



Western Region at the Nethercutt Collection on Saturday, March 29th

For the second time the Western Region visited the fabled Nethercutt Collection in Sylmar on Saturday, March 29. They toured the six story San Sylmar Tower of Beauty: cars, pipe organs and other memorabilia, followed by lunch at the Bear Pit in nearby Mission Hills.

In the '20s, J.B. (Jack) Nethercutt's aunt, Merle Norman founded a small Los Angeles company to provide cosmetics for the movie stars and motion picture industry. J.B. was born in Indiana in 1913. When he was nine his mother died and he came west to live with his aunt. Later, he dropped out of college to enter her business. Then he bought her out and turned it into a \$100 million a year enterprise located in Sylmar.

He was always fascinated with the great classic cars of the '20s and '30s and the magnificent Los Angeles automobile showrooms where they were displayed. In 1956 Jack and his wife Dorothy bought a 1936 Duesenberg JN convertible coupe which the collection still has. At the same time he bought a very rough 1930 DuPont Town Car. It took him 19 months

and \$65,000 to restore the DuPont. Later he sold it to Bill Harrah in Reno and bought it back at an auction after Harrah's death. The collection still has the DuPont. These two cars were the beginnings of the Nethercutt Collection. From these roots Jack's interest expanded to include magnificent brass era cars, European classic cars, and he could enter cars in the Pebble Beach Concours d' Elegance.

Restoring these cars at his own facility became a must because Jack Nethercutt was a perfectionist.

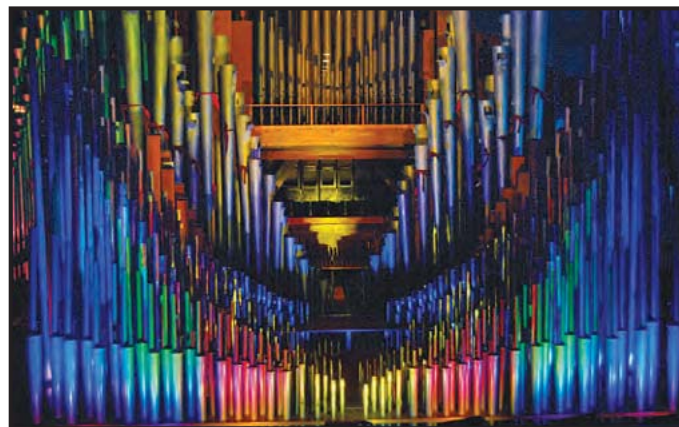
As the years went by, the collection expanded to include some of the most historic cars in the world, including a 1907 Westinghouse, legend Rudolph

(Continued on Page 4.)

Above left, inside the Classic car showroom.

Left, the pipes of the giant Wurlitzer pipe organ.

Photos by John Walcek



This 1921 Lincoln L Phaeton was one of the first Lincolns Built.



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Director's message



Our club is still recovering from the shock of losing our friend and club ambassador, Mike Cunningham. The Celebration of Life on February 28th was a chance for many of us in LCOC to gather and exchange stories to honor Mike, as we all tried to deal with his death. Club member Rob Shearan's tribute brought tears to our eyes with his remembrance of Mike as his true friend, especially when times were tough. Thanks, Rob, for putting to words the essence of friendship that we all felt for Mike, but were often unable to clearly express.

I would like to thank Jeremy Sanford for immediately volunteering to jump in and handle Mike's membership chairman's role right in the middle of our busiest time of renewals. He has gotten all of your renewals processed and we are now back in business. Jeremy will continue to manage this role through the end of the year, and he will also be working with me and Mike's family on an LCOC event in special memory of Mike later this year. We will keep you posted as plans are developed.

With Mike's board seat now vacant, we will have some significant changes in our club's leadership over this next year. This year's board election process will bring new faces to the board, and we are looking to engage as many members as possible in our next phase of club leadership. If you have time and further energy to expend in the name of our Lincolns, please consider placing your name on this year's Board of Managers ballot that will go out in the August *Confab*. If you are not sure about what is involved or how you could best contribute, give me call, and I will be happy to discuss all of this with you. Beyond the empty board seat, we have plenty of need for help, especially as we plan and execute the 2015 Western National Meet in San Diego that we are hosting in October next year. Ron Cressy and Jim Ayres have gotten off to a great start on what has the potential to be the best meet ever, and we are looking for those who would like to participate in the fun of pulling together this great event. So, if you even think that you might be able to participate more in our club leadership and coordination, give me a call (805 642-9211)!

Speaking of Western National Meets, the Pacific Northwest Region is hosting the 2014 Western National Meet July 16th – 20th in Tacoma, Washington at the LeMay America's Car Museum. Full registration packets can be obtained at <http://www.lcoc.org/Meets.asp>. The hotel for the meet will be the Best Western Plus Tacoma Dome Hotel. A block of rooms is now reserved for Lincoln Club members at a rate of \$119. The address is 2611 East E Street, Tacoma, Washington 98421-1225. The phone number for reservations is 253 272-7737. Our LCOC Western Region members have had great times over the years at these Pacific Northwest Region hosted meets, and I encourage you all to join us up there!!

Until next time.....Stacy

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.

1914 Western Region and LCOC Calender of events and All Makes Events for 2014, compiled by Jim Ayres

April 27 - Fabulous Fords Forever

<http://www.fabulousfordsforever.com/>

(Please note that registration for cars closed on April 7, admission to the public is free)

April 30 - May 4 - Eastern National Meet, St. Petersburg Beach, Florida

http://lcoc.org/documents/Meets/2014_Eastern_Meet_Registration.pdf

May 1 - 4 - M-E-Ls in Laughlin

<http://www.edselowners.com/laughlin2014form1.pdf>

May 4 - Greystone Mansion Concours

<http://www.beverlyhills.org/exploring/greystonemansionconcoursdelegance/?NFR=1>

May 10 - So-Cal Galaxies All Ford Show

<http://www.so-calgaxies.com/pics/carshowfliers/2014%20FLYER%20FRONT.pdf>

<http://www.so-calgaxies.com/pics/carshowfliers/2014%20FLYER%20BACK.pdf>

May 16 - 18 - Deco Meets the Deck - LZOC Invitational at the Queen Mary

<http://www.lzoc.org/calendar/GOF%20West%20XXIV%20-%202014%20-%20Queen%20Mary/GOF%20West%20XXIV%20-%20Queen%20Mary.htm>

(This is not an official Western Region event but members are encouraged to attend)

May 17-18 - Muckenthaler Motor Car Festival

<http://muckcarshow.org/>

May 25 - Fallbrook Car Show

<http://www.fallbrookvintagecarclub.org/>

May 31 - Huntington Beach Rod and Custom Show

<http://www.hbconcours.org/>

June 1 - Western Region Spring Meet at the Huntington Beach Concours

<http://www.hbconcours.org/>

June 8 - San Marino Concours

[http://www.sanmarinomotorclassic.com/June 22 -](http://www.sanmarinomotorclassic.com/June%2022-Forty%20Ford%20Day)

Forty Ford Day (continued on page 5)

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2013
*Huntington Beach
Concours d' Elegance.*



Western Region dues are \$35 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.

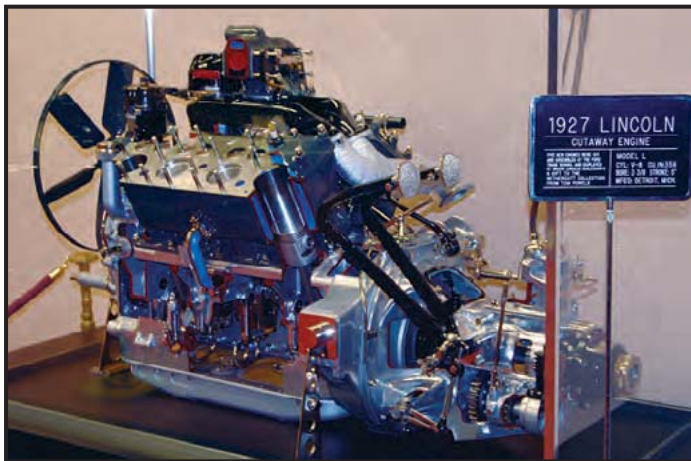
Valentino's 1923 Voisin, Fatty Arbuckle's 1923 McFarlan, Constance Bennett's 1930 Rolls Royce Phantom II Town Car, one of the first Lincolns built in 1921, the 1933 Duesenberg "Twenty Grand", a 1936 Cadillac Aerodynamic Coupe, Mr. Judkins' personal 1938 Lincoln V-12, Cadillacs and Packards by the score, and a bevy of Rolls-Royces, among other spectacular European marques.

Such cars needed housing worthy of their elegance and value. This led to a decision in the early '60s to build a museum on the Merle Norman Cosmetics manufacturing grounds in Sylmar. The first building was the six story San Sylmar Tower of Beauty which also houses the hood ornaments, French antique furniture, rare musical instruments, and restoration shops.

In 2000, a second museum, one story, across the street, was opened to display the overflow of cars. There are now 260 cars in the collection of which 200 are on display. Twice the tower has been hit by earthquakes, in 1971 and 1973, but it has survived both. (Continued on Page 5.)



*Jim and Carol Higgs with LaVonne Howley
outside the Nethercutt Museum.*



*A 1927 Lincoln L engine under glass.
Below, the 1933 Duesenberg "Twenty Grand".*



*What on earth is a customized Continental Mark V
doing in with all of Nethercutt's antique and classic cars?*





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**(Nethercutt
Collection Continued)**

The main floor of the original museum/tower is a recreation of the splendid automobile showrooms of the '20s and '30s with their gigantic marble Greek columns, mirrored walls, marble floors, awesome chandeliers, staircases, and second floor balconies to look down on the cars.

Yes, such buildings did once exist on Figueroa Street in Los Angeles and Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco. One of the most spectacular was for Earle C. Anthony Packard. Another was for Charlie Howard Buick. (Howard also owned the race horse Seabiscuit.) Some of the San Francisco dealerships survive.

J.B. Nethercutt, who died in 2004 at the age of 91, had a passion for beauty in all of its forms. There is even a copy of Louis XV's 16-seat dining room where J.B. entertained his guests on a regular basis. With his car collection already becoming legendary in the '60s, he presented his wife with an antique music box as an anniversary gift, and the music collection was born. It went from disc and cylinder music boxes to player and reproducing pianos, nickelodeons, giant Orchestrions, and one of the largest theater organs ever made.

The latest addition to the Nethercutt Collection is the restored steam locomotive and parlor car. The locomotive is the 1937 Canadian-Pacific Royal Hudson #2839 4-6-4 wheeler pioneered by the New York Central. With this locomotive, King George VI and his wife crossed Canada by train in 1939 and this locomotive attained a top speed of 90 mph.

The Pullman railcar *California* was built for Clara Baldwin Stocker in 1912. She was the eldest daughter of California pioneer "Lucky" Baldwin and she inherited \$10 million. The railcar has one double large bedroom, two smaller bedrooms, a kitchen, a combination dining room and observation room, and an observation platform. Both the locomotive and railcar

(Jim Ayres Calendar of Events Continued)

July 16 - 20 - Western National Meet, Tacoma, Washington

http://lcoc.org/documents/Meets/2014_Western_Meet_Promo.pdf

August 6 - 9 - The Lincoln Homecoming at the Gilmore and Lincoln Motorcar Museum Dedication

<http://www.michiganlcoc.org/portal25/jupgrade/index.php/museum/177-hotel-info-museum-building-dedication-weekend-aug-9-10>

September 14 - Palos Verdes Concours

<http://www.pvconcours.org/>

September 17 - 21 - Mid-America National Meet, Rockford, Illinois

http://lcoc.org/documents/Meets/2014_Mid-America_National_Meet_Registration.pdf

September 21 - Dana Point Concours

<http://danapointconcours.org/>

October - Car Show at Witt Lincoln, San Diego

Details to be announced later

Jim Ayres

LCOC Western Region Activities Director

were restored by the Nethercutt Collection. Today the collection is managed by J.B.'s son Jack and his wife Helen. He and Helen serve as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Merle Norman Cosmetics and Chairmen of the Board of Directors for the Nethercutt Collection. They continue restoring cars and entering them in Concours d'Elegance competition.

Since the beginning the Nethercutt Collection has been open free to the public by reservation only with tours

of the tower offered twice daily Thursday through Saturday. On our tour we discovered you can barely see everything in a day. The tour takes two hours and includes only the tower. The on-your-own tour of the building across the street with all the cars takes at least two hours. A tour of the railway car and steam locomotive takes another hour. Organ and piano concerts are offered six times a year.

*Lecture before touring
the Pullman railcar
at the Nethercutt Collection.*



February 6 Winter Board Meeting by Conference Call

A Winter 2014 Board of Directors Meeting of the Western Region of LCOC was held on the evening of February 6 with seven directors in attendance. This meeting was held as a telephone conference call which lasted for one and a half hours. Conference call board-meetings are now being held more often as they are much easier to attend than regular meetings, business gets done faster, and allows members to attend region events without having their fun interrupted by region business.

The Treasurer's Report listed a balance of \$2,502.77 in the Savings Account and \$3,420 in the Checking Account. Dues will be raised to \$35 a year beginning January 1, 2015. The website was immediately changed to reflect dues at \$35 a year. The higher dues are the result of the 2013 and 2014 budgets which show that the region is currently in a break even position with membership down from previous years and many events showing a loss in profits. Membership currently stands at 185.

Partnership events with other Lincoln clubs were discussed. National has put new judging rules in effect to draw LZOC and LOC members to our National meets. Their members can now enter our meets without joining LCOC and will be regarded as members for the judging day, competing for Primary Awards and trophies up to the level of Lincoln Trophies.

A National update was made by Bruce Hutchinson and Stacy Roscoe regarding the opening of the Lincoln Heritage Motor Car Museum August 9, National Meet changes, changes in judging, the National Website and National Directory.

Reports were made on upcoming National Meets. The Eastern National Meet for 2014 will be held in St. Pete Beach, Florida April 30-May 4. It will be LCOC's first non-judged meet run as a test to see if such a National Meet draws more members. The Western National Meet will take place in Tacoma, Washington July 16-20. The Mid-America National Meet will be held in

Rockford, Illinois September 17-21. It is anticipated that this will be the largest meet of the year with 100 or more cars participating. 2015 National Meets will be held in Concordville, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and San Diego.

The last Western Region Election was held through the *Confab* and it worked out well. We have nine seats on the board with terms expiring for Bruce Hutchinson, Bob Reed and Jeremy Stanford at the end of 2014. There is a vacancy open for Mike Cunningham's seat. Candidates for the Board are asked to have their biographies in to Tom McCarthy by June 30 so they can be published in the August 15 issue of the *Confab*. Winners will be announced at the November Board Meeting.

During the February 6 board meeting, Shirley Richards tendered her resignation as a board member and was replaced by Ron Cressy effective immediately.

Region events for 2014 began with the Kickoff Brunch at the Proud Bird on February 9 and a tour to the Nethercutt Collection on March 29. These events will be followed by Fabulous Fords Forever at Knotts April 27 and the Spring Meet at the Huntington Beach Concours on June 1. Jeremy Sanford is planning a Wine Country Event/Tour. Jim Ayres and Jeremy Sanford are working on additional Northern and Southern events. Discussion was started regarding an October event in San Diego that would serve as a dry run for a Western National Meet in San Diego in 2015. The goal for this 2015 Meet is 100 cars. Jim Ayres and Ron Cressy are organizing this meet.

Region Projects were discussed only briefly. The plan is to sell all remaining Car Flags. Space for Business Card size ads is still available in each issue of the *Confab* for the reasonable price of \$50 a year.

The June, 2014 board meeting will be a conference call to allow everyone to enjoy the Huntington Beach Concours. A traditional board meeting will be held in November.

2015 Western National Meet in San Diego

The Lincoln and Continental Owners Club 2015 Western National Meet will be held in San Diego in October 2015, in conjunction with San Diego's year long Centennial Celebration of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition in Balboa Park. Along with San Diego's 100th, the 75th anniversary of the 1940 models, 50th anniversary of the 1965s, and the 25th anniversary of 1990 cars will be honored.

The Western Region of LCOC will be hosting the first National Meet in San Diego in 20 years! We anticipate a very large turnout for this event, with joint participation of several Lincoln and Continental clubs. There will be many events to choose from throughout the week. We will be doing a daylong driving tour on San Diego back country roads. There will be a day in Balboa Park at the Zoo or exploring the many museums and gardens in the Park. There might even be a tour of a private car collection or two!

San Diego has endless places to visit, from California's first Mission, Old Town, The Gaslamp Quarter, Maritime Museums, the Historic Hotel Del Coronado, Point Loma, La Jolla, Torrey Pines State Reserve, Del Mar, Mission Bay, Sea World and the San Diego Zoo.

Plan your 2015 vacation now, and spend the week with us in San Diego in October.

Final dates, along with our host hotel and event schedule will be revealed at the culmination of the 2014 Western National Meet in Tacoma July 17 - 19. Sponsorship opportunities are available, and we are looking for volunteers to staff the 2015 Meet Planning Committee. Let us know what you do best! Call Jim Ayres, LCOC Western Region Activities Director, at 949-689-8471, or email Jayres01@ca.rr.com.

See you in San Diego, October 2015!



Lincoln Heritage Motor Car Museum Grand Opening

Mark your calendars: August 6-9 of 2014 will be the grand opening of the Lincoln Motor Car Heritage Museum on the grounds of the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan.

In addition, the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club is partnering with the Lincoln Owner's Club to organize a series of activities that culminate with the ribbon cutting of the museum building, opening it to the public.

Details of the events are forthcoming, but for those who are so motivated, we recommend making any hotel reservations as soon as you are able. Reserved rooms at a great rate are limited for this event.

The host hotel is the Four Points Kalamazoo by Sheraton (warning: their website autoplays a video with audio!) in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Call 269-385-3922 and use the code LINCOLN OWN (as in Lincoln Owners Club) to get the room rate of \$99 + tax per night. Each

room night reservation includes two hot breakfasts (one for you and your guest) so it is a great deal. You can cancel your room by 4 P.M. the day of if your plans change. The backup hotel is the Holiday Inn Express which is located right next door to the Four Points. Call 269-373-0770 and use the code LINCOLN OWN to get the rate of \$99 + tax per night plus two breakfasts. (Its code is the same as the Sheraton). The banquet (info forthcom-

ing) will be at the Sheraton so you will have to walk across the parking lot. More details to follow.

The schedule of events is as follows:

Wednesday, August 6, Welcome Party, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Thursday, August 7, 120 mile driving tour to "The Air Zoo" with lunch, shopping, antiquing and ice cream.

Friday, August 8, 80 mile driving tour to two pristine, private car collections with lunch and shopping. Then a Welcome Barbecue at the Gilmore Museum.

Saturday, August 9, shine and park your Lincoln in the morning with access to the Gilmore's extensive car collection and the new Lincoln Museum. The dedication of the museum and a banquet at the Gilmore will be held in the afternoon.

For more up to date information go to the Michigan Region LCOC website: <http://www.michiganlcoc.org/portal25/jupgrade/>

Jim Ayres.

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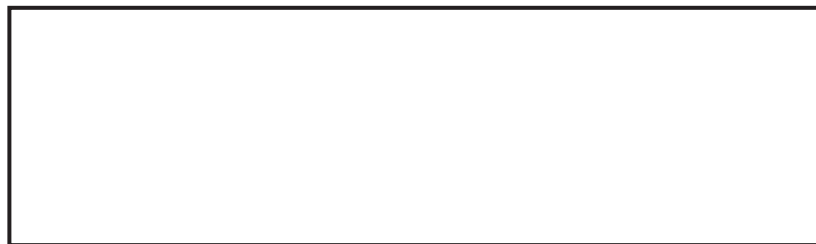


1932 Lincoln KB and 1930 Ruxton at the Nethercutt.



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.

www.lcwcwestern.org



TO LCOC WESTERN REGION MEMBER:

Photos from the 2014
Nethercutt Collection Tour

WESTERN REGION



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