

APRIL, 2012

THE LIONEL CUB

THE MINI-MAG FOR LCCA JUNIOR MEMBERS



JENNY'S JUNCTION

by Jenny Kraus RM 30606
Assistant Co-ordinator



I hope you have had a chance to spend time running your Lionel® trains! Share your fun with your train layout with other JMs in our club through issues of *TLC*. Send me a picture along with a brief description; it's OK to ask for help from your parents or grandparents. I'll publish your success story in an upcoming *TLC* mini-magazine! All young authors of published stories earn a CUB REPORTER certificate. Frame it and then display it in your train room or bedroom.



Train Layout Stuff for JMs

I want to remind all of you about the amazing JM item now available at the LCCA website in the LCCA Store – the Dino Transport Car made especially for you! It's a great addition to your collection. This gondola car is open so you can change and pose the removable dinosaurs any time.

Use your imagination and get your creative energy flowing with this car. Take the dinosaurs on a trip from their wintering grounds to the springtime meadows! If you are interested in this item, discuss it with your parents. They may add it to your birthday presents list.

I have another important piece of news as well: Another JM car is in the works right now! It will be an animated car with two skateboarders in action in the car. Here's a "sneak peek" at this car. Keep an eye out for this new JM car, it will be available soon!

The LCCA Convention Is Coming Up

The annual Convention is just around the corner – coming up during the week of July 22 – 28 in Norfolk, VA. I will work very hard to put together a great Convention experience for all of you. Here are some of the things in the schedule to look forward to:



- Popcorn and movie night. Join JM Coordinator Dominic Caponi and me for popcorn and a movie on Wednesday evening, July 25, at 8 p.m.
- "Draw a Lionel Train" art class by "The Train Lady" artist Angela Trotta Thomas. Angela will offer a free drawing workshop on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock for all JMs. RMs will be welcome too!
- Junior Member train raffles and giveaways will be exciting. At the Get Acquainted Party and the Banquet, you'll have a chance to win some amazing Lionel prizes specifically for Junior Members! This photo shows the recipients of prizes at the 2011 Convention in Dallas.
- Lenny the Lion will be at the Convention again this year, so bring your camera or camcorder along and take a photo or a video with Lenny! Then post it on our FACEBOOK site for your friends to enjoy.

There will be some great tour opportunities for JMs because the Norfolk area is full of exciting things for kids and families to do. Here are a couple of suggestions.

- A tour to the Children's Museum of Virginia where you will have the opportunity to see the largest model train collection in the country – The Lancaster Antique Train Collection. This collection contains more than 10,000 trains set up in a showcase gallery for viewing. If you are interested, be sure to let your parents know because seating for this tour is limited.
- There will also be a tour to the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Museum. This is a unique opportunity see more than 300 exhibits of marine life active in more than 800,000 gallons of water in the aquariums. You will also get a behind the scenes look at the Animal Adventures. Who doesn't like going to the zoo? This museum is full of animals. Sounds like a great time to me!

I'm off to work on some more activities for you guys. I invite you to send me suggestions, pictures, or stories you want to share. I love hearing from our members. Hopefully, I will see many of you in July at the Convention. Be sure to stop by the JM desk and say hello!

Contact Jenny by e-mail at: Jennysjunction@gmail.com



HAPPY EASTER!

PUZZLES BY BOOMER

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

ANAGRAMS

Re-arrange the letters of these underlined words to form new words on the line to complete the correct railroad or Lionel-related answer.

1. Meats locomotive > _____ locomotive
2. Cola dump car > _____ dump car
3. Fork flit > Fork _____
4. Pullman scar > Pullman _____
5. Spin hold the track together > _____ hold the track together
6. Ore arc > Ore _____
7. Lamp pots > Lamp _____
8. Semaphore signal rams > Semaphore signal _____
9. Lives Presley boxcar > _____ Presley boxcar
10. Purchase Lionel trains from a trusted leader > Purchase Lionel trains from a trusted _____

Answers: 1. Steam, 2. Coal, 3. Lift, 4. Cars, 5. Pins, 6. Car, 7. Posts, 8. Arms, 9. Elvis, 10. Dealer.

DIFFERENCES

What is the difference between a **train** and a **teacher**?

The **teacher** says, “8 7 4 10 12 6 11 9
2 11 5 6 11 10”

and the **train** says, “1 3 6 6 — 1 3 6 6!”

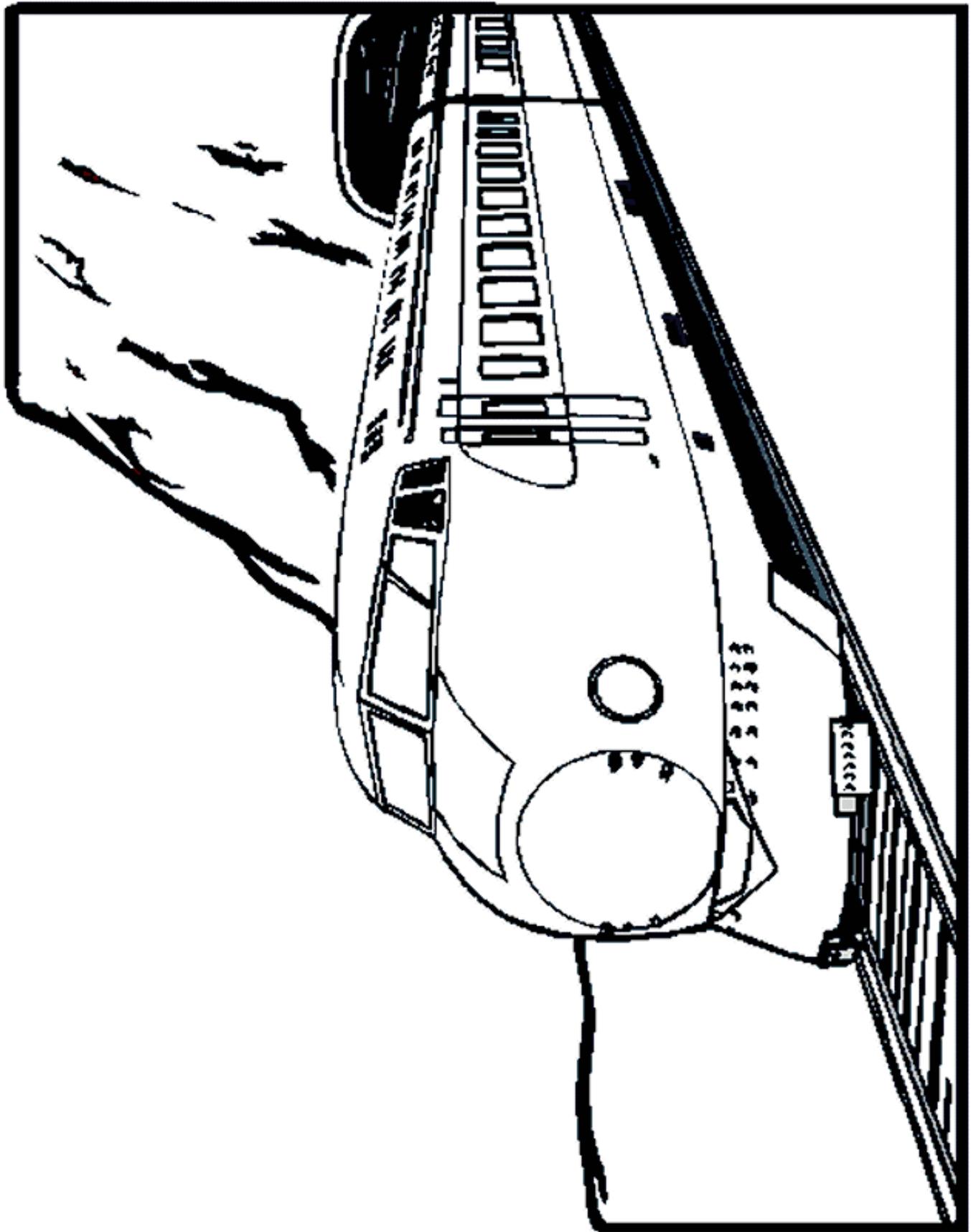
Use the code below to find the difference!

1 = C	4 = I	7 = P	10 = T
2 = G	5 = M	8 = S	11 = U
3 = H	6 = O	9 = R	12 = Y

Answer: The teacher says, “Split your gum out” and the train says, “Choo-choo!”



COLOR ME!



THE SOCIETY OF THE DYNAMIC RAILS

by Mario Evangelista
RM 19687

Episode 7: How Fast Can It Go?

“Break!” yelled Tommy to Omar who was at the controls. Omar shut off the power, and his 0-8-0 steamer came to a stop about halfway through the oncoming turn. Holding her watch, Suzie announced, “Two and a half seconds!”

Then Kristi placed her old 4-4-2 steam engine on the track. Bought at a train show the week before, it was pretty beat up with dings and scratches and a broken cow catcher. For only six dollars, she thought it would make a great racing engine. After Josh cleaned and oiled the engine for her, it turned out to be a dece runner.

Placing her engine at the start position, Kristi gave Omar the command for full power. “Wait,” Josh said with a sigh. “You know the rule. All steamers that came with tenders must run with them. Suzie brought the sad-looking tender to the start line. It had only two good axles, but that was how it came.

“No fair!” objected Tommy. “There are only four wheels, but that tender originally came with eight!”

“Oh really?” replied Suzie. “Where do the rules mention number of wheels? It said something about a tender. Do you see a tender? I see a tender.”

Sensing that the debate was lost, Tommy agreed it met the rule requirements. Turning to Omar, he said, “Get ready.” Suzie went to the end of the straightaway and waited for the second hand of her watch to approach twelve. Then she yelled, “Go!”

Omar pushed the transformer throttle to full power, and away the engine went. “Stop!” Kristi yelled as the engine went into the turn and then ran off the track.

“How fast did it go?” everyone asked together. Suzie looked up, shrugged her shoulders, and said, “Two and a half seconds.” It was obvious to all that they needed a better way to clock the run speed.

That night Josh and his father Albert were having dinner with Kristi’s family when the subject of racing the trains came up. The family filled-in Uncle Al on the history of the Society of the Dynamic Rails. Albert was an engineer by profession and also skilled in woodworking. After a quiet moment Al looked at Dave and asked if it would be OK for him to build a race track for the kids that could come apart and be stored under the platform.

The following Saturday Dave and Albert drove Josh and Kristi to the Nutcracker Hobby Shop. They spent about an hour with the counter man and described what they wanted to do.

They bought a bunch of used but still good O-gauge straight tubular track, two Lionel® die-cast metal bumpers and a Lionel #153IR Controller along with double-track pedestrian bridge with a built-in scale speed indicator. When the kids asked why they did not buy FastTrack™, their fathers said the money they saved got them the bumpers, controller, and bridge. “Besides, this is for racing, not switching.”



The next Saturday afternoon, club members came over to run the trains. They found an array of two tracks running from one end of the basement to the other. Mounted side by side on 1x6-inch pine boards painted green, each section was eight feet long and braced at the sides with 1x2-inch strips. The seven sections were 56 feet long.

At one end of the raceway Uncle Al installed a “Start” banner over the tracks and a plastic project box with a switch and terminations for a transformer hookup. A big red lamp turned ON when the “Go” switch routed power to the rails. The sections were joined together with track pins and held in place with Velcro at the joints. The last eight-foot section of track was not powered and served as a slow-down-and-stop zone. The raceway terminated at the bumpers.

Uncle Al also placed a “Finish” banner, the speed indicator accessory, and a #153 IR controller at the finish line, just before the non-powered section of track. When the “Go” switch was activated, a digital clock began counting out seconds. When the loco crossed the “eye” of the #153, a NC relay stopped the clock. The speed counter accessory provided a read-out of scale speed.

The kids loved it, and one could hear them asking “How fast did it go?” all day.