



We Need Your Submissions

By Alex Belida, MMR, Flyer Editor

Most of you probably have experiences and knowledge worth sharing with your fellow modelers. *The Flyer* wants to hear from you. If you have an idea for an article, send us a brief description of what you propose to write. Send it to: Potomac-Flyer@potomac-nmra.org.

Maybe you don't think you can write an article. Please try. Our editors will work with you to present your work in the best possible way.

The Flyer has some other ways you can supply modeling information. Keep reading to see some regular features you can support that don't require writing an article.

But first: please observe the following steps to get your contribution into print.

1. First, compose and submit your piece in one of the following preferred formats: DOC or DOCX. Please do not double space after periods. Don't hyphenate any words. Don't send us items with abnormal margins.
2. Consider what photos, illustrations or other graphics can go with the text. These are essential. But DO NOT include them in your text. Instead, put notations in the text such as "Insert Photo #1 here." Please name your photos and don't leave them with just the original IMG numbers. Send the illustrations separately (and name them as you would want them in the text, for example: "Belida1.jpg" or "PhotoEtch1.jpg"). The JPG format is best for pictures.
3. If you have captions, please create a separate text for captions only, each of which should be linked to a specific numbered picture. For example, "The front grill has been cut away from the engine'-with illustration #2."
4. Also, don't forget to add a short biographical sketch and provide a headshot photo of yourself.

All articles are subject to editing (and photos might have to be relocated). However, if any edit might affect the substance or meaning of your text, you will be asked if the proposed change preserves both the accuracy and intent of your wording.

One note on photos: please only send us photos you took or photos for which you have written permission to use (and then tell us whose photo it was so we can give that person credit and send us the "permission granted" note). Please don't just pluck something off the Internet and think you can use it unless the owner of the website states clearly that his or her material is free to use. We don't want to run afoul of any copyright infringement situations!

Now, here are those other ways you can support The Flyer. Send your submissions to: Potomac-Flyer@potomac-nmra.org

Meet the Member

Please respond to as many of these as you wish and add anything you want. Please send a photo of yourself with your layout visible in the background plus two or three layout photos. You can follow the Q&A format, or, if you prefer, you can write a narrative that includes the basic information sought here.

How did you get started in the hobby? How long have you been an NMRA member? How long with Potomac Division?

What's your favorite Division activity – open houses, MiniCons and Meets, clinics in person, virtual clinics?

What do you model now: layout, scale? Do you still have your first engine/train set? What was it?

What's your favorite part of the hobby? How about your least favorite? What projects have you been working on recently?

Describe your model railroad philosophy? What to you is the value of the AP program? Is shooting for MMR worthwhile?

What advice do you have for newcomers to the hobby?

Tell us a bit about your life, where you grew up, what jobs you held?

Layout Profile

Please respond to as many of these as you wish and add anything you want. Please send a headshot photo of yourself plus several layout photos to illustrate your answers. Please keep your answers as brief as possible.

- 1. What is the name of your layout?**
- 2. What scale is your layout?**
- 3. Does your layout have a specific era and/or location?**
- 4. What are the overall dimensions of your layout?**
- 5. How do you control your layout?**
- 6. When did you start making your layout?**
- 7. Do you host operating sessions or would you consider doing so?**

8. What type of track (sectional, flex track or hand laid) and switches are on your layout and what is its code?

9. If you were to brag about your layout what would you describe as its outstanding feature(s)

What Does Your Workbench Look Like?

Send a single photo of your workbench and describe in one or two paragraphs what is on it. This could involve a photo explaining a modeling project that's under way, or discussing a particular array of tools or paints or other supplies you use frequently and why, or it could be a confession about why the photo shows your workbench in a particular condition (unused, in disarray, whatever).

Flyer Bits & Pieces

These can be any modeling tips, brief news, suggestions or questions you want to share with Division members.

Models We Admire & Our “Challenges”

Each issue of *The Flyer* includes a “Challenge” in which we ask members to send in a photo or two plus brief description related to a specific topic we announce. Past examples of these include Motive Power, Trackside Industry, Water Feature, etc.

Occasionally, we like to acknowledge a “Model We Admire” so if you have a particular model -- structure, rolling stock, layout feature, etc. - send us a photo with a brief description.

***The Flyer* is your Division's newsletter. Please support it with your submissions. Thank you.**