

The Artilleryman

No website

Editor's Insights
(Editor: Kay Jorgenson)

1. How do you characterize your readership, your audience?

The Artilleryman readers (there are not a lot, this is a small publication) include people who shoot and collect original and reproduction artillery,. Many are historians and students of militaria of various periods. We generally cover 1750-1900. While The Artilleryman is not a Civil War publication, much of our content deals with that period because of the interest, amount of material available, innovations during that period and the number of surviving guns.

2. Who writes for your publication? Where do you get your stories?

Many of the articles are written by readers. We also publish occasional historical reprints. We publish Places to Visit articles by freelancers who are not part of the artillery community, but the emphasis has to be on artillery and be written for people who know artillery.

3. If you were to give one or two bits of advice to a freelancer hoping to break into your paper, what would you say?

In almost 30 years of publishing we have covered many historical topics and places, so a query is recommended. In writing about artillery for our readers, give specifics and details. It isn't enough to say the fort has four cannon. We want to know what kind they are, who cast them, when, the markings on them, any history (captured, moved from another fort etc.).

4. What is a mistake you typically see new writers (or writers in general) make? (Could be in pitching a story or in writing it... or both...)

Some writers send articles geared for a general audience of people who know nothing about artillery and military history. Our readers include the experts who have written the books, done the research, worked in films, fired live fire competition.

5. Speaking specifically of travel articles, what kinds do you look for? Can you tell me a little bit about your own needs? How would you characterize your publication's travel coverage?

Our travel coverage consists of articles about places with artillery exhibits, generally forts and military museums. Since we have run many such stories over the years it would be good to query first. We print black and white photos and want them to illustrate the artillery, be good quality (not too dark or light or fuzzy) and have full captions. It's fine for the caption to add information not in the

Editor: Kay Jorgensen. mail@civilwarnews.com

Guidelines For Writers—The Artilleryman

The magazine does not publish poetry or fiction. No first-person experiences (unless you shot off your arm and want to write a safety feature — we've had a couple in this category). Articles go 300 to 2000 words; photos or artwork is helpful.

If you are submitting a technical piece, you will have to provide a background statement and give references unless we know you. You will also have to footnote your piece and list a bibliography if information is drawn from printed sources. (We probably won't use the footnotes in print, but will check out your sources separately if necessary. Because the footnotes won't appear with the article, be sure important references which support or authenticate your material appear within the body of the story.) We don't use articles in which it is obvious that the author isn't familiar enough with the subject to be writing authoritatively.

We are always on the lookout for contributions to our "Unit Profiles" feature. These would be an artillery unit that shoots 3/4-scale and larger cannon either in reenactments or in competition. We stress competition shooting. If the unit is a re-creation or reactivation of an original artillery outfit, we'll need some background about the original battery or regiment.

We can use shooting articles approached from the "how they do it" angle, especially on successful teams which shoot in organized competition or which have a particularly accurate projectile. (Accuracy is relative, but we're interested in people who can put five shots through the same hole at 200 yards or more.)

Places To Visit features concentrate on sites where artillery played an important role in the battle or where particular examples of cannon can be found. It is best to inquire if you have an idea for a story since we have done many forts in the U.S. and elsewhere already. Note that the artillery emphasis is paramount and it's not enough to say "They have 78 cannon there." We need to know things which would interest our readers — size, type, number, locations of particular guns and individual gun histories are key details.

We like historical articles concerning the role of artillery in specific battles. We are also interested in the invention and development of particular guns and projectiles, but this usually requires considerable research which is often beyond the scope of the average freelancer. Inquire before doing extensive research of this type because we have covered a number of these subjects already.

Our field is anything related to artillery from 1750 to 1900 and we particularly want material about Revolutionary War era guns and units, War of 1812 and the Mexican War. Also could use more pieces on Endicott Period fortifications and naval guns from any war to 1900.

Please don't submit stories not related to artillery. No fiction. Just straight reporting. Opinion pieces are welcomed only from people with known reputation in artillery circles and then only on subjects approved in advance.

If you have any questions, it is best to call the editor.

We pay modestly on publication and send you a few magazines. You may make simultaneous submissions to other publications, but if we accept, we want to know if anyone else accepts prior to our publication date. (For the most part we aren't concerned with the same material running in other publications as we have a very specialized audience, but we'd like to know.)

Articles may be sent electronically. We require high res electronic or glossy photos, not slides.
Send a stamped, addressed envelope for return of materials.

The Artilleryman, 234 Monarch Hill Rd., Tunbridge, VT 05077
(800) 777-1862 • fax (802) 889-5627 • mail@civilwarnews.com (attn. Artilleryman)