

Metropolitan Manifold

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Metropolitan Owners Club of North America

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Membership Chairman	Tony Bilotti	2691 W. Parkside Ln.	Anaheim	714-994-3220



2013

SO CAL METS Calendar

Editor's Email: kconner@socal.rr.com

Club website: www.socalmets.com

Planning Meetings: Every 3 months normally. Adventures: Every Month

Day & Date	Event	Location & Hosts	Start
January 20, Sunday	Planning Meeting & Tech Session	17002 Bolero Lane, Huntington Beach Host: Ken & Judy Conner 714-846-5003	1:30 PM
February 16, Saturday	Tour Nickey Petroleum	With Model T Club in Yorba Linda. Meet at Kramer & Miraloma, Anaheim	9:00 AM
March 2, Saturday	Festival of Whales Parade	On PCH in Downtown Dana Point	TBA
March 29 & 30	Unique Little Car Show	Las Vegas, NV at Sam's Town	TBA
April 13 th , Saturday	Cruise to Tom's Farm - Corona	Temescal Canyon Road & I-15	11:00 AM
May 18, Saturday	Visit Stanley Ranch Museum & Village	12174 Euclid St., Garden Grove 714-530-8871	10:00 AM
June 2, Sunday	Annual Picnic Pot Luck	Craig Park, 3300 N State College Blvd. Fullerton 50/50 Raffle, White Elephant Sale Bring quality items for the sale	10:30 AM
June 20th -23rd	MOCNA International Meet	Lincoln, Nebraska See Flyer & Schedule	TBA
July 27, Saturday	Summer Barbeque & Meeting	3725 Blue Key, Corona Del Mar 949-721-1221 Host: Club Member Jeff Gordon	4:30 PM
August 18, Sunday	Lunch & Cruise	Roadside Café 714-283-4901 1822 N. Glassell St., Orange	11:30 AM
September 22, Sunday	Lunch at Ruby's & Cruise	186 N. Atchison, Orange Train Depot	11:30 AM
October 17-20	Run-To-The-Sun	Lake Havasu City, AZ www.relicsandrods.com	TBA
October 27, Sunday	Planning Meeting	28356 Via Anzar, San Juan Capistrano Hosts: John & Anita Fildes 949-429-8848	1:30 PM
November 24, Sunday	Car Show	Original Mikes – Santa Ana	11:00 AM
December 14, Saturday	Christmas Party	Avila's El Ranchito (Formerly the Abby) 182 S. Orange St., Orange 714-516-1000	4:00 PM

Revised: August 27st 2013



"Great weather, great food, great cruise, and fabulous people!! Thank you for a wonderful day! Can't wait to join you with our Daisy!" Those were the sentiments of new members Leah and John Perrotti regarding our September 22nd lunch & cruise. We thank them for that cordial note of appreciation.

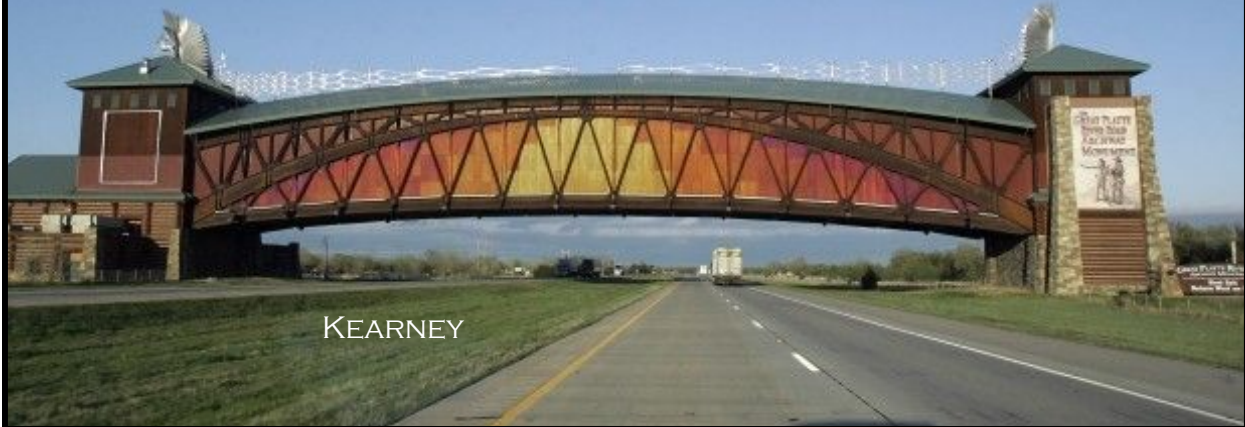


Seated from left to right are John Perrotti, Ken Conner, Mike Dahlberg, Tony Bilotti, Marcia Jones, Paul Van Wig and Leah Perrotti
Thanks to Tony Bilotti for leading us on a comfortable & scenic cruise through historic Orange and around the hills to the East, The group photo of our Mets below was taken up at the "Orange Hill Restaurant". We finished the cruise back at Ruby's. Afterwards three of us "previewed" Margaritas at the nearby site where we will have our Christmas Party. Mark your calendar for December 14th at Avila's Ranchito Mexican Restaurant, 182 S. Orange St. Orange, CA.



Mid-America Travelogue

With A Metro In Tow



Spanning all lanes of Interstate 80, the Great Platte River Road Archway Monument welcomes you to Kearney, Nebraska.

With the International Metropolitan Meet over with, I headed West to Kearney to visit more family and take part in the Centennial Celebration of the Lincoln Highway.

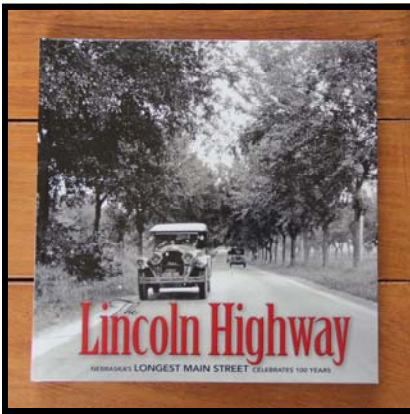


In 1912 Carl Graham Fisher, founder of the Indianapolis Speedway came up with a plan to implement and finance what would become America's First Transcontinental Highway.

With no government aid he appealed to entrepreneurs who would benefit from it. Henry B. Joy, president of Packard and Frank Seiberling, president of Goodyear Tire & Rubber realized the potential of a coast to coast highway so with Fisher they formed the Lincoln Highway Association on July 1, 1913.

The idea was embraced by an enthusiastic public, and many other named roads across the country followed. Americans' enthusiasm for good roads led to the involvement of the federal government in building roads and the creation of numbered U.S. routes in the 1920s. The Federal Highway Administration and the Interstate Highway System are the culmination of these efforts. The Lincoln Highway runs from New York City to San Francisco and Kearney, Nebraska (Population 30,000) is right in the middle. Actually, Kearney is exactly 1733 miles from Boston & 1733 miles from San Francisco.





While today's Interstate 80 runs along the South side of Kearney the Lincoln Highway and its later name, Highway 30, runs through the middle of the city. On the West side of town is Kearney's early contribution to the historic roadway, the Seedling Mile. Its paved surface completed in 1915 was the third Seedling Mile completed in the nation.

So after much preparation by countless volunteers, on June 30th, 2013 close to 140 cars, some from as far as either New York City or San Francisco rolled in to Kearney at the same time. They paraded down brick lined Central Avenue, then parked. We non tour cars then got to parade and park and then we all had a celebratory show in classic downtown Kearney. The Kearney Hub newspaper reported that an estimated 12,500 people attended the parade and show.





This “Education Tent” was out at the Archway for day two. It was the location for folks to learn Burma Shave Jingles, listen to Woody Guthrie Music, Will Rogers Presentations and the official Lincoln Highway Centennial Program.

The July 1st, 2013 gathering marked 100 years to the day that the Lincoln Highway Association was formed. This years event was a great celebration about **The First Road Across America!**

There is a nice Online Map of the Highway and more information at www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org



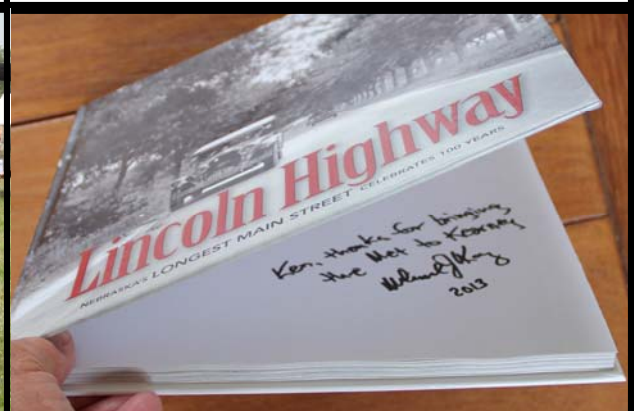
This was but a third of interesting displays of early motoring and roadside camping.



Sure to make you smile, these spaced out Burma Shave signs were a treat to read as you motored by.



Natives! My sister Marianne, left and our cousin John Payne and his wife JoDell.



Following my cousin Ron’s practice of getting books autographed, I came away with this nice comment by Author Mike Konz!

On the East side of Kearney, both Highway 30 and the first transcontinental railroad run side by side just as they do through much of the Platte River Valley. At 3600 East Hwy 30 there is what has been called "The Finest Car Collection Between Chicago & Denver." Called the "Classic Car Collection" it features 131 automobiles formerly owned by Bernie & Janice Taulborg from Omaha. Additionally there are 42 loaner cars and 4 donated cars. Since the collection contains no Metropolitans I proudly posed my Met by their entry way sign. In the lobby/showroom they do display a huge photo mural of the NK1, the concept car for our Mets. There are two or three Hudson's & Nash's all from the 1920's era. One of the cars on loan was one with a heritage beyond our Metropolitans. It was a 1969 AMC AMX super stock drag car known as "Pete's Patriot". It was sold new in Kearney and in 1970 the local crew won runner up in the Indianapolis NHRA Nationals! All in all the Classic Car Collection is a must see should you be near a point 1733 miles East of San Francisco or 1733 miles West of Boston.



If you wonder why people love Kearney so much its because its residents enjoy an enviable balance of urban amenities plus a small town quality of life. It has an outstanding medical center. That's why my parents spent their last years there. It's home to the University of Nebraska Kearney (UNK). It is directly in the path of the amazing Sandhill Crane Migration. It is home to MONA, the Museum Of Nebraska Art, numerous corporate headquarters and much more. Oh, did I mention that that my cousin John is a board member of the Kearney Visitors Bureau? :)



When I arrived in Kearney I had some time to visit more family before the Lincoln Hwy event. So on June 25th cousin John & I headed up North to the Sand Hills in his Chrysler 300. Our destination was my brother in law, Gene Schlueter's family cattle ranch about 45 miles SE of Valentine, NE. We had a great three day visit. It is always so relaxing to visit family on the ranch in the summer. My sister always makes me home made ice cream! On our last evening Gene & Marianne treated us to dinner at the exclusive "Prairie Club" Golf Resort South of Valentine.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH



Midway through the MOCNA Meet in Lincoln, Judy needed to leave and get back to the West Coast. She joined our daughter who was leading her high school students on a tour of Italy & Greece. That left me with no one riding shotgun on the way back to California. Luckily, work was light on the ranch so dear brother in law Gene hopped on the stagecoach and we headed West on the 2nd of July. After a first nights stay in Denver we made it to Crested Butte, Colorado on the 3rd of July. Our host there was long time friend Roxie Lypps who has known Judy since the 4th grade! Knowing we would be arriving with a “Met In Tow” she signed us up to have the Metropolitan in their 4th of July Parade! Hearing that, I echoed John Denver’s famous line: “Far Out!”



Gene having breakfast on Roxie’s back patio. 12,000ft Mount Crested Butte in the background. Ski area is to the left side of the mountain.



Roxie (right) converses with long time friend & artist Ruth Esserman in Ruth’s Summer home Northwest of town.



Originally a mining town, Crested Butte (Elevation 8900ft) has become a trendy place for summer retreats. The wild flower festival is spectacular. Mountain biking is superb. The Winter season is for hardy snow enthusiasts. The ski area is at 9300ft. That’s where I experienced my second vapor lock with the Met. (Both after the parade). Guess I’ll ask Santa Claus for an electric fuel pump!



Here we were lining up for the Fourth of July Parade. From right to left Gene, Roxie and her granddaughters Ava & Audrey.

Gene is taking advantage of my new 3 legged folding seat handed out at the Lincoln meet. He also helped with photography.

The size of the viewing crowd was impressive. In the heart of town, people were packed from the store fronts out beyond the curb on both sides of Elk Avenue. Officials thanked us for being part of in their largest annual event.





With the parade and two concerts over with, we called it a day. We drove the Met back up to Roxie's place, attached the tow bar & connected it to the RX400h. The next morning we said our goodbyes and drove down to Montrose where we met one of Gene's college fraternity brothers, Gordon Printz & his wife Silke. Gordon was kind enough to show us a place I have driven by for years but never stopped at. It was the "Black Canyon of the Gunnison." It's not the Grand Canyon but a place to surly see once. Then we drove South and took Hwy 550 to scenic Ouray where I took the photo to the right. It was late and we had to turn around and head back to Montrose but at that point we were close to Telluride and the million dollar highway leading to Silverton & Durango to the South. They are beautiful places I have seen before and want to see more of some day. The next morning we thanked our Montrose hosts and headed for Grand Junction to catch I-70. We didn't realize it then but we were just an hour from the nearby "Gateway Canyons Resort" which has an elegant Auto Museum. They now have the \$66,000 Met bought at auction in Monterey in August. Their web site is: <http://www.gatewayautomuseum.com/> Two days later we pulled into Huntington Beach and unhooked the Met. It had been a gratifying 21 day experience.

