



Vintage steam locomotive and Pacific Electric interurban Red Line car at the Orange Empire Railway Museum.

April in Perris, April 29 at the Orange Empire Railway Museum

Our second April event will be a combination of vintage cars and vintage trains as we join the Great Autos of Yesterday event at the most famous railway museum in California.

Admission to the park is always free. There will be a \$5 event fee including refreshments and snacks. Collector cars will park on the grounds. Ride the rails all day with our group rate of \$7. Bring your own picnic lunch. Join in a period setting photo-Op. April 29 is a Sunday and the museum is close to both the greater Los Angeles area and San Diego. It is in Perris, California, not Paris, France. This is one more exciting event planned for by Jim Ayres, our Southern California events coordinator.

Explore the West's largest collection of railway locomotives, passenger and freight cars, streetcars, old time interurban electric cars,

buildings and other artifacts dating from the 1870s.

Ride streetcars, interurban cars and trains on the museum railway. Trolleys and trains operate every weekend and on many major holidays, 11AM to 5PM.

Visit the neat Pinacate Station

Reception Center / Museum Store and the Museum grounds. During the weekends the trains and trolleys are running and most of the display buildings are open. The Museum grounds are quite large and contain numerous buildings, parks, and outdoor areas to explore. Any time you visit, we recommend dressing appropriately for the weather, and wearing comfortable walking shoes. The Museum grounds are quite large and there's a lot to see! The museum is located just south and east of the bustling city of Perris.

Founded in 1956, there is nothing like this railway museum in the U.S. It contains a GE U25B diesel locomotive once the flagship of the Southern Pacific Railway, and now the last operating diesel of this type. The Los Angeles Railway collection of two dozen Red Line streetcars is the most comprehensive in existence.

Don't miss this great event. Contact engineer Jim Ayres: so.cal.events@lcocwestern.org. Additional information at GreatAutos.org

(Continued on Page 4)



The party caboose.

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Director's message

On the third weekend in February (following the great Kickoff Banquet) Jan and I attended Keith McCormick's vintage/special interest auto auction in Palm Springs. Lincolns were well represented in the sale. I counted four or five mid-'60s convertibles, a very low-mileage Mark III, a respectable '72 Mark IV, a couple of very nice Mark V's and a stunning '41 cabriolet that experienced some (flathead) overheating issues while in line waiting to cross the block, but still managed to bring a \$49,000.00 bid. Buyer interest was high, and I would estimate that over 70% of the cars offered were sold. Prices seem to be on the upswing, and there were many, many out of state and out of country buyers. Palm Springs, being the "snowbird" haven that it is, attracts these "aliens", who are snapping up homes and cars. Fortunately, we have an abundant supply for them, and their cash talks loudly.

As the car enthusiast season approaches the Western Region has the usual number of quality events planned both North and South by dedicated and ambitious members. By the time you read this, Jim Ayres' Getty Villa luncheon and tour will be in the Western Region history books. Following on the back bumper of this event will be Mike Cunningham's snooty (and I mean that in a good way) Marin County bar-bee-kew. If you haven't been to Mike's, his neighborhood is a treat in itself, to say nothing of Mike's legendary hospitality (as in suite).

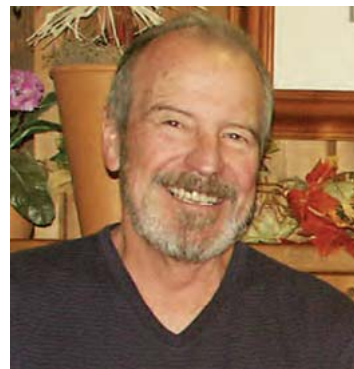
The Western Region is also planning on fielding a contingent of our finest at the prestigious Huntington Beach Concours d' Elegance on June 3. We will have our own class at what is the 27th anniversary of this very special show. Hot rods and motorcycles are on Saturday the 2nd, so this can be a fun weekend event. More information will follow in future *Confabs*, but if you just can't wait, get in touch with wagon-master Jim Ayres.

We'll also enjoy our usual (but never boring) array of shows, destinations, picnics, and wine tastings until September rolls around, when the granddaddy of Lincoln events "The National!" takes place in Concord. There's still time to volunteer to help out with this occasion. So, if you'd like to do more than just show your Lincoln give Jeremy Sanford a call, and really participate in the fun of this experience. Like Jeremy says: "Many hans make light work."

Jan and I look forward to seeing all of you and your Lincolns and Continentals on the road and at these neat events, throughout the rest of the year.

Continentalty yours; *Marv*

This column is dedicated to Johnny Otis and Davy Jones.



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.

Coming Events

Fabulous Fords Forever
Knott's Berry Farm
Buena Park
April 22

Marin BBQ at Mike
Cunningham's Estate
20 Ayala Ct, San Rafael
April 28

April in Perris at the
Perris Railway Museum,
April 29

Lincoln Class at the
Huntington Beach
Concours d'Elegance,
June 3

Annual Wine Country Picnic
Winery at a Sonoma County
winery (to be announced)
July 28

Fun Ford Sunday
Vallejo
September 9

WESTERN NATIONAL MEET
Concord, California
September 26-30



Lincolns at Fabulous Fords Forever **Sunday, April 22** **Knotts Berry Farm**

This will be the 27th year of the largest all Ford show in California featuring Ford, Lincoln and Mercury cars. The show will feature Ford products from 1903-2012 in 52 classes. There is a Lincoln class for Lincolns and Continentals of all years from 1922 to the present.

This year the show will celebrate the 80th anniversary of the '32 Ford, 50th anniversary of the Cobra, and 45th anniversary of the Mercury Cougar.

Every Lincoln owner in SoCal and beyond is encouraged to attend, so plan now!

To download a registration form go to:
<http://fabulousfordsforever.org/>

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 will 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.

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

(April in Perris continued
from page 1.)

This April event takes place in Perris, California (not Paris, France). Perris is located near Interstate Highway 215 midway between Los Angeles and San Diego, and is also convenient to Riverside and Palm Springs. In fact, it is central to all of our members in Southern California. The Orange County Railway Museum is located at 2201 South "A" Street, Perris, CA. Their phone number is 951-943-3020. There will be plenty of free parking available.

If you have ever wanted the opportunity to create a photo op with your classic car and an original locomotive or trolley dating back to the twenties, this is the perfect place. The museum has granted the clubs special permission to park our classic beauties on Main Street, which is inside the museum grounds. The trolley running down the center of the street, the old buildings, and central park will be the perfect backdrop for vintage vehicles.

Great Autos has reserved section of picnic grounds so we can enjoy a picnic lunch together. Plan to bring your picnic basket, picnic lunch, and a picnic blanket. Picnic tables are available but limited. There are also vending machines for drinks and there is a gift and snack shop and book store on the property.



Huntington Beach Concours Sunday, June 3

Over its 27 year history, the Huntington Beach Concours has grown to be one of the outstanding automotive events in Southern California. First staged in 1986, the Concours has its home at Huntington Beach Central Park, the crown jewel of the park system. Central Park has over 350 acres of lawns, lakes, and eucalyptus groves. The field of entrants includes the best domestic, British, European and Asian, vintage to current automobiles and motorcycles.

This year, for the first time, there will be a Lincoln class, with five sub-classes to be determined by entries. You will not find a better value in a Concours of this caliber. Entry is only \$30, which includes admission for you, your car and a guest. All cars are welcome as there will be judging in a drivers class as well as concours class. If you prefer not to have your car judged, that is also an option.

Our club is having an informal competition with the Thunderbird and Packard clubs to see which club can field the most cars, so we're hoping to see as many of you as possible.

To download registration forms, and for more info,
go to www.hbconcours.org.

Or contact Jim Ayres at 949-689-8471

The Western Region is
now accepting display
advertising in *The Confab*.

Business card size ads are \$50
for six issues or a full year.

Double business card size ads are
\$75 for six issues or a full year.

Send your checks payable to LCOC

Western Region to Bob Reed at

7026 Deering Avenue,

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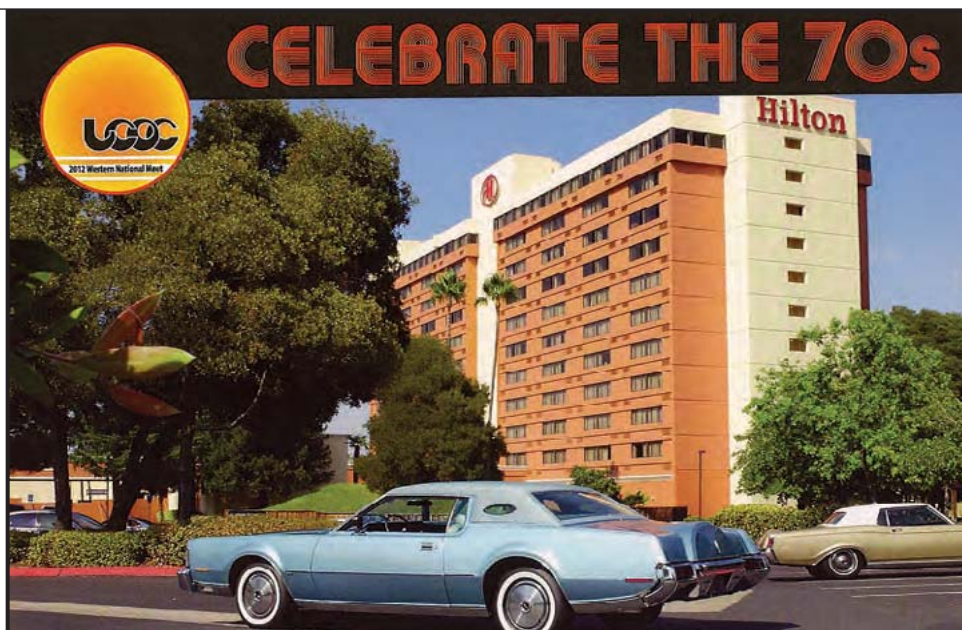
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2012 Western National Meet Concord, California September 26-30

Hello Western Region Members: As you've probably seen in the *Confab* and on the Western Region website, the 2012 Lincoln and Continental Owner's Club Western National Meet is on the horizon, and will be taking place September 26-30, 2012 in Concord, California. Meet registration is now open. The registration form and other details are available online at www.lcocwestern.org/meet. Please pass this URL on to friends who might be interested in participating, other Lincoln clubs, and Lincoln fans who might even be potential club members.

LOCATION

The Meet will be held at the Concord Hilton, located just off Interstate 680 at 1970 Diamond Boulevard, and only 30 miles from San Francisco. The newly remodeled hotel is offering an excellent \$109 room rate that includes a continental breakfast. Please call the Hilton at (800) 850-9327 to lock in this great rate! Meet registration is open through September 10, but hotel rooms at this discounted rate may sell out, so book soon!

A Western National Meet hasn't been held in the San Francisco Bay Area since 1993--take advantage of the excellent room rate and the Bay Area's mild late summer weather to enjoy an extended stay!

THEME: CELEBRATE THE '70s

This year's Western National Meet celebrates the decade of tire humps, opera windows, and landau tops. 2012 marks the 40th anniversary of the Continental Mark IV--the car that set the style for the entire U.S. auto industry in the "feel-good" decade. Whether you arrive in a '41 Lincoln Continental, 1956-57 Continental Mark II, or a '96 Town Car, be sure to dig back in your closet and pack your '70s spirit!

ACTIVITIES

In addition to the cars and camaraderie present at all National Meets, we have some great tours and events planned. The self-guided tour of San Francisco is a must for any visitor who has never seen the City by the Bay. This tour can be taken at anytime during your stay in Concord.

The wine regions of Napa Valley are perhaps the most famous in the world and we are proud to offer two ways to sample the fruits of that hallowed valley. The first option is a wine tasting trip to Napa Valley by private limousine. Depart the Hilton in style and grace in a chauffeured limousine for a 45 minute drive to the heart of the Napa Valley where you will enjoy visits to several distinct wineries and a picnic lunch. Feel free to imbibe to your heart's content, secure in knowing

your car and driver await to transport you safely back to the Hilton at the end of your day. The second option is a delicious wine and food pairing presented by sommelier extraordinaire Mike Cunningham at the Hilton on Thursday evening. (Choose both options if you're a diehard wine lover!)

On Friday there will be a drive tour to the spectacular Blackhawk Collection of classic automobiles, 30 minutes south of the Hilton in Danville. The Blackhawk Museum holds exquisite examples of rolling art in a stunning museum setting.

REGISTRATION

Completed Meet registration forms should be mailed to:

Jeremy Sanford
2680 Park Hills Drive
Sacramento, CA 95821

Questions? Call 2012 LCOC Western National Meet Coordinator Jeremy Sanford, (916) 488-3936, or e-mail meet@lcocwestern.org.

Many hands make light work! We hope you will volunteer to judge and donate items to be sold at the benefit auction. If you would like to help with the Meet please contact Jeremy.



Some of the Board Managers at the Sportsmen's Lodge Winter Board Meeting.

February 11, 2012 Region Board Meeting News

The Winter Board Meeting of the Western Region was held in the Director's suite at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City on Saturday, February 11.

One of the first items of business was the Membership Secretary's report by Mike Cunningham via conference call. Unfortunately, the Western Region has lost 22 members during 2011. There are now 210 members in the Western Region.

The electronic renewal process was not successful so all members will receive a renewal notice by regular mail.

Region Director Marv Wendt raised the subject of appropriate memorials for Western Region members who have died. It was decided to recognize deceased members with "named walkway bricks" at the Lincoln Motor Car Museum. Criteria for such memorials was discussed with two major points of consideration: longevity of membership and contribution to the club over the years. Treasurer Bob Reed recommended that at the end of each year a *Confab* article be written recognizing members who have passed away during the year, and

further recommended that the Board decide at the first meeting of the new year which members would be so honored.

The following members are to be recognized this year, with a donation to the Museum: Jack Cassan, John Crawley, Dick Cronkhite, Den Fenske, Bob Gee, Norm Kimmel, and "Smitty" Schmidt.

The expense of mailing the *Confab* to approximately 1/3 of the membership was discussed with the suggestion of a "surcharge" or "two-tiered" dues system.. Much heated discussion, both pro and con, ensued. However, no increase in dues or dues structure will be made this year.

Additional uses of club surplus revenue were discussed including joining the Association of California Car Clubs, which lobbies the State Legislature on behalf of the automobile hobby.

Another worthy organization is the Alex Xyzdias Center for Automotive Arts. This is a vocational program for high school age men and women that enables them to learn the whole spectrum of automotive skills that has largely disappeared from high school curriculums. This organization is largely supported by private donations, and is headquartered in donated space at the LA County Fairplex in Pomona.

Xyzdais was an early figure in the California Hot Rod scene who raced at Bonneville and local dry lakes and opened the "SoCal Speed Shop".

It was suggested that special 50/50 raffles could be held or that the profit from our seasonal meets could be donated to programs such as this.

Marv Wendt and Jim Ayres.



A basic annual budget was discussed that shows nothing more than core revenue typically received and core expenses typically encountered. This difference would indicate the level of support that might be available for such causes.

The upcoming Western National Meet was discussed. Meet chair Jeremy Sanford has produced an outstanding event flyer. Advertising has commenced in in-house publications and will appear in various enthusiast magazines. Lincoln corporate and dealer support will be pursued. A fun recommendation of a commemorative drink that can be purchased at the no-host bars with a part of the proceeds going to the club was suggested.

A new club project will be the development of front and back colored patches that could be sewn on member clothing.

A 2012 Club directory will be published mid-year.



Carol and Hal Reniger.

The two-member ad-hoc nominating committee was established, and an election will be held in late summer for three Board vacancies which will occur

this year, with ballots going to the membership, and finalized at the November Board meeting.



Jeremy Sanford and Bob Reed.



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For questions about merchandise, e-mail Baron Night at nitrovb@netzero.net.

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www.lcocwestern.org



TO LCOC WESTERN REGION MEMBER:

2680 Park Hills Drive
Sacramento, CA 95821

WESTERN REGION



Railways Continued

I last visited the Orange Empire Railway Museum a few years ago, traveling there with a group on an iconic 1949 Greyhound Silversides bus. It was a ball!

I have long been a old time railroad fan because my father and two of his brothers worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad in Minneapolis all of their lives. My dad was yardmaster of "East Minnapolis," the NP yard in Northeast Minniapolis. During World War II and thereafter I road the little "pipeline" freight train from East Minneapolis to the New Brighton defense plant. At first this little train was pulled by a steam locomotive, and later a new diesel. I rode in both the engine cab and the red caboose.

I can well remember going to work on Saturday or Sunday in my dad's then new 1946 Ford club coupe with his railroad lantern and lunch bucket in the back seat. The vintage 1918 railroad office had a Regulator Clock on the wall and coal burning furnace in the basement. Looking out the window I could see the World War II troop trains bound for Seattle.

In 1949 my mom, dad, and I took a trip to Yellowstone Park aboard the *new* North Coast Limited. The NP was the official railway line to Yellowstone Park. From Billings, Montana into Yellowstone Park we rode over Beartooth Mountain and throughout the Park. I remember staying at the Old Faithful Inn and the Yellowstone Lake Inn. It was quite a thrill.

Tim Howley