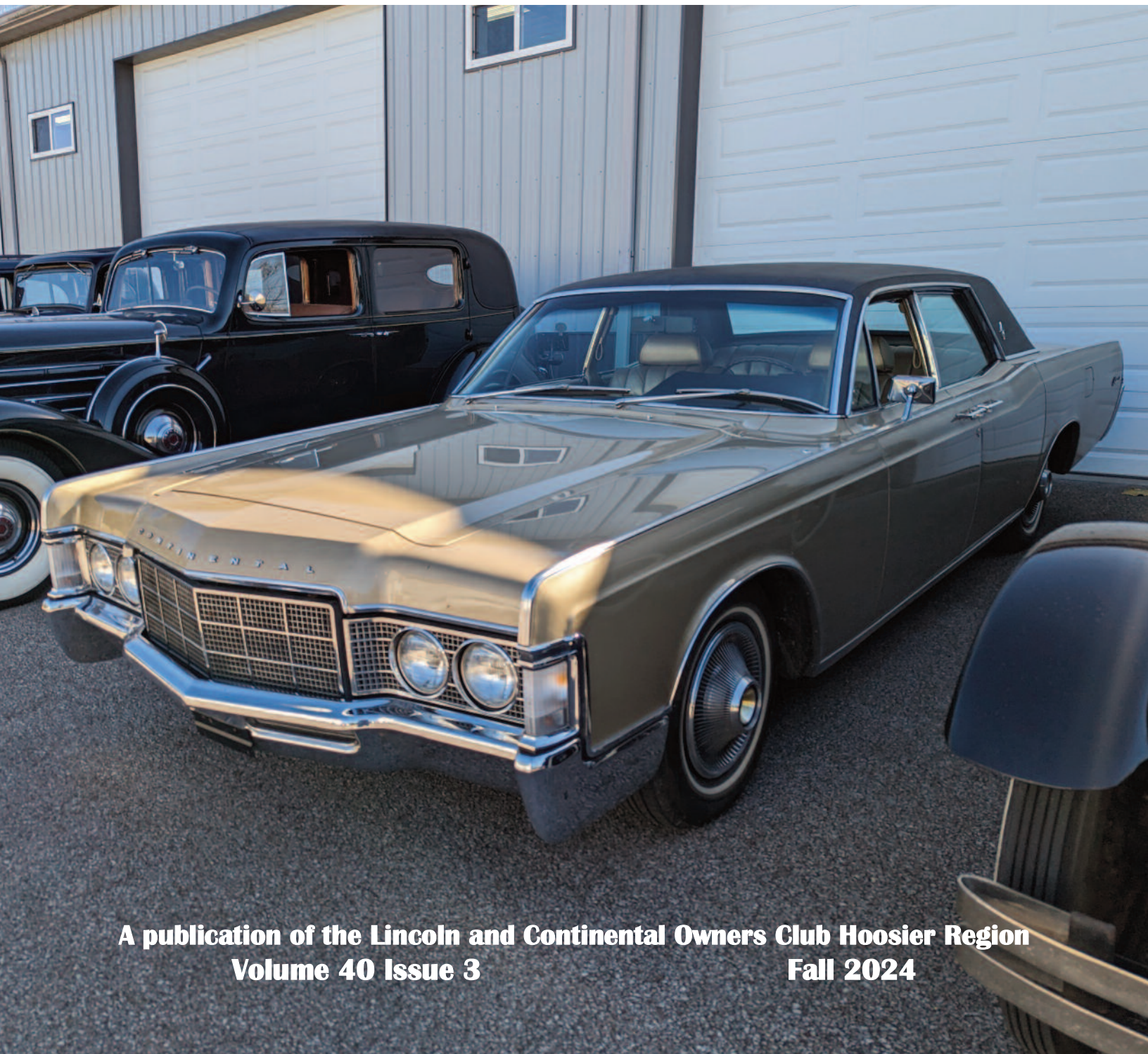


# The Lincoln Log



**A publication of the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club Hoosier Region  
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**FRONT COVER** Hoosier Region Director Joe Columbe's 1969 Lincoln Continental Sedan is a well-traveled classic. This year, it took Joe & Eleanor to Elkhart. Last year, it was a trip to Evansville, as seen here. Read more about this fun event on **page 4**. **BACK COVER** Another view of Buttercup. *Photos by Jeff Shively.*

## From the Director By Joe Columbe

The 39th year of the Hoosier Region of the Lincoln & Continental Owners Club has come to an end. The Region's 40th year should be a year of celebration!

Our January 4, 2025, lunch at Bynum's was our kick-off meeting. The turnout was excellent, but look for details in the next Lincoln Log.

At the meeting, Jeff Shively agreed to work as the Events Coordinator, but he is quite busy. If someone would like to step up and take over this important position, that would be appreciated. In the meantime contact Jeff or me with your ideas. We

don't have to meet every month. It might be better to meet less frequently, but have better attendance at each event. We have had success joining with other clubs, as you will see in this issue, so that is another option.

We hope that you had a very Merry Christmas and will have a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year!

Continently Yours  
Joe & Eleanor Columbe

*Joe S. Columbe is an LCOC member from Milroy, Indiana.*

**BELOW** A trip to Bynum's on the southside of Indianapolis is a Hoosier Region tradition. Read more about this year's visit in the next issue of the Lincoln Log. *Photos by Jeff Shively.*





# BOATS AND BUTTERCUP

BY CHARLIE & BECKY GRIFFITH

PHOTOS BY BECKY GRIFFITH



On Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024, Charlie and Becky Griffith attended the White River Yacht Club Classic Car and Boat Show in Indianapolis. The event benefits the Riley Children's Foundation/Cancer Research. This is a multi-brand car and boat show. There were 146 vehicles in attendance, ranging from Volkswagens, Jeeps, Studebakers, Indy cars, Packards, Lincolns, Rolls-Royces, Bentleys and many more. There were food vendors, a silent auction, a 50/50 drawing, and a mystery wine pull to make things more fun.



Charlie and Becky Griffith, LCOC members from Indianapolis, attended with their 1966 Lincoln Continental Coupe named "Buttercup." The rare coupe (**above left**) was well-received by many of the spectators. Fellow Hoosier Region member George Odom of Fishers, Indiana, brought his 1946 Lincoln Continental Cabriolet (**above**). Unfortunately, the authors didn't get a chance to meet up with Mr. Odom.

This was a fun event, and the proceeds go to a great cause. We hope that we can stir up more interest for next year.

**Charlie & Becky Griffith** are LCOC members from Indianapolis, Indiana.

The first time many Hoosier Region members saw "Buttercup" was in 2021 at the Hilltop Restaurant during the annual meeting. *Photo by Jeff Shively.*





## A VISIT TO ELKHART

OCT. 13-15, 2024

BY WARNER YOUNG

**A**lmost exactly one year after the Lincoln & Continental Owners Clubs (LCOC), Cadillac & LaSalle Club (CLC), and Classic Car Club of America (CCCA) joined together to tour Evansville, Indiana; they met again in Elkhart, Indiana. As they did for Evansville, Pat & Warner Young organized the Elkhart event to visit both public museums and private car collections. They arranged lodging at the extremely comfortable Courtyard by Marriott near

U.S. Interstate 90 on the north side of Elkhart, where our group of 18 stayed. The Courtyard was near all the venues except for LaVine Restoration, which we visited last, and for most, if not all of us, was on the way home.

Our first stop on Sunday, which was optional, was at the Studebaker National Museum in South Bend. Most of our group had previously been there and went directly to the Courtyard or arrived early the following day.

**ABOVE A rare beauty.** This 1931 Mercer Merrimac Raceabout was an attempt to bring back that legendary name, now part of the Dave & Denise Sanders collection..

**NEXT PAGE A prototype Mercer chassis,** built for the 1931 New York Auto Show. *Photos provided by the author*









Monday morning began with a tour of Dave & Denise Sanders' Elcar/Pedal car collection. The Elcar passenger car was manufactured in Elkhart from 1915 to 1931. Elcar made most of its profit from manufacturing taxi cabs. In addition to several Elcar models on display, two Mercer prototypes built by Elcar in 1931 were on hand. Several muscle cars and automotive memorabilia are on display in the collection of recently constructed building. Denise had an impressive and extensive collection of all things Disney, and one room filled with a Christmas village.

After enjoying lunch at the Chubby Trout Restaurant, we traveled to the JBS Collection near the airport. Jack Boyd Smith has become an avid collector of rare and desirable cars, mostly pre-war classics. He has numerous rare post-war sports cars, Bentleys, and Rolls-Royces. He exhibits one or more cars every year at the Pebble Beach Concours and has several Pebble Beach winners on display. Photos are not permitted due to security concerns, but he has an excellent website where you can see the cars in his collection at <https://thejbscollection.com>.

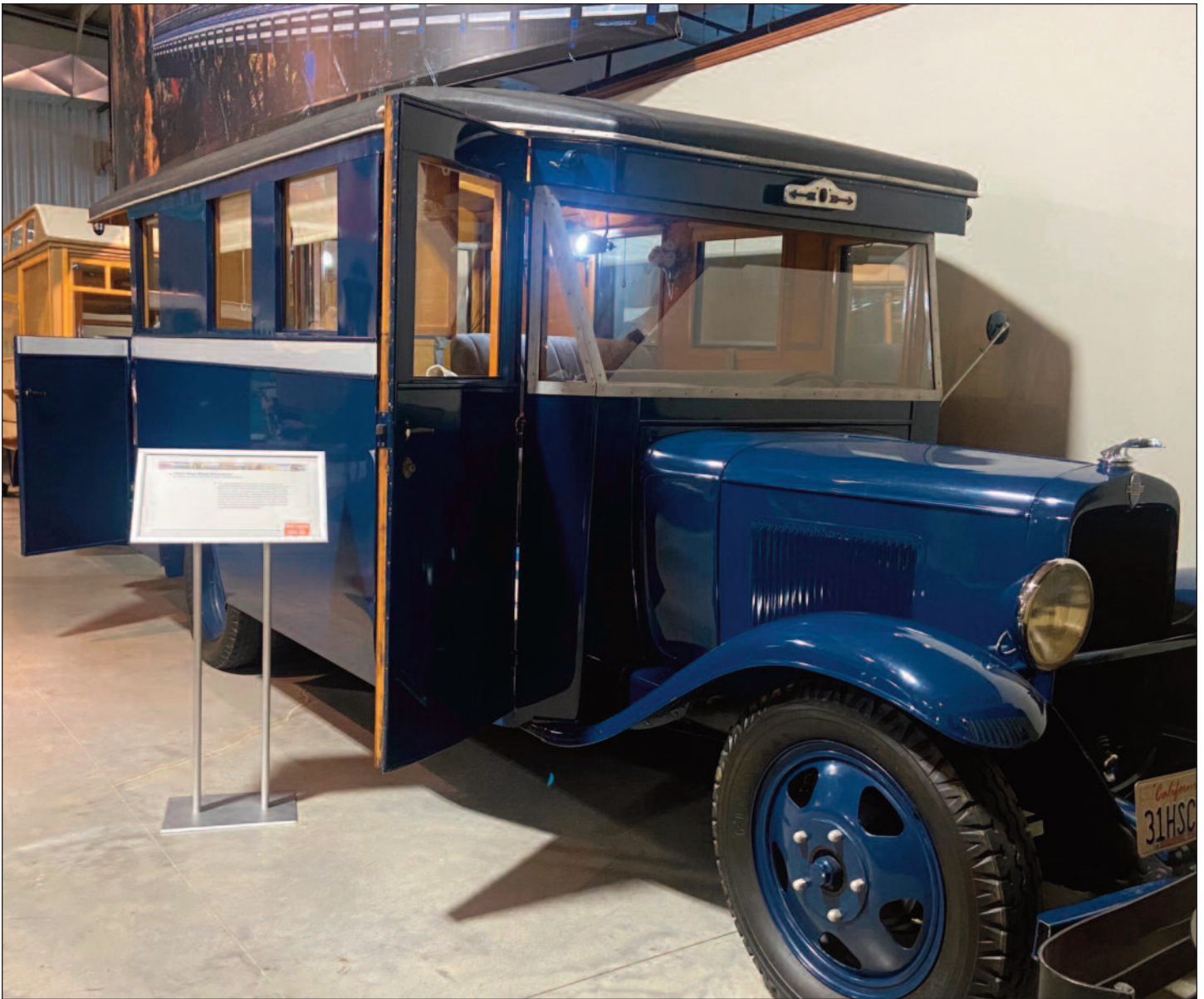
On Monday evening, our group took a short drive to Middlebury and enjoyed a nice dinner at the Das Dutchman Essenhaus.

**ABOVE** Time to visit Toyland at the Dave & Denise Sanders collection of pedal cars and other exciting memorabilia. **NEXT PAGE** Charlie Mullen checks out some Packard pedal cars. *Photos courtesy of the author.*









Tuesday morning began with a visit to the RV/MH Hall of Fame and Museum on the far east side of Elkhart. The museum offered an extensive collection of recreational vehicles and trailers, capturing over 100 years of RV experience. Displays included Mae West's "house-car" and Charles Lindberg's travel trailer. In 2022, they added 25,000 square feet for the Manufactured Home Museum, and yes, you can book a home while at the museum.

Our lunch on Tuesday was at the nearby Sports Time Family Pub. The Sports Time was handy for our drive south toward Nappanee. That is the very rural location of LaVine Restorations, Inc. We received an excellent tour offered by the owner, Travis

LaVine. He is the son of the founder, Eric LaVine. It is an understatement to say they are doing high-end work. They send multiple cars each year to the Pebble Beach Concours. We saw several vehicles in process (with much work left to perform) destined for Pebble Beach next year. Travis was very sensitive about picture taking due to the confidentiality they had promised their customers. They do almost everything in-house. They will be adding 5,000 sq. ft. soon to allow for a new machine shop. They have several young, skilled apprentices. Travis' tour made LaVine Restoration a terrific way to end this trip. Afterwards, we were free to head home.

**ABOVE** This 1931 house car was based on a 1931 Chevrolet. Originally owned by Mae West, it is now on display at the RV Museum. *Photo courtesy of the author.*

Our fearless travelers were Tom & Ann Beale, CCCA; Pat Carney, Carl Carney, CLC (who traveled 273 miles to Elkhart); Joe & Eleanor Columbe, LCOC, CCCA, CLC; Rachel Daeger, CCCA, and guest Ken Berry; Charlie Drane, CLC and guest Phil Soares; John Klein, CCCA: Jim Lerums, CCCA; Lars Kneller, CLC, LCOC; Bill and Sonya Miller, CLC, CCCA; Charlie Mullen, CCCA, CLC, LCOC; Warner and Pat Young, CLC, CCCA.





**ABOVE** The group was Lavine Restoration, Inc., in Nappanee.

**ABOVE** This 1954 Yellowstone Travel Trailer was built in Wakarusa, Indiana, and now is displayed at the RV Museum. *Photo courtesy of the author.*

Our virtual hard luck award goes to John Klein and his 1937 Packard 12 Victoria which experienced foaming radiator coolant leaking past its radiator cap while driving as far as Rochester on Sunday. The Packard returned home on an AAA rollback truck, and on Monday morning, John joined the group driving his 1994 Lincoln Town Car. Additional older cars were driven by Joe & Eleanor Columbe in their stylish 1969 Lincoln Continental and Bill & Sonya Miller in their very elegant 1940 Packard Model 1803 Convertible Coupe.

**Warner Young** is the director of the Indiana Region, CLC, and the co-planner for this tour.



