

HOTBOX

JAN-FEB
ISSUE # 232-233

"THE MAGAZINE
OF THE TEENAGE
MODEL
RAILROADERS"

Teen Association of Model Railroaders
1028 Whaley Road, R#4
New Carlisle, Ohio 45344

Steve Schwenk, Treasurer
P.O. Box 840 Cary Quad
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Financial Statement: July 1, 1987 - January 1, 1988

July 1, 1987 Operating Balance	+\$ 853.58
July 1, 1987 Savings Balance	+\$ 500.00
July 1, 1987 Two-year Membership Fund Balance	+\$ 0.00
July 1, 1987 Balance (Total available funds)	+\$ 1353.58

July 1, 1987 Operating Balance	+\$ 853.58
Income (July 1-December 31, 1987)	+\$ 394.21
Expenses	-\$ 394.54
Balance	+\$ 853.25

Transfer of Funds to Savings	+\$ 0.00
Funds Transferred to Two-year Memb. Fund	+\$ 0.00
Funds Transferred from Two-year Memb. Fund	+\$ 0.00
January 1, 1988 Operating Balance	+\$ 853.25
January 1, 1988 Savings Balance	+\$ 500.00
January 1, 1988 Two-year Membership Fund Balance	+\$ 0.00
January 1, 1988 Balance (Total Available Funds)	+\$ 1353.25

Analysis of Income:

Membership Dues	+\$ 354.00	89.80%
Donations	+\$ 0.00	0.00%
Supplies (Buttons, hats, etc.)	+\$ 0.00	0.00%
Advertising in <u>Hotbox</u>	+\$ 0.00	0.00%
Other	+\$ 3.50	0.89%
Interest	+\$ 33.46	8.49%
Savings	+\$ 3.25	0.82%
Checking	+\$ 3.25	0.82%
Total Income	+\$ 394.21	100.00%

Analysis of Expenses:

Hotbox Printing	-\$ 0.00	0.00%
Hotbox Postage (#229-231)	-\$ 146.62	37.16%
L.E.P. Promotionals	-\$ 34.10	8.64%
Office/Computer Supplies	-\$ 23.25	5.89%
1987 Directory Printing and Postage	-\$ 187.07	47.42%
Other	-\$ 3.50	0.89%
Total Expenses	-\$ 394.54	100.00%

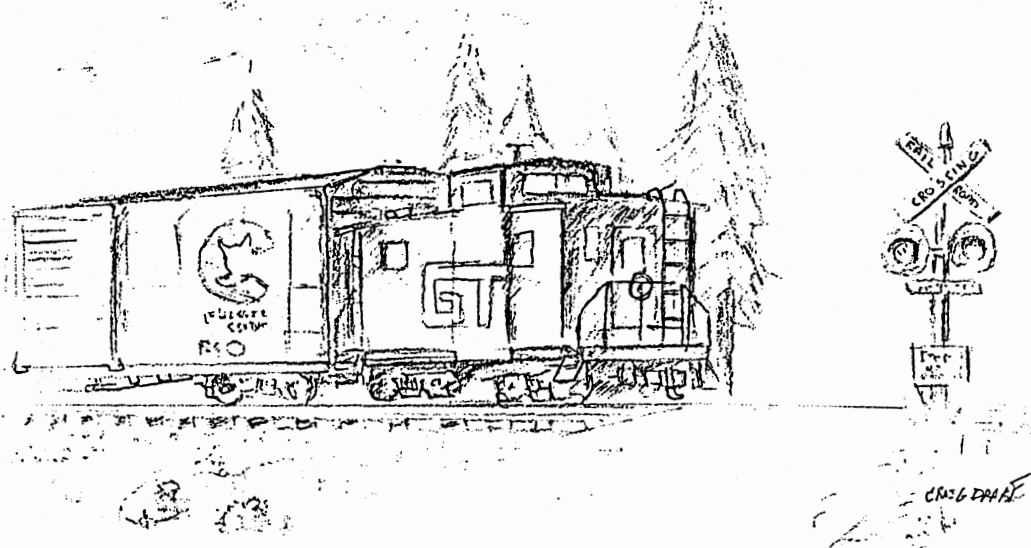
A LETTER FROM YOUR EDITOR.

ATTENTION!!! ANYONE WHO DOES NOT READ THIS
LETTER WILL BE HUNG UPSIDE DOWN AND SPANKED WITH A BRASS STEAM LOCOMOTIVE!!!!!!

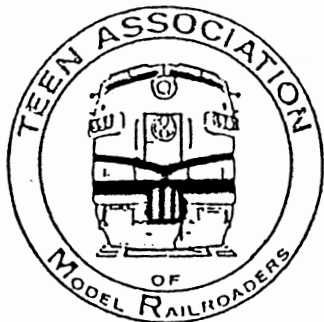
VERY, VERY, VERY, IMPORTANT INFORMATION...

Now, that I have your attention, Hello there!! My name is David Chapman. I am 19 years old and have been in the TAMR for a few years, about 4 I think. Anyway, I am the new editor for the Hotbox. And I want to say the this bunch of paper you get in the mail is now going to be on time, and better than ever! There are several things that I have to tell you, (well, I really don't have to but I will). In this issue somewhere is a loose paper that is the nomination ballat. PLEASE fill it out. Maybe you know some other TAMR member that is good for the offices that are being refilled. If you want to get involed in the club nominat yourself. The Hotbox is not always going to be like this one, all letters and no modeling articles. Belive me, we have a lot of modeling features in the issues this year. Later when you read the other letters, think about writing an article for the Hotbox. it can be a lot of fun. if you have taken photographs of your own layout and want it printed in the HB, it has to be be a black & white photo only. In the next issue there will be an article about an upcomming ariticle contest. ALL MEMBERS are urged to be a contestant. All you have to do is write an article for the Hotbox. it can by typed or handwritten. photos are to be B&W. the prizes are very neat and are definatly worth the effort! And speaking of articles, if you want to print and article you have written, it must be sent 30 days before the month of the issue that it will be printed in. Don't let this confuse you, just send it in and It will be printed. The TAMR Hotbox is for pure enjoyment and all articles submitted and printed, the author will receive no payment of any type, just a happy "Thank You". Pike ads. These are a lot of fun to put in the HB, so sent one in today! If you can't make your own header, (see the back back cover for details) I will be glad to make one for you. Just sent in your pike ad and tell me what you want on your header and I can see what I can do.

If you have an artistic drawing talent, you can send in your work of art and it can be published. Please, the drawings can only be black ink on white paper. Now that I have rattled on about the TAMR news for this issue, let me tell you about myself. I'm 19 years old, and I am currently attending school at the Kankakee Community College in Kankakee, IL. I have a layout, in my own basement room, the name of my Railroad empire is the Railroad System Railway. It is a modern class I RR connecting the big Colorado cities and running through the rugged Rocky Mountains. 99% of the the track work is done, with little scenery completed. I also do a lot of railfanning, with the Mo-Pac (yes, I know the U.P. bought the MoP, But it will always be Mo-Pac to me.) running about a half-mile that I can watch through my bedroom window. Other hobbys are being the editor of this magazine and my girlfreind. Well, I don't want to run on and on so I have put in a few pictures for empty space, some of you older members may remember them from past hotboxes. I hop you like the front cover, It is one of my best shots of a train that I have taken over the years. Sit back and wait, because the Hotbox is back on track and is chasing a high green down the main line!!! bye! *Dave*



A nice
drawing of a
Grand Trunk cab-
caboose done
by Craig Drake.



Presidential

Notes

Stan Ujka
4N414 3rd Ave
Addison, Ill
60101

As we all have noticed, the Teen Association of Model Railroaders has been experiencing some rough times. The most obvious example has been the lack of a national publication. The HOTBOX has not only fallen behind schedule, but has almost disappeared completely. Beginning with this issue, Dave Chapman will be the official editor of the HOTBOX. I believe that Dave has the time, ambition and skill to handle the job. Every TAMR member can help get the HOTBOX back on track by writing articles for the publication. If you enjoy reading the HOTBOX, why not help out by writing for it. If you're not careful, you might even enjoy yourself! Its fun to share your thoughts and comments with other TAMR members, and you might make a few new friends.

Some of the TAMR's problems have been caused by a lack of communication between Executive Board Members. I am partially to blame, but I believe that the problem has been solved. I expect to consistently keep in touch with the other board members from now on. We have a board meeting set up for Thanksgiving weekend. I'll let you know what happens at the next meeting, in the next issue of the HOTBOX.

My last comment for this issue concerns every member getting involved with the organization's activities. I understand that the lack of the HOTBOX upset many people, but I believe that one of the most important benefits to a TAMR membership is the opportunity to meet other people your age who share our interest in model railroading. It can be fun to write to people around the country, or even other countries, and tell each other about your model railroad or even the prototype rail lines operating near your home. Perhaps eventually you will start trading photos that you've taken while railfanning. Someday you might be able to take a trip to actually meet that person. The hobby is more fun when you share it with a friend.

What I am suggesting is that every member take advantage of their membership, and the TAMR itself. Pick a person from the directory and write to them. If your favorite railroad is the Rio Grande, for example, why not write to someone from Colorado. Perhaps he or she will be able to teach you something about the railroad or even send you a photo of one of the line's locomotives. Feel free to start by writing to me if you like. Chicago & North-Western fans are especially encouraged to do this!

If you don't like this idea, why not write an article for the HOTBOX or your Regional publication. Whatever you do, get involved!! Model railroading is not a spectator sport. You'll enjoy the Teen Association a whole lot more if you take part in the Fun!

Keep on Training!

Stan

John Huseby III, TAMR Auditor

Hi!, its been awhile since I last talked to all of you. Election time, I think. Since that time we have found out that our Hotbox's haven't been coming out regulary under temporay Editor Ralph Heiss. We have recived letters & phone calls from parents and new members that just joined, wanting to know why they haven't recieved any Hotbox. With this in mind of the Executive board for the last summer & fall. And Lone Eagle Payne monthly letters wanting to know what was going on. There was no way the TAMR could or can keep members if the TAMR & editor can not produce a Hotbox. Another thing, It (Hotbox) never had a set schedula under Ralph. It came out whenever. Early Spring, (1987) the Central Region had a Railfan meet. On the way back home we had Claude Morelli, ex-Treasear, Stan Ujka, TAMR Pres. and Wayfreight Editor, Dave Chapman, CR member and MY-self. We had a conversation over this Editor business. Dave Chapman spoke up and said He would like to try being the new Editor for the Hotbox. Now I was informed that Ralph Heiss quit sometime ago, leaving us with no one to produce the Hotbox for months.

All the Executive Board had meet over Thanksgiving weekend to talk over the current status of the TAMR funds, promotion and future! And very improtantly, appoint Dave as the new editor. Now having the Executive Board members whitin the Cenral Region a one to one-half hour drive from each other we can function as a group easeir. Dave is not too far away so we can help him out also. This way matters concerning TAMR or urgent issues can be handeled quickly. In the next issue the Promotion Dept. will be running an article Contest for some outstanding prizes. Rules and info will be printed in the next Hotbox (issue # 234-235).

Well, that is about all I have to say to you now, We are very sorry about the delay in you getting your Hotboxes, We are counting on Dave to get the Hotbox back on the main line and up to full steam!!

John Huseby III

Dee Gilbert, TAMR Secretary

Happy new year!

Well, here we are, going through some pretty dark, blue ages in the TAMR. We have seen some changes take place in officers, and againg an change in editors. Everone has been quite busy with their personal lives, and families. I, myself encluded, and some things have fallen into neglect, not that it is the way we wanted it to go. We have the ball point pens which are strickly a free-bee mailed to you when you join as a new member or renew your membership. They are not for sale, or otherwise passed out. Along with this pen,came a problem. Increased postage. To full-fill the weight, to equal the amount of postage we were going to have the pay, we are using a new mailing envelope, which finnaly, I now have, and putting in copies of the constitution, and membership directory (to those that are applicable).

Steve Schwenk is to be getting me a bunch of mailing lables together from the computer, so that hopefully, all you members not having recieved yours this year will finally have gotten them, and to be up to date. I expect to be able to start maling these out towards the end of Feb. In the meamtime, The state of Illinois, and Uncle Sam and I have appointments to get my taxes from the business put into order ans paid to whom (me hopefully) what is due, so some slack for me durring this time will occur. I, like the rest of our officers are very sorry for the Hotbox over this past year, and we have been trying to get something done, which so far encludes getting Dave Chapman of Grant Park, Il as the new Editor. He has been involed is doing a lot of running around at his own expense in trying to get price quotations for having the Hotbox printed. All of us have been keeping a reasonable hand on things to the point that we DO know at what point our membership has not received their Hotbox.

We are diligently hoping, and trying to be sure that when we get the Hotbox off the press, that all members will get theirs, AND that all memberships get the correct number of issues for their membership. The BIGGEST thing that we need from each and every member of th TAMR, is at least one article that we can use in the Hotbox this year... we want articles which will introduce new members to the rest-- tell us about yourself. NEW ITEMS... What you bought, what was the price and what you thought of it. YOUR LAYOUT....

What are you modeling... the track plan, procedures you operate under, future plans, and anything else interesting. CONSTRUCTION FEATURES.... What have you built lately, tell us about it, and how you did it. PROTOTYPING.... Interesting buildings, trackage, trains that are in your area. And one last thing. If you are moving. Let us know about 6 weeks in advance of your move, and give us a definite date. DON'T put this information on your membership application. It gets in the shuffle of the applications and forgotten in the filing. We don't have the money to call your number to only find out someone else has it, or to find out you have moved, and left not forwarding address. Your membership mailing address should not be treated any differently than your subscription to a Hobby magazine. Right now, all of us must pull together, and drop the attitude of apathy. Your officers now have their hands full trying to pull in all the loose strings, and things aren't easy. Anything you can do to help is more appreciated.

We have some good things in the offing for this year, but I'll let the officers involved explain that all to you.

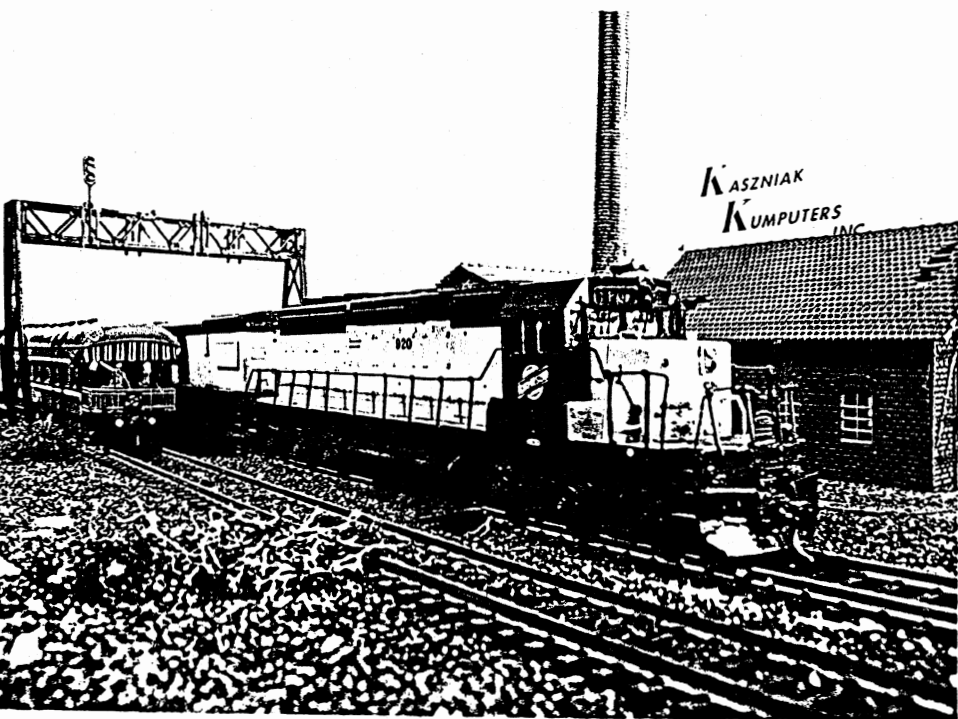
Your TAMR Secretary,
Dee Gilbert.

Steve Schwenk, TAMR Treasurer.

Dear TAMR members,

As you probably have realized, the TAMR has gone through some changes recently. Many of you may have wondered what happened to the Hotbox. Now we have a new editor so hopefully you will begin to receive the Hotbox on a regular basis. You will notice however, starting with the next issue, the Hotbox will be increased to either 12 or 16 page issues. The other change is that it will be sent out 6 times a year. This change is only temporary and we will resume our regular schedule when things return to normal. Since each issue will bear two numbers, we have made them larger so you are still getting your money's worth. You will be pleased to know that we have decided against a dues increase for the first half of the year. The post office may raise postage rates, so we may be forced to reconsider. Financially, the TAMR is in good shape and we have now had the highest balance in TAMR history consistently for over a year. The financial report is in this issue of the Hotbox so you may examine it. I would like to encourage any TAMR member who would be interested in serving as a committee chairman to contact a member of the Executive Board or your regional rep. There are many jobs open that we need in promotions, member services committee, and some of the regions need replacement officers. We will provide more information about how you can get involved in the future. Bye!

Steve Schwenk, Treasurer



C&NW # 920

The 1985 1st. place photo
that was done by Gerry Dobey
A good diorama in the model
photography contest.



NEW PRODUCTS

**CANNON
& COMPANY**

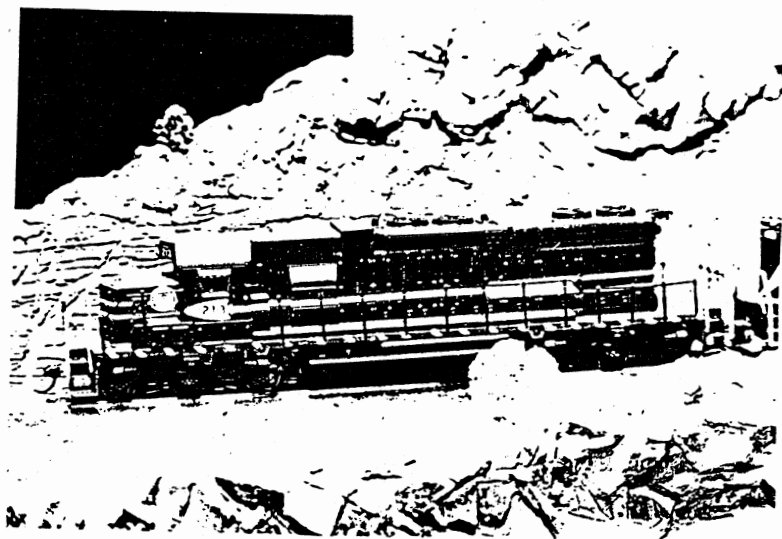
HO SCALE (1/87)

Cannon & Company Thinwall Cab.-Suggest. retail \$5.95 By Dave Valentine.

The Cannon & Co. new Dash2/50-60 aeries thinwall cab comes in a small plastic package. Included are instructions and templets for cutting out the windows and number boards. Assembly is realitvely simple. 2 types of cab windshields are included. The standard type windshield and the Southern Pacific L type windshield. This L shaped windshield will be a big welcome for Espee modelers. The L shaped windshield does have some mystic about it. I may equip some Allegheny Northern Sd40-2's with it. I assembled my cab with testors plastic cement. When you are cutting the cab parts from the spures be careful not to damage any of the parts. Now when you are ready to install the cab into an Athearn stock cab. when the cab is off you will find 2 plastic tabs on the inside of the nose. These tabs will need to be removed. Once done with this procedure the cab fits easliy. Other neat features of this kit are: you can have open doors and windows. Once installed it looks simoly MARVELOUS! Somehow the thinwall design gives the model a much more prototype look. This kit will also fit the new Athearn GP38-2 and the GP50. You may wand to experiment with other manufactures locomotives. this is one great big step towards more fine looking models on your railroad. Also, Cannon & Co. have a "35" series cab for early EMD locomotives like the GP35, DD35A, and other units. This is one big seller in the Hobby shop!

Con Cors HO scale Ten Packs. retail price-? By Dave Valentine.

Fcr the teen modelers who have small layouts these new 10 pack fuel foilers are a welcome addition. Of course if I had my way my layouts radiuses could handel HO scale Jawn Henrys with ease, but I'm not that lucky. Construction of these cars is straight foward. The cars main frame is hollow. A weight is included for each car which gives them a low center of gravity. Take the weight, place it in the hollow frame and glue it there. Then locate the holes for the wheel platforms & glue them there in place. The major part of construction is now done. There are 2 slots on the main frame for 5th wheel positioning which enables you to use 40' Con Cor or Athearn trailers or 45' trailers by Front Range Products or Durango Press. 2 different 5th wheels are included for either Con Cor or Athearn trailers. Then grabirons, brake wheel stand and striupps get glued on the 2 end cars. About the only drawback to these cars is that the complete air brake system is not modeled. If you are inclined to add the whole brake system 10 pack drawings are in Sep. 82 MR. These kits are sold in 2 parts. The basic kit which consists of 2 end cars which are cast in gray plastic and 2 center cars which are cast in brown plastic. And the Add on kit which consits of 3 center cars. So in order to get a 10 pack you will have to buy a basic kit and 2 add on kits. The kits are avaiable in Santa Fe and undec. cars- I plan to paint my undec. cars- Itel 10 packs (even though it will be a 7 pack) Another option would be to run them with 6 cars with trilers loaded with beer adn call them 6 packs!! These 10 packs are excellant operation wise. They glide through #4 turnouts with ease & don't complain about about tight radius curves If TOFC is your thing. I'd suggest buying some Con Cor 10 packs...



- SC - SPOONER CENTRAL - SC -
Addison, Ill ; 60101

The Spooner Central has expanded! We now include daily, direct service from Duluth/Superior, through Minneapolis, Mn., to Sioux City, Iowa. Interested interchange partners should contact Stan Ujka/4N414 3rd Ave/Addison, Ill/60101.

A photo of a kit-bashed SD38-2 done by Tom Gasior. Photo also by Tom.

PIKE ADS

Take advantage of the HOTBOX's service for TAMR members. Here is your chance to tell others about your railroad, your modeling efforts or just your pike dreams.

These ads employ a reusable "Header" with the option of changing the text below as often as you desire. Your text can be informative, newsy, or tongue-in-cheek or foot-in-mouth. Funny or dead serious, that's your choice. It makes for very interesting reading.

The pike as charge is based upon the number of typed lines (40 spaces per line) that you use. Cost is still a mere 10¢ per line with the header printed for free. Headers can be no larger than 1½ inches wide by 4 inches long. You can work up the header yourself (black ink on white paper only) or we will prepare one to your specifications for a one time fee of \$125,499.58. Just kidding, it will cost you one dollar. All pike ads should be submitted to the editor with payment. No ad will be printed until full payment is received. Please make checks or money orders payable to the TAMR. Avoid sending cash if possible. If you would like your ad published in a particular issue, please heed the deadlines listed inside this issue. So hey! tell us what's going on with your railroad or what the future holds for your main line!!

ON THE COVER

A Union Pacific train roars west on the Overland Route west of North Platte, Neb. on a warm sunny day in June, 1987. The units are both SD50's but the second unit is a Norfolk Southern unit. The 1st. freight car is carrying a HUGE catapillar dump truck, that is quite bigger than the diesel units! Dave Chapman photo.

TAMR HOTBOX

The magazine of the Teenage Model Railroaders

P.O. Box 265
Grant Park, IL. 60940



FIRST CLASS MAIL

