

February, 2011

# THE LION CUB

THE MINI-MAG FOR LCCA JUNIOR MEMBERS



## FROM DOM'S DESK

by Dominic Caponi RM 12586

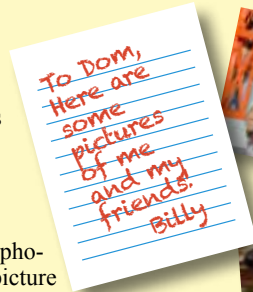
I hope all my friends out there had a wonderful Christmas. I'll bet Santa was good to each and every one of you!



## BE A JM CORRESPONDENT

Do you have pictures of you with your family's holiday (or permanent) train layout? If so, I would enjoy seeing your photos. Send them to me as an e-mail attachment or as color prints by U.S. mail. I'll post a few on our website and on Facebook. Don't forget - include a photo of yourself. Be sure to enclose your name and Junior Membership number.

How about you younger members? Maybe mom and dad took photos of you with Thomas or your favorite train. Do you have a picture of you with Santa? Send that photo to me so I could share it with other members. I had a Harry Potter Lionel train set under my tree. Yep, I'm a giant Harry Potter fan like many of you.



## YOUR OWN MINI-MAG

Here's exciting news for all Junior Members! This premiere issue of the full color, four-page mini-magazine - *The Lion Cub* (TLC) - is provided to you along with the current issue of *The Lion Roars*. TLC was designed especially for you. In each issue, you'll see a coloring page for younger engineers provided by our friends at Lionel, puzzles and a word quiz for a-bit-older JMs, a continuing story about the JM kids Josh and Kristi, and hobby-related contests for teen members. I know you'll have fun with these new activities. Save TLC issues so you can enter contests. You could win a valuable prize!

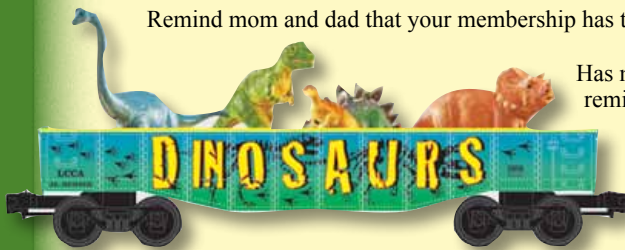
**HEADS UP:** Perhaps some parents and/or grandparents joined LCCA and intended that membership for YOU as a JM, but signed up in their own name, not yours. If their name (instead of yours) is on the LCCA membership roster, they'll receive *The Lion Roars* and other club publications at their address, and you won't receive *The Lion Cub* and the JM goodies at your address. Ask them if you are correctly listed as a JM - that can be confirmed at the club's website in the Membership Roster section. If a change should be made, send an e-mail to me at [dominic.caponi@gmail.com](mailto:dominic.caponi@gmail.com) or send me a note by mail.

## GET COOL JM STUFF

Your Junior Membership packet will be headed your way. Be on the lookout for it a few weeks from now. You'll receive a JM membership card, a JM pin, a JM certificate that can be framed and displayed in your room or the train room, and a JM iron-on transfer for application to a T-shirt or jammies.



Remind mom and dad that your membership has to be up to date to enjoy this new and exciting stuff.



Has mom or dad ordered the new JM Dinosaur Transport Car for you? If not, remind them. It's the first car by LCCA made especially for you by Lionel®. For older JMs, we will offer an animated Lionel gondola car with kids in action on skateboards. Watch for that order form.

I'll attend the World's Greatest Hobby on Tour show in Edison, NJ, on February 26 & 27. You guys who live nearby, come to the show and say hello. Let's "talk trains."

**UNTIL NEXT TIME, KEEP YOUR TRAINS ROLLING!**

# PUZZLES BY BOOMER

## THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE AND FRIENDS

Can you find Thomas and 13 of his friends at the Isle of Sodor in this word search? Look across, down, diagonally, forwards, and backwards. Circle the words you find.

A	P	N	O	D	R	O	G	J	B
B	E	C	L	A	R	A	B	E	L
R	R	I	W	M	T	Z	N	D	S
O	C	T	H	O	M	A	S	W	E
S	Y	S	A	L	T	Y	K	A	M
I	G	D	F	L	O	R	A	R	A
E	M	I	L	Y	H	S	A	D	J

**Answers:** Ben, Clarabel, Dash, Edward, Emily, Flora, Gordon, James, Molly, Percy, Rosie, Salty, Thomas, and Toad.

## MATCHING CARS WITH LOADS

It is time to load up the Lionel train cars. Draw a line from each item in the load column to the appropriate Lionel car to form a match.

### LOAD

Oil

Helicopter

Furniture

Coal

Conductor and Brakeman

Scrap Metal

Cattle

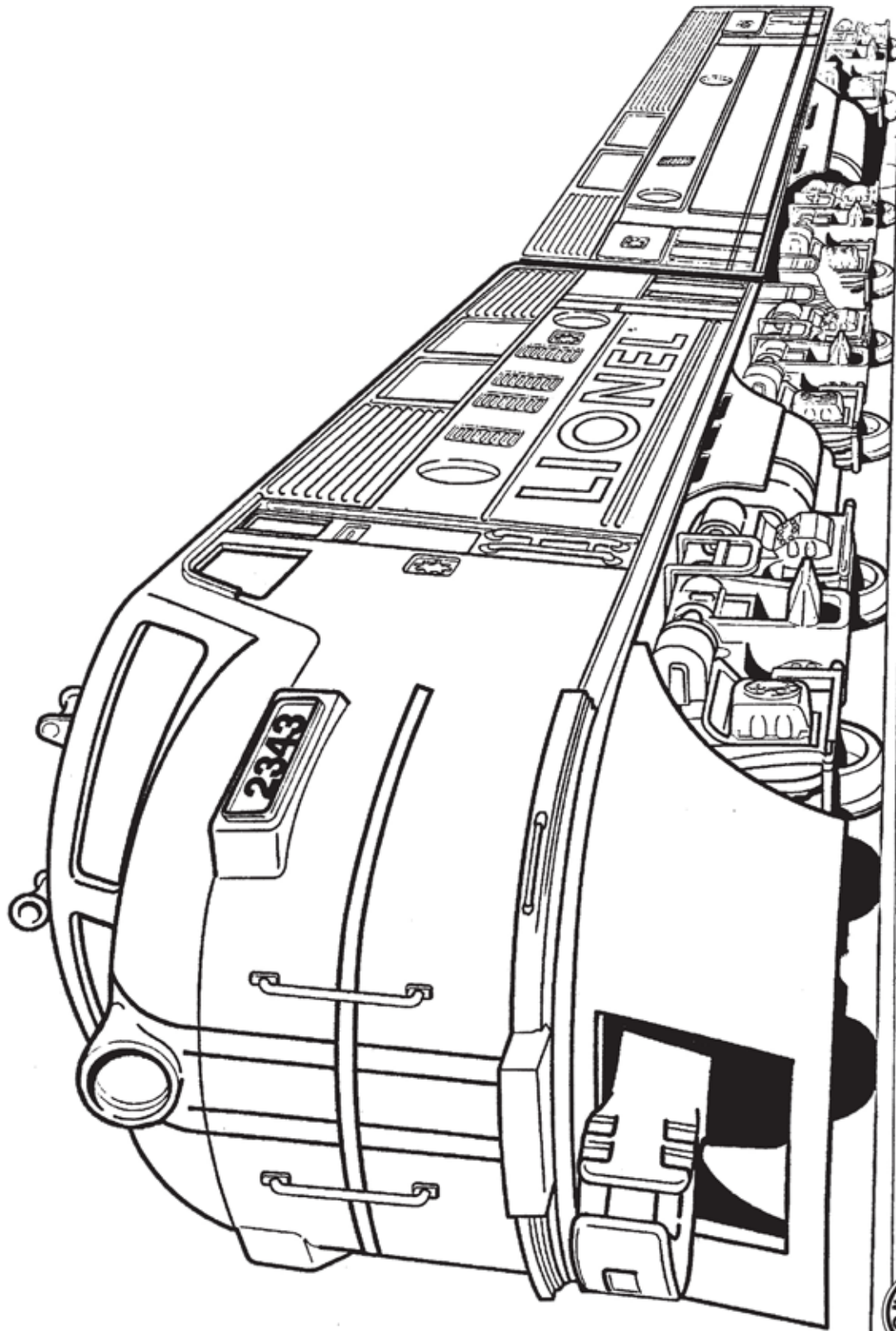
### LIONEL CAR



**Answers:** Oil in tank car, Helicopter on flat car, Furniture inside box car, Coal in hopper car, Conductor & Brakeman in caboose, Scrap metal in gondola car and Cattle inside stock car.

*NOTE: Puzzles are created for JMs by LCCA's Puzzlemaster Gene Russell, Ed.D.*

COLOR ME!



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# THE SOCIETY OF THE DYNAMIC RAILS

by Mario Evangelista RM 19687

## Episode 1

"Ommff," grunted Kristi as she tried to remove a shovel full of snow from the sidewalk in front of her house.

"Lift with your legs honey, not your back," said her mother from the front porch in a soft but stern voice.

"She's only eight," her father said in defense of his little girl working at his side in knee-high snow drifts.

"One is never too young to learn the right way to lift things, Dave," Kristi's mom replied in a school teacher's tone. Her comment brought to Dave's mind the week he spent flat on his back last summer because of a strain from yard work. He was going to add something else to the dialog but changed his thought with a chuckle and said, "Oh, would you look at this."

Down the street came walking – rather, sliding – Kristi's Cousin Josh carrying a box full of his dad's old toy train stuff. "He's got it!" Kristi squealed as she threw her snow shovel aside and with great excitement ran to meet Josh halfway. The sidewalk was still coated with patches of ice and snow, so her dash looked more like slippery skidding than running. They met with a thump and landed in a snow bank with the contents of the box half emptied into their laps.

Josh snapped at Kristi, "You're so clumsy!" Josh was nine going on ten and he never missed an opportunity to remind his younger cousin of his seniority.

"You're the klutz," Kristi said as she brushed the snow off her coat.

"Am not!" Josh argued. "Let's get this stuff inside before it rusts."

They struggled to regain a footing as Uncle Dave placed the box of train track safely under his arm. "Come on, you two," he said, "I think we could all use a little hot chocolate right about now. Here, take all this inside."

The two train kids bounded up the front steps, through the door, and into Kristi's house. As Dave walked up the steps of the porch, he looked at his wife Mary and asked, "What is all that stuff?"

"Your brother Mike sent it over for Kristi," she replied. "After we put all that track down on the platform you are going to build for her in the basement, Mike will give her one of his train sets."

"Since Josh lives only a few houses down the street," Dave wondered to himself, "why can't they play with the trains there?" Then he asked Mary, "Why can't she play with the doll house I built for her? She's a little GIRL."

Mary said, "Of course. She does play with the doll house. But do you know what the first thing she made for the living room of the doll house?"

"Yeh, I remember," Dave said, rolling his eyes. "A little Christmas tree with a paper toy train around it. I have to admit, the little train layout was kind of cool, and the painted Monopoly houses really looked great."

"I'm glad you appreciated our art work," Mary boasted with a smile. "Do you have any idea how many hours Kristi spent looking for a picture of a steam train that was just the right size to look right on it? You should be very proud of her."

"Yea, yea – you're right," Dave admitted.

When her parents entered the house, Kristi and Josh already had the track on the floor of the living room and were figuring out the best plan for her new railroad empire. Mary went into the kitchen to put on the water for the hot chocolate and Dave sat down and observed the action. He was pleasantly amused at how his nephew looked so much like his dad at that age when playing on the floor with his trains. "It's the genetics," he thought, "and young Josh got the DNA gene for toy trains." Mike named his son after the founder of his favorite toy train company.

"Why is your dad letting go of the track and switches?" he asked Josh.

"He bought all new Lionel FastTrack for our home layout," Josh said with a little pride as he stood up and explained the situation to his uncle. "The new track has great 'elec-ti-cal-car-te-is-tocs.'" Josh struggled with the syllables and tried to sound like his dad.

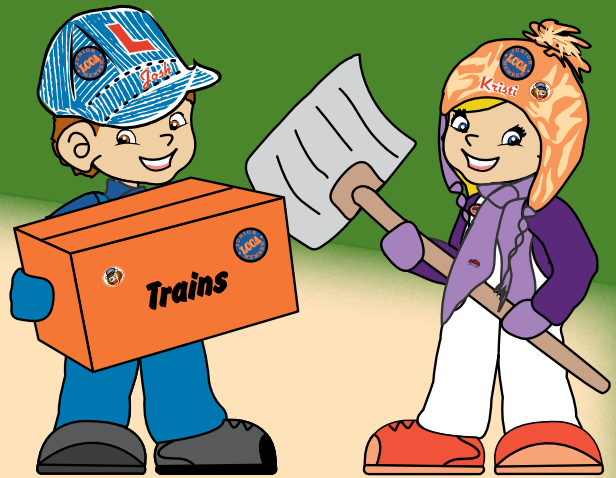
"Yes, electrical characteristics are very important," replied his uncle.

"Yea, and they look great too," Josh said with a big toothy grin.

After a few minutes passed, Kristi's mom returned with four cups of cocoa and cookies on a tray. She watched the "three kids" on their knees on the rug developing the best track plan. Josh and Kristi wanted to build a railroad empire that Dave realized would require an extension of the basement by 20 feet into the yard of their neighbor, Miss Salkowski. Dave suggested that a much more conservative track plan would be in order.

Mary said with a smile, "I hate to interrupt this great meeting of the minds of the Society of the Dynamic Rails, but I think it's time to cool your jets. Have some cocoa, and I'll tell you the facts!"

*To be Continued ...*



JMs – Send story ideas to Mario for inclusion in future episodes at: [RRMarioE@msn.com](mailto:RRMarioE@msn.com)