



NMRABULLETIN

An Official Publication of the National Model Railroad Association

APRIL 2006

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

David Paterson Earns MMR 365

My exposure to trains started almost from birth (1955). My father, Bruce Paterson, was working for Riley's Hobby Service, here in Hamilton, which was, at the time, one of the few hobby shops open in Canada. He was also one of the founding members of the H.O. Model Engineers Society (HOMES) back in 1948. We would frequently picnic at the park above Bayview Junction and he would take me railfanning whenever he could. This early exposure planted the seed for a lifetime of interest in railroading and steam locomotives.

Other than visiting the HOMES club on operating nights, school took over most of my time until 1971, when I joined the Ontario Rail Association and became actively involved in rebuilding and operating steam locomotives for excursion service. Many hours were spent at John St. Roundhouse in Toronto working on CPR No. 136 and No. 1057. Later, ORA rebuilt CPR

No. 1201 for the Ottawa based National Museum of Science and Technology. Having dedicated over 800 hours to this rebuild gave me the opportunity of a lifetime, a cab ride on the break-in run. This sealed my love for steam. Shortly thereafter, I became active in the politics of this organization by serving on their Board of Directors for two years.

Graduation and a career at Hamilton-based steelmaker Dofasco (28 years and counting) led me away from Ontario Rail and back to Hamilton, where I joined as a full-time member of the H.O. Model Engineers Society, Inc., and am still there to this day, currently serving as Club President.

In 1985, I had built a model of the TH&B Coal Tower whose prototype was located at the Chatham St. facilities in Hamilton. My fellow club members thought the model was good enough to be judged at the next NFR convention,



so I took the plunge. I earned my first merit award with this model and gained the confidence to continue in the AP program and try to better my skills. Just over 20 years later, here I am having completed the program and earning my MMR. I quickly realized that while this is an individual achievement, the road to that goal is one of a team effort. I learned many skills from many individuals; received tremendous encouragement from my peers; and most of all, made

BULLETINBOARD

Achievement Program

NMRA AP Certificates

Report for January 2006

*Indicates first Certificate of Achievement

Golden Spike

Wendy Harlow, Omaha, NE
Edward Street, Cazenovia, NY
Glenn Edmison, Bend, OR

Master Builder - Motive Power

None this month

Master Builder - Cars

Dave Paterson, Hamilton, ON, Canada
Ronald Tuff, Stoney Creek, ON, Canada

Master Builder - Structures

Fred Hulén, Lee's Summit, MO

Master Builder - Scenery

Paul Myers, Kansas City, MO

Master Builder - Prototype Modeler

Stan Seeds, Ft. Myers, FL

Model Railroad Engineer - Civil

Earl Mullins, Hastings, NE

Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical

None this month

Chief Dispatcher

Howard Junker, Juniata, NE
James Lorhan, Hastings, NE
Earl Mullins, Hastings, NE
John O'Neill, Grand Island, NE
James Wells, Hastings, NE*
Robert McIntyre, Alpharetta, GA

Association Official

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Sharman Luhn, Hastings, NE*
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James Wells, Hastings, NE
Phil Monat, Bronx, NY
Robert Gangwish, Frostproof, FL

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Dave Roeder, Webster Groves, MO*
Chuck Diljak, Wayne, NJ*
Robert Gangwish, Frostproof, FL

Master Model Railroader

Dave Paterson, Hamilton, ONT, Canada
Ronald Tuff, Stoney Creek, ONT, Canada

Membership Thermometer

	Total	Count Change
Mar. 2005	19,282	(180)
Apr. 2005	19,284	.2
May 2005	19,404	.120
Jun. 2005	19,471	.67
Jul. 2005	19,389	(82)
Aug. 2005	18,654	(735)
Sep 2005	19,298	.644
Oct. 2005	19,352	.54
Nov. 2005	19,399	.47
Dec. 2005	19,337	(62)
Jan. 2006	19,579	.242
Feb. 2006	19,430	(149)

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM – CONTINUED

many friendships that will be cherished for my lifetime.

Utilizing many of the skills I've learned along the way, I have undertaken one home layout and am now working on my second, modeling the Pennsylvania Railroad during the 1950s, thereby allowing both steam and diesel along with those lovely heavyweight passenger cars. I was always fascinated by Allen McClelland's original V&O and have tried to apply many of his principles to my version of the Pennsy. These layouts feature hand-laid track, scratchbuilt and kit-bashed structures, hand-painted backdrops, Hydrocal scenery with rock castings and Woodlands Scenics ground foam. The new layout will be DCC, while the old one was DC block

control. Sound and prototype operation are the end goals for the new layout, which, hopefully, will take me into retirement.

I couldn't possibly finish without thanking several who were the key influences on my road to MMR. First, and foremost, my father, for taking the time to whet my appetite and get me started; my wife (of 27 years) Lois, and our children Hannah and Andy, for having the patience in putting up with me; all the guys at the HOMES club for their encouragement and sharing of knowledge and skills; Pete Moffett MMR for including me on his staff for the Maple Leaf 2003 NMRA National Convention; Craig Webb MMR and Bill Sharpe for their kind assistance and encouragement; and lastly, to my good

friend, and it pleases me no end to officially call him, Ron Tuff MMR, who shared that road with me and kicked my butt on occasion to keep me on track. Ron's encouragement, focus and inspiration helped instill confidence in me and gave me the drive to see this through. Yes, in my mind, this was truly a team effort. I am humbled and would like to thank you all.

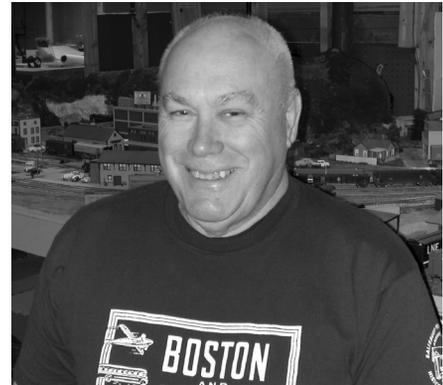
I have earned certificates in Master Builder Cars, Master Builder Scenery, Master Builder Structures, Chief Dispatcher, Model Railroad Author, Association Volunteer, Model Railroad Engineer-Civil and Model Railroad Engineer-Electrical. 📄

Donald Howd Earns MMR 364

Like many of us, I started with a Lionel layout in my mid-teens, but switched to HO scale after about a year. Military service put a hold on layout building, although I stayed with the hobby. After military service, my career involved several moves, but I managed to at least start a layout wherever I happened to be living.

I entered my first model contest at a Northeastern Region convention in 1974 and was

surprised to take a second place with a scratch-built interlocking tower. With that moderate success, I started on the almost-30-year path toward MMR. During that time, I served as a model contest judge followed by being Model Contest Chair in the Northeastern Region for a number of years, as well as Achievement Program Chair and Director from Massachusetts. I also volunteered in the Garden State Division, Dixie Division and



HUB Division. That interlocking tower is still on my railroad.

The Achievement Program has made me a better modeler and in completing the requirements, I undertook many projects I probably wouldn't have even thought of starting. Additionally, and perhaps most importantly, I have met many, many people who have helped me and whom I (hopefully) have helped in turn.

I am currently building what will probably be the final version of the Dividing Creek Railroad. It is designed for operation, and I am fortunate to belong to a round robin group of about a dozen modelers that operates each Tuesday evening.

I am a retired U.S. Postal Inspector with life memberships in the NMRA and the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association. I hold AP Certificates in Cars, Structures, Electrical, Chief Dispatcher, Association Official, Association Volunteer and Author. 📄

