



Ronald Rise
MMR 167

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The Sunshine Region's newest Master Model Railroader is **Ronald R. Rise** of St. Petersburg, Fla. Ron's acquisition of MMR represents a first in the history of the Achievement Department. He is the first model railroader to achieve master status working in inside third rail O gauge.

Ron has developed a concept in modeling that he calls 'scaleplate.' This involves the use of tinplate parts (mostly Lionel) such as motors, drivers, gears, etc. to create locomotives that will run on inside third rail scale

track. His locomotives are built to full O scale dimensions, but utilize AC power for propulsion.

Ron's two most recent motive power units have both taken first place plaques in Sunshine Region convention contests.

His background in electronics (he is a retired communications engineer) has enabled him to provide much of his rolling stock with special features such as sound and constant lighting. Ron is very active in regional model competitions, not only in the locomotive category, but also as a car builder. He is pictured here holding his scratchbuilt H.J. Heinz vinegar tank car, which took first place at the Winter Haven fall convention.

Ron is very active in the Sunshine Region, serving as Western Division Achievement Program chairman, as well as serving at the national level as national vice chairman of the Boy Scouts merit badge program. He is also a registered counselor for the railroading merit badge and has assisted 26 scouts in achieving this honor.✴