

Mary M. Miller MMR 175

Mary Miller, our first woman Master Model Railroader, lives in Middletown, Maryland with her husband Bill, who is also an MMR. Bill introduced Mary to Model Railroading in 1978. Since then, she has honed her modeling skills to a fine art. Mary hold certificates for cars, stuctures, civil engineer, dispatcher, scenery, volunteer, and official.

Mary has devoted her time to others in the hobby by serving the MER as Clerk, Paymaster, and then Superintendent of the South Mountain Division, two terms as Regional Director, as well as Regional Contest Chairperson. Mary was also part of a blue ribbon panel which reviewed the judging procedures for the NMRA, served as a layout tour guide for the 1982 NMRA national convention in Washington, D. C., and was on the 1983 Hagerstown convention commitee. From 1984 to 1989 she organized the Mid-Atlantic narrow guage module and diorama meet held annually. In addition, Mary has given

several clinics on backdrop and figure painting techniques. She has won awards for her modeling skills both at the 1985 Narrow Gauge National in Columbus, Ohio.

Mary and Bill are currently building a railroad empire which encompasses three rooms in the basement of their home. The railroad closely follows the C&S narrow gauge prototype, is 90% sceniced, and is fully super-detailed. All the motive power is PFM sound equipped. The railroad is the scene of monthly operating sessions by the " Tri State Narrow Gauge Circle " which boasts five MMR's among the membership.

Aside from model railroading, Mary likes to work in the garden, cross stitch, design Ukranian easter eggs (pysanka), and do any other activty that challenges her skills She earns her living as an administrative services coordinator for the department of facilities and services in Montgomery county in Maryland. She says that "this hobby has introduced me

to a realm of exciting experiences such as photography, electronics, architecture, and railfanning, to name a few. But most of all, I have met some of the most interestig people over the years who have helped develop my skills. They are my inspiration for railroad modeling."

