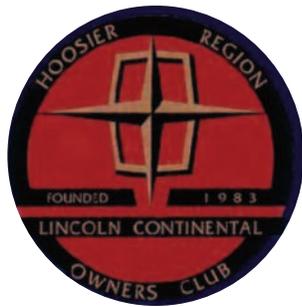


The Lincoln Log



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Right Paul Temple's 1989 Lincoln Mark VII Bill Blass Edition took top honors at the Central Indiana Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society's annual concert and car show, held at the Warren Performing Arts Center in Indianapolis on Sept. 13, 2021. *Photo by Matt Gerhard.*



From the Director By Joe Columbe

Dear Hoosier Region Members:

Our Christmas Dinner at Bynum's was well attended with lots of Lincoln talk! I will soon be sending out our 2022 schedule of events. All events will be tentative. Any member who would like to plan an event for a month are very welcome to do so and your work will be much appreciated. Eleanor and I are looking forward to seeing you all in 2022. May you all have the Merriest of Christmases and the Happiest of New Years. Season's Greetings!

Joe & Eleanor

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About the Covers **Front Cover** Andy & Terri Swartz's 2006 Lincoln Town Car at the Hilltop Restaurant. *Photo courtesy of Jeff Shively.* **Back Cover** The Columbe 1969 Lincoln Continental in gold at the Warren Performing Arts Center. *Photo courtesy of Matt Gerhard.*

Theatre Organ Society Concert and Car Show By Eleanor Columbe

The annual Central Indiana Chapter of the American Theater Organ Society concert and car show was held at the Warren Performing Arts Center in Indianapolis on Sunday, Sept. 13, which included a car show. Hoosier LCOC members Eleanor Columbe (with brothers-in-law, David and Robert), John & Jupei Hannon, and Paul Temple drove their Lincolns. Eleanor arrived in "Miss Olive," one of the '69s in the Columbe stable, Robert drove our 1969 sedan, David drove his 2005 red Thunderbird, John & Jupei drove their 1973 white Mercury Marquis Brougham, and Paul drove his maroon 1989 Lincoln Mark VII Bill Blass. Several other car makes were included in the show. All of the beautiful cars were a sight to see!

Lunch was available to purchase: a soda, smoked barbecue pork, chips, potato salad, slaw, and a cookie. Everyone agreed the meal was excellent. Then, we entered the theater to enjoy the Barton Theater Organ played by Pierre Fracalanza. He paid tribute to the fine automobiles with a slide show while playing the Barton. A man with quite a talent! When he returns to Indianapolis for another concert, you must attend!

At the end of the event, Paul Temple won the Best of Show award for his charming Lincoln Mark VII. Congratulations to Paul! Everyone left with a song in their heart thanks to Mr. Fracalanza.

Eleanor Columbe is an LCOC member from Milroy, Indiana.

Acme Organ Institute Event By Eleanor Columbe

John Rust invited the LCOC Hoosier Region to his annual two-day Acme Organ Institute event. On Friday, Oct. 1, the interesting Columbus, Indiana, churches were on tap for organ concerts. On Saturday, Oct. 2, we were welcomed in his lovely home for several organists to play his many theater and church organs. Joe and Eleanor Columbe as well as John Kost and Glenn Thompson from the Southern Ohio Region of the LCOC were in attendance. We started in his home to hear three organs and a grand piano. One theater organ in his home is the only Compton Organ in the United States and was built in 1934 for the Paramount Theatre in Glasgow, Scotland. The organist had programmed the piano to play a duet with him while he played the Compton. Amazing! Several organists performed the many organs in the wonderful Organ Barn. Everyone was tapping their feet with the music. Great talent!

After this concert we walked to the Organ Barn. Lunch was provided by John. Hot dogs, chips, potato salad, baked beans, and cookies were served.

Unfortunately no show cars were in attendance for the car show. Trophies were lined up on a table under the new shelter house. Hopefully to be awarded in 2022.

What a wonderful event John organized and was gracious enough to invite the Hoosier Region of the LCOC!

Eleanor Columbe is an LCOC member from Milroy, Indiana.



Art Artifacts and Automobiles in Lafayette

By Warner Young

October 30 dawned cold and rainy. However, this was no deterrent for a determined group of Lincoln and Cadillac enthusiasts to head to the river city of Lafayette, Indiana. Three stops were planned for the day, making for a busy day, with much to see.

Our first stop was at the Haan Art Museum. The Haan is just south of downtown Lafayette in a lovely neighborhood with many large homes from the turn of the 20th century. The Haan has a fascinating history with a start at the St. Louis World's Fair. The house was built in 1904 for \$30,000, specifically to be shown at the World's Fair as the Connecticut exhibition. After the World's Fair, the house was auctioned off and, after some intrigue, was disassembled and moved by rail to Lafayette. It is a Classic Revival Mansion and is now 15,000 sq. ft. A sculpture





garden on the grounds features 25 works in bronze, ceramics, steel, stone, and glass. The gardens include a mile-long nature trail.

The museum was the Haan's private residence until six years ago. Over the years, they have collected hundreds of items, and most are now on display. It has the most extensive collection of the Hoosier Group of painters in the country. The most well-known member of that group is T.C. Steele. They have an extensive collection of Renaissance Revival furniture (1860-1890), including a Superior Grade Wooton desk. Only a very few are known to exist. This mansion is very unique, and if you get a chance, you should pay a visit.

Our lunch stop was at the East End Grill, only about six blocks north of the Haan. The East End offers a large menu. They describe themselves as a welcoming, modern yet casual space. The staff was friendly and knowledgeable. I believe everyone was very pleased with lunch at the East End Grill.

Our afternoon stop was at the John Gambs car collection. John's collection is several miles south of downtown and well out into the Hoosier farmland. John continues to add to his collection, with the recent acquisition of a 1920 Stevens-Duryea and a 1937 Cadillac V-12. In addition to the many vintage cars, John has several fire trucks and memorabilia.

John lived in the fire station on the campus of Notre Dame during his time as a student. He has a fire engine that was in service during his time at the station.

His first introduction to vintage cars was a 1914 Saxon Roadster. The Saxon was on a farm owned by a friend of his mother. He owns that very roadster today. His primary pursuit is early original and non-modified cars. Several cars are in original or nearly original condition. We saw a 1930 Duesenberg with 14,000 miles with original paint and upholstery and a 1938 Packard V-12, also with original paint and upholstery. He has about 23 cars listed as Full Classics in the CCCA and many more cars that



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE The group tours one of the many fine rooms in the Haan Museum. **Fred Feeing** 1989 Lincoln Mark VII LSC. **Visiting John Gambs' collection** are from left, Warner Young, Pat Carney (CLC), Charlie Mullen, Carl Carney (CLC), John Madden, Jay Wignall (CLC) John & Jupei Hannon, and Jaunda & Lars Kneller. The Knellers' 2015 MKZ. David Columbe's 2020 Lincoln Continental. Charlie & Becky Griffith's 1966 Lincoln Continental Coupe.



are non-Classics. His Full Classics include Brewster, Cadillac, Cord, Duesenberg, Lincoln, Locomobile, McFarlan (Indiana built), Packard, Pierce-Arrow, and Rolls Royce.

Hoosier Region members attending were David Columbe, Joe & Eleanor Columbe, Fred Feigel, Charlie & Becky Griffith, John & Jupei Hannon, Lars & Jaunda Kneller, John Madden, Charlie Mullen, Jeff Shively, and Warner Young.

Warner Young is an LCOC member from Indianapolis, Indiana..

*LINCOLNS
ABOVE
THE TREETOPS*





BY JEFF SHIVELY

The Hoosier Region usually holds its annual meeting in early November at the Bluebird Restaurant in Morristown. Not only is it convenient for many members, just a short jaunt down U.S. 52 southeast of Indianapolis, but it is a long-time favorite venue, thanks in great part to the fried chicken and generous buffet. Sadly, the Bluebird changed how it operated due to the pandemic, so the board thought that the time was right for something new. Enter the Hilltop Restaurant just north of Spencer.

Owen County is a leisurely hour-long drive southwest of Indianapolis. As it is not heavily populated, older two-lane roads such as U.S. 231, IN 67, and IN 46 provide access. The county seat, Spencer, is a burg of 2,500 people and has been for a century. Timber from the surrounding forests was instrumental in building the massive bridges of the transcontinental railroad in the years following the Civil War. Today, residents who aren't employed locally at Cook Medical Devices commute to Bloomington or Terre Haute via IN 46 for work.

Perhaps the most notable thing about the area, other than the fantastic fall foliage, is a quaint restaurant located a few miles north of Spencer on U.S. 231. Since 1948, the Hilltop Restaurant has welcomed diners to enjoy homestyle dinners served above the treetops. The inside of the building resembles a ski lodge. After the meal, guests can explore the grounds, enjoy the view, and drink in the vibrant fall colors.

My family has a long connection to the Hilltop. Over 50 years ago, my parents would drive 200 miles from Boonville to West Lafayette to attend Purdue football games, and they would stop in for a meal at the Hilltop on the way home. After moving to Greencastle in 1984, we made the 23-mile drive south to enjoy the famous fried chicken on special occasions. After Mila and I were married in 2007, we continued the tradition. Today, making the drive takes extra effort, so our visits are less frequent but no less memorable.



On Saturday, November 6, I left my house in Noblesville with my dad and Mila's mom, Svetlana, safely tucked away in the MKZ. Mila elected to stay home and get some work done without us underfoot. We met up with Col. John Hannon near Mooresville to caravan to

PREVIOUS PAGE The 1962 Lincoln Continental Sedan driven all the way from Bloomington by father and son Rhett and Allan Tharp. **ABOVE** When it comes to 1969 Lincolns, nobody does it better than our own Joe Columbe. *Photo by the author.*



Spencer. John's 1972 Mercury Coupe was not idling quite right, so we made sure to keep moving. Luckily, the issue resolved itself long before we arrived at our destination. The drive down IN 67 was about as pleasant as one would want. The leaves had finally changed, so we were met with brilliant red, yellow,

and orange hues. Old 67 meanders through the increasingly hilly countryside, passing through Paragon and Gosport. Cinema 67, a still-functioning drive-in theatre, is located not far from the intersection of IN 67 and U.S. 231, a spot dubbed "Biscuit Junction" by the locals.

One could not have asked for better weather. It was in the 50s under a clear blue sky, so several members drove their Lincolns. There were modern cars like my MKZ and a couple of last-generation Town Cars, a 2006 owned by Andy & Teri Swartz and Paul Temple's 2003 Cartier L. Much to my delight,



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LEFT Charlie & Becky Griffith's 1966 Lincoln Continental Coupe outside the entrance to the Hilltop. **BOTTOM LEFT** Paul Temple's 2003 Lincoln Town Car Cartier. **BOTTOM RIGHT** Col. John Hannon's 1972 Mercury Coupe. *Photos by the author.*

there were three slab sides. The Columbe clan came in one of Joe's 1969s, this time a green sedan. I saw Joe three weekends in a row, and each time, he was driving a different Lincoln! Charlie & Becky Griffith had their newly purchased yellow 1966 Continental Coupe. My favorite for the day was a black 1962 Continental Sedan owned by the boys from Bloomington, Rhett & Allen Tharp. All of these fine Lincolns were parked above the treetops with a commanding view of the forests below.

As expected, dinner was wonderful. We had our typically informal annual meeting, kept short and sweet by our illustrious director, Joe Columbe. After the meal, I was tempted to take the long way home and run by the Cataract General Store at nearby Cataract Falls. It is hard to turn down a crisp pickle fresh from the barrel at this 1860-vintage store. However, it was getting late, so I thought better of it and made our way home.

The Hoosier Region had 19 members and guests in attendance, including David Columbe, Joe Columbe, Robert Columbe, Charlie & Becky Griffith, Jeff Hagloch, John Hannon, Svetlana Mineeva, Jeff Shively, Jerold Shively, Piper Silbaugh, Andy & Teri Swartz, Marley Temple, Paul & Julie Temple, Ryan Temple, Allan Tharp, and Rhett Tharp.

The best thing about being a member of our wonderful region is going to outings like this. For me, it was a chance to relive childhood memories and enjoy my favorite season, all while visiting with my Lincoln friends and seeing some of my favorite cars. What could be better?

Jeff Shively is an LCOC member from Noblesville, Indiana..



