



Dear Prospective Member,

Thank you for your inquiry into the Teen Association of Model Railroading. We hope that the TAMR is the kind of organization that you are looking for. The information herein contained should answer any questions you may have about us. If not, please feel free to contact me for further clarification. We regret having to respond to you via this form letter, a personal response is preferred, but presently this is the most efficient and economical way of handling the situation.

WHAT IS THE TAMR?

The TAMR is an organization, as its name implies, which is devoted to helping teenagers and young people in the hobbies of model railroading and railfanning. The TAMR was founded in 1963 by a loosely organized group of young modelers in Philadelphia; however, soon the interest spread and the TAMR developed into the national organization that it is now. In addition to those who members who live in the United States, the TAMR also has members in the provinces of Canada and various countries abroad. For fifteen years, the TAMR has been actively helping young modelers and railfans with their respective hobbies.

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN?

To our members we provide many services. For instance, our publication --the TAMR HOTBOX--billed as the "Un-Magazine of Railroading" contains articles of interest to everyone, no matter what phase of our hobby that you enjoy most. The HOTBOX, which is issued every other month, contains articles on member's layouts, of railfanning expeditions, brief railroad histories and model railroading techniques presented in a manner which the novice or pro will understand them. The HOTBOX is written entirely by our membership for our membership; we encourage those members who wish to do so to submit articles and tips.

The TAMR also has a number of special committees which will further help you in pursuing our hobby. If you are interested in exchanging model railroad passes, you will be happy to know that we have a pass listing. If you wish to obtain photographs of your favorite prototype railroad, you will be happy to learn that a photo listing was established just for this purpose. If you are having problems with your pike, our Question and Answer column is available to help in solving your problems.

In addition, we hold elections every year for various offices in the TAMR, such as President and Secretary. You may run for these offices yourself or nominate someone else who you feel would do a good job. There are other elected or appointed officials that put out the HOTBOX or serve in various other capacities that you might be interested in. In short, there are many ways to get involved in the TAMR, if you are prone to do so. By getting involved, you not only help yourself, but all of our members reap the rewards of your accomplishments.

OUR ANNUAL CONVENTION

Each year, we hold a convention in a location such that as many of our members as possible can attend it. This is a great time to meet fellow TAMR members as well as learning a lot about model railroading as well as the prototype. Our convention is held during the summer months to avoid conflicts with school and the weather. We invite all our members to come and participate in the fun times which accompany each convention at little cost. Some of

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our past conventions have been held in Toronto, New York and Chicago.

IS THERE MORE?

Yes, indeed! All too often, teenagers are made to feel somewhat inferior or out of place in this adult hobby of model railroading. The teenager is sometimes ignored by some clubs, organizations and model magazines. This is not right! The teenager, although just starting out, is often a dedicated model railroader or railfan and the TAMR tries to provide a framework where he/she will feel welcome and continue to learn and grow. We need you! You need us! It's that simple. However, the TAMR realizes that those over the age of twenty-one can often make valuable contributions to our association and therefore we allow them to join on an associative basis. Associative members receive the same benefits as regular members except they are not allowed to hold office or vote in elections. Thus we welcome one and all. Many of our older members have been with us since they were young so they know how you feel and are helping the TAMR do more for you.

Once a year, we issue our DIRECTORY which lists names, addresses and modeling interests of our whole membership. Thus you will be able to locate fellow members near you who share the same interests and perhaps you may even find a friend.

Our entire membership is divided into regions which was done to organize the TAMR on a more local basis. Regions provide our members with an outlet to meet fellow members from the same area and many of them hold meets and conventions of their own. Many regions also have their own publications to which you can subscribe. You live in the _____ Region; contact _____ and ask him/her for further information. You are under no obligation to join your region, but it will really increase your benefits, so write and ask.

WHAT DOES THE TAMR COST?

The TAMR realizes that many of our members have limited incomes and our dues structure reflects this fact. For all members, under the age of 21, the cost is \$5.00 per year. The cost to those 21 or older is \$4.50 per year. The dues cover the cost of a year's subscription (6 issues) of the HOTBOX as well as the DIRECTORY plus any administrative expenses. The TAMR is NON-PROFIT; all of our officers or appointed officials are volunteers, your dues money goes to giving you as many services and benefits that we can.

I hope that this answers all your questions about the TAMR. Why don't you give us a chance? If you are not convinced or have further questions, please feel free to write me. Your letter will be answered promptly.

Enclosed with this letter is an application form; if you decide to join please fill it out entirely. These forms are used in compiling our DIRECTORY thus all questions are to be answered.

I look forward to hearing of your membership. I know that I have profited from being a member and there is no reason why you won't also. I hope that I will have the opportunity of making your acquaintance at some future meet and/or through the pages of the HOTBOX.

Thanks for your time, enclosed are several things that should be of interest to you.

With best regards,

TAMR Auditor

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