

# Achievement Program

## Modeler well known for humor

*Joe Robertson earns MMR No. 216*

**J**oe B. Robertson, 57, lives in Belton, Missouri with his wife Betty and daughter, the youngest of their three children. Joe is a graduate of Southwest Missouri University where he earned a degree in education to become an art teacher.

After thirty years of teaching, Joe retired in 1990 to become more involved in model railroading. He served on the Belton City Council as an alderman for 12 years and as Mayor Pro Tem for eight of those years. Joe has been active, in the past, coaching his two sons and daughter in Little League Baseball. He is a member of the Belton Historical Society and past president of the Belton Kiwanas Club. In the junior high school, where Joe taught, he sponsored a youth model railroad club for several years.

Joe joined the NMRA in 1984 and, at the urging of his wife, attended his first national convention in Kansas City the same year. His second national was in Eugene, Ore. in 1987. He hasn't missed a national since. Joe is the calligrapher for the Mid Continent Region. He is a charter member of Turkey Creek and director to the MCoR. He is also a charter member and past superintendent of the Mo-Kan Rail Joiners. His cartoons in the Caboose Kibitzer for the past several years, on railroad slang, have entertained and informed readers.

Other contributions include articles and illustrated modeling tips for the Caboose Kibitzer and Lightning Slinger. He is the

assistant editor of the Caboose Kibitzer. He has given many clinics on scenery, water made with epoxy, weathering of freight cars, the use of an airbrush, and is well known for his open loads. Joe also assists in the teaching of a basic model railroading class in a local junior college.

Joe started his model railroading 45 years ago with a Lionel set and in 1959 bought his first HO locomotive. Now several locomotives later he is the President and CEO of the Piper Valley Railroad, an HO pike that occupies a 10' x 20' space on the second floor of his home.

Space is being negotiated for more room in the basement for the rebuilding of the Piper Valley. Joe enjoys operating sessions on the railroads of his many friends. He gives credit to G. Patrick Harriman, MMR, chairman of the AP program for the MCoR region, and to Larry R. Long, MMR, for the encouragement that they gave him to complete the AP program.

Joe has earned certificates in Cars, Scenery, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Chief Dispatcher, Author, Association Official, and Association Volunteer. •

