

ISBN:1093-622X

THE HOTBOX

June 2008 Issue # 419



**the official publication of the teen
association of model railroaders
Accept no imitations, unless they pay you!**

THE HOTBOX

June 2008 Issue # 419

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Librarian—Works on her tan 3 days a week

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

Trick or treat for calcium!

ON THE COVER: . Former New York, Chicago, & St. Louis (a.k.a. The Nickel Plate) GP30 # 900 spends it's retirement on display at the Mad River Railway Museum in Bellevue, OH, as seen July 6th, 2006. Peter Maurath, photo.



FORM 19

A message from your editor in chief.

It's finally here! After more than six month's of thinking about it, hemming, hawing, and finally actual planning we have arrived at the month of this summer's National Convention, *The Burning River Limited 2008*.

Hosted this year by yours truly in my hometown of Cleveland, OH. It's been a busy six months, lining-up events and sponsors, but it will all be worth it as this will be the best convention I can put together, and dare I say the best we've probably

had in the last couple years (of course I can say that I am the editor after all!).

When I decided to take on this job I strived to

make it like the conventions I can remember attending in the olden days (gas was cheaper then , about a dollar!) complete with scenic train rides, layout tours, prizes, the works. It was those great conventions that really got me involved in this group and I am hoping to have the same effect on you all with this uber-convention. It may only be three days, but I've packed quite a bit into this June weekend, which is really all you need for a convention.

Week long conventions are nice if you can fill the hours with events and get enough members to show-up. I wanted to go back to our roots a bit and start small, much the way Brent Johnson did with his 94' Dayton Limited. Stretched across a weekend, this convention is often referred to as the catalyst that brought on the 90's TAMR Golden Age of growth and stability, by the end of the decade we had over 150 members, and a convention waiting list. So here's to

hoping we can do it again this summer. I look forward to seeing everybody and anybody who can attend.

Just make

sure you fill out and mail back the registration form by the deadline, and I'll see you in Cleveland!

Peter Maurath

P.S.

A special thanks goes out to our convention sponsors: JWD Premium Products, Gregory Hamway, and The



CLEVELAND ON THE RAILS

A few things you might want to know before coming here so you can impress everyone with your mad skills.



Despite what you may have heard on the late shows, Cleveland is alive and well. We've had a tumultuous history, and despite our setbacks over the years we've persevered and capitalized on our strengths making us the first choice for world class health care, the arts and darn good bratwurst (sorry for the chamber of commerce bit, but us Clevelanders are a little sensitive about defending our town) Railroads have played a key role in Cleveland's development over the centuries. What started out as a small settlement on the shores of lake Erie in 1796 quickly grew into a busy industrial center courtesy of the rich mineral deposits within the state of Ohio and a connection to the Ohio and Erie canal system. Eventually railroads supplanted the canals, and Cleveland became the crossroads of numerous major rail systems including the Nickel Plate, Pennsylvania, Baltimore and Ohio, Wheeling and Lake Erie, Erie, and the New York Central. Steel mills, auto plants and other manufacturing grew as did the city necessitating larger terminals, more tracks, rail transit, and eventually The Terminal Tower.

Completed in 1930 it was then the tallest building between New York and Chicago and the largest station complex in the US if not the world. A city within a city they called it. Built to replace an outdated Union Station from the civil war era, the 42 story tower consolidated trains of the NYC, NKP, as well as trolley's from the east and west sides of the city. Alas today all that is left is the light rail service into the terminal (Amtrak has a small modern station along the lake). The complex was converted into a mall/office complex in the early 90's and is still quite prominent on the Cleveland skyline. A bit of trivia the complex was built by the Van Sweringen brother's who at the time owned a few railroads including the NKP and the C&O. Despite never having a single line into Cleveland. The C&O Ry would have there main HQ's in Cleveland up into the 1980's.

Today Cleveland is still a busy town for the railroads. Mergers have left us with CSX, and NS carrying the lion share of traffic through town. A handful of smaller regional and shortline carriers exist such as a reborn Wheeling and Lake Erie, The Newburgh and South Shore, and the Flats Industrial RR. With us being almost halfway between Chicago and New York and on the quickest route between the two cities, nearly all traffic bound for the east coast, as well as much of the west coast traffic goes right through here, not to mention the many industries still served right here by rail. Cleveland truly is a great place to train watch, and it's rich history affords many great museums and scenic r'r's dedicated to preserving that history. Most of which we will see during the convention, including the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railway, and the Mad River Rail Museum (more info on these later). For railfanning few spots across the country can beat Berea, OH. This small suburb located just southwest of Cleveland boasts not only the Browns training camp, but the intersection of two major lines. The NS Chicago line (former NYC Chicago Line), and the CSX Columbus Line(former Big -4 line to Indianapolis, later NYC also). At this spot nearly every train that goes through Cleveland not to mention New York or Chicago passes through here, including Amtrak, should you want to get up *real* early.

Bustling with activity from the busy heavy mainlines of today's modern rail carriers, to the rich history in the museums and scenic trips. Cleveland, was and still is a town of railroads. ●



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TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS



Your
Burning River Limited 2008
Official Itinerary

Friday June 27th 2008

6-8 pm: Convention registration and sign-in. Entry of all contest submissions.

8-10 pm: Late dinner.

Saturday June 28th 2008

8am: Breakfast

9am-12pm: Layout tours

12-1 PM: Lunch

1-4pm: *Northern Ohio Railway Museum (NORM) Tour*

5-6pm Dinner

6-11pm: *Possible railfan trip to Marion, Oh, or other location.*

Sunday June 29th 2008

7:30am: Breakfast.

9am-12PM: Trip aboard the *Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railway*.

12-1pm: Lunch.

1-4pm: Tour of the *Mad River Railway Museum*.

4-5pm: Dinner.

5-5:30pm Slide show

5:30-6pm: Slide show 2

6-6:30pm: Clinic

6:30-7pm: Clinic 2

7-9pm: Voting and awarding of contest entries and winners.

9-10pm: Closing of convention (possible BOD meeting?)



TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS



Burning River Limited 2008

Convention events

Layout Tours:

GOLD CREEK RAILWAY by Paul Novak & Sons at 28345 Hunters Ridge Lane, Olmstead Twp. Tel: 440-235-2611. **Take I-480 to Exit 3 Stearns Rd. South on Stearns to Cook Rd. Left (East) on Cook, to first left which is MacKenzie Road. Turn left on MacKenzie and go 1/3rd mile to Hunters Ridge Lane. Turn left on Hunters Ridge, 3rd house on left.** New for this year is an industrial expansion to the layout with more sidings, runarounds, and factory locations. Take sidewalk around to back of house and enter train room through stairway. HO, 36' long walk around 85% scenery. Free lance bridge line in Montana, interchanging with Milwaukee Rd. and C&NW. Hand-laid track. Six operating positions with block control and home made throttles. Enter at side door.

CUYAHOGA VALLEY AND WEST SHORE MODEL RR CLUB at 25802 Garfield, Olmsted Falls (c/o Doug Steiskal 216-524-6266). **North of Bagley Road, west off S.R. 252 (Columbia Road).** . A good rail fanning spot. The Cuyahoga Valley and West Shore has built a new HO model railroad with double deck operation. Bench work utilizes steel structural members. The railroad is more than twice the size of the old railroad. CTC., DCC.

CAUTION: DO NOT CROSS OR STAND CLOSE TO THE TRACKS. THESE ARE VERY ACTIVE TRACKS.

Northern Ohio Railway Museum:

(NORM) was founded in 1965 and incorporated in 1976 as a not-for-profit education and historical organization. Our goals are to collect, preserve, restore, operate and display streetcars and other railway related equipment. In essence, to preserve a vanishing era--the trolley era. The museum is located at 5515 Buffham Road in Westfield Township, Medina County, Ohio (near Chippewa Lake). There, on two miles of the historic Cleveland Southwestern Railway, the museum is working towards its goals to collect, preserve, restore, display and operate streetcars and other railway equipment for use by the public. We are open for public display Saturday afternoons Spring thru Fall.

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railway:

This scenic train winds through the Cuyahoga Valley National Park System. A gem of a valley located just minutes outside of Cleveland. We'll be riding the "National Park Scenic", an Approximately three hour round-trip through the park.

Mad River Railway Museum:

Located In Bellevue, OH approximately one hour west of Cleveland. This museum, founded in 1976, features numerous pieces of rolling stock and artifacts dating back to the earliest days of railroading in Ohio. Situated on land bordering the Wheeling and Lake Erie, and NS Mainlines, equipment includes the first dome car ever built, several restored troop sleepers, a small restored LS&MS depot, an N&W training car and much, much more

Contests:

There will be three major contests during the convention: Photo, Model Structure, and Model Rolling Stock (this includes locomotives). Entries are to be received Friday during registration with voting, judging, and awards given on Sunday night.

Clinics and Slide Shows:

I will be hosting a slide show as well as a clinic this year, and there is still space available if any other attendee wishes to do one as well. We do have digital projectors and computers available.



TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS



Your
Burning River Limited 2008
Accommodation Info

There is limited space at my home for those who cannot afford accommodations in a hotel. Please bear in mind that I live in a small house (approx. 1000 sq. ft.) with one bathroom and no spare beds so pack accordingly, and be prepared to sleep on a sofa, cot, or possibly even the floor (what do you want for nothing!) I will try and accept everyone who asks but I have only so much room and once the "inn" is full, it's full, so let me know ASAP if you need to stay with me.

Here's a short list of hotels near my home and the convention HQ's. This is only a small sampling of hotels and motels in the area. For a more comprehensive list you can contact me, or research online.

Holiday Inn-Cleveland South, Independence

6001 Rockside Rd, Cleveland, OH 44131
(216) 524-8050

Comfort Inn

6191 Quarry Ln, Independence, OH 44131
(216) 328-7777

Red Roof Inn-Cleveland

6020 Quarry Ln, Cleveland, OH 44131
(216) 447-0030

La Quinta Inn-Airport

4222 W 150th St, Cleveland, OH 44135
(216) 251-8500

Hampton Inn-Cleveland Airport

10305 Cascade Crossing, Cleveland, OH 44144
(216) 929-8400



TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS



Your
Burning River Limited 2008
Registration Form

MUST BE FILLED AND RETURNED BY JUNE 25TH, IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND!

Fill out, tear-off, or cut, along fold, and mail along with your check, to:

Peter Maurath, 13212 Wilton Ave., Cleveland, OH 44135

(Online Hotbox Members: print out this page then follow the above directions.)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt. # _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip (or postal) code: _____

Country (if outside US): _____

Phone where you can be reached (please include area code): _____

Email: _____

How do you plan on arriving? (circle one) Car Bus Plane Train Other: _____

Will you need a ride during your stay? (circle one) Yes No

If you are driving, are you willing to carry other attendees in your vehicle? (circle one) Yes No

Will you be entering any of the convention contests? (circle one) Yes No

If you circled yes, please circle which ones you plan to enter: Photo Model Structures Model rolling stock

Would you like to host a clinic or slide show? (circle one) Yes No

If you circled yes, please give a brief description of your clinic or slide show, including how much time you will need:

Scheduled date of arrival and departure for the convention (mm/dd/yy):

Arrive on: _____ Depart on: _____

There is a registration fee of \$25 to cover the cost of admission to the Mad River Railway Museum, as well as tickets for the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railway, including taxes. This fee is mandatory for attendance to the convention and must be included with this registration form upon mailing. Please enclose a check or money order for the above amount made out to Peter Maurath. If not enclosed you will be unable to attend portions of this convention.

By signing this form you hereby release the *Teen Association of Model Railroaders* and *Peter Maurath* from any harm done at this convention by anybody or anything at any time during your attendance. Signing of this registration form is mandatory!

Signature: _____ Date: _____



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 rail roading, 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 Rail roaders.

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 Linndale, 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:**

- Directory Time!
- Matt Roberts shares his convention memories.

COMING SOON TO **THE TAMR:**

- The Burning River Limited 08', it's here, it's here, it's here!
- 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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Before I go...

