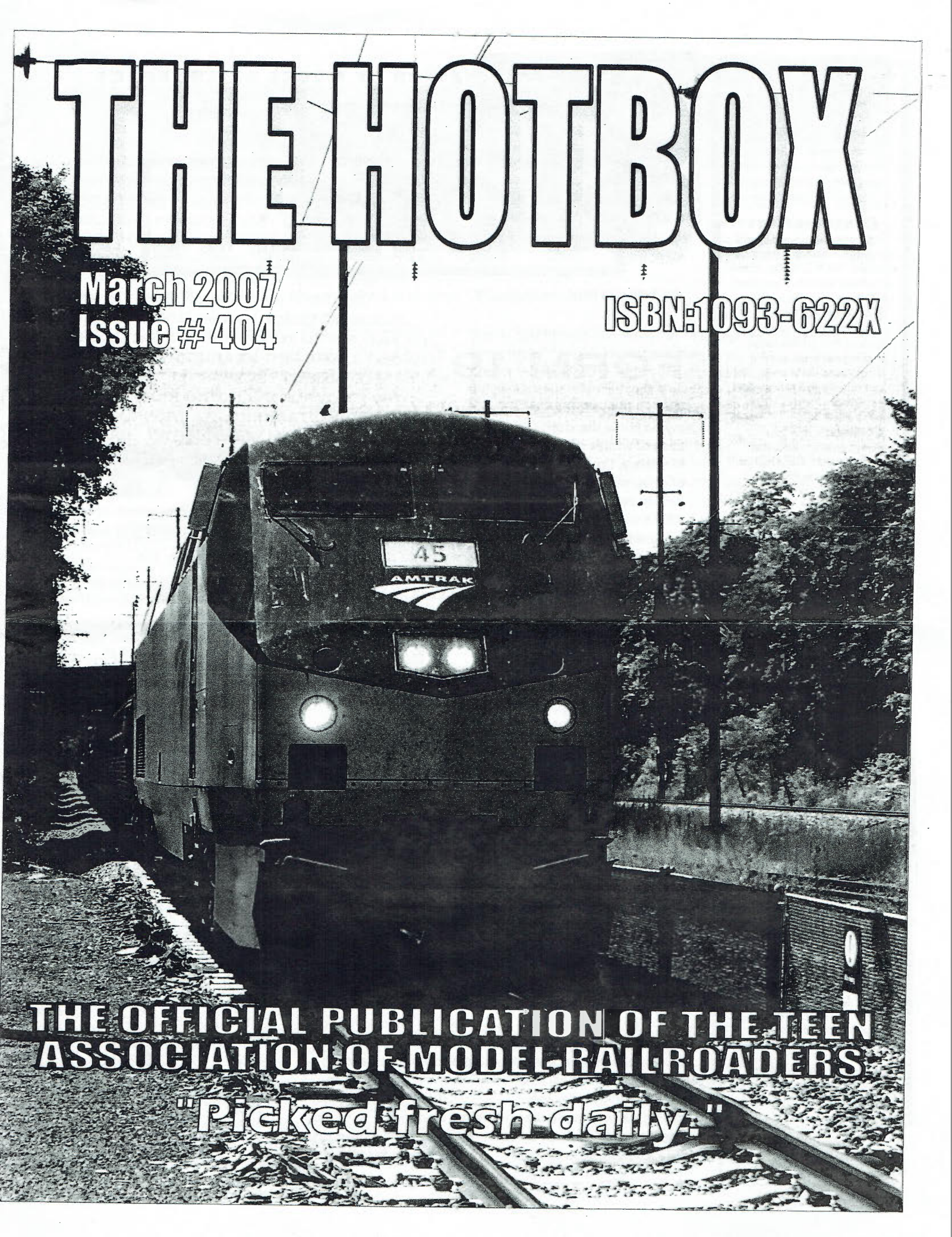


# THE HOTBOX



March 2007  
Issue # 404

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEEN  
ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS

"Picked fresh daily."



**Editor**—Peter Maurath  
**Publisher**—Peter McRath II  
**Contributing Columnists**—  
 Jonathan Schoen  
 Steven Goehring  
**Art Director**—Duh Vinci  
**Photographer**—Jay Vecce  
**Librarian**—Prefers tulips to  
 daffodils in the spring.

## 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 GE 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

Actually she thinks the truth, very loudly.

## 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)



## TEEN ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS

March 2007

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# THE HOTBOX

**ON THE COVER:** . An Amtrak P42 captured in Parkesburg, PA. Maikha Ly, photo.

## FORM 19 A message from your editor in chief

Welcome to March everybody! As the drabness of winter gives way to spring, I'm reminded of an important event not far away on the TAMR calendar. The Summer National Convention. Only one problem this year, there isn't one, yet. As of right now there is no official Summer Convention Plan. We have a few regional meets in the works (more on that later), but what's supposed to be the biggest clambake of the year doesn't exist yet. I would love to do one myself, but with everything else I already do, I've got my spoons in enough pots, around here. It's up to you guys to work something out. It's doesn't need to be some complicated affair. Heck, the Winter Convention is held around a train show. Countless regional meets are much the same way. All you need is a weekend, throw in a couple layout tours or a scenic railroad ride, a slide-show, some door prizes or contests, and cap it off with a Bar-B-Q and you're set. You

can ask any of the older members, including myself, what's been the best part of this group, and we'll all say the Summer Conventions. The trains, the friends, the tours, the goofy antics caught on tape. They're always a blast, and yeah, sometimes they weren't perfect, and things didn't work-out right, but in hindsight, that never really mattered, we we're too busy having fun most of the time to let it bother us for long.

Whatever you decide to do (and I hope you decide soon!), believe that you'll have the full support of the folks like myself, Model Railroad News, and the BOD. If your interested please contact myself, or John Schoen (jonathanhtd@yahoo.com), asap.

ON to a sadder note, just after the February issue went to press I was informed of the passing of longtime TAMR member, Lone Eagle Payne. I've dedicated the next two pages as a memorial in his honor for all his



PHOTO: TIM VERMANDE

great contributions to our group over the years.

Lastly, Steven Goehring, columnist and pun-writer extraordinaire is putting together a Northeast Region Meet coming this April around a train-show, for more info, check out page 7.

Before I go, one last important announcement. The BOD met on February 2nd and are exploring a few major changes to our group. One: A five dollar membership rate hike across the board. Second: a alteration of our name to-Teen Assoc. of Model RR's and Railfans". WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK ON THESE MATTERS. IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS, OR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT JOHN SCHOEN OR MYSELF. •



**THIS MONTH WE DEDICATE THIS PAGE OF THE HOTBOX TO OUR DEAR FRIEND LONE EAGLE PAYNE, WHO PASSED AWAY JANUARY 25TH AT AGE 99. HE WAS A PART OF THIS GROUP FROM NEARLY THE BEGINNING, JOINING IN 1970 AND SERVING AS OUR "PIVOT PIN" FOR TWENTY YEARS. HE WAS ALWAYS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF TEENS IN THE HOBBY OF MODEL RAILROADING, AND WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO FOSTER AND ENCOURAGE THIS SMALL ORGANIZATION AND IT'S MEMBERS. THIS GROUP PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE SURVIVED WITHOUT HIS SUPPORT AND DEDICATION, THROUGH THE YEARS. WITH THAT IN MIND I'VE ASKED SOME MEMBERS WHO KNEW HIM TO SHARE A FEW GREAT MEMORIES.**

My fondest memory of Lone Eagle Payne is at the 1985 NMRA Convention in Milwaukee, WI. TAMR was celebrating its 21st anniversary that year and NMRA provided us meeting space at their convention to hold some of our activities. We also had a large booth at the hobby show to promote the TAMR. The hobby show also had a large scale (1-1/2 to 1, I believe) time-saver switch puzzle set up. Teams of two would try to solve it as fast as they could. One team member road and operated the locomotive while the other threw the switches and uncoupled the cars. Lone Eagle and a pal of his entered the contest. Although he did not win the contest, he was one of the few contestants who had his own teen cheering section routing him on. I remember taking and publishing a few pictures in the HOTBOX with the convention coverage.

**-Mark Kaszniak**

**-Former Auditor and HOTBOX Editor**

Lone Eagle Payne was, without question, the primary reason the TAMR is what it is today. He was a great individual, and I had the privilege of meeting him on a couple of occasions since I joined the group in 1998. The first time I ever met Lone Eagle was during a visit with Newton somewhere around 1999 or 2000. He showed us his collection of train memorabilia and the most impressive part--his expansive basement layout. Definitely a Master Model Railroader by any standard (not just NMRA), the equipment had withstood the test of time and, for scratch-built/kitbashed boxcars made out of cheese boxes, these were works of art. The entire setup would just completely awe a person. During the summer of 2000, I was managing a TAMR show table at a Great American Train Show in Dayton. I chanced a meeting with Lone Eagle during the course of the show, all the while he was conversing with me like he'd known me his whole life. He was definitely a great person and a great role model for this group. I only regret that I didn't get a chance to stop by and see him since I moved to the Dayton area back in

September 2006. But I do appreciate the times I did get to meet and talk with him. If only more of us could have even a fraction of the impact he has made in just the guidance of this group alone. What a difference he made. Lone Eagle--a man with no equal.

**-Chris Burchett**

It is so appropriate that we spoke of him at the winter "post-convention". I wish I had the chance to meet him, unfortunately I never got the chance, although I did get to speak with him on the phone once. He was such a nice guy willing to help out a bunch of teens and to listen to a phone call from a kid he had never met. His name is truly appropriate "Lone Eagle" soaring above the rest.

I know some members might be scratching their heads wondering who this man was and what did he do for the group. From 1970-1990 he was the TAMR, despite him not being a teen. Without his support and his supplying a stable address, there would have been no TAMR and a dream would have surely ended.

While I can never be him, or replace him, I strive to be a "Lone Eagle" and soar above the rest!

**-Willie Roberge**

I still remember the first time I met him at the Summer National Convention in 1994. He was 86 years old and carrying in boxes of equipment for Dave Decker's massive switching layout. I thought, if I can be that spry when I'm his age, I'll be doing well. You never would have met a nicer guy either. When I'm sure the last thing most grown men his age want to do is spend time with a bunch of rowdy teens, he took part in the entire convention, even arranged the great layout tours we saw that year. I still heard from him regularly right-up until a few years ago when he contacted me after the first Payne Awards was published (thank goodness he had a great sense of humor) he even helped with our fortieth anniversary, providing information and insight into our past. He was a gold-standard we as members should all shoot for and I'll miss his friendly typewritten letters.

**-Peter Maurath**

Though it doesn't seem very long ago, relatively obscure to the model railroading world, a young teen entering a new crossroad in life, read an article written in "Student Fare" in a magazine that we know today as "Model Railroader." There had been a national convention held in the Midwest and Lone Eagle Payne was there to support a bunch of teens I never met, but shared a sense of comradeship that I wouldn't know yet until later in my

*Continued on the next page*



teens. Fast forward to the late 80s, after being a "stealth member," I finally mailed my TAMR membership to our legendary "pivot pin". In an age before the Internet, it was customary to send "snail mail" to meet fellow members. If the TAMR ever had a low point of inactivity close to doom, it was for sure during the late 1980s. I sure picked one heck of a time to join the "party". However, one phone call to Lone Eagle Payne is the reason I'm involved in this organization today. The friendly compassionate voice from 900 miles away taught me the true meaning of what the TAMR really is which still holds true today and can still be broken down to three words: TEENS, TRAINS and PURPOSE. Everything else is simply "bells and whistles." If you don't have teens, trains and a mission, it's "game over"!

Lone Eagle's words of encouragement "Keep up the Steam." was "the grease that moved the cylinders, that creates the steam, keeping the TAMR on track". You see, it was a hand typed TAMR Directory mailed to me personally by Lone Eagle himself that got me acquainted with fellow members scattered all over the country, some of which I talked into rejoining the group. Try typing up an entire TAMR directory without a computer and you'll get my point. However, back in 1988, if you had an Apple Mac Plus computer, a small group of crew members, and lots of spunk, drive, vision, and patience; you were the super power of the "snail mail," world. With the help of a very devoted adult member working with only a typewriter, Mr. Payne's encouragement was instrumental during (knowingly or unknowingly to today's TAMR members) the most remarkable recovery in TAMR history that within 5 years would later set the stage for the 1994 TAMR national convention.

"The Dayton LTD" 1994, (Dayton, Ohio) is the convention that would set the pace for the next 8 years. This grass roots TAMR convention hosted by then president Brent Johnson still holds as one of the greatest national conventions in the TAMR's history. To actually meet Lone Eagle Payne in person, someone who was around when the TAMR was born back in 1964 was a pretty big deal for a kid that drove from all the way from Massachusetts. Little did I know this would be only the first of about a dozen meeting with Lone Eagle at various conventions after '94.' His genuine personality added to the festive "flavor" to every event that he attended. Not that I want to get "side tracked", but there's some points that I really want to share with the current generation of leaders to read and know.

What truly made "The Dayton LTD. 94" so special was not the

trains or the food that gave a great first impression of the TAMR. What really mattered that weekend is experiencing the real TAMR through the legends such as Lone Eagle which is done through mentorship, leadership, and keeping fun in trains. Lone Eagle knew how to lead without ever having to push anyone to do anything. Wisdom and encouragement were only two of his many strengths and he used these gifts very well.

The best teen and adult leaders lead by example. If we plan to do something, it was our "baby," our word, honor and is done not only for ourselves but more importantly for the cause of the TAMR, which is purely helping teens in the hobby. As soon as the focus goes from "we" to "me," the TAMR gets off track and a "slump" occurs. That means (regardless of what today's world dictates) every success is dedicated to friendship, God and how we could help others in the hobby. Never put anybody down. Building everyone up is how we build and keep members. Nobody wants to be part of anything negative. We see enough of that on TV. As the use of bad language should not even be a thought and doesn't belong in a growing organization of any kind.

We are all in a winner's arena and should never, never be ashamed of our shared common interest in trains. I've been on the planet long enough to see where all the "big shots" in high school ended up in life, and friends; its not a pretty sight. I found out a long time ago that it's better to soar with "Eagles" than hang out with a bunch of turkeys! I'm forever glad that I stuck by my values, beliefs and what I stand for and let all the laughers fall by the way side. It's the true leaders and legends such as Lone Eagle that taught me more by example than anything I could have learned from "leadership 101." The best accomplishment any human being will ever have during his or her lifetime comes down to how many lives you've effected in a positive way. Its all about making a difference. The fine line that kept me in this organization back when it would have been a lot easier to give up and wait for someone else to save the TAMR was a bunch of hand typed (and written) letters of encouragement from an address I knew so well that I practically had it memorized; the mailing address of "TAMR, Lone Eagle Payne."

As we begin the TAMR's 43rd year I'd like to reflect on the latest words I received from Lone Eagle Payne: "Another year, another time of back in memories. I see you fellows are still trackin.' May it be green for a long time"

-Newton Vezina

**LONE EAGLE PAYNE 1908-2007**





## Western Region Convention UPDATE

As many are aware, Ben Hawken and Jonathan Schoen are in the process of planning a large-scale convention to be held in California between July 13, 2007 and July 19th, 2008, uh, 2007 (its not *that* large scale). The trip is planned to include activities in both northern and southern California, visiting such attractions as:

- Dunsmuir Railroad Days in Dunsmuir, CA.
- Feather River Canyon
- Donner Pass
- California State Railroad Museum
- Tehachapi Loop
- Los Angeles Union Station
- Fullerton Station

Transportation is planned to be provided by Amtrak's Coast Starlight between Sacramento and Simi Valley, Ben Hawken in northern California, and Jonathan Schoen in southern California.

We would LOVE to see you make it to any or all days of the trip. But PLEASE note that plans are VERY tentative and may change if circumstances arise. However, rest assured that if the convention takes place, it will (with near certainty) take place on the dates mentioned above.

If you are interested in attending or helping out in anyway, you must contact Jonathan or Ben in the formats bellow.

We hope to see you in the Golden State soon!

Benjamin Hawken, Western Region Representative

Email: [SouthernPacificFreak@yahoo.com](mailto:SouthernPacificFreak@yahoo.com)

Phone (home): (530) 676-4898

Jonathan Schoen, TAMR President

Email: [JonathanHTD@yahoo.com](mailto:JonathanHTD@yahoo.com)

Phone (cell):

## Don't Forget!

Voting for the Photo Contest begins online March 12th. Go to [HTTP://groups.yahoo.com/group/TAMR](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TAMR), click on the file labeled photos and vote for your favorite five! Hurry, voting ends March 23rd!

## Did you know...

-Famed industrial designer Raymond Loewy, famous for his designs of such locomotives as the Pennsy GG1, and the streamlined Pennsy K4, also designed the paint scheme still used today on Air Force One?

-Chessie, C&O railway's spokes-kitty had a husband? Created just a few years after Chessie in 1937 Peake (taken from the other half of Chesapeake) would join her from time to time in advertisements and even go off to fight in WWII.

-The very first CTC (Centralized-Traffic-Control) machine was installed by the New York Central in F Tower in the small town of Fostoria, OH?

## THE HOTBOX FUNNY NAME OF THE MONTH

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

**A.J. POOK**

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



# The Top 7

By: Peter Maurath

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

## Top Seven ways the world would be different if it was run by railfans

**#7. All the prime real estate would be *next* to the tracks.**

**#6. Flying in planes would be declared hazardous to your health.**

**#5. Schools would close to celebrate the completion of horseshoe curve.**

**#4. In order to reserve billions in federal funding all railroads would be required to run steam engines.**

**#3. New cabinet position— Department of Railfan Parks.**

**#2. All new home designs would feature Pullman kitchens.**

**And the number one way the world would be different if it were run by railfans...**

**Number one show on TV...Tracks Ahead!**

## THE EXTRA BOARD

### New Memberships

NONE THIS MONTH

### Renewals

BENJAMIN HAWKEN

### Expiring Memberships

AUSTIN MACDOUGALL

MARK MACDOUGALL

DAVID MOBED

CHRIS BURCHETT

JAMIE RIEGNER

BRETT ZORNES

FRANK COYE

BRIAN KULP

THOMAS MOONEY

STEVEN MILLER

ERIK ROMATOWSKI

KYLE SHANNON

DOUG ENGLER

JACOB GRAY

NICK OLEK

JAMES CARROLL

*EDITORS NOTE: THIS WILL BE A NEW FEATURE EVERY MONTH SHOWING EVERYONE, WHO'S JOINING, WHO'S STAYING AND WHO'S GOING. IF YOUR NAME IS UP THERE I HOPE IT'S IN THE RENEWAL SECTION OR WILL BE NEXT MONTH.*



# Trains to Nowhere

BY: STEVEN GOEHRING

Two years ago, around this time of year, a friend of mine suggested that we combine our Lego trains into a really big layout. I knew that between the two of us, we had so much track that it wouldn't fit in any of the rooms in either of our houses, so I thought maybe we'd borrow our church's social hall for a day and just have fun making absurdly huge Lego layouts.

Well, somehow, I got the idea that maybe, if we could put up a good enough setup, we could allow the public in to see it and charge an admission of, let's say, a can of food for the local Food Bank. I thought that I should make the show more worth coming to, so I invited a friend from school and his G scale trains, my school's religion teacher and his Lionel setup, and another church member who also had Lionel trains. I got together my N scale, G scale, old Brio wooden push trains from when I was really young, and my dad's old HO scale. It did take up a good deal of the space in the room, but it didn't take up all of it by any means. I forget exactly how much we donated to the food bank at the end of the day, but it was more than I expected.

I hoped to make the display an annual thing, but a year went by and I had no ideas on how to improve the show at all, so rather than put together the same display, or even a smaller display, I decided not to organize a display that year.

This year, a co-worker at my hobby shop, who recently started an N-trak modular layout club, *trak-ed\** me down and asked if I planned to do the display again. I also heard from my friend from school who provided the G scale for the first show, asking if I was going to organize another display. I decided to do so, and I had the idea in my head for less than a day when I realized that this could be a great opportunity to meet other TAMR members, and even hope to get the message out about our group, and get new members.



BET YOU'VE NEVER SEEN HOW NICE LEGO TRAINS ARE... COME TO THE INFORMAL TAMR GATHERING IN NAZARETH TO FIND OUT!

So, now I'm asking all of you who are reading this... does this sound like a good idea to you? E-mail me at [nazrrfan@excite.com](mailto:nazrrfan@excite.com) if you can come to Nazareth, Pennsylvania on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007, and bring a train layout or bunch of digital railfan slides (if anybody

can bring an actual slide projector, that would allow us to show actual slides and not just digital images.) We can start setting up for the show around 8:30 the night before, or I will probably open up the building a few hours early on the Saturday of the display for setup and testing. Note that this is not a show in the sense that anything will be for sale; the admission for the general public is a can of food for the food bank, or a freewill donation, also to be sent to the food bank. I know there are plenty of ways to use the Internet to find directions to a place or hotels in

the area, so feel free to use them or ask me if you have any questions.

This is the street address of the church whose social hall we will be, ahem, temporarily redecorating:

Dryland UCC

Be there or...umm...(line, please!)... you could end up like a bad-order Penn Central loco if you don't show up!

## TOP NINE REASONS TO GO TO RAILROADING FOR FOOD:

9. All the cool kids are doing it.
8. There aren't too many other ways to use railroad hobbies to benefit charity.
7. You might get your picture in Model Railroad News... 8-D
6. A chance to show off your best railroading slides for everyone to see! :-O
5. C'mon, you don't have anything better to do. :-)
4. Cool displays- hopefully, some in each major scale of model trains
3. Whenever too many TAMR members are in one place, something funny always happens.
2. Because I said so.

And the best reason to come to Railroading for Food...

1. I JUST GAVE YOU EIGHT REASONS! THAT'S MORE THAN PETER EVER GIVES FOR ANYTHING.



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 ADA, 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!

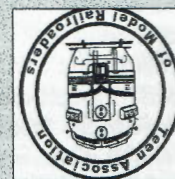
## COMING SOON TO THE HOTBOX:

- A member follows his dream.
- Ranting railfans return!

## COMING SOON TO THE TAMR:

- The Western Region Convention, coming this July.
- Railroading for food in PA this April.

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



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



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