



**Paul Locher**

**J. Paul Locher III—MMR #162**

Paul is the 162nd Master Model Railroader in the country and the 14th in the Mid-Eastern Division. He had most of his requirements finished 10 years ago, but took until now to finish up his last requirement. He has the Cars, Structures, Scenery, Civil, Electrical, Association Volunteer, and Author area awards. (You see, there's no need to be embarrassed about how long it takes.)

Paul has been a model railroader for most of his 59 years. As a boy, he had a Lionel layout in the basement of his home until he joined Uncle Sam's Navy at 17. Not much railroading got done for the next 12 years while finishing his Navy hitch, starting a family and going to college. About 1960, he started up with model railroading again and has had five progressively larger layouts. One even had a special addition to the house that made an in-law apartment when the house was sold. The present layout is 20 x 55 feet in a basement room. In all these years he hasn't made it upstairs yet.

He enjoys having visitors and is a regular stop for the Dixie Division meets in the Washington area. He also hosted an NMRA national tour one year and a couple of MER tours. These have led to the recent rebuilding of 75 percent of the layout to provide more aisle space.

Paul is a technical director at the MITRE Corporation where he has been since MITRE was formed from MIT Lincoln Laboratory in 1959. He looks forward to leaving (we don't say retiring from) MITRE this winter. He and Marge look forward to traveling a bunch and seeing both live and model railroads around the country. He also anticipates some good, uninterrupted layout time. Paul and Marge have three grown children with two grandchildren. They live in Reston, Va.