

LIONEL COLLECTORS CLUB of AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lionel Train Collectors to Hold 48th Annual Convention at Westin Lombard Yorktown Center July 23-28, 2018

Greater Chicago, Ill. – The Lionel Collectors Club of America (LCCA) National Convention is returning to Chicagoland for the first time in 10 years. The model train collectors will headquarter their event at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center and visit toy and real train-related attractions all over the Greater Chicago area during the last week of July.

Over 600 collectors and fans of the iconic Lionel model electric train brand are registered for the club's gathering in suburban Lombard.

The event will include model train layouts, seminars on all things model railroading, and presentations by executives of Lionel. And no model railroad convention would be complete without a swap meet. The LCCA will hold a two-day train show/swap meet in the convention hotel on Friday and Saturday, July 27 and 28. The event will be open to members only on Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. and open to the general public on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The convention will also include tours of Chicago area rail attractions during the week. LCCA members will have the opportunity to visit the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, the garden trains and musical instrument attractions at Sanfilippo Estate and The Wandering Tree Estate, the massive O gauge model train layout of the Chicagoland Lionel Railroaders Club, and ride on miniature outdoor trains at the Illinois Live Steamers' 7.3 acre park.

Members will also enjoy an architectural riverboat tour on the Chicago River, visit the historic Chicago Union Station and enjoy a moonlight dinner cruise on Lake Michigan.

“This year, the LCCA will be offering to ‘share the fun’ of the convention with other Chicago area model train clubs,” said LCCA President and CEO Ken Kelley. Other model train club members can join the LCCA until July 1 and attend the convention with a special one-time rate of \$25 for a regular membership from July 1 until December 31. All additional standard

convention registration fees will apply. Interested train collectors and operators can sign up for this special opportunity on the LCCA website at lionelcollectors.org or by calling the LCCA business office from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. (CDT) at (815) 223-0115. You may also join and register during the convention at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center's LCCA registration desk.

This limited offer to join the LCCA and participate in the national convention will provide Chicago area train enthusiasts with a regular LCCA membership for July through December, which will include:

- two issues of the award-winning club magazine, *The Lion Roars*
- access to the members-only areas of the club website
- two issues of *Interchange Track* for buying and selling model trains
- opportunity to purchase limited edition member-only custom Lionel merchandise and more.

To register for the 2018 LCCA convention or get more details about all of the events and the club, visit lionelcollectors.org.

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Lionel Collectors Club of America

The Lionel Collectors Club of America (LCCA) was founded in the Midwest in 1970 by a group of hobbyists to promote awareness and enjoyment of Lionel toy trains. Today, the LCCA is a not-for-profit, international hobby-based organization with about 10,000 members who are toy train collectors and operators. Members favor Lionel trains, and the club collaborates with Lionel L.L.C. to produce limited-edition collectible cars, train sets, and special products exclusively for members.