

*The Lincoln Zephyr/MKZ
A future collectable or a very nice daily driver...*



Shown, a 2019 Black Label MKZ

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.

This month we are going to delve into the later model Zephyr/MKZ, a mid-sized vehicle offered by Lincoln from 2006 through 2020. These were fine automobiles, for the most part, of good quality and loved by their owners.

Like many other Lincoln models, this, too, suffered from the identity crisis that the company’s marketing department seemed to be going through. Initially named the Zephyr after the iconic model produced before WWII, which actually saved the Lincoln brand from extinction, modern-day marketers felt it could no longer do justice to the Lincoln image. In addition to the MKZ, other new models included the MKS, a sedan a bit larger than the “Z” models; the MKT, a sort of funky large half crossover, half station wagon; the MKX, which was a mid-sized SUV; and finally the MKC, a smaller sized, entry-level SUV. It is to be noted the full-sized Navigator was exempt from the name-changing game, as it appeared to be doing quite well on its own.

Eventually, the alphabet soup game was history, and the product line was once again properly re-named with monikers that the buying public could make sense of. A new era of Lincoln arrived, devoid of luxury sedans that were once revered by “those of us who take the road less traveled” to a product line that consists of various-sized SUVs. Modern-day Lincoln has taken on the motto of

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Trivia from the Internet



Burt Bacharach
American Composer
1928 - 2023

Burt Freeman Bacharach (May 12, 1928 - February 8, 2023) was an American composer, songwriter, record producer, and pianist who is widely regarded as one of the most important and influential figures of 20th-century popular music. Starting in the 1950s, he composed hundreds of pop songs, many in collaboration with lyricist Hal David. Bacharach's music is characterized by unusual chord progressions, influenced by his background in jazz harmony, and uncommon selections of instruments for small orchestras. He arranged, conducted, and produced much of his recorded output.

Over 1,000 different artists have recorded Bacharach's songs. From 1961 to 1972, most of Bacharach and David's hits were written specifically for and performed by Di-

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Editors Message

March 2023

As I write this, there are only a few days left in February. Most of us will be very glad to see it go. Crazy weather and little sunshine, which I am afraid left most of us a little shell-shocked. We can only hope that March will be an improvement of what most of us have been suffering through.

I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Joyce Staehle, beloved wife of Dan and mother of two fine sons. An extraordinary lady; whatever she did, she always put her heart into it. And it always showed. Joyce and Dan were very active in the Lincoln club and other organizations. Her presence at future events will be sorely missed by all who knew her. She was a delightful person, a true friend to all she met over the years. In her own way, she made the world a little better place for all of us.

This issue of the North Star News is pretty much a compilation of information scrounged up from the internet. This is

what happens when I do not have much in the way of original information to publish. We are blessed with a nice Welcome Wagon feature article from Francis Kalvoda, who tells us a little about one of our newer members, Gene Wendt. Gene is a "real car guy" who has been involved in the auto business most of his life. He has a lot of very interesting stories to tell, and better yet, he is also a good listener. We are really glad that he is one of our members.

We have a lot of stuff about the Zephyr/MKZ, which is not a classic in any sense of the word. For most of us, it is a really nice mid-sized car, still fully capable of providing us with good, reliable transportation and for many, many miles if properly cared for. If you need another car, for whatever reason, consider a gently used MKZ. They are fairly reliable, and most are capable of going

200,000 miles without a lot of hassle if given a reasonable amount of good care.

This past month, we had the annual dinner/auction with the Classic Car Club up at the Minneapolis Fireman's Museum. It was a great time; the weather cooperated and was not a bar to a fairly good turnout. I am guessing that there were about 50 or so in attendance from both clubs.

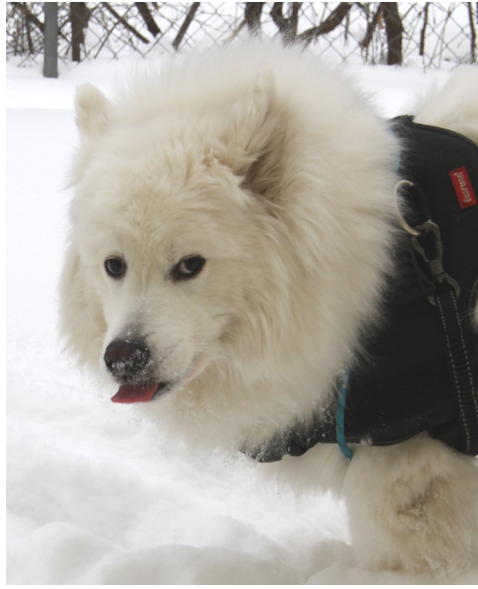
There literally was a ton of literature that was auctioned off. Some of what brought good prices. The meal was good, and everyone was having a good time. Niko came along with me and was a perfect gentleman. He greeted many of our members and was excited to be there. Niko really likes going out with his dad and riding in the car.

Our next event will be over at the Machine Shed in Lake Elmo. It has been several years since we were there. It is a nice place, with good food and service, at reasonable prices. Check out the information on the back page. Please RSVP to Bob Johnson,

who has operators standing by to take your calls. We hope to see you there.

We would like to encourage you to patronize one of our favorite businesses, Lincoln of Bloomington. They are good people and would like to help you if they can. Of course, they sell new Lincoln automobiles, but they also have a very nice selection of certified quality used vehicles, one of which may suit your needs. They also have a great service department, fully capable of providing excellent service on your Lincoln or other Ford product if needed. They are generous with the North Star Lincoln club; let us try to help them out if we can. They are good folks.

Until next month... David and Sweet Niko, the Samoyed, who I think will miss the snow when it eventually leaves.



Sweet Niko is in the backyard enjoying the latest snowfall that left us with almost 20 inches of fresh snow. It is about 8 degrees outside, but that doesn't seem to stop him from eating the fresh stuff. It really must taste good to him. His dad is calling him to come inside, but he will have none of that.

Directors Message by Bob Johnson March 2023

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onne Warwick, but earlier associations (from 1957 to 1963) saw the composing duo work with Marty Robbins, Perry Como, Gene McDaniels, and Jerry Butler. Following the initial success of these collaborations, Bacharach wrote hits for singers such as Gene Pitney, Cilla Black, Dusty Springfield, Tom Jones, and B. J. Thomas.

Early life and education - Bacharach was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and grew up in Forest Hills, Queens, New York, graduating from Forest Hills High School in 1946. He was the son of Irma M. and Mark Bertram "Bert" Bacharach, a well-known syndicated newspaper columnist. His mother was an amateur painter and songwriter, who encouraged Bacharach to practice piano, drums and cello during his childhood.

Bacharach showed a keen interest in jazz as a teenager, disliking his classical piano lessons, and often used a fake ID to gain admission into 52nd Street nightclubs. He got to hear bebop musicians such as Dizzy Gillespie and Count Basie, whose style influenced his songwriting.

Bacharach studied music (Associate of Music, 1948) at McGill University in Montreal, under Helmut Blume, at the Mannes School of Music in New York City, and at the Music Academy of the West in Montecito, California.

Career - 1950s - Bacharach was drafted into the United States Army in

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February gave us a touch of spring for a few days. Now I'm battling ice on my driveway. But I'm sure enjoying the warmer weather with no snow falling like in January. The good news for 2022 is that with the special \$25 membership fee, we had 32 new members. Please make sure they are welcomed to our North Star family. At the LCOC winter Board meeting, the membership fee was again set back to the regular price of \$54. The club is reviewing the lower membership fee for new members, and if the retention rate is high enough, we may again offer the

lower rate in 2024. So please help by calling our new members and keep them involved.

More good news: At the winter LCOC board meeting, Dick Koop introduced a resolution honoring Dave Gustafson. He being a member in good standing since January 1, 1997; he has shown LCOC leadership by serving as a longtime at large (national) Director. He has served as Chair of the Publications Committee and worked tirelessly in enhancing the international publication and award-winning *Lincoln and Continental Comments* magazine. Dave has electronically stored all back issues of *Comments* to preserve and save historical information for the future. Resolution number 2023-001 was adopted on January 14, 2023, and will be awarded to Dave Gustafson later. Congratulations to Dave for all his hard work.

Unfortunately, we have to report the passing of Joyce Staehle, wife of Dan and mother of sons, Jacob and Tom. Joyce died way too young, at the age of 60. Mary and I attended the visitation and Celebration of Life, held at Krause Funeral Home, Brookfield, Wisconsin, earlier this past February. Our sincere condolences and prayers are with the family at this sad time.

Again, thanks to Bob Roth, who arranged for our second visit to Carlson Cheshire Park. It has been reserved for another North Star Picnic; Sunday, August 27, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. Please bring your picnic basket and refreshments. We will enjoy a great afternoon with our North Star members, and you are invited to bring anyone interested in our Lincoln activities.

Our next buffet is Sunday, March 12, 2023, at the Machine Shed, 8515 Hudson Blvd N, Lake Elmo, Minnesota, at 11:30 a.m. They are again able to do buffets. Please RSVP to Bob Johnson by Thursday, March 9; if you can attend. Please call 651-257-1715 or email arborbob41@aol.com

Our April Sunday brunch is on April 16 at Dehn's County Manor, 11281 Fernbrook Lane N, Maple Grove, Minnesota, at 11:30 a.m. We will be ordering from a special menu.

Dave and Tammy Heeren are still working on the 2023 North Star Region directory with your picture. The directory should be ready early this spring. Have you sent your picture to them for this directory?

Our Facebook presence continues to grow, with likes of over 1100. Please check our Facebook page and contact Jay White if you have suggestions about more items for Facebook. Please use our correct Facebook page, which is *North Star Lincoln Continental Car Club*

We have sent out our 2023 North Star Membership renewals; please fill out the renewal form, attach your check (still only \$20) send it off to our treasurer, Matt Foley, as soon as possible.

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

Bob and Mary Johnson.

Board Of Directors - 2023 - 2024

| Title | Name | Phone Numbers | email | Term Ends |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Regional Director | Bob Johnson | H(651)257-1715 | arborbob41@aol.com | 2023 |
| Secretary | Chris Struble | (952)679-0342 | 068690@gmail.com | 2023 |
| Treasurer | Matt Foley | | | 2025 |
| Activities Director | Jay White | H(612)559-3219 | jay@jwhiteandassoc.com | 2023 |
| Director | Bob Roth | H(763)475-1429 | | 2023 |
| Publications/ Membership | Dave Gustafson | H(952)435-1919 | davidwgustafson@att.net | 2025 |
| Director | Tom Brace | H(651)644-1716 | trbrace@comcast.net | 2025 |
| Director | Tina Zimpel | 612-298-3632 | tinajzim@gmail.com | 2025 |
| Director | Jeff Eisenberg | (612)521-3537 | Jeff.eisenberg@libsontruck.com | 2023 |
| Director | Dave Heeren | (952)469-3647 | dheeren41@hotmail.com | 2025 |
| Director | Ernie Christensen | 651-500-0179 | ernobc@yahoo.com | 2025 |

Members and guests are welcome to attend the Board Meetings. Our meeting location, unless otherwise specified, will be held at Bloomington Lincoln in their conference room. Meeting time will be 6:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month, except December. Articles and other information for the newsletter should be sent to David Gustafson, Editor, at 308 Brandywine Drive, Burnsville, MN 55337. email: davidwgustafson@att.net

Lincoln MKZ continued...

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“let’s build what easily sells,” and for the foreseeable future, if those of us go into the Lincoln store for a new car, we will be forced to come out with an SUV, whether we really want one or not. Will nice, mid-scale luxury sedans ever return to offerings of either GM or Ford? Only time will tell. We would like to think so.

The Zephyr/MKZ is/was a fine automobile, well serving the needs of many people. There are a number of them owned by members of the Lincoln club, and I know of eight or ten that are in use as daily drivers, doing their best to provide their owners with comfort as they take them on their appointed rounds. In many respects, they are similar to the Ford Fusion, in which they share the same basic chassis. This model Lincoln came equipped with a variety of engines, which will be gone into more depth later on in this article. From somewhat modestly powered two-liter four-cylinder models, hybrid gas-electric models, and a real hot-rod model, the three-liter, twin-turbocharged V6 MKZ, rated at 400 horsepower, is a lightning-quick vehicle. Now, let us dig a little deeper into this very fine automobile.

The **Lincoln MKZ**, is a four-door, five-passenger mid-size luxury sedan manufactured by Ford and marketed as the **Zephyr** (Model year 2006) and as the **MKZ** (Model year 2007–2020) by Ford's Lincoln brand – across two generations in both gasoline and hybrid gas/electric models.

The MKZ was manufactured at Ford's Hermosillo Stamping & Assembly plant in Mexico. Production ended in 2020 to make way for new Ford vehicles.

The 2006 Lincoln Zephyr was initially unveiled in concept form at the 2004 New York International Auto Show, previewing a new entry-level luxury sedan. The front featured Lincoln's signature waterfall grille and jeweled quad projector beam headlights

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2019 Lincoln MKZ Rear View, simple but elegant

Northstar Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

The meeting was called to order at Bloomington Lincoln, by Regional Director Bob Johnson at 6:35 p.m.

Board members attending the meeting were Bob Johnson, Dave Gustafson, Bob Roth, Tom Brace, Ernie Christensen, Tina Zimple, Chris Struble and Dave Heeren. The Board members not present were, Jay White, Matt Foley and Jeff Eisenberg. The minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda of this meeting were approved.

Director Reports:

Coronavirus COVID-19 status. The club and members continue to exercise caution.

There is interest for an event at Cheshire Park 14440 Cheshire Pkwy, Minnetonka. Bob Roth will check on availability in August.

2023 Activities:

February - Event is with the CCCA. It will be the CCCA Catered meal and Auction, at the Firefighters museum, Saturday, February 11, 2023.

March - Sunday Buffet, March 12, 2023, at the Machine Shed, 8515 Hudson Blvd N, Lake Elmo, Minnesota, at 11:30 a.m.

April - Sunday Brunch on April 16 at Dehn's County Manor, 11281 Fernbrook Lane N, Maple Grove, Minnesota at 11:30 a.m.

May - Out (of) State Car Show and road trip to Mark Platts Collector Car Garage, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, Saturday, May 13, two or three-day road trip (Friday and Saturday) or (Friday, Saturday and Sunday, your choice) Final details with hotel and rates next month.

June - 14th Annual Bloomington Lincoln Car show, Saturday, June 10, 2023, at Bloomington Lincoln, Bloomington, Minnesota. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Free lunch courtesy of Bloomington Lincoln and presentation of awards at 2 p.m.

July - Maple Grove Days Car Show, Saturday, July 16, 2023, Breakfast 8 a.m., Car show 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

First Annual North Star Region Lincoln and American collector car show, Saturday, July 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

August - The tenth annual Lincoln Homecoming August 10-13, 2023, Hickory Corners, Michigan. The Lincoln Owners Club (LOC) will be the host club.

September - Event and date to be determined.

October - Sunday October 8, 2023, driving tour to view fall leaf colors, St. Croix Valley. Meet in Hudson, Wisconsin at McDonalds 10 a.m.

Annual North Star catered lunch and auction, Sunday, October 15, 2023, once again at Morries Museum in Long Lake, Minnesota

November - Year-end Sunday brunch Date and place to be determined.

Jay White, Facebook now has over 1000 likes

Matt Foley reports that we have currently \$4085.34 in the treasury with all bills paid.

Membership and Publications: Dave will be sending out 2023 North Star Region Membership renewals. NEED "My Pride & Joy" feature articles.

A discussion was held on how to promote the club to new members. Window clings with a QR code was proposed as an idea.

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:24 p.m.

Next Meeting to be held at - Bloomington Lincoln, Thursday, March 2, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Struble

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1950 and served for two years. He was stationed in Germany and played piano in officers' clubs there and at Fort Dix and Governors Island. During this time, he arranged and played music for dance bands.

Bacharach met the popular singer Vic Damone while they were both serving in the army in Germany. Following his discharge, Bacharach spent the next three years as a pianist and conductor for Damone, who recalled, "Burt was clearly bound to go out on his own. He was an exceptionally talented, classically trained pianist with very clear ideas on the musicality of songs, how they should be played, and what they should sound like. I appreciated his musical gifts."

In 1957, Bacharach and lyricist Hal David met while at the Brill Building in New York City, and began their writing partnership. They received a career breakthrough when their song "The Story of My Life" was recorded by Marty Robbins, becoming a No. 1 hit on the Billboard Country Chart in 1957. Soon afterward, "Magic Moments" was recorded by Perry Como for RCA Records, and reached No. 4 on the Most Played by Disc Jockeys chart.

1960s - Despite Bacharach's early success with Hal David, he spent several years in the early

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More MKZ

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1960s writing songs with other lyricists, primarily Bob Hilliard. Some of the most successful Bacharach-Hilliard songs include "Please Stay" (*The Drifters*, 1961), "Tower of Strength" (Gene McDaniels, 1961), "Any Day Now (*My Wild Beautiful Bird*)" (Chuck Jackson, 1962), and "Mexican Divorce" (*The Drifters*, 1962).

Bacharach and David formed a writing partnership in 1963. Bacharach's career received a boost when singer Jerry Butler asked to record "Make It Easy on Yourself" and also wanted him to direct the recording sessions. It became the first time Bacharach managed the entire recording process for one of his own songs.

In the early and mid-1960s, Bacharach wrote well over a hundred songs with David. In 1961 Bacharach discovered singer Dionne Warwick while she was a session accompanist. That year the two, along with Dionne's sister Dee Dee Warwick, released the single "Move It on the Backbeat" under the name Burt and the Backbeats. The lyrics for this Bacharach composition were provided by Hal David's brother Mack David. Dionne made her professional recording debut the following year with her first hit, "Don't Make Me Over."

Bacharach and David then wrote more

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(HID headlights were available). Chrome trim extends along the Zephyr's beltline while the car's rear fascia features LED taillights and dual chrome exhaust tips. All Zephyrs featured low-profile tires on 17x7.5-inch wheels with painted aluminum versions standard and chrome versions optional.

Lincoln officially revived the Zephyr name in the fall of 2005; the vehicles were based on the CD3 platform, which was derived from the Mazda 6. Lincoln had previously used the Zephyr name in the late 1930s for the smaller Lincoln-Zephyr line of mid-size vehicles. The "Zephyr" name had also previously been used by Mercury during the late 1970s and early 1980s, for several vehicles built on the Fox Platform.

The Zephyr's sole powertrain was a 3.0 L DOHC Duratec V6 mated to an Aisin 6-speed automatic transmission; identical to the V6 powertrain that was optional in the Fusion and Milan. The interior is largely unique to the Lincoln, along with different equipment packaging. The 2006 Zephyr started at a base MSRP of \$28,995 USD, ranging up to \$35,340 USD when fully optioned.

Though slightly smaller and front-wheel drive, the Zephyr was marketed as a replacement for Lincoln's previous entry level mid-size, the rear-wheel drive Lincoln LS. To facilitate a smooth transition, the Zephyr and LS were sold parallel to each other during the 2006 model year, the first model year of the Zephyr and the last for the LS. For 2007, the model was renamed MKZ, and took over the LS' market with sales beginning in September 2006. Lincoln's decision to resurrect the Zephyr name refers to the very early days of Lincoln before World War II. At that time, the only Lincoln manufactured was the Lincoln K-series which was a full-size sedan, and Lincoln, under the direction of Edsel Ford, Henry Ford's only son, hoped to introduce a smaller product to compete with the Packard One-Twenty, and the LaSalle, a smaller sibling offered at Cadillac dealerships.

The Zephyr featured a revised interior from the Fusion and Milan. The design featured shapes with real ebony or maple wood inserts (depending on desired trim) in metallic frames. These surfaces were contrasted with chrome-bezeled gauges, circular, chrome-finished vents and a metallic center stack where the radio and climate controls are

housed. The Zephyr's steering wheel was leather-wrapped with real wood grips and satin-nickel audio, climate, and cruise control buttons. White LED backlighting was used for the Zephyr's controls and instrumentation. Leather seating surfaces were standard in all models.



The interior is very functional, with all controls within easy reach of the driver. This is a later model MKZ which features push button "gear selection."

Some of these standard features in the Zephyr included: cruise control, automatic headlights, fog lights, power door locks, "global" power windows (all windows can lower simultaneously at the push of a button), power adjustable and heated mirrors with puddle lamps, remote keyless entry, a tilt and telescoping steering wheel with redundant audio and climate controls, dual-zone automatic climate control, a universal garage door opener, 10-way power driver and front passenger seats, rear-seat reading lamps, and a six-speaker audio system with an AM/FM stereo radio and a six-disc, MP3-compatible CD changer. Optional in the Zephyr was a power moonroof, a DVD-based satellite navigation system, HID headlights, heated and cooled front seats, and an industry-first THX II-Certified audio system with a six-disc, MP3-compatible CD changer and ten speakers. Safety features included standard dual front-side airbags, front seat-deployed side airbags, and curtain airbags that extend from the front to rear seats.

Mechanically, the Zephyr was closely related to the Fusion and Milan. As mentioned, all three cars were based on Ford's CD3 platform, which was in turn derived from the Mazda 6. Like these cars, the Zephyr is natively front-wheel drive (FWD). The Zephyr

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songs to make use of Warwick's singing talents, which led to one of the most successful teams in popular music history. Over the next 20 years, Warwick's recordings of his songs sold over 12 million copies, with 38 singles making the charts and 22 in the Top 40.

Among the hits were "Walk On By", "Anyone Who Had a Heart," "Alfie," "I Say a Little Prayer," "I'll Never Fall in Love Again," and "Do You Know the Way to San Jose." She has had more hits during her career than any other female vocalist, except Aretha Franklin.

Bacharach composed and arranged the soundtrack of the 1967 film *Casino Royale*, which included "The Look of Love," performed by Dusty Springfield, and the title song, an instrumental Top 40 single for Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass. The resulting soundtrack album is widely considered to be one of the finest engineered vinyl recordings of all time, and is much sought after by audiophile collectors.

Bacharach and David also collaborated with Broadway producer David Merrick on the 1968 musical *Promises, Promises*, which yielded two hits, including the title tune and "I'll Never Fall in Love Again." Bacharach and David wrote the latter song when the producer realized the play urgently needed another before its opening the next evening. Bacharach, who had just been released from the hospital after contracting pneumonia,

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MKZ continued...

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uses a coil-over damper, short- and long-arm (SLA) front suspension with double-ball-joint control arms while the rear suspension is an independent multi-link design with lower control arms and a 17 mm (0.7 in) stabilizer bar. Spring rates, bushings, and dampers have been specially tuned for the Zephyr to provide excellent ride comfort without compromising handling. All Zephyrs feature standard four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes with traction control. The sole engine offered in the Zephyr was an all-aluminum 3.0 L DOHC Duratech V6 producing 221 hp at 6250 rpm and 205 lb ft of torque at 4800 rpm. This engine was mated to an Aisin 6-speed automatic transmission and had a final drive ratio of 3.46:1.

This powertrain was identical to the V6 powertrain available in the Fusion and Milan from 2006 to 2009. With this powertrain the Zephyr could accelerate from zero to 60 mph (97 km/h) in 7.5 seconds. The FWD Zephyr came with a 17.5 US gal fuel tank and is rated to deliver 17 mpg in city driving and 26 mpg on the highway based on the revised 2008 EPA fuel efficiency measurement standards.

For 2007, the Zephyr was refreshed and renamed MKZ to follow a new nomenclature developed by Lincoln that mimics the alphanumeric naming schemes used by other luxury automakers like Mercedes-Benz. Management at Lincoln originally announced the MKZ with a "mark-zee" pronunciation during the 2006 auto show circuit, but eventually changed it to the phonetic "em-kay-zee" due to confusion observed among focus groups and dealership personnel.

The 2007 MKZ was first shown at the Chicago Auto Show in February 2006. In addition to its new name, the MKZ gained a number of changes over its predecessor. The standard and optional versions of the MKZ's 17 x 7.5-inch wheels were restyled. An intelligent all-wheel-drive system was now available, seamlessly distributing power to each wheel for optimum traction. Powering the MKZ, and taking a large step toward further differentiating the car from the Fusion and Milan, was Ford's new, all-aluminum 3.5-L DOHC Duratec 35 V6. The engine was tuned to produce 265 hp at 6250 rpm and 249 lb•ft of torque at 4500 rpm. Significantly, the new engine needed only 87-octane regular-grade gasoline to achieve its output. Also, in spite of the MKZ's power advantage over the

3.0-L DOHC V6-equipped Zephyr, the fuel economy of the MKZ rivals that of the Zephyr at 17 mpg in city driving and 25 mpg on the highway in front-wheel-drive models. A road test by *Motor Trend* found that an MKZ equipped with all-wheel-drive could accelerate from zero to 60 mph in 6.8 seconds and complete a quarter mile in 15.2 seconds at 93.4 mph due to the more powerful engine and extra traction. One of the few other changes applied to the 2007 MKZ was a revision to the available THX II-certified audio system to increase speakers to 14 and its peak output to 600 watts. Beyond the MKZ's changes, the car remained positioned as an entry-level luxury sedan, with base models still starting at just under \$30,000 and fully optioned models remaining below \$40,000.

For 2008, the MKZ received new standard features as a part of Lincoln's continued effort to refine the car. Sirius satellite radio, perforated leather seats, a reverse sensing system, a tire pressure-monitoring system, and Lincoln SYNC (late availability) were all newly standard. For 2009, Ford's 'AdvanceTrac' stability control system became standard, while a special edition "Midnight Black" package was available, featuring black leather seating surfaces and panels contrasted with maple wood and satin nickel inserts.

2010 facelift - The 2010 MKZ was unveiled at the 2008 Los Angeles International Auto Show, revealing an extensive update with a revised interior and exterior in addition to new features. The MKZ's exterior featured revised front and rear fascias. The MKZ's headlights were new, while its fascia and split-wing grille closely resembled that of the Lincoln MKR concept. In the rear, the taillights have been revised to be longer and thinner, similar to the original Zephyr concept. The MKZ's standard and optional 17-inch wheels were restyled and featured an 18-inch wheel option. Inside, the MKZ's interior was revised, using real wood accents and metal surfaces. Bridge of Weir leather seating surfaces were standard. Other features new for 2010 included a reverse camera system, Sirius Travel Link, a DVD-based satellite navigation system updated to accept voice commands, rain-sensing windshield wipers, a cabin air filter, and adaptive HID headlights. Mechanically, the MKZ featured suspension revised to improve ride quality

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More MKZ...

(Continued from page 7)

was still sick, but worked with David's lyrics to write the song which was performed for the show's opening. It was later recorded by Dionne Warwick and was on the charts for several weeks.

Also in 1968, the duo wrote the song "This Guy's in Love with You," which was interpreted by Herb Alpert, who was best known at the time as a fellow songwriter and a trumpet player as the leader of the Tijuana Brass; the song went on to reach the top spot on the U.S. *Billboard* Hot 100 pop singles chart later that year, becoming the first No. 1 hit for Alpert and his label, A&M Records.

1970s and 1980s -

Throughout the late 1960s and early 1970s, Bacharach continued to write and produce for artists, compose for stage, TV, and film, and release his own albums. He enjoyed a great deal of visibility in the public spotlight, appearing frequently on TV and performing live in concert.

In 1971, Barbra Streisand appeared on the special *Singer Presents Burt Bacharach*, where they discussed their careers and favorite songs and performed songs together. The other guests on the television special were dancer Rudolph Nureyev and singer Tom Jones.

In 1973, Bacharach and David wrote the score for *Lost Horizon*, a musical version of the 1937 film. The remake was a critical and commercial disaster; a flur-

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and handling and a new 'SelectShift' six-speed automatic transmission. The 2010 MKZ was released during the spring of 2009.

The 2011 MKZ Hybrid was unveiled at the 2010 New York International Auto Show, and sales began in September 2010. It is the first Lincoln hybrid electric vehicle and the first Lincoln model with a four-cylinder engine; it delivers an EPA city rating of 41 mpg and a highway rating of 36 mpg, which made it the most fuel-efficient luxury sedan in the U.S. until the release of the 2011 Lexus CT 200h in March 2011. The Lincoln MKZ Hybrid carries over the hybrid powertrain from the Ford Fusion and Mercury Milan hybrids, including the 2.5-L Duratec I4 with the electric motor producing a total of 191 hp. The Lincoln MKZ Hybrid has an EV mode that allows the car to travel short distances on electricity alone, at speeds up to 47 mph. The MKZ Hybrid offers an improvement of Ford's Smart Gauge with EcoGuide, first introduced in the 2010 Fusion Hybrid. The MKZ Smart Gauge version offered a new "Flower" design compared to the "Leaf" design of the Fusion. In essence, the car rewards the driver with flower blossoms for economical driving/driving habits.

The Lincoln MKZ Hybrid is marketed by Ford as a competitor to the Lexus HS 250h and Lexus ES Hybrid. As of July 2011, the MKZ Hybrid was the only hybrid in the market with the same price as its conventional gasoline-engine version. Ford reported that until June 2011, about 20% of 2011 MKZ sales have been hybrids, and the market share is even higher in markets where hybrids in general sell well, such as the Los Angeles region, where sales of the hybrid model represent 44%, and the San Francisco area, with a market share of 66%. The MKZ Hybrid base price is \$35,520, and with popular options including a sunroof, navigation system, blind spot monitors, a THX surround-sound stereo, and a backup camera, the price rises to \$41,370.

A complete redesign of the Ford Fusion line-up was scheduled for the 2013 model year. Both the Lincoln MKZ and the Fusion Hybrid are expected to use a new compact lithium-ion battery pack and an updated powertrain that is expected to deliver a higher fuel economy up to 48 mpg highway. The next-generation Lincoln MKZ Hybrid was expected to be launched by mid-2012. The

2013 MKZ concept car was unveiled at the 2012 North American International Auto Show.



A "behind the wheel" view of the 2019 MKZ dashboard.

The MKZ Hybrid was one of the five finalists for the 2011 Green Car of the Year awarded by the *Green Car Journal* in November 2010, which was won by the Chevrolet Volt. In its 2011 Hybrid Scorecard, the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) ranked the MKZ Hybrid, together with the Lexus CT200h, as the top luxury hybrid models in the scorecard's environmental improvement category, an achievement the UCS attributed to their relatively small gasoline engines.^[28] Nevertheless, the Lincoln MKZ Hybrid ranked higher than the Lexus on all factors: consumer value, hybrid technology, fuel efficiency, and pollution reduction. Also, the UCS praised the MKZ Hybrid, together with the Hyundai Sonata Hybrid, because both hybrids were available with few or no forced features that inflated the cost without adding to fuel savings or reducing emissions. The UCS's Hybrid Scorecard ratings for the MKZ Hybrid are higher than the non-luxury Toyota Prius for environmental performance, and hybrid value; both are rated the same for forced features; and the Prius scores higher in fuel economy.

Second generation (2013–2020) - Ford redesigned the Lincoln MKZ for the 2013 model year, sharing the company's CD4 platform with Fusion and Mondeo. The concept model debuted at the 2012 North American International Auto Show. The production version of the second-generation MKZ was unveiled at the 2012 New York Auto Show. It followed the general concept idea released in

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MKZ continued...

(Continued from page 8)

ry of lawsuits resulted between the composer and the lyricist, as well as from Warwick. She reportedly felt abandoned when Bacharach and David refused to work together further.

Bacharach tried several solo projects, including the 1977 album *Futures*, but the projects failed to yield hits. He and David reunited briefly in 1975 to write and produce Stephanie Mills' second album, *For The First Time*, released for Motown. By the early 1980s, Bacharach's marriage to Angie Dickinson had ended, but a new partnership with lyricist Carole Bayer

Sager proved rewarding, both commercially and personally. The two married and collaborated on several major hits during the decade, including "Arthur's Theme (Best That You Can Do)" (Christopher Cross), co-written with Christopher Cross and Peter Allen, which won an Academy Award for Best song; "Heartlight" (Neil Diamond); "Making Love" (Roberta Flack); and "On My Own" (Patti LaBelle with Michael McDonald).

Another of their hits, "That's What Friends Are For" in 1985, reunited Bacharach and Warwick. When asked about their coming together again, she explained: We realized we were more than just friends. We were family. Time has a way of giving people the opportunity to grow and understand ... Working with Burt is not a bit different from how it

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the model displayed at the 2012 Detroit Auto Show.

The MKZ was originally set to be released in November 2012, but this was set back to January after Fusion production was delayed, which is produced at the same plant. Its release date was again pushed back after Ford looked to iron out any possible quality issues. Some MKZs were even shipped from the Mexican facility to Ford's Flat Rock plant to be reassured and inspected that they were ready to be sent to dealerships. This was an unprecedented move for such a big product launch, but Ford felt it would be profitable in the long run. Cars finally started to reach dealerships in sufficient quantities by mid-March 2013.



Rear seat interior of the 2019 MKZ

Ford offered the 2013 MKZ with three powertrains: a 240-horsepower EcoBoost 2-liter four-cylinder (FWD or AWD), a 300-horsepower 3.7-liter V6 (FWD or AWD), and a hybrid system based on the 2-liter power plant. The hybrid, like the previous-generation MKZ Hybrid, was available for the same price as the non-hybrid model. Given the model's significant redesign for 2013, changes to the 2014 MKZ were primarily limited to color choices. For 2015, automatic headlights, rear parking sensors and rear view camera became standard.

EPA ratings - The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rated the 2013 MKZ Hybrid at 45 mpg with the same rating for combined/city/highway cycles. The 2013 model year 2.0-liter, 4-cylinder FWD automatic MKZ rating is 26 mpg combined, 22 mpg in the city, and 33 mpg on the highway.

These ratings allowed the 2013 MKZ Hybrid to become the most fuel-efficient luxury vehicle in the U.S. and improve the fuel

economy of the Lexus ES 300h hybrid by 5 mpg on the combined cycle. Despite sharing the same powertrain, the 2013 MKZ Hybrid rated 2 mpg combined less than its sibling, the second-generation Ford Fusion Hybrid at 47 mpg.

The 2017 MKZ Hybrid's EPA rating is 41 mpg in the city, and 38 mpg on the highway.

2017 facelift - The MKZ received a facelift for the 2017 model year. Revealed on November 18, 2015, at the LA Auto Show, the MKZ is the first to adopt Lincoln's new design language previewed earlier on the Lincoln Continental concept car, featuring redesigned front grille and headlights. The 3.7 L V6 will be dropped in favor of an all-new 3.0 L twin-turbo V6 engine unique to Lincoln, producing between 350 and 400 horsepower depending on the drive-train. Trim levels include the standard model, plus Premiere, Select, Reserve and top level Black Label, which is three special appearance packages, a tradition started with the Designer Editions in 1976.

The MKZ offers the "Vineyard" (unique to the MKZ), "Chalet", and "Thoroughbred" theme appearance packages. In continuing with Lincoln tradition, Bridge of Weir "Deepsoft" leather is used for the Select and Reserve trim packages.

The transmission is no longer activated with a center console installed transmission selector; the computer controlled transmission uses buttons installed to the left of the MyLincoln Touch infotainment touch screen labeled "P, R, N, D, S", a revival of an approach used in the 1950s by the Chrysler push button PowerFlite and the Packard Touchbutton Ultramatic. The "S" transmission selection represents "Sport" mode, where the Continuously Controlled Damping suspension, electric power steering and transmission shift points take on a different posture.

The MKZ received no more major changes, with the new model years bringing new colors and a gradual diminishing of the lineup. For 2020, the car's final year on the market, only the Base and Reserve trims remained, with either Hybrid, Turbo, or V6 powertrains.

Hopefully, Lincoln will bring another one of these very classy mid-sized sedans to the market place in the near future. Perhaps it will be an electric vehicle.

2019 MKZ 3.0 Liter Road Test

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used to be. He expects me to deliver and I can. He knows what I'm going to do before I do it, and the same with me. That's how intertwined we've been.

1990s and beyond - In 1998, Bacharach co-wrote and recorded a Grammy-winning album with Elvis Costello, *Painted from Memory*, on which, according to several reviews of the time, the compositions began to take on the sound of his earlier work. The duo would later reunite for Costello's 2018 album, *Look Now*, working on several tracks together.

In 2003, he teamed with singer Ronald Isley to release the album *Here I Am*, which revisited a number of his 1960s compositions in Isley's signature R&B style. Bacharach's 2005 solo album *At This Time* was a departure from past works in that Bacharach penned his own lyrics, some of which dealt with political themes. Guest stars on the album included Elvis Costello, Rufus Wainwright, and hip-hop producer Dr. Dre. Bacharach's autobiography, *Anyone Who Had a Heart*, was published in 2013.

In 2016, Bacharach, at 88 years old, composed and arranged his first original score in 16 years for the film *A Boy Called Po* (along with composer Joseph Bauer). The score was released on September 1, 2017. The entire 30-minute score was recorded in just two days at Capitol Studios. The theme song, "Dancing with Your Shadow," was com-

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Originally published 2.27.2020 by Trevor Howard and obtained from the internet.

What can I say about a car that's on its deathbed and minimizing trim and powertrain offerings as it quietly fades into history? Get it while you can.

Despite having been announced for cancellation, the MKZ wears Lincoln's newest design language from the outside in. It took on the domestic luxury brand's much more upscale chrome-laden frontal design for 2017, and blended it with rear styling that was already very unique and attractive. It even looks kind of aggressive with its optional dark grey matte-metallic 19-inch alloys wrapped in 245/40 Michelin rubber, although an upward glance reminds us that the MKZ is mostly about artful elegance.

New for 2018 was the very same 3.0-litre turbocharged V6 that wowed me in the larger, heavier Continental, which means the 400 horsepower velvety smooth beast of an engine, making an equally impressive 400 lb-ft of torque, hustles down the road even quicker. With this much thrust and twist on tap, there's really no need for an eight-, nine- or 10-speed automatic, so Lincoln was content to leave its smooth and reliable six-speed transmission in place, complete with paddles to extract as much sport out of the potent drivetrain as possible.

Like all Lincolns, the MKZ uses a push-button gear selector located on the dash, this one on left side of the center stack beside the center touchscreen. The vertical row of buttons incorporates the usual PRND controls sandwiched between an engine start/stop button up top and an "S" or sport mode button at the bottom. Once acclimatized to the layout, it's as easy as any other type of gear selector to use.

The smooth gearbox is more engaging in sport mode, particularly when the just-noted steering wheel-mounted paddle shifters are employed, but even so I found upshifts took about two seconds and downshifts about a second and a half to complete, which isn't quick enough to call it a sport sedan, but the well-proven transmission was very smooth and should be reliable.

The MKZ was never designed to be a sport sedan anyway. It's certainly capable when called upon, with loads of power off the line, real automatic feel when pulling its paddles, and capable control around tight, quick corners, but this car was primarily designed for comfort. That means it's wonderfully quiet and blissfully smooth riding. Still, when making serious speed down a winding rural road near my home, the midsize sedan provided good grip and capable control, as long as you don't temporarily lose

your sense of reality by thinking it has Mercedes-AMG-, BMW M- or Audi RS-like handling chops. Its advanced electronics and as-tested torque-vectoring AWD make it stable in slippery conditions nonetheless, while it comes well-loaded with additional safety features.

As well as it drives, and as attractive as its exterior styling is, the MKZ's best asset is the interior. It really can't be faulted, other than sharing some design elements, switchgear, and underlying equipment with the Ford Fusion it's based upon. This is most noticeable with the steering wheel, IP/dash and center stack, with respect to their design layout, as well as the door panels regarding handles and switchgear.

Lincoln takes the MKZ's finishings up a considerable notch from the Ford, of course, with a completely soft-touch instrument hood and dash-top that even extends all the way down to the lower knee area, plus pliable composites down each side of the center stack and along the lower console, even including each side portion of the floating bottom section.

While I'm nowhere near finished extolling the merits of this interior, storage space is another MKZ attribute. That floating center console is home to a large area for stowing smartphones, tablets, or what-have-you, while Lincoln also provides a large glove box, a big bin under the center armrest, another smaller bin integrated within the folding rear armrest, most of these lined with a rich, velvety material no less, and bottle holders in each lower door panel, plus a large trunk that's expandable via 60/40 split-folding rear seatbacks or alternatively a handy center pass-through.

Model year changes in mind, the move from 2018 to 2019 left mid-range Select trim behind in the non-hybrid car, leaving only Reserve trim with the base 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder, this engine good for a spirited 245-horsepower and 270 lb-ft of torque, plus the Reserve model as-tested with the 3.0-litre V6.

The hybrid's combustion engine makes 141 horsepower and 129 lb-ft of torque, but its net output is much stronger at 188 horsepower combined, the electric motor making 118 horsepower and 177 lb-ft of torque (don't try to add them up, because quantifying hybrid output figures is not so easy).

I previously mentioned not being finished with my MKZ interior accolades, as it truly is impressive for its modest \$47,000 to \$53,150 price range (the Reserve AWD starts at \$52,500, by the way, with the 3.0-litre V6 adding \$6,500 to the window sticker). Like the instrument panel, the door panels receive high-quality stitched

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Testing the MKZ continued...

(Continued from page 10)

posed by Bacharach, with lyrics by Billy Mann, and performed by Sheryl Crow. After seeing the film, a true story about a child with autism, Bacharach decided he wanted to write a score for it, as well as a theme song, in tribute to his daughter Nikki — who had gone undiagnosed with Asperger syndrome, and who committed suicide because of depression at the age of 40. "It touched me very much," the composer said. "I had gone through this with Nikki. Sometimes you do things that make you feel. It's not about money or rewards."

In 2018, Bacharach released "Live to See Another Day," co-written with Rudy Pérez and featuring the Miami Symphony Orchestra; the song was dedicated to survivors of gun violence in schools, as the proceeds from the release went to the charity Sandy Hook Promise, a non-profit organization founded and led by several family members whose children had been killed in the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting.

In March 2023, a collection of Bacharach's collaborations with Elvis Costello was scheduled to be released. Entitled *The Songs of Bacharach and Costello*, the collection was expected to include 16 tracks from the proposed stage musical *Taken From Life*.

Film and television - Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Bacharach was featured in a dozen television musical and variety spe-

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composite door uppers, inserts, and armrests, while the lower panels are also soft to the touch. You could compare the MKZ directly against some of the much higher priced compact-to-midsize segments' German rivals, and they won't improve on its level of fine detailing, not to mention the Lincoln's real hardwood trim and beautiful perforated aluminum speaker grilles that feature a lovely spiral pattern, while the quality of the car's switchgear matches many in the premium sector too, this also praising Ford that often punches above its weight in the mainstream sector.

The same is true for in-car electronics, specifically the beautiful new mostly digital gauge cluster that includes the usual two circular primary dials with a multi-information display at center, or at least that's what it initially looks like. To be clear, it's not so simple. Instead of a big screen with all dials and other functions shown graphically, Lincoln houses the digital interface within gauge-like frames, the left side showing an analogue-style tachometer around the outer edge and multi-info display within, or alternatively a much larger MID. The speedometer on the right side of the cluster features a digital needle and dial markers, plus other gauges. This gives the MKZ a modern up-to-date look that's complemented by a center stack-mounted infotainment touchscreen that was already very good.

The MKZ uses Lincoln's version of Ford's Sync 3 infotainment interface, with an earthy brown and gold color treatment in place of the mainstream brand's sky blue and white design. It's an excellent system in both brands, and needs no updating in the MKZ. It features full audio controls, a dual-zone automatic climate control interface with three-way front heated/cooled seat controls (that are duplicated within a separate set of analogue HVAC controls lower down the center stack), Bluetooth phone/audio streaming connectivity via Sync, plus Apple CarPlay and Android Auto smartphone integration, an easy-to-use navigation system with good accuracy, an app menu that comes stock with Sirius Travel Link and allows you to download additional mobile apps as well, plus a comprehensive car settings menu with two full panels of functions as well as a third panel boasting ambient lighting choices and multi-contour seat controls.

On that note, the driver's seat is extremely comfortable and provides excellent support, even laterally, which takes us back to the MKZ's performance mentioned earlier. My favorite seat feature, however, is its four-way lumbar support, a good reason to consider this

Lincoln over the Lexus ES, which only provided two-way powered lumbar (in and out) in the 2019 model I recently tested. Then again, before I committed to four-way lumbar as my favorite MKZ feature, I probably should've mentioned the little button at the center of the lumbar controller that turns on the massage feature. Pressing it immediately pulls up a panel within the center display to customize the multi-contour seat controls, some of which allow for a relaxing massage that's especially soothing on a long drive or when stuck in traffic.

This said, you'd be comfortable no matter where you're seated. The rear passenger area is finished just as nicely as the one up front, too, with the same high quality, soft touch door panels, including their beautifully finished aluminum speaker grilles. Of course, the folding center armrest includes the usual dual cupholders, while Lincoln also supplies rear air vents on the backside of the front center console, plus buttons for two-way heatable outboard cushions, two USB-A charger points and a three-prong 110-volt household-style plug.

You certainly won't be limited when it comes to features; mind you, the MKZ Reserve standard with the aforementioned multi-contour front seats for 2019, plus rear window sunshades, active motion and adaptive cruise with stop-and-go, and 19-inch satin-finish alloy wheels. What's more, Lincoln added a windshield wiper de-icer as standard on all trims, plus standard rain-sensing wipers, blind spot monitoring, and lane keeping assist, while the options list grows to include a new package featuring premium LED headlamps, a panoramic glass sunroof, and a 20-speaker audio system.

In the end, the only issue standing in the way of purchasing a Lincoln MKZ instead of its most common competitor, the Lexus ES noted earlier, or another large family sedan from a non-premium maker like Toyota and its Avalon, Nissan, and the Maxima, or Chrysler and its 300, is the fact that it's already slated for cancellation, as noted earlier. It's not alone, of course, as a host of large sedans have recently been kicked to the curb as well, including Lincoln's own Continental (a car I like a lot) and Ford's Taurus, plus a couple of Buicks and Chevys, so it's possible that any new sedan you choose could get the boot in the near future if consumers' lack of interest continues and/or the economy goes south. So, like I said at the beginning of this review, get it while you can.

Sourced from the internet.....

North Star Welcome Wagon

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cial videotaped in the UK for ITC; several were nominated for Emmy Awards for direction (by Dwight Hemion). The guests included artists such as Joel Grey, Dusty Springfield, Dionne Warwick, and Barbra Streisand. Bacharach and David did the score for an original musical for ABC-TV titled *On the Flip Side*, broadcast on *ABC Stage 67*, starring Ricky Nelson as a faded pop star trying for a comeback.

During the 1970s, Bacharach and then-wife Angie Dickinson appeared in several television commercials for Martini & Rossi beverages, and Bacharach even penned a short jingle ("Say Yes") for the spots. He also occasionally appeared on television/variety shows such as *The Merv Griffin Show*, *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson*, and others.

In the 1990s and 2000s Bacharach had cameo roles in Hollywood movies, including all three Austin Powers movies, inspired by his score for the 1967 James Bond parody film *Casino Royale*. Myers said the first film in the series, *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery* (1997), was partially inspired by the song "The Look of Love". After hearing the song on the radio, Myers began reminiscing about the 1960s, which helped him conceive the film. Myers later said of Bacharach's appearance in the movie: "It was amazing working with Burt. His song 'The Look of Love' was the inspiration for this film.

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by Francis Kalvoda Willmar, Minnesota
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Gene Wendt's 1967 Ford Station Wagon

Micki and I are not giving up on our Lincoln wagon. However, this month we are fortunate to 'borrow' our newest North Star member's ALL ORIGINAL, 64,000-mile 1967 Ford Station Wagon! I have often said that cars from the mid-to-late 1960s are my favorites, Comfortable, peppy, roomy, easy to drive, easy to repair, and easy on the eye. Let's meet our Welcome Wagon owner.

Please welcome **Gene Wendt**, 4491 Quinwood Lane, Plymouth, Minnesota, 612-562-3779, email:

gene.wendt@morriesclassiccars.com. Note that email address. Over the last few years, you may have met Gene when we have our Fall dinner/auction at Morrie's car collection. Gene, Doug, and John have been there to answer our questions and share their enthusiasm for the vehicles they see every day but also helped procure, restore, and maintain.

Gene is the second owner of his beautiful 56-year-old, well-cared-for Ford Country Sedan. The 390 V8 powered awesome wagon began its pampered life at the St. Paul, Minnesota, Ford plant. Even more awesome is that Gene is also the second owner of an all-original 109-year-old 1914 Buick Touring. Gene bought the barn-fresh Buick from the family of the original owner, who purchased the Touring Car new at Pence Buick in Minneapolis. I'll let Gene tell you about his lifelong fascination with automobiles, including Lincolns. If you know of a nice original Continental Mark III, let Gene know about it

Like most boys and maybe some girls, I took a fascination to automobiles at a young age. I remember getting a toy for Christmas in the 1950s where I got a small imitation dashboard with a steering wheel and knobs and buttons to play with. I spent hours taking

long trips without leaving the house. Then around 1961, my folks drove up to northern Wisconsin to visit my grandparents, and to my surprise, my grandfather had purchased a 1954 Ford Two Door that had been taken out of service. It was sitting on blocks outside with the wheels removed. It was my new playhouse. Here again, I made believe in taking trips without leaving the yard.



Wouldn't you really rather have a Buick, a 1914 Touring model. A little polish and it will be as good as new.

My grandfather owned a campground. When I was around 12 years old, he and my dad said they would teach me to drive with the red 1949 Chevrolet pickup. We had several miles of road at the campground to travel on, but the price to pay was I had to keep the campsite full of firewood and pick up the garbage as needed. Then mom or dad would drive the little red Chevrolet pickup to the local dump. Those were the days when it was not unusual to see a bear or two looking for a tasty treat.

As time went by and still not old enough to have a driver's license, I would pedal my bicycle into our small town and hang around two of three filling stations; one Mobil, one Standard. I ended up working at both as needed from time to time, pumping gas, selling bait, and doing cleanup chores.

The spring of 1971 saw me getting my driver's license. What a day; it seemed like forever coming. Now 10 or 20 years pass by like the speed of light. My first solo road trip was in the folk's 1965 Pontiac Catalina Wagon. What a feeling of freedom to be able to drive at last. To back up a bit, it was 1965, and the family moved to a new home to have more room for the folks, myself and two brothers and a sister. One day, I was outside and heard a strange sound getting closer and closer. It

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Welcome Wagon continued...

(Continued from page 12)

It was like having Gershwin appear in your movie."

Musical style - Bacharach's music is characterized by unusual chord progressions, influenced by jazz harmony, with striking syncopated rhythmic patterns, irregular phrasing, frequent modulation, and odd, changing meters. He arranged, conducted, and produced much of his recorded output. Though his style is sometimes called easy listening, he expressed apprehension regarding that label, as some of his frequent collaborators did. According to *NJ.com* contributor Mark Voger, "It may be easy on the ears, but it's anything but easy. The precise arrangements, the on-a-dime shifts in meter, and the mouthfuls of lyrics required to service all those notes have, over the years, proven challenging to singers and musicians." Bacharach's selection of instruments included flugelhorns, bossa nova sidesticks, breezy flutes, tack piano, *molto fortissimo* strings, and cooing female voices. According to editors of *The Mojo Collection*, it led to what became known as the "Bacharach Sound." Bacharach explained:

I didn't want to make the songs the same way as they'd been done, so I'd split vocals and instrumentals and try to make it interesting ... For me, it's about the peaks and valleys of where a record can take you. You can tell a story and be able to be explosive one minute, then get quiet as kind of a

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was like nothing I had ever heard. It was a motorized something but not the normal sound of cars at that time. Soon it came into view and up the hill in front of the house. It was a big (at the time) black touring car. As the driver passed by, he blew the exhaust whistle. Wow, I was hooked. I spent a week trying to find out who owned that machine. I finally tracked the owner and machine down less than a mile from our home. He was a nice man. I introduced myself to him, and he invited me into the garage to look at the 1924 six-cylinder Buick Touring. I was in heaven. This was the first up-close time I could see an antique car other than pictures in a magazine. I went to see him after school. If the garage doors were open, I knew he would be there working on the Buick. I thought to myself someday I am going to have one of those cars.



Gene even had a Mark II at one time. Almost everyone's dream.

(Someday came 30 years later). I did and do have one now. One day, the man said to me we are going on a little car tour this coming Saturday. Would I like to ride along? Wow, not only was this the first antique car I saw in real life it was the first I ever got a ride in. Life could not get any better than that for a boy of twelve. After that, life started to move

faster. I worked after school at a grocery store for two years, then after that started work as a Parts Dept. Assistant at a Chevrolet Buick Dealership. Eventually, I worked my way up to Parts Dept. Manager. I even sold cars on Friday nights and Saturdays; because I could not get enough of cars. From there, I went to work at a Chrysler, Dodge, and Plymouth Dealership as a Service Writer and Branch Dealership Manager.



Gene shown tinkering with the Mark III that he previously owned. If anyone knows of a nice one out there, let Gene know. He wants to relive the experience.

I drove a 1954 Chrysler 4-door to high school and found my first antique car. It was a 1939 Buick Special 4-door that I paid \$750 for and drove it home. Many cars came and went through the years, and I met many nice people in the process. Then in 1982, one of them talked me into working for him restoring antique cars. From then on until now, that is all I have done, either working for someone else or on my own. As of now, I have been here in Minnesota for 10 years working for Morrie Wagener in Long Lake, helping take care of his large collection. Life has its ups and downs, but I am, as they say, living my dream. I have owned a few Lincolns in the past. (Sorry it took so long to get around to saying that). Lincolns I have owned include a 1931 Lincoln Dual Cowl Phaeton, a 1957 Continental Mark II, a 1971 Continental Mark

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For Sale - 1979 Town Car

Linda Fenelon has decided to sell the car that she and her late husband, Ron, enjoyed for 20 years. The rust-free California Town Car has 106,000 miles. It is mechanically sound and has a nice interior. The clear coat paint is fading. The tires are nearly new. For a personal inspection or more information, contact Linda Fenelon, Alexandria, Minnesota, 320-763-4197 or 320-491-4484. \$6000/offer.



(Continued from page 13)

satisfying resolution.

Personal life - Bacharach married four times. The first time was to Paula Stewart for five years (1953-1958). His second marriage, to actress Angie Dickinson, lasted 15 years (1965-1980). They had a daughter named Nikki Bacharach (born 1966), who had Asperger syndrome, suffocated herself with helium on January 4, 2007, after struggling for many years.

Bacharach's third marriage, to lyricist Carole Bayer Sager, spanned nine years (1982-1991). The duo collaborated on a number of musical pieces and adopted a son named Christopher Elton Bacharach.

Bacharach married his fourth wife, Jane Hansen, in 1993. They had two children, a son named Oliver and a daughter named Raleigh.

Bacharach once owned the Dover House restaurant, which was located across the street from Roosevelt Raceway in Westbury, New York. It was the site of a press conference in which the New York Islanders unveiled their name and logo and introduced Bill Torrey as their first general manager.

Death - Bacharach died of natural causes at his home in Los Angeles, California on February 8, 2023, at the age of 94.

From the internet...

Hail and Fairwell



Joyce Staehle
1962 - 2023

We are indeed sad to report the passing of Joyce Staehle this past January 28, 2023, at the age of 60. Joyce was born December 6, 1962 to Genevieve and Raymond Skwarek, and was the much loved wife of Dan Staehle for 40 years. She was also the devoted

mother of two sons, Jacob and Tom Joyce was the sister of James (Nancy) Skwarek, Tom Skwarek, Edward Skwarek and Jeanne (John) Augustine and sister-in-law of Karen (Robert) Kuenzi. Loving daughter-in-law of Mae Jean (the late Jack) Staehle. Preceded in death by her parents, Genevieve (Sylvester) Hejlik and Raymond Skwarek.

Relatives and friends gathered at the Krause Funeral Home, Brookfield, Wisconsin on Monday, February 6, 2023, to celebrate the wonderful life of Joyce Staehle.

Her devoted husband Dan said it best. "Joyce was loved very much by everyone she met. She never hesitated to start a conversation and within seconds you knew she was a loving, caring and compassionate person which made you feel good being with her. Indeed she made the world a better place to be in. Joyce has been my partner for 42-years, we have been married for 40 of those years. She made me a better person and raised our children who have turned out to be two very fine young men whom we are very proud of, Jacob and Tommy. They were her life! Whenever Joyce was with them she would be glowing with happiness! Joyce, I know that God is watching over you and you are in Heaven. I will miss you, my love, my wife, my everything! The memories I have will be cherished forever.....

I will Love you forever!"

Dan

Wagon continued..

(Continued from page 13)

III, and a 1972 Continental Sedan. All of these are gone now, but since becoming a member of the Lincoln Club and meeting all the nice people, I am sure one day, a Lincoln will find its way into my life again. Remember, every day is a gift that needs to be opened to see what's inside! Gene Wendt



A while back, Gene owned this 1972 Lincoln Continental sedan. A very large car.

We look forward to seeing Gene at upcoming North Star Lincoln and Continental Owners Club events. A lot of automobile history has gone through Gene's hands, and he really enjoys talking cars. Feel free to call Gene to welcome him to the North Star LCOC, especially if you know of a nice original Mark III for sale. Thank you, Morrie Wagener for pointing Gene in our direction.

Next month, I hope to have you meet another new North Star member or two. You have already read over 1000 words in this column. I will leave you with one last picture, which may be equivalent to 1000 joyful words.

Wanted



Full set of extremely nice or NOS luxury wheel covers for a 1969 Continental Sedan. Please contact John at 701-729-6839 or email Jtrandem@gmail.com

North Star LCOC events

- March **Sunday Buffet, March 12, 2023** 11:30 a.m. at the Machine Shed, 8515 Hudson Blvd N, Lake Elmo, Minnesota. Please RSVP to Bob Johnson by Thursday March 9 if you can attend, call 651-257-1715 or email arborbob41@aol.com
- April **Sunday Brunch on April 16**, 11:30 p.m. at Dehn's County Manor, 11281 Fernbrook Lane N, Maple Grove, Minnesota.
- May **Road trip and car show** at Mark Platts Collector Car Garage, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin **Saturday May 13**, two to three-day road trip (Friday through Sunday) More details in future issues.
- June **Saturday, June 17, 2023.** 14th Annual Lincoln Car show at Bloomington Lincoln, Bloomington, Minnesota 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Free lunch and awards at 2 p.m.
- July **Saturday, July 16, 2023.** Maple Grove Days Car Show, Breakfast 8 a.m., Car show 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Saturday, July 29, 2023.** 1st Annual North Star Lincoln and American Collector Car Show. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All American made collector cars welcome, stock or modified. At the Blacksmith Lounge, 17205 Forest Boulevard, (Old Highway 61) Hugo, Minnesota



Sunday Brunch Buffet March 12, 2023 - 11:30 a.m.

Come on out to the Machine Shed, 8515 Hudson Blvd North, Lake Elmo and join your LCOC friends once again at the Machine Shed. Good food, and good service should make for a great dining experience.

We have been there before and have always been pleased. They are now open again after having limited hours due to COVID-19 problems.

It should be a nice time for visiting with our members and talking about getting those Lincolns out for the summer driving experience.

Please RSVP to Bob Johnson by Thursday, March 9 if you can attend; call 651-257-1715 or email arborbob41@aol.com

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

www.northstarlcoc.org Click on publications.

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

The Back Page

2020 LINCOLN MKZ AMONG MOST RELIABLE THREE YEAR OLD VEHICLES



The Lincoln MKZ – like all FoMoCo sedans that were once sold in North America – is long gone, but certainly not forgotten. In fact, the the 2017 Lincoln MKZ was recently recognized by *Consumer Reports* for being one of the best used cars that cost between \$15k and \$20k, while the 2019 model was the highest-ranked premium mid-size car in J.D. Power’s 2022 U.S. Dependability Study. Now, *Consumer Reports* is lavishing praise on the 2020 Lincoln MKZ after naming it one of the most reliable three-year-old vehicles on the used market.

As is typically the case with *CR* studies, this one takes a look at modern vehicles that are just a few years old for some very good reasons – these vehicles have already depreciated somewhat, yet still offer modern performance, amenities, and safety features. Many three-year-old vehicles are also being turned in following the end of their lease terms, and as such, have fewer miles on the clock and are more likely to be in good condition.

To come up with these rankings, *Consumer Reports* looked to its annual auto surveys completed by members, looking for the models with the highest reliability score that fall within this particular date range. In that regard, the 2020 Lincoln MKZ made the cut thanks to its stellar reliability ratings from owners, but also because *CR* found it to be “the most appealing and well-executed Lincoln in memory,” at that time.

CR also praised the 2020 Lincoln MKZ for its ride comfort, quiet cabin, and luxurious interior, easy to use controls, and excellent fuel economy, particularly from the hybrid version. In terms of negatives, well, there aren’t many, with the organization noting that the sedan offers up limited rear seat access and legroom.



I am a very fine car that desperately needs a new home. I have been with my present owner(s) since the early 1980s, and it has now time for me to be much loved and well taken care of in the way that I have become accustomed to by a new family. I have an excellent pedigree that can be easily verified by all of my present masters' documents.

I am a 1979 Lincoln Mark V, having traveled less than 35,000 miles in my lifetime. I have always spent my nights and days

safely stored inside, in a nice secure garage, except when my mom and dad took me out for special rides and bring to car shows. I finished in a Diamond Blue metallic paint, which was rare in 1979. Both my inside and outside are spotless, with no dings, dents, or scrapes. I look almost as good as the day my first owner took delivery of me from the dealership. I have a moonroof and virtually all of the accessories that Lincoln offered in 1979. Plus, I come with all the owners and factory manuals too.

Would you please come to see me and check me out? I will not disappoint you and provide you and your family with many years of enjoyment behind the wheel and pride of ownership. Plus, my owners' price aligns with current Mecum auction results for similar Mark V's, most having more miles than I do. Very fairly priced at \$14,500 obo.

Further inquiries should be directed to Ann at 612-695-6524. She will be awaiting your call.