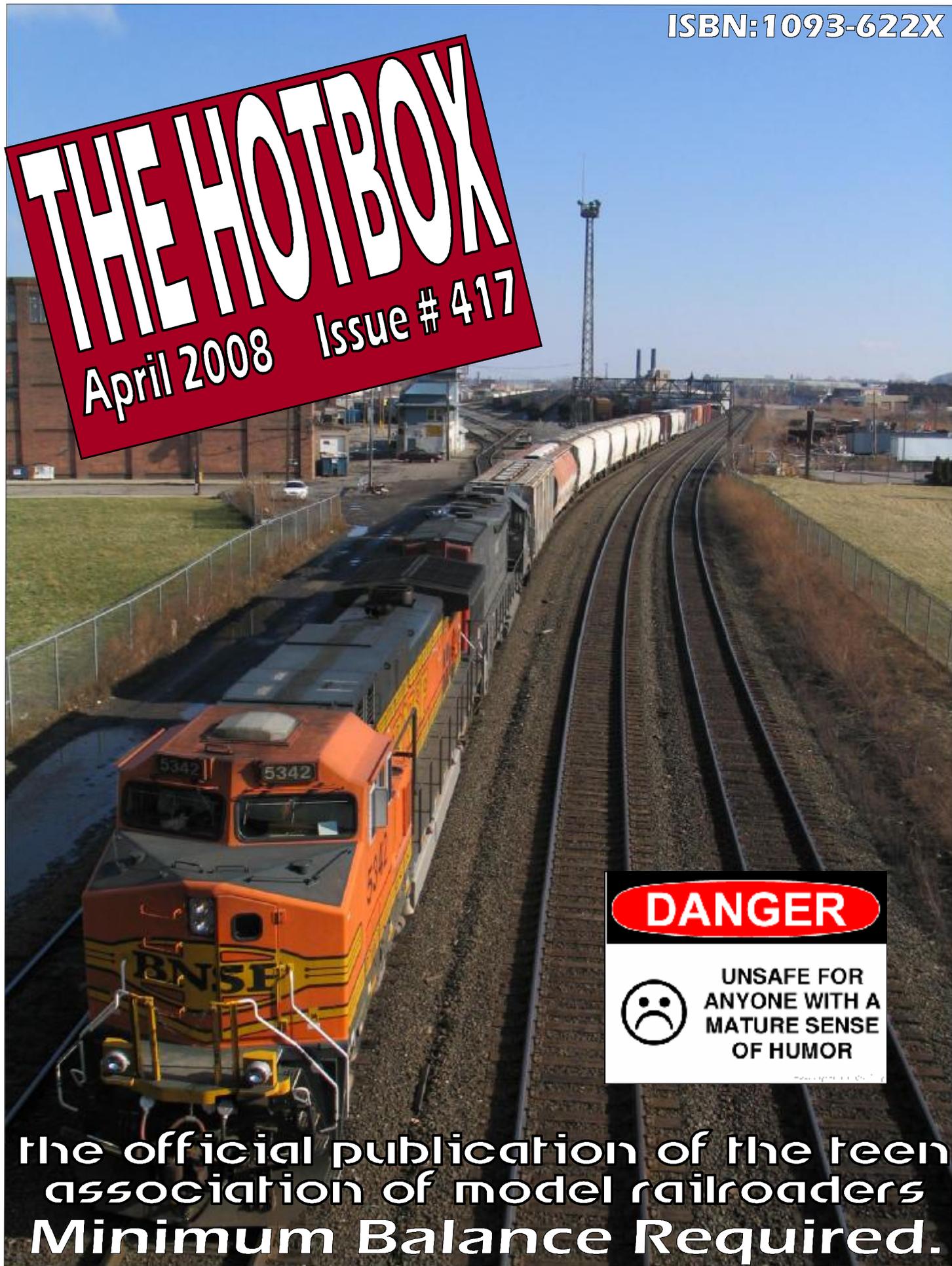


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THE HOTBOX

April 2008 Issue # 417



DANGER

UNSAFE FOR ANYONE WITH A MATURE SENSE OF HUMOR

the official publication of the teen association of model railroaders
Minimum Balance Required.

THE HOTBOX

April 2008 Issue # 417

ON THE COVER: Q625 stopped at Goodman St. Yard ready to make his cut in Rochester, NY. Today's power is BNSF Dash 9-44CW #5342 and HLCX SD40T-2 #6109. *Matt Martin, photo.*



FORM 19

A message from your editor in chief.

Editor –Peter Maurath
Publisher–Peter McRath II
Contributing Columnist–
Steven Goehring
Art Director–Duh Vinci
Photographer– Jay Vecee
Librarian– Loves her Easter bonnet with all the
frills upon it.

Contributions

Send your check to my...oops, sorry, you mean that type of contribution. We here at The Hotbox are always in need of new material. Here are a few examples:

Feature Articles:

This is what we're always looking for. From a railfan trip, to your home layout's story, or your own story. Size can range from a paragraph to a full page. Pictures are always appreciated.

Columns:

Full of great tips on layout improvement? Got a million reasons EMD is better than GE? Start a monthly, or bi-monthly column. Size same as features.

Photos and Drawings:

Got a great photo collection you want to show-off? Got a notebook full of railroad cartoons, or layout logos? Send them to the Hotbox staff for consideration.

Send all Submissions, or Hotbox questions to:

Peter Maurath
13212 Wilton Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44135

Or email at:

TAMRHotboxEd@sbcglobal.net

GET WIRED

Check out TAMR on the web at: www.TAMR.org
Or Join our online yahoo news group, by contacting:

pivotpin@TAMR.org

(By joining you'll receive updates on TAMR news and events, plus be connected to dozens of other TAMR members. There's no cost to join this group, do it today!)

If you have a web site relating to trains or model railroading, why not join the TAMR web ring. It costs nothing, and provides a link for all TAMR members to find other TAMR sites. To join, send your e-mail address and web site URL to:

pivotpin@tamr.org

He has no point, don't encourage him.

Happy April and welcome to issue 417 of the Hotbox. We're four months in to the new year, and four months in to the grand experiment of an online HB. So far it seems to be going well, though I'm a bit surprised by the relatively low number of members who chose the online option. Of the 55 or so members we have, only 15 of you are receiving an online issue. This is why I chose to mention it this month. I want to make sure everyone out there in TAMR-land is aware the we offer such an option, so... The Hotbox is now available online **IN COLOR**, and I've got to say the dif-

ference is quite amazing both in the text effects, and picture clarity. You really should give it a try. Don't worry though, if you prefer the old-fashioned paper version, it's not being eliminated, I'll keep the presses running for you as long as we have money to do so.

This is an election year, and so far I've heard from no one, whether they be a present officer or other member about running for office. The September deadline

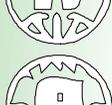
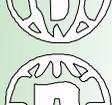
will be here before you know it, so if you want to run let me know ASAP, so I can add your name to the ballot. Be prepared to make a short statement on why you want to run and what you plan to do, to be published in the November issue (studies show you have a better chance of winning when people know who you are).

The TAMR's summer convention is only three month's away! *The Burning River Limited 2008*, will feature a scenic train trip,



several rail museums, and more. I still need members to do slide shows, and clinics. We have digital

projection equipment so all you'll need is a CD, flash drive, or other storage device if you want to give a presentation. Please let me know if your interested in attending, and hosting a slide show, or clinic asap, as time is running out. So far aside from myself, we'll hopefully have Matt Roberts, Tim Vermande, Chris Burchett, Drew Matarrazzo, and most importantly you. (I know it's cheesy, but I couldn't resist). Later dudes!•



WELCOME TO AMERICAS SOON TO BE FASTEST GROWING ARTICLE SENSATION. **RAILFAN RANTINGS**. IN THIS COLUMN I POSE A QUESTION TO OUR MEMBERS VIA THE TAMR ONLINE GROUP AT YAHOO. AND HOPEFULLY COME AWAY WITH SOME INSIGHTFUL, AMUSING, AND POSSIBLY SILLY ANSWERS. THIS MONTH'S QUESTION:

Photo Edition

This month we will feature photos from our members.



UPDNS Train #262 with D9-40CW 9707 passes stopped 24V with ES40DC 7504 at CP Belt. *Collin Reinhart, photo.*



CSX 8710 seen Toledo-bound at Fostoria, OH, July 15, 2006. *Charles Warczinsky, photo.*



California Northern Railroad GP15-1 #104 pauses outside Lombard Yard near American Canyon, CA. *Ben Hawken, photo.*



Norfolk Southern auto-intermodal train 212 heads east through Macungie, PA on a sunny July morning. *Photo by Mark MacDougall.*



NS train coming out of the Gallitzin Tunnel. *Doug Engler, photo.*

WANT TO JOIN IN THE RANTING? THEN JOIN THE TAMR ONLINE GROUP AT YAHOO GROUPS.COM. SEE PAGE TWO FOR MORE INFO.



Or, MR. Pete goes to West Springfield.
Written By: Peter "Mr. Pete" Maurath

Saturday morning saw the arrival of the last of the convention attendees including Doug Engler, Andrew Matarrazzo and James Lincoln. Saturday is also traditionally the "visiting day" for all the former and present members who can't attend the whole convention, but make it to the show. Those include veteran members this year such as the other half of the famed "drew-crew" Andrew Sabens, as well as former Northeast Region Rep, Jim Spavins, whom with his dad helps operate and construct modules for the massive HO scale Mohegan and Pequot modular layout at the show.

The rest of my day at the show was spent watching the LEO, keeping the table stocked with flyers and HB's as well as answering questions. Surprisingly no one mistook our table for the New Haven Historical Society this year, I was almost a little disappointed. I also enjoyed watching the glittering displays coming from the Micro-Engineering table behind us and all their animated electric signs. One of these years, I've gotta work one of those into the LEO.

While me and Chris were anchored to the table (though Chris did take a suspiciously long bathroom break) everyone else came and went from the table throughout the show day, dropping-off purchases, or trying them out on the HO layout. Some read books they had purchased, while others would hang out for a bit, rest their feet then charge back into the sea of humanity looking for more deals. Believe me, there deals to be had at this show. This is, after all, one of the biggest train shows in North America (it has been second to Chicago as the nations largest in years past) and if you can't find it here, it probably doesn't exist. Everything from brass GEVOs to life-size Conrail number boards. Nearly every major manufacturer has a display showing off there up and coming products. Hobby shops from all over New England, and the Midwest come here. Then there's the layout's in every major scale from Z on up

to large scales. Trolleys, and Acelas, to Big Boys, and AC6000's. There was even an HO scale European themed layout complete with continental equipment, scenery, even a beer-haus! (the little figures in lederhosen were a nice touch) This is show that needs an entire weekend, because it takes that long just to see everything.

Once the show closes at five we gather up the troops and head back the hotel to decide on dinner, check out the caboose contest entries, and view a few slides. After an hour of lengthily debate we decide on pizza and while we wait browse Newton's TAMR video collection. The caboose entries are also brought out and while all in HO cover a broad range, from Willie's Army caboose, to Andrew's graffiti covered Penn Centrals crummy. Four cabooses were entered in all and congrats to the members who participated. Hopefully this will spawn a bigger competition for free show entry next year.

Following dinner it's slide show time. This year we have two presentations, the first is from veteran TAMR member Tom Matthews, and his collection of New England railroading photos from the 1970's. It's a fascinating walk in the past to see the railroads in the midst of one of the biggest transitions in their history. Following Tom is slide show regular Willie Roberge and his collection of slides from just about everywhere. He has

many of his own from his days working on the Bay Colony RR, but he also likes to buy slides as has a pretty extensive collection of shots from all over the US. So many that I just can't stay awake long enough to see them all, off to bed.

Sunday and we're back at the show for the closing day. Traffic is usually a little lighter, so I pry myself away from the table and get out to see the show and what's new. After much debate me and Chris decide to add to the LEO's loco fleet with a few units from Tucker's Hobbies (a local shop with a HUGE display in our build-

ing). It helped that the salesman was a big fan of our layout and made us a deal on anything we were interested in. A very dangerous thing to say to a hobbyist with credit cards, but I kept myself to just the NW2 switcher, and a 60ft boxcar, and a scale test car, and...

Soon the show was closing, we were packing up saying our goodbyes, and wondering where all the time went. Me, Chris and Willie would remain through Sunday night departing early Monday across the frozen landscapes for home. All in all another great train show and great convention, as for my organization skills, wait till next year.●



One of the many modular layouts at the show. Ho Scale display. Photo by the author.

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TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS



RAILROAD CINEMA PRESENTS: "EMPEROR OF THE NORTH" By: Willie Roberge

Last month we left off with the two main character's *A No. 1*, and *Cigaret* two hobo's getting caught aboard *Shack's* (the conductor) train. As a result they are locked in an Empty Cattle Car which as *A No. 1* points out will soon be filled with steer and "Steer have horns we don't kid." *Cigaret* wonders how they will escape there almost certain doom. *A No. 1* has the answer by burning their way out!!!

Both *A No. 1* and *Cigaret* are able to jump through the flames and out of the Car. *Shack* is livid at what has happened and blames everyone else unable to admit someone had rode his train!!! His fellow railroaders catch *Cigaret* as he escapes and decide that they can use him to embarrass *Shack* as they, like the Hobos, despise and fear him. News now spreads that there is a new king of the road, a new "Emperor of the North Pole!" The Hobos and the Railroaders both see this as the event of the year!!!!

When *Shack* gets wind that *A No. 1* intends to ride the 19 all the way to Portland the stakes get higher and *Shack* will stop at nothing to prevent it. *A No. 1* will use everything he knows to successfully make the trip all the while fighting every trick *Shack* can throw at him plus deal with the amateur mistakes of *Cigaret*. *Shack* uses his hammer, a rope, and his chain to keep them off his train. He uses everything in his arsenal to stop them or kick them off **without waiting for the train to stop!** This goes on for the whole movie climaxing in a final battle between *Shack* and *A No. 1* on a moving flatcar!!!!

This is a great movie for railfans because of the great shots of Number 19 and it's train. There are great close-ups of 19's running gear at speed as well as it's stack and whistle. The rolling stock used on the trains is painted for the fallen flags (Great Northern, Northern Pacific, that would have been seen at that time and are of proper vintage, (wooden boxcars and reefers as well as steel cars all with roof-walks). The train travels through impressive scenery, through cuts and over bridges including an impressive tall curved wooden trestle.

More to come next month!

Do you smell smoke?

The Burning River Limited **2008**

Cleveland, OH/6.27-6.29

The TAMR summer convention comes to Cleveland this year as your esteemed and sharply dressed Hotbox Editor dons the cap of Convention Director, hosting this years festivities.

Join us for:

- A ride on the *Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railway*.
 - A tour of the *Mad River Railway Historical Societies Train museum*. Featuring over 100 pieces of equipment along with thousands of artifacts.
 - A tour of the *Northern Ohio Railway Museum*. Ohio's only active trolley museum.
 - Slides shows
 - Clinics (including a return of layout on a Shoestring Budget by Peter Maurath)
- More to come...

Slide show and clinic spots are now available to anyone who is interested. Our convention site does have digital projection equipment available for those who wish to show digital slide presentations, or PowerPoint.

Limited sleeping accommodations will be made available at the directors home to those members who cannot afford a hotel. (Reservations will be taken in the next several months.)

To book a slide show, clinic, or any for other inquiries please contact:

Burning River Limited
C/o Peter Maurath
13212 Wilton Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44135-4918
Phone: 216-476-9477
Email: TAMRHotboxEd@sbcglobal.net

start the fire...

THE HOTBOX
April 2008 Issue # 417

TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS



The Top 7

By: Peter Maurath

From the Home office in Cleveland, OH, it's tonight's Top Seven List!"

Top Seven Advantages to getting an Online Hotbox.

#7. You'll be at the forefront of this revolution called the world-wide web!

#6. Print quality and color will allow the Top Seven's lame jokes to come through with amazing clarity.

#5. You can finally see what that blur is behind Steven's column header.

#4. Exclusive offer's and giveaway's to online members! [NOTE: change this one for online issue]

#3. You will discover you actually weren't colorblind when you read your HB.

#2. It will make you a better toast butterer, or so I've heard.

And the number one advantage to getting an Online Hotbox.

Beats Spam!

The Extra Board

New Memberships-1 (yeah!!!)

Corey Goodwin, 429
171 Mountain Lake Estates
Hawley, PA 18428
USA

Renewals-3

Daniel Adams
Ben Hawken
Jacob Gray

Expiring Memberships-4

Kyle Fl asschoen
Brian Kul p
Mark MacDougal I
Austin MacDougal I

Present Member Count- 53→

Editors Note: This will be a feature every month showing everyone, who's joining, who's staying and who's going. If your name is up there I hope it's in the renewal section or will be next month.

The Hotbox Definition of the month.

de•rail

\ di-'rāl \ n : What sits on de-ties.

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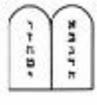
TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS



Trains to Nowhere

By: Steven Goehring

This month Steve has some fun with the safety sign generator

<p>NOTICE</p>  <p>WE DON'T STOP ON A DIME. SO YOU'D BETTER.</p>	<p>THINK</p>  <p>ON THE CROSSING: EITHER YOU STOP, OR YOUR LIFE STOPS.</p>	<p>CAUTION</p>  <p>KIDS PLAYING WITH TRAINS WWW.TAMR.ORG</p>
<p>BE CAREFUL</p>  <p>I DON'T CARE HOW BIG YOUR <-- IS. MY TRAIN IS BIGGER.</p>	<p>WARNING</p>  <p>THINK, DUMMY! DON'T RUN THE RR CROSSING!</p>	<p>SAFETY FIRST</p>  <p>MODEL TRAINS PRESERVE SANITY!</p>
<p>WARNING</p>  <p>I FIND YOUR LACK OF TRAINS DISTURBING.</p>	<p>NOTICE</p>  <p>CAN HAZ SD70ACE?!?!?!1 !!?!?!/?</p>	<p>BE CAREFUL</p>  <p>MY OTHER CAR IS A 6-AXLE, 3600-HORSE TURBOCHARGED ALCO.</p>
<p>THINK</p>  <p>THOU SHALT NOT COVET THY NEIGHTBOR'S TRAINS.</p>	<p>DANGER</p>  <p>NEXT TIME, TAKE THE TRAIN. WWW.AMTRAK.COM</p>	<p>SAFETY FIRST</p>  <p>OOOOPS! SHOULDN'T HAVE RACED THE TRAIN!</p>
<p>DANGER</p>  <p>YOU THINK SPARTANS KICK HARD? THEN DON'T RUN A RR CROSSING.</p>	<p>WARNING</p>  <p><-- THIS COULD BE YOU! JUST TRY TO BEAT OUR TRAIN TO THE CROSSING.</p>	<p>CAUTION</p>  <p>MAY CAUSE ADDICTION IN CERTAIN BORED TEENAGERS. WWW.TAMR.ORG</p>

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March 2008 Issue # 416

TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS



The TAMR is a non-profit organization created to promote, foster, and encourage young persons in the hobby of model railroading, the activity of rail fanning, and the preservation of the history, science and technology thereof. Reprinting of the Hotbox is Prohibited without the express written consent of the Teen Association Of Model Railroaders.

Membership to the TAMR includes an eleven month subscription to the Hotbox, the annual directory of members, quarterly regional newsletters and an election to participate in all TAMR events. The available membership categories are as follows: Regular (under 21)-\$15, Associate (21 and over)-\$20, International (outside US)-\$18

To become a part of the TAMR, or to renew, send your information to:
Tim Vermande, TAMR Pivot Pin, 11667 Tidewater Dr, Fishers, IN 46037, USA

Offer good why supplies last, negative equity applied to new loan balance, must take delivery of dealer stock, see store for complete details. No purchase necessary, void where prohibited. For a complete list of rules, regulations, and the best darn restaurants in Circleville, OH send a SSAEBDR to the above address. If you are at all unsatisfied with this hotbox, please return unused portion for a complete blow-off by our staff. Thank you!

COMING SOON TO **THE HOTBOX:**

- The Conclusion to Railroads in the movies.
- Doug Engler's Syracuse Spots goes to Selkirk.

COMING SOON TO **THE TAMR:**

- The Burning River Limited 08', this summer in Cleveland!
- TAMR Elections, this November, are you running?



The Teen Association of Model Railroaders

"Putting the future of model railroading on the right track."

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Cleveland, OH
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Before I go...

