



Helen Hutchinson, George and Shirley Richards, Bob Reed, Jan and Den Fenske.

A "Wet" Bakersfield Weekend

What began as the first Western Region board meeting of 2010, February 26-27 and traditional kickoff banquet, turned into an entire weekend of merriment for a small but jovial band of Western Region members. A couple of member's Lincolns were even spotted in the parking lot.

On Friday night about a dozen revelers enjoyed dinner, liquid refreshment and dancing to the country/pop sounds of the Buckaroos with front man Buddy Alan Owens (son of the late, great Buck Owens) at Buck's famous Crystal Palace Saloon and Steakhouse, just across (or under) route 99 from our host hotel. The fun continued back in our hospitality suite at the Doubletree. Someone finally realized that we had Club business to conduct on Saturday and called a halt to the festivities sometime in the wee wee hours, and nobody seemed to notice that Bakersfield had record rain (over half an inch, which is a lot for Bakersfield) on Friday night.

The board meeting commenced promptly with lunch at noon, in the

Doubletree's Nevada Room. Only one board member, newbie Carol Reniger was absent and sorely missed. New board members Mike Cunningham and Stacy Roscoe were welcomed and immediately pressed into service. Guests included board members significant others, former Director Mike Gribble and wife Janet, 2010 National Meet Chair Den Fenske accompanied by Jan, and *Confab* and *Comments* editor Tim Howley, ably assisted by his wife LaVonne.

Discussion included the club's continued solvency, stable membership, participation in the Lincoln Foundation, and the many fun events both North and South that are scheduled for 2010 including the Western National Meet in May. Director Norm Hoskins professionally guided the meeting to its mid-afternoon adjournment. The group unwound from the stress of the board meeting in the hospitality suite before disbanding to freshen up for the banquet.

Around six p.m. the well turned-out group reconvened again in the Doubletree's intimate Rosedale Room for more good food and even better conviviality. Guess what occurred after dinner? You got it right! We all headed back to the hospitality suite, again shutting it down in the a.m. hours. Sunday arrived clear and bright, with some members breakfasting at the Doubletree, while others hit the highway home.

Did we have a good time? To quote a former vice-presidential candidate: "You betcha!" And hope to see more of you LCOC/Western members at the next one. *Marv Wendt*

*Jan McNeil, Jeremy Sanford
and John Woodward.*



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Stacy Roscoe.....2010
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director's message

Nancy, Riley and I recently returned from our Board Meeting and "kick-off" dinner held at Bakersfield. Our hosts, Jan McNeil and Marv Wendt, did a fabulous job of securing our meeting space and dinner on Saturday Feb. 27. We also enjoyed dinner and dancing at Buck Owen's Crystal Palace Saloon Friday night. Lots of fun.

At the Board Meeting we heard from Den Fenske regarding our upcoming Western National Meet (WNM) in May, 2010. Everything is progressing nicely. Be sure to get your reservations in early. Bob Reed reported that we are financially sound, and Bruce Hutchinson reported on the recent National Board Meeting in Orlando, Florida.

Our next event is "Fab Fords Forever" April 25 at Knotts Berry Farm, Buena Park, California. LCOC members and friends will meet for brunch around 9:15 a.m. at the Mrs. Knott's Chicken Dinner Restaurant. It's buy your own buffet and it's excellent!

I am currently working on a Temecula Winery Tour (drive your Lincolns) for this summer in July. Date and details to be announced. We really need more members to host activities for the club. Please volunteer to keep our club active. We are also looking for a venue where we can host the 2012 WNM.

Finally, anyone who would like to be on the Western Region Board of Directors, please contact any Board member before July 2010 for elections to be held in the Fall. Continentally yours, *Norm Hoskins*



Fabulous Fords Forever April 25

This year the Knott's Berry Farm event will feature 70 years of the Lincoln and Lincoln Continental. Selected cars will be displayed in the grass area in the rear of the park. On the field, all other cars will be displayed in groups by their brand. It is a great opportunity to roam around and see the largest array of Ford Motor Company brands in one place you have ever seen. Members will gather for Brunch as a group at 9:30 a.m. at the Chicken House. Meet in front of the restaurant at 9:15. Be sure to call (626) 914-3738 for registration information if you are not already signed up. No sign-ups the day of the show. Call the above number or Tom McCarthy regarding Lincoln activities at the show. Call (951) 723-8946

The Continental Confab is published and mailed every six weeks. Dates are 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. All article contributions may be submitted in writing to: Confab, 1780 Iris Way, Escondido, CA 92027.

Coming Events

Southern California

Sunday, April 25
Fabulous Fords Forever
Knotts Berry Farm
Buena Park, CA

July
Temecula Winery Tour
Details to come

Northern California

June 13, 2010. USS Hornet Tour.
12:30pm. 707 W. Hornet Ave,
Pier 3, Alameda,
CA 94501

July 24, 2010. Annual Wine
Country Picnic. 12:00pm.
Blackstone Winery. 8450
Sonoma Hwy, Kenwood, CA
95452

September 4, 2010. Western
Railway Museum. 11:00am. 5848
State Hwy 12,
Suisun City, CA 94585

RSVP Jeremy Sanford
(916) 769-2333
jsanford@surewest.net for all
Northern California events.

All California

May 19-22
2010 Western
National Meet
Ventura Harbor, CA

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

A Special Award for the 2010 Western National Meet



Charlie Steward received a Lincoln Trophy from John Clinard of Lincoln-Mercury at Irvine in 2008.

All of the regions of the LCOC lost a dear friend this year when Charlie Steward passed away on January 1. For as long as we can remember, Charlie drove his car from Florida to meets throughout the country, garnering numerous awards over the years. At the last event he attended, the 2009 Reno Western National Meet, Charlie shared with Den Fenske his intent to

be in Ventura in 2010. Charlie will certainly be missed this year in Ventura but he will be there in spirit. In honor of his passion and commitment to our club and our cars, the Western Region is renaming our long distance award the "Charlie Steward Long Distance Award," and we encourage other regions to recognize his devotion in a similar manner.

Western National Meet Committee Meeting May 15

A second meeting of the Western National Meet Committee will be held on Saturday, May 15 at the home of Den and Jan Fenske at 2117 Ocean Drive, Silverstrand Beach, Channel Islands, California. This will be a "bag stuffing party". Take the Victoria Avenue off ramp and go south on Victoria, seven miles to the beach front street of Ocean Drive. Bring cash for a sandwich lunch to be provided. We will fill bags with lists, schedules, coupons, brochures, and complimentary goodies. Our Meet will start the next Wednesday evening.

For further information contact Den and Jan Fenske at (805) 985-8721 or cell phone (818) 383-8224 or e-mail: demand.jan10@hotmail.com.



Charlie Steward in Irvine in 2008 with his Lincoln Trophy and his 1997 Lincoln Town Car which he drove all the way from Lithia Florida.

Two Months and Counting:

Lincolns at the Harbor

Ventura, California, May 19-22, 2010

Did You Know, That As of the End of March, There Are Less Than.....

5 weeks left for sending in your meet registration before the May 3rd deadline?

The direct link for the Meet packet is: http://www.lcocwestern.org/meet/multimedia/2010_lcoc_western_national_meet.pdf

If you have any questions, contact Den Fenske: denandjan10@hotmail.com / 805 985-8721.

General meet information can be found at: <http://www.lcocwestern.org/meet/index.html>

5 weeks left to get your hotel reservation with the special LCOC rate before the April 30th deadline?

Contact information for the Meet hotel, the Ventura Harbor Holiday Inn Express, is:

www.hiexpress.com / 805 856-9533. The special Meet rate is \$119 plus tax per night with the special code "Lincoln".

8 weeks left to find your car parts or other auction contributions for the May 21st dinner and auction?

To plan a contribution, contact Carol Reniger: basket.maven@usa.net / 805-583-0219.

8 weeks left to get your car ready for the Meet activities starting on May 19th.

Wednesday (5/19): Plan to arrive in the afternoon and check into the host Ventura Harbor Holiday Inn Express, then visit the Hospitality Room (opens at 3 p.m.) to pick up your meet packet and goodies. Wednesday evening, we will meet at the hotel's restaurant, Alexander's, at 6:00 p.m. for a no-host dinner. Before settling into the hotel, we recommend filling your gas tank

and getting ready for the tours Thursday morning.

Thursday (5/20): Everyone is invited to participate in the car and museum tours. We'll drive at a moderate speed on a flat route that's just 29 miles round trip. You can travel with us in your "modern iron" or hitch a ride. We'll visit both air and auto museums and stop for a no-host lunch at the airport café, returning to the hotel in the afternoon. Thursday's no-host dinner is at Milano's Italian Restaurant along the waterfront.

Friday (5/21): We will have a variety of things to do, including detailing, tire kicking, mechanical judging, a harbor walk, or antique shopping in picturesque Ventura. Friday night is the big auction (we need contributions of auction items) at the "El Grande" Buffet (Mexican food)—an evening of fun, humor, and excitement. The auction can get pretty competitive when you've found that item or car part that you've always longed for!

Saturday (5/22): The car show starts in the morning with the judges' meeting and arranging cars on the show field. Lunch is provided for all judges. The car show usually runs until about 3 p.m., but it's not over until so declared by the National Chief Judge. Come enjoy—and compete with—the finest classic Lincolns in the world! Saturday night is the Gala Awards Banquet. Dress up and enjoy the awards that are given to those beautiful deserving cars. It will be a fun and eventful evening.

Sunday (5/23): In the morning, the major award winners will have their photos taken with their cars. John Walcek will ask some cars to have special photos taken for possible front covers of *Continental Comments*. We'll have a no-host brunch and bid a fond farewell to Ventura.

Take A Look Behind The Upcoming May 2010 Western National Meet

The wonderful LCOC Meets that we have been attending over the years don't just happen. Many of our members put a lot of time, energy, and creativity into making these events to remember. The best thanks that you can give is to attend and participate, with or without your car. Here is a little bit of insight as to what is happening behind the scenes for the May Western National Meet in Ventura.



Tom McCarthy

Trophies

Tom McCarthy is a long term contributor to LCOC and the proud owner of an emberglow 1966 Continental convertible that is always a crowd pleaser. As trophy chairman for the Ventura meet, Tom provides us with an update of what it takes to get trophies to the deserving winners on Saturday night. Tom Says:

"At our local and National Meets, we show our cars, discuss them in depth and meet with fellow members from many areas. Little is mentioned during the Meet regarding trophies but, come the Banquet, the Trophy becomes the focal point to most.

The trophies awarded at National Meets are among the best, if not the finest in our hobby. In recent years, the categories in which "trophies" are awarded have been expanded at both ends of the spectrum. New categories have been established encouraging members to show cars in the earlier stages of restoration and the Emeritus Award for cars that have "capped out" over the years. This is a particularly unique award.

The process of awarding trophies at National Meets is both expensive and labor intensive. Determining who gets a trophy is the responsibility of the Meet Judges, with the responsibility for unpacking, assembling, tracking and displaying them going to the Trophy Committee.

Prior to the Meet, the Committee tracks down Perpetual Trophies awarded at the last Meet and arranges for returning and polishing of them. On the first day of the Meet, as many as 25 large boxes arrive from Dallas and the Committee and friends set about unpacking, sorting, localizing plaques, arranging for the Awards Ceremony and displaying at the Banquet.

All the above work becomes worthwhile when you get to see the smiles on the faces of the winners as they have their picture taken with the trophy and then proudly display it at their table."

Tom McCarthy



Carol and Hal Reniger

Raffle and Auction Promotion

Carol Reniger is a newly elected board member who has proudly shown her big red 1965 Continental convertible at meets over the last several years. For Carol, the car had to be red! As "Meet Solicitor" for donations, raffle prizes, auction items, and goodie bag items, Carol has been active within the club and in our various communities to get support for the Ventura Meet, and is using this coverage as an opportunity to get more help, Carol says: "Well, it's that time of year again when we all gather to show our cars at their best. It is also that time of year for one of our largest fundraisers. As you know, you are all a big part of this event. We will need many items for our raffles and auctions, whether they

are items that will be part of a basket or stand-alone items. You can help with this endeavor.

If you find you truly have nothing for our raffles/auctions then we can always use cash donations for different events that will happen that weekend, such as lunch for the judges.

Please don't leave us adrift at sea in Ventura, rather dig deep to see how you can contribute.

Please feel free to contact me or my husband, Hal, with any questions you may have at 805-583-0219.

In case you would like to mail us donations, because you cannot attend the Meet, our address is:

Carol and Hal Reniger

3150 Travis Ave.

Simi Valley, CA 93063

Thank you for all your support in making this Spring meet a success!"

Carol Reniger -- Auction Promoter



Mike Cunningham

Hospitality Suite

Mike Cunningham has been a Western Region and LCOC member for almost 20 years and is a newly elected board member. He owns two beautiful Mark VII LSC vehicles: a 1985 platinum color car that he has had since it was new and white 1992 car that he bought in 2000. Mike is coordinating our Hospitality Suite that will be stocked throughout the meet with regular and diet soft drinks, regular and lite beer, white and red wine, regular and decaf coffee, and some great nuts, chips and dip. Be sure to plan some time for camaraderie and refreshments and to thank Mike for all of his hospitality work.



Bruce Hutchinson

Show Field Marshall

Bruce Hutchinson has continuously "wowed" the meet crowds over the years with both his stately 1946 Lincoln Continental and his incredibly gorgeous light blue 1956 Continental Mark II. For the May Western National Meet, Bruce is serving as Show Field Marshall. Here is what he has to say about this role:

"My job is to lay out the show field in a chronological order by number and place the cars in position so they don't run into each other. That, of course, is the responsibility of the owner/driver. Your Liability Waiver excludes me and my assistants from any damage incurred. So Guys, PAY ATTENTION!!!!

I also have to design a Dash Plaque for this Meet. I think parking the cars is easier!"

Bruce Hutchinson - Show Field Marshall

Thanks again to these folks and many more members of the 2010 Western National Meet Committee who have been working so hard to get everything ready for us in May. Make sure that you make plans to attend and benefit from all of this preparation.

Stacy Roscoe - Meet Writer



Bob Reed, Jan and Den Fenske.

Western Region Winter Board Meeting Notes February 27

The first board meeting of the Western Region for 2010 was held on Saturday, February 27, in the Nevada Room of the Doubletree Hotel in Bakersfield.

The meeting opened with a delicious deli sandwich lunch, and upon completion of taking nourishment the well-fed board was brought to order by Director Norm Hoskins. All board members were present with the exception of one of our latest board members, Carol Reniger who was attending the graduation of her and Hal's son from the Highway Patrol Academy. Congratulations to Carol and her family on her son's achievement was noted.

Director Norm Hoskins and Assistant Director Marv Wendt tabled their officers' reports until activities discussion of the agenda.

Treasurer Bob Reed presented a detailed financial report, complete with colorful pie charts which confirmed the excellent financial health of the Western Region.

Membership chairperson Shirley Richards reported that membership in the Western Region remains stable at around two hundred members, and that there still may be a few, but not many, "stragglers" who have not renewed their membership for 2010.

Board member Bruce Hutchinson commented on the most recent National Board Meeting in Florida. A major issue has been the cost of shipping of perpetual tro-

phies, and that there was resolution of this matter.

Editor Tim Howley led an impassioned discussion regarding the Lincoln Foundation and proposed museum, and the need for LCOC members nationwide to "dig deep" and make generous contribu-

tions to this noteworthy cause. He commented that there is no shortage of Lincolns to be displayed, but that, as with many charities, the issue is one of "cash". The Western Region board has already approved the purchase of a bench for the museum, but obviously more effort is required, if Lincolns are to have "a home of their own".

Much discussion was devoted to 2010 activities, with particular attention paid to the Western National in Ventura in May. Meet Registrars Jan McNeil and Marv Wendt reported that registrations are already being received. Meet Chair Den Fenske stated that everything is on track for a successful meet. Other activities planned for 2010 include a tour of the USS Hornet on April 3, the Knott's Berry Farm Ford Show on April 25, the Niles

Canyon Railway Excursion on June 13 and conflicting north and south winery tours on July 24 (activity hosts have agreed to resolve this scheduling issue), and a outing to the Western Railway Museum on September 4. A fall meet in Pismo Beach is in the planning stages.

There was preliminary discussion regarding a Western Region hosted National in 2012. The superb venue of Rancho Santa Fe in San Diego County will be explored, with the possibility of a



Janet and Mike Gribble and Mike Cunningham.

presentation at the "mini board meeting" at the National in Ventura.

An election will be held this year to fill three seats on the board. We have three sterling incumbents, and Director Norm will serve as a nominating committee to encourage additional participation in democratic process. The efficiently conducted meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Marv Wendt

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The Padre Hotel, a Bakersfield landmark.

A Bit to Bakersfield History

Founded in 1869, the town was named Bakersfield in honor of Colonel Thomas Baker, a gold prospector. By 1870, with a population of 600, Bakersfield was becoming the principal town in Kern County. By 1880, the town had a population of 801, and by 1890, it had a population of 2,626. Migration from Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Southern California brought new residents, who were mostly employed by the oil industry. By 1980, Bakersfield's population was about 105,000. During the next 20 years, Bakersfield's population exploded and surpassed 250,000 by 2000. The population is now 333,000 and Bakersfield is one of the major cities in California.

Back in the late twenties and thirties the town's skyline was dominated by the eight-story Padre Hotel which was built in 1928. As the years went by travelers moved out to the new motels near Highway 99 and the old hotel became seeder by the year. In very recent years the hotel has been completely restored and very recently has reopened as a first class hotel.

Being surrounded by oil fields, Bakersfield became an automobile town the day the first horseless carriage hit the streets. Bakersfield was built on oil money and oil money

bought cars, especially expensive flashy cars. A very large auto dealer business grew up on north Chester Street selling every conceivable make.

Back around 1970 it was fun to roam the backs of the Bakersfield used car lots because there were so many cars that now are highly collectible. Times have changed. The old Chester Street dealerships are long gone, replaced by a modern community hospital. You will not find a single old car for sale in downtown Bakersfield. But we did find one by today's standards and it was at a lot on the western end of town. It was a 1993

Lincoln Mark VIII.

Tim Howley, who stayed at another hotel just across the street from a used car dealer's lot, spotted the car the day before the meeting. Upon inspecting it before the Western Region board meeting found that it was a one owner, local Bakersfield car with only 41,000 miles. The owner of the lot, upon finding out about the board



Tim Howley finds an abandoned restaurant along old Highway 99 South of Bakersfield.



The Fox Theater, another Bakersfield landmark.

Left, the 1993 Mark VIII parked in front of our Bakersfield Board Meeting.



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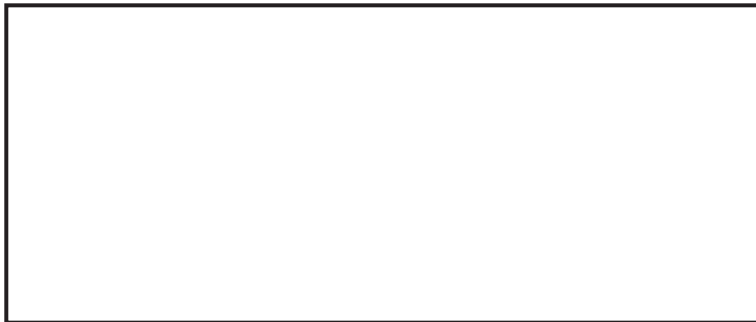
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1979 Continental Mark V Bill Blass designer series. Blue and white. Beautiful in every way. Runs and drives perfect. Won 1st in class at last Western National Meet. Won Presidents Cup in 1996, many other awards. Stored from '98 until this year. Asking only half NADA value, \$11,000. Call Tom at 925 228 1026 or tomfmailbox-33@yahoo.com

Lincoln Continental Mark IV '73-'75 black dash excellent condition-\$200; black door panels-\$100 each; plus shipping. John Walcek 714-528-1860, email john.walcek@earthlink.net"

1971 Continental Mark IIIs. Two for sale. In California cars. Both in good condition. \$7,500 for both cars. B.R. Galik, 92 Via Floreado, Orinda, CA 94563. Phone (925) 254-6615 (415) 931-2602

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TO AN IMPORTANT MEMBER

