

CN remained focus despite distance

David Gunn earns MMR #240

At the start of it's 50th Anniversary year, the British Region has it's first Master Model Railroader. He is David Gunn, who has qualified with certificates for: Master Builder - Cars, Master Builder - Structures, Master Builder - Scenery, Model Railroad Engineer - Civil, Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical, Chief Dispatcher and Association Volunteer.

Dave was born in Ottawa, Canada, and is a Canadian citizen. He had his first exposure to model railroading in 1949 at the age of 6, when his Father gave him a Lionel train set for Christmas. As a boy in Ontario he developed a keen interest in the Canadian National Railway which he still maintains to the present day, despite being separated from it by several thousand miles of Atlantic Ocean. The ocean was the reason for his migration to the United Kingdom for in 1961 he joined a British shipping line. He is now the works manager of a Danish engineering company's British branch in Manchester. Dave joined the NMRA and the British Region in 1984 and immediately became involved in Association activities, supporting the newly-emergent Northern Division's primeval modular group by the construction of four HO modules based on a CN theme.

As a modeler, Dave is noted for his painstaking-workmanship and meticulous attention to detail and accuracy. His preferred material is wood, and he is generally believed by his friends to have more Northeastern basswood and un-built wood kits than the rest of the region combined. The completed portion of his HO scale CN Ottawa

and Napanee Division relies heavily on his award winning structures, many of them scratchbuilt and all with full interior detail. He also plays a valued and substantial role in the more public and social side of the hobby. He was the Region's 1991 convention chairman; and he also greatly expanded the Region's small and moribund lending library, transforming it through his energy and enthusiasm into a large and popular feature of the Region's services to it's members.

For David the hobby is very much a family affair. His wife Pam and son Nick are as well known in the Region as he is - as was demonstrated by the presentation of a special award to the Gunn family at the Region's 1993 Convention, for services to and support of the Association.

Dave's future plans include completion of his layout; involvement in the Achievement Program; and, as a matter of some urgency, compulsory participation in the Pamela Gunn Household Repair and Renovation Project, an activity that has been rather neglected in recent years. •

