

Herbert Koch – President
Edward Carter – Vice President
Robert Ciolino – Treasurer
Joseph Smolinski – Secretary



Directors: Swav Kojro
Edward Zeglicz Jeff Mills
Bill Trzaskus James Ammirati

May 2024

WE INVITE THE LCCA CLUB TO OUR MAY OPEN HOUSE

We invited the LCCA (Lionel Collectors Club of America) to our May 18, 2024 Open House. Some came as far away as Michigan and Iowa. The LCCA was founded in Des Moines, Iowa on August 1, 1970. Their membership has about 8,000 LCCA members worldwide.

The purpose of LCCA is to promote enjoyment of and information-sharing about toy trains with emphasis on Lionel electric trains and continuing education of toy train operators and collectors. The motto of the club is "A lifetime of happiness collecting Lionel trains." Our club has been active with the LCCA for many years. It was our layout at the Dearborn, Michigan convention that was highlighted as the layout for the Lionel 100th Anniversary. Since then we had the traveling layout at many more LCCA conventions. We set it up in St. Louis, Missouri; Lexington, Kentucky; Indianapolis, Indiana; Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Chicago, Illinois.

Andy Dubill (President Elect) set up the LCCA display. He also had four special LCCA Convention Cars for raffle exclusively for LCCA and CLRC members in attendance. Director Patrick Cudzilo came in and helped Andy. Both enjoyed seeing our Train House, how impressive the layout is and how we incorporated the store, diner, and restrooms in our building. Going to the mezzanine level, they were able to see the Isle of Sodor (Thomas) layout and the "airplane" view of the main layout.

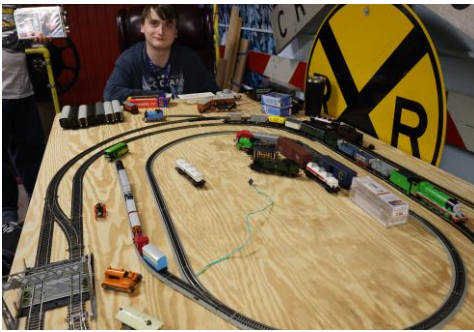


Andy has the LCCA table all set for the Open House and Pat assists.



Herb congratulates raffle winners

Seth Dodge is developing a new HO layout. Our younger members are showing an interest in HO trains. They enjoy getting more into a smaller area and the prices are more appealing. Seth mentioned that there were many guests who enjoyed seeing the HO trains. Charlie Brenzek observes Seth working the layout. Joe Smolinski is coordinating the CLRC HO layout trial with Seth.



Seth presents the beginnings of a new HO layout while Charlie observes.



Joe continues with the Sodor Layout.

NEW CATENARY SYSTEM FOR OVERHEAD ELECTRIC ENGINES

Bill Trzaskus has installed Catenary wires at Union Station to better suit electrical engine's pantographs that are parked at Union Station. It always bothered him that the Electrical engines did not have mating catenary wires since our layout builders are trying to be as prototypical as possible.



Bill makes good use of his talents to bring the catenary system into the Union Station Yard

KEEPING FINANCIAL HOUSE

We are a club of volunteers where everyone contributes their time and talents to make our club work. It is no different with Bob Ciolino. He has been our Treasurer for longer than we have had our building. Bob put together our loan and made sure that it was paid off in record time. He also supervised the building of the mezzanine level, the diner, slop sink, bathrooms, store and the Backshop. Annually he submits a bill that the board reviews and modifies and ultimately approves. Bob then supervises expenses so the club maintains its financial balance. Thank you Bob.



Bob makes sure that our finances are sound with Ed and Roger.

OPEN HOUSE VIDEO

Please look at our CLRC May 18, 2024 Open House Video. I have received many compliments that viewers liked seeing different trains on the layout. Your changing selection of train consists is making our Open Houses that much more interesting. Jeff Mills always says that while the trains are nice, he likes to see more of the

layout. In this video, I include more layout scenery and dioramas showing off the incredible detail our layout has. Use the link to see the May 18, 2024 CLRC Open House Video.

[May 18, 2024 Open House Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRZcey7Ebj0&t=46s)

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NOTICE:

SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 for our Thirtieth Anniversary Dinner Party! It is being held at Sawa’s Old Warsaw Restaurant, 9200 W. 22nd Street, Broadview, IL and is sold out. Please let Bill Trzaskus or Ed Zeglicz know if you would like to be put on the waiting list.

Stories by Herbert W. Koch

Pictures by Herbert W. Koch

Please let me know if you want any of the pictures in full file size.

Phone: 708-577-3156 or email me at herbwkoch@gmail.com

Below is the background information of our latest club car. It is quite unique and very nice. We need your help. Despite being such a nice car and a super addition to any railroad, it is not selling well. If you can swing it and can add it to your pike, please order it. Frankly, we need the sales. Thanks

The NEW Lager cars are in with TWO numbers!



The CLRC Lumber Jack Lager Cars are in. Members are already running them on the layout. If you ordered them with delivery, you should have yours. If you have not gotten yours yet, you can pick them up now. If you are out of town, you can order yours and get it promptly.

Take a look at the attached form and notice the “CLRC Water Tower Tap”, the Lumber Jack Lager logo and the two-tone paint on each car. Now is the time to get yours. Even better, there are two with different car numbers. Order now!