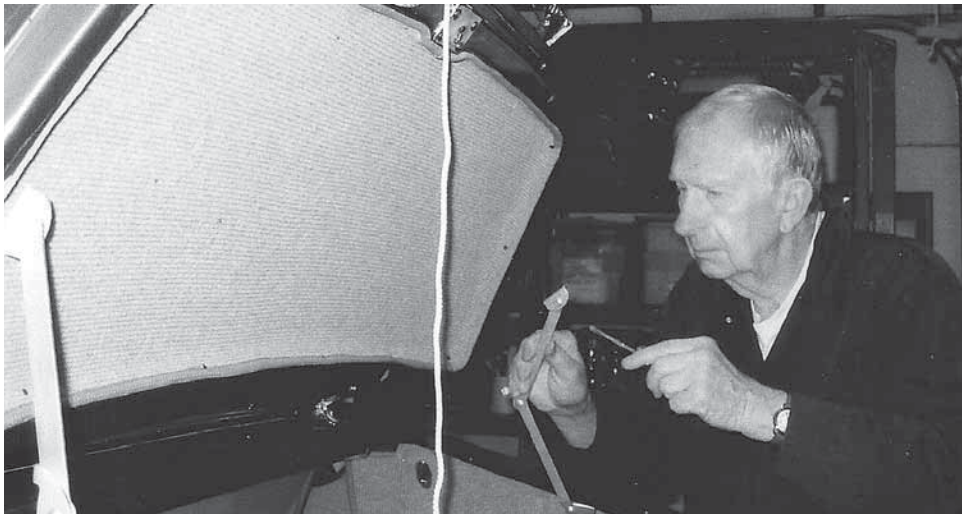
Den Fenske logged over 60,000 miles on this Mark II after buying it from Jack Cassan.

We came away being excited about the Club, buying a Lincoln, entering into this new found hobby, and starting, which amounted to a long term friendship.

I loved Jack, he was giant to me. I was in awe of his attention to detail and his commitment to the highest standards of excellence. He was always helping me, he was my MENTOR forever. He was the mechanic's mechanic, the restorer's restorer. For 29 years he was my teacher.

As a couple, Jack and Millie were inseparable. He told me in 1985 that he couldn't sell me his Continental Mark II without Millie's permission. It was only a little time later that we got her okay and we picked up the car the next weekend. I drove Millie's Mark II daily to my business for 10 years logging over 60,000 miles. In that time it *never* failed to start. It's reliability never surprised me, coming from Jack Cassan.

Most of you know his mechanical ability made him a winner in the Great American Race in 1985 in a 1914 Dodge touring car. His generosity was evident when he gave all of his \$100,000 winnings to the Prince of Peace Abbey next to his home in Oceanside. Lots of you will remember his perfect cars...his immaculate 1940 and 1941 Lincoln Continental Coupes, his all original 1941 Lincoln-Zephyr sedan which was shown at our National Meet in Irvine in 1999, his 1932 Lincoln KB convertible roadster which won a Lincoln Trophy in Las Vegas in 2001 and his 1938 Lincoln K Brunn Victoria which won the Elliston Bell Trophy at Irvine in 1999.



Den Fenske with Cassan's new hinges

For years, Jack helped me with parts and information. At the Western National Meet in Ventura in 2002, I showed him a repro set of 1940-41 trunk hinges I had received from a Lincoln supplier. We both agreed it was a poor match to a pair of rusted originals I had received from a Lincoln supplier. They are a thinner stock than the 1942-48 ones, and push in when you hit them. This makes for having your elbow hit them when reaching into your trunk. Then the lid would fall and conk you on the head...a Lincoln design that was changed in 1942. Anyway, when I got home from the meet, the UPS man brought me a box. It had no sender on it, except it was from Oceanside. Knowing it was from Jack, I opened it up to find inside a pair of gleaming, new original trunk supports for my 1941 Lincoln Continental Cabriolet. What a thrill!! The photo above shows the installation. The vertical line in the photo is twine, used to hold the lid up while you bend and adjust the hinges to fit.

Without the twine's help, the lid can fall and ruin your whole job, not to mention your head!

The last car meet we saw Jack and Millie at was the the Western Region 2007 Fall Show last October in Bakersfield. He had hauled his 1940 Lincoln Continental Coupe there from Oceanside to show it for the club. Jan



and I asked them to sit with us at the banquet. It seems that this time we had with them, *now*, was very special.

It is an understatement to just say, I will miss him...but so will the clubs and the people he touched.

In closing, I would offer this: "Dear God, look for a top notch restoration shop coming to

your neighborhood soon...and you may be receiving the most fabulous chariot you have ever seen! Amen."

Jack Cassan's Remarkable Life

John Francis Cassan was born July 1, 1925 in Pomona, California. His family moved to Oceanside in 1929 and he remained there the rest of his life.

During World War II he served on the USS Yorktown at the Battle of Midway. At the end of the war he started a small wrecking business near his home on Hill Street. The business grew to become one of the largest wrecking yard operations in the San Diego area. His success allowed him to show cars in several clubs, race vintage cars, and also race boats.

He met his wife Millie when she was a telephone operator in Oceanside. They were married in 1951 and they remained loving partners until his recent death at age 82.

Jack was associated with old cars, primarily Lincolns, for longer than

Jack Cassan's 1940 Lincoln Continental Coupe at the Fall, 2007 Western Meet.

most of us can remember. In the seventies he restored a 1941 Lincoln-Zephyr three-window coupe which won awards in both LCOC and LZOC. Meanwhile, he was campaigning a 1936 Buick in the Great American Races. Jack's old car interests were broad and he was generous beyond anyone's wildest imagination. He will be greatly missed by the Western Region and by all of the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club and the Lincoln-Zephyr Owners Club.



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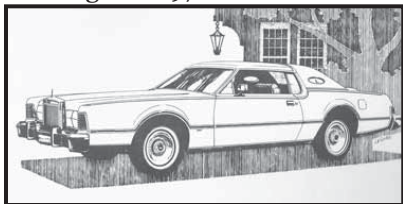
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bumpers. Front bumper has accessory grille guard. No rust on body. L.F. Schmidt, Lake Havasu, Arizona. Phone 928-680-6036

1976 Continental Mark IV. Rare Black Diamond, special Black Diamond Fire metallic paint, pinstriping, black premium bodyside molding, black padded roof Cayman Grain, black leather interior with patent leather inserts, forged aluminum wheels, AM-FM Quadrasonic, rebuilt transmission and brakes, second owner, original California car, all documentation from new, 460 V8, \$5,950, Duane Bowers, 805-526-3119, Simi Valley, dabowers@pacbell.net.

1979 Lincoln Versailles. The engine has a bad crankshaft but otherwise this is a solid, complete car with a good interior

SOLD FOR \$200!!!



and everything is there. It is almost too good to part out. The price is only \$600 or best offer. For full details contact Tim Howley

in Escondido. Phone 760-739-0332 or you can e-mail: t.howley@cox.net

1986 Mark VII. Light blue, good shade, has won at LCOC National Meets in Santa Fe, Scottsdale, and others. \$3,000 but we can talk. Need to move. No work required on your part. Good inside and out. Drive anywhere. Original California car. Bruce Hutchinson and George Richards were previous owners. At least they know the car. Dick Cronkhite in Prescott, Arizona. Phone 928-443-1366

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**Summer Southern California
Picnic, July 20**

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WESTERN REGION

