

**Welcome To The NEW Hotbox!**

# The TAMR Hotbox

**The NEW Generation of Railroaders**

February 1997

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN'S**

## **Operation Lifesaver Safety Special**

**Busy Mainline Coal  
Railroading on CSX's  
C&O Business Unit**

**A New Regular Feature:  
E.O.T. - The Lighter Side  
of Railroading!**



The official publication of the Teen Association of Model Railroaders

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The NEW Generation of Railroaders

February 1997

Issue #316

*Welcome*

aboard the NEW Hotbox!

## In This Issue

### 6 Along The Ohio

*Visit CSX's former Chesapeake & Ohio mainline from Maysville, KY to Kenova, WV.*

**Matthew Schwerin**

### 8 SPECIAL REPORT On Track For Safety

*Bryan Malone takes us along on an Operation Lifesaver Special along Norfolk Southern's Kentucky Division!*

**Photos by Bryan Malone**

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## Celebrating

Teen Association of Model Railroaders

# 33 of YEARS

1964-1997

RAILROADING

Celebrate With Us Out West in '97

THE  
DENVER ZEPHER

COVER: A Norfolk Southern C40-QW heading up a merchandise freight passes our photographer who is aboard an Operation Lifesaver Special at Williamstown, KY. Photo by Bryan Malone.

The HOTBOX **2**

## STAFF

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** MATTHEW SCHWERIN  
**PUBLISHER** JEREMY CONYER  
**TAMR PRESIDENT** DAVID HADLEY  
**ADVERTISING MANAGER** PETER MAURATH  
**ADVISORS** PETER MAURATH  
NEWTON VEZINA  
CHRIS WAGNER

The TAMR Hotbox is the official publication of the Teen Association of Model Railroaders, a non-profit association created to promote, stimulate, foster, and encourage among youth and young persons, the hobby of model railroading, the activity of railfanning, and the preservation of the history, science, and technology thereof.

The Hotbox is issued monthly, eleven issues per year, along with the TAMR Directory of Members in January.

## TAMR MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the TAMR includes a subscription to the association's magazine, The Hotbox, the January mailing of the Directory of Members, and a quarterly regional newsletter, as well as an invitation to attend and participate in all TAMR events. The following categories of membership are available:

Regular (21 & under).....\$15.00  
Associate (over 21).....\$18.00  
Overseas (Outside U.S.A.)\$20.00  
Sustaining (Reg & Assoc.)\$20.00

## ADVERTISING

For information on advertising in the Hotbox, please contact the Advertising Manager at:

The TAMR Hotbox  
c/o Peter Maurath  
3119 W. 100  
Cleveland, OH 44111

## SUBMISSIONS

News, features and photo submissions are welcome and should be sent to the Kentucky address. Your own writing style is fine with us; remember you are among friends. If you have grammar trouble, let the editor worry about that. The ideas of what you write are what is important. As far as content, we will accept articles on any subject related to railroading, both model and prototype, that will be of interest to the majority of our readers.

If you would like additional guidelines for submissions, or have an idea for a potential feature, please contact the editorial office at:

The TAMR Hotbox  
Matthew Schwerin, Editor-in-Chief  
218 South Walnut St.  
Wilmore, KY 40390-1311  
Telephone: (606) 858-4426  
E-mail: TAMRhotbox@aol.com

All submissions will be kept on file until publication, and then returned if a S.A.S.E. is included. The Hotbox editor is not responsible for lost or damaged material.

## Editorial by Matthew Schwerin



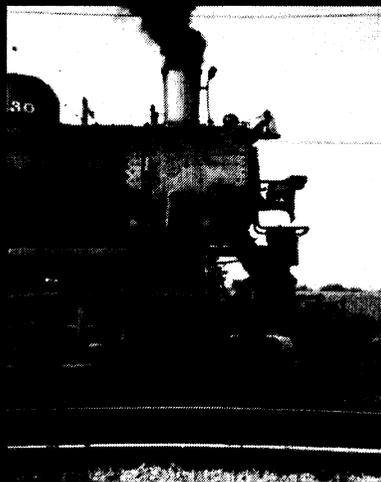
## ON THE POINT

America's railroading picture is changing rapidly. After a long and painful period of decline, the business of moving people and products by rail is suddenly dynamic - expanding, growing, once again a growth industry.

So, too, does The Hotbox change, grow and expand. With the redesigned magazine comes yours truly, your new editor, with some new additions to the regular staff; Jeremy Conyer, our new publisher, in addition to a board of advisors - no longer is this publication a one-man show. In addition, the new departments you see are but the introductory phase of the revitalization of this magazine. There is much more to come!

Welcome aboard the new, dynamic Hotbox. I trust all of us will take part in making it a perfect example of what younger enthusiasts are capable of.

## Next Month...



## STEAM In Review: 1997

A PRIME MOVER  
SPECIAL REPORT

David Hadley takes a look at the changing mainline steam railroading scene during the past year.

**In the March Issue!**

## NER Makes News

LINCOLN, RI. - It was a model train collector's dream.

Billed as the largest model train exhibit in Rhode Island, the display, which was held at Davis Career and Technical High School on Sunday, attracted crowds of young and old alike, from novice to serious collectors.

Gregory Pion, chief clerk of the Little Rhody Division of the NMRA, which presented the exhibit, helped coordinate the event. He said the convention was "an introduction to model railroading to generate public interest."

Various railroad clubs, including the Teen Association of Model Railroaders, the Providence Railroad Club, The Waushakum Live Steamers and Little Rhody Division, set up booths to explain the benefits of there clubs and to attract new members.

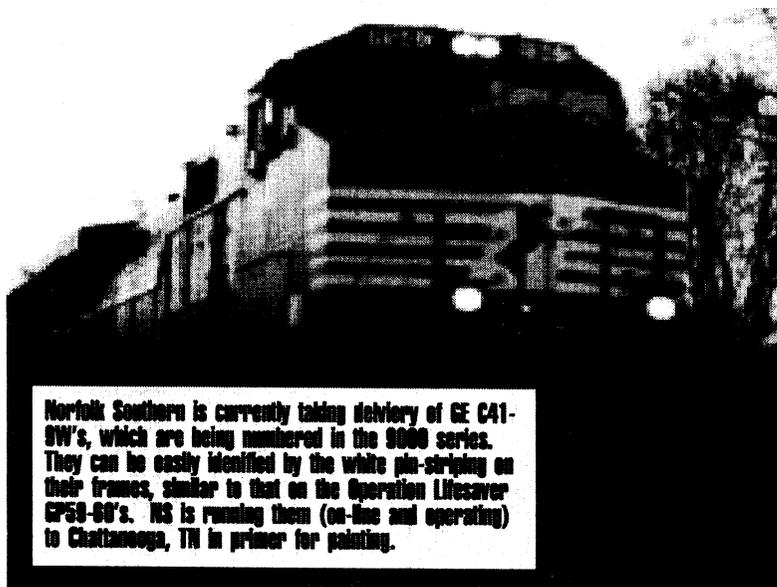
The Teen Association club helps teens get started, according to club advisor Newton Vezina. Members exchange ideas, get monthly newsletters and trade videos of trains pertaining to each state with other states. He said teens can get started not only by collecting trains, but also through videos and photographs.

The above was taken from an article published in THE TIMES (Pawtucket, R.I.) by Kelly Neil. Thanks to Newton Vezina and the NER crew for the great promotion work!

## News Brief

**CSX FUNDS COLLEGE PROGRAM FOR TRAIN CONDUCTORS** - CSX has given the Cincinnati State Technical and Community College \$60,000 and classroom equipment worth \$100,000 to create an eight-week training course for railroad conductors. Clayton State at Morrow, GA and the University of North Florida at Jacksonville, FL have also been picked for training courses, plus CSX plans to announce two other sites. CSX cites the shortage of freight conductors as the reason for funding this course. Joel Warner, Assistance Vice President of Human Resources said that CSX expects to need about 500 new conductors a year for the next five years. Tuition for the course is 3,750. Graduates of the course are not promised a job but they will have an edge over other applicants. Lexington Herald-Leader - 02-03-97.

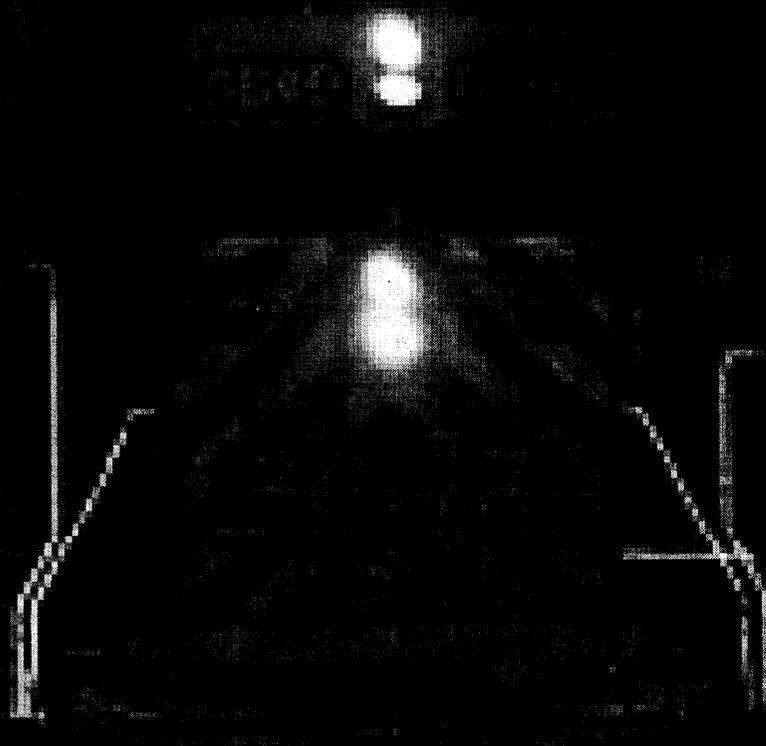
**US GOVERNMENT TESTING NUCLEAR POWERED TRAIN?** - The tabloid Weekly World News has reported that the government is testing a nuclear powered train that can reach 1,003 MPH. (Wonder where they're testing it and I hope the track has grade separation). The Connecting Rod.



Norfolk Southern is currently taking delivery of GE C41-8W's, which are being numbered in the 9600 series. They can be easily identified by the white pin-striping on their frames, similar to that on the Operation Lifesaver GP58-60's. NS is running them (on-line and operating) to Chattanooga, TN in primer for painting.

# Railroading ADVENTURE

It's Coming...



## Don't Miss it!

### DENVER ZEPHYR 1997

Photo courtesy of TRAINS Magazine

# ON THE PROPERTY



**LEFT:** CSX GP40-2 #6408 and a GP30 slug set idle in the morning sunlight at the Maysville, KY yard. This was the author's first stop along the former Chesapeake & Ohio mainline from Cincinnati, OH to Huntington, WV.

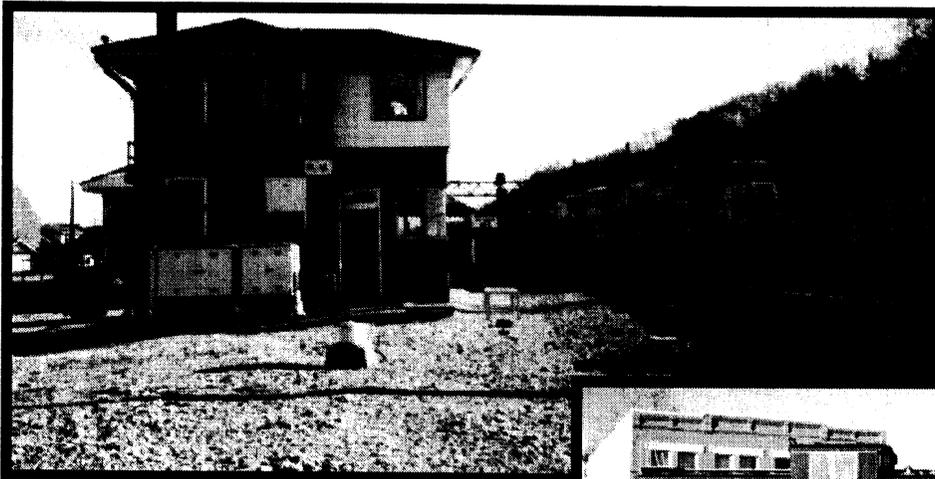
## *Along the Ohio*

**By Matthew Schwerin**

In the early part of January, I got the opportunity to go on a day trip along the former C&O mainline through Northern Kentucky. The railroad's right-of-way follows the Ohio River for a large part of its eastern journey toward West Virginia, giving one the chance to see two of the most efficient ways to transport black diamonds. *Below: Two CSX AC4400CW's lead a coal train off of the railroad's mainline to Toledo, OH toward the yards at Russell, KY.*

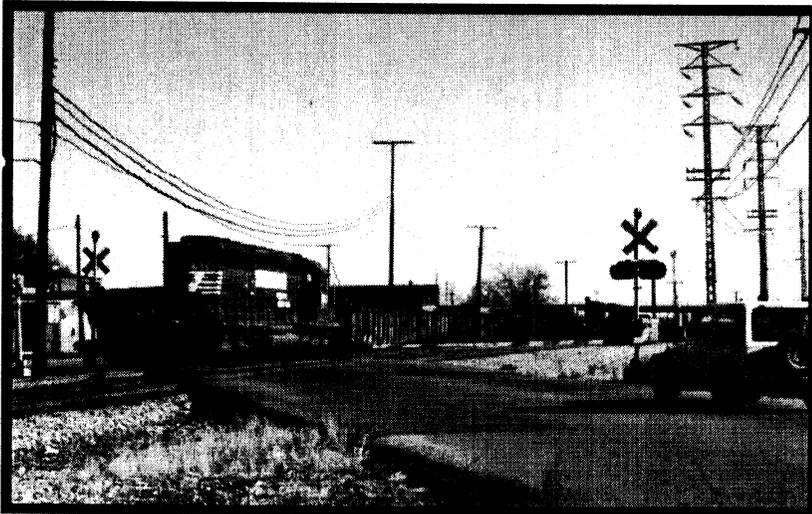


# ON THE PROPERTY



**ABOVE:** R.U. tower stands guard as two Dash 8's prepare to make their way into the enormous yards at Russell, KY.

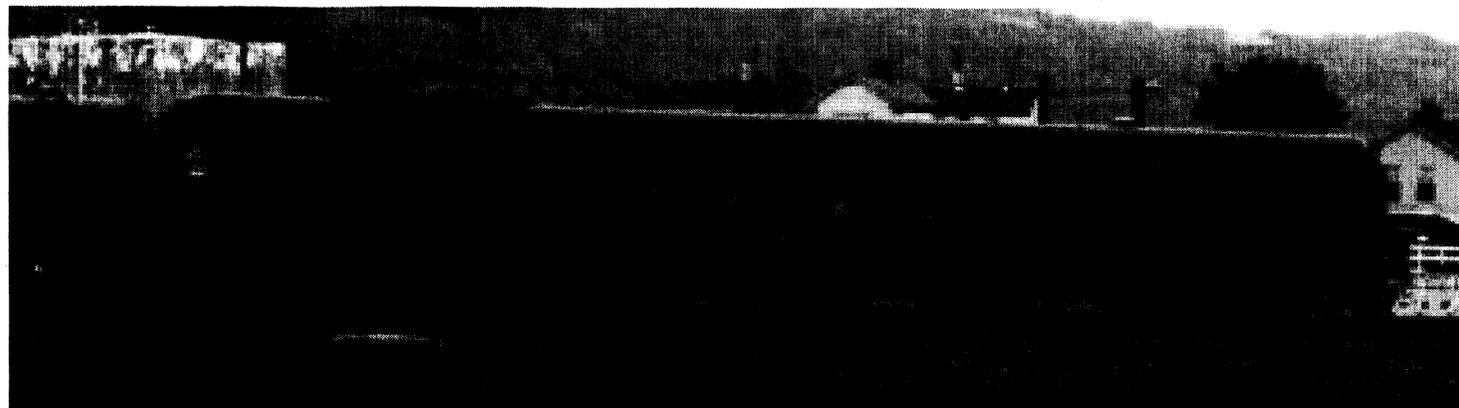
**RIGHT:** This beautifully restored C&O Wide-Vison caboose is a monument to the towns reason for existence - the railroad.



Across the river on the Ohio side in Portsmouth, Norfolk Southern has their yard, which itself sees thousands of tons each day. A SD40-2 tends to its switching duties, shoving a line of hoppers and gondolas. NS uses road diesels for many switching jobs, replacing older units such as MP15AC's.

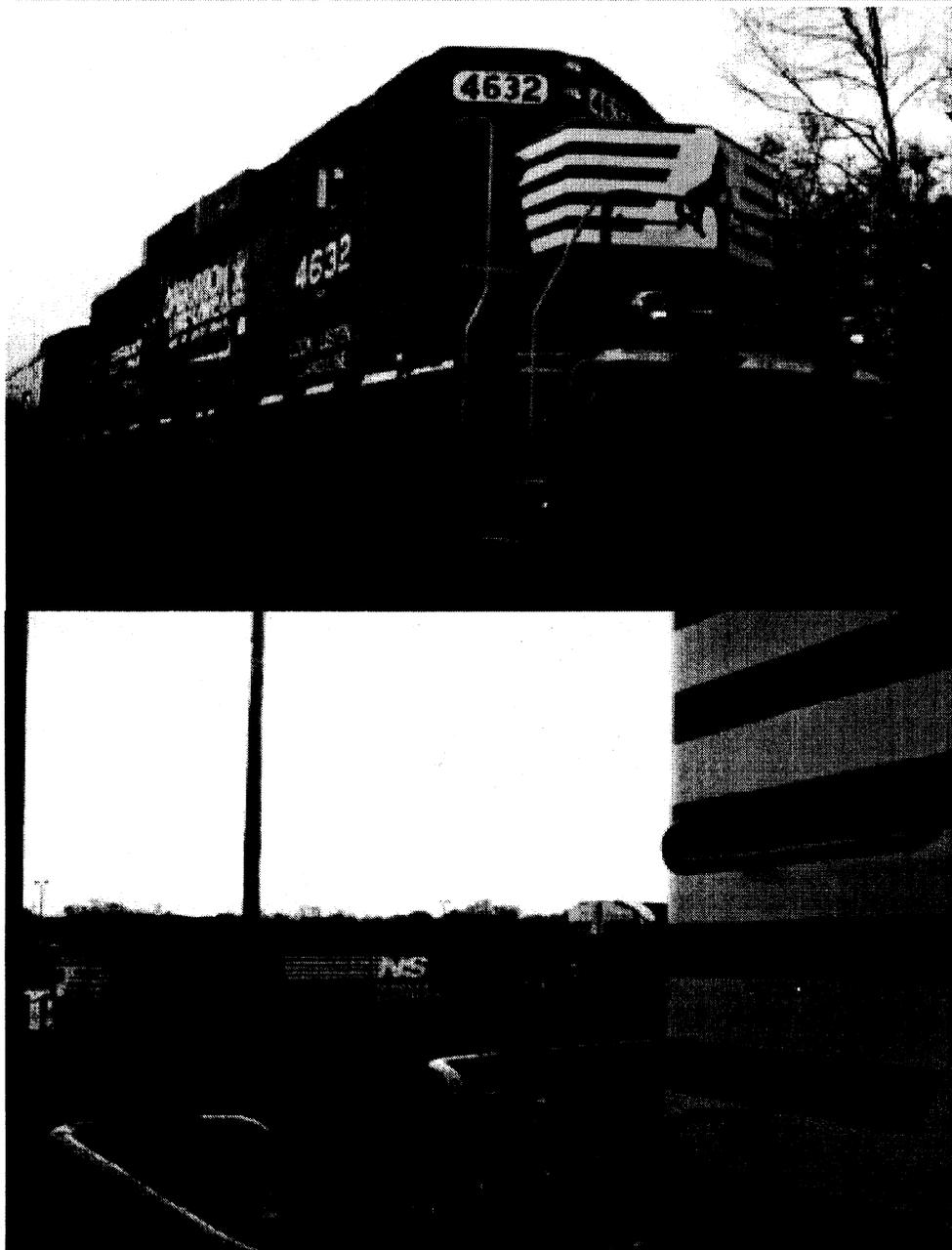
## NEXT MONTH:

**We continue our journey down the Ohio River and witness 4 weary diesels going to scrap, catch a CR/CSX set of helpers fly past K.U. tower, along with visiting the town that is featured on the cover of Norfolk Southern's 1997 Calendar!**



# **NS** On Track For Safety

A Photo Essay by Bryan Malone

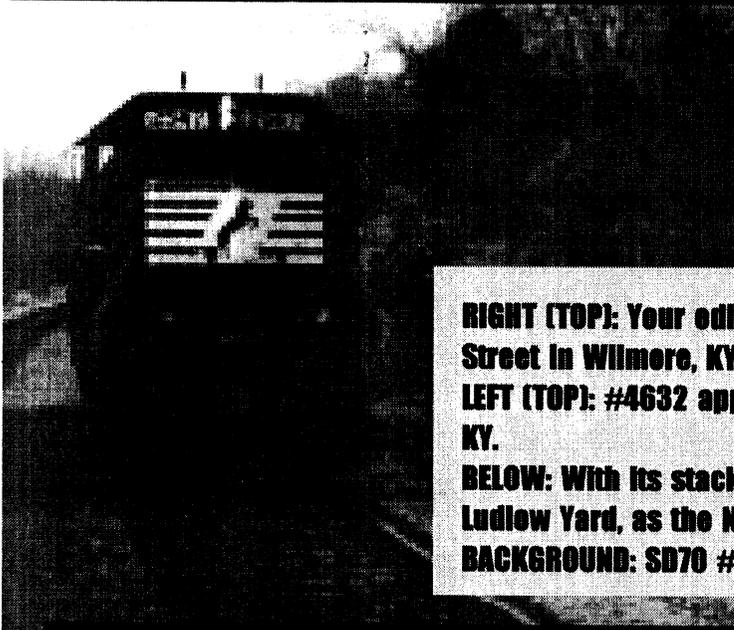


In October of last year, TAMR member Bryan Malone was a guest on a joint Operation Lifesaver / Norfolk Southern Special Train from Ludlow, KY (near Cincinnati, OH) to Danville, KY over the railroad's Kentucky Division 1st District. The following photos tell the story of his trip.

**ABOVE:** NS #23 "Theater" inspection car lays over in Ludlow Yard. The cars will be used later in the week for a south-bound inspection train.

**RIGHT (TOP):** GP59 #4632 shows off its Operation Lifesaver paint scheme at a stop in Crittenden, KY to bring aboard law enforcement officials who get an opportunity to "see what the engineer does" via the video camera on the pilot of the unit. NS #29 is in tow.

**RIGHT (BOTTOM):** Brian peeks between the vestibule for this artistic photograph of NS GP50 #7091 switching auto carriers for the Toyota auto plant in Georgetown, KY.



**RIGHT (TOP):** Your editor waves on the special as it crosses Main Street in Wilmore, KY.

**LEFT (TOP):** #4632 approaches the 2nd high bridge south of Ludlow, KY.

**BELOW:** With its stacks 'capped', MP15 #2378 awaits retirement in the Ludlow Yard, as the NS car fleet layover on one of the storage tracks.

**BACKGROUND:** SD70 #2547 passes our train at High Bridge, KY.



# Norfolk & Waypow Transportation Company

Train #: K66  
 has permission to proceed between  
 milepost 98.1 to milepost 101.0  
 with the following restrictions:  
 No Restrictions  
 Maintenance of Way Department working  
 milepost \_\_\_\_ Proceed at restricted speed.  
 Block Signal System not operational.  
 Rule 304 in effect.  
 Other: FENCE BROKEN-COWS ON TRACKS  
 Issued by dispatcher ON DUTY: B.T.

**Think Safety First!**

## TAMR RPO

This past January, TAMR Advisor Newton Vezina received the following letter from Mr. John Whitting of Columbia, LA:

Dear Newton Vezina,

*I received your letter regarding model railroading.*

*I am an older railroad enthusiast who would like to find a younger person to help me with a layout or I would like to help someone with theirs - it really doesn't matter which. I just enjoy seeing the trains and being with someone who shares my interest.*

If you would like to write Mr. Whittington, he can be reached at:

**John A. Whittington**  
 Route 2, Box 228  
 Columbia, LA 71418

I would like to thank Mr. Whittington for his desire to provide guidance to a younger modeler. He is a wonderful example of the many people in this hobby willing to help another develop their skills in model railroading - Editor.

# TRAIN ORDERS

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Danny Schueth of Crosssett, AR writes:

Dear TAMR,

*Hi! I read in Model Railroader a couple months ago that Athearn is coming out with the SD60, SD70 series. Is this true and do any of yall know when they will be out? I like to model the modern SP. I live about 60 miles from the "Cotton Belt" line at Fordyce, AR. My dad is associated with the Fordyce & Princeton RR at Fordyce.*

*My layout is an 8x8 oval. It is hard for me to model because I am just about the only person in my city that models. It is hard to get items to put on my layout because the nearest hobby store is in Little Rock and that is 130 miles away. Me and my dad try to go to Little Rock when we can to the hobby shop there. I am in the process of building my layout, it is not the prettiest or the best frame because there is no one around to help me. I just wish that I could have some more room to build, because it is in our garage and there is a lot of boxes and tools out there and there is not much room to expand. I like faster moving freights but its hard to model that on a small layout. I would like to make more yard and factory tracks to switch in but there is no room.*

Danny requested that any Southern Pacific/ Cotton Belt modelers out there drop him a line. His address is:

**Danny Schueth**  
 1306 Pecan St.  
 Crosssett, AR 71635

# E.O.T. The Lighter Side of Railroading

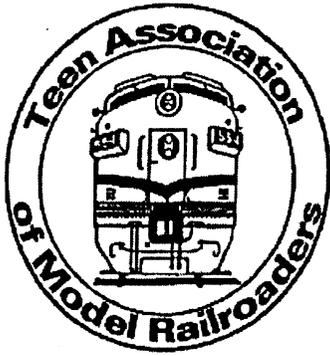
## You Might Be A Model Train Nut If:

*As submitted by Mike Riley, acquired from the Internet.*

1. You will never use a highway unless it parallels a railroad.
2. The only thing in your collection is of locomotives and rolling stock instead of family and friends.
3. You own one or more covers such as Daylight orange, Brunswick green, Glacier Blue, and Boxcar red.
4. You have used instant weathering spray paint to make models that don't turn out right.
5. You spent \$400.00 on a brass engine to pull a 4100 carload.
6. When you see the word LIMA, you don't think of Lima or butterbeans.
7. You cut up old calendars and use the pics as wall paper.
8. You owe the hobby shop more than your annual income on layaways.
9. All your shirts have trains on them.
10. Every term you use has something to do with trains.
11. You find yourself making train sounds in public.
12. You have every episode of "Tracks Ahead" and think that Chuck Zehner should win a grammy for his work in the series (this one is the editor's own).
13. You eat at "Big Boy" restaurants because it seems just seems right.
14. You think rail nippers are the best modeling tool ever invented.
15. Your eyes glaze over when you hear words like SB70MAC or Dash B-40C.
16. You collected CD's of various trains sounds to differentiate between a 567 and a 645 prime mover.
17. You deprive yourself of food on a railfan trip to buy more film.

## NOTICE

E.O.T is a new regular feature that will run every month in this publication. Like every other section of The Hotbox, E.O.T. depends on you, our membership, for material. Photos with humorous captions, stories, cartoons, top ten+ lists with railroad-ing themes, for example, would be perfect!



# Teen Association of Model Railroaders

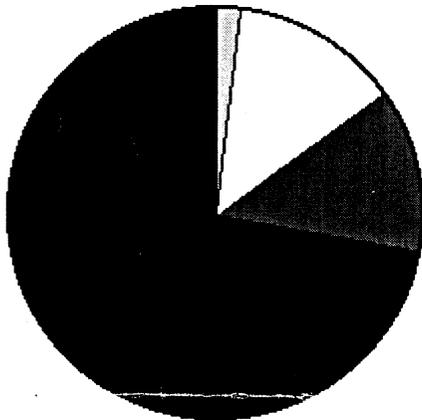
Department of the Treasury Brad Beaubien, Treasurer

1464 Vandenberg Circle Sgt. Bluff, IA 51054  
712.943.3215 TAMRtreas@aol.com

## 1996 Financial Report

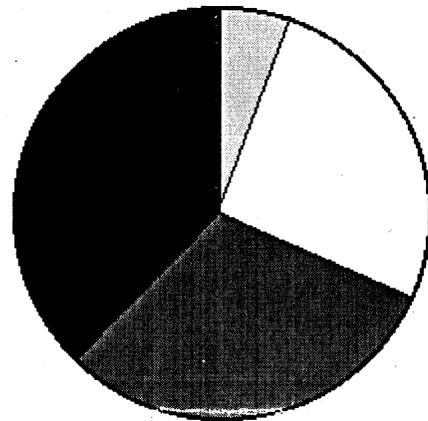
Beginning Balance, January 1, 1996		\$703.93
Income during 1996	+ \$972.89	
Expenses during 1996	- \$616.11	
Net Income	+ \$356.78	
Total Available Funds, December 31, 1996		\$1060.71

Income



%		
72.3	Dues	\$703.00
13.7	Convention	\$133.56
13.2	Contributions	\$128.07
0.8	Interest	\$8.26

Expenses



%		
38.2	Government	\$235.72
32.5	Hotbox	\$200.00
24.2	Regional Budgets	\$149.10
5.1	Promotion	\$31.29

I, TAMR Treasurer, assure these figures true and correct.

Signed this 20th day of February in the year 1997.

 Brad Beaubien, TAMR Treasurer