

THE HOTBOX



November 2006
Issue # 400

ISBN:1093-622X

ELECTION ISSUE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEEN
ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS

"Now available in new Hotbox-Lite!"

Editor—Peter Maurath
Publisher—Peter Maurath II
Contributing Columnists—
 Jonathan Schoen
 Steven Goehring
Art Director—Duh Vinci
Photographer—Mia Nolte
Librarian—Loves her tur-
 ducken.

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.

COLUMNS:

Full of great tips on layout improvement? Got a million reasons Alco is better than EMD? 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@sbcglobal.net
 You're so square, you're a box.

GET WIRED

Check out TAMR on the web at:
www.TAMR.org

Or join our online yahoo news group, by contacting:

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



TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS

November 2006

Issue 400

THE HOTBOX Election Issue

ON THE COVER: Long-Island Railroad locomotive captured in Montauk, NY.

Photo: Maikha Ly.

FORM 19 A message from your editor in chief

November! Halloween is past, the stores are decorating for Christmas, and the day of the turkey is less than a month away. It's a busy last couple of month's and I'd be slacking in my duties if I didn't contribute to this chaos in some fashion, so without further ado, welcome to your Decision 06' TAMR Election issue! In here you will find everything you need to let your voice be heard in the group. A complete run-down on the candidates, as well as the ever-important ballot. I'd be lying if I said this election will have some close races, as there really aren't any races. All positions are either unopposed or completely open. Write-in candidates are permitted and would be welcome at this point to make things a little more interesting. So if you have some responsibility, a good work ethic, and play nice with other kids, write in your name in the position of choice and get a few

friends to do the same and you're in!

Voting is just as important in this group as it is in our local, state and federal elections. You as members have a right given you in our groups constitution to elect a body of officers from your peers to lead you. Don't take it lightly and blow-it-off. Voting is open to ALL members young and old. It's takes but a minute to fill out the ballot, and this time you have no excuse as the ballots come *pre-stamped*. Just fill it out, tear, fold, seal, and drop in the mail. It's as easy as that!

Moving-on, with the end of the year closing-in, the Winter National Convention will be here soon. This is the longest running convention in the history of the group and well worth the trip, even if you're a few hours, or days away. You just can't beat the second largest train show in the U.S., combined with the



Tim Vermande, photo.

fun of a TAMR convention. If you plan on attending or would like more information check out the add on page 7, or just drop me a line.

Before I turn this over to our candidates lets welcome a new member from the Empire State! Say hello to Alexander! •

Alexander Yasuna

**(13)
Scale(s): N & G**

Office of President

CANDIDATE: JONATHAN SCHOEN
SIMI VALLEY, CA

Letter Of Intent for Presidency

Fellow members of the TAMR,
Greetings from the Golden State. I am announcing my wish to run for re-election of President of the TAMR. The TAMR has been growing in the past couple of years, and I have considered it a privilege to be caught in the middle of it. I have passion for this group. I do so not only because the group has helped me as railfan but I believe in what the group stands for. There is no reason that teenagers should be looked on as either less of a railfan or less of a teenager. I'm sure you have all been on internet forums where the older folks will make a comment like "once the kids go back to school things will be better." I'm even more certain that most of you have been criticized in one form or another for your hobby. I'm sick of it. When your railfanning, you should retain your right to be a teenager and when your at school retain your right to be a railfan. Either way, you should not be criticized. That is what the TAMR under my leadership has and will stand for. Nothing less.

In addition to be bullied by older railfans, the TAMR has also faced troubles from bigger, tougher railfan and model railroad organizations such as the NMRA and Model Railroader. The most urgent of these troubles came when Model Railroader pulled funding for our website. It is certainly clear that being associated with these larger organizations has both financial and promotional benefits, but the website crises proved that relying on others too much can only lead to a hard fall. I helped to bring us out of the crisis as well as lead us toward independence.

Alright, I've known you guys for a long time now. Ever since I wrote my first "87 Times Smaller" column for the Hotbox back in 2003 I have been in love with the TAMR. I have enjoyed working with all of the directors, and have built life long friendships. I have also learned some hard lessons gained through leadership. If you choose to re-elect me, my leadership will continue with the same passion I have always had. However, in the end I want the best for the TAMR, whether I'm President or not. It's your call.

Duties of the office of President

- OVERSEE THE DAY TO DAY OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION OF THE TAMR.
- TO ACT AS OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE.
- TO PARTICIPATE IN CONGRESS.
- TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO POSITIONS.
- COMMUNICATE REGULARLY WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

Office of Vice-President

CANDIDATE: STEVEN GOEHRING
NAZARETH, PA

Letter Of Intent for Vice-Presidency

I, Steven R. Goehring, have chosen to run for the office of Vice President of the Teen Association of Model Railroaders. I plan to help promote the group, increase communication among members, and better reach out to new members or potential members. I plan to achieve, in the long run, a better supported and more active group. I chose not to run for president because I am pleased with how Jonathan Schoen has worked as President and I hope he will continue to serve in that position. I am confident that I can easily handle the requirements and additional tasks involved in this position due to: 1. many free periods in my 2006-2007 school schedule; 2. past record of reliability in contributing to the TAMR publications; 3. a strong desire to expand on past plans and efforts, such as my preparing a TAMR advertisement to share with other members. In addition, I can work quickly and well with E-mail, and I even enjoy writing messages for any reason. With the TAMR's vote, I will put my plans into motion with increased enthusiasm to move the TAMR to higher ground in membership, enjoyment, and overall success. Thank you and long live the TAMR!

Duties of the office of Vice-President

- TO ASSIST THE PRESIDENT IN THE DAY TO DAY OPERATION AND COORDINATION OF THE TAMR.
- TO ACT AS CEREMONIAL LEADER IF THE PRESIDENT IS UNABLE TO DO SO.
- TO PARTICIPATE IN CONGRESS.
- TO TEMPORARILY ASSUME THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT SHOULD THE PRESIDENT BECOME INCAPACITATED OR IMPEACHED UNTIL A NEW PRESIDENT IS ELECTED.



Office of Treasurer

CANDIDATE: JOE WIECIEK
SPOTSWOOD, NJ

Letter Of Intent for Treasurer

My friends in the TAMR,

For those of you that don't know me, I'm Joe Wiecek, a member here in New Jersey, and I'm running for Treasurer of the TAMR. Some of you in the northeast region know me as the editor of The Depot, the region's newsletter, and webmaster of the short-lived website. I'm entering my senior year at Spotswood High School, where I hold executive positions in various organizations including the History Club and the Octagon Community Service Club. I'm running for Treasurer of the TAMR for numerous reasons. Most importantly, I feel a need to serve the TAMR beyond what I already do, and this is the perfect opportunity. I have great organizational and problem-solving skills, and I am the perfect candidate for Treasurer. If elected, I will ensure the TAMR is kept running smoothly, and I will attempt to spread membership any way I can.

Duties of the office of Treasurer

- TO SET UP ANY FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS HE/SHE DEEMS NECESSARY TO RESPONSIBLY HANDLE TAMR FUNDS.
- TO KEEP A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF ALL TAMR FUNDS AND TO ASSURE ALL MONEY IS SPENT FOR TAMR PURPOSES.
- TO PARTICIPATE IN CONGRESS.
- TO OVERSEE REGIONAL BUDGETS.
- TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL RECORDS TO ANY MEMBER UPON REQUEST, WITH THE DELETION OF PERSONAL RECORDS.
- TO PRODUCE A MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK.
- TO KEEP AN UP TO DATE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER AND TO DISTRIBUTE RENEWAL NOTICES.
- TO PRODUCE A MAILING LIST FOR THE EDITOR MONTHLY, AND TO PRODUCE A MAILING LIST QUARTERLY FOR REGIONAL.

Duties of the Regional Representatives

- TO OVERSEE ALL REGION ACTIVITIES.
- TO PRODUCE A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER.
- TO PARTICIPATE IN CONGRESS.
- TO ORGANIZE REGIONAL FUNDRAISING.
- YOU MUST LIVE IN THE REGION TO REPRESENT IT, AND VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE. YOU CANNOT VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE IN A REGION YOU DO NOT LIVE IN.

Office of Western Regional Representative

CANDIDATE: BENJAMIN HAWKEN
SHINGLE SPRINGS, CA

Letter Of Intent for WR Rep

Hello, I am Benjamin Hawken. I'm 17 years old and a senior at Ponderosa High School in Shingle Springs, CA. I have been into trains all my life from playing with Brio wooden trains when I was little, all the way to HO scale model trains today. I always went on rail fanning trips with my dad and my late older brother. Our favorite locations to rail fan would be from Sacramento to Oregon on I-5 including Red Bluff, Lake Head, Duns-muir, Black Butte and Weed, CA.

I am running for re-election for the Western Region Rep. I had a rough start of getting the Western Region off and running, but I did have a convention the first year. And I tried to work out getting a table at a couple of train shows in the area, but due to my job it didn't workout. If I get re-elected this year I will make plans to host the TAMR National Summer Convention within my next term. Thank you.

Office of Southern Regional Representative

CANDIDATE: MATTHEW ROBERT
LEANDER, TX

Letter Of Intent for SR Rep

I intend to run for the position of Southern Regional Representative this year, so I will be able to continue my efforts as representative that I have carried out for several months now. These include spreading the word about TAMR within my region, recruiting new members, and writing the Crescent newsletter for the Southern Region.

Recently, I have not been able to be as active as I want to in this position due to a busy school schedule, but I am adjusting to it, and am now up to the challenge. The Crescent newsletter is in development stages and contributors are welcome! It's first issue will most likely be 1-2 pages as I refine the content, and the layout. Do not expect anything extraordinary this first time, it's going to take some time to make this work.

Finally, I may print some kind of informational flier about the TAMR to distribute to local hobby shops and shows. I have had people approach me within the region about doing this, and I believe it's a good idea.

These are some of the major ideas I have relating to the TAMR and the Southern Region, so hopefully the region members will let me continue as I strive to increase participation in the region. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Final Candidate on Page 7

YOUR 2006 TAMR ELECTION BALLOT

BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS

Please check only one box per office of the candidate you prefer. REMEMBER, you can only vote for a regional representative in your region! In the event no candidate is listed, or you don't like the candidate, you can choose a write-in candidate by checking the "write-in candidate" box, and inserting the appropriate name (Must be a TAMR member under the age of 21). When you are finished voting please sign and date the bottom, unsigned ballots will not be counted! When completed, cut out, then fold along lines on back into thirds, so mailing information faces out, staple or tape the top seam, and drop in the mail. Ballots are due one month after the postmark on this issue. If you're reading this then you're obviously a sharp egg who takes the time to take in all the necessary information before proceeding, though now your just wasting your time listening to me ramble on about how great you are, get over yourself and fill out this ballot.

For the Office of President of the TAMR:

JONATHAN SCHOEN ☐
WRITE-IN ☐

For the Office of Vice-President of the TAMR:

STEVEN GOEHRING ☐
WRITE-IN ☐

For the Office of Treasurer of the TAMR:

JOE WIECIEK ☐
WRITE-IN ☐

For the Office of Northeast Region Representative of the TAMR:

WRITE-IN ☐

For the Office of Central Region Representative of the TAMR:

WRITE-IN ☐

For the Office of Southern Region Representative of the TAMR:

MATTHEW ROBERTS ☐
WRITE-IN ☐

For the Office of Western Region Representative of the TAMR:

BENJAMIN HAWKEN ☐
WRITE-IN ☐

For the Office of International Region Representative of the TAMR:

MAIKHA LY ☐
WRITE-IN ☐

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: ____/____/____

Office of International Regional Representative

CANDIDATE: MAIKHA LY
CLAREMONT MEADOWS, NSW, AUSTRALIA
Letter Of Intent for IR Rep

Not-so-serious Nomination Statement:

"I wish to nominate for the position of IR in TAMR, for the primary reason, I am not American. Hence, I can! Go me!

Oh, and I live in Australia, on the other side of the Earth. I'm led to believe that's 'International.'"

Serious Nomination Statement:

"I wish to nominate for the position of IR in the TAMR, being a member who resides outside of the United States, in sunny Sydney, Australia. I am an active and keen railfan, being a HO and N Scale modeler, modeling both Australian and American prototypes, as well as an active volunteer for two steam excursion operators as a conductor. I have many contributions to make to the TAMR, mainly in terms of providing another and unique opinion and view to the wonderful hobby."

WINTER CONVENTION 07

Greetings from sunny Springfield, MA! The 2007 TAMR Winter Convention has been planned out and will begin on Friday evening, January 26, 2007 and continue until Sunday evening, January 28, 2007.

By popular demand, the winter convention hotel will again be the *Residence Inn*, 64 Border Way, West Springfield, MA., 413-732-9543. A multiple room suite has been reserved for TAMR members that need a place to stay over night. The cost for each person will be \$30.00 per night including a full breakfast

There will be a HUGE model railroad show, including a TAMR table with operating layouts on both Saturday and Sunday at the *Eastern States Exposition* in West Springfield. For more details regarding the show, click on the *Amherst Railway Society* link: <http://www.amherstrail.org/show/show.htm>

Mark your calendars! We are expecting another awesome winter convention! Only 3 months away!!!! More details regarding the Winter Convention will be forthcoming.

HAPPY RAILROADING!!

-Newton Vezina-TAMRVideo@aol.com

The Top 7^{Plus} 4

By: Peter Maurath

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

Top 7 reasons you should vote in the TAMR election .

- #11. It's a great example of democracy in action which is helpful for our communist Canadian neighbors to the north.
 - #10. Erik is just itching for something to count.
 - #9. No annoying competition to make the choices difficult.
 - #8. Unlike American Idol, your vote will actually put someone with talent into power.
 - #7. It's in your contract.
 - #6. You could win a new car! (sorry that's from the Top 7 reasons you should play *The Price is Right*)
 - #5. You got nothing else to do while the microwave nukes your burrito .
 - #4. You could use some experience with pen and paper again.
 - #3. Jonathan Schoen promises a big hug for every voter .
 - #2. So that tree will have not perished in vain .
- And the number one reason you should vote in the TAMR election...**

Otherwise we'll sic Union Pacific on you!

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. REPRINTING OF THE HOTBOX IS PROHIBITED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS.

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 MONROEVILLE, OH SEND A SSAEBDR 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 regular feature; return from the asylum!
- Fame, fortune, romance, and—who am I kidding!

COMING SOON TO THE TAMR:

- Election result; after the first of the year.
- Winter National Convention now just three months away!

We're on the web!
www.tamr.org



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

CLEVELAND OH 441
30 OCT 2006 PM 8 L

USA 39

