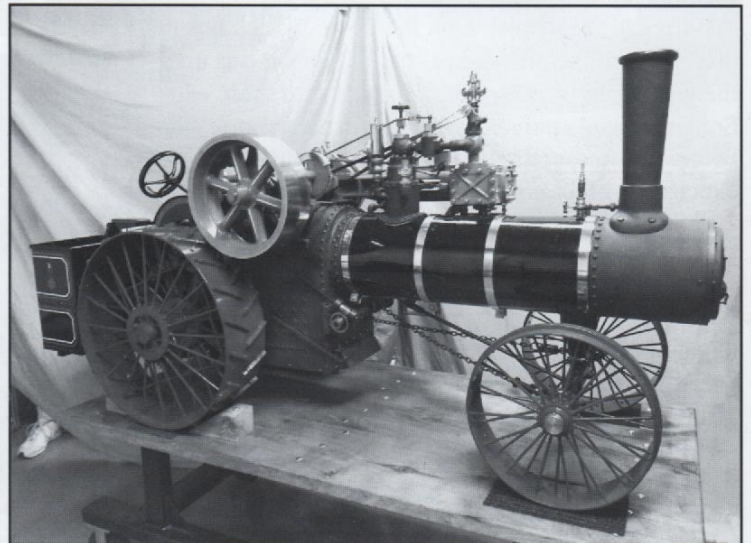
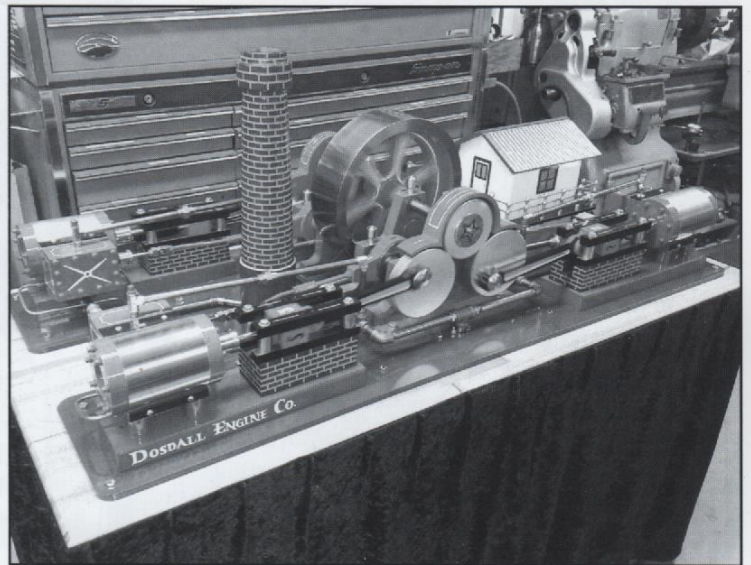
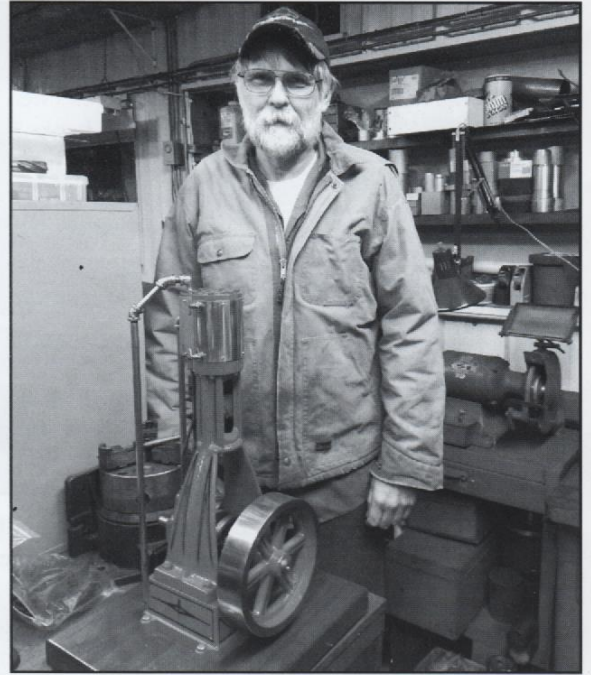


The reason I bring this up is that Rich was just honored by the Craftmanship Museum of Karlsbad, California as the "Craftsman of the Year." When I went to their web site, CraftmanshipMuseum.com, I was overwhelmed by the indescribable models that craftsmen have made. I found the Richard Dosedall story and read the detailed account of him building that model Oliver and I was on the verge of tears. The creativity, intellect, skill and tenacity it took to build that and other models is beyond my grasp. When I am with Rich in his shop, I feel like a tiny person in the presence of a giant. Yet this giant of a man is a down-to-earth, kind-hearted, soft-spoken and accommodating as you can imagine. His wife, Jill, is also a beautiful soul. The Bible tells us in Romans 13:7 to "give honor to whom honor is due." Today I want to give honor to Rich Dosedall and all the other great craftsmen that have given me the opportunity to set foot in their shop.

Scott told me people want reports on the progress of our 1921 16 HP Russell #17019. First, I am still pinching myself, an ordinary grease monkey, to think that my dream of owning a steam engine actually came true. I have had two banner days with the engine...the day it was delivered to our rural property and the day that we fired it up for the first time late last fall. I can just go to the shed and look at that prince of an unrestored engine and be almost as happy as if it is running. I am like the proud parent of a newborn, a 9-ton child! The Bible tells us in James 1:17 that "every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father." This Russell is about the most perfect blessing I could ever have received in the hobby category and an amazingly stimulating enterprise to kick off my coming retirement years as I enter turn 60 this year. At the moment, I am working more than full-time, but down the line I will be able to enjoy a lot of wrench turning, Babbitt pouring, grease scraping, bushing making, bearing adjusting, clutch rebuilding and, I dread the day...tube rolling and beading. The new tubes I have can only go in when I figure out a way to unhook the cast iron smoke box without crushing myself. I am thinking of making an overhead beam in the pole barn that I can hook an engine hoist to raise and lower it as well as for pulling the engine out of my 1929 Model A Ford.

I now need to cut and split two or three times as much wood as I have in the past for our little Lopi wood stove because the Russell has a much larger appetite. I really would love to find a rock crusher to run because I have a lot of field rocks that could be turned to gravel on our ten acres. But I at least need a Baker fan or something to make it chug. Hopefully the neighboring farmer will let me cross the edge of his field so I can get out to the gravel township road and take it for a ride at times. And I really look for-



Top: Rich Dosedall model stationary engine. **Middle:** Rich Dosedall unique four cylinder model engine. **Bottom:** Rich Dosedall model Case engine.