

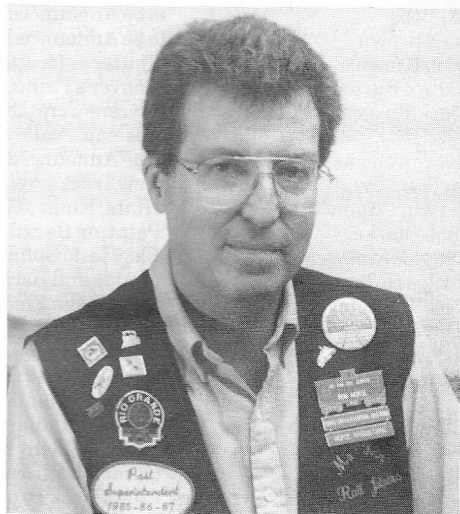
Ron Morse—MMR #159

Ron Morse, 43, is a native of Colorado. He grew up around Central City where his grandfather had two gold mines and his father owned a gold mine and an assay office. His love for the mountains and trains started at age three with a wind-up Marx train. Later, he was given a Lionel and then at 13 he received his first HO set. In his teens he left modeling, but in 1978, his sons got him to drag out the "old trains" and the model railroad bug bit again.

By 1983, Ron had won many contests with his models and had begun teaching model railroading through the junior colleges. In 1984, he moved to Kansas City. His first class on model railroading drew over 80 participants for the six-week class. Out of the class two model railroad groups were formed: the MO-KAN Railjoiners and the Turkey Creek Division of the MCoR. He continues to teach the classes every year.

In 1986, Ron and his wife, Vicki, started a small business called Morse Productions which manufactures about 50 different HO plaster castings for the model railroad industry. He lives in Lenexa, Kan., with his wife and sons Ron Jr. and Mike. He is a plant manager for the Laser Graphics Division of Data Documents.

Ron holds certificates in Cars, Structures, Scenery, Civil, Electrical, Volunteer, and Author. His current layout, the Forks Creek & Central Railroad, was not built to match a prototype. However, it is a realistic composite of a turn-of-the-century Rocky Mountain mining area and town. Raised in Central City, Colo., and having panned gold near the site of the Forks Creek depot in Clear Creek Canyon, Ron used these names and some of the local history for his model railroad.



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