



The Potomac Flyer

Formerly *The Dixie Flyer*

Fall Quarter

September to November 1995

The Quarterly Newsletter Of Division 2 ("Potomac"), Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

The Rituals of Autumn

It's fall again, and with the regularity of the turn of seasons, the Potomac Division will again host a Swap Meet in September and participate in the Rockville Lions Club Train Show in November. In October we will visit the Maryland Central Model Railroad Club. Also, at the end of September, the Mid-Eastern Region will celebrate its 50th Anniversary at its Fall Convention in Hunt Valley, Maryland.

Potomac Swap Meet

Saturday, September 16th, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Building CF, NOVA-Annandale, Annandale, Virginia

This September we will host our third annual Swap Meet. Bring all those items you no longer need for your layout and trade, exchange, barter, and sell them for items you can use. The emphasis is again model railroaders dealing with other model railroaders in the style of a model railroading garage sale.

If you have many items to trade or sell, please rent a table. Tables rent for \$10 each or \$6 for half. Please call Clint Smoke or Jeff Martello as soon as possible if you want to rent a table because space is limited. Clint may be reached at (703) 425-5077 or Jeff at (301) 681-9862. We are also looking for anyone who is interested in giving demonstrations or mini-clinics of modeling techniques. They, too, should call Clint or Jeff as soon as possible.

Like last year we have invited a limited number of local dealers and specialists to participate. These are folks who have supported our division by providing door prizes for our Mini-Conventions and also buying advertising in the *Flyer*. As of this writing Obies Trains and Robert Wingo have rented tables, but we are awaiting replies from several others. Obies features a broad range of HO and N scale products. Robert specializes in custom decaling, detailing, and painting of Southern Railway and RF&P locomotives and equipment.

As the map below shows, NOVA's Annandale campus is located about a mile west of the Capital Beltway (I-495) on Little River Turnpike (Va-236) at Wakefield Chapel Road. Enter the parking lot from either Va-236 or Wakefield Chapel Road. Please be aware that parking enforcement at NOVA can be very effective, so please park in the Community Center parking spaces, those in the center of the large parking lot on the south side of campus. Avoid fire lanes and spaces for staff, students, and handicapped persons (unless you have an HP tag). You can use the metered spaces if you wish, just be sure to feed the meter!



Schematic Site Map of the Annandale Campus of Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA)

MER's 50th Anniversary Convention

September 28th to October 1st

Hunt Valley Inn

245 Shawan Road

Hunt Valley, Maryland

The Mid-Eastern Region's Fall Convention this year celebrates its 50th Anniversary. Like the spring convention held earlier this year, this is quite nearby (see map on next page) so distance is no excuse for not going. The convention promises to be a great one with over 40 clinics scheduled, numerous layout and prototype tours, a train show, and many other events. Mike Trubow has provided a full brochure starting on page 11 in this *Potomac Flyer*. Read through it. If you are as impressed as I am, I'm sure you will be excited about attending.

► Make your hotel reservations right away. Room rates go up September 7th! See page 11.

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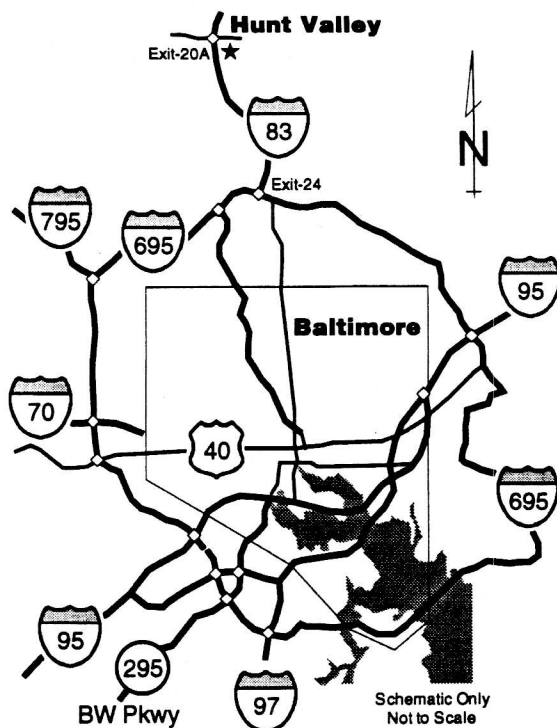
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**Fall Events,
cont'd**

Summer Recap



*Location of Hunt Valley, Maryland
Site of MER's 50th Anniversary Convention
September 28th to October 1st, 1995*

October Club Layout Tour

Sunday, October 29, 1995, 1 – 5 P.M.

Four Corners (Silver Spring), MD

October 29th we will visit the Maryland Central Model Railroad Club at Marvin Memorial Methodist Church in Four Corners, Maryland. We last visited this layout when our division mini-convention was held at the church in 1990. Details about the layout and how to get there are given on page 7.

Potomac Division at the Rockville Lions Club Train Show

Saturday, November 11th, 10 A.M. – 4 P.M.

Sunday, November 12th, NOON – 4 P.M.

Senior Center, Rockville, Maryland

November is National Model Railroad Month. For the fifth year, the Rockville Lions will celebrate this important occasion by sponsoring a Train Show in benefit of their vision charities and glaucoma testing. The show will be held at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville, Maryland. This show is one of our area's best and features tape-slide clinics, videos, static displays and operating layouts by our own HO Module Crew with Dave Cooper's East Penn Trolley modules, Northern Virginia NTrak, the Lionel-running Tinplate Trackers, and others. The Loco-Doctor is scheduled to there to help you put those rough or non-running locomotives in good order. Food will be provided by the Lions for quite reasonable rates. Admission is by a suggested donation of \$4 per adult and \$2 per child under 13, but not more than

\$8 per family. See the notice on page 8 for a map and other details about this show.

Other Railroading Events

Both the HO Module Crew and Northern Virginia NTRAK have busy schedules this fall. See their events on page 6 of this Flyer for more information.

The Mt. Clare Division, our sister division to the northeast, will be holding a **Train Flea Market and Auction**, November 4th from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. They will meet at the Arbutus Town Hall, located just off Southwestern Blvd. (US Rte. 1) across the street from the fire station in Arbutus, Maryland. Admission is \$2 per person (children under 12 free). Auction tickets are \$1 per auction lot. Tables may be rented for \$8 but the number of tables is limited. Most are round, 7 feet in diameter. Please call Roy Brakmann at (410) 465-5506 for registration and other information.

Another of our neighboring organizations, the **Winchester Model Railroad Club**, will hold its **Fall Train Sale** at the Clarke County Fair Grounds just west of Berryville, Virginia (on Route 7). The show and sale is on Saturday, November 11th from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Admission is \$3 adults, children 12 and under free with an adult. For more information contact Craig Alderman, 430 N. Cameron St., Winchester, VA 22601 or (703) 665-9898.

Locally, the **Northern Virginia Model Railroaders** will hold open houses at the former Washington & Old Dominion railroad station in Vienna, Virginia. The station is at the corner of Dominion and Ayr Hill roads. They will be open from 1 to 5 P.M. on September 16th, October 21st, November 18th, and December 16th. Call (703) 938-5157 for more information.

Summer Events Recapped

This past June we visited the National Capital Trolley Museum in Colesville, Maryland, and in August we will have traveled to two great layouts in Alexandria, Virginia. The latter is still several weeks ahead as I write this but promises to be a great tour. We will have seen Hal Davidson's Jersey & Susquehanna Railway, a rather complete revision of his then-Reading layout we last visited in 1991. We will also have seen Paul Dolkos' Hampshire Division of the Boston & Maine. Scenes from this layout have been featured on the covers of Model Railroader and Model Railroad Planning 1995, and it has been written up many times in both those publications and elsewhere. Many thanks to both Hal and Paul for hosting us. I know we will all have been suitably impressed (and I just love writing in the future perfect tense!).

Having complemented our August hosts, I must now turn around and apologize for the lack of "official coverage" at our Trolley Museum picnic in June. Part of the blame lies with me in that we intended this to be a make-your-own picnic, not a group picnic as my write-up implied. That false impression is my fault, pure and simple. The event was more like our typical divisional meet where

The Potomac Flyer

Is the Quarterly Newsletter of Division 2 ("Potomac")
of the Mid-Eastern Region
of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

Editor: Peter K. Matthews

Publisher: Bruce Strickland

The Potomac Division territory includes: the District of Columbia; Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties, Maryland; Prince William, Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, and Clarke Counties, Virginia, as well as the independent cities of the area.

••• Division Staff Roster •••

Superintendent	Jeff Martello (301) 681-9862 (home) (703) 358-4989 (work)
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Potomac Flyer Printer & Distributor	Bruce Strickland (703) 361-5620 (home) (703) 313-2050 (work/beeper)

Advertising in the *Potomac Flyer* is available. Per-Issue rates are \$5 for a Business Card (eighth-page) block; Quarter page, \$10; Half page, \$20; Full page, \$40. The back page space above the mailer goes for \$25 and is reserved on a first-come-first-served basis. Special rates are available for multi-issue purchases. Make checks payable to "Potomac Division."

Submission Deadlines for all materials in each issue of the *Potomac Flyer* are: Spring issue, Jan 15; Summer issue, April 15 (with some allowance given for taxes); Fall issue, July 15; Winter issue, Oct 15. Mail all submissions to: Pete Matthews • Editor, Potomac Flyer • 4416 Longworthe Square • Alexandria, VA 22309-1226. Unless special arrangements are made, no materials will be returned.

Change of Address (COA): Complete the enclosed Application/COA form and send it to Clerk, Potomac Division, P.O. Box 3204, Manassas, VA 22110.



Potomac Division Calendar

Calendar

Staff Roster

September 16

Potomac Division Swap Meet

Annandale, VA (1)

NVMR Open House

Vienna, VA (2)

October 29

Potomac Club Layout Tour

Four Corners (Silver Spring), MD (2, 7)

October 21

NVMR Open House

Vienna, VA (2)

November 4

Mt. Clare Division Train Show & Auction

Arbutus, MD (2)

November 11

Winchester Model Railroad Club Train Show

Winchester, VA (2)

November 11-12

Potomac Division at Lion's Club Show

Rockville, MD (2)

November 18

NVMR Open House

Vienna, VA (2)

December 16

NVMR Open House

Vienna, VA (2)

(nn) — Details on page nn of this *Flyer*.

Potomac Events in **boldface**.

‡—Details in an upcoming *Potomac Flyer*.

Local model railroad clubs may have their events listed here if space permits. Please send a schedule of your activities to Pete Matthews, editor of the *Potomac Flyer* at the address given in the Division Staff Roster.

Summer Recap, cont'd

Greeters Wanted

Land-Grab!

Achievement Notes

you show up when you can, stay for as long as you want (or at least until the host kicks us out), and enjoy the sites and activities at your own pace. Jeff Martello, our superintendent, also hoped that the event would introduce many of you to a little known railroad museum literally in our backyard.

Well, life has an unfortunate habit of intruding on our hobby. And as much as we would like model railroading be our life, this is sadly not the case. We officers try our best to attend all events, to provide adequate coverage for all the hours of each event, and satisfy our real responsibilities to the division. Typically, one or the other of us cannot attend a given event despite the best of intentions. In the case of the Trolley Museum day, we knew ahead of time that two of us were unavailable. But late-breaking family and work duties kept two of the remaining directors away from the event. They were to have covered the 1 to 3 P.M. period, so we had no "official presence" early on. My coverage period was to have been 3 P.M. to museum closing. Admittedly I was late, arriving around 3:30, which coincided with a good ol' June downpour. In deference to my wife and children, we headed on home. Again, real life reared its ugly head. We all apologize for this lapse in coverage. Despite our failing, many of you reported that otherwise it was a good trip and in that we feel we succeeded. ~~RM~~

Help Wanted:

Greeters at Division Events

The foregoing discussion does suggest that we really need folks willing to act as greeters at our events. Can some of you volunteer? It doesn't require any long term commitment, just a couple hours on our event days. It's a great way to meet other members, and especially makes new folks feel that we are a friendly, helpful group. One of our strongest suits is that we are a very fun group of people, interested in helping others enjoy the hobby, and willing to share our time and space.

Having greeters will amplify that fact. Give any member of the division staff a call the week before the events listed in our calendar and ask if you can help. Thanks. ~~RM~~

Land-Grab!

In the finest tradition of American railroading, we're making a land-grab. The Potomac Division, in concert with MER and its other divisions, is attempting to firm up our boundaries. Right away this means that southern Maryland (Charles, St. Mary's, and Calvert counties) and more of northern Virginia (Stafford, Rappahannock, and Culpeper counties) are part of the division. The Potomac Division now stretches from the Rappahannock to the Patuxent rivers and from the Chesapeake western shore across the Piedmont to the Shenandoah front. A sketch map below shows our new territory.

Because we order NMRA labels by three-digit ZIP, many of you readers in Tidewater or James River Divisions will have received this mailing. If you're south of the Rappahannock River, accept this edition of the *Potomac Flyer* with our complements. If you wish to continue receiving the *Flyer*, please use the application form inside the mailer at the end of this newsletter. ~~RM~~



Shaded Counties to be
added to Potomac Division

Achievement Notes

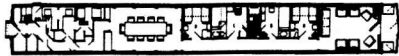
—Ken Berthoud

[Editor's Note: Ken Berthoud, our new AP Representative, submitted a neat model railroading biography of himself. Unfortunately it's too long to include here, but will show up in a future Call Board. The following is his summation.—The Editor]

Over the years, I have met so many fine modelers willing to share their knowledge and assist me in my efforts that I was inspired to become more active in the Potomac Division and other organizations. Within the past year, I have joined the Burke Short Line Association, a group of 13 modelers who meet monthly to assist each other in constructing layouts, discuss model railroading techniques, and go railfanning.

My decision to assist Bruce Strickland as Achievement Program Representative is twofold. First, I want to learn more about the program and the intricacies of merit judging. Secondly, as previously said, I wish to become more involved in division activities. My hope is, after a short learning period, to continue the fine support that Bruce has provided before me.

In closing, just a reminder: The Mid-Eastern Region 50th Anniversary Convention is fast approaching. Mark your calendars for September 28th to October 1st. The convention is described in great detail beginning on page 11. If you are planning to enter a model for merit judging, now is the time to finish it and complete the paperwork. If you need AP forms, please contact Bruce or me by phone. My phone number is (703) 354-1438 and Bruce's is (703) 361-5620. ~~RM~~



The Business Car

—Jeff Martello
Division Superintendent

MER's 50th

This fall marks the 50th Anniversary of the Mid-Eastern Region. Fred Voelcker, Mike Trubow, Mike Barb, and a host of others are preparing a great convention. Please plan to attend. It is quite nearby, in Hunt Valley, Maryland. That's just north of Timonium, a site many of you certainly know well. Mike Trubow reports that there are over 40 clinics and layout tours already in the line up along with modular layouts, model and photography contests, a Train Meet, as well as prototype tours, so don't miss it. See the MER insert starting on page 11.

MER Applications


Just to reemphasize: the Potomac Division and MER have settled on a procedure for handling new and renewing MER memberships. This is explained in the box below.

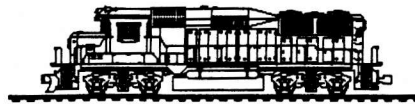
Looking Ahead

Our spring is shaping up to be rich in layout tours, thanks to several favorable responses from fellow Potomac modelers. We have a couple volunteers for a double (or more) layout tour as well as offers to revisit layouts that we haven't seen in a couple or more years. The latter have both been greatly changed and improved both in terms of scenery and trackwork but also in operations and controls. We look forward to seeing them again.

Trolley Museum

Finally, let me add my apologies to Pete's for the lack of coverage at the June event. It is an unfortunate aspect of modern life that we are all terribly busy, and when we finally think we know what is going on, the schedule suddenly changes. I hope that those of you who made it to the Trolley Museum in June enjoyed yourselves anyway. And if you weren't able to be there, why not come up to Colesville any weekend. Please call (301) 384-6088 for their hours of operation. As we head into the fall and winter, their hours vary and this number will give you the most up-to-the-minute schedules.

In closing, I hope to see you this fall at one of our many events. If I don't see you before late November, have a Happy Thanksgiving! 




The Head End

—Pete Matthews
Potomac Flyer Editor

The response to the Membership Issue is the greatest ever. I guess it's just human nature that when we get a chance to talk about ourselves we do it with abandon. Thanks to all who have replied, especially those who offered to host layout tours. Home layout tours are the bread-and-butter of our events each year. They are what make the division unique because each of our hosts has a unique layout. If you have a layout to share, do it! The layout needn't be a *Model-Railroader*-style, complete, fully scenicked pike. Heck, it doesn't even have to have much more than some track and trains that run. Just note on the Interest Survey that you would like to host a tour, indicate when you might be ready, and chime in. Give our die-hard hosts a break!

Volunteers for MER Needed

Mike Barb, who has run our Mini-Convention model contests in the past, is coordinating volunteers for the Mid-Eastern Region's 50th Anniversary Convention, to be held September 28th to October 1st in Hunt Valley, Maryland. He has provided a Volunteer Form which you can find on page 10 (right after The Call Board). Even if you can contribute only a couple hours, please use the form to let Mike know you're available. From our own experience hosting MER in 1992, we know how invaluable such support can be. I would suggest that even if you don't know when during the weekend you can help, don't hesitate to send in the form. This way Mike can have a pool of names on which to draw. I might further add that you can always volunteer for a couple hours when you arrive at the convention. Just let the convention staff know when you're available and I'm sure they can find a job for you. Remember, you get more out of your convention when you put more into it. 

The Business Car

The Head End

MER Application Update


Whew! We've worked out a procedure with MER that again allows us to serve your application and renewal needs. Nelson Garber and the rest of the MER staff have been quite helpful and we are glad to once again support them directly. You will notice that the Application Form again has an entry for MER dues. *In order to process your application or renewal in a timely manner, you must supply both your NMRA and MER member numbers and expiration dates.* With that information and one check written to the Potomac Division we can take care of the rest. Thanks.

HO Module Crew Notes

—Bob Minnis

The HO Module Crew participated in the Manassas Rail Festival on June 3rd. We set up 14 modules plus trolleys under a festive tent behind the railroad station. The slope of the parking lot caused serious consideration of the use of "helpers" and head-end power with dynamic brakes. The Festival organizers generously provided a T-shirt for each participant. Crew members receiving "T's" were Tim C., Ken H., Jim M., Bob M., Paul M., Bruce S., Ell G., Colin W., and Dave C. Assisting the Crew were David T., Jim S., and Lindsay S. The weather was spectacular. A large public turnout enjoyed a variety of train displays from N to 1:1 scale. Most everyone made it home before the rains came. It was a Great Day! Hope you were able to enjoy it.

As I write this, the temperature is approaching 90 degrees F. By the time you read it, though, cooler temperatures will prevail and football season will be upon us. As the days grow shorter, there tends to be an increase in modeling activities. I know I spend more time in the train room in winter than summer. Why not start planning and building a module or two to display this coming fall and winter. As I've mentioned before, the larger the module crew, the more events we can participate in and the more we can promote the hobby of model railroading. If you need a set of module specs to get started, please call or write. Each set comes with an unlimited supply of free advice.

November will be our next scheduled appearance at the Rockville Lions Train Show. This event has traditionally been the time that most new modules have debuted. Take advantage of the cool (air-conditioned) basement to start construction of your module. You, too, can debut at Rockville. Shortly thereafter the Crew will return to Fairfax Station and Capital Children's Museum. More on these events next time. 

Module Events

Sept 28-Oct 1	MER 50th Anniversary Convention, Hunt Valley, MD (N)
Nov 11-12	Rockville Lions Show Rockville, MD (HO, N)
Dec 2-3	Fairfax Station (HO)
Dec TBA	Capital Children's Museum (HO)
Aug 15-18, 1996	NTRAK East (N) Mark Center, Alex ^a , VA

Northern Virginia NTRAK News

— Matt Schaefer

Four layouts in a four week period, Wow! The club almost got burned out before the hot summer arrived. A month after our 35-module show at Springfield Mall in April, we began a marathon with a three-day club set-up over Memorial Day weekend, the Manassas Rail Festival on June 3rd, the Fairfax Fair June 9th and 10th, and a club set-up again on June 18th.

We are gearing up for the MER 50th Anniversary Convention this coming September 28th at the Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, Maryland. Most of the details of the convention are found starting on page 11. Northern Virginia NTRAK will host the NTRAK layout set-up, but we are opening it to all NTRAKers. We hope that other clubs will join in. Note, you don't have to be an NMRA or MER member to come.


To participate in the NTRAK set-up, you need make a reservation to guarantee space in the layout. If we have several complete club layouts, we may interconnect them with T's and bridge modules. The Red Line can meander through all the modules. Delegates of the larger scales are invited to bring their N-scale equipment to test run.

Last issue we mentioned the new Aristo-Craft radio remote throttles and we have since bought four for club use. They are extremely useful for large layouts so the operators can follow their trains and thus be at the scene of any switching or trouble (derailment, break away, wreck) and can more efficiently work the situation.

As part of the MER Convention activities we will hold a popular vote model contest in the following categories: 1) Passenger Train; 2) Freight Train; 3) Work/Wreck Train; 4) Kitbashed Locomotive; 5) Double-headed Steam Train; 6) Unique Individual Modules; 7) Set of 2 or more modules representing a heavy industry, seaport, or other scenery. Winners will receive NTRAK certificates. We expect all the contest trains and locomotives to run on the layout as part of the contest. We also plan to resurrect the old locomotive pulling and switching contests for all conventioners. Our contests are in addition to MER's regular model and photo contests. See the MER insert for more details.

For more details about the NTRAK set-up times, reservations, and so on, call me, Matt Schaefer, at (703) 978-2946, or write me at 4301 Starr Jordan Drive, Annandale, VA 22003. For those of you "surfing the 'Net" these days, Northern Virginia NTRAK has its own home page complete with color photos and informative text. Look for us at

<http://metro.turnpike.net/N/nvtrak/index.htm>

Happy Rails! — CMS 



Potomac Division Club Layout Tour Maryland Central Model Railroad Club

33 University Boulevard East (US 29 @ Md 193)

Four Corners (Silver Spring), Maryland

Sunday, October 29, 1995, 1 to 5 P.M.

Fall Events

• October's Club Layout Tour

This October we will visit the model railroad club at Marvin Memorial United Methodist Church in Silver Spring, Maryland. Many of you will recall that we last saw this layout when we held our 1990 March Mini-Convention at this site. The 12x35-foot HO scale layout models western Maryland between Cumberland, Maryland, and Grafton, West Virginia, over tracks of the freelanced Maryland Central. Set in the latter 1950s, you will see mostly diesel power, but you will also find vestiges of steam locomotive service. Coal is the major commodity hauled on the line, but mixed freight is important, too.

The layout's overall schematic is point to point with triple track reversing loops at each end. Over 90% of the layout has painted plaster hardshell scenery in place, with about 50% fully scenicked. The reversing tracks act as staging yards, too. The control system is Dynatrol, allowing for helper service and other multiple-movement actions. The club uses the Old Line Graphics car card system written up not long ago in *Model Railroader*. If you are interested in seeing how such a system works in person, you should make a point of coming.

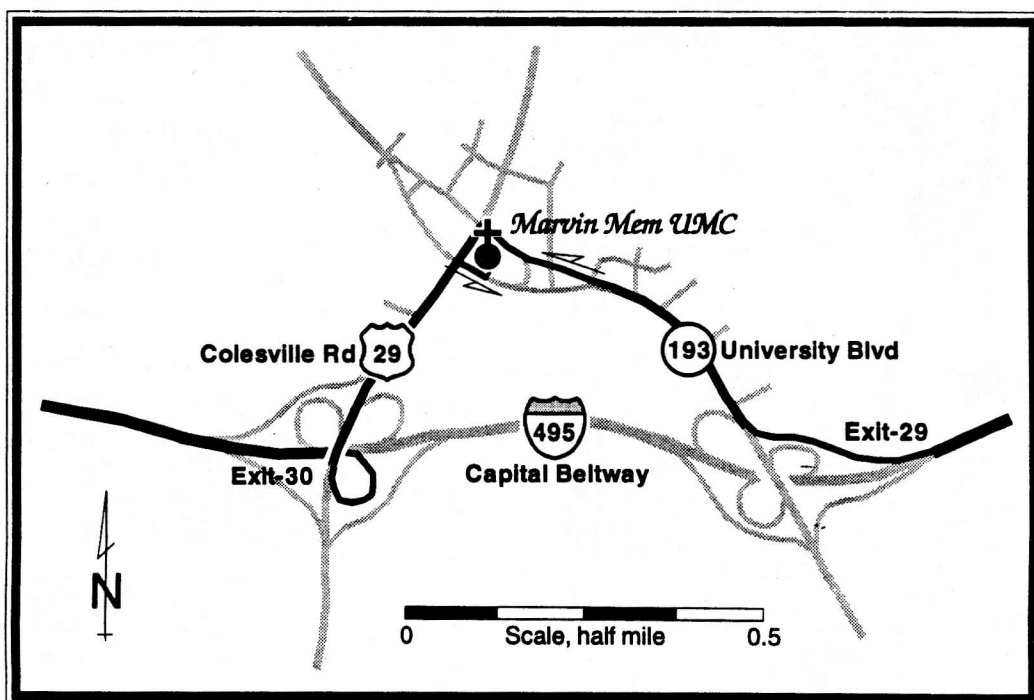
Directions (follow along on map below)

You can approach the Four Corners area near Silver Spring from I-495, the Capital Beltway.

From the west, take exit-30 onto northbound Colesville Road, US 29. Move into the right lane. At University Boulevard (Maryland 193) you will see Marvin Memorial immediately to the right across the street. Turn right onto University Boulevard and immediately shift to the left lane. Turn left into either church parking lot entrance.

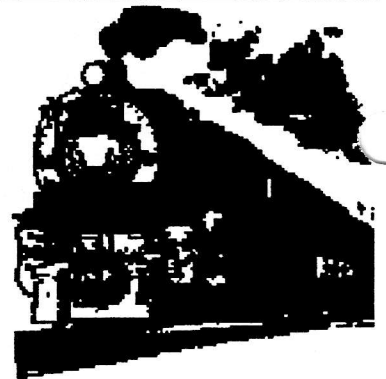
From the east, take exit-29 onto westbound University Boulevard, Maryland 193. To reach the preferred parking lot, reverse your course at Colesville Road, turning left there and left again immediately onto eastbound University Boulevard. Turn left into the church parking lot just before Colesville Road.

The entrance to the layout area is down a short flight of stairs near the playground. Look for signs.





TRAIN SHOW



ROCKVILLE LION'S CLUB BENEFIT

Saturday, Nov. 11, 1995
10:00 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Sunday, Nov. 12, 1995
12:00 NOON - 4 P.M.

ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER

1150 Carnation Drive
Rockville, MD 20850

Info: Eli Geib (301) 948-8316

LIONS EYE MOBILE
FREE VISION SCREENING
AND GLAUCOMA TESTING

OPERATING MODULAR LAYOUTS

Railroads in Z, N, and HO Scales

Trolleys in HO Scale

Garden Railway Setup: G-Scale

Lionel Modular Setup

Loco-Doctor: help for your sick
locomotives (Tinplate and scale)

Static Displays

Model Railroad Videos

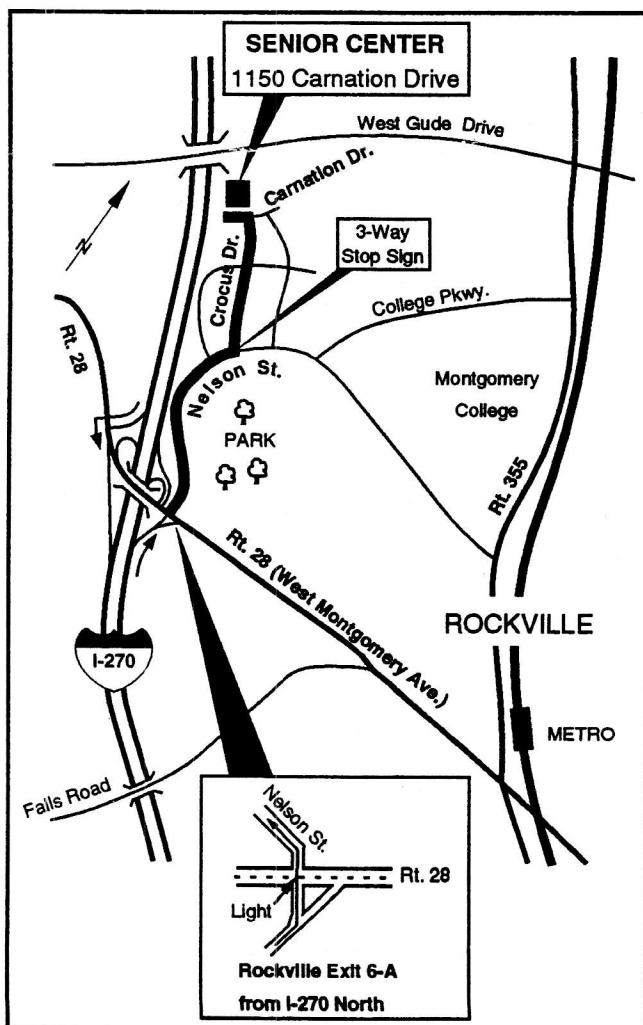
Slide/Tape Clinics

Refreshments: food and drinks

This is NOT a Dealer Sale Show
All Proceeds Go Towards Rockville Lions Club
Charitable Efforts - In Particular, Sight
Conservation Efforts Such As Eyeglasses, the
Lions Eyebank, and the Lions Low Vision Center

DONATION

Adults:	\$4.00
Under 13:	\$2.00
Family Maximum:	\$8.00



The Call Board

Potomac Division Members Sharing Their Interests with Fellow Members — Hosted by Carl Barna

We continue to receive updates from fellow Potomac Division members. Thanks for all the kind complements favorable comments about this column. We will continue to share member biographies as long as supply and space permit.

Jim Kress

Jim got back into model railroading after a 30-year hiatus when he moved to Northern Virginia. He joined the NVMR in Vienna in the early '80s and served as secretary for two years and then as president for two more years. He is also a past assistant superintendent of the Dixie (now Potomac) Division. In 1990 he retired from Federal service and moved back to Mobile, Alabama, where he grew up, and began work on a train room with living quarters attached. The train room is an "L," 30x15 feet on one end and 30x20 feet on the other. The 20-foot end will soon be lengthened to 35 feet — he hopes. Jim models the CSXT Mobile Division (modern) in HO scale. He can run three trains at once with block control, but will soon have command control. The layout is a loop-to-loop design. He will soon put in an option where trains can run a continuous loop. Scenery is about 25% complete.

Jim continues to serve the model railroad community as assistant division superintendent and Achievement Program chairman in the Gulf Division of the Southeast Region (SER).

Raymond Resnick

Raymond sent us a short note. He reports that he likes to get junkers and basket cases, especially brass engines, and fix them up.

Lincoln E. Bragg

Lincoln was active in HO from 1949 to 1955. He took the occasion of the necessary hiatus caused by going away to college to switch to S gauge Fine Scale, since his artistic interests lean more to mechanical and structural detail than to scenic vistas. He has a seven-foot test track and a half dozen cars and locomotives for a few years back in the late '60s, when his childless first marriage and first career seemed to be settling down. The models went into boxes and that modeling activity, marriage, and career went away soon thereafter, and things have not yet begun to settle down again. However, Lincoln's appreciation of the artistry of others in the hobby and his inclinations to do some modeling sometime don't seem to go away.

Robert Wingo

Robert has been married for 11 years, has 4 children, and is employed by DOD as an electrical engineer. He has been building and detailing model railroads since birth because his father was a locomotive engineer for Southern from 1942 to 1983. His current project is a new layout of the SRR Eastern Division including the RF&P interchange at Alexandria, Virginia.

The Call Board

Bulletin Board

Bulletin Board

Want Ads, Help Wanted, etc.

Rail-Marine Interest Group (RMIG) • For those interested in: Railroad Carferries; Carfloats; Floatbridges and Rail-marine Terminals; Histories, plans, news, reviews and models of the foregoing. Quarterly newsletter, TRANSFER. For membership or back issue information, send SASE to: John Teichmoeller, Coordinator • RMIG • 12107 Mt. Albert Rd. • Ellicott City, MD 21402.

For Sale • HO scale Rivarossi HW C&O passenger cars with OB, interiors, lighting. Swap for LW cars possible. Call Nick Kalis, evenings, at (703) 931-1772.

HO Layout for Sale • Oregon Pass Lines in Atlas King-Size Track Plan Book. No scenery. 12x8-foot L-shape. Can be broken down into two 4x8-foot sections for transport. \$300. Contact Bruce Strickland by mail at 10766 Tullamore Ct., Manassas, VA 22111, or by phone at (703) 361-5620 (home) or (703) 313-2050 (work/pager).

Operating Group • Pete Matthews is looking for a additional operators to meet weekly to run his N-scale Great Northern Cascade Railway. Here's your chance to start earning points towards your AP Dispatcher Certificate. Call Pete, (703) 360-2313, days and most evenings, or leave message (also listen for schedule update — trains run most Fridays, 7 to 11 P.M.)

Digital Command Control Advisory for Atlas HO U33C/36C Locomotive—April 1995

• CAUTION: Atlas has identified a design flaw in the PC board circuitry of this locomotive. This condition does not affect in any way the excellent running features of this unit under any standard out-of-the-box operations. If you intend to use a Digital Command Control system in this locomotive, please disconnect the green wire from your command control module by cutting the green wire back about 1" from the plug. Failure to do so may cause damage to your decoder. For a corrected PC board please contact Atlas at 1-800-872-2521, M-F, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. ET.



Mid-Eastern Region 50th Anniversary Convention

Volunteer Form Sept. 28 - Oct.1, 1995

The Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association, will host the Fall 1995 MER Convention in Hunt Valley, Maryland at the Hunt Valley Inn. This convention will celebrate the Regions 50th anniversary. If you would like to volunteer to help during the convention, please complete this form and return to Mike Barb. We are asking volunteers to donate their time in 1 hour increments throughout the convention to help man the different areas that will be open during the convention.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Home: _____ Work: _____

Areas of interest:

- _____ Registration Desk
- _____ Door Prize/Company Store
- _____ Contest Room
- _____ Clinics
- _____ Rail Trip

Mail to:
Mike Barb
1321 Brighton Dam Road
Brookville, MD 20833

Volunteer Hours

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:00 a.m.				
9:00 a.m.				
10:00 a.m.				
11:00 a.m.				
12:00 a.m.				
1:00 p.m.				
2:00 p.m.				
3:00 p.m.				
4:00 p.m.				
5:00 p.m.				
6:00 p.m.				
7:00 p.m.				
8:00 p.m.				
9:00 p.m.				
10:00 p.m.				

Enter in the above chart the times that you would like to volunteer for. Enter more than once if you like.



Important

The hotel rate for the convention is \$73.00 per day, this rate is good thru September 7. After this date, the rate will be \$89.00. Please register early to receive the lower rate. Phone (410) 785-7000 or (800) 228-9290.

Mid-Eastern Region 50th Anniversary Convention

The Mid-Eastern Region invites all model railroaders to attend our 50th Anniversary. That's 50 years of model railroading. Did you know that there are still 18 charter members active today? We are dedicating the fall convention to celebrating this milestone. You won't want to miss this one! We have scheduled a wide variety of clinics, layout tours, contests, door prizes, trips and other activities to keep you busy for the entire weekend.

The Hotel

The hotel is one of the finest in the area with several restaurants. *The Cinnamon Tree* - American dining, featuring Chesapeake Bay seafood, casual breakfast and lunch, fine dinners and Sunday breakfast/brunch buffet. *The Paddock Bar* - serving drinks, lunch and snacks and is open until 1:00 am. *The Hunt Club* - serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. There is also a Pizza Hut Express, "TCBY" Yogurt and Dunkin Donuts. For recreation there is an Indoor/outdoor swimming pool, tennis, whirlpool, exercise room, men's and women's locker rooms and saunas.

50's Hop

Thursday evening we will have a get-acquainted party. Time to meet old friends and make new ones. This will take you back to the '50s and all that great old music.

Door Prizes

As always this is a chance to win something. For \$1.00 get an arm's length of raffle tickets and see what you can win.

Auction

Friday night is the time to find that bargain you've been looking for and maybe get that kit or engine or whatever. NMRA President Bob Charles, will be your auctioneer. Bob promises you an interesting and enjoyable evening. So bring those items you would like to auction off.

Silent Auction

There will be a silent auction of cars and decals from modelers in several gauges. All the items in the silent auction are donated by members of the Private Road Name SIG or the Pike Registry. The Silent Auction will be open the same hours as the Door Prize and Company store, see schedule of events. Bidding will stop at 6:00 pm Saturday and you pick up the cars and decals on Sunday morning after 9:00 am.

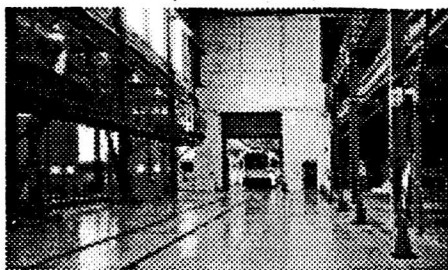
Tours

Light Rail Shop Tour

We have arranged a tour of the shop facilities of the Mass Transit Administration (MTA). Get to see how the Light Rail repair shop maintains their equipment. You will see the shop during its working hours and the equipment being worked on will be in various stages of repair. The Light Rail services the Baltimore and metropolitan area. Buses begin leaving at 8:30 am and the tour will take approximately 3 hours. We can only take 15 people per



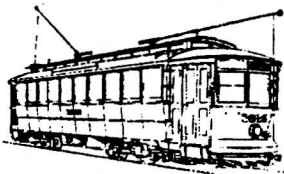
tour, but tours will run every hour until everyone signed up has seen this very interesting tour. Check your registration



package for the time of your departure. Times will be assigned on a first-come/first-serve basis. Included in your registration package you will find a railpass for the entire MTA system. This pass is good for the whole weekend, on any of the rail systems.

Street Car Museum

Clang, clang with a lurch and you're off for a fun ride on a trolley from the past. Down the track you go, past a freight station and a roundhouse to a short layover and then back to the visitors shop. The museum has a car barn with a dozen interesting oldtime cars. There are also displays and other memorabilia from the trolley car past. Don't forget to visit the gift shop on your way out. Everyone, whether a trolley fan or not, should enjoy this museum. The admission is free, just show your convention badge.



Baltimore & Ohio Rail Museum

America's railroad heritage began at the Mount Clare station, the location of this museum. Take a tour of America's railroading past by visiting the 5 buildings and 120 pieces of full size equipment. Passes are included in your registration package, they entitle you to a 2-for-the-price-of-1 admission, so take a friend and visit for half price.



Train Meet

The meet will be held in the Hunt Valley Ballroom and will run Noon - 9 pm on Friday and 9 am - 3 pm on Saturday. With tables jam packed with railroad items, the Train Meet is sure to be a big attraction. Admittance is free to registered conventioners. The public is invited at a nominal charge of \$3.00 per day or \$5.00 for both days.

Modules

The Northern Virginia NTRAK will have their modular layout set up for your enjoyment. They are also bring-



ing in other NTRAK groups from the Region to make their layout as interesting and large as possible. They will have a switching module for your enjoyment. Operation will be Friday and all day Saturday until 5:00 p.m. Bring your best fleet of trains to run and for everyone to see.



Unplugged - There will be at least 4 or more blocks under radio control for switching and walk-around control. If you have radio controllers or new equipment please bring them. We have the capability to run 3+ trains on one loop of track using one of the Aristo controllers and this will be demonstrated.

NTRAK will be having their own group contest. Be sure to stop by and take a look at the fine work done in this scale.

Switching Contest

A switching contest is always fun at a convention and this one is no exception. Although plans are not completed at press time, we are talking to several groups that have fine switching modules and one of them will be here.

Contests

Model Contest

The contests will be judged using the standard NMRA achievement program rules. To be eligible for prizes and/or merit awards, entrants must be current NMRA members except where noted in the special contests. Commercial model builders are ineligible as are commercially built models. Entries must not have previously won first place in a NMRA contest. All entries must be properly entered and exhibited at the contest prior to the entry closing time announced by the General Contest Chairman. No entries will be accepted after judging has begun, after which, a model may be displayed only. Models may be entered by proxy. The builder must be identified in the appropriate space on the entry form. A letter of proxy from the builder must accompany the model. Contest entrants must properly fill out NMRA Model Contest Entry Form No. 901 and NMRA Model Contest Judges Score Sheet Form No. 902. A designated portion will be used as a claim check to be held by the entrant and redeemed when the model is removed from the contest room.

Judging will begin at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, September 30, and all entries must be submitted prior to this time. The contest room will be open Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. for last minute entries.

The following categories will be used for grouping models during exhibition and judging:

Steam Locomotives - This includes rod, geared and steam turbine units intended to be used as prime movers.

Diesel and Other Locomotives - this includes diesel,

diesel-electric, gas, gas-electric, and gas turbine units intended to be used as prime movers.

Freight Cars - includes all revenue freight carrying rolling stock including express and milk reefers.

Passenger Cars - includes all revenue passenger carrying equipment including RDC, railbus, combines, RPO, head end baggage cars, business and private cars.

Structures - includes buildings, bridges, and railroad facilities without supplemental scenery.

Maintenance of Way - includes non-revenue equipment.

Cabooses - includes cars serving as office and/or quarters on revenue freight trains.

Traction - includes trolley and interurban passenger or freight carriers.

Dioramas and Other - includes dioramas, trains, engines with more than one separate model and anything not specified in any other category.

Display - This is a non-judged category for models, devices or techniques, complete or otherwise, that the builder wishes to exhibit.

Photo Contest

This contest will be judged by popular vote. To enter you must be a current member of the MER. Photo contest entry forms and ballots will be available in the contest room. Ballots will be checked against the master convention registration list. Conventioneers will vote for one entry in each of the following categories:

Model Black and White

Model Color

Prototype Black and White

Prototype Color

President's Award

The President's Award for this convention will be awarded for a model of anything that ran in Baltimore. The judging will give extra consideration for any model that represents the 1945 era.

Favorite Train Contest

Bring your favorite train and enter it. The judging is by popular vote and always gets a very good reception.

Out of the Box Contest

This is another terrific category especially for the first time contestant or a beginning modeler. Find a kit, assemble it and enter it. The only requirement is that you must bring the box and the plans. The entry is judged like any other by the contest judges and points are awarded accordingly. You can get more points for adding details, weathering and anything else you can think of to enhance the model. This is not an NMRA category.

Banquet

The banquet as always is a premier event at any convention and this one will be no exception. The banquet will be preceded by a happy hour.

Award Ceremony

Bill Hammer will be your Master of Ceremonies. Our guest speaker is Hal Carstans of *Carstans Publishing*. The winners of the model contest will receive their awards along with some of the non-official categories, such as President's Trophy, Out of the Box, Switching Contest, Favorite Train and Photo Contest.

In honor of our 50th anniversary all of the charter members in attendance will be recognized along with anyone 50 years old. After all this don't leave your seat, 'cause that's when the drawings will be held for all the door prizes.

Clinics and Layout Tours

Clinics

The Rail-Marine Information Group is sponsoring a special track of clinics on various aspects of the rail-marine interface. There will be 6 clinicians plus models for this entertaining and educational set of clinics. There are more clinics in the hopper. Bill Schaumburg, Editor of *Railroad Model Craftsman* and Jim Hediger, Senior Editor from *Model Railroader*, will both be giving clinics. There are, at this time, plans for 40 different clinics covering a wide variety of subjects. If you have a clinic that you would like to give you should contact Harry McCance, 10985 Route 108, Columbia, MD 21044 or (410) 997-8692. Remember clinics are good for points towards the author certificate in the achievement program.

Layout Tours

One of the highlights of the layout tours will be the *Chesapeake and Allegheny Steam Preservation Society* that meets at Leakin Park. They are going to be operating all day Sunday, October 1. If you haven't seen these live steam engines, it should be a must stop on your trip home. They're always fun to see! At this writing we have more than a dozen tours scheduled, with at least a dozen more contacted and awaiting replies.

In closing, your committee for this convention has planned a lot of activities and entertainment for your enjoyment. We feel you will find that there are more things to do than time to do them. There are more activities in the planning and you should check at the registration desk when checking into the convention. Hope to see you there.

Reminder

The hotel rate for the convention is \$73.00 per day, this rate is good thru September 7. After this date, the rate will be \$89.00. Please register early to receive the lower rate. Phone (410) 785-7000 or (800) 228-9290.



Mid-Eastern Region 50th Anniversary Convention

Registration Form Sept. 28 - Oct.1, 1995

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Home: _____ Work: _____ Modelling scale _____

How many MER conventions have you attended _____ If this is your first convention check here _____

Print name(s) as they should appear on badges (Include Spouse and children)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Individual (Before September 1, 1995)	\$25.00	_____
Individual (After September 1, 1995)	\$30.00	_____
Daily	\$15.00	_____
Spouse	\$10.00	_____
Children (6 to 16)	\$ 5.00	_____
Banquet Dinner		
Chicken Breast w/Lemon Pecan Sauce	\$25.00	_____
Roast Strip Loin w/Green Pepper Sauce	\$25.00	_____
Light Rail Tour - Friday, Sept 29, 8:30 am	\$20.00	_____
	Total	_____

NON-N.M.R.A./M.E.R MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AT NO EXTRA CHARGE

Make checks payable to: Mid-Eastern Region 50th Convention

Mail to: Registrar

MER 50th Anniversary Convention

P. O. Box 4003

Timonium, MD 21094-4003

Hotel accomodations should be made directly with the hotel at Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031, (800) 228-9290 or (410) 785-7000 or Fax (410) 785-0341.

Make sure you mention the 50th Anniversary Convention to get the convention rate.

Business Card Directory

Place this Directory in your phone book or on your work bench.

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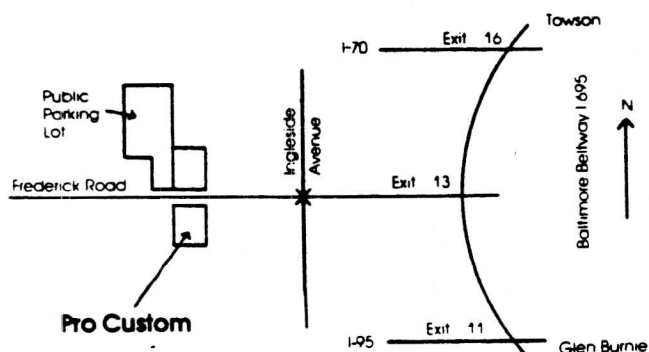
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Potomac Division

Division 2, Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

Membership Application and Interest Survey

The Potomac Division provides various activities for all interested model railroaders, such as home layout tours, prototype tours, and a MiniConvention every March. We publish a quarterly newsletter, the *Potomac Flyer*, detailing division activities. We proudly boast one of the greatest concentrations of model railroading talent in the country with no less than 10 NMRA Master Model Railroaders in our area as well as several other outstanding modelers.

The Potomac Division encompasses: Washington, D.C.; Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Calvert, & St. Mary's counties in Maryland; and Clarke, Loudoun, Fauquier, Fairfax, Prince William, Rappahannock, Culpeper, and Stafford counties in Virginia as well as local independent cities. Local residence and MER or NMRA membership are not a required for division membership. Anyone interested in learning more about model railroading, improving their modeling skills, and enjoying the company of fellow modelers is invited to join the Potomac Division.

Personal Information

Check here to indicate a change of address: ☐

Name

Street Address or P.O. Box

Additional Address

City

ST

ZIP + 4

Home Phone

NMRA Mbr. No.

Exp. Date

Work Phone

MER Mbr. No.

Exp. Date

E-Mail Address (one or two most frequently used)

☐ Occasionally we make our mailing list available to carefully selected model railroading related companies. If you do not wish to have your name included, please check here.

Interest Survey

Primary Scale

Secondary Scale

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ Have Layout or Module? ☐
☐ Narrow Gauge Interest? ☐
☐ Module Interest? ☐
☐ Traction Interest? ☐

☐ Would you host a Home Layout Tour?
If so, may we visit within:

☐ 6 mo. ☐ 12 mo. ☐ 18 mo.

Favorite Railroad(s) & Prototype(s) Modeled

Please list NMRA Special Interest Groups (SIGs), model railroad clubs, and railroad historical societies to which you belong

New and Renewing Members: Please include a short paragraph or two describing yourself and your railroading interests for possible inclusion in upcoming *Call Board* columns. (See the current *Call Board* for examples.)

Dues Calculation

Please fill out this section completely including whether you are new or renewing. Renewing MER and NMRA members, please supply your member numbers and expiration dates in the Personal Information section above. *Incomplete information will delay your renewal.*

Potomac Division: Dues are \$2 per year. Members receive the quarterly *Potomac Flyer*. Membership expires on December 31st of the current year. New members joining after August 31st will be enrolled through the end of the following year.

\$ New ☐ Renew ☐

Mid-Eastern Region: Dues are \$8 per year. Members receive the bimonthly *MER Local*. Renewing members, please supply *both your MER and NMRA membership numbers and expiration dates* in the Personal Information section above. You may also write MER directly at: The Mid-Eastern Region, Inc. • Office Manager • 13212 Bellevue St. • Silver Spring, MD 20904.

\$ New ☐ Renew ☐

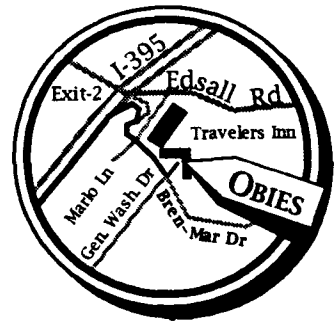
National Model Railroad Association: Dues are \$30 per year. Members receive the monthly *NMRA Bulletin*. Renewing members, please supply your *NMRA membership number and expiration date* in the Personal Information section above. You may also write NMRA directly at: National Model Railroad Association, Inc. • Headquarters Office • 4121 Cromwell Rd. • Chattanooga, TN 37421.

\$ New ☐ Renew ☐

Please make your check payable to *Potomac Division*. Send check with your completed application to:
Clerk, Potomac Division • P.O. Box 3204 • Manassas, VA 22110
The Division will forward National and Regional dues.

\$ **TOTAL**

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The Potomac Flyer

The Quarterly Newsletter of
 Division 2 ("Potomac") — Mid-Eastern Region
 National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

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