

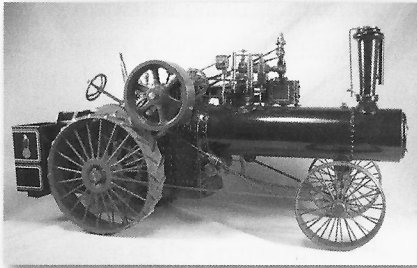
George Britnell

THE 2016 JOE MARTIN FOUNDATION AWARD WINNER

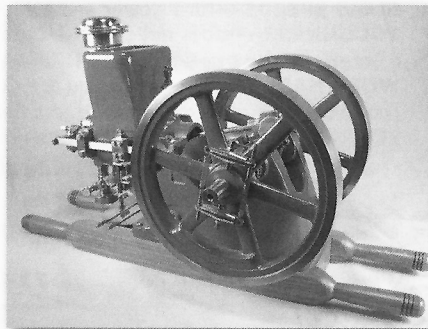
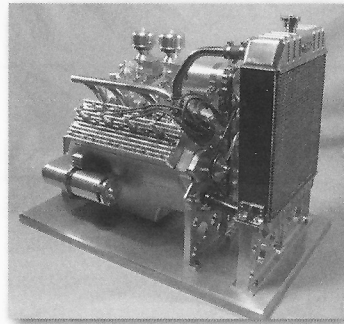
Each year the Joe Martin Foundation for Exceptional Craftsmanship presents an award to the Craftsman of the Year for a lifetime of work that is considered to be head-and-shoulders above that of others in a particular field. The award consists of a check for \$2000.00 and an engraved medallion. This year's winner is George Britnell of Strongsville, OH. Mr. Britnell has been attending model

engineer-
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for many
years.

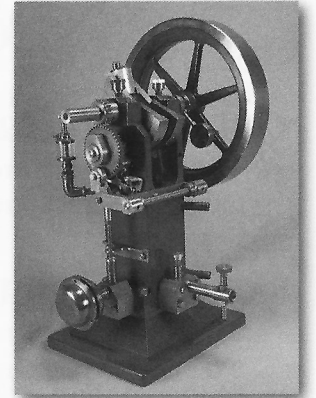
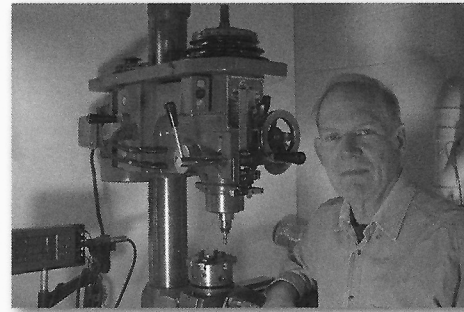
In the 1990's he entered one of
his projects in the Sherline Ma-
chinist's Challenge contest at the



North American Model Engineering Society Expo in Detroit, which is where we first became aware of his work. Since then he has produced many more projects and even entered several of them in the contests over the years, taking a third and two first place awards. George's broad interests take him into many aspects of model engineering—from guns to engines. All his models share an attention to detail and final finish that put them a cut above the rest. He also enjoys making a model and then making another version of it smaller than the first. In our museum, smaller is better. His wide range of choice



of items to model also requires a diverse set of skills. George thinks model engineering is one of the greatest hobbies going, and he has enjoyed meeting and sharing information with all the great craftsmen and builders he has met over the years. He also shares his knowledge by participating in several on-line machin-
ing and engine forums including The Home



Shop Machinist (magazine) forum,
The Home Model Engine Machinist
group (HMEM) and Model Engine
Maker (MEM) forum.

Mr. Britnell is the 20th winner of this award. The Joe Martin Foundation was set up to reward craftsmanship at the small end of the size scale. Mr. Martin was the former owner of Sherline Products Inc., a US manufacturer of precision miniature machine tools. He felt that those who work with their hands, heart and brain are not sufficiently recognized for their contributions to our society in relation to entertainment and sports figures, and he set about to enhance the recognition of these fine craftsmen. Mr. Martin passed away in February, 2014, but his legal trust insures that future profits from his company continue to fund the foundation, its museum and awards.

