

THE HOTBOX



**August 2007
Issue # 409**

ISBN:1093-622X



**THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEEN
ASSOCIATION OF MODEL RAILROADERS
Licenced, Bonded, and Insured**

Editor—Peter Maurath
Publisher—Peter McRath II
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 Steven Goehring
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Librarian—Is all done with her
 reading list.

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 EMD is better than GE? 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:

TAMRHotboxEd@sbcglobal.net

**Email address
Change!**

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

The horrors of spider island!



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ON THE COVER: A nice close-up of the smokebox of Strasburg Railway's #90. Maikha Ly, photo.

FORM 19

A message from your editor in chief

August already! I was just starting to work on my tan and now the stores are already stocking-up on school supplies and whispering the words, "pre-Christmas sale".

At any rate, hopefully more than a few of you attended Matt Roberts nicely organized convention, The Texas Eagle. It looked to be quite a show, reminding me of the great conventions of years past. I was only sorry I couldn't attend. I want to thank Matthew on behalf of myself and the group for putting the convention together, and I hope no matter what the outcome that he comes away with a positive view of our group. I also want to offer my thanks to Tim Vermande for helping out as well, offering advice, and post-convention activities.

I had mentioned last month how Dave Swanson had made a generous donation to the group as well as challenged us to increase our membership by donating \$15 for every new

member we bring-in through the end of the year. I also mentioned my incentive plan to motivate you further called TAMRPoints. This month I officially introduce the program and lay out the rules.

Here's how it works, for doing specific "jobs" for the TAMR you will earn points. Those points can then be redeemed for prizes. Simple enough.

The jobs are as follows, along with their point values. Refer a new member-5pts. Host a TAMR table at a train show-2.5pts. Set-out TAMR flyers, or brochures at a local hobby-shop or train-club-1pt.

For every 5 points, you get \$5 off your membership renewal. Or hold onto those points till you get 10 and enter the raffle for cool prizes at the end of the year.

IN order to redeem your points I am going to need proof. Such as if you refer a member, make sure that member writes your name on their membership appli-



PETER MAURATH, PHOTO.

cation. If you host a table at a train show, I'll need pictures or a letter from the show organizers proving you were there. Same goes for the hobby-shop flyers. I'll need pictures or a letter from the owner. What, you'd think I'd make it easy!

There you have it, TAMRPoints. I hope this motivates you lazybones out there into getting off the couch and into the shops, clubs and shows. Especially since I'm now paying you for it.

Before I go lets welcome a new member from the Keystone state!

Phillip Sakalik

Scale: O scale MTH



WELCOME TO AMERICA'S SOON TO BE FASTEST GROWING ARTICLE SENSATION, *RAILFAN RANTINGS*. IN THIS COLUMN I POSE A QUESTION TO OUR MEMBERS VIA THE TAMR ONLINE GROUP AT YAHOO, AND HOPEFULLY COME AWAY WITH SOME INSIGHTFUL, AMUSING, AND POSSIBLY SILLY ANSWERS. THIS MONTH'S QUESTION:

What classic paint scheme would you love to see on modern equipment?

Doug Engler, Fulton, NY- "There is one I'd like to see and one I have seen. The one I have seen is the old NYC lightning scheme, currently used by the Finger Lakes Railway (FGLK). The one I would like to see again is the old D&H PA-1 scheme. That would look great on one of those new GEVO's!!!!"

Andrew Matarazzo, Old Bridge, NJ- "It would definitely be the Pennsylvania RR's Tuscan red with gold 5-stripe scheme. In my opinion it was one of the best paint schemes ever to be put on a locomotive. I'd love to see an entire Acela Express consist painted up in the scheme, with giant keystones on the front and back of course."

Lewis Ableidinger, Kensal, ND- "They should paint up a new locomotive with a paint scheme like Lehigh Valley and then paint patches over it for Penn Central. It wouldn't be complete without getting it to derail a few times a week."

Willie Roberge, Wareham, MA- "What I would love to see brought back is all of the Railroads Classic Bicentennial/ Spirit of '76 Schemes. I love all of the Patriotic colors and the stars and stripes makes me feel proud to be an American."

"Another Scheme I would love to see applied to a modern locomotive is Boston and Maine's McGuinness Bluebird Scheme/the Bow-Tie Scheme! I feel that the Then Ultra-Modern paint scheme (for the Early 60's) would be perfect for a modern loco. I would also like to see Bay Colony RR's paint scheme applied to a modern locomotive."

Maikha Ly, Sydney, Australia- "SP Daylight Scheme."

CONVENTION NOTICE!

Southern Region Rep., Matthew Roberts will be hosting a National Fall Convention the weekend of October 27-28 around the Austin Model Railroad Jam-boree. This event will feature layout tours, clinics and more. For more information or reservations, contact Matthew Roberts at the addresses below:

Mail:

Phone:

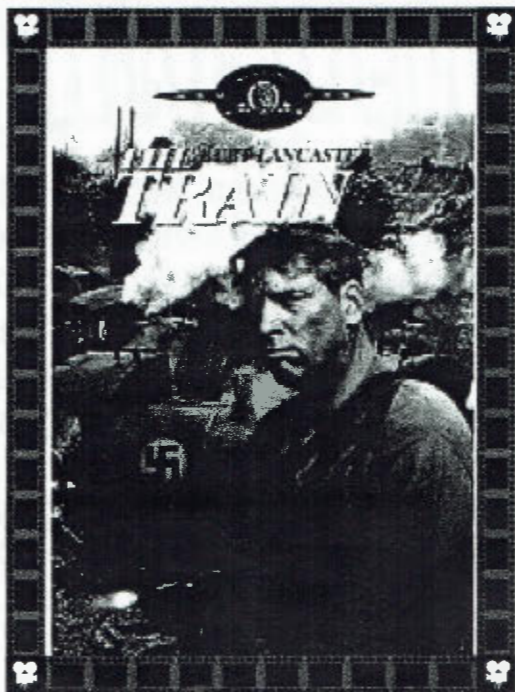
Email: msr123@suddenlink.net

More information to follow!

Houston we have highball!



NO THIS IS NOT NASA MISSION CONTROL IN HOUSTON, BUT YOUR CLOSE. IT'S THE CONTROL/OPERATIONS CENTER FOR BNSF LOCATED WITHIN THEIR SPRAWLING HQ'S NEAR DALLAS, AND WAS PART OF THIS SUMMER'S POST-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES. TIM VERMANDE, PHOTO.



RAILROAD CINEMA

"THE TRAIN"

by Wilfred A. Roberge

This great World War 2 action film is a personal favorite of mine. It is a great film that has been called "the last great Black and White Action Film".

The film is set in August 1944 Paris and the Allies are almost to there, ready to Push the Nazis out. The Nazis knowing this are hastily leaving/ readying themselves for a retreat. One German commander, Colonel von Waldem (Paul Scofield) is an art fanatic and he loots a vast collection of artwork from museums and collections and loads them onto a train bound for Germany.

Enter the French Resistance. They are informed of von Waldem's plans and are urged to save the train and prevent it from

reaching German soil, knowing the Allies are only a week, maybe days away from Paris.

The leader of a small group of French Railroaders in the resistance, LaBiche (Burt Lancaster) is in the right position to stop *THE TRAIN*. LaBiche and his men do this with all kinds of daring trickery and skill. The train is stopped and delayed at all turns via all kinds of devastation and sabotage, loosened rails, derailments, head on collisions. *THE TRAIN* also faces the destruction normal in the course of war, almost being destroyed during an Allied Bombing of a French rail yard and being strafed by a British Spitfire.



This film is a great monument to the efforts of the French Resistance as well as Railroaders and their "Steeds of Iron." Of particular interest is the fact that the railroading sequences were accomplished without the use of miniatures. Full size (real) trains were used throughout the movie. When the trains were destroyed they were real trains. Of particular interest is the fact that the railyard attacked during the Allied air-raid/bombing sequence was in fact demolished, by special arrangement with the French railway agency, which had been looking to demolish the railyard, but had lacked adequate funding. One thing I found of particular interest was the German Armored locomotive that was seen in the railyard being added to the head end of the German Armament train for protection. This movie provides excellent footage of the trains involved and great action!

Continued on next page

For an action packed edge of your seat movie featuring trains I highly recommend "THE TRAIN." I would give this movie 4.5 stars out 5.●



TRIVIA

- The engine that crashes into a derailed engine was moving at nearly 60 mph. The crash was staged in the town of Acquigny, with extensive safety precautions and special insurance. Only one take was possible, and seven cameras were used.
- The engine that we see from track level as it's derailed was moving faster than intended. Three of the five cameras filming the derailment were smashed.
- The engines and tanks required for some scenes made so much noise that "action" and "cut" were signaled by codes on the engines' whistles.
- The air raid on the yards was filmed at Gargenville yard, outside Paris. More than 50 people under Lee Zavitz needed six weeks to plant and wire all the charges, which were blown up in less than a minute.
- The filmmakers hired a train to carry their equipment from one location to another, and this is the train we see as the art train in the film.
- The wartime curator of the Musée du Jeu de Paume, represented in the movie by Mlle. Villard, was in real life Rose Valand. The movie was inspired by her 1961 non-fiction book "Le

front de l'art: défense des collections françaises, 1939-1945" (The Art Front: Defence of the French Collections, 1939-1945).

●In real life the museum's paintings were indeed loaded into a train for shipment to Germany, but fortunately, the elaborate deception seen in the movie was not really required. The train was merely routed onto a ring railway and circled around and around Paris and held up with red-tape until the Allies arrived.

Fast Facts

- ◆ *Directed By:* John Frankenheimer
- ◆ *Produced By:* Jules Bricken
- ◆ *Written By:* Rose Valland (book title: 'Le front de l'art')
- ◆ *Screenplay:* Franklin Coen, Frank Davis
- ◆ *Starring:* Burt Lancaster, Paul Scofield, Wolfgang Priess
- ◆ *Release Date's:* 1964 (UK Release), March 17, 1965 (US Release)
- ◆ *Running Time:* 133 minutes

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."

K. L. SHEETZ

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 other names for the TAMR.

#7. The National Academy of Adolescent Ferroequinologists.

#6. Teen Trains Incorporated.

#5. NACDRRTIOBSM .

#4. TAMR Vista.

#3. Those young guys with RR patch vests.

#2. Blind followers of David Burris.

And the number one other name for the TAMR...

The Pre-NMRA.

THE EXTRA BOARD New Memberships-1

PHILLIP SAKALIK

Renewals-4

BEN NEAL

STEVEN GOEHRING

ETHAN DOTY

VINCENT BUCCIGROSSI

Expiring Memberships-7

MATTHEW ROBERTS

NICHOLAS REILLY

MATT MARTIN

BRENT JOHNSON

ANDREW HANSELMAN

ANDREW HURD

MAIKHA LY

Present Member Count- 63

EDITORS NOTE: THIS WILL BE A 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

Making the Most out of the TAMR

I decided to change the tone of this column this month to convey some information that really needs to get across. The TAMR cannot run itself, and there has been plenty of call for more action lately. We are always limited by opportunity—there are only so many train shows and railfan hotspots near a TAMR member-populated area. However, I feel that we may be missing some opportunities here, and I hope to give a few pointers and inspiration to get the most enjoyment possible out of the TAMR.

First of all, I have a personal invitation/rarely mentioned membership perk for all of you. You probably all receive *Model Railroad News* just for joining the TAMR [*If you're not presently receiving it, please let us know by contacting us at the addresses found on page 2-ed.*], and those of you who really have plenty of reading time may discover that there actually is a TAMR column in the back of the magazine! This is no small potatoes here, since a page of space in a publication like MRN is really expensive! It is very generous of the MRN staff to allow us to use that space every month. Unfortunately, only two members have had their writing published there in recent months (those being Peter Maurath

and me, the usual suspects when it comes to TAMR publications.) Usually, I fill the space with a relevant how-to article or a story of a recent railroad-related event, but **THE MRN "Future of Model Railroading" COLUMN IS ACCEPTING ARTICLE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM WHOEVER WANTS TO PUBLISH THEIR WRITING AND/OR PHOTOS IN A MAJOR MODEL RAILROADING MAGAZINE! I would welcome input from any members, even if they only joined recently! Layout photos (or layout tours, if you choose) are welcome, as are how-to, stories of train show visits, railfan trips, or even opinion pieces relating to model trains and the teen age group.** Just send me an e-mail at nazrrfan@excite.com and I'll gladly give you any pointers you want about MRN writing, or if you're all done with your article, I'll proof-read it and send it in. I'm sure that the MRN staff would love to see the TAMR members making better use of their page (after all, anything's better than listening to me ramble on from the soapbox.)

If you'd rather just test the waters of the writing world before jumping into MRN, try writing just a single article for the Hotbox. That's how I started, and aside from HB's, school, and MRN's, I have no formal training in writing. To paraphrase something that U.S. Presi-

dent Teddy Roosevelt once said, "The Hotbox is a bully soapbox." So go ahead and try it. Sometimes your writing looks better when it appears in a professional publication.

You can also make simple steps that could help prepare you for a time-of-your-life convention. First of all, join the TAMR Yahoo! online forum/e-mail list. It's the best way to keep in touch with other members. The address is <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TAMR/>. Discussions started there could progress into e-mail exchanges between members, (since most of us have e-mail addy's in the Directory,) and that may lead to new friends! Show off your latest photos in the Photos section, get opinions on that kitbashed model you just finished, or just talk about what's going on in railroading.

Once you talk to people, you get to know them. If you've gotten to know several members near you, you could start a local model railroad "circuit" of visiting each other's layouts, either to run trains or to expand the scenery. If your area is mostly railfans, arrange to meet at the local rail hotspot. Or if you're a bit farther apart, try arranging to carpool to a big train meet or convention somewhere. Just meeting and talking to other members is pleasurable and memorable, so try it!

I'm probably taking up too much space here, so I'll stop before I force Peter to print a 10-page Hotbox. I hope that some of my suggestions strike a chord with some of you, because members are what make the TAMR fun. And making fun for the group can be a lot of fun for you, too!●

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 GALLIPOLIS, 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:

- Build your own Armored loco.
- An Australian visit: Pennsy country!

COMING SOON TO THE TAMR:

- Marked your calendar for Springfield yet?

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



"Putting the future of model railroading on the right track"

