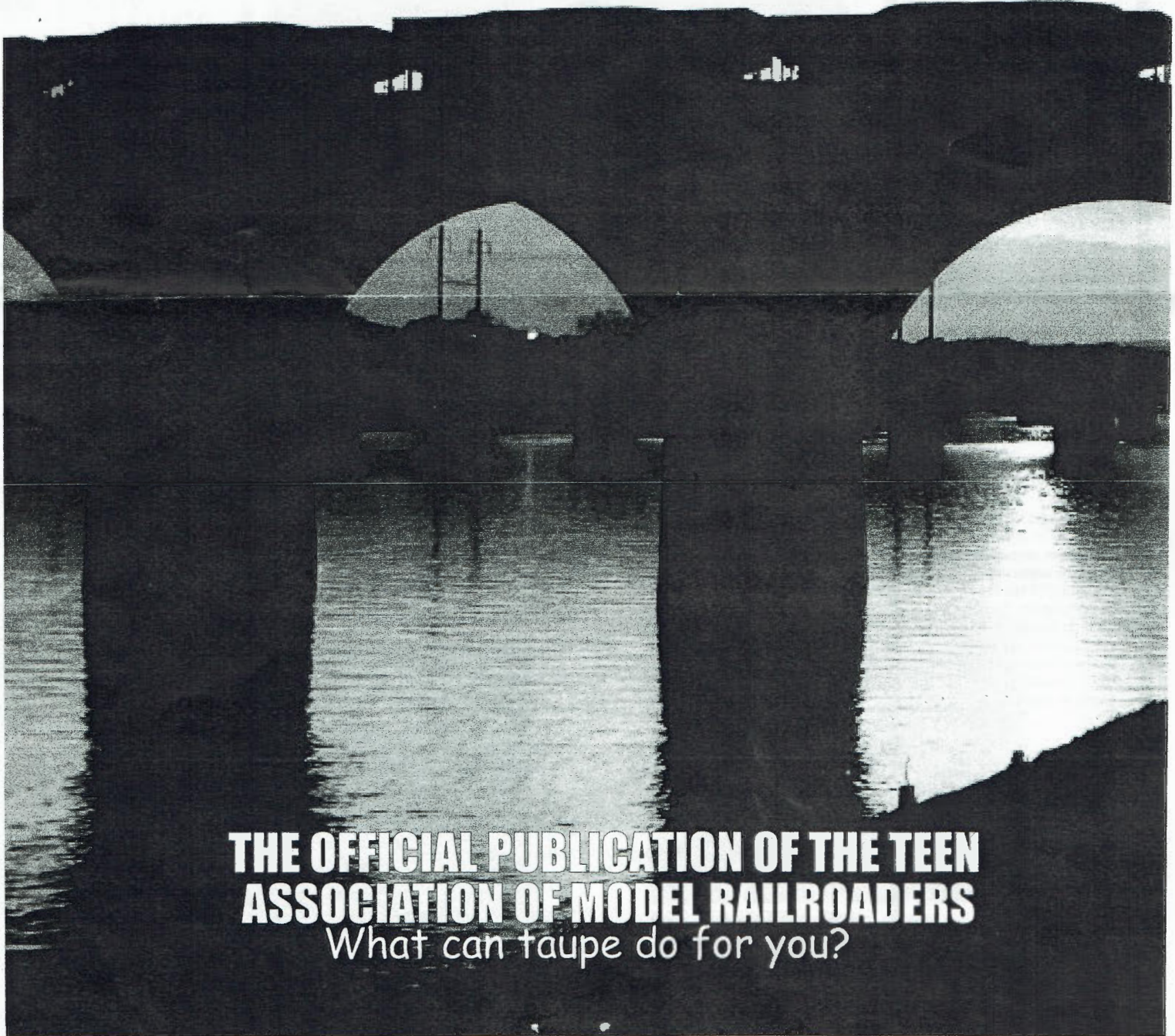


PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS ISSUE

# THE HOTBOX

August 2005  
Issue # 385

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**THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEEN  
ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS**  
What can taupe do for you?





# THE HOTBOX

**Editor** -Peter Maurath  
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**Contributing Columnist** -  
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**Senior Editor**- Dr. Peter  
McRath  
**Art Director**- Van Dough  
**Photographer**- Max  
"metered" Montvall  
**Librarian**- Likes to jump on her  
couch.

## 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. New officers are too

### Columns:

Full of great tips on layout improvement? Got a million reasons EMD is better than Erie-built? 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

And that's why I like to scroll with scroll buttons!

### 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:** This years contest winner! A row of hoppers on an NS train are silhouetted on the Susquehanna River bridge, this past May. Photo: Mark MacDougall

## FORM 19 A message from your editor in chief

Here we are, the home stretch of summer. Less than a month to go before most of you will be back in school, HA HA HA! Sorry, us old working stiffs just love to remind you students of that impending end of summer, which by the way, is less than a month away, oops did it again!

Anyway on to business. This month's primary feature is the winners of the recent TAMR Photo Contest. Out of more than a dozen entries these five were chosen as the best of the best of our resident shutterbugs. If you do not agree, and you voted feel free to complain, if you do not agree and didn't bother to vote, as the majority of you did (8 votes total were received) please sit down and be quiet. I hope next year we can do a little better in that department. Personally

I'm happy with the chosen winners, and want to extend my Congratulations to them and all who entered for their efforts!

My recent carping about an empty article file seems to be reaching some of you as I actually had enough material to fill this issue, though most of it came from regulars who send me stuff most of the time anyway. This would be fine, if I had enough regulars, BUT I DON'T. Articles for this publication are still desperately needed to ensure I'm not Xeroxing blank pages here. That goes for photo's too. Get over your inferiority complex, make the time, take a chance and sendme something, the worst that could happen is I use it!



Tim Vermande, photo.

I'll close with another welcome to a few new faces!

Steven Goehring

Layout: Wellsboro, Ansonia & Galeton  
Scale/Equipment: N/PRR electrics, CSX diesels, local trains of Tioga County, PA

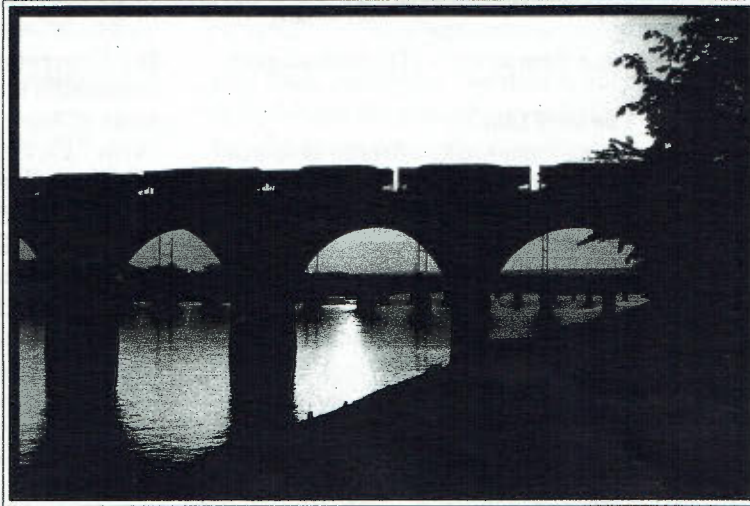
Matt Martin

[hangswithchicks@aol.com](mailto:hangswithchicks@aol.com)  
Layout: Santa Fe & Western NY  
Scale/Equipment: N, HO / all equipment



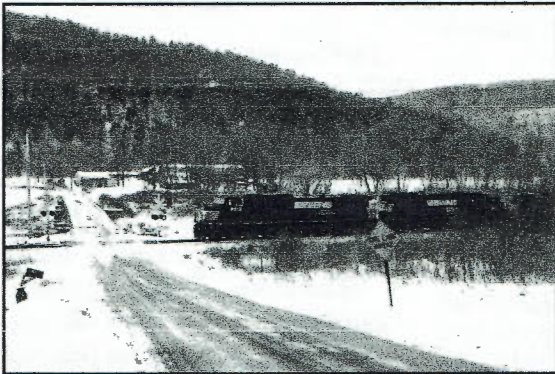
# YOUR 2005 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

## First Place



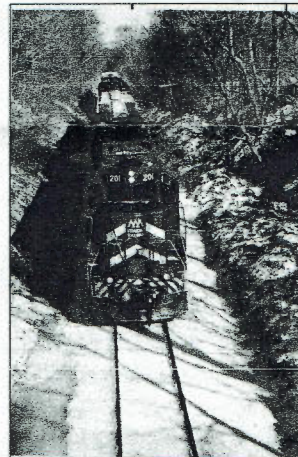
**Mark MacDougall-** Norfolk Southern coal train 682 crosses over the Susquehanna River in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on Norfolk Southern's Lurgan Branch, May 7th, 2005.

## Second Place



**Nick Wilson-** An eastbound NS manifest slams through a crossing somewhere in the Canisteo River Valley along the ex-Conrail (EL before CR) Southern Tier Line, February 8, 2005.

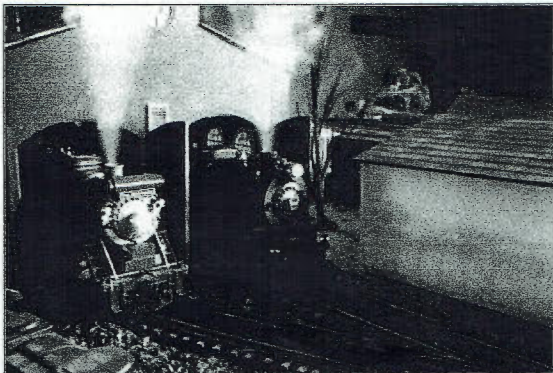
## Third Place



**Martin Patterson-** Vermont Railway GP38-2 #201 takes a Washington County Railroad mixed freight train south on Vermont Rail System rails, just south of Wells River, VT, February 19, 2005

## Fifth Place

## Fourth Place



**Christopher Barany-** M1a 6757 and CNJ Blue Comet 831 steam up in the engine house on the home layout, April 28, 2005.



**Jonathan Schoen-** A Pacific Surfliner lays over in Los Angeles Union Station along with five Metrolink commuter trains on adjacent tracks.



# **SCALE** *The World of Train Simulator* By Jonathan Schoen

These days there are hundreds of add-ons for Train Simulator. You can now get quality models of locos from just about every major railroad, including one of my very favorites, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad, best known simply as the Santa Fe. The railroad has a glorious history of motive power, and an increasing amount of MSTs locos is giving us more and more opportunities to run them. Let's take a brief look at our options.

## **Routes**

### **Tehachapi Pass & Cajon Pass**

Cajon Pass was built by the Santa Fe as part of their mainline, between Los Angeles and Chicago, into California in the late 1800s. There are many locations in the pass that are well known to railfans, and traffic frequency makes this line a favorite among railfans. In addition to Santa Fe trains, Union Pacific also uses the line via trackage rights. What's more, in the 1980s Southern Pacific built its own line through the pass as part of direct line to its Tehachapi Pass, thus diverting trains away from the busy Los Angeles area.

Tehachapi Pass was built by Southern Pacific as their original mainline connecting Sacramento and San Francisco in northern California to Los Angeles in southern California, passing through Bakersfield and the San Joaquin Valley. In 1899, the Santa Fe acquired trackage rights over the pass (which includes the Tehachapi Loop) to access their own line through the San Joaquin Valley.

3D Train Stuff offers their versions of both of these routes and you can get more info and pur-

chase them at [www.3DTrainStuff.com](http://www.3DTrainStuff.com).

### **The Surf Line**

Facing Point Media offers an excellent version of the ex-Santa Fe Surf Line between Los Angeles Union Station and San Diego. The line hugs the Pacific Ocean for many miles. Although the route is modeled after the way it currently appears, just about any type of Santa Fe power would look great on it. You can find more info and pur-

*"...go ahead and buy one or more of these products and start working for the Santa Fe today."*

chase it at [www.facingpoint.com](http://www.facingpoint.com).

## **Trains**

### **4-8-4 #3751**

3D Train Stuff offers a model of this currently-operating ATSF steamer. It is in a pack that includes a few activities for the 3DTS's Cajon Pass route. Go to 3DTS's website for more info.

## **2nd Generation Diesels**

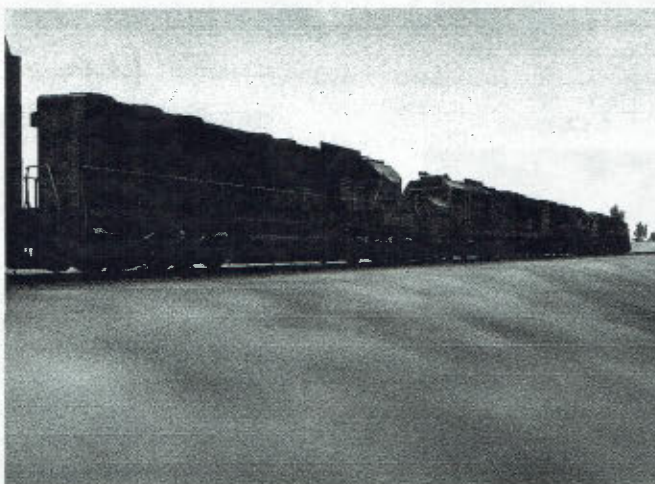
Streamlines Inc. currently sells two packs of Santa Fe diesels from the 1970s - 80s era. All locos are in the blue and yellow Warbonnet scheme. Pack I includes an F45, SD45, SD45-2, SD40-2 and SD40-2 "Snoot" nose. Pack II includes a GP35, GP30, GP40X, GP50 and B40-8. Streamlines also plans to release a pack that includes a GP60M, GP60B, SD75M and C40-8W and B40-8W in the red and silver Warbonnet scheme. All of these packs are in preparation for Streamlines' version of Santa Fe's Seligman Subdivision between Needles, CA and Winslow, AZ. Go to [www.streamlines.ca](http://www.streamlines.ca) for more info.

## **1st Generation Diesels**

3D Trains (not to be confused with 3D Train Stuff) offers beautiful models of E & F Units as well as GP7s and 9s. There are many excellent models and train sets to supplement your 1950s - 60s operations. Go to [www.3DTrains.com](http://www.3DTrains.com) for more info.

## **Summary**

The routes mentioned cost about \$40 each, and the train sets all cost \$15 or less. That's the pay-ware stuff. There is plenty more available for free at [www.train-sim.com](http://www.train-sim.com), and some nice stuff at that! With that said, go ahead and buy one or more of these products and start working for the Santa Fe today. Come on schools out, and you have a whole summer ahead of you to do "healthy" activities, why not spend a few hours at your computer? Stay tuned for next issue when I'll discuss operations for the Southern Pacific.●



**SOME OF THE LOCOS IN THE SANTA FE PACK I  
BY STREAMLINES INC. SCREENSHOT BY JONATHAN SCHOEN**



# It's all in the angle...

**BY: LEWIS ABEILDINGER**

Have you ever considered how changing your angle when taking a photograph can really alter the scene? This might be as simple as getting above the train, or perhaps getting a shot down at the railhead height. Depending on the lighting the mood can change as well. Take a shot of some engines at a facility in direct three-quarter sun and you have a nice roster shot, but go to the other side so that only the noses of the engines have sunlight and the rest is in shadow, and the photo dramatically changes.

This leads to my example. In one shot we have a BNSF westbound at Des Lacs, North Dakota. This train is only 12 miles out of the crew's home terminal at Gavin Yard near Minot and they've already been put in the hole to meet six east bounds! Framing the scene is an old elevator at right, and even more interesting, the old Great Northern water tank at left, a steam era relic that one rarely

still finds trackside. The date is July 9, 2004 and the setting sun is lighting the scene perfectly. Would you ever take any thought as to what the photo possibilities are behind the photographer?

Well, the next photo was taken 180 degrees the other direction only about 15 minutes after the previous shots. This is one of those east bounds (only 5 actually came before the sun completely set) coming out of a blazing yellow sunset (you will have to imagine the color yourself!) complete with great cloud formations. To complete the scene the train is cresting a hill just prior to crossing a fairly impressive bridge spanning the coulee on the west end of town. The mood is also changed quite a bit. Everything in the previous photo is well lit and in focus and combined with the elements in the photo creates a picture perfect (no pun intended) scene. The other photo has a lot more atmosphere to it. The train and foreground are in shadow with the

clouds and sunset creating a dramatic backdrop. The engine's headlights pierce through the shadows. There's really some mystery to it.

There you have it, two photos at the same location taken at roughly the same time with two completely different results. I would bet I could put both of these photos in a slide show but not in sequence and no one would guess they're the same location and time. So next time you're out trackside, consider looking at things from a different angle. Don't just settle for the three-quarter wedge shot on the sunny side. Go for the gusto! You may really like the results!●

*Lewis has been a TAMR member for ten years, serving as both central region representative, and founder of the Great Plains Division group. He still regularly contributes to the Hotbox. And is presently attending college.*



**CAPTION: MORRISTOWN AND ERIE C424 NUMBER 18 (AN EX. TPW UNIT) IS ON THE END OF THE EASTER BUNNY TRAIN RIDE AT WHIPPANY RR MUSEUM IN WHIPPANY, NJ ON MARCH 25TH, 2005. PHOTO: MICHAEL BOYER. ONE OF SEVERAL PHOTO CONTEST ENTRIES THAT ALMOST MADE IT.**

## **THE HOTBOX FUNNY NAME OF THE MONTH.**

**PULLED AT RANDOM FROM THE LAKE REGION TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF THE PENN CENTRAL TELECENTRAL PHONE NETWORK "THERE IS ALWAYS TIME FOR COURTESY".**

**K.C. ARMENTROUT**

**THIS CONCLUDES THE HOTBOX FUNNY NAME OF THE MONTH PROVIDED BY THE PENN CENTRAL, TELECENTRAL PHONE NETWORK. "WHEN YOU ANSWER THE TELEPHONE YOU ARE THE COMPANY."**



## Inside the Espee

A COLUMN ON SOUTHERN PACIFIC  
EQUIPMENT

By: Benjamin Hawken

Almost every railfan knows about the famous Baldwin 4-8-4 (this means the locomotive has 4 wheels in front 8 in center and 4 at the back of the locomotive.) no matter if the person likes diesels or steam they can agree that she's a beautiful locomotive. She and her sisters were used on the Golden State passenger trains. As diesels invaded the rails the steam engines were retired and

*"The 4449 was donated to the city of Portland and was put on display in the city park."*

scraped, but some survived, and were donated to a town along the mainline. The 4449 was donated to the city of Portland and was put on display in the city park. In 1970 she was restored and in 1975 ran the bicentennial train across the country stopping in San Francisco, Chicago and other major cities. The 4449 then after that ran specials and during one run she broke away from her tender, and ran half a

mile until she stopped, and had enough steam to return to her train. She was even in a Hollywood movie, though lately, she's has been at home in Portland. She was being used by the BNSF railway for employee trips in black with the BNSF logo on her tender. She also has been repainted into her 1976 scheme. Anyway here's what's coming up next month:

GP38-2. Also I am looking for pictures 1980 and newer locomotives that SP had for upcoming articles. Questions or comments about Southern Pacific equipment email me at: [Southernpacificfreak@yahoo.com](mailto:Southernpacificfreak@yahoo.com) or mail me at:

SP Equipment

## The Top 7

By: Peter Maurath

*"From the Home office in Cleveland, OH, it's tonight's Top Seven List!"*

**Top Seven ways railfans beat the heat.**

**#7. Join a club layout that has A/C .**

**#6. Find a grade crossing relay cabinet with one of those little exhaust fans on it**

**#5. Leave their engineer's hat in the freezer overnight.**

**#4. Get a master key for the reefer cars.**

**#3. Two words-frozen scanner.**

**#2. Use their timetable sheets as impromptu fans.**

**And the number one way railfans keep cool.....  
Railfanning in the buff**

## Winter National Convention 2006

It's been confirmed! The TAMR will, for it's eighteenth year, be hosting a table at the Amherst Railway Society's BIG Railroad Hobby Show, January 27-29, 2006. Join us for a weekend of trains, slide shows, trains, pizza, and trains. Meet TAMR member's Newton Vezina, Peter Maurath, Chris Burchett, and more, tour the second largest train show in the US, check out slide shows, and just have fun hanging out with other young railfans and hobbyists. For more information, or to reserve your space in the TAMR's palatial hotel suite (\$25 per-person, per night) please contact Newton Vezina, Convention Director at: [Newton.Vezina@tamr.org](mailto:Newton.Vezina@tamr.org)

[TAMRVideo@aol.com](mailto:TAMRVideo@aol.com)



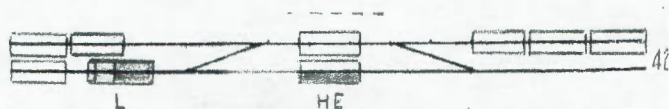


# THE PUZZLE LAYOUT

Conducted By: George Baustert

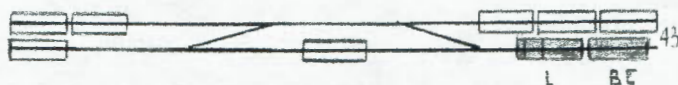
Hi, my name is George and I've been modeling railroads for over sixty years. I'd like to share with you a small layout (4"x 64"), that is called The Puzzle. It is called this because it takes 54 moves to complete the switching operations due to the restrictive size of the layout, using 40' cars and an SW switcher. The operations consist of swapping the cars of a four car train, on the main, with four cars spotted on the two stub sidings, at the rear of the layout. Ending-up with those cars and the loco reassembled into a train that is headed in the opposite direction from the start position. Let's start with last month's final move.

## move 42



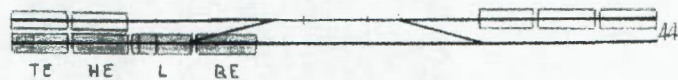
The loco backs up to the left to clear the left hand crossover, but stopping short of coupling onto the empty tank car on the end of the main.

## move 43



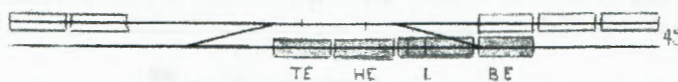
The loco moves forward, to the right, through the left hand crossover, then picks up the empty boxcar on the fly & shoves it through the right hand crossover & onto the mainline, until clearing the points of the right hand crossover.

## move 44



The loco backs up, to the left, with the empty boxcar in tow & picks up the empty hopper on the fly & continues backing up till the empty hopper couples onto the empty tank car at the left end of the mainline.

## move 45



Now the loco moves forward, to the right, with all three cars & stops to spot the empty tank car & empty hopper on the mainline, at the center of the runaround.

## move 46



The loco moves forward to the right, with the empty boxcar, until clear of the right hand crossover.

## move 47



Next, the loco backs up, to the left, pulling the empty box car through the right hand crossover & stops clear of the crossover turnout points.

## move 48



The loco moves to the right, pushing the empty box car until it couples onto the full box car & full reefer. The full reefer is then uncoupled from the empty reefer that is spotted at the right end of the spur.

Know what the next move is? Find out in July. ●

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 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,

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 CARSONVILLE, MI SEND A SSAE8DR 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:

- The puzzle layout conclusion.
- Photo advice from Tim Vermande .

### COMING SOON TO THE TAMR:

- Winter Convention T-six months!

We're on the web!  
[www.tamr.org](http://www.tamr.org)



Teen Association Of Model Railroaders  
"Putting the future of model railroading on the right track"

