

THE TAMR HOTBOX

Official Publication - TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADING
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CHERRY HILL CONVENTION

PLACE: CHERRY HILL, NEW JERSEY
DATE: AUGUST 16-18, 1974
LOCATION: SHERATON-POST
ACTIVITIES:
TOURS: High Speed Line
Strasburg Railroad Museum
Wilmington Electric Shops
Pavonia Yards
CLUBS: GATSME
Elkins Park
Norristown
Silver Valley
SHOPS: Ted's Engine House
CONTESTS: Model
Photo
Pass
TRANSPORTATION: High Speed Line
Reading Railroad
Red Arrow Lines
SEPTA
COSTS: Registration apprx. \$25
Lodging approx. \$5

Those are the facts. Now, I would really like to see you dash away to this convention (but please wait til August.) I know this promises to be as good, if not better than the previous conventions, but if everybody doesn't come, it will not be perfect. Let's not kid ourselves, it is people who make up a convention. And there will be interesting people there. However, if you need something else to persuade you, there will be great activities to. The clubs are some of America's best. It is the first convention to have something but diesel (Steam at Strasburg, Electric at Wilmington.) One thing that will be featured are the contest. If you have done anything to any building or equipment, more than take it out of a box, bring it in. If your willing to carry it, bring in your whole layout. If you only take things out of a box, enter the favorite train contest. If you don't wish to do that, enter the photo or pass contests. (If you don't take pictures, try it, it's fun. If you don't trade passes get some printed now. It is a great excuse to correspond.) Send in the form below together with your ballot (Tom will forward it to Ralph, and you save a dime.) It does not mean that your committing yourself, but if there is a minimal chance, you should fill out the form. It will put you on the mailing list for more information, and you will get a registration form in due time. I will see you there.

I might possibly, under favorable circumstances (like a full moon) come to the 1974. Please keep me posted.

I am _____
I live at _____
In _____

SPECIAL HOTBOX - AN EXPLANATION Bengt Muten

As most of you know, the ballot was missing from the May-October issue of the HOTBOX. As the elections have been delayed long enough, and as the publishing time for a regular HOTBOX is extreme, Editor John Held authorized this special issue. The convention announcement is included to make sure that everyone knows about it in good time. Thanks are due Thursday for the use of their typewriter and headline equipment, and the Deans' office at M. I. T. for letting me use their postage meter.

REMINDER FROM SQUEAKY (THE EDITOR)

John wishes to remind all members who have joined or moved (or quit) since the last Directory (mid '72) to drop Phil Simonds a note about it. Also, I might be a good idea to drop Jouhn a post card to, so that he can announce it to the rest of the membership. Do so NOW.

1973 Election (2)

Many copies of the May-October issue of the HOTBOX were mailed out without the election pages. Due to this, TAMR Auditor Tom Papadeas has decided to hold the election over again. The platforms are reprinted below. For those who are getting the same information repeated, we apologize. Please vote as soon as possible, by checking of the ballot and mailing it to Tom Papadeas, TAMR Auditor, 111 Hedgerow Drive, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034.

VICE - PRESIDENT

According to the constitution, the duties of the Vice-President are as follows: Article III, Section 3, Sub-section B: "The Vice-President shall assume the office of the President should said office be vacated at any time, and he may assume any duties of the President as may be delegated to him. He shall also administer organization programs pertaining to the recruitment of new members of the organization, and shall perform any and all duties as may be ascribed to him."

The candidates and their platforms are:
TERRENCE BURKE has been a TAMR member for some years now. He was TAMR secretary for more than a year and during that time performed with distinction. He has also edited the GLR Way-Freight and has been publisher of the CXC Whirly. He is presently a student at Blackburn College.

"I have been out of the organization for a time, so I am a little bit rusty at such duties. I understand 'thru the grapevine' from some town locals that the TAMR is lacking a little leadership, due to the fact that certain TAMR officials have prematurely retired. I strongly believe that the TAMR needs a good swift kick in the ass and a complete organizational overhaul. [I will try to work if elected and do the best I can.]"

RONALD HICKS, 20, of Tomahawk, New York, has been a member for almost five years. His past accomplishments include being a frequent contributor to the HOTBOX, accommodations chairman for the 1972 TAMR convention, editor of the CXC Marslight, and a candidate for both President and Vice-President in the past (He figures "one last shot at getting into office is worth it, especially after seeing past promises by candidates and failure of campaign platforms [of theirs] to materialize.")

"I view the current administration as one of utter failure, in both officer participation and the stubbornness of various other members to cooperate in moving the organization forward. Since this is the first year of having only half the officers elected, I feel I can work with the other two members, having met most of the national officers.

Through the constant efforts of John Held, the HOTBOX is slowly coming back, but depends on member participation. Most of the TAMR action the past year has been behind the scenes, through committee

which I hope to better as Vice-President.

"Contrary to past opinion, I have discovered regions pull members closer together through their conventions and publications.

"National conventions have been successful in the past two years and have done the most for TAMR promotion. Members get a chance to meet others, and discuss mutual interests and problems, while having a meal or visiting a prototype or model rail facility. The actual location of the '74 convention hasn't been decided upon, but wherever it is, it will prove to be another successful gathering.

"Financing the organization this year hasn't been a problem, mainly due to lack of material. Several HOTBOXES and the 1973 directory are outstanding, but the treasury is in sufficient condition to cover these expenses.

"Committees are a problem in themselves, but some are slowly reorganizing, as well as new ones coming out. Again, member participation seems to be the main problem in success.

"No matter who is elected, I feel that every member must vote and make the right decision for this most critical year in TAMR history."

DALE MADISON, a resident of Kenmore, New York, and a student at SUNY at Buffalo, has been a member for some time, was actively involved in the TAMR Toronto convention, and until recently was editor and publisher of the Phoebe Snow. An unsuccessful candidate for the presidency last year, he is currently serving out the remainder of Bengt Muten's term as Vice-President.

"The most urgent need of the TAMR is unity. Unity among not only the officers but the membership. And the only way to achieve this is by cooperation. Too many times in the past, the right arm did not know what the left arm was doing. And it is all too obvious what the results are.

"The present time is one of rebuilding, of reconstructing, of getting our heads together. The TAMR has the potential of becoming a viable organization, but only with help from all concerned.

"Thus, in addition to fulfilling the responsibilities of the office of Vice-President, I intend to use means necessary to assure that TAMR does realize its full potential. This transcends the defined areas of the Vice-Presidential responsibilities. This will, of course, add to my workload, but it is vitally necessary. And it is necessary not next year, not next month, but now.

"This is not to negate the responsibilities of the office for which I am running. Indeed, these must be fulfilled if the above is to be achieved. Our recruitment is overly lax, almost nonexistent. Whenever a prospective member writes us, and all who write are definite possibilities, he should receive not just a form answer. He should receive an open reception that goes beyond what the TAMR is (or more accurately, what the TAMR hopes to be,) it should be a warm solicitation for his membership. Most important, it should be responded to immediately.

"These are my goals. They may be 'lofty,' but there is no escaping them if we want to continue, and not merely subsist. Your encouragement is asked."

MARK SOLOMON has been a TAMR member for little over a year, and is a member of the CXC. He has been struggling during that time to get both the TAMR and its South-East region back on its seat. Currently a sophomore in his Florida High School, he is into HO and chess.

"In the last election, many people were concerned at the loss of old members. Some candidates wanted to establish a committee to find out why we were losing so many people and how we could keep them. The reason is simple, the TAMR does not interest them. They just do not want to get into any kind of hassle. Instead of having committees to keep old members, we should concentrate ourselves on

making our organization something people will be proud to belong to. In this way, we will keep our members and get new ones. For if we have something good, then people will want to join us.

"As many people know, I have been trying to start up my own region. I feel that the regions are one of the most important parts of the TAMR. I will try to get the regions started again since they are vital to the organization.

"If I am elected, I will work with the leaders of the TAMR to make the association something worth while, something both new and old members can be proud of."

TREASURER

The duties of the Treasurer are as follows: Article III, Section 3, Sub-Section D: "The Treasurer shall set an annual budget for expenditures, to be presented to the members of the organization in the official publication, and subject to the approval of the organization. Accounts for the organization shall be maintained at a financial institution of the treasurer's choosing. The treasurer shall also perform any and all other duties ascribed to him." The candidates and their platforms are:

JOLIN P. DUNN, has been a member for the better part of a year, and is currently Vice-Chairman of the Correspondence Exchange Committee, appointed by its head, Chuck Scheerle. He has contributed several tripartite articles to various TAMR publications, and is a member of the Patcong Valley Model Railroad Club of New Jersey, where he resides.

No platform has been received from this candidate as this special HOTBOX goes to press. It is assumed and hoped that if elected, he will serve in the post to the best of his abilities. (ed.)

ARTHUR MULLIGAN, TAMR member for several years, is perhaps one of the most active members of the organization. With Bob Polasky he formed the Photo Exchange Committee and its library, and published the Wayfreight for some time, during which he inaugurated a photo page. He has been the guiding force behind the development and marketing of "Wayfreight Models" freight houses advertised in the model railroad press. He was active in the conduct of the photo contest at the past Chicago TAMR convention. Currently in high school, his HO San Pedro is making great progress. He also claims a good background with publishing and expense accounts.

"If elected Treasurer, I would like to straighten out the financial progress of the TAMR, and work with John Held to get the most for our money inside the HOYBOX. This means finding out exactly what we are spending, and how to improve the quality of the HOTBOX as best we can with what we have.

"Secondly, I feel the TAMR as a whole, is misinformed as to where we stand financially. I would like to see DETAILED monthly reports going to and from all the officers, especially a financial statement and progress report. This would at least help our officers pass on detailed information. The position will definitely prove challenging if the treasury continues its present trend. Our only solution is to work with the officers and help John Held. We cannot expect a recovery without a HOTBOX.

"I feel my experience with the GLR Wayfreight, and interest in improving the TAMR as a whole, support me for the office. I will do my best to help the organization. Finally, I promise to listen to the other members' suggestions and help the TAMR grow."

Please give the matter some serious thought, and fill in the ballot below as soon as possible. As the HOTBOX is known to have unforeseen publishing delays, the election deadline will be fifteen days after the postmark of the issue. One more point: only regular and sustaining members may vote. That means, if you were twenty years old or less October 31, 1973, you are eligible.