



Bill Ackland

**MASTER MODEL
RAILROADER #149
WILLIAM (BILL) ACKLAND**

Bill Ackland is MMR #149 and holds certificates for Cars, Scenery, Structures, Civil, Electrical, Volunteer, and Dispatcher. He lives in Cambridge, Ont., Canada, with his wife, Marianne (Nan), and daughter, Kristen.

Bill started modeling in the 1940's with his dad, and jointly they built several layouts starting with Lionel and then switching to HO in 1948. His first contact with the NMRA was when his dad, Edgar, joined in 1952. Bill became a family member and then, in 1965, a full member. The memories of model railroading are the biggest legacy left to Bill by his father.

From 1952 on, when he attended an NFR convention in his hometown of Brockville, Bill's interest in contests and the AP grew. His wife's support when she participated and helped judge contests in the 1960's, got Bill to earn five AP certificates including Volunteer for serving as NFR convention coordinator between 1967-1970.

At present, Bill is secretary of the Doubleheaders Model Railroad Club of Kitchener-Waterloo, which he founded in 1970. His home layout is the STR Railroad, a 12' x 25' layout started in 1960. It was redone in 1970 and is still being added to. It is filled with operation, Bill's specialty, and incorporates many historical connections, reproductions, and many collector model pieces still in operation. The original card system gave way to the computer in 1987 with a full computer switchlist/timetable/clock system.

Bill enjoys model railroading because of his association and fellowship with other modelers. He feels that it is fitting that he earned the Chief Dispatcher Certificate last, since this represents a culmination of a long drive to promote layout construction and creation for operation which is the ultimate in model railroading.