

# HOTBOX

"the Ni-Magazine of Model Railroading"

March 1986

No. 221





# HOTBOX

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
the  
**Teen Association of  
Model Railroading**

The HOTBOX is issued eleven times a year, June through April, with a special mailing of the Directory of Membership in May.

Annual dues for the TAMR, which includes a subscription to the HOTBOX, are as follows:  
REGULAR (persons under 21) \$10.00  
ASSOCIATE (persons 21 and up) \$12.00  
OVERSEAS (persons living outside N. America) - \$15.00  
SUSTAINING (REGULAR & ASSOCIATE) \$15.00

Please address all renewals, membership applications, address changes, and complaints of non-receipt of TAMR publications to the TAMR Secretary.

TAMR SECRETARY: Dee Gilbert  
Box 1098  
La Grange Park, IL  
60525-9198

All other TAMR HOTBOX business, except where specifically noted, is handled by the Editor. Please address all comments to the Editor.

PUBLICATIONS  
EDITOR: David Holden  
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after 6pm.

The TAMR HOTBOX is the official publication of the TAMR. The TAMR HOTBOX welcomes articles, photographs (B&W ONLY), artwork and cartoons pertaining to model and/or prototype railroad subjects done in black ink. All items for publication must be received 30 days before the month of publication. All materials submitted to the HOTBOX become property of the TAMR unless proper postage & packaging are included to insure their safe return. The TAMR HOTBOX assumes that all items are submitted for the mutual benefit and enjoyment of the hobby by our members and thus no payment will be made upon publication. No part of this publication may be reproduced, by any means, without written consent of the TAMR Publications Editor-- unless members feel that its necessary for the promotion of the TAMR and/or personal use.

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### Front cover

As well as his article on page 4, Tom Novitske has done this months front cover artwork.

+++++On track+++++

CHECKS & BALANCES-Treasury . . . . .	pg.3
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# Extra Board

All of the news that fits, we print:

MEMBERSHIP by Dee Gilbert

Total TAMR Membership (3-1-86): 111 \*  
Breakdown as follows:

<u>Region</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Canadian	2	1%
Central	52	46%
Northeastern	24	21%
International	2	1%
Southern	9	8%
Western	22	19%

\* Our membership, as you know, is far TOO Low.

What are YOU going to do about it??

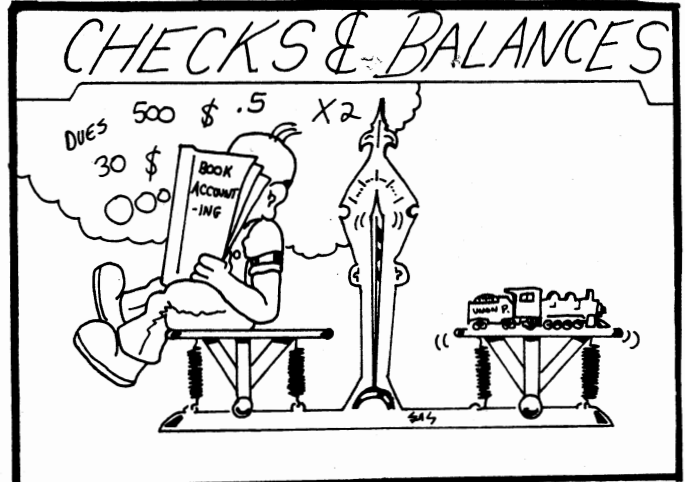
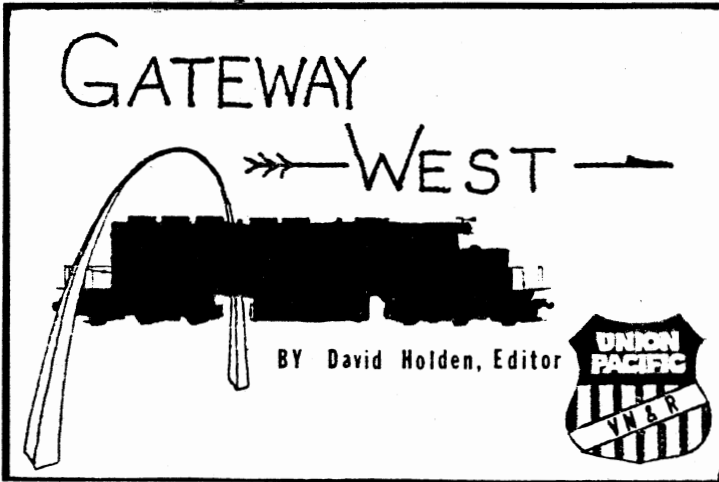
Please welcome these new members:

- James Bach, Wilmington, OH
- Joe Benco, Glen Ellyn, IL
- Benny Bio, Kahului, Maui HI
- Jim Donahue, Union, MO
- Aric Peery, Dryden, NY
- Massimo Piras, St. Leonard, Quebec CANADA
- Wade Resac, Holmen, WI
- Alan Ristow, Saline WI
- John Stevens, St. Louis, MO
- Tim Stumph, Ghent, NY
- Giggen Trotter, Connersville, IN

Also welcome back these members:

- Dan Carroll, Arvada, CO
- Steve Craig, Herrin, IL
- John Dunn, St. James, NY
- Tom Matthews, Walden, NY
- Claude Morelli, Albuquerque, NM
- Alan Ristow, Saline, WI
- William Russo, Trumansburg, NY





## INVOLVED !?!

So, how active are you in the TAMR anyway? Not very -- eh? Many persons have recently joined the TAMR in the past few months. When they joined, probably like yourself, they expected the TAMR to fill a certain niche for them. After a year goes by, many of the same persons who joined a year ago (maybe yourself) decide not to renew their memberships. Why don't they renew? Maybe they don't because they didn't get involved.

The reason people join clubs is to get some personal gain from it. That may sound a bit conceited, but this is why we do it. Little did most of you realize when you joined, this organization works on the support and the support alone of its membership. It can't happen without you. You will have to work at getting anything out of it and the only way to do this is by supporting the TAMR and getting involved. We need your vote in our elections, write stories or some bit of info. for our HOTBOX and for you to attend our meets. For it to work and grow, members should write each other, get together for slide shows, go railfanning together, call each other up for bull sessions or maybe even recruiting a new member.

Now, I realize that you may not know anyone in the TAMR yet, so this makes it hard to interact. In order to remedy this situation, each May, the TAMR publishes its Directory. Inside it, you'll find all of our members with important information about them and their modeling interests. Many of these members are just waiting to make new friends and to talk to you. Is May too far away for you to wait to get involved? This is easily solved, just write the Editor for last years 1985 Directory. To receive one, make sure to send two first class stamps for payment. Quantities are very limited, so act promptly! Make the TAMR work for you--  
GET INVOLVED.

By Claude Morelli,  
TAMR Treasurer

Financial Statement: Jan. 1, 1985- Dec. 31, 1985

Jan. 1, 1985 Operating Balance	+\$ 211.02
Jan. 1, 1985 Savings Balance	<u>+\$ 175.51</u>
Jan. 1, 1985 Balance (total funds)	+\$ 386.53

Jan. 1, 1985 Operating Balance	+\$211.02
Income (Jan. 1 to June 30)	+\$ 589.84
Expenses (Jan. 1 to June 30)	<u>-\$ 671.32</u>
Balance . . . . .	+\$ 129.54

Balance	+\$ 129.54
Income (June 30 to Dec. 31)	+\$ 981.82
Expenses (June 30 to Dec. 31)	<u>-\$780.60</u>

Balance	+\$ 330.76
Net Transfer of Funds to Savings	-\$ 124.49
Funds Trans. to Two-year Memb. Fund	-\$ 15.00
Funds Trans. from 2-year Memb. Fund	<u>+\$ 54.50</u>

Dec. 31, 1985 Operating Balance	+\$245.77
Dec. 31, 1985 Savings Balance	+\$300.00
Dec. 31, 1985 2-year Memb. Funds	<u>+\$ 15.00</u>

March 31, 1985 Balance (total funds)	<u>+\$560.77</u>
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### Analysis of Income:

*Regular Membership Dues	\$ 690.00
*Associate Mem. Dues	\$ 168.00
*Sustaining Memb. Dues	\$ 150.00
Donations	\$ 298.54
Supplies	\$ 32.50
Advertising in HOTBOX	\$ 15.40
Interest	<u>\$ 174.00</u>
**Undertermined	
Sub-total . . . . .	\$1556.66
Two -Year Membership Funds . . . . .	<u>\$ 15.00</u>
Total Income-----	\$1571.66

(continued on page 6 )

# La Crosse to Tunnel City

A UNIQUE ROUTE ON THE MILWAUKEE ROAD by Tom Novitske

For all of those Milwaukee Road fans out there, I have created a track plan of the Milwaukee Road from La Crosse to Tunnel City which is 30 miles from my home.

My layout is 16' x 20' with most of it being double tracked except where it crosses the Mississippi River and passes through the tunnel at Tunnel City. The environment around the tracks is a valley type atmosphere with many streams and hills. There are a lot of farms and one or two forests. Three major towns are between La Crosse and Tunnel City; they are West Salem, Banjor and Sparta respectively. I put a siding at West Salem but that is hardly ever used. The spacing between the cities may be poor but you can work with the track plan if you decide to use it.

Operation on this pike could prove interesting. If you get to La Crosse in the morning, you would see #249, the west bound wayfreight. I will explain

249's operations later. Other trains that would be seen are Amtrak (heading east) and the C&NW wayfreight. All C&NW coal trains enter Milwaukee tracks at the Twin Cities while all other C&NW trains enter at Winona. Both go through La Crosse and stay on past the tunnel at Tunnel City until going their separate ways. In the track plan (on pg. 5), I've made some storage tracks in which you could "hide" the wayfreight. The train itself switches in La Crosse and at parts along the Milwaukee Road track. The Northwestern once had tracks paralleling the Milwaukee Road tracks. You can have fun with this train because it interchanges with the Milwaukee and the BN at Grand Crossing. This train only operates on weekdays.

The two wayfreights the Milwaukee Road runs are 248 and 249. Train 249 arrives in the morning and enters the yard at Grand Crossing where the train will sit until the yard engine can switch his train. That particular yard engine starts at 4 p.m. It is not uncommon to see two GP40's by the roundhouse. They are the engines that brought 249 into La Crosse and they will leave with 249 after his train is switched. Train

248 arrives at La Crosse around 8 p.m., switches the yard through Grand Crossing, and leaves around 8:30 p.m. Many times the BN interchange at Grand Crossing has gondola cars that 248 will pick up for the tie plant at Sparta. Also, 249 will have loaded tie cars from the plant for use on the BN and other places.

The yard engine at La Crosse works daily except on Sundays. Its job is to switch 249's train, get 248's pick up ready, switch 248's set out after it has left and then switches cars at River Junction. River Junction is a place on the Milwaukee Roads' Chicago-Twin Cities line where it meets its Kansas City-Twin Cities line. It is not shown on the layout. Its relationship to La Crosse and River Junction is that it's just across the Mississippi River. Though it isn't

on the pike, you can pretend it is in the hidden storage tracks. The yard engine often takes cars from River Junction and puts them on the 248 or 249.

Through freights can be numerous at times on the Milwaukee, there are many unit coal trains (BN and C&NW) that often have BN, C&NW, UP, and Milwaukee Road power. Their numbers range from a 280 to a 289, though a 288 is very rare. They can be seen during any time of the day.

Milwaukee Road regular freights include a 200/204, 201, 202, 203 and a 205. These trains always have SD40-2's (two of them) though the roads may be different for SooLine engines. See the chart for times they pass La Crosse.

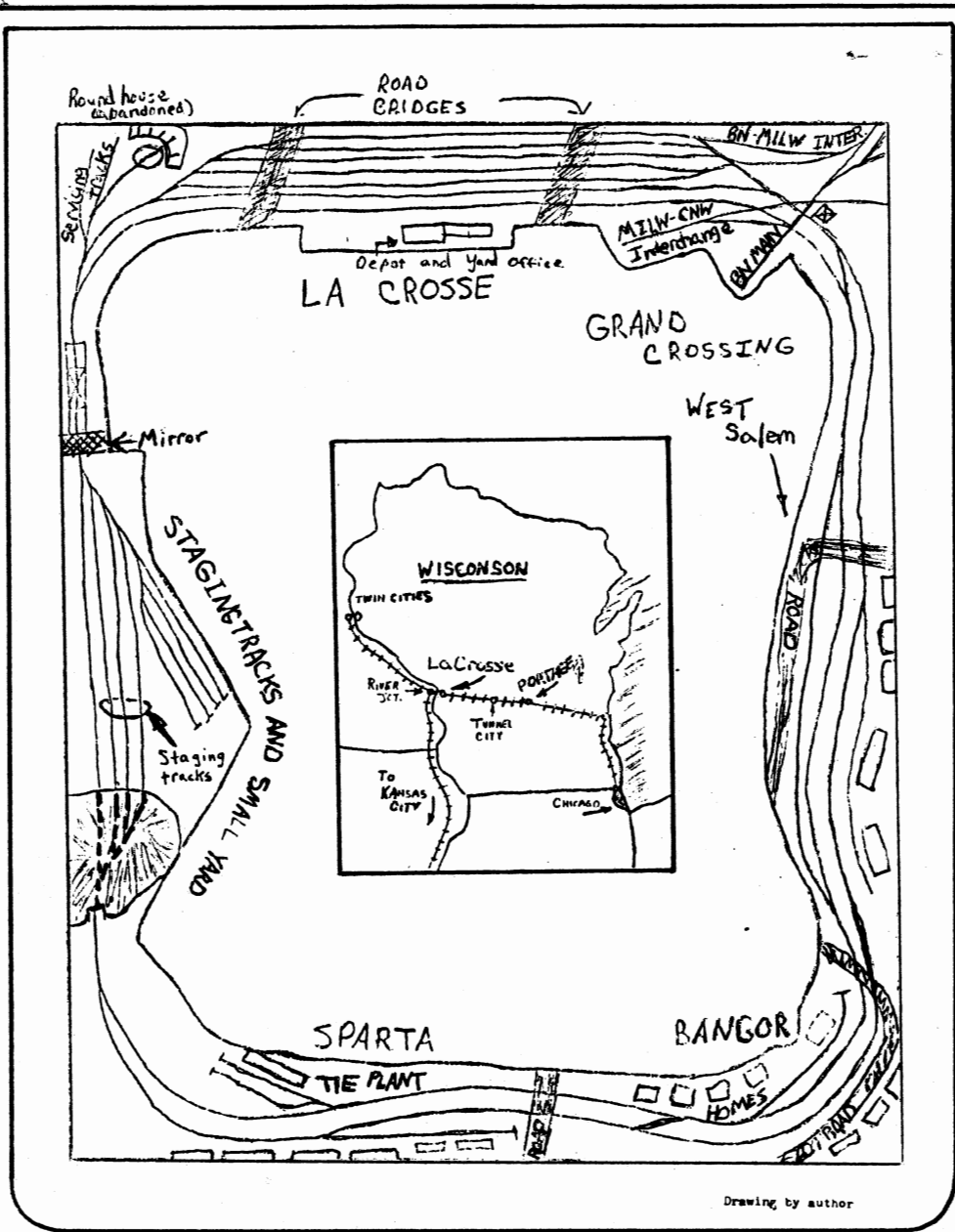
The C&NW, in addition to its wayfreight and coal trains, operates two through freights, a 482 and 495. Power used to be two or three SD18's, but for the past year it has been ex-BN SD45's still in green paint.

Time between La Crosse and Tunnel City made by these trains is rather good. La Crosse to Tunnel City takes Amtrak 30 minutes, 40 minutes for through freights and an hour for coal trains.

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*Operation . . . could  
prove interesting*

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TIMES THAT TRAINS PASS THROUGH La Crosse

200/204	between 2 and 3 a.m.
210	" 3 " 5 "
213	" 4 " 9 "
249	" 6 " 8 "
201	" 7 " 8 "
Amtrak (#8)	scheduled for 9:35 a.m.
202	between 4 and 5 p.m.
211	" 5 " 7 "
203	" 5 " 8 "
Amtrak (#7)	scheduled for 7:35 p.m.
248	arrives between 7 & 8 pm
212	" 10 " 11 "
205	" 11 " 2 "

\*C&NW trains- wayfreight arrives around 11 am, 482 arrives around one am while 495 comes in between 2 and 3:30 p.m.

\* BN coal trains have a BN or MR caboose. C&NW usually have a UP caboose and sometimes a C & NW caboose.

\* All sprint trains, the C&NW wf, 200/204, 201 and 202 are cabooseless.

\* All trains except Amtrak #7 and # 8 are extras

(Checks & Balances, con't from pg. 3)

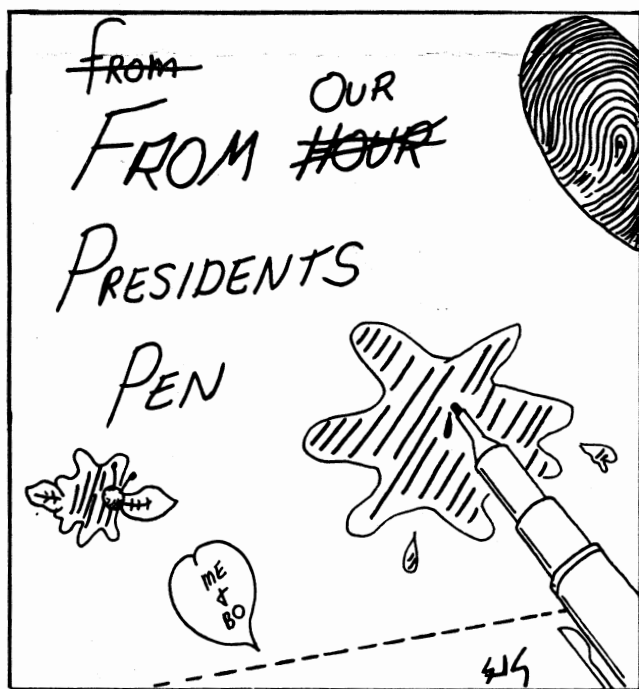
Analysis of Income (continued)

\*Does not include extra portion of funds received for two-year memberships.

\*\*The Latest deposit made my Dee Gilbert at the First National in Harrison totalled \$184.00 (reduced to \$174.00 on account of one check not clearing). Because currently I have only the deposit slip for this amount of funds, I am unable to itemize the deposit into the various forms of income.

Analysis of Expenses:

HOTBOX printing (# 207-218)	\$ 552.00	38.02%
Directory printing (200 copies)	\$ 42.00	2.89%
Nomination forms (200 copies)	\$ 11.50	0.79%
Ballot forms (200 copies)	\$ 11.50	0.79%
HOTBOX photos	\$ 306.50	21.11%
HOTBOX postage	\$ 329.93	22.73%
Directory postage	\$ 30.58	2.11%
Miscellaneous postage	\$ 115.74	7.97%
LEP promotion	\$ 00.00	00.00%
Total Expenses . . .	\$1451.92	100.00%



Hello! We have had a generous offer from the Northeastern Region- NMRA concerning their convention this October which will be held in Utica, NY. The TAMR has been offered free lodging via NMRA members homes. They will also help us get to the convention via members cars. Their members are also willing to make convention clinic space

and time available to TAMR members who would want to have clinics, forum discussions, demonstrations or whatever. Any TAMR convention activities will get promotional coverage in their regional newsletter.

If you're interested in attending, write : Bill Fredlund at 715 Garden Ln., Herkimer, NY 13350. Mr. Fredlund is acting as convention youth coordinator. If you are thinking about presenting a clinic or forum discussions, write: Jim Heidt at Box 195, Camden, NY 13316. Mr. Heidt is the local division superintendent. Also please write me if you are interested in attending. Hopefully, there will be more local interaction like this.

The Boston Convention looks promising too. We have transportation (two vans) and lodging (Budget Motel) and activities planned. We're working on reduced fees and more activities. If you would like to attend this July (25-27), please write me.

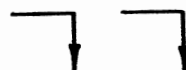
Our Northeastern Region still has a few internal problems. The official name of this Region is the Northeastern Region. There had been an attempt at boundry expansion but this has been taken care of; there has been no expansion.

Feel free to write me if you have any questions or comments about anything or railroading in general.

John Dunn,  
TAMR President  
118 Gilbert E  
Newark, DE  
19717-5259

On track

Region Newz///



CENTRAL REGION

Gerry DobeY is on the ball!! The CR WAYFREIGHT is out. It looks pretty good too. Let Gerry know that it has been worth the wait.

March 8th hosted a slide show at Mr. DobeY's residence. If you are in the Chicago area, get in touch with him because more are planned for the future. Call 312-832-1598.

Want to railfan in Kansas City on April 5th & 6th?? Contact the Editor for information. RAILS is planning their Springtime Trip there.



## Getting To Know You

Any member, new or veteran, who has not already had his/her life story poured out to the world through these pages is invited to send an autobiography of about three paragraphs for publication. This is a reader oriented section which depends on you for support. We hope to include this column as often as there is material for it.

My name is John P. Krattinger. I'm a member of the TAMR's Northeastern Region, which is one of the largest and most active regions in the TAMR.

As far as my background is concerned, I was born 7-13-65 in New York City. I have lived out on Long Island since 1967. I attend college locally. My other affiliations are with the NRHS- Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter and the STEAM 39 project. This is dedicated to returning to steam L.I. R.R. #39 (a P.R.R. Juniata built, 4-6-0 model G-5). I also belong to the National Association of Timetable Collectors. I collect employee timetables and I am always looking for people to trade with.

John P. Krattinger  
Garden City, NY

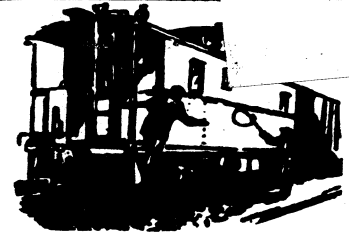
My name is Christian Johanningmeier and I joined the TAMR in October of 1985. Although I am a newcomer to the TAMR, I am not new to the hobby of model railroading. I got started in the hobby when I recieved a hand-me-down American Flyer S gauge train set when I was about three or four year old.

Currently I am a freshman at the University of Missouri- Columbia where I am studying civil engineering and business logistics. I intend to do graduate studies in transportation. When I am not in school, I reside in Cedar Hill, Missouri, which is just a bit south of St. Louis.

I have an HO scale layout which is based on nothing in particular but bits of everything. Other activities I enjoy are running and traveling by train.

Christian Johanningmeier  
Columbia, MO

## TRAIN ORDERS



TRAIN ORDERS is a letters column in the TAMR HOTBOX where you can express your views on the TAMR, its publications and its officers. All letters for this column should be sent to the Editor of the TAMR HOTBOX.

If the HOTBOX refuses to print the "Eastern Region" point of view, then I find that you are definitely not living up to your ability as editor. The job of an editor is to print opposing view points too. This would include anything any TAMR member sent you. I certainly hope you print the articles and ink wash I sent you.

Some people in the Northeastern Region think of me as some sort of enemy. They think this simply because I think John Krattinger does a good job. John, unlike other TAMR officials, is willing to try new ideas to make the region better.

Eric Miller  
Altoona, PA

--Editor's reply--

I did not say that I would not print different points of view. The HOTBOX will not, however, print events concerning an "Eastern Region" because it is a non-existent entity. The HOTBOX believes that change is part of the productive growth of the TAMR. Although it will support change, it will only do so if the change is done in a legitimate matter.

## MSC REPORT

Please address all comments to the Hotbox Editor. Questions to the MSC should be sent to the Secretary.

What products would you recommend I use for modeling weeds? Should I use plastic trucks on my Athearn kit or should I switch to metal? I would like to model dirt; would the real thing do or should I use the ready made earth?

Brian Sullinger  
Rt. 1 Box 172  
Schell City, MO  
64783

Does anyone have any bright ideas ? - Ed.

# Pike ads

Do you have something funny, serious or tounge-in-cheek to say about your RxR? Why not take out a Pike Ad in the HOTBOX! The ads are 10¢ per line, with 48 spaces per line. A free header goes with each ad; in it you can have your RR's herald or artwork. Headers should be no larger than 1 x 4 1/2". One can be made for you for the small sum of \$1.00 if you don't provide one. The header is reusable for future ads. Names and addresses are printed free. Send your ad to the Editor WITH payment. U. S. Postage stamps are accepted as payment for the Pike Ads. Do not send cash; the HOTBOX cannot assume responsibility for ads sent with cash as payment if they are lost in the mail.

# supplies

Show your spirit in the TAMR! Buy a 50/50 sweatshirt with the TAMR herald on it and the words, "Let Us Put Y-O-U On The Right Track". SEND NO MONEY NOW because we just need to know if there is sufficient interest in having them made; a minimum of 18 persons must show interest in order for an order to be made. They will be \$15.00 postage paid and available in all sizes (S, M, L, x-L(?)). Write the Editor today and let him know if you are interested. SERIOUS INQUIRY's ONLY Please. Once there has been enough requests to have them made, a notice will be in the HOTBOX for those of you who want one to send in your money. Even if you have not notified the Editor and you want one at the last minute, go ahead and send your check when we request you do so.

This offer is being made by the Regional Chapter RAILS, at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The small profit made on each shirt will go toward building their TEEN TRAK Modules that contain loops for their club layout.

TAMR HOTBOX, the "Un - Magazine of Model Railroading"  
Box 1098  
La Grange Park, IL 60525-9198



FIRST CLASS MAIL

