

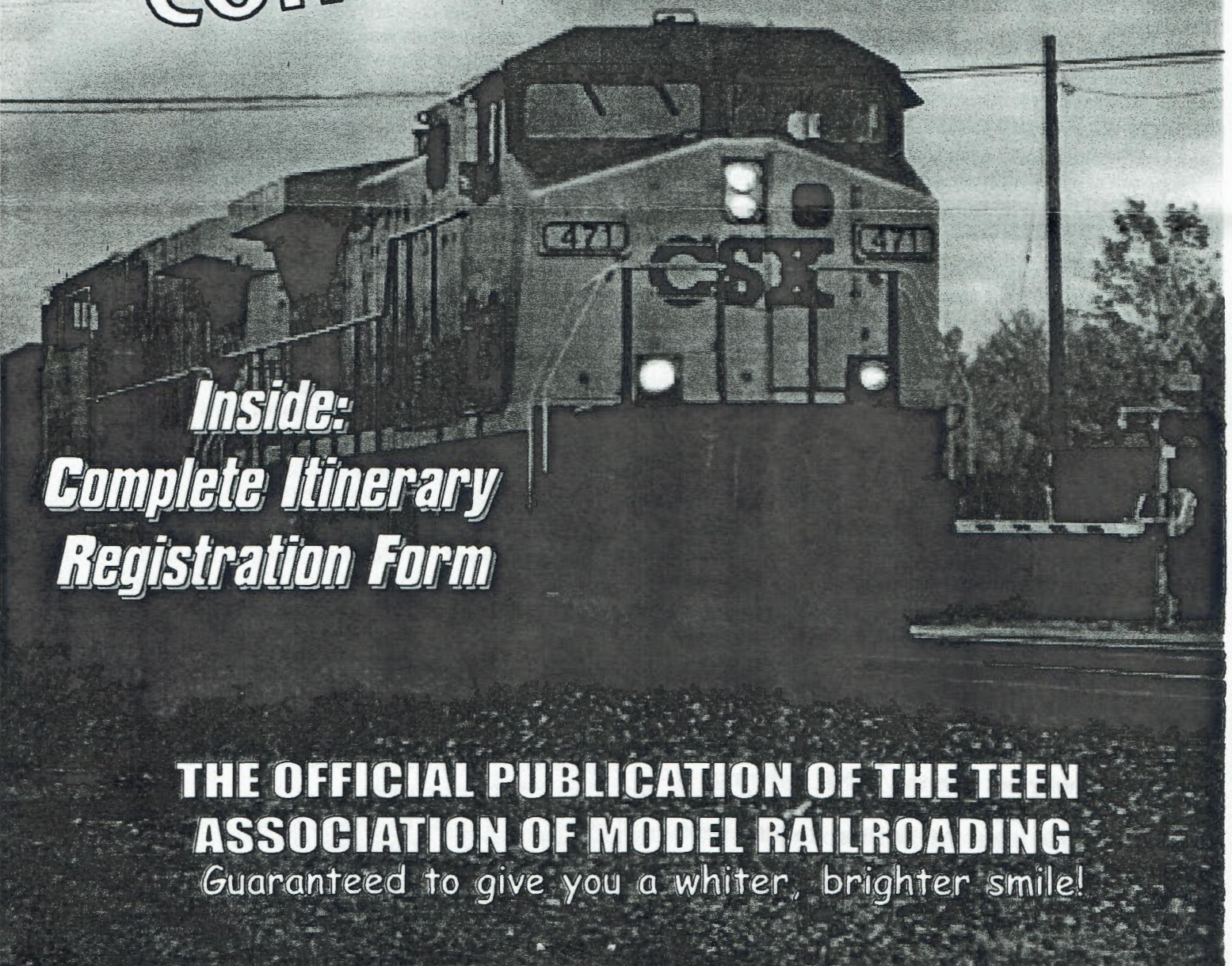
Celebrating Forty Years!

# THE HOTBOX

June 2004  
Issue # 372

ISBN: 1093-622X

CONVENTION ISSUE!



*Inside:  
Complete Itinerary  
Registration Form*

**THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEEN  
ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADING**

Guaranteed to give you a whiter, brighter smile!





# THE HOTBOX

JUNE 2004, ISSUE #372

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CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST-DITTO  
SENIOR EDITOR- PETER MACVANMAURATH II  
ART DIRECTOR- BO THE TAMR WONDER DOG  
PHOTOGRAPHER-O WINSTON SCHOEN  
LIBRARIAN- "KEEPS LOCKING ME OUT OF THE MENS ROOM!"

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Send your check or money order 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 Fairmont? 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

### OR EMAIL AT:

TAMRHotbox@aol.com

## GET WIRED

Check out TAMR on the web at:

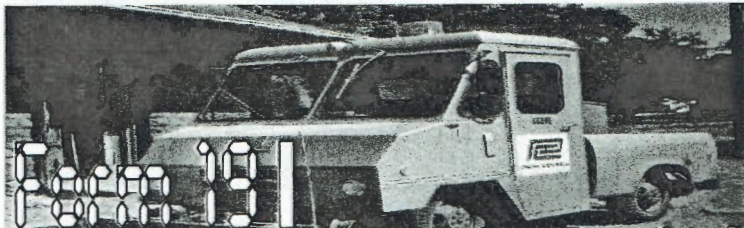
[www.TAMR.org](http://www.TAMR.org)

Or Join our online yahoo news group, by contacting: [pivotpin@TAMR.org](mailto: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](mailto:pivotpin@tamr.org).

ON THE COVER: CSX action captured in western NY. Photo: Nick Wilson.



## A message from your editor-in-chief

If I managed to do my job, and Nick did his, you should be getting this convention issue about a month before the actual event. It should also contain everything you could possibly need to make the trip to western, NY for almost two weeks of model trains, railfanning, tours, and of course, pizza! Before I turn the show over to Nick, I just have a few words concerning the Photo Contest.

If your waiting for the last minute to enter, THIS IS IT!!!!!! I've extended the original deadline another two weeks to June 11<sup>th</sup>. When I first submitted this idea to MRN a couple months back they were excited for it, and told me if it was successful this year, we could make it a yearly event complete with sponsors, and prizes. Though if all I get is one entry this year (all I have at present), there's not going to be a next year, and what could be a great boost for the TAMR, will have died in the station. Don't let a great opportunity to showcase your photography work pass you by. You'll not only be letting yourself down, but the TAMR as well. For entry rules and information see the May issue of The Hotbox, or email me at: [TAMRHotbox@aol.com](mailto:TAMRHotbox@aol.com). Before I go, lets welcome a few new (and renewed) members to the ranks! •

Andrew Hurd

Layout: Estes Park Railway  
Scale: HO

Jean Brisson

[brisson\\_jean@hotmail.com](mailto:brisson_jean@hotmail.com)  
Scale: HO  
Era: 1984-2004

Matt O'Donnell

Layout Name: 20x20  
Scale: O  
Equipment: Lionel, MTH, K-Line

Anthony Person

Layout Name: NEC  
Scale: HO  
Equipment: Diesel

You may remember this TAMR veteran from his contributions to the anniversary issue. Welcome back Jean!

Anthony has rejoined the group after a brief absence. Glad you came to your senses!





# LAKESHORE LIMITED 2004 NATIONAL CONVENTION



BY: NICK WILSON

The "Lakeshore Limited", a train with origins from as far back as the days of the mighty New York Central railroad, has been chosen for this year's TAMR national convention, to be held in Western New York around the Rochester area. This article is meant to give you a brief overview of the area as well as a convention schedule (note: as the time draws nearer, the schedule *could* change-please refer to <http://www.tamr.org/2004> for the latest version).

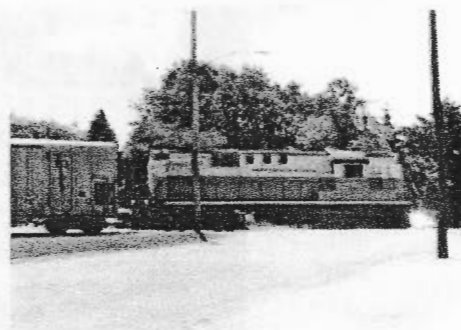
## RAILFANNING



Western New York features a variety of railroad related activities. For instance, you'll find everything from double track mainlines with high-speed intermodal trains and 80+ trains per day right down to the rusted, old shortlines running an all-ALCO roster (Western New York is an ALCO stronghold, as almost all shortlines run an all-ALCO roster). CSX's Chicago Line runs along the plains along the lakeshore (even though the line is roughly 30 miles from the shore-the lake used to go a lot further south before it retreated thousands of years ago). The Chicago Line features 70-80 trains per day, sometimes even more, and features a barrage of foreign power (everything from aging GP38's from the 70's right up to the ultra-modern CW60AC's). Most trains are intermodal, though multilevel (autorack), manifest, coal, and even the occasional grain or steel train (of course, Amtrak runs 7 or so trains per day through this corridor). This line is where a majority of railfanning will take place.

If high speed intermodal trains aren't your thing, to the south is NS's Southern Tier Line, a mountainous line featuring steep grades, high trestles, sharp curves, river running, and more. In addition, CN and CP/D&H utilize trackage rights regularly on the Southern Tier Line. The unfortunate thing, however, is that even with run-through trains, there are only 6-7 trains per day in total over this beautifully scenic line (though this could change if the rumors of NS taking over the D&H hold true). We'll probably visit this line a few times during the convention (once or twice since the train activity is so low, though there are certain shots that are too good to pass up, no matter how low the train frequency).

Of course, if class ones aren't your thing either, there are Western New York's numerous shortlines, many of which run an all-ALCO roster. On these shortlines, you'll find everything from huge 80 car unit salt trains on brand new track with welded 120-lbs. rail right down to a lone RS-11 hauling a pair of boxcars on rail from the days of the New York Central, barely clearing trees and obeying a 5 MPH speed limit. In terms of shortlines, we'll have one or two shop tours (though this was planned before the Madrid incident, so this could change) as well as railfanning/train chasing at a few points during the convention.



## MODEL RAILROADS

There are a few model railroads we will be visiting for either a tour or an operating session in addition to the railfanning mentioned above. Model railroads in this area are greatly varied, with anything from N scale to G scale, anything from the 1800's to the modern day era, and all sorts of operations.

One of the layouts we will be visiting/operating (which the TAMR has visited in the past) is RIT Model

Railroad Club's "Rochester & Irondequoit Terminal" railroad. The R&IT is a 10' x 25' DCC powered layout featuring multiple decks for plenty of operating as well as many industries for switching, and finally, 3 large yards (Buffalo, Rochester, & Syracuse) for road freights to operate between. TAMR has participated at many of their train shows in the past, so some members may know this layout rather well. For more information and photos of the layout, visit their website at <http://www.ritmrc.org>.

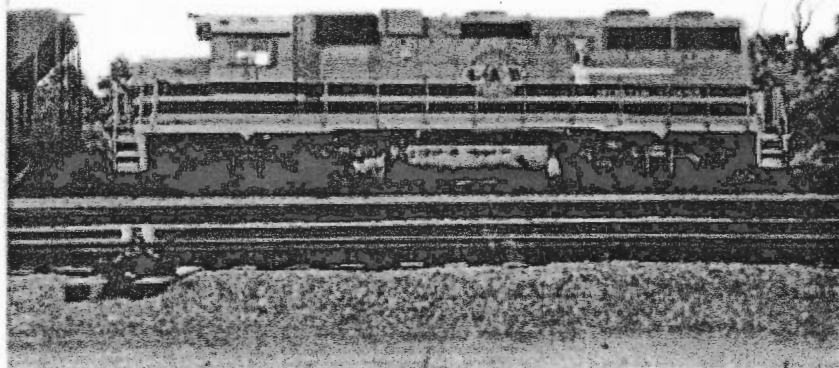
Another layout scheduled to be visited during the convention is the Genesee & Ontario N-Trak club. The G&O is a large N scale module layout located inside a mall near downtown Rochester where they have regularly scheduled meetings for operation or club related activities. As a former member of this club, I can vow that this modular layout is definitely worthy of visit. For more information and photos of the layout, please visit their website at <http://www.ggw.org/~gno>.

## MUSEUMS

Western New York also features railroad/transportation museums worthy of visit, featuring many pieces of restored equipment from many railroads long gone before our life even started.

The first museum we will be visiting is the Rochester Chapter of the NRHS (also known as the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum). The museum connects with another museum (the New York Museum of Transportation) via a 2-mile line completely hand-built by museum volunteers in the mid-90's. Many restored pieces of equipment roam around the premises, such as a fully restored Lehigh Valley RS3M or an Nickel Plate S4 pulling equipment such as an old MDT reefer or a restored PC caboose. For more information on the museum, as well as photos, please visit their website at <http://www.rochnrhs.org/rgvrrm.html>. As a member, I can honestly say this museum is a wonderful experience for those of us who weren't able to view these fallen-flags with our own eyes in full operation.

The other museum we will be visiting is the Medina Railroad Museum in Medina, New York. This railroad museum is built inside a huge 301' x 34' freight house along the old New York Central Niagara Falls Line (now the shortline "Falls Road Railroad"). The museum features a large 204' x 14' HO scale layout portraying many Western New York railroads of all eras as well as many exhibits on many different historical railroad pieces. And, of course, they have a gift shop with many souvenirs for you to take home. For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.railroadmuseum.net>.



GENESSEE, AND WYOMING GP35 #51 OPERATION LIFESAVER UNIT, PAUSES NEAR CHILI, NY. PHOTO: NICK WILSON

WARNING TO THOSE DEVOID OF A SENSE OF HUMOR:  
THE FOLLOWING PAGES OF THIS CONVENTION ISSUE MAY FEATURE MATERIAL  
UNSUITABLE FOR THE HUMORLESS. READER DISCRETION IS ADVISED.

(SORRY NICK, HAD TO HAVE A LITTLE FUN!)



**OFFICIAL TEEN  
ASSOCIATION OF MODEL  
RAILROADERS 2004  
NATIONAL CONVENTION  
SCHEDULE**

**ARRIVAL DAY**

**MONDAY, JULY 5, 2004-**

10:00 AM-8:00 PM-Guests Arrive;  
Settle In @ Hotel Or Nick's House  
9:00 PM-Night Railfanning @ Bergen  
(Optional)  
11:00 PM-Return Home; Go To Bed

**DAY 1**

**TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2004**

7:00 AM-Wake Up & Get Ready  
7:30 AM-Eat Breakfast  
8:30 AM-Railfanning @ Donahue Road  
12:00 PM-Eat Lunch  
1:30 PM-Museum - Medina Railroad  
Museum  
3:30 PM-Railfanning - Caswell Road  
5:00 PM-Operating Session @ Genesee  
Society of Model Engineers  
10:00 PM-Return Home & Watch  
Videos  
11:00 PM-Go To Bed

**DAY 2**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 2004**

7:00 AM-Wake Up & Get Ready  
7:30 AM-Eat Breakfast  
8:00 AM-Head To Buffalo  
9:00 AM-Arrive @ Buffalo; Railfan  
Lakeview Road  
12:00 PM-Eat Lunch  
1:00 PM-Hobby Shop-Niagara Hobby &  
Craft  
2:00 PM-Railfan @ Depew Amtrak  
Station  
3:02 PM-Gerbil Rodeo  
5:30 PM-Head Back To Brockport

7:00 PM-Arrive @ Brockport; Eat  
Dinner  
8:30 PM-Watch Videos @ Hotel  
11:00 PM-Return Home & Go To Bed

**DAY 3**

**THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2004**

7:00 AM-Wake Up & Get Ready  
7:30 AM-Eat Breakfast  
8:00 AM-Head To CSX's Goodman St.  
Yard  
9:00 AM-Arrive @ Yard; Yard Tour  
9:54 AM-Yodeling from Goodman St.  
Yard tower  
12:00 PM-Eat Lunch  
1:00 PM-Hobby Shop-Dan's Crafts &  
Things  
3:00 PM-Hobby Shop-Despatch  
Junction  
5:00 PM-Eat Dinner  
6:30 PM-Layout Visit-Genesee &  
Ontario Model N-Gineer's Mall Layout  
8:00 PM-Night Railfanning @ Blossom  
Ave.  
10:00 PM-Head Home  
11:00 PM-Arrive Home; Go To Bed

**DAY 4**

**FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2004**

8:00 AM-Wake Up & Get Ready  
8:30 AM-Eat Breakfast  
10:00 AM-Slideshow 1: \*\*Open\*\*  
10:45 AM-Slideshow 2: \*\*Open\*\*  
11:30 AM-Clinic 1: \*\*Open\*\*  
12:15 AM-Clinic 2: \*\*Open\*\*  
1:00 PM-Slideshow 3: \*\*Open\*\*  
1:45 PM-Clinic 3: \*\*Open\*\*  
2:30 PM-Slideshow 4: \*\*Open\*\*  
3:15 PM-Clinic 4: \*\*Open\*\*  
4:00 PM- B.O.D. Meeting (Others May  
Railfan @ Bergen)  
6:15 PM-Eat Dinner  
7:00 PM-Photo, Model & Art Contest @  
Hotel  
11:00 PM-Return Home & Go To Bed

**DAY 5****SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2004**

7:00 AM-Wake Up & Get Ready  
 7:30 AM-Eat Breakfast  
 8:00 AM-Railfanning @ Attridge Road  
 10:00 AM-Museum-Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum  
 12:00 PM-Eat Lunch  
 1:30 PM-Operating Session @ RIT Model RR Club  
 5:30 PM-Head To Churchville  
 6:00 PM-Arrive @ Churchville; Eat Dinner  
 7:00 PM-Head To Caledonia  
 7:15 PM-Arrive @ Caledonia; Hobby Shop-Kurt's Train's  
 8:01 PM Warp time and space, return to start of convention.  
 8:30 PM-Night Railfanning @ Bergen  
 11:00 PM-Return Home; Go To Bed

**DAY 6****SUNDAY, JULY 11, 2004**

7:00 AM-Wake Up & Get Ready  
 7:30 AM-Eat Breakfast  
 8:00 AM-Head To Fairport  
 10:00 AM-Arrive @ Fairport; Railfan @ Main St.  
 12:00 PM-Eat Lunch  
 1:00 PM-Head To Webster  
 1:30 PM-Arrive @ Webster; Tour Of NCE DCC  
 3:00 PM-Head To Geneva  
 3:30 PM-Arrive @ Geneva; Hobby Shop: Lake City Hobby  
 3:31 PM-Discover this is not Geneva, Switzerland.  
 5:00 PM-Head Back To Brockport  
 7:30 PM-Arrive @ Brockport; Eat Dinner  
 8:45 PM- Wal-Mart Pitstop- 1-Hour Photo Developing, Extra Film, Etc.  
 10:00 PM-Watch Videos @ Hotel  
 11:00 PM-Return Home & Go To Bed

**DAY 7****MONDAY, JULY 12, 2004**

7:00 AM-Wake Up & Get Ready  
 7:30 AM-Eat Breakfast  
 8:00 AM-Engine House Tour-Livonia, Avon, & Lakeville  
 12:00 PM-Eat Lunch  
 1:30 PM-Railfanning @ P&L Junction  
 2:37 PM-Take AC6000 out for joy-ride.  
 3:00 PM-Head To Altoona, PA For Post Convention  
 8:00 PM-Arrive @ Altoona; Eat Dinner  
 9:00 PM- Check Into Hotel  
 10:00 PM- Go To Bed

**TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2004 -  
 THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2004  
 POST CONVENTION  
 ACTIVITIES!!!**

**Lodging Info:**

Limited space is available at the directors home. We ask that this be reserved for those on a tight budget.

Contact Nick Wilson for more information.

**Hotels:**

**Econo Lodge, Brockport, NY**

Range- \$60-90  
 (716)-637-3157

**Comfort Inn-West, Greece, NY**

Range- \$85-100  
 (716)621-5700

**Wellesley Inn & Suites, Greece, NY**

Range- \$60-105  
 (716)-621-2060

**Contact Info:**

Nick Wilson

Nick@TAMR.org



# TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS NATIONAL CONVENTION FORM 1040EZ-PRR

Fill out, and tear off along fold. Mail with fee to: Nick Wilson

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF ARRIVAL: \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT IS THE SQUARE ROOT OF 3482?: \_\_\_\_\_

METHOD OF TRANSPORTATION: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF DEPARTURE: \_\_\_\_\_

METHOD OF TRANSPORTATION: \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS ON BROWN VS. BOARD OF EDUCATION, AND IT'S  
PRESENT EFFECTS ON SOCIETY? \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WILL YOU NEED A RIDE?: \_\_\_\_\_

CAN YOU FIT OTHER PEOPLE IN YOUR VEHICLE?:

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ IF YES, HOW MANY: \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOUR VEHICLE IS X, AND HAMLIN, NY IS  $(3Y-N)(10M+R)$ , WHAT WILL  
BE THE CORRECT TIME OF YOUR ARRIVAL IN STURTEVANT, WI? (PLEASE  
SHOW YOUR WORK): \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ENCLOSE A PERSONAL CHECK OR A MONEY ORDER FOR \$5 TO COVER ALL FEES  
DURING THIS CONVENTION. IF NOT ENCLOSED WITH THE CONVENTION FORM, YOU MUST PAY  
AT THE START OF THE CONVENTION. YOU WILL BE HUNG UPSIDE DOWN BY YOUR ANKLES  
UNTIL SUFFICIENT LOOSE CHANGE AND OTHER LEGAL TENDER HAS LEFT YOUR PERSON TO  
COVER THE FEES. HE HE HE, JUST KIDDING ABOUT THE LAST PART!

SIGN BELOW:

X \_\_\_\_\_

BY SIGNING THIS FORM, YOU HEREBY RECESS ANY HARM DONE AT THIS NATIONAL  
CONVENTION BY ANYBODY AND/OR ANYTHING AT ANYTIME FROM THE TEEN ASSOCIATION OF  
MODEL RAILROADERS. SIGNING OF THIS CONTRACT IS MANDATORY TO ATTEND THIS  
CONVENTION. SO THERE!

THE TAMR IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION CREATED TO PROMOTE, FOSTER, AND ENCOURAGE YOUNG PERSONS IN THE HOBBY OF MODEL RAILROADING, THE ACTIVITY OF RAILFANNING, AND THE PRESERVATION OF THE HISTORY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY THEREOF.

MEMBERSHIP TO THE TAMR INCLUDES AN ELEVEN MONTH SUBSCRIPTION TO THE HOTBOX, THE ANNUAL DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS, QUARTERLY REGIONAL NEWSLETTERS AND AN INVITATION 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:  
NICK WILSON, TAMR TREASURER, 2584 ROOSEVELT HIGHWAY, HAMLIN, NY 14464, USA

OFFER GOOD WHY SUPPLIES LAST, NEGATIVE EQUITY APPLIED TO NEW LOAN BALANCE, SEE STORE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY, VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF RULES, REGULATIONS, AND THE BEST DARN RESTUARANTS IN HULL, IA SEND A SSAEBDR TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS. IF YOU ARE AT ALL UNSATISFIED WITH THE HOTBOX, PLEASE RETURN UNUSED PORTION FOR A COMPLETE BLOW-OFF BY OUR STAFF. THANK YOU!

## COMING SOON TO THE HOTBOX :

- Erik Romatowski takes us on a tour of his New Jersey & Pennslyvania RR.
- Dave Honan takes us along for his spring break railfan trip to Chicago, and Kentucky. (sorry, not the kind of spring break that would make MTV)

## COMING SOON TO THE TAMR :

- Come join the fun at *Trainfest* this July in Dennison, OH. They'll be an informal gathering of TAMR members, and oh yeah, something about a few large steam locos.
- Photo contest voting begins June 21<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget your entries! (see page 3)

