

# NORTHSTAR NEWS

## *Pride and Joy*



### One Great Running 1987 Town Car

By Bruce Freiberg.

Getting this car wasn't as exciting as getting the 1953 Lincoln Cosmo a few years back.

Back in the 1990's every winter I would go to Bentonville Arkansas, for a week or two, to visit my Great Aunt.

She had a restaurant in town in the 1940's and 50's. One of her regular customers was Sam Walton, the guy who started Wal-Mart. Every morning she said, around 8:30 he came in for a cup of coffee, and a piece of pecan pie. Then off to Rogers, Arkansas where he started the first Wal-Mart store. The rest is history.

I remember back in the 50's going to visit her, and she would take us to the "five and dime" store downtown. The floors were cut timber and the neatest floors I'd ever seen. Outside were racks of cloths, all over the sidewalks, with bins filled with socks. A young kid could play hide and seek within all that stuff. Also, there were always a couple kids passing out popcorn.

After I finished reading Sam Walton's book, I put two and two together, and that it was his store that I visited many times and those were his children selling the popcorn.

Moving forward to the spring of 1999, I visited my Aunt again, and one

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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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Members and guests are welcome to attend the Board Meetings which are held the *first* Thursday of every month except December at 7:00 PM at Culvers Restaurant, (dine with friends at 6:00PM) I-94 AND RUTH STREET, St. Paul.

Articles and other information for the newsletter should be sent to David Gustafson, Editor, at 308 Brandywine Drive, Burnsville, MN 55337.

### *Pride and Joy continued.*

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day we went over to the next town for lunch. As we drove by a Rapid Oil Change building, I saw this car by the road with a FOR SALE on it. Four days later, we drove by again and it's still there. Like a big magnet, it pulled me over for a closer look. It had 192,000 miles on it. But it did have a new transmission installed at 80,000 miles. The owner said that most of the miles were on the interstate from Arkansas to Michigan and back. And he claimed that the oil was changed EVERY 3,000 miles. I believed him since the Rapid Oil change store was his.

I went to the local Lincoln dealer and asked a few salesman and mechanics if that was a lot of miles for that engine. No, after 250,000 maybe, but since he changed oil every 3 grand, it sounds like a good buy for the price he was asking. The final price was even a few dollars lower, when I offered cash. The trip back home was in Lincoln Town Car style and comfort.

It took me all summer to learn how to navigate that car. I have never had a hood quite that long before. I couldn't see the ground just ahead of me. After trying to parallel park, I'd get out to see I was three feet away from the curb.

A couple months later, a buddy and I took the car on a road trip to New Orleans for the Jazz festival, We are both over 6 feet tall, and the front and back seats were comfortable enough for us to sleep in. The car provided 20 miles to the gallon.

On the way home we stopped at my Aunts to bring my truck back, since I left it there to drive the car home some months before. We just got across the Iowa border into Minn. when the truck broke down. So, I pulled out my new yellow nylon tow rope, hooked it up to the Lincoln, and told Glen there

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*Trivia from the*

*Hollywood was established in 1853, with a single adobe hut on land outside Los Angeles, California. Growing crops was so successful there that by 1870, Hollywood became a thriving agricultural community.*

*One of its most notable historic figures was real estate tycoon, Harvey Henderson Wilcox and his wife, Daeida, who moved to Los Angeles from Topeka, Kansas, in the 1880s. Wilcox, having lost the use of his legs from a bout with typhoid fever prior to moving out west, bought 160 acres of land west of the city, at the foothills near the Cahuenga Pass.*

*The town's name came from Daeida, who, while on a train trip east met a woman that described her country home in Ohio, that had been named for the Dutch settlement of Hollywood. Liking the name, Daeida christened their ranch*

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*Editors Message**February 2012*

January is rapidly drawing to a close. So far we have cheated winter out of at least eight or nine weeks by anyone's count. Some how, I just have to believe that we will pay for this with a long damp spring. At least you don't have to shovel damp.

You are all encouraged to take note of the fact that three (3) minutes are added to the period of which we see the sun every day. For example, here in the southernly twin cities suburb of Burnsville, on January 31st, the sunrise is at 7:35AM and Sunset is at 5:18PM. On February 29, a month away, those same events will occur at 6:53AM and 5:59PM. And of course, the sun will be getting higher in the sky each day, warming up our little portion of the earth at the same time. After the next few weeks, winter will definitely be on the run.

The new Lincoln MKZ was displayed recently at the Detroit Auto Show. While it is still in concept form, it is believed that the final version will be fairly close to what was at the show. In addition to a beautiful new skin, it has a lot of significant changes on the inside. It should be in showrooms later this year. Look for even better things from Lincoln in the coming months.

Bob Johnson and I will be attending the annual LCOC board of directors meeting in Orlando, Florida at the end of January. Dick Koop, also a member of our region, now living

down in Missouri also will be attending. All of us are optimistic about the future of the club. We are all going to work as hard as we can to make our club the place where friends can come

together, have fun and celebrate the joy of the old car hobby.

Our Mid-America show is rapidly coming together. Be sure to mark you calendars for August 15 – 19. It will be at the Park Plaza hotel along highway 494 in Bloomington.

We have made a number of visits to the hotel and we believe that it should be a great venue for our car show. There are

numerous activities available in the area, including the ever popular shopping destination, the Mall of America. While most of us locals are use to it by now, it is still the largest mall in the US and will provide a great experience for those from out of town attending the show.

The Northstar club dues invoices went out in the mail early in January. Many of you have already sent in your renewal forms and checks. As we hope to get our annual directory out early this year, please return your form and payment as soon as you can. It costs the club additional postage if we have to send out reminders, so lets save the club money, which can be spent on club activities. Thanks for your help.

Till next month. David, Marion and Sweet Faithie, the Samoyed...



Faithie is trying hard to make the best of what little winter we have in Burnsville. She is enjoying the fresh snow in her new boots and scarf. Girls always want to look their best.

*Directors Message by Bob Johnson February 2012**(Continued from page 3)**"Hollywood," upon her return.**On February 1, 1887, Wilcox submitted a grid map of his new town to the Los Angeles County recorder's office. This was the first official document with the name "Hollywood" printed on it. The first street in town was named Prospect Avenue, but was later changed to Hollywood Boulevard, where city lots were carved out around dirt avenues and pepper trees. At one time, English holly was planted in the area, but it didn't survive in the arid climate.**By 1900, Hollywood had a population of 500, a post office, a newspaper, a hotel, and two markets. In neighboring Los Angeles, through seven miles of orange groves, the population had reached 100,000. There was a single-track streetcar line that twisted its way along Prospect Avenue, on an irregular schedule, into the city on a two-hour trip.**By 1902, the first portion of the famous Hollywood Hotel was built. A new trolley car system was installed in 1904, cutting the travel time dramatically. The system was called the "Hollywood Boulevard." Due to its ongoing strug-**(Continued on page 5)*

Our first activity for 2012 was our Sunday Brunch on January 8<sup>th</sup> at Running Aces Harness Track in Columbus, just south of Forest Lake. We had 26 members attend this Brunch, and am sure nobody not nobody went away hungry. This had some of the best food I've tasted is a long time. Welcome back to new old time members Richard and Mary Magner. Mary won a ladies region denim shirt, and Dick Eilers won a men's wrist watch, when we gave out door prizes.

Being your Region Director for the past ten years sure was rewarded on Sunday, when I was presented with an acrylic etching of our Mark VII, that can be lighted up with the click of a switch. What a beautiful gift, your appreciation was truly humbling. Plus I even have a Dave Gustafson 2012 North Star calendar dedicated to me, now that is a honor. What a great group of people we have here in our North Star Region.

February 12, we will visit Emma Krumbee's (was Khory's), for a Sunday Brunch at 11:30 AM. This great place is located in Inver Grove Heights, at 5660 Bishop Avenue, 55076, just south and east of I494 and H55. Please RSVP to Jay White by Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> by calling 952-432-5939 or email [jay@whiteandassoc.com](mailto:jay@whiteandassoc.com).

At the end of this month Dave Gustafson and I will be attending the LCOC annual winter board meeting, in Orlando. Florida, from January 26 -29. Dave will be flying down, and Mary and I will be driving to Orlando. So we are going to try to complete the newsletter before the Orlando trip. Founding North Star region member Dick Koop, new National member from Dardenne Prairie, MO will be attending too. With our February board meeting scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February, it was pushed back a week till February 9<sup>th</sup>, to make sure we make it back for the meeting with the latest information about LCOC

In January Dave Gustafson sent out our North Star Membership renewals for 2012. Dues will again be \$20.00. **Please update your email address and phone number.** We will be offering emailing of our North Star News letter to members that would prefer having a copy on their computer for easy access and all pages in color. You can receive both. Because of newsletter size you should have high speed internet service to cut down on down loading time. Please return your membership dues right away so we can update Region our directory and publish it early this spring.

Mid America National Meet – Bloomington, MN - News, Please call our Park Plaza Hotel to reserve your rooms now for August 15 -19, 2012, at 952-831-3131. Room with free breakfast is \$99 plus tax. If you want to upgrade to a really nice suite, you can get that for \$114 plus tax with a free breakfast. Please reserve a room now so we can plan on you coming even before we get your paid registration. Your reserved hotel room is our only way to know your intentions before you pay your meet registration. Please reserve your room early.

As always, keep the journey continuing in our marvelous Lincolns.

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*gles to maintain an adequate water supply, residents voted to have Hollywood annexed by the City of Los Angeles and its new aqueduct system.*

*In the early 1900s, filmmakers began moving to the Los Angeles area to get away from the strict rules imposed by Thomas Edison's Motion Picture Patents Company in New Jersey. Since most of the moviemaking patents were owned by Edison, independent filmmakers were often sued by Edison to stop their productions.*

*To escape his control, and because of the ideal weather conditions and varied terrain, moviemakers began to arrive in Los Angeles to make their films. If agents from Edison's company came out west to find and stop these filmmakers, adequate notice allowed for a quick escape to Mexico.*

*Working without disturbance from Edison, the Biograph Company moved west with actors Blanche Sweet, Lillian Gish, Mary Pickford, Lionel Barrymore, and others, to make their films. Af-*

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## *January Northstar Board Meeting*

January 5, 2012

Regional Director Bob Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM at Culvers in Maplewood. Board members present were Bob Johnson, Bob Gavrilesco, Bob Roth, Harvey Oberg, Dave Gustafson, Jay White and Roger Wothe. Other members present were Mary Johnson, Fay Oberg, Barb Wothe, Brian Carlson, Bruce Freiberg and Dave Bodziak. The minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda of this meeting were approved.

### DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Regional Director Bob Johnson welcomed Jay White to the Board of Directors as Assistant Director and Activities Director. Bob reported the Meet Packet has been delayed until the Hotel contract was revised and the final cost for the bus tour was received. He suggested that members be allowed to set a reserve on the higher value auction items over \$100.00 with the balance over the reserve to go to the club. There will be further discussion on this issue. The Zephyr Club was invited to participate in the Mid America Meet, but declined the invitation. Roger suggested that there be a combined judges and participants meeting before the concours. Bob will contact John Talbourdet to see if he will conduct the meeting. Bob is also looking for members to fill the registration staff, runners and hospitality spots.

Activities Director Jay White reviewed the upcoming activities schedule: The next brunch will be at Emma Krumbree's, Inver Grove Heights on February 12. A list of other activities will be published in the next newsletter.

Treasurer Harvey Oberg reported the treasury balance to be \$2,308.84 with all bills paid.

Membership and Publications Director Dave Gustafson reported that the dues renewal notices have been sent out. He needs more "My Pride and Joy" articles.

Projects: Bob Roth demonstrated a lit acrylic car display as a possible club project. Bob Johnson was presented with a display of his convertible. Bob Roth will order two to be available for samples at the Mid America Meet.

Member Brian Carson will contact Mecum Auctions for a donation of lanyards to be used at the Mid America Meet.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50. The next meeting will be at 7:00PM at Culver's in Maplewood on Thursday, February 9, 2012.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Roger Wothe.

## *Pride and Joy continued...*

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ter beginning filming in Los Angeles, the company decided to explore the neighboring area and stumbled across Hollywood.

*Biograph* made the first film in Hollywood, entitled *In Old California*. After hearing of *Biograph's* praise of the area, other filmmakers headed west to set up shop.

The first motion picture studio was built in 1919, in nearby Edendale, just east of Hollywood, by Selig Polyscope Company, and the first one built in Hollywood was founded by filmmaker David Horsley's general manager Al Christie in 1911, in an old building on the southeast corner of Sunset Boulevard and Gower Street. Movie studios began to crop up all over Hollywood after Christie's appearance, including ones for Cecil B. DeMille in 1913, the Charlie Chaplin Studio in 1917, and many others.

The origin of the famous "Hollywood" sign is embedded in Americana. It was installed originally to advertise a new subdivision near the top of Mount Lee, called

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was a rest stop about a mile ahead, let's try to take it there.

We get into the vehicles, and Glen takes off like he just robbed a bank. After he comes back to get me, I asked if he ever towed a vehicle before. No, what did I do wrong? (It seems I lose or break something every time I get a car) After tying the rope back together, we made it to the rest stop.

Next, one winter I went south, and stayed with my brother. When I came back in the spring, I was getting the Lincoln ready for the summer. Well, low and behold there are a bunch of little paint nicks on the drivers side front and back. Where in the world did all of this come from, and how? After some very intense thinking, and with the help of a couple adult beverages, I asked the neighbor to the south of me, (the driver side of my Lincoln facing his house, plus he had two grade school boys), about the car. He really didn't want to talk about it, but, admitted he saw the damage and asked his boys about it. He asked if they knew anything about the car, they said while waiting for the school bus, all the kids had a contest of who could hit the old white car over there, and being the driveway was gravel and full of little rocks, Well, boys will be boys. So that was a thousand dollar bill to get the car looking good again. (Moral of this part, put in garage, you just never know)

A couple years later going to church one Sunday, I drove by a police car. The lady officer did a double take on me. I knew she is going to get me and with no place to hid the

car, and sure enough, two miles down the road, the red light is flashing behind me. She wanted to check the darkness of the tint on the windows. After failing the test-she gave me a fix-it ticket. I had one week to get it off all windows. So, each night after work. I spent a couple of hours working to get it all off.

If it was winter, the tint might have peeled off in sheets, in 90 degree weather, the only thing to get it off was a razor blade. I was only able to get little pieces off at a time, I felt good if I got a piece off the size of a dime or nickel. I don't want to tell you how many hours it took or how much my fingers hurt. If you are going to put tint on the windows, know the regulation on the darkness.

About three years ago the reverse on the car went out, with the construction business down the tubes, I put the car in outside storage. I started it about 2-3 times a year, and drove it around the house to keep it from locking up. Each time I checked the reverse and still not working, that's why I had to drive it around the house. Now with some extra money I am able to get the license tabs, keep insurance on it and start the car to use for the summer. Even with three year old gas in it there was no problem, after a crank or two, it fires right up. But, still no reverse. After two days of driving around a little bit, low and behold, reverse returns. All is well. Lincolns are made to be driven, and you just have to drive them once in awhile to keep everything in shape.

Editors note: Our thanks to Bruce Freiberg for telling us about his much loved '87.

## *The '86 Town Car- the Car with a Soul*

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"Hollywoodland." After being erected in 1923, the sign fell into disrepair. The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce was given authority to remove the last four letters and restore the remaining portions of the sign on the hillside, in 1943. The sign is now a registered trademark owned by the Chamber of Commerce, and may only be used in filming with their permission.

The famous "Hollywood Walk of Fame," where the names of celebrities are embedded in the sidewalk along Hollywood Boulevard, was built in 1956. There are some 2,200 five-pointed stars given by the Chamber for being significant contributors to the entertainment industry.

The first Academy Awards presentation took place in Hollywood at the Blossom Room of the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, located on Hollywood Boulevard. Granted by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the first Academy Merit awards were given on May 16, 1929 to *Wings*, for what was originally called "Best Production," and *Sunrise*, for "Best Picture."

The other two

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The Lincoln Lawyer's 1986 Town Car, the car with a soul by Pete Dutton. From the internet.

Every once in a Blue Moon, there's a movie with good acting, a catchy plot, and interesting characters that comes out of Hollywood which will showcase an older classic car. A good example in recent years is Clint Eastwood's 2009 movie *Gran Torino* which showcased one of the unslung muscle cars of the golden era and made it an intricate part of the plot - even using it as a symbol to strengthen the plot and its main message.

This year a movie - *The Lincoln Lawyer* has car fans interested in a forgotten land barge. For those who have not yet seen the movie, it has nothing to do with honest Abe, the 16th President of the United States who started off his career as a lawyer from Illinois. Instead the movie is about a smooth talking street smart Los Angeles lawyer who conducts his business from the backseat of his Lincoln Town Car. The movie is based on Michael Connelly's book of the same title released in 2005. The book has a late-model Lincoln Town Car on the book cover. The movie could have done the same and gone with a late-model Lincoln Town Car however what fun would that be? New movies with late-model Lincoln Town Cars are a dime a dozen - even the big blockbuster movie *2012* had John Cusack racing through the streets of Los Angeles in a late-model Lincoln Town Car limo during a series of enormous earthquakes. The special effects were spectacular but most who watched the movie won't remember the limo was a Lincoln Town Car, and even if they did they wouldn't care.

That would have been the same problem if a late-model Lincoln Town Car was used in the movie adaptation of *The Lincoln Lawyer*. Most in the

movie viewing audience see on a daily basis newer Lincoln Town Cars, so there's nothing interesting to lure movie watchers who on the average pay around \$8 for a movie ticket. Whomever (involved with the creation of this film) chose a black 1986 Lincoln Town Car, certainly had a stroke of genius.

On the surface the decision would seem like a bad choice, after-all the lead character Mick Haller (played by Matthew McConaughey) is the typical ambulance chasing lawyer. He's smooth talking and is street smart. He knows not only how to take control of a situation but he can manipulate and twist the law to meet his needs and aims. His clients are more like customers; many are repeat drug offenders and some are even killers. He even makes the suggestion that most of his clients are guilty, but still provides them with the best defense possible.

Haller's personal life is a mess, he's divorced from a what appears to be a good woman who is the mother of his child. His former wife, Maggie McPherson (Marisa Tomei) who happens to be a Los Angeles County prosecutor, sees him as an unrepentant street hustling lawyer.

Haller also drinks too much, we find out early in the movie that he lost his license for a reason not stated - however his heavy drinking leads the audience to think it could have been due to a DWI or multiple DWIs. Never-the-less this is where the Lincoln comes into the picture, Haller instead of taking public transportation to meet his clients and make his court appearances has instead a driver on his payroll, Earl (Laurence Mason) who spends his time driving Haller from client to client and courthouse to courthouse in the Los Angeles metro area. Haller has made the best of the situation by using the spacious backseat of the 1986 Lincoln as his of-

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awards of merit given that first year were to Emil Jannings for his roles in *The Last Command* and *The Way of All Flesh*, for "Best Leading Actor," and to Janet Gaynor for her roles in *Seventh Heaven*, *Street Angel*, and *Sunrise*, for "Best Leading Actress."

Nicknamed "Oscar\*," the gold-plated, britannium statuettes on a marble base, standing 13.5 inches high and weighing 8.5 pounds, are currently presented at the Academy Awards ceremony in the Kodak Theatre, which opened in 2001, on the site where the historic Hollywood Hotel once stood.

From the end of the silent film era, about 1927, to around 1948, the Hollywood movie studio system controlled what films were shown across the country. Five major Hollywood-area studios owned large, grand theaters where they would show only movies produced by their studios and made with their contracted actors. These studios were Paramount, RKO, 20th Century Fox, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM), and Warner Bros.

Also known as the Golden Age of Hollywood, stars had little choice but to contract

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## *Town Car with a Soul continued...*

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fice; he makes his phone calls and does his paperwork there. He even meets with clients without leaving the backseat. This setup will have many Los Angeles defense attorneys wondering why they don't have a setup like this. Following Haller for one day, you see how he bounces from client to courthouse all day long - up to the (San Fernando) Valley, back and forth to different locations in the Los Angeles Basin including Inglewood. You soon realize that Haller's office in the back of the Lincoln allows him the opportunity to take on more clients and more business than working from a standard office. Haller does have a standard office but he's rarely there - he makes calls to his assistant who handles all his office related activities.

To show how well the situation is working out, Earl who really likes his job, realizes that Haller will eventually get his driving privileges back and asks Haller what he plans to do when he gets his drivers license back. Haller who has no desire to change a good thing, with his typical smirky grin replies that he got his license back three months ago. Earl of course is glad to hear that his job is now a permanent one.

On the surface for a mobile office, any car with a big backseat and trunk would do the trick. However to understand why Haller has a 1986 Town Car, you have to understand Haller's personality. Haller may have a slick used car salesman type persona however he dresses well and his appearance when in court or when dealing with clients is always very presentable. He makes a good salary however we get the impression he probably got his clock cleaned with his divorce. However Haller seems to have good taste not just in his suits but also in other

things like where he lives. He lives in a small house however its located in a prime location in Hollywood Hills where the view of the Los Angeles skyline and Los Angeles Basin is spectacular. Haller for the same money could live in much bigger more prestigious house in the Los Angeles Basin or even in San Fernando Valley but he instead chose the Hills.

Here's where the 1986 Lincoln Town Car comes into the picture. It's just like his house in the Hills, it not the fanciest luxury car ever produced nor is it very expensive in 2011 dollars, but it happens to be very classy. Haller could have a 1960s suicide door Lincoln Continental hardtop or even a convertible both of which have skyrocketed in value in the last two decades. Instead he chose the 1986 Lincoln Town Car which is easier on the wallet and more modern than the classic Continental yet compared to today's cars it is considered a classic - twenty five years old in most states qualifies it for classic car or antique car status.

Haller's Town Car is very presentable, it's black with lots of chrome. It is spotless and in near perfect condition - in fact it looks like it just rolled off the assembly line. It has a front grille which has the presence of an old Rolls Royce grille - giving the car a very upscale look especially with the square quad headlamps surrounding it. The car is boxy with the typical long hood and shorter decklid styling that was so popular in the 1970s and 1980s. Haller's Town Car also has the half vinyl roof, which was very popular among Town Car buyers back in the day. This vinyl roof only covered the back half of the Town Car's roof.

The rear tail lights also have a distinctive styling, it's a smooth flush tail light design that looks like one big red

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*Town Car with a Soul continues...**(Continued from page 8)*

with those studios. Among these leading men and ladies were: Mae West, Ronald Reagan, Clark Gable, Will Rogers, Judy Garland, Cary Grant, Audie Murphy, Betty Grable, and John Wayne.

However, in 1948 in a landmark decision, the United States Supreme Court ruled that studios could not own their own theaters where they showed films made only by their studios and only with actors who had exclusive contracts with those studios. That decision marked the unofficial end of the "Golden Age of Hollywood." Soon after, television proved itself to be a lucrative and permanent medium of entertainment, so that by the mid-1950s, these same studios began to provide content for TV.

The landscape of Hollywood began to change with the mushrooming of the television industry in the 1950s. Television and music recording studios and offices sprung up all over the city. KTLA, the first commercial television station west of the Mississippi River, began broadcasting in January 1947. By the end of that year, the first movie production made for television, *The Public Prosecutor*, was broadcast from

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light bar in the back. This was a slick design that first appeared on the 1985 Lincoln Town Car.

The big full-size Lincoln Continental was downsized for 1980. Lincoln was the last holdout in the super large land yachts; Cadillac had gone to a smaller full-size lineup in 1977 and Chrysler had done the same in 1979. The 1980 Lincoln Continental now was about the same size as the largest 1980 model year Cadillac and Chrysler offered. Also worth mentioning is that the 1980 Continental was now on Ford's new full-size Panther platform which is the same platform used by the 2011 Lincoln Town Car which unfortunately is in its last year of production. By 1981 the Town Car would become its own model instead of a Continental trim package. For 1983 the Continental would move to a mid-sized rear-wheel drive platform. The Town Car thrived and Lincoln did a mild refresh of the Town Car in 1985 which made the Town Car look more modern and stately compared to the full-size 1985 Cadillac Fleetwood which looked dated due to not having had a refresh since 1980. The 1986 Town Car was practically a carryover from the popular 1985 model, however the 1986 had the new federally mandated high mounted rear brake light.

The 1986 was a large luxury car with every luxury option you could imagine was available back in 1986. Lincoln said it best when it had this to say about the 1986 Town Car in its 1986 sales literature - "life is full of compromises this isn't one of them." The 1986 Lincoln Town Car had a handling suspension and ride quality that pampered its occupants in comfort and an interior which was spacious enough to fit six full-size adults comfortably. Not to mention on the Town

Car most of the outside noise and distractions weren't heard - it was silent enough to appeal to even a church mouse. So what the Town Car gives Haller is a ultra quiet, roomy, and comfortable environment to work in the backseat. Not to mention all the leg and shoulder room the Town Car offers Haller.

There were three different luxury trim packages offered on the Town Car for 1986, the standard Town Car, Signature Series, and the Cartier Designer Series. Haller like most 1986 Lincoln Town Car owners has the standard Lincoln Town Car. As anyone can see this was enough to get the ultimate in luxury since Haller's Lincoln Town Car is loaded with all the options including the optional leather seats.

1986 also saw the introduction of Ford's updated 5.0 liter Electronic Fuel Injection (EFI) V8 which used a new fuel rail system that implemented one fuel injector per cylinder - power output was 150 horsepower with 270 lb-ft of torque. If the trailer towing package was ordered dual exhausts were mandatory bumping up horsepower to 160 and torque to 280 lb-ft. Comparing this to the previous year, the 1985 Town Car which came equipped with a 5.0 liter V8 also using EFI - however it was a throttle body fuel injection system which produced 140 horsepower and 250 lb-ft of torque, or when equipped with the trailer towing package's dual exhaust system - 155 horsepower and 265 lb-ft of torque. On paper it would seem the 1986 Town Car only had a very slight horsepower bump over 1985, however the figures are misleading. The 1986 with its far superior fuel injection system, felt much more responsive across the entire rpm range. The dual exhaust equipped 1986 Town Car went 0-60 mph in the mid-10 second range and

## More '86 Town Car

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*Hollywood.*

*Over the last 40 years, Hollywood has been through a lot of changes. While the studios have relocated to other Los Angeles areas, most motion picture production still occurs within the district. Such significant ancillary industries as film editing, effects, props, post-production, and lighting companies remain in Hollywood. The only movie studio remaining in Hollywood today, however, is Paramount Studios.*

*Although many moviemakers have left Hollywood to set up shop in other locations, Hollywood continues to conjure the image in the minds of the public, of directors and glamorous movie stars on glitzy sets. Stately homes and palatial monoliths located in nearby Beverly Hills, are filled with past and present Hollywood celebrities, not to mention myriad tales of mischief of days gone by.*

*It is safe to say the successes of the district, far exceeded the dreams of Harvey and Daeida Wilcox.*

*From the internet...*

the 1/4 mile in the high-17 second range. The dual exhaust equipped 5.0 liter EFI V8 powered 1985 Town Car went 0-60 mph in the low-11 second range and the 1/4 mile in the low-18 second range. And the 1986 Town Car's 5.0 liter EFI V8 also beat the 1985 5.0 liter EFI V8 in gas mileage.

The Town Car during the 1980s used Ford's small-block Windsor 5.0 liter (302 CID) V8, which was small cubic inches compared to the previous large displacement V8s - 429 CID, 460 CID, and 400 CID which had powered the big Lincolns during the 1970s. However the 1986 5.0 EFI had enough horsepower and torque to move the 1986 Town Car well by 1980s standards. The 1986 Town Car was big with a curb weight of 4,038 lbs but it was light compared to the mammoth 4-door 1979 Continental which had a curb weight of 4,649 lbs. The 1986 Town Car was still big with a length of 219 inches, width of 78 inches, and a wheel-base of 117.3 inches - which are around the same dimensions of the standard 2011 Lincoln Town Car.

As a side note as part of the trailer towing package on the Town Car during the 1980s - dual exhausts were standard along with a limited slip rear axle, and the heavy duty cooling package. When the Continental was first introduced on the Panther platform for 1980, a 4-speed automatic transmission with overdrive was standard. Every Town Car since 1981 has had a 4-speed automatic transmission with overdrive - including the final year 2011 Town Car. Haller's Lincoln had classic looks but could get close to the fuel efficiency of the 2011 Town Car around town and on the highway due to having a fairly modern EFI system coupled to a 4-speed automatic transmission.

As the movie progresses, Haller de-

velops a conscious when he discovers that a former client, Jesus Martinez (Michael Pena), serving a long sentence for murder is actually innocent. His conscious begins to eat away at him since he didn't believe in Pena's innocence at the time of his trial and instead worked for a plea agreement which would save his client from the death penalty. Haller made the discovery when researching into one of his current cases of defending a spoiled rich kid, Louis Roulet (Ryan Phillippe) for another crime. Even Roulet confessing to the murder to Haller can't free Pena, since Haller is bound to the attorney client privilege. Haller is forced to do some fancy legal footwork in order to walk that fine line of not getting disbarred while getting Pena freed from prison at the same time putting Roulet behind bars where he belongs. To accomplish all this Haller does some crazy dancing back and forth just like his Lincoln's soft suspension would at 80 mph on the winding roads in Hollywood Hills - even with the odds against him, he's successful.

And we see the movie end the way it began with Haller conducting his business from the backseat of his Lincoln with Earl driving him to his next destination. Just before the final scene's fade away Haller's Town Car drives off into the distance with a modern remix of Marlena Shaw's version of California Soul playing. The 1986 Town Car which is part of a dying breed exemplifies this song, since it has got a lot of soul - the Town Car had soul back in 1986, it has it now, and it will in the future. It's the perfect persona of the cool big luxury land yachts and everything they stand for, and you better believe Mick Haller knows it.

## *Lincoln MKZ Concept: Future Vision Today*



### **MKZ Concept - Soon to be reality.**

DETROIT, Jan. 10, 2012 – The new Lincoln MKZ Concept, revealed today at the North American International Auto Show, signals a significant step in Lincoln’s reinvention, providing a clear vision of its next-generation vehicles.

“With the Lincoln MKZ Concept, we are not introducing a new car. We are essentially introducing a new brand,” said Derrick Kuzak, Ford Motor Company group vice president for Global Product Development. “The MKZ Concept is the next step in the reinvention of Lincoln, something we’ve been quietly but aggressively pursuing.”

#### **Lincoln MKZ Concept: Exterior**

The MKZ Concept strongly hints at the production model arriving in dealerships later this year, as well as Lincoln’s design future.

“The MKZ Concept’s shape is a vision of simplicity completed with just a few strokes,” said Max Wolff, Lincoln design director. “Our movement as a brand is toward something we call elegant simplicity. It’s something warmer and more restrained, which is moving away from complex designs and traditional luxury.”

Warm hues are evident in every aspect of the new vehicle’s Cognac-colored exterior. The deep finish is achieved with a rich base coat covered in multiple layers of tinted clear-coat finishes.

By retaining key, recognizable brand design elements, the MKZ Concept remains clearly identifiable as a Lincoln. One example is the more refined interpretation of the split-wing grille, introduced on the 1938 Lincoln-Zephyr.

The sedan’s profile is dominated by a long, sleek and sweeping roofline that allows the design

to break away from the traditional sedan three-box shape. The lengthening of the roofline enables a more flowing, elegant and more naturally aerodynamic appearance.

A panoramic glass roof spans uninterrupted from the windshield to the top of the backlight. Integrated into the sedan’s aluminum and boron steel superstructure, the fixed-glass expanse extends to the side roof rails of the cabin, creating an airy, open interior.

LED technology enabled an extremely thin and distinctive full-width taillamp graphic. Exhaust tips are cleanly integrated into the rear fascia.

#### **Lincoln MKZ Concept: Interior**

The Lincoln MKZ Concept’s four-seat interior is open, warm and inviting. “The front graphic is repeated in the dramatic sweep of the instrument panel, helping tie the interior to the exterior. These flowing forms create a comfortable and functional interior that particularly appeals to the younger, more diverse customers we are targeting,” said Wolff.

Innovative interior features include push-button transmission gear selection, an open, tiered center console and liquid crystal instrumentation. The reconfigurable 10.1-inch Thin Film Transistor (TFT) LCD positioned ahead of the driver operates with the latest version of MyLincoln Touch™ as does the nearly flush-mounted center 8-inch LCD touch screen.

Responsibly harvested poplar wood, aluminum in bright and satin finishes as well as leather help create a sculptural, luxurious and comfortable interior space. Champagne-colored leather seats with dark taupe accents feature a champagne perforation pattern, so-called because the perforations on the seat backs conjure the image of champagne bubbles rising from the bottom of a glass.

#### **Lincoln MKZ Concept: Engineering**

The Lincoln MKZ Concept is a styling study that rides on an all-new midsize platform. The sedan is capable of utilizing multiple powertrain options in front-wheel-drive and all-wheel-drive configurations.

Like the recently introduced MKS and MKT with EcoBoost™, the Lincoln MKZ Concept features Lincoln Drive Control and the sophisticated

## More MKZ Concept....

Continuously Controlled Damping (CCD) adjustable suspension.



Coming or going, the MKZ is a very pretty car.

“Lincoln is an important part of our company’s success,” said Mark Fields, Ford Motor Company president of The Americas. “The luxury piece of the industry is significant. In any given year in the U.S., the luxury segment is 11 to 13 percent of overall sales, and it is important for us to win customers in the luxury market with strong new vehicles. That is a key reason we have invested so heavily in Lincoln.”

During the past 14 months, Lincoln has built a dedicated team – including designers, engineers, quality and manufacturing experts as well as marketing and sales leaders. The team includes people from luxury brands, some outside of automotive.

“This team wakes up every morning thinking about Lincoln – and only Lincoln,” Fields said. “These are the people committed to delivering world-class vehicles with a customer experience to match.”

Many of the new team members begin working this year in the all-new Lincoln Design Studio in Dearborn, Mich.

Under Wolff’s direction, construction of the 40,000-square-foot studio began in early 2011 and ultimately will house more than 180 modelers, engineers, stylists and designers in a space that encourages creativity and collaboration.

“This is the first time Lincoln has had its own studio since the 1970s,” said Wolff. “Having our own space is critical to the continued development of the brand. We are passionate about creating beautiful, even seductive, vehicles – and the MKZ Concept marks just the beginning.”

## January Brunch...



Mary and Bob Johnson with Bob’s Award

It was off to the races, that is the “Running Aces Harness Park” not to see the fillies circle the track, (well, what do you expect, horses in overshoes, in January) but for our first brunch for the New Year.

We were there early last spring, and thought it would be a grand idea to return. No one was disappointed, the food was the best, the service was great, and if you had a Running Aces Card, you received \$4 off the price of the brunch. It just doesn’t get any better.

What made this day even more special, was the presentation of a illuminated Lucite acrylic etching of a 1989 Mark VII to our most glorious leader for the past decade, Bob Johnson, marking our appreciation of his distinguished service to our club. Bob was quite taken with his award, one of the few times that we have seen him at a loss for words. Mary, Bob’s wife, reports that he has this award in a place of prominence in their home, and he has this very big smile every time he looks at it.

A number of door prizes were given away, including a big Lincoln flag, a wrist watch, a nice Lincoln throw and a Lincoln shirt. In addition, everyone present received a 2012 Northstar club calendar. No one went home without a prize.

We had hoped for more pictures, but we forgot to put the memory chip back in the camera before we left home for Running Aces. A digital camera is just a paper weight without a memory chip or a full battery.

All in all, it was a fun day, and we all look forward to our next brunch at Emma Krumbes. .

## *You May Be Interested in these Items for Sale*

**I need a new home! I am a 1968 Thunderbird, four door Landau, fully loaded with all the good stuff that was offered in 1968.** I have a new A/C compressor, converted to R134A refrigerant, and I now blow nice cold air. I have had three owners and my history is available. I have but traveled by 77,000 miles and most folks say that I am in mint condition. You can have me for around \$8,500 or a good offer close to that. To take me home, Call North Star Member Don Peterson at 507-454-3010, 507-429-0476 or 507-454-5231, Winona, MN email: dop@mwsco.com

For Sale:

**1982 Mark VI 2dr** with Sun Roof. 132,000 miles \$1,000; **1983 Lincoln Continental 4dr**, no title and doesn't run \$500. **Parts cars: 1956 Lincoln Capri Sedan, 1955 Custom Sedan, 1954 Lincoln Front Clip, 1953 Lincoln Cosmopolitan Sedan.** Contact Elrod Kaufman, 27951 440 Avenue, Freeman, SD 57029 Call after 6PM for more details 605.925.4986

For Sale:

**1989 Lincoln Town Car**, Black exterior, Grey Leather interior, 60,100 miles. One owner, Excellent Condition, 5.0 V8 Engine, Automatic Overdrive Transmission. Michelin Tires, Power Glass Moon Roof, Dual Power Heater Mirrors. Keyless Entry, Power Everything, Listed new for \$32,938, Asking \$5,695.00 Del at 608.837.5990 **Great car with a Great price**

For Sale:

**1948 Continental Coupe.** Has had a complete engine rebuild 400 miles ago by Adelman engines.. New brakes, battery, chrome has been re-plated, new dark green paint, new tires, good working overdrive. Needs upholstery. **Reduced to \$16,000.** Call Ted Anderson, 763.561.8143.

For Sale:

**1981 Mark VI Signature Series.** White, moon roof, padded trunk lid, lots of extras. All interior features work. Red cloth interior. Mileage on high side, 161,700. Started recently after long term storage. Call Karl Westenfield (C) 763-229-2183

For Sale:

**1956 Lincoln Pink Pearl Premiere 2 dr HT.** \$27000. **1956 White Pearl Lincoln Continental Mark II,** \$25000. **1956 Lincoln Convertible** with parts car, \$20000. Jack Simler, 320-834-4784.

For Sale:

**1971 Continental Mark III,** white, blue leather interior, clean car. \$2,500obo.  
**1975 Continental,** four door, yellow with gold-white leather interior. \$2,500 obo Nice original condition. Call Rodney at 701-252-2222 or 252-4149.

For Sale:

I need a new home. I am a **1969 MK III** with only 103,000 miles and I am green with a like new green interior. Front windows need some work. Call Rich at 715.321.1938 Best offer will own me.

For Sale:

**1980 Mark VI Givenchy Coupe,** New FoMoCo 302 V8 has 40,000 miles; car needs a little TLC, \$2500/offer. 320-429-0139

For Sale:

**1979 Mark V.** Car is very nice, 78,000 miles. No rust and has been very well maintained over the years. Has all the usual Mark V options. I really want to sell this fine car. \$3,900 or best offer. Please call Walter Ranua at 763.458.6053.

## *For Sale*

For Sale:

**1961 through 1967 Lincoln Continentals**, complete and mostly complete cars, Sedans and Convertibles. I need to thin out my collection and if you need one of these cars either to restore or to use in your existing restoration project, please give me a call. Gordy Jensen 612.819.2107

For Sale:

**1966 Lincoln four door sedan.** 121K miles, runs, but needs some carburetor work, green with black vinyl top. Nice interior. Call Craig Brenner, 320.262.1043, Bird Island, MN

For Sale

**1957 Lincoln Premiere** Two door hardtop. Frame off restoration, with everything either rebuilt or replaced by a long time Ford mechanic. It has been done right and the car is probably in better condition than when it left the factory in 1957. Body work and paint done by a well known area shop. It is absolutely beautiful, and would easily score close to 100 points at any LCOC meet. Over \$41,000 restoration costs. This Premiere has all of the accessories, with the exception of air conditioning. If you want one of the finest 1957 Premieres, please call John Boegeman at 952.445.3004. Remember, you cannot buy and restore one to this condition for less than my asking price.

For Sale:

**1972 Mark IV** \$2,000 - 60K Miles. Rebuild Carb, Pertronics Ignition system (old system goes with car), Crager spoke wheels, complete set of service manuals, Personalized "Lincoln" plates good through 2011. Some other new parts go with car. Needs some Tender Loving Care, but the car is basically sound and a good value at the price. Call Dave Breault at 612-722-2075 and leave a message. Come take a look at this Lincoln Mark IV soon.

For Sale:

I have over 150 1960's Lincolns now, mostly parts cars. More than I will ever use. I have now decided to sell my extra parts; sheet metal, trim, whatever. If you are restoring a Lincoln of this era and need parts, please contact me now. I may have what you need. Just Arrived! New windshields that fit 1961 through 1969 Continentals. Available Now.

Please call Gordy Jensen at 612.819.2107

STORAGE AVAILABLE

Safe, Secure Storage for your classic now available Southwest Metro Location. Please call 952-412-1266

# *Preview of Coming Events*

- February: **Sunday, February 12, Brunch at Emma Krumbees**, 5660 Bishop Ave. Inver Grove Heights 651-451-3880 11:30AM.
- March **Sunday Brunch**, March 11, Bakers Square, Richfield MN. 66<sup>th</sup> and Xerxes Ave. 11:30AM. 612-861-7471
- April **Detail seminar** at Roger Wothes Garage. Date and time in our next issue.
- May **4th Annual Lincoln Car Show, Morries, Minnetonka** on Memorial weekend, Saturday, May 26th, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.  
Eastern National Meet, Chattanooga, TN, May 16-19
- June 1950's restored **train ride and dinner** on board the Osceola and St. Croix Valley Railway Osceola Wisconsin. Time and Date in next issue.
- July **Lake Minnetonka Dinner** on the Lake along with a guided tour of the lake. Date and time in future issue.
- August **Mark your calendar right now for the LCOC Mid-America show, hosted by the Northstar Region, August 15 - 19, 2012, in Bloomington, MN** This will be our signature event this year, one that you will surely do not want to miss. Sign up now for more information. Contact Bob Johnson, 651-257-1715 or email: arborbob41@aol.com.
- September **6<sup>th</sup> Annual North Star Region, Lincoln Car Show, Luther North Country**, Ford, Lincoln, Coon Rapids, Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
**Western National Meet**, Concord CA, September 26-30
- October **Annual Region Pot Luck Picnic and Auction**, Morries, Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

BACK ISSUES OF THE NORTHSTAR NEWS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE  
ON THE NORTHSTAR LCOC WEB SITE.

[www.northstarlcoc.org](http://www.northstarlcoc.org) Click on publications.

Issues are in PDF format and may be printed on your color printer.



Sunday, February 12, 2012

Brunch at Emma Krumbees,  
quite possibly one of the best

Be there at 11:30AM, and enjoy home cooked food at it's finest. Good service and reasonable prices along with a great menu have made Emma Krumbees a well known name over in the Belle Plain, MN area. Now they are here in Inver Grove Heights. Easy to get to, Highway 494 to Highway 52 South. South to upper 55th street, then East. Emma's is at 5660 Bishop Avenue. Phone 651.451.3880.

Come and enjoy the day with all your friends from the Northstar Club. Please RSVP to Jay White by Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> by calling 952-432-5939 or email [jay@whiteandassoc.com](mailto:jay@whiteandassoc.com).



One good brunch deserves another!  
Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 11:30AM.

Join us at Bakers Square, 3000 West  
66th street and Xerxes Avenue South,  
Richfield, MN

. Bakers Square has a really large menu. There is plenty to choose from, and finish it off with a large piece of pie. Visit for a while with your friends from the Lincoln club, have a nice drive home, and finish the day with a nice afternoon nap. What could be nicer. While we might have some blowing snow, (after all it is March) it will be nice inside, with plenty of good food, warm coffee and great friends. See you there on March 11th.