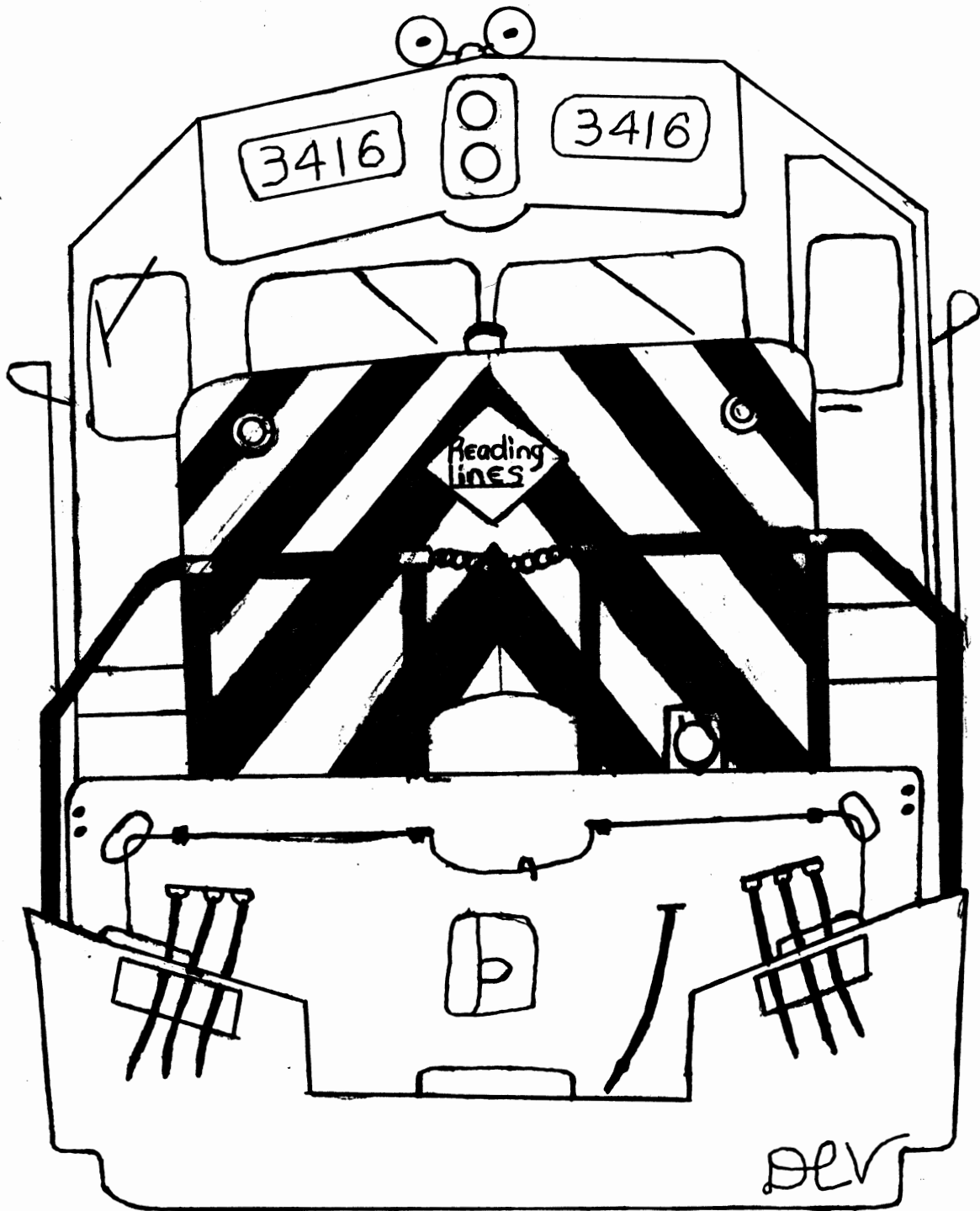


HOTBOX

"the Un-Magazine of Model Railroading"
March 1983 No. 185





HOTBOX

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION • Tern Association of Model Railroading

Issued every month with an additional special mailing of a Directory of Membership during the summer

Annual dues for the TAMR are as follows:

REGULAR: (under 21 years of age) \$10.00

ASSOCIATE: (21 years of age and up) \$9.50

SUSTAINING: (both Regular & Associate) \$15.00

Please address all membership applications, renewals, address changes and complaints of non-receipt of the TAMR HOTBOX to the TAMR Secretary.

TAMR Secretary: Dee Gilbert
Box 132
Harrison, AR 72602-0132

All other HOTBOX business, except where specifically noted, is handled by the Editor. Please address all comments to the editor.

HOTBOX Editor: Mark Kaszniak
4818 W. George St.
Chicago, IL 60641

DEADLINES: The TAMR HOTBOX welcomes articles, photographs and artwork pertaining to model and/or prototype railroad subjects. All material for publication must be submitted 30 days before the month of publication. The TAMR HOTBOX assumes that all material is submitted for the mutual benefit and enjoyment of the hobby by the membership and thus no payment will be made upon publication.

Expenses

HOTBOX Printing	\$494.00	48.19%
Postage	\$446.38	43.55%
Other	\$ 68.72	6.70%
Service Charges	\$ 16.00	1.56%
Total Expenses	\$1025.1	100%

In establishing the TAMR's 1983 budget, I have recommended that your dues be broken down in the following manner:

Total Dues Amount	+\$10.00
HOTBOX/DIRECTORY	-\$ 8.72
Printing & Mailing	
Promotion	-\$ 0.46
TAMR Savings	-\$ 0.36
Misc. Expenses	-\$ 0.25
Surplus	+\$ 0.21

Promotion Department

The main purpose of the promotion department is to promote the TAMR and the hobby of model railroading at a grass roots level. We accomplish this by placing posters and pamphlets in hobby shops, libraries, etc. and by handing out brochures at meets and shows. Not too hard is it?

At this moment, the department has 16 members including myself. Yet in order to do a better job, we need more volunteers, especially in the Canadian and Western regions. So help out and promote the TAMR.

Manager: Chris Brindamour
NR: Robert Piombino (Asst. Man), D. Butler, C. Pravlik, S. Sant, A. Taylor, J. Valley, T. Matthews.
Gen: Ken Keels (Asst. Man), S. Masih, S. Craig.
SR: Mark Miter (Asst. Man), J. Stanley.
WR: Dan Carroll (Asst. Man)
IR: Hakan Thell (Asst. Man)
Inter-Promotions: Kandy Rivers

Please write: Chris Brindamour, 10 Meadowland Dr., N. Kingstown, RI 02852 if you are interested in helping in promotion.

Extra Board

All the news that fits, we print:

Membership Report By Dee Gilbert

Total TAMR Membership (3-1-83): 117

<u>Region</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
Canadian	6	5.1
Central	33	28.2
International	5	4.3
Northeastern	39	33.3
Southern	16	13.7
Western	18	15.4

Checks and Balances By Claude Morelli

Complete financial report (5/25 - 12/31):

Income

Dues	\$818.50	97.59%
Supplies	\$ 10.50	1.25%
HOTBOX Ads	\$ 2.00	.24%
Interst	\$ 7.72	.92%
Total Income	\$838.72	100%

CRUMMY NEWS



BY MARK KASZNAK, EDITOR

Writin' Articles

One of the most common questions I am asked is: "How do I write an article for the HOTBOX?" For some reason this seems to be a deep dark secret known to only a few of you. Now as your Editor, I have a responsibility to see that different viewpoints appear in this publication. Not only does this prevent the magazine from becoming stale, but also allows us to better assess the talents of teen modelers. So if you're ready, here are some pointers on preparing material for publication:

* What to write about? Believe it or not, I do get letters from some saying they'd like to write an article, but don't know what to write about. Fortunately this is an easy problem to solve. Do you have a layout? If so, why don't you tell us something about it. Are you working on a modeling project? Then we'd be interested in hearing about it. Is there are railroad structure near your home that would make a good model? Take some measurements and photos and send them in, we'd surely appreciate it. Does the prototype in your area do something that could be adapted to modeling? We'd surely like to hear about it. Have you bought a new locomotive, structure or scenery item for your layout lately? We'd appreciate a

review. Do you have some inexpensive modeling tips to share? We'd like to know them too.

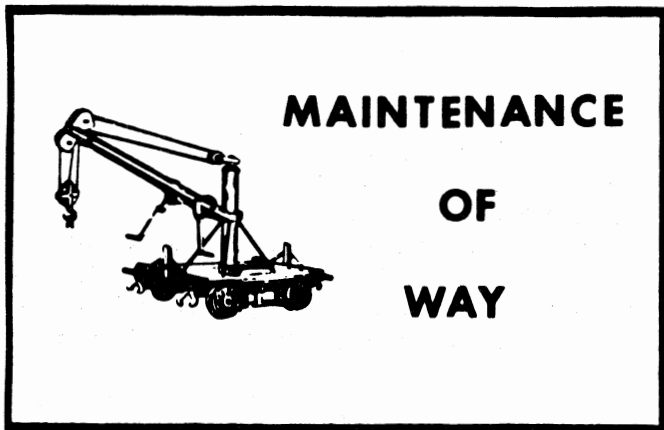
* Style? Your own writing style is fine, after all you are among friends.

* Typed articles? These are not required. A clear legible copy is all that is necessary. Of course, if you insist on typing, that's OK too!

* Drawings and cartoons? These must be done in black ink (black marker, Flair or ball point pen is fine!) on blank white paper (typing paper) If you plan to use an entire page such as for a trackplan, please leave at least a half inch border on all sides. If you need help with illustrations, we can work from detailed sketches if you send them.

* Photographs? Must be glossy, black and white prints only. We can not use color prints or slides at this time. We prefer large sizes (5x7 or 8x10") for cover shots and smaller sizes (3x5 or 2x2") inside. Captions must accompany all photos. Write out a caption on a separate piece of paper and then tape it to the back of the photo. Do not write on the photos themselves as this ruins them. All photos should be sharp, clear and not too dark or light (known in photography as good contrast).

The purpose of this publication is to show off the talents and creativity of teenage modelers as well as to "educate" you in the hobby of model railroading. Thus we are always interested in what is happening. If your region sponsors a meet or convention, we'd be interested in a few paragraphs on what it ~~was~~ like. If your region is going to be sponsoring a convention, I'd like to tell all our members about it before it happens. Some of them may want to attend. If you feel that the TAMR should be involved in an area that it currently isn't, we'd like to hear from you. If you think the HOTBOX should be covering something it isn't, we also like to hear from you. We are here to help you, but we can't do that without your support and input.



M of W is a product review column written by our members on model railroading and railfanning items that may be of interest to you. All the opinions presented are those of the reviewer and are not necessarily those of the TAMR or the HOTBOX. Please submit reviews to the HOTBOX Editor.

I've Been Working On The Railroad
by Marie Donaldson, Rails 'n Tales,
Box 2631, Durango, CO 81301. Soft-
cover, 32 pages, \$3.95 + shipping

This book is by a lady who served as a "candy butcher" on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic RR and the stories inside are about some of the amusing experiences she had. Yet even better these stories capture a slice of American life, particularly that hectic time known as "vacation." As a candy butcher, Ms. Donaldson had a front row seat to enjoy the drama of Americans at play. Fortunately, she has decided to share some of these incidents.

One of my favorite stories in the book is entitled: "A Man's Best Friend Is His Ironhorse." It is the story of Kay. K. Moore who owned and operated the Red-Barn Barbecue in Durango, CO. and used to race the Silverton trains on a horse each day for the benefit of the passengers.

Other stories deal with amusing incidents involving the train crews and the tourists and even what happens when Hollywood decides to make a film using the railroad. In short, I think you'll enjoy this book and maybe you'll even find yourself among some of the characters revealed by Ms. Donaldson. I know I did!

--MAK

Please see page 7 for a special discount offer of this book to TAMR members!

"T" Shanked Couplers #1128, 1129, 1130, N scale, Kadee Quality Products, 720 S. Grape St, Medford, OR 97501

Instead of buying trucks and couplers, I decided to try Kadee's new "T" shanked conversion couplers that are supposed to fit in the Rapido style coupler pocket.

Briefly, kit #1128 is short shanked, suitable for most freight car applications and to bring cars closer together for a more prototypical appearance. Kit #1129 is medium shanked couplers for use on cars with trucks set back a little and some loco applications. Kit #1130 is a longer shanked coupler for use with passenger car trucks and other special applications. The kits come with spring/centering pocket, upper and lower coupler halves, trip pins and springs.

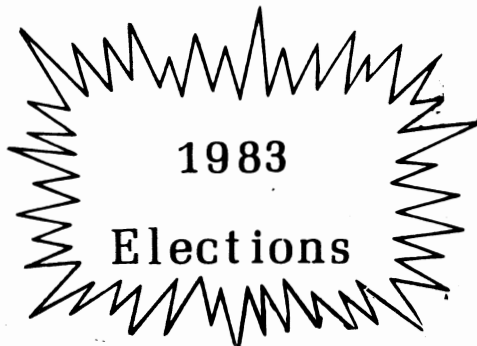
Recommended construction is to remove the old Rapido style coupler, centering spring and pin that the centering spring is mounted to from the coupler pocket. Then check to make sure that the Kadee spring/centering pocket will fit into the Rapido pocket. Instructions explain how to make it fit if the Rapido pocket is slightly small.

The plastic pieces are attached to sprues. Care should be taken in their removal and burrs must be removed. Next the upper and lower halves of the couplers are inserted into the Rapido coupler pocket. Then the spring is inserted into the Kadee spring pocket and this combination is fitted into the Rapido pocket. Finally, the trip pin is inserted. If the instructions are followed properly, the height of the coupler will automatically be correct.

Each kit will convert two cars complete. I found that the kits contain a few extra springs which is a good idea as they tend to pop away from you during assembly. Layouts with short radius curves should use the medium shanked couplers for more flexible operation. These kits should reduce the overall cost of coupler conversions.

--Dee Gilbert

TAMR HOTBOX



This is your chance to have a say in how the TAMR will be run in the next two years. Up for election are the offices of President, Southern Region Rep., Western Region Rep and International Region Rep. The position of Secretary was changed to an appointive office by amendment that was approved by you this January. I would like to remind you that all TAMR members are eligible to vote for the office of President, but only those physically residing within the boundaries of one of the regions holding an election for a regional representative may vote for that representative. Any ballot not marked correctly will be voided and will not appear in the official tabulation.

--Dan Carroll
TAMR Auditor

President

Summary of Duties: Preside at meetings of the Executive Board; Secure invitations to our annual convention; Oversee the TAMR's regions; Act as official representative of the TAMR and outline problems confronting the association as well as reporting periodically on the status of the TAMR via the pages of the HOTBOX.

Ken Keels, of Rochester, MI, has been a TAMR member for over three years. Currently he is our President. In addition, he has written articles for the HOTBOX and is active in his region as well as the promotion department. Presently, he is constructing his HO Michigan Southern Railroad.

"The TAMR is still in its re-

building stage. During my past term as President, we have undergone many changes such as becoming an NMRA Special Interest Group (SIG), switching to a monthly HOTBOX and creating the Promotion department. Yet, the TAMR still needs to be strengthened and I will try to strengthen it as much as possible. Here are my current plans for what I'd like to accomplish for my second term:

- 1) Put the finishing details on soon to be released programs like the Achievement Program, Convention Committee as well as creating more divisions within our regions.
- 2) Continue to meet the needs of our members through increased activity and the creation of future special programs.
- 3) Most important, I want to personalize the TAMR by holding TAMR national and regional conventions in addition to our joint efforts with the NMRA as a SIG.

If re-elected, I will represent the TAMR to the best of my abilities and strive to achieve the above mentioned goals. We need to establish communication lines between the members and officers if we are going to make this association meet your needs. I'm not sure how many times I have said this, but: "this is you're association and what happens to it depends on you!" So do something important--Vote!"

Derek Van Deusen, of Gillette, NJ, has been a TAMR member for over 3 years. He is an active member of the Northeastern Region and has had articles printed in the DEPOT. He is currently constructing his HO Great Northern Railroad.

President (cont'd)

"The TAMR has grown considerably over the years, but unfortunately without comparable maturity of the association's role in the hobby. It is for this reason that the TAMR must alter the emphasis of its endeavors in order to expand its influence and enhance its credibility.

First, the somewhat neglected role of the regions in establishing personal membership relations necessary to arouse enthusiasm and encourage participation, must be strengthened by association efforts. I propose that the regions adopt an expanded responsibility in membership support, deriving vital, yet presently deficient, technical and advisory support from the national officers.

Second, the direction of the TAMR must be altered from that of a primarily self-centered organization to that of an externally active one. It is the obligation of the TAMR to support all teens in the hobby, not only those choosing to join our ranks. The introduction of the TAMR as a SIG of the NMRA is a forward step in this direction, yet must be accompanied by enhanced influence upon other modeler groups as well. This will augment the association's credibility, increase membership and allow greater member benefits. With this renewed drive, the TAMR will be able to break free from the image of an association very much alienated from the mainstream of the hobby. If elected, one of my primary considerations would be the initiation of a concentrated effort to bring the work of the TAMR into the national publications, any profits from which would be diverted into efforts to determine and provide for the needs of TAMR members.

The establishment of a viable and equitable association is within reach, yet will require dedication to both internal benefits and external services, without which the association will undoubtedly stagnate, resulting in membership apathy and a continued lack of public recognition."

Regional Reps

Summary of Duties: The representative is to maintain a liaison between the TAMR and the region; transmit such recommendations as are made by the regional board; provide information regarding region activities to interested prospective and/or TAMR members upon request and act as chief executive officer of the region.

INTERNATIONAL REGION

Hakan Thell, of Vimmerby, Sweden, has accepted the nomination for International Region Rep. He has been a TAMR member for about a year and is running unopposed for this position. A space for write-in candidates appears on the ballot.

SOUTHERN REGION

Mark Miter, of El Paso, TX, has been a TAMR member for three years. He has written articles for the HOTBOX and is the assistant promotion manager for the Southern Region. He is currently constructing his HO/HOn3 Alchey & White Mountain RR.

"Model railroading is a hobby unsurpassed in diversity and enjoyment. To me there is no better hobby around and I try to convey this feeling to others whom I meet at shows or when I show my own layout. I'm hoping that I can arouse this interest within our own region.

As of January 1983, the Southern Region had the smallest regional membership in the United States. We could use a few more members and as your representative, I hope to increase interest in our region. I hope to do this with your input. I will be willing to listen on how to increase interest and improve our region. I'll also do my best to see that your letters get action. Together, I feel we can further improve our region and get more teens involved in the world's greatest hobby--Model Railroading."

(cont'd next page)

Southern Region (cont'd)

Mark is running unopposed for the position of SR Rep. A space has been provided on the ballot for write-in votes.

WESTERN REGION

Mike Raposa, of Santa Clara, CA, has been a member of the TAMR less than a year, but is active in promoting the TAMR in his region. He is currently constructing his HO scale Mission City & Northern RR.

"My name is Mike Raposa and I am hoping to be the new Western Region Rep. of the TAMR. I have been interested in trains and model railroading for about 7 years. It all began for me, as I imagine it did for you, when "Santa Claus" brought me my first set one Christmas. This love of trains, including the vanishing Iron Horse, has enabled me to meet many fine people and make some mighty fine friends.

I feel that the TAMR is a fantastic group of people that pay specific attention to the younger modeler and encourage their efforts. I hope to continue in this vain and support, encourage and promote the TAMR activities among the under age 20 group.

I would appreciate your vote and support as the Western Region TAMR Rep."

Mike is running unopposed for the position of Western Reg. Rep. A space has been provided on the ballot for write-in candidates.

VOTE

NOW!

I've Been Working



On The Railroad

by Marie Donaldson



FOR YOUR COPY OF THIS HUMOROUS BOOK, SEND \$1.95 to RAILS'n TALES: BOX 2631, DURANGO, COLORADO 81301

(includes shipping)

THIS IS A SPECIAL PRICE OFFER TO MEMBERSHIP OF TEEN ASSN. OF MODEL R.R.

(regular price is \$3.95 plus shipping)

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ALL ORDERS SHIPPED SAME DAY

Illustrated by Terese Ramsey

RESTROOM HELL, I'M NOT TIRED. WHERE'S THE CAN?

GETTING UP STEAM

HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD

A MAN'S BEST FRIEND IS HIS IRON HORSE

FOR SALE

Two Athearn 50' double-door auto cars, both w/KD couplers and wheelsets, one car lettered for Reading and the other for B&LE, both for \$5.00; one MDC 50' SP box w/KD couplers and wheelsets, \$5.00; Life-like caboose w/KD couplers lettered for Reading, \$2.75; Two Tyco circus cars (MKT and UP), 75¢ each; Two Athearn WM weathered quad hoppers (less trucks and couplers), 75¢ each; 8 pair of Athearn Bettendorf trucks, 30¢ each; 4 pair Athearn SW1500 truck sideframes, 25¢ per pair; 2 pair MDC arch-bar trucks, 40¢ per pair; 1 pair Athearn Hyatt Roller Bearing trucks, 30¢; 2 pair HOn3 arch-bar all metal freight trucks, \$1.00 per pair; one 36' coal load, one 40' coal load, one 36' gravel load, 35¢ each; back issues of TRAINS magazine into the 50's and 60's (send for list). Please add \$2.00 extra for shipping on all orders, excess will be refunded. Contact: Claude Morelli, 2236 Dietz Place NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107.

1983 ELECTION BALLOT

Please see pages 5 through 7 of the 1983 March HOTBOX before casting your ballot. Pay particular heed to the candidates' platforms and the instructions for marking your ballot. Improperly marked ballots or any ballot postmarked after the election deadline below will not be included in the official tabulation of results. Election results will be published in an upcoming issue of the HOTBOX and all candidates and current officers will be informed directly by mail.

-- Dan Carroll
TAMR Auditor

National Officers: All TAMR members may vote

PRESIDENT	
Term: 1983-1985	
(Vote for one)	
<input type="radio"/>	Ken Keels
<input type="radio"/>	D. Van Deusen
<input type="radio"/>	_____

Regional Representatives: Only those members physically residing within the geographical boundaries of a region holding an election for regional representative may vote. Please enter your region in the space provided.

Region _____

International Reg.	
Term: 1983-1985	
(Vote for one)	
<input type="radio"/>	Hakan Thell
<input type="radio"/>	_____

Southern Region	
Term: 1983-1985	
(Vote for one)	
<input type="radio"/>	Mark Miter
<input type="radio"/>	_____

Western Region	
Term: 1983-1985	
(Vote for one)	
<input type="radio"/>	Mike Raposa
<input type="radio"/>	_____

Mailing Instructions: Mark your ballot, insert in an envelope and mail to: Dan Carroll, Elections, 11034 W. 78th Ave., Arvada, CO 80005 by the election deadline.

Election deadline: May 7, 1983

**ON THE
POINT:**

The READING is a personal favorite of TAMR member, Dave Valentine, so he decided to share a view of one of the road's GP39-2's. The READING owns 20 of these locomotives which were delivered in 1974-75 and painted solid green with striped ends. They were numbered 3401 to 3420. Presently these units are operated by the D&H.

MARKERS:

ARRIVING NEXT ISSUE: Join us as we take a look at Chris Brindamour's New England & Eastern RR. Then a new column kicks off in the HOTBOX. It is called the locomotive doctor and is designed to cure all the ails your locomotives. Dee Gilbert, our resident N scale locomotive expert, will be kicking off the column with some hints on getting the best performance from various N scale models. All this will be coming your way in the "April Fools" edition of the "Un-Magazine of Model Railroading"

TAMR HOTBOX, "the Un-Magazine of Model Railroading"
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