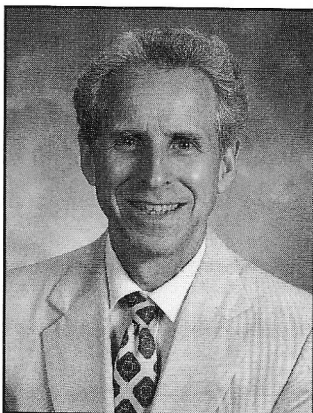


Bill Leider, MMR #188

Bill Leider is Master Model Railroader #188. He and his wife Penny have been married 36 years. They have two daughters, a son-in-law, and three grandchildren.

Over the years Bill has earned his living in the advertising field as a commercial artist, then as an art director. Presently, he is employed as a technical illustrator.



Bill started model railroading in HO scale in the 1940s. This was interrupted in the early 1950s when he served four years in the United States Air Force. He married in 1956 and resumed model building in 1958 when he bought his first home. In 1962, a dear friend, Gus, influenced him to build in O scale, which he has done ever since.

Building steam locomotives from scratch is his main interest. The Leiders enjoy getting together with other "Northwest O Gauge" couples at each other's homes for railroading. He is also proud to be an NMRA member where he is active in the Fox Valley Division of the Midwest Region.

Bill won the gold award for best-in-show at the national level for his Chicago, Burlington & Quincy 0-8-0 switch engine. He also merited best-in-show at the regional level for his Union Pacific 4-8-4 steam locomotive. This was also chosen by *Model Railroader* magazine for the model of the month.

First place awards were received by Bill for his diesel locomotive at an NMRA divisional meet and his passenger car at a Midwest Region meet. A watercolor painted by Bill of a Denver & Rio Grande locomotive appeared on the cover of *Narrow Gauge Gazette*. Another watercolor of a Chicago North Shore interurban car was published and available as prints. His scale drawings and articles have been published in *Model Railroader* and *Model Transport* magazines.

Recently, Bill's layout was featured in *48/ft O Scale News* and *Railmodel Journal* with his engines appearing on the cover of both magazines. He has given clinics on scratch-building steam locomotives at Fox Valley divisional and Midwest regional meets and helped demonstrate O scale building at NMRA national conventions.

Bill earned achievement certificates in Scenery, Electrical Engineering, Structures, Motive Power, Civil Engineering, Cars, and Author. 