

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER #155 ROGER G. RAMSDELL JR.

MMR #155 is Roger G. Ramsdell Jr., 71, of Rockville Centre, N.Y. Roger retired after working for Consolidated Edison in New York for 42 years in power plant design and construction and is a fellow in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He was a member of the Boy Scouts of America for many years and was awarded the Silver Beaver. Roger is a graduate of the University of Vermont where he is a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. He also is a life member and past commadore of the South Bay Cruising Club, Long Island, N.Y.

Roger's interest in model trains goes back many years to the early 1920's, which included wind-up and Lionel electrics. It was in 1934 that he built his first O scale boxcar. In the late 1940's, he constructed his O gauge scale layout, the Rockland Railway. He joined the NMRA in 1946.

His railroading career includes the founding of many model clubs both in O and HO scale. Roger organized and presided over the Metropolitan (N.Y.C.) section (division) of the Northeastern Region. He was a member of the board of directors of the NER and helped found the Sun Rise Trail Division. At present,

he is actively involved with the International Car Exchange (ICE) and has been since 1987.

Roger's latest railroad is the Rockland & Cape Cod in HO scale (turn-of-the-century era). The railroad began as a point-to-point layout in a basement room 11' x 14' in 1974. It has now evolved to include a section down the middle of the room which is connected in two places on the layout by removable bridges. The rolling stock consists of approximately 50 engines and 50 cars which are either scratchbuilt or kit-bashed. The background goes from a view of the Atlantic Ocean off Cape Cod, complete with schooners sailing off in the distance, to inland areas with logging and houses in little villages. There is also a seaport with an assortment of boats and ships in the process of being loaded and unloaded. The small towns along the railroad are completed down to the people going about their everyday business, including one person caught in the act of leaping off a railroad bridge over a stream into the water where his friends are waiting. Roger and his wife, Isabelle, are members of the United Church of Rockville Centre and spend their summers sailing the waters of Long Island on their 31-foot cutter. They have four grown children, one grandchild and four foster grandchildren.

**Roger
Ramsdell**

