

THE LION CUB



FROM DOM'S DESK by Dominic Caponi RM 12586



I trust everyone had a wonderful summer and found plenty of time in between the sun and the water to operate your toy trains. I enjoyed myself at our annual Convention in Dallas in July. The LCCA and Lionel worked together and provided plenty of fun and giveaways for the Junior Members in attendance. It was great to meet all of you.

Young conventioners enjoyed two successful Junior Membership events, the second annual Angela Trotta Thomas painting class and a movie night. Angela taught both Junior Members and Regular Members how to draw several different model trains. Angela spoke about the importance of perspective when drawing trains. The class was great and from the look of all the Junior Members' drawings, Angela may have some competition in a few years!

In my opinion, the greatest thing we've accomplished during Conventions of the past few years is working with the Make-A-Wish Foundation. This year, a MAWF family joined us at the Convention and participated in the Grapevine Vintage Railroad excursion. It was a special event not only for Ryan and his family but for the LCCA as well. I want to thank all of the members who welcomed the family and made them feel part of our group during that tour.

I encourage everyone to check out the redesigned LCCA website. You'll notice at the top of Home page a tab that will drive you to the new and improved Junior Member section. There's an updated overview section with an explanation of JM benefits, copies of *The Lion Cub*, and a link to the latest Lionel catalogs. Also included is a puzzle and games gallery, where you can print out and enjoy train-related games. We'll constantly update both sections, so please check back regularly.

During 2011, we designed and distributed JM identification items for you. By now you should have received these items:

- a personalized membership certificate – display it in your room or train room
- a spiffy JM pin showing the JM logo
- a JM T-shirt transfer with an instruction sheet.

If you didn't receive all these items by mail along with your copy of *The Lion Cub*, contact me now.

A new item has recently been produced – a 3-1/2 inch diameter JM embroidered patch, which is also based on the JM logo.

This patch will be your reward for renewing your Junior Membership. When you renew your membership in 2011 you will receive this patch as a memento. Be sure to mention this to your mom or dad when it's time for renewal.

Your feedback regarding the website as well as the JM program would be greatly appreciated. Remember, this is your club, so what you put into it is directly related to what you get out of it. I encourage you to reach out with suggestions.



HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE HALLOWEEN!

PUZZLES BY BOOMER

Boomer is Gene Russell (RM 24608), a retired teacher and avid puzzler. orly@saber.net 530-865-9555

NICKNAMES

See if you can match these funny nicknames used by railroad enthusiasts with the correct railroad term from the answer pool.

1. A caboose _____
2. Railroad track worker _____
3. A refrigerated boxcar _____
4. The Conductor _____
5. A small, motorized track inspection vehicle _____
6. A railway executive _____
7. A small locomotive _____
8. A locomotive engineer trainee _____
9. A locomotive used in yard switching service _____
10. Railroad detective _____

Answer Pool

Brass Hat
Bull
Crummy
Dinky
Gandy Dancer
Goat
Piglet
Reefer
Speeder
The Brains

Answers: 1. Crummy; 2. Gandy Dancer; 3. Reefer; 4. The Brains; 5. Speeder; 6. Brass Hat; 7. Dinky; 8. Dinky; 9. Piglet; 10. Bull.



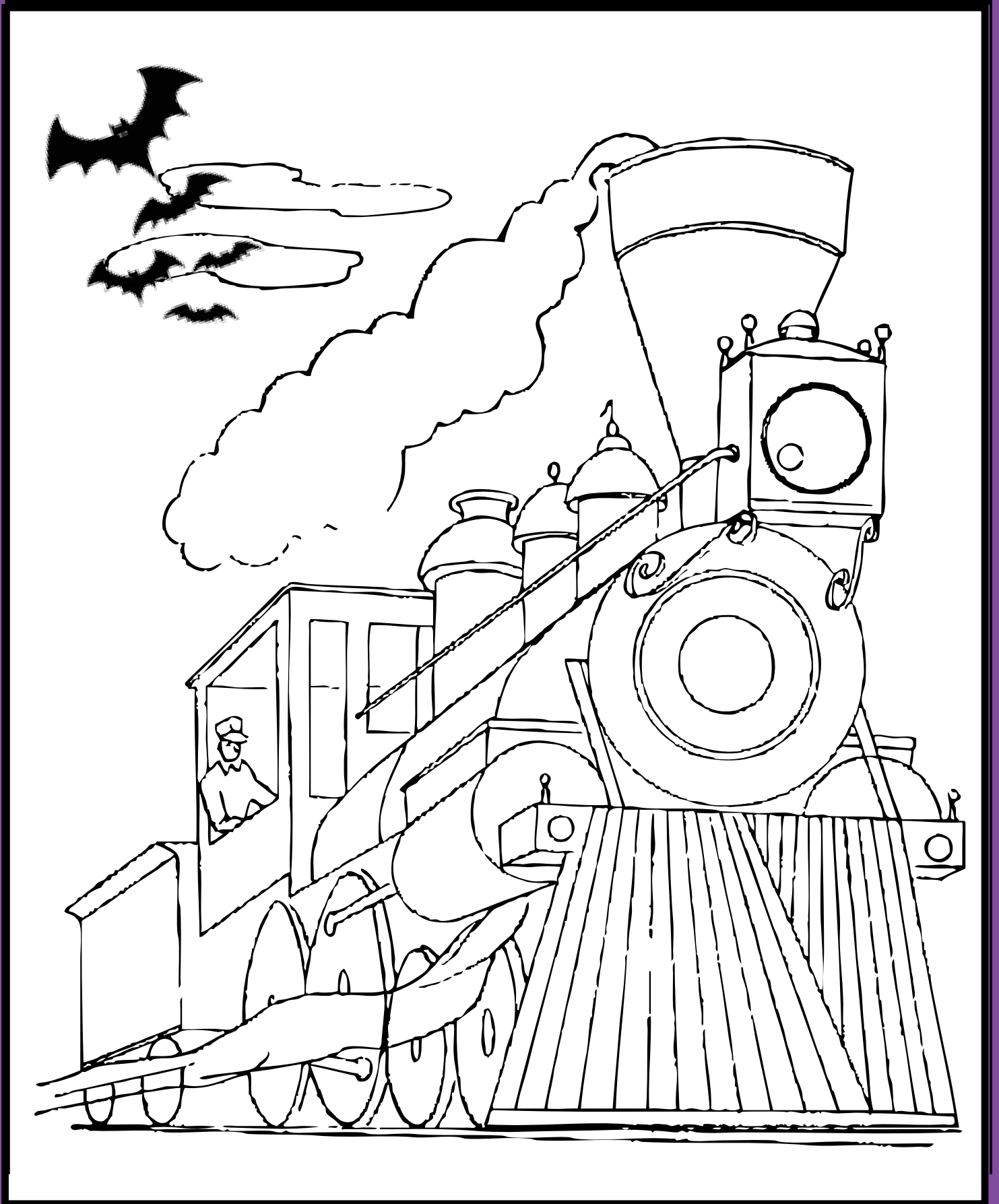
THE LETTERS IN L-I-O-N-E-L

Use just the letters that spell L-I-O-N-E-L to create answers that solve the following clues. Place one letter on each provided blank:

1. Liquid used in machines to make them run smoothly _____
2. Large African cat _____
3. Less than two _____
4. A Christmas carol _____
5. Another word for zero _____
6. Masked cowboy who rode a horse named "Silver" -- The _____
Ranger

Answers: 1. OIL, 2. LION, 3. ONE, 4. NOEL, 5. NIL, 6. LONE.

COLOR ME!



THE SOCIETY OF THE DYNAMIC RAILS

by Mario Evangelista
RM 19687

Episode 4: A Customer Is a Guest

As the car pulled into the lot of the “Nutcracker” toy store, the excitement could be felt in the air as if it was the last day of school. Josh and Omar were jumping around in their seats looking from the two seven-foot-tall nutcrackers standing guard on each side of the front entrance to the almost life-sized plastic steam engine sitting high on the top of a pole with the words “Nutcracker Toy Trains” lit up on the side of its boiler. Suzie turned to Kristi and whispered, “Is that a real engine? Kristi looked at her, smiled, and shook her head no.

Tommy was in the front seat between Dave and Mary, Kristi’s parents. He started jumping up and down, repeating over and over, “I want to go upstairs to the train layout!”

Five seat belts snapped free and ten little hands worked hard to defeat the security locks on the car doors. “We have to go to the craft store first!” yelled Kristi. “You promised, Mom!” she pleaded. Dave tapped the horn and said in a stern voice, “OK, this is a report to all kids. You will settle down, you will listen to what you’re told, and above all you will remember the golden rule of shopping – a customer is a guest! You will behave in this store the way you do at home.”

“Yea right, general,” replied Mary rolling her eyes. “We better get them out of the car before Tommy jumps through the sky light. I’ll take the girls to the craft shop downstairs and you go with the boys to the train store.”

As soon as the boys’ feet hit the parking lot, all Dave could see is the back of three little heads with elbows and heels pumping hard for the side door and the stairway leading to a magical world. Dave glanced through slightly envious eyes at Mary who calmly walked along with two well-behaved little ladies. His attention was redirected by Mary’s glance towards the boys. He then shook his head and mumbled, “Oh boy, this is going to be good.”

He scanned the lot for any cars that might be approaching. Picking up the pace, he reached the entry door as the last of the boys arrived at the top step. “Hey guys, wait for me,” yelled Dave from behind. “OK, let’s go,” he said when he reached the top step, “and remember what I told you.”

The boys looked at each other with quizzical glances, shrugged their shoulders, and together pushed the door to wonderland wide open. After a few steps into the room, all three boys and Dave stood with their eyes wide open, mesmerized by the smell of toy train smoke and the sound from active Lionel engines coming from the display layout. A mind-boggling array of toy train products covered the walls and aisles from floor to ceiling.

A friendly “Hello” from Louie, the owner, brought them back to their purpose. Louie was a big man with jet black hair topped by an engineer’s hat with the brim set slightly to the right.

“Hi,” replied Dave. He introduced himself as the brother of Josh’s father.

“You got the whole posse with you today,” Louie added with a wink.

“Yea,” Dave said with a little smile. “I was hoping that you could spend some time with me today. I need a lot of information on how to build a layout for the kid’s new train club.

“Sure Dave, no problem.” What’s the name of the club?”

“The Society of the Dynamic Rails,” said Kristi from behind the two men. Turning, they saw the three ladies standing there with bags of craft items from the toy store. “Where are the boys?” Mary asked. Louie pointed to Tommy at the layout. He held the new Lionel LEGACY ONE remote in his hand. Nick, one of

Louie’s clerks, was showing him how to run a VISION LINE 700E steam engine. It was plain to see Tommy’s joy at feeling the simulated vibration of the locomotive as it worked its way up a grade. Josh was showing Omar around the store. At present they were standing at the used train counter.

The boys could get close to the trains and even touch the objects of their dreams. Mary quickly walked over to the two boys with Suzie and Kristi close on her heels. “Be careful,” she urged. “Remember, good customers are good guests.”

“A nice thought,” Louie said. “Come on, Dave. I have some software in the office that I think would be a big help to you.”

