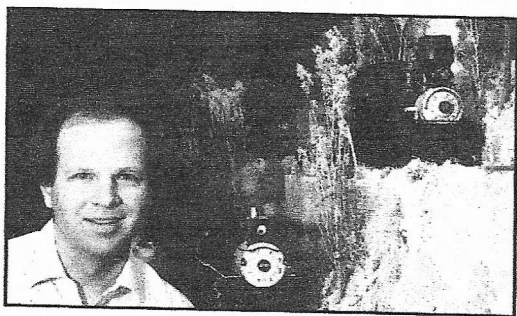


Master Model Railroaders

by Pete Matthews, AP Editor



Barry Bogs, MMR #184

Barry Bogs, Master Model Railroader #184, was born July 12, 1957. For Christmas 1959, at the age of two, he received a plastic pull-train, a tricycle, and a game. Of course, the best gift was the train. After that came a Marx train at the age of four, and his first HO Athearn train at the age of five. Due to the realism of HO, Barry stayed with it through high school. During that time, he built his first layout. As a student at the University of Houston, he put railroading on hold for school, work, cars, and lady friends—although not necessarily in that order, he notes. Graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Technology in 1982, Barry went to work for a large forms company as a customer engineer in the Machine Division. In 1985 he married his wife, Janet, and decided to take up railroading again, this time in Gn3.

Barry's goal was to be able to build a realistic model railroad working with Gn3. He looked at it as HO, only bigger. Learning of the NMRA's Achievement Program, he decided he wanted to be the first Gn3 Master Model Railroader. All of his models were scratchbuilt to Gn3 specifications. Barry says that the AP gave him direction and now he has a model that looks complete, even though it never will be. Barry holds certificates in Motive Power, Cars, Structures, Scenery, Author, and Civil and Electrical Engineering. At age 35, Barry may be the youngest person to have achieved Master Model Railroader status thus far. His layout, the Colorado & Western, was featured as the February 1992 *Model Railroader* cover story.

Janet and Barry are members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Houston, where Barry serves as an elder. Barry also enjoys driving and working on his '72 Pontiac Trans Am. He is past president of the Gulf Coast G Scalpers and also holds memberships in the San Jacinto Model Railroad Club, Texas Gulf Division, and the Lone Star Region. 