

My Pride and Joy

By Ray Nelson.....

In 1948, while playing baseball in the school playground, my friends' grandfather pulled up in a 1948 Continental and I fell in love with it instantly. It has been a dream of mine to own one since that time, and that dream was realized on April 15, 1988.

My brother-in-law, Tom Walsh, told me about a Continental in Austin, Minnesota, that was for sale. I bought the car, sight unseen, from Charlie Fawver, and was a "little" surprised to find it dismantled and spread out between a barn and several garages. Charlie told me the history of the car.

It originally belonged to an aristocrat in Panama. After World War II, a sailor

"My dream was realized"

stationed there bought the car and brought it back to Iowa. He rebuilt the car, and then went through a divorce. His wife wanted the car, so he hid it in a friends' shed on the Red Cedar River, through high water and low water, until Charlie heard about the car, and bought it. Charlie had it for 10 years, and because he had so many irons in the fire, he didn't have time to complete it, and

agreed to sell it to me.

Hauling the car home to Bloomington, Mn from Austin, Mn, should have been an omen of the years to come. I was towing the car, and my nephew, Dennis, was towing an enclosed trailer full of engine, fenders, hood, bumpers, etc, when a tire blew on the trailer and turned him 180 degrees, and never tipped the car or trailer.

Even though the original V12 engine was sitting along side the car when I purchased it, because it had been totally dismantled, I did not know how

many parts were missing, so I decided to "update" it a bit. I put in a 460 Lincoln V8 engine, a C6 automatic transmission, air conditioning, Becarts double vision mirror, Clif-



1948 CONTINENTAL

ford alarm system, cruise control, power cowl vent,

power disc brakes, power door locks, six-way power seats, 12 disc remote CD player, white leather interior, and a bit of "extra" gold plating. At the same time, I tried to keep the exterior as original looking as possible. I believe I accomplished this, because often when I take it to car shows, they want to put me in the "original" class.

Ten years later, after many discouraging moments, the car was completed this could not have been accomplished without countless hours of help from Dan Kielas, and his son Cory, the LCOC, visits to many junkyards, and calls all over the United States for parts. But, it was well worth it!! Since completion of the car, we have put on over 11,000 miles, and have enjoyed

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Welcome to the Northstar News, the monthly publication of the Northstar Region of the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club. We value your opinions and appreciate your input concerning this newsletter and the operation of the club. This is your club.

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Board Of Directors - 2001-2002

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Members and guests are welcome to attend the Board Meetings which are held the second Thursday of every month except December at 7:00 PM at Whitaker Lincoln-Mercury on South Robert Street just north of Highways 110 and 1494 in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota.

My Pride and Joy, continued..

every minute of it. My dream-come-true is a great ride.



Editors' note:

A before shot of Ray's 1948 during restoration. Note the V12 engine in the foreground. This Continental is a beautiful example of what can be done applying modern technology to an older vehicle. The result is a car that can be driven anywhere in total comfort at highway speeds.

Minnetonka Fall Leaf Tour

By Roger Wothe

Sunday morning, October 13th dawned cool and clear; a perfect day for a car cruise (no overheating). Jay White had arranged with the Big Bird Club to do a combined tour with or club. Everyone met at Target Greatland at the intersection of Highways 7 and 101 in Minnetonka. There were almost forty cars fairly well mixed between Lincolns and Thunderbirds with a few modern cars included. Our newest member Rod Johnson came all the way from Albert Lea with a PT Cruiser Woody. I joined the tour in Wayzata, just four house from our home. The tour went through the Ferndale section of Wayzata where all the big homes are, then around the lower lake, over the Narrows Bridge on to Excelsior, around the south side of the upper lake and then the highway to the Minnesota Arboretum. We followed an interesting three mile trail through the Arboretum. Many of the trees had already lost their leaves, but there were some brilliant maples still bearing leaves. We all had lunch at the Arboretum and then adjourned to the parking lot and some tire kicking. Our thanks to Jay White for a very well planned tour with maps for everyone. As far as I can tell, we lost only one car. I am looking forward to the next tour.

Great Trivia.....

One Lovely summer day in 1948, a Swiss amateur mountaineer and inventor decided to take his dog for a nature hike.

The man and his faithful companion both returned home covered with burrs, the blunt seed-sacs that cling to animal fur in order to travel to fertile new planting grounds. The man neglected his matted dog, and with a burning curiosity ran to his microscope and inspected one of the many burrs stuck to his pants. He saw all the small hocks that enabled the seed-bearing burr to cling so viciously to the tiny loops in the fabric of his pants. George de Mestral raised his head from the microscope and

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Editors Message

Monday evening, October 28th. The weather forecast is at best gloomy. It would appear that our nice driving weather is over with for the duration. It seems as though this past six or seven month has gone by all too rapidly. In spite of the abundance of rain and hot, humid weather, we still managed to get in a few days on the road with our cars. It was fun. Marion and I will have some good memories of the Red Wing meet, downtown St. Paul, our visit to Frank Warner's, all good times with the very best of people. That is what the hobby is all about. Good times with great people.

Your board is already making plans for next season, which begins again in January. If you have any ideas for events, brunches, lunches, dinners, or tours, or for anything else, please let us know. We need fun things to do in our Lincolns.

This month's feature is Ray and Jeanine Nelson's absolutely stunning 1948 Continental. Another literal basket case, it was lovingly restored to life. It was a car which may not have been saved, but for the courage of Ray, it might not have been. Modern running gear provide for the best of both worlds, classic styling and contemporary comfort. Ray and Jeanine have a few other Lincolns tucked away in their garage. We hope to hear these other ones someday. They too, are equally as nice.

With winter around the corner, Marion is pressing me to get the garage organized once again for winter. The older cars will have to be squeezed together in the back of the garage, and the snow blower towards the front. We must have the snow blower where we can get to it. I really hate to do this as this is truly an admission that the driving season is over.

Some time in the future, it would be interesting do a feature on garages. As most of us have more cars that garage space, we have to solve this problem in our own and different ways. It might be fun to learn how our members have tackled the storage problem. Also, I need articles and pictures on cars. Send me your pictures and stories about your Lincolns. I especially like the '50's, and want to feature them. Let us hear from you.

Till next month....-30-

On The Road To Des Moines

by Faythe and Harvey Oberg

The Salisbury House Concours - September 27-28, 2002

On a warm and sunny Friday morning we met up with Tim and Gaye Purvis and Tom and Gunta Brace at the Mac Truck Stop located on 35 South near Lakeville for our trip to the Salisbury House in Des Moines, Iowa. Tim and Gaye were trailering their 1937 Lincoln K Roadster and Tom and Gunta trailered their 1937 Lincoln K Sedan. We, of course, were driving our 1941 Lincoln Continental Cabriolet.

We arrived in Des Moines about 2:30 PM at the Betts Cadillac Dealership. Friday evening we were treated to a delicious sit down dinner at the dealership, followed by a short talk by Randy Ema (of the History Channel fame) on the history of the Dusenbergs. We were also allowed to park our classics inside the dealership overnight on Friday evening which was a big plus for us.

Saturday morning we were back to the Betts Cadillac dealership for a continental breakfast after which we toured to the Salisbury House around 10:00 AM. There was a total of 45 classics in attendance that were assigned parking spots either in front or in back of the Salisbury House. Then between 1:00 and 5:00 PM the public was invited into the grounds to view our classics. We were serenaded throughout the afternoon by two different groups of singers along with an accordion player. This added to the festive atmosphere.

A reception was held for the guests outside on the grounds of the Salisbury House from 5:00 to 7:00 PM during which time three trophies were awarded. The Chairman's Award went to a 1929 Dusenbergs. The next award which was the Iowa Heritage Award went to a 1923 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost Piccadilly Roadster, one out of only five built and fresh out of restoration. The third trophy was Peoples Choice and was awarded to a 1935 Boat Tail Auburn speedster.

The people from the Salisbury House were great hosts and fed us very well. We enjoyed guided tour of the House before lunch on Satur-

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smiled thinking, "I will design a unique, two sided fastener, one side with stiff hooks like the burrs and other side with soft loops like the fabric of my pants. I will call my invention 'velcro' a combination of the work velour and crochet. It will rival the zipper in its ability to fasten."

Mestral's idea met with resistance and even laughter, but the inventor 'stuck' by his invention. Together with a weaver from a textile plant in France, Mestral perfected his hook and loop fastener. By trial and error, he realized that nylon when sewn under infra-red light, formed tough hooks for the burr side of the fastener. This

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Monthly Director's Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

October 10, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM at Whitaker Lincoln-Mercury by regional Director Bob Johnson. Board members present were Harvey Oberg, Dave Gustafson, Bob Gavrilescu, and Tim Purvis. Other members present were Gaye Purvis, Faye Oberg and Jim Jacobsen. The minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda for this meeting were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's raining at Hershey. Note from one attending, "It started raining at noon on Thursday. Twenty-eight hours later it was still raining and the forecast was for two more days of the same."

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Director Bob Johnson and Dave Gustafson have been investigating the cost of a member directory with pictures to be about \$100.00 per page. At the beginning of the year, Dave Gustafson will look at doing a chapter web site. He has already registered www.northstarloc.org. We believe that it can be a valuable way of communicating with our membership and possibly lead to additional interest in the Northstar LCOC.

Treasurer Harvey Oberg reported that with \$1,655.00 from the Mid-America Meet, the treasury balance is \$5,220.00.

Membership and Publications Director Dave Gustafson reported that he has done a write up of the Meet for *Continental Comments*.

Projects Director Bob Gavrilescu reported that there were no sales for the past month.

Activities Director Jay White was unable to attend, but passed along the reminder for the Fall Leaf Tour with the

Big Birds Club on Sunday 13 October. The police escort was dropped because it was too expensive. There should be close to forty cars attending.

Technical Director Tim Purvis reviewed next year's activity calendar.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM. The next meeting will be at Whitaker Lincoln-Mercury on Thursday 14 November 2002 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted by Secretary Roger Wothe from notes compiled by Bob Gavrilescu.

On The Road, Continued.....

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day. It contains 42 rooms and 17 bathrooms. Many of the rooms are currently undergoing renovation and others are complete with original furnishings.

We left Des Moines very early Sunday morning and encountered dense fog just outside of Des Moines. Fortunately, there was very little traffic. I believe we all had an enjoyable time there and were especially very delighted to be invited to this yearly event.

Editors Note: We thank Faythe and Harvey Oberg for this interesting article about their visit to the Salisbury House Invitational Show, which is held annually in September each year in Des Moines.

We Welcome The Following New Member.....

Jack Thompson, 9400 Oakland Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55420 79 Mark 5

We hope to see our new members at some of our club events in the near future.

For Sale.....

1971 Mark III, Rebuilt Motor, Bad Transmission, restore or for parts, little rust. \$500. Call Dennis at 763-682-3172

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finished the design, patented in 1955. The inventor formed Velcro Industries to manufacture his invention.

Mestral was selling over sixty million yards of Velcro per year. Today it is a multi-million dollar industry. Not bad for an invention based on Mother Nature.

Today you cannot buy velcro because VELCRO is the registered trademark for the Velcro Industries' product. You can purchase all of the VELCRO brand hook and loop fasteners you need. This illustrates a problem inventors often face. Names can become generic terms.

From the Internet.

Directors Message

By Bob Johnson

November Directors Message

By Bob Johnson

On Saturday, October 12th, Mary and I began driving my 86 year old father to Apache Junction, Arizona, to his Winter home. My Dad has a 1998 White Town Car, driving it was completely different than driving our Mark VII's. The steering is not as quick and ride is soft and sort of floats along as you go down the road. Instead of taking I35 to Oklahoma City and then I40 to Holcombe, Arizona., we took Kansas State Highway 54 from Wichita to Vaughn, New Mexico, where we stayed in a 1960's style motel. From Vaughn, we took Highway 60 through Show Low, the Salt River Canyon and Globe to Apache Junction, Arizona, the trip was 1686 miles long, and we averaged MPG 22.5. It was 93 degrees when we arrived in Apache Junction, and sunny as usual.

Instead of flying back, we bought a 1973, Silver, Lincoln Mark IV, named Charlie, from LCOC members Tom & Peggy McCallister of Phoenix, Arizona. Charlie, ran perfect, except for starting in Kansas City. It flooded out due to the cold weather, and I had to manually open the choke to get it started, and we only used one quart of oil. I will be selling this car or our Mark V, due to limited storage space. Our route back was through Flagstaff and I40 to Tucumcari, New Mexico, and then highway 54 back again, to I35 in Wichita, Kansas. I felt I was brave enough to drive the car back from Arizona, but didn't want to test Charlie, going through the curves, climbs and descents that the Salt River Canyon offered.

We arrived back home on Saturday night in time to watch the snow on Sunday and Monday. Here in Shafer we had almost 6 inches on the ground Monday morning.

Please attend our last event of the year, Sunday Brunch at the Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club, on Sunday November 10th. Jay will be showing video and pictures of this years events. Directions and information is in preview of coming attractions.

Since I was unable to attend the Lake Minnetonka Ramble, a write up will be else where is

this newsletter. Roger Wothe, commented that there were about 40 cars, but more T-Birds than Lincolns. That the weather was cool, but no one had to worry about their car over heating. Roger, especially liked the three mile drive though the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

At our last meeting on Thursday, October 10th, doing a North Star Region web site was discussed. Dave Gustafson has already registered www.northstarlcoc.org. Dave has checked out costs and will begin work on site layout at the beginning of next year. We may have a sponsor to offset cost, Chuck Whitaker, of Whitaker Lincoln & Mercury. Dave Gustafson, also estimated the cost of printing Region Directory with color pictures at about \$100 per page. We will look at what options are available, one of them is putting pictures on web site, but that only covers members who have Internet Access.

Its hard to believe that the driving season for our marvelous Lincolns is coming to a close. I still have the top down on the Mark VII. I put it down when I was at the Shafer Car Show on Saturday, October, 5th. It was nice to see fellow Northstar members, Kevin Wilson, Dave Gustafson and Frank Warner at the show. It had a nice turn out, about 60 cars, but to many Chevies.

We will be looking for new events for 2003, if you have a place that you think the club would like, please call me with the information.

See you on Sunday November 10th, for our final 2002 event.

As always keep the journey continuing in our marvelous Lincolns.

You are welcome....

To attend the monthly Northstar LCOC board meetings held at Whitaker Lincoln Mercury on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. Participate in your club and contribute to the decision making process. See you there.

Preview of Coming Attractions

The following are the scheduled club events, please call Jay White at (952) 432-5939 for information and directions.

November 10 Year-end wrap up at the Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club. Sunday Brunch. Our final event of the season. If it is warm enough, make this your last outing with the Lincoln. 11:30 AM Please see map and directions flyer attached. Please call Jay White at 952-432-5939 (or email JayWhite@frontiernet.net) to let him know if you are attending.
Thanks

December No club events planned for December. The board will also take a vacation, and not meet until January. Save your money to pay your dues. Buy tools, car books, or other car related items for your wife and children for the holidays. Something that you can use.

January Guldens Restaurant in Maplewood. Sunday brunch on January 19th at 12:30 PM. 2999 Highway 61. Map and directions in January newsletter.

February Evening at Ellingson's. Pot luck dinner with the CCCA. More information to follow.

March To be announced

April Tobey's by the Lake, April 27th, 11:30 AM. Our annual visit. Great place, great food.

May Whitaker Lincoln-Mercury annual car show.

June Back to the Fifties

July Downtown St. Paul on Kellogg Boulevard

August Any good Ideas?

September Annual Picnic....Where has the summer gone....

October A year away, but time passes quickly.....

If you have any ideas for future club activities, please let your board members know, or call or email Jay White. We welcome your suggestions for future events.