

# Special Newcomers Edition

## The Potomac Flyer



February-April 2005 The Quarterly Newsletter of Division 2 ("Potomac"), Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association, Inc. Spring Quarter

### Look Inside:

#### Events:

**February 20**  
Layout Tour..... 6

**March 13**  
Layout Tour ..... 7

**April 24**  
Layout Tour..... 6

**April 29-30**  
Minicon/Annual  
Meeting ..... 1

#### DEPTS:

Business Car..... 2  
AP News..... 3  
NVNTRAK..... 4  
Potomac HO Crew  
Module Notes..... 7  
Membership Form 9  
Business Cards... 10  
Bulletin Board ... 11  
Calendar ..... Back

Does the Clerk have your e-mail address? If you are not receiving reminders then probably not. Send it to [poto-mac\\_nmra@comcast.net](mailto:poto-mac_nmra@comcast.net) now!

## Why Am I Getting This

You are a member of the Mid-Eastern Region of the NMRA and located within the boundary of the Potomac Division. As such because of a recent change you are also now members of the Potomac Division. We are sending this edition of the Division Newsletter as an introduction. There are no Division dues, however the subscription cost for the newsletter is \$4.00 per year. You may elect to receive the Flyer electronically for no cost. Take a look, come join us, and if interested see page nine to ensure you don't miss out on the next issue.

## Annual Minicon is Coming

By John Griffith

Your Board has decided to return to a tried and true format for one of our annual get togethers, the Minicon. During the past several years we have forgone the minicon because of our sponsorship of the Regional Convention and to take a couple of trips. The plan now is to hold the minicon in the spring and another event (a trip or some other venue) in the fall. Of course we will continue to have layout tours every month.

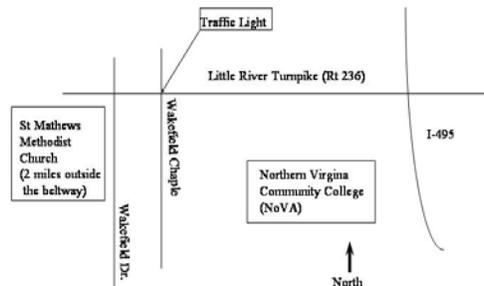
The other part of the plan was to alternate between Virginia and Maryland locations during the March time frame. This proved to hard to do this year. While we found a loca-

tion in Maryland the price was beyond our budget. So we will exercise our backup plan. Noll Horan has interceded with St. Matthew's Church in Annandale, VA to hold the minicon in their facilities on 29-30 April 2005.

Yes that is not March, but we experienced some conflicts and this was the best we could do. We will try for Maryland next year. If any of you know of or are willing to sponsor a location for the 2006 Minicon, please contact a board member so we can get the location locked down.

What kind of a location you ask? We need a couple or three rooms for clinics, one for the contest, a large room for the modular layouts and annual meeting, Extras kitchen privileges for coffee and lunch. We usually start about 4 pm on a Friday and end by 5 pm on Saturday. We have had the best luck with churches, however other organization halls might work fine.

What can you expect at the 2005 Potomac Division Minicon? Continued on page 8





## The Potomac Division

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

The Potomac Division includes: The District of Columbia; Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties in

Maryland; Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, and Rappahannock Counties in Virginia, as well as all area independent cities.

### The Division Crew

Superintendent	<b>John Drye</b> (703) 922-8131 ( <a href="mailto:jdrye52@aol.com">jdrye52@aol.com</a> ) 6056 Estates Drive Alexandria, VA 22311
Senior Asst. Supt.	<b>John Griffith</b> (703) 339-3738 ( <a href="mailto:jsgassoc@aol.com">jsgassoc@aol.com</a> )
Asst. Supt.	<b>Marshall Abrams</b> (301) 588-1005 ( <a href="mailto:potomac_nmra@comcast.net">potomac_nmra@comcast.net</a> )
Paymaster	<b>Mark Andersen</b> (703) 425-8997 ( <a href="mailto:mvandersen@cox.net">mvandersen@cox.net</a> )
Clerk	<b>Marc Sisk</b> (703) 280-5290 ( <a href="mailto:NPMRFAN@aol.com">NPMRFAN@aol.com</a> )
Achievement Prgrm Rep.	<b>Ed Price</b> (703) 670-2015 ( <a href="mailto:ewprice@comcast.net">ewprice@comcast.net</a> )
HO Module Crew	<b>Mark Andersen</b> (703) 425-8997 ( <a href="mailto:mvandersen@cox.net">mvandersen@cox.net</a> )
Northern Virginia NTRAK	<b>Marc Sisk</b> (703) 280-5290 ( <a href="mailto:NPMRFAN@aol.com">NPMRFAN@aol.com</a> )
Layout Tour Coordinator	<b>Nick Kalis</b> (703) 917-6632 ( <a href="mailto:nkalis@verizon.net">nkalis@verizon.net</a> )
Database Administrator	<b>Marshall Abrams</b> (301) 588-1005 ( <a href="mailto:potomac_nmra@comcast.net">potomac_nmra@comcast.net</a> )

### The Potomac Flyer

Potomac Division's quarterly newsletter © 2000

Editor	<b>John Griffith</b> 6765 Blanche Drive Lorton, VA 22079-1320 (703)-339-3738 ( <a href="mailto:jsgassoc@aol.com">jsgassoc@aol.com</a> )
--------	--

<b>Submission Deadlines</b>	<b>Spring Issue</b> <b>Summer Issue</b> <b>Fall Issue</b> <b>Winter Issue</b>	<b>January 1</b> <b>April 1</b> <b>July 1</b> <b>October 1</b>
<b>Advertising rates:</b>	<b>1/8 page business card</b> <b>1/4 page</b> <b>1/2 page</b> <b>full page</b> <b>Back cover, half page</b>	<b>\$25 per year</b> <b>\$10/issue</b> <b>\$20/issue</b> <b>\$40/issue</b> <b>\$40/issue</b>
<b>Change of Address</b>	Send a complete USPO COA form to: Clerk, Potomac Division PO Box 1653, Annandale, VA 22003-1653	

For more local information, see the Potomac Division web site at:

<http://members.cox.net/chyde/PotomacDivision/Potomac.html>  
(that's a Capital P and D)

## From the Business Car

by John Drye  
Division Superintendent  
[jdrye52@aol.com](mailto:jdrye52@aol.com)

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and are now enjoying some wonderful model railroad gifts. Maybe we'll all get to see them sometime in the upcoming months. The Division has another busy year planned, with a Mini-Convention coming up, another great slate of monthly layout tours, and module set-ups in a variety of scales (we may even see some of the new Hon3 modules several members are working on).

Later in the year, we'll all have the opportunity to attend the NMRA National convention, not too far away in Cincinnati; <http://www.cl2005.com/> for more info and the next MER Convention, this November in Raleigh: <http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13/mer05/index.html>

All of these conventions, our own Mini this spring and the national and region later in the year, offer a bunch of ways to share model railroading tips and techniques. One of the best ways to learn is to participate in the NMRA Achievement Program (AP). From the NMRA website: ...the AP is a system of requirements for demonstrating a superior level of skill in various aspects of our hobby. It covers not only building various types of models, but also building other things which are important to the hobby, such as scenery, structures, track work, and wiring. It also recognizes service to the hobby and the NMRA, which are important as well.

We are fortunate here in the Potomac Division to have a dedicated staff to support the AP Program. This group is led by the division's AP representatives, Ed Price and Bill Roman, assisted by a dedicated team of AP judges. There are four general areas within the AP, each of which has several categories of achievement:

Continued on page 3

## Achievement News by Bill Roman

As noted elsewhere in this issue of the FLYER, the date has been confirmed for our Spring '05 mini-convention. We plan to have the model contest room available for popular vote consideration, as well as the Achievement Program judging for those modelers interested in entering structures, rolling stock, motive power, etc. Since the mini won't be until late April, folks should have plenty of time to begin/finish/redo some of those projects that have been in mind. (And to get the paperwork completed in advance).

A new venue for the mincon will be a young modeler's contest. Rather than these models being judged against the normal AP criteria we are allowing the young modeler (14 and below) the option to compete in a popular vote contest. The winner will receive a certificate. Of course this is only an option. If the entrant wants to be considered in their models AP category that works too.

Regarding our mini and the Potomac Division in general, we can always use volunteers for one-time as well as ongoing functions. Broadening out that thought, there are generally opportunities available at the Mid-Eastern Region level for those willing to participate. Our MER convention for 2005 is in the Raleigh area; with a relatively small Division sponsoring this one, any help that MER members can provide would be especially helpful. And further, with the 2005 National Convention this Summer in Cincinnati and especially with the 2006 National in Philadelphia, there are numerous functions for which volunteers are greatly appreciated. The personnel requirements to put on a successful National are huge. At all these levels mentioned, even a small amount of time individually will add up to a big boost in achieving success. And what does this have to do with the AP? Well, one of the categories is Association Volunteer, in which credit is earned by participation in numerous functions at the various levels of the NMRA. If volunteering, please be sure to have a record sheet with you for certification of the time spent – it is a lot simpler to record the time immediately after completion of the activity than to go back later trying to remember how much time was volunteered.

## From the Business Car (Continued from page 2)

Model Railroad Equipment:  
Motive Power.  
Cars.

Settings:  
Structures.  
Scenery.  
Prototype Models.

Engineering and Operation:  
Model Railroad Engineer - Civil.  
Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical.  
Chief Dispatcher

Service to the Hobby:  
Association Official  
Association Volunteer  
Model Railroad Author

Each specific area has regulation for achieving the Achievement Certificate for that area. All of these can be found on the NMRA website: <http://www.nmra.org/achievement/>. You can also get information and advice from Ed at [ew-price@comcast.net](mailto:ew-price@comcast.net) (please put AP in the subject line) or phone him at 703-670-2015 or Bill at [wroman@starpower.net](mailto:wroman@starpower.net) 301-645-2035. Another source of information are the other AP certificate holders in the division. Submitting a model for AP judging is itself a learning experience. Ask Ed or any of the judges what is good or great about your model and what can be done to improve it and your modeling skills. You can submit models for judging at any NMRA event, with or without being entered in the contest, at the local, regional or national levels, or you can contact Ed and arrange for a "house call". Quoting again from the NMRA website: the Achievement Program is a travel guide, to help you on your journey through the world of model railroading. The AP also provides incentive to learn and master the many crafts and skills necessary in the hobby of model railroading.

Give it a try; the AP is a great way to enhance your modeling skills, and share interesting modeling ideas.

## Northern Virginia NTRAK News

By Marc Sisk

The weather is getting chilly, the leaves are off the trees and the lawnmower is retired for another season... ah, it must be winter. Winter is a good time of the year for reflection on the past and for planning for the future. Northern Virginia NTRAK has certainly had a very busy year topped off with the *2004 Capitol Limited N Scale Convention* we hosted in August. What an experience to be involved in the planning and execution of that event. We also lost some dear friends and wonderful model railroaders over the past year. Tony DeMasi, John Armstrong, Harry Herz and our own Steve Triggs. Great people, all with a gift for the hobby and for making friends. We miss them all.

So, how did NVNTRAK wrap up the last quarter of the year? The month of September had us doing three setups. First, we supported the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum's Model Train Show running the N scale cabooses layout over the weekend of September 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Other scales setup in the main room and the public has a great time seeing all the trains. Two weeks later we were back at the museum for our monthly setup there in the main room. We do this every third Sunday of each month with the exception of December and January. On September 25<sup>th</sup>, we did a setup at the Arlington County Fire Station #5. This is in support of the annual National Burn Camp. Kids get to run the trains this day, have a chance to forget their injuries for a while and just have fun.

October saw us at four locations. We started the month at Altoona, Pennsylvania for a layout at the Altoona Railfest. That same weekend we were at the Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad Open House in Bethesda, Maryland. The following weekend we supported Fire Prevention Day with a setup at the Franconia Fire Station #5. We rounded out the month with our usual setup at Fairfax Station.

November is Model Railroad Month. I believe we did our part, bringing model railroading to no less than six different locations. How do you do that many setups in one month? Well, you do more than one on any given weekend. We started with a layout at the Silver Spring Amtrak/MARC Station in Silver Springs, Maryland on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Over the weekend of November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, we had layouts at the NMRA's Mid Eastern Region convention, *South Mountain Express* (Nn3 and N scale one-trak) in Hagerstown, Maryland, Rockville Lion's Club at the Rockville Senior Center in Rockville, Maryland, and at the Damascus Community Library supporting the Damascus Railroad Day. NVNTRAK has a special relationship with Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children. They were a big part of our effort in August and on November 20<sup>th</sup> we

supported a special showing of *The Polar Express* with a layout in the lobby of the Centerville Multiplex Theater. Kids were able to see and run trains prior to and after the movie. The following day we were back at our "home", Fairfax Station, for our monthly setup.

December arrived and we were out running the cabooses layout at Fairfax Station supporting their annual train show. This year, over 900 visitors came to see trains of all scales running inside the main room, in the cabooses and G scale outside around the station. Antique cars were also there for folks to see. The big man in the red suit was seen in the sleigh waving and talking to kids of all ages. The same weekend we were at the *Ikea* store in College Park, Maryland with a medium sized layout. On the 11<sup>th</sup> several members helped out with the Operation Lifesaver Santa Trains. We rounded out the month with the Annual NVNTRAK Holiday Party, hosted by yours truly on the 12<sup>th</sup>. This event ends our club activities at a nice time of the year. I get back to my opening thoughts of a time to reflect back on the past year and look toward the future. The party brings folks together to share stories, relax and plan for the future. The gift exchange is always entertaining with more than a few laughs and good times.

So, if this bit of rambling has not convinced you that we do a fair bit of railroading, I am not sure what will. We also host Backshops most every month on the first Sunday. I mentioned in most of my columns that these sessions are for club members to work on their railroad projects (modules, wiring, structures, etc) and to coordinate club activities. This is an excellent opportunity for those curious about joining the club to get a first hand view into what we do and the great folks that make up NVNTRAK. Visitors are very welcome.

That closes out another fast-paced four months worth of N Scale action. I hope that these columns are interesting and informing. I also hope that if you are inclined to join us, that you do so. You can check us out on the web at [www.nvntrak.org](http://www.nvntrak.org). That will provide you with information about the club, what we do, and most importantly, give you contact information and places where we will be set up in the future. We recently broke the 100- member barrier and are the largest NTRAK club in the United States. Model railroading as a hobby is what you make of it. We have a lot of fun running trains and the opportunity to learn and see new things is what keeps me going. Till next time, have a safe and happy holiday season and run some trains.

## **Around the Division**

### **Ed Maldonado's Colorado & Maryland**

By John Griffith

December 5th was a beautiful day for the drive to the Monocacy River in Maryland and the hospitality of the Maldonado Clan. They played host to about 40 of the Potomac Division members. Ed brought in help from the Prince William Virginia Model Railroad Club (boy do they have a long reach) to operate the layout so that he could talk with us and answer our many questions.

The layout takes up Ed's entire basement. The scenery is in and it operates like a swiss watch. The only problem experienced the entire day was a overheating power supply that was quickly corrected. A recent addition to the layout is sound. Ed feels, and I must agree, this is an area that is the next frontier. It adds so much to the feel and enjoyment of the operation. Ed's dad has already added many sounds to his layout in addition to the trains.

Speaking of Ed's dad, he was there to add to the enjoyment of the afternoon. Not only did he explain parts of the layout, I also took away new ideas for the entertainment portions of parties/events. A lucrative day from my perspective.

As the day drew to a close Ed showed us how he makes signals from inexpensive parts that look super, light up, and actually help his crew avoid cornfield meets. I also understand that there was a cribbage game going on most of the afternoon upstairs but you will have to ask someone else about that, I was having to much fun with the layout down stairs.

### **Ken Nesper's Potomac and Patuxent RR by Mark Andersen**

November brought us another opportunity to visit Ken Nesper's Potomac and Patuxent Rail-

road. If you participated in last summer's National O-scale Convention, then you might have visited Ken's layout during one of the open houses. This home railroad lies north of the Capitol in Washington, D.C. Representing our division at Ken's home is a privilege to be shared. All those that ventured forth visiting the Nesper home were offered opportunities to operate his road.

The P&P RR operates between the 1947 and 1957 era of either steam or later with diesel switching. The layout is designed to invoke a nighttime atmosphere and present the operators the same difficulties that nighttime switching presents. When normal lighting is shut off, strings of blue "Christmas" lights and a single blue light illuminates the roughly 20' by 16' room. Let me tell you, even trifocals make it rough! Needless to say, the switch lists that a conductor and engineer might have to operate with at night are truly represented here.

The code 125 and 100 hand laid rail in O-scale depicts the realism of lighter weight rail. The sidings and secondary track allow realistic operations to be performed. Ken's placement of hand laid switches does create some interesting switching moves. Generous use of Kadee type uncoupling magnets does make uncoupling easy, although the barbeque skewer is available. The P&P RR switchers include an Alco RS-3, EMD SW-9, and EMD GP-9. All equipment and rolling stock has been carefully assembled and tuned for fluid operation.

An assortment of kit-bashed structures in various stages of weathering, help add the feel to run down and dirty industrial sites. As our host pointed out showing a new building with its loading dock and selectively lit windows, the P&P RR is continuing to change and grow. From the two yards and marine terminal to the numerous sidings with industries, any guest operator will have their operating skills challenged.

If you missed this top shelf layout tour, you missed an awesome opportunity! Make sure you mark your calendar for his next tour.

## The Potomac Module Crew

by Mark Andersen

The Holiday Season is upon us, the weather is getting colder, time for more model railroading!!! Many of us will have new engines and cars to run, as well as structures to build. I would say cars to build, but with current industry trends being what they are, we shall be hard pressed to find rolling stock "kits" in the near future. Decoders will be installed and shall be programmed. Railings and couplers installed, maybe even some undecorated engines painted! Needless to say, we should expect new equipment out on the mains.

This fall kept us busy at three different module crew train events. Our first stop was the annual Rockville Lions Club Holiday Train show on November 13 and 14, 2004. Utilizing the expanse of the Rockville Senior Center, a former elementary school, allows for an all scale train show benefiting the Lions Club and their charities. Our members contributed thirty-nine modules to our layout, while the National Capital Trackers, NVN-Trak, Washington Area Garden Scale Club, and a new Z scale module layout displayed as well. Unfortunately, we shared the same weekend with our MER convention in Hagerstown, hence several of our members attended the convention. As always, conflicts arise with the numerous offerings the model railroading hobby has to offer here in the Washington-Maryland-Virginia area.

Next stop, the Greenberg Train Show at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly, Virginia, on November 20 and 21, 2004. Our usual spot, the main entrance was ours again! An eighteen module layout allowed our "crew" continuous running of our trains. Besides spreading the word of "Model Railroading," we ran the Harry Potter Hogwarth's train along with Thomas, Anabel and Clarabelle. Money, we brought it, some spent it, then ran it on the rails. This show is always popular with parents and their children.

Our next and last stop, the Fairfax Station Museum Holiday Show on December 4 and 5, 2005, used twelve modules. The 1500 plus people included grand parent, families and kids, kids, kids! They visited this popular show enjoying the numerous scale train displays that so many of us contributed for the weekend show. The Lego and N-Trak groups endured the cold out in the caboose, now that's a cool reason to display trains. Most importantly, Santa Clause visited along making his promises to all and Dave Cooper visited us from Florida.

Upcoming shows include the Lyceum Museum Fundraising Show in February and the Boy Scout Show in April. More examples of how we add back to our hobby and community we "all" live in. The Potomac Module Crew's efforts of support and fundraising continue again in 2005. Remember, you too can be a member! We're not road or era specific, but do ask that your module conform to the specifications from the NMRA for the overall height and length of your module(s) including the red and yellow mainline track spacing. Completing these requirements, the world is your oyster! We charge no dues, but encourage you to join the N M R A <http://www.nmra.org/standards/consist.html#module> and region. Come join us in the fun of modular railroading. You may visit our website, courtesy of our webmaster, Colin Weiner at <http://homepage.mac.com/cjweiner/pmchorr01/Default.html>. You may view our 2005 schedule here. Otherwise, please feel free to visit us at our public shows, email me at [mvandersen@cox.net](mailto:mvandersen@cox.net) or call me at 703-425-8997. Remember, WE can only grow if WE bring someone NEW into OUR hobby, so get out there and promote model railroading in a scale of your choice! I bid ya'll adieu.

---

### Late Breaking Layout Tour for March.

**Doug Kirkpatrick's  
Virginia & Western RR.**

Sunday, March 13, 2005 1-5 PM  
3275 Rose Glen Ct., Falls Church, VA 22042

Details to follow by email when I get the map

# Annual Minicon is Coming

Continued from page 1

Friday afternoon and evening will be set up for the modular layouts. Both NVNTRAK (N scale) and the Potomac Module Crew (HO) will be represented. There is a small possibility we may have a narrow gauge layout as well. Trains will run all day Saturday. We will try to pack some operations into the schedule for those working on the Chief Dispatchers Certificate.

Saturday will start with check in of models at the contest room till about 0900.

Contests will be held for Motive Power, Freight and Passenger cars, Structures (Off and On-line), Displays (ON and Off-line), favorite train and Modules. New this year is a young modelers contest. See page 3 for details. AP judging will also be available for those who do not desire to take part in the contest. Judging will start at 0900 or before if no more models are coming in. Presentation of awards will be made in mid afternoon to the winners. Don't forget to vote for your favorite model or train. The contest room will be open through lunch for you to accomplish this.

Starting at 0800 we will have clinics. These will be an hour or so long each and cover topics from rolling stock weathering to resin casting. We are trying to arrange as many hands on clinics as possible. Anyone who wants to volunteer to do a clinic please contact Marshall Abrams at Potomac\_NMRA@comcast.net or if all else fails (301) 588-1005. There is still room on the schedule. Clinics will continue into the afternoon.

During the morning, coffee and pastries will be available. Lunch of pizza and soda will be available for those who sign up at registration for \$ 5.00. This will include three slices and a can of soda. Additional soda will also be available during the convention.

We plan on having the famous "Clint Hyde

Traveling White Elephant Table" present. If you have things that no longer fit your needs, bring them along and see if they fit the bill as someone else's treasure.

Around mid-day we plan to conduct the Division's annual meeting. This will be very important this year, because we will be voting on changing the by-laws. Before the meeting each member will be able to review the changes proposed. The changes are necessary because of the overhaul of the by-laws at the national and region level. Also, we will vote to select the members of the Board of Directors for the Potomac Division for the year. On that note, if you or someone you know is interested in running to be on the board, please contact John Drye so that the name can be included on the roster of candidates.

We don't plan on having layout tours associated with this minicon. Just too much to do it all in a day. But the weekend prior is an open house at Deane Mellander's see page 6 for the details.

Registration cost will be \$ 10.00 payable at the door.

Well that is what we have planned for this event in a nutshell. If you can think of something you would like to have added please contact any of the board members and we will try to oblige. Contact info is on page 2.

## Another Place to see a Layout

The Northern Virginia Model Railroaders, Inc. in Vienna, VA will host an open house on the following dates:

Saturday, February 12, 2005 1-5 pm

Saturday, March 12, 2005 1-5 pm

Saturday, April 16, 2005 1-5 pm

The club is located in the historic "Washington & Old Dominion Railroad" station, located at 231 Dominion Road (at the intersection with Ayr Hill Road) in Vienna, Virginia.

There is no admission charge, though donations are accepted. More information can be obtained by going to their web site at [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org), by e-mail at [nvmrinc@hotmail.com](mailto:nvmrinc@hotmail.com) or by calling 703-938-5157 on the day of the open house. The club meets on Tuesday evenings.

# Potomac Division

Division 2, Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association  
**NEWSLETTER ELECTION AND INTEREST SURVEY**

The **Potomac Division** provides various activities for all interested model railroaders, such as home layout tours, prototype tours, and Mini-Conventions. 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 more than 10 NMRA Master Model Railroaders in our area, as well as

The Potomac Division includes: The District of Columbia; Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties in Maryland; Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, and Rappahannock Counties in Virginia, as well as all area independent cities. All members of the MER and NMRA who reside in one of these areas are automatically members of the Potomac Division. Guests are always welcome at Division events.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name	Home phone	NMRA #	Exp. Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Street Address or PO Box	Work phone	MER #	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Additional Address (Apt # etc)		Birth date	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>			
City	State	ZIP+4	Your email address
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Web site -- [http://members.cox.net/chyde/Potomac Division/Potomac.html](http://members.cox.net/chyde/Potomac%20Division/Potomac.html)  
 Email -- [Potomac\\_NMRA@comcast.net](mailto:Potomac_NMRA@comcast.net)

## INTEREST SURVEY

Primary Scale	Secondary Scale	Favorite Railroad(s) & Prototype(s) Modeled:	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Do you have in primary or secondary scale		Please list the NMRA Special Interest Group(s), model railroad clubs, and railroad historical societies to which you belong:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A layout?		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Narrow Gauge interest?		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Module interest?		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Traction interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Would you be willing to host a Home Layout Tour of your Layout? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		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.	

## NEWSLETTER ELECTION - THERE ARE NO DUES IN THE POTOMAC DIVISION

**Potomac Division:** Members may receive the quarterly *Potomac Flyer* via the Postal Service and/or electronically to the email address above (if one is present).

I elect to receive the *Flyer* in hard copy delivered via the Postal Service at the above address. Enclosed is **\$4.00** for a one year subscription. Please make your check payable to *Potomac Division*.

Do  Do not email the *Flyer* to me as a PDF file at no cost at the above email address. (The pictures are in color)

**Note: You must be a member of the NMRA and MER to be a member of the Potomac Division. NMRA and MER # must be provided (we check). The Potomac Division DOES NOT collect dues for these organizations. You may join them by sending your application to:**

**Mid-Eastern Region:** Membership is \$8 per year. Members receive the bimonthly *MER Local*. You may send your dues directly to the Mid-Eastern Region, Office Manager, 9 Roosevelt Ave., Wilmington, DE 19804-3044. **Note: You must be a member of the NMRA to be a member of MER.**

**National Model Railroad Association:** Membership is \$45 per year for full membership, or \$23 per year for an associate membership. Full Members receive the monthly *Scale Rails*, associate members do not. You may send your dues directly to the National Model Railroad Association, Inc., Headquarters Office, 4121 Cromwell Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37421.

Total Enclosed

\$

end check with your complete application to:  
**Clerk, Potomac Division**  
**PO Box 1653,**  
**Annandale, VA**  
**22003-1653**

# SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOBBY SUPPLIERS!

And tell them you saw their ad in **The Potomac Flyer!**

- LIONEL AUTHORIZED VALUE ADDED DEALER
- LIONEL AUTHORIZED SERVICE STATION
- MTH ELECTRIC TRAINS

**KMA JUNCTION**  
MODEL TRAIN SUPPLIES & SERVICE

CAVALRY VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER  
9786 CENTER STREET  
MANASSAS, VIRGINIA 20110  
[www.labcollections.com/kmajunction](http://www.labcollections.com/kmajunction)

OWNERS  
STEVE FORTES  
FRAN FORTES  
(703) 257-9860



**The Shelf Layouts Company**

"Fine Scale"  
CUSTOM LAYOUT BUILDING

Lance Mindheim  
Owner/Builder

3204 Verona Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20906  
Telephone: 301-404-8164 Email: [lmindheim@shelflayouts.com](mailto:lmindheim@shelflayouts.com)  
[www.shelflayouts.com](http://www.shelflayouts.com)

PHONE 410-539-6207 EST. 1913	TOLL FREE 888-TRAINS-5 (888-872-4675)	FAX 410-685-1357
 <p><b>M. B. Klein, Inc.</b> MODEL TRAIN HEADQUARTERS <a href="http://www.modeltrainstuff.com">www.modeltrainstuff.com</a> <a href="mailto:mb.klein@verizon.net">mb.klein@verizon.net</a></p> 		
TED KLEIN President	162 N. GAY STREET Baltimore, MD 21202	

Rail Video 3448	Photos & Slides 3448
<b>Railhead Video Productions</b>	
Richard W. Clark 607 McNeill Road Silver Spring, MD 20910-4452	<a href="http://railheadvideo.com">railheadvideo.com</a> 301-565-5126

## Book Review

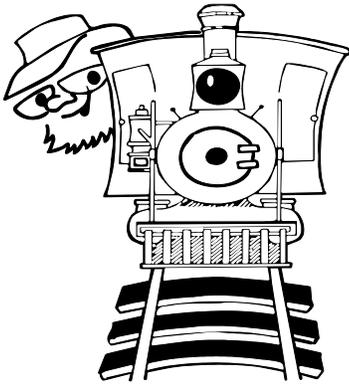
By Nicholas Kalis

### ***New England Forests Through Time Insights from the Harvard Forest Dioramas***

David R. Foster and John F. O'Keefe Photographs by John Green Distributed by Harvard University Press, Soft cover, Copyright 2000

I am one who believes model railroads and dioramas share many characteristics and so when I learned of this book, I was anxious to obtain a copy. Through the UK's Amazon site, I was able to get my hands on ***New England Forests Through Time Insights from the Harvard Forest Dioramas*** by Foster and O'Keefe. As a member of the Layout Design SIG, I had learned about the Fisher Museum, dedicated in 1941. This museum was created as an adjunct to the 3,000 acre Harvard teaching forest established in 1907. In this museum are wonderful dioramas depicting the evolution of a New England forest (models of humans, their habitations, and

wildlife give the dioramas a sense of scale). Other dioramas depict forest management techniques. Construction of these dioramas began in 1931 and was completed in 1941. Richard T. Fisher, the first director of the Harvard Forest, designed most of the dioramas. Under the philanthropic support of Dr. Ernest G. Stillman these dioramas were built in the Harvard Square studios of Theodore Pitman and his associates. This 68-page book contains lavish color photographs of these wonderful dioramas. One diorama is even devoted to how the Cambridge-based studio of Guernsey and Pitman constructed these dioramas. All the dioramas share a seamless transition from the horizontal plane to the backdrop. Most model railroaders may never get the opportunity to visit the Fisher Museum but this book should bring within reach of all model railroaders the techniques employed in these dioramas. If you plan on including any forested areas on your layout, you owe it to yourself, to visit the Fisher Museum or at least obtain a copy of this book.



# Granddad's Hobby Shop.

5260-A Port Royal Road  
Springfield, Virginia

703 426-0700 (local) 877 426-0700 (long distance)

**We have trains — we have lots of trains.**

And we don't stock just trains; we have all the other things you need.

Mon – Fri: 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. Sat and Sun: 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Visit our website: [granddadshobbyshop.com](http://granddadshobbyshop.com) E-Mail: [granddads@starpower.com](mailto:granddads@starpower.com)

---

## Bulletin Board

Have information of general interest? Send it in we will post it here.

### Call for articles:

The Flyer is always accepting submissions for publication – and you get NMRA AP Author points when things get published! Do not wait get your article in Now. Pictures count to.

Do not want to write an article? How bout sharing your modeling tips? Your stain formula or wiring technique may be old hat to you, but may be just what some one else needs to solve a problem.

### Next Quarter

- more Sweeperman tips.
- who knows what else, possibly your article.

### New Address for the Potomac Division

New mail address effective immediately is:  
Potomac Division  
PO Box 1653  
Annandale, VA 22003-1653

## Sweeper Man by Phil Irwin

Among the greatest joys of the World's Greatest Hobby is diversity ... should you finish or tire of a project, many others entirely different await. Super detailing structures can result in an admirable final product.

Some examples:

Most buildings have electric service so how about a meter with a plastic face and a wire entrance conduit?

Fasten an oil tank or propane cylinder out back.

Glue clumps of vegetation around the foundation.

Figures relaxing on the porch.

Pinhead doorknobs.

A pile of firewood.

Cellar entrance.

Vent pipe and dish antenna on the roof.

Split straw gutters and spruce downspouts.

Flower boxes, Shutters, Pouch lights, Mailbox and that's just the outside.

What about the inside?.

# Potomac Division Calendar

√ Mark events now which you don't want to miss

---

## February

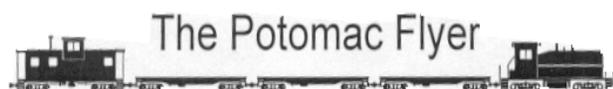
- 5-6 NVNTRAK Great Scale Model Train Show - Timonium, MD
- 20 NVNTRAK Fairfax Station Railroad Museum Layout, Fairfax Station, VA
- 20 Layout Tour, Doug Jones, Bethesda, MD.
- 26-27 Potomac Module Crew, The Lyceum, Alexandria, VA.
- 26-27 NVNTRAK Greenberg Show - Upper Marlboro, MD

## March

- 12-13 NVNTRAK Landmark Mall, Alexandria, VA
- 13 Layout Tour, Doug Kirkpatrick, Falls Church, VA
- 20 NVNTRAK Fairfax Station Railroad Museum Layout, Fairfax Station, VA

## April

- 2-3 Potomac Module Crew & NVNTRAK, The Boy Scout Troop 964 Fund Raiser Dale City, VA.
- 17 NVNTRAK Fairfax Station Railroad Museum Layout, Fairfax Station, VA
- 24 Layout Tour, Deane Mellander, Silver Spring, MD
- 29-30 Potomac Div Minicon/Annual Meeting, Annandale VA



The Quarterly Newsletter of

Division 2 ("Potomac") Mid Eastern Region

National Model Railroad Association

PO Box 1653  
Annandale, VA 22003-1653