The History of LCCA Convention Cars - Part VIII

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Editor's Note: Each issue will cover several of the club's convention cars in order of issuance by the LCCA.

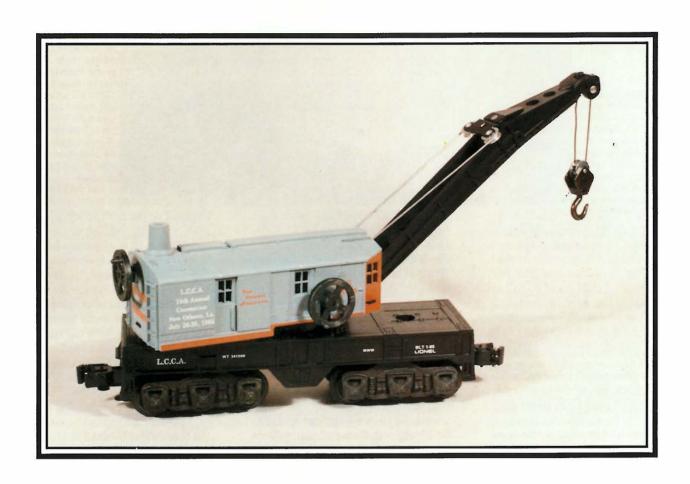


7403 LNAC Single Door Boxcar

Selected as the convention car for the 14th LCCA Annual Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, is the Louisville, New Albany & Corydon single door boxcar. The body shell is a type IX, molded in grey plastic painted dark greenish-blue (a color that Lionel had never used on anything before). The lettering is all white, and the large logo letters "LNAC" are outlined in red. The convention souvenir notation reads "L.C.C.A. 14th National Convention Louisville, KY July 27, 28, 29, 1984." The doors are molded in grey plastic and painted the same color as the body. The door guides are black plastic, and the frame is type III with Symington-Wayne Trucks. One strange thing about this car is the number assigned to it, 7403. Lionel still had a few 9700 and 9400 numbers left, but for some reason put this car's number in a new series.

The LNAC Railroad is operated over a 7.7 mile long road in Indiana,

and has been in service since 1883. Since 1971, it has been owned by the Evans Products Company, but LNAC has enjoyed a long time relationship with the Norfolk Southern. There are about 1,250 of these railcars in LNAC's fleet, used by the shippers and manufacturers on the line and by other railroads. There were 2,650 units produced for LCCA and this car is hard to find and goes for a premium.



6567 Illinois Central Gulf Six-Wheel Operating Crane

The selection for the 15th LCCA Annual Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, was a unique convention car, the first operating convention car with die-cast trucks. The choice was an Illinois Gulf Crane Car with six-wheel trucks. This was our most expensive convention car to that date, only due to the design and features of the car. The crane cab is molded in grey plastic painted a darker grey, with the trim painted orange. The lettering on the cab is white and orange. The convention souvenir notation reads "L.C.C.A.

15th Annual Convention New Orleans, La. July 26-28, 1985." In orange lettering is the wording "New Orleans, Louisiana" and "ICG 100408" for the car number, which is from the prototype. This car does not have the Lionel assigned number on it. The 6567 number only appears on the box it came in. The boom and frame are black molded plastic with white lettering on the frame. The car has a built date of 1-85 on the frame and has the six-wheel die-cast trucks as used on some tenders and plastic passenger cars. Also, stamped on the bottom side of the frame is "Made in Mexico." In white letters on the frame is "L.C.C.A." This was

done so the frame could not be switched to some other crane car to create another type of crane car. Since this was the 15th Anniversary of the club, brief consideration was given to making a two car convention package. Suggestions to include either an ICG flat car, gondola or work caboose, to go along with the crane (so the boom of the crane would not interfere with the next LCCA Convention Car) were discounted because of expense. Lionel did produce a 9340 ICG Short Gondola that was put in a set. There were 2,500 units produced and this car is getting hard to find. It carries a slight premium.