

# Building diesels set modeler on MMR track

## *Al Warren earns MMR No. 248*

In 1984 Al's mother was clearing her house of junk and presented Al with a box of his old HO trains. Al checked with his wife Mary and got a clear signal to begin a small layout. Al's small layout grew to fill a space 24' x 27' in his basement.

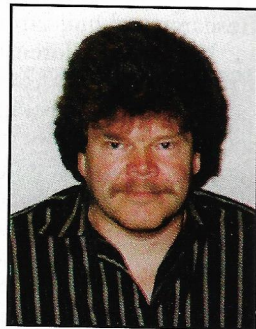
Al started his participation in the AP by accident in 1988 at the Des Moines Area Model Meet. He enjoys building diesel locomotives and he had brought a couple of engines to the meet to enter in the model contest. Somebody asked him if he wanted them judged and he answered affirmatively. One of the stipulations of having models judged was that you had to be a member of the NMRA so Al joined on the spot.

Al kept building diesels and entering them in the contests, not thinking too much about the AP until a couple of interesting things happened. First, Bill Schaumburg saw one of Al's diesels and wanted to know if he would write an article about it. This started Al on the road to his Model Railroad Author Certificate. Second, a couple of MMR's from the Kansas City area, Pat Harriman and Larry Long, kept hounding Al to build something besides diesels. Al took the

challenge and started building different kinds of models and earning Certificates of Achievement in the other areas required for Master Model Railroader. Al gives credit to another MMR, Rich Yunclas, for encouraging him and answering his many questions.

Al would also like to thank his wife, Mary, for putting up with his hobby and for putting up with the times he disappeared into the basement. Al and Mary have two children, 13-year-old Joan and 6-year-old Doug.

Al is a graduate of Iowa State University and is self employed in the restaurant business in Ames. He also owns and manages several apartments and rental units in the same city.



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Al plans to keep building diesels while putting more details on his layout, the St. Paul and Southern Railroad.

Al lives in Ames, Iowa, is a member of the Mid-Continent Region and has earned Certificates of Achievement as a Master

Builder of Motive Power, Cars, Structures and Scenery, a Model Railroad Engineer Civil and Electrical and a Model Railroad Author.

Congratulations Al.

— Pete Moffett