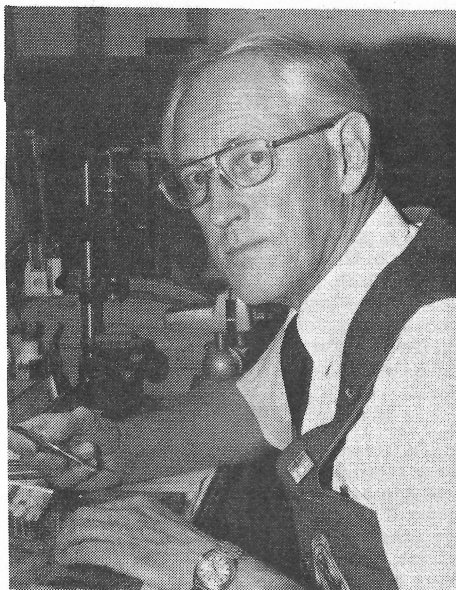


# Master Model Railroader 103, Bob Gardner

Bob Gardner of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, has become Master Model Railroader 103. Bob's a graduate mechanical engineer and is Assistant General Manager and Plant Engineer for a Lethbridge iron foundry, where he has worked for almost 30 years. Bob and his wife Vaughan have four grown children. Vaughan participates in the hobby with Bob: She has built several structures and assisted with backdrop painting.

Bob has been interested in model building since childhood. (He won an honorable mention for an airplane model in a local hobby show at the age of eight!) Model aircraft were his main interest during his teens, although he did have a Marx M-10000 trainset in his early years. His interest in model railroads really began when he saw a department store display layout in Vancouver during Christmas 1949. One thing led to another: model railroad magazines, the discovery of scale model railroading, until finally, with the purchase of a boxcar kit, he was hooked. Vaughan gave him his first locomotive, a Mantua O-4-O Shifter kit, as a graduation gift in 1952.



That O-4-O is still in active service on Bob's HO Canadian Pacific Railway, Kettle Valley-Coquihalla Divisions. This 15' x 23' layout portrays rugged mountain railroading in the 1945-1955 era. It's almost completely scenicked, and features a sunset-moonlight-sunrise

lighting sequence. The layout was on display during the 1979 Calgary national convention and was featured in the January 1980 issue of *MODEL RAILROADER*. It will again be on display during the 1986 Pacific Northwest Region convention in Lethbridge.

Bob is the first member of the PNR's 6th Division to become a Master Model Railroader. He did it with Achievement Certificates for cars, motive power, structures, scenery, civil engineering, chief dispatcher and association volunteer. He has served as superintendent of his division, co-editor of the division's publication, the *HIGHBALL*, and superintendent of the Southern Alberta Model Railway Club. He has had one article published in the *BULLETIN*, judged merit awards and contests at division meets and in 1974 received his division's Silver Spike award for service to the hobby and the division.

Bob enjoys the hobby because of the endless series of enjoyable projects and challenges, and because of the many friends he has made over the years. "It seems that everywhere we travel we have friends," he says. Who could ask for more from a hobby?