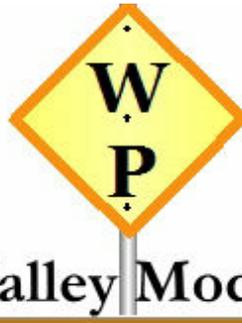


The

Whistle



Post

Official Newsletter of the

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

1001 Airport Blvd, Morrisville, NC, 27560

Phone: 919-460-3003

. This Month's Program

Frank Simmons will explain the DCC system on our HO layout.

. Under the Crown Sheet

. If you are wondering where your ballot for the elections is, there is not one. Bill Ferguson has graciously withdrawn his name from the contest for vice-president and Bill Muller was not a senior member in good standing and thus ineligible to run for office. That leaves only one person running for each office in this year's election. So at the meeting on Wednesday night, May 18th, a motion will be made that the slate of officers be elected by acclamation.

The installation of officers will be at a dinner on the evening of the 18th of June, a Saturday. Time and menu will be discussed and decided at this Wednesday's meeting; be sure to be present so that your voice will be heard.

Donations continue to roll in and we are up to our necks in trains and magazines. Please be patient with us as we try to inventory all of these items and make them available to you. As we complete different portions of the trains, we will have auctions or some other method of making these donations available to the membership in as fair a manner as we can. Magazines will be available as soon as Pete and Donna get them into the system. Please do not go through either the magazines or the trains until we make them available.

Our November show is only a little over five months away and coming fast. Please make your plans to participate in this event on behalf of the club. We always need help on the setup on Friday and the teardown on Sunday night. It is going to be another impressive show from the dealers as well as the exhibitors. We are making

some headway with the race people as to getting some help with directions to avoid the race route. Not the solution we were hoping for, but better than what we had last year. George and I will continue to press for help at different levels in the hope of lessening the impact of their event on ours.

I hope to see everyone on Wednesday night.

J.R Fisher

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

J. R. Fisher called the meeting of April 20, 2011 to order at 7:05 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by John Held.

The Secretary called the roll.

Board members present: J. R. Fisher, Pete Hansma, George Lasley, Thomas Magnani, Frank Simmons and Steve Wills.

Members present were: Bernard Dawson, Bill Ferguson, Scott Hall, Robert Harvey, Thomas Harvey, John Held, John Herzog, Don Jennings, Clif Kelly, Frank Mansfield and Richard Walz.

Probationary member Franco Venturi was present.

Guests were and Bill Hanley and Doug Tomlinson and, John Peterman who introduced himself to the meeting as an HO scale modeler.

Steve Wills reported that our treasury is somewhat ahead of last year.

George Lasley reported there is nothing new to report for November's show at the Fairgrounds. Bill Hanley has agreed to take 2 tables.

Pete reported that our library has picked up several more complete years of Model Railroader and that he expects to rapidly fill up the new shelves.

J. R. reported that we have had another donation of N scale equipment.

J. R. announced that both Bill Hanley and Doug Tomlinson are attending their second meetings and now qualify for Probationary Membership. He will be Doug Tomlinson's sponsor. Tom Magnani agreed to sponsor Bill Hanley. A motion by George Lasley to accept both as Probationary Members was seconded by John Held and unanimously approved.

J. R. asked that Tom correct the name of the November 6th marathon to "City of Oaks" in the May 16, 2011 minutes.

George reported on his meeting with the Raleigh Police Lieutenant delegated to meet with him and J. R. to discuss the conflict with the Marathon. (Access to the Fairgrounds from Route 440's Exit 3 will be blocked between 7 am and 1 PM as will access from Blue Ridge Road.) The Police can only make changes that involve public safety. Any other changes, e.g. routing, must come from the initiating organization. They are considering an appeal to the City Council.

The club will put directions for alternate routes on our web site if we cannot get the route changed. They will also coordinate with the other shows scheduled for that Sunday and with the Fairgrounds.

J. R. reported that all monies collected from last month's auction have been turned over to the appropriate parties. Funds collected from the auction of the club's other donations were donated to the Club as will the proceeds of any sale of surplus club equipment at the Fair.

J. R. reported that Members-at-Large, Pete Hansma, Joe Johnston and Frank Simmons had completed their contacting of the senior members for the upcoming slate of Board candidates.

The following are uncontested and a vote is not required:

President - J. R. Fisher

Vice President - Frank Simmons

Secretary - Thomas Magnani

Treasurer - Steve Wills

Continuing in their current positions and not requiring a vote:

At Large - Joe Johnston (serving a current 3 year term)

At Large - Peter Hansma (serving a current 3 year term)

Two senior Members, Clif Kelly and Bill Muller, have asked to be placed on the ballot for the open Member-at-Large position.

John Held proposed Bill Ferguson for the open office of Vice President replacing George Lasley who is not seeking re-election.

George Lasley's motion to close the nominations was seconded by John Held and unanimously approved.

George will pass out ballots at the Membership Meeting on May 18, 2011 in addition to the ballots that will be mailed out. The mailed ballots are not to be signed. Members are to write their signatures across envelope's flap where it is sealed to the envelope's back as proof that there has not been tampering.

Address corrections were noted for Fanco Venturi and Bernie Dawson.

Don Jennings reported on the record, set on April 23rd, by the Wilmington's Railroad Museum, for World's longest HO model train consisting of 34 engines and 1700 cars measuring 925.55 feet in length.

John Held reminded the attendees that George will be demonstrating the art and technique of air brushing following the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM on a motion by Steve Wills, seconded by Pete Hansma.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors

J. R. called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Board members present: J.R. Fisher, Pete Hansma, Joe Johnston, George Lasley, Tom Magnani, Frank Simmons and Steve Wills.

Members Bill Furgerson and Don Jennings were present.

Steve Wills reported that he developed an audit review sheet for use with the Club's books and that he needs more, non-Board, members to perform audits. Our financial position is basically unchanged from last month.

Steve Wills reported that Tom Eller was the donor of our N scale equipment.

George Lasley reported on his progress in trying to address the Fairground access conflict with with the "City of Oaks" marathon. He began by contacting "Raleigh Running Outfitters", a sponsor of the race, to learn the name of the race's organizer or primary governing body. Once that was accomplished he reused most of his prior letter and has finally heard back from their responsible person who has offered to meet. He has also talked with the Flea Market's owner who has expressed a willingness to work with us.

Our preparations for the show are proceeding.

Bill Ferguson graciously decided to withdraw his candidacy as Vice President.

There was a discussion of a Club dinner on June 18th. Steve suggested holding it at one of the "Golden Corral" restaurants as an alternative to asking George Lasley to cater it. George will prepare a proposal for either 1 or 2 meats.

George Lasley will take the minutes, in place of Tom Magnani, at the May 18th Membership Meeting.

Frank Simmons opened a discussion about selling the space on the back of our show flyers. He asked Pete Hansma to come up with the cost for printing 3 flyers per sheet of cardstock at a reduced total count than last year's printing. J. R. expressed the view that, as most of our flyers are handed out at local hobby stores, flyers with rear advertisements would require careful coordination. He suggested working on a "sponsor" concept.

George suggested that we work to have material about our show at the National Model Railroad Association Mid-Eastern Region convention to be held October 27 – 30, 2011.

On a motion by George Lasley, seconded by Pete Hansma, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Future Events

The club is open every Wednesday, starting about 7:00 p.m. Also on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m.

Membership meeting on Wednesday, May 18.

BoG meeting on June 4.

All events at the club site, 1001 Airport Blvd. Suite 120..

For details on how to arrive at the club, check out our website: <http://www.nrvclub.net>

Note from the Editor

Please send articles to me at joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com. by the Wednesday before the next meeting, so I can do the newsletter on Thursday. Check out our website at: <http://www.nrvclub.net>

Check the [website](#) to see when the club will be opened.

On Saturday May 14, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, there will be an exhibit of a hundred-year-old Heavyweight Pullman Sleeper at 847 Seamart Ave, near Logan's, the old Seaboard Station near Peace and Wilmington St.

The Guinness Book of Records Model Train Run by Don Jennings

I bet that not many of you have been part of one of their record setting events. For me, it all started back this past January 2011 when I read that the Wilmington Railroad Museum in Wilmington, NC was hosting the Guinness Book of World Records for a fund-raiser of the longest model train run. The current record is held by the Minitatur Wunderland of Hamburg Germany set in 2008. The WRRM wanted to bring the title to the USA and to its museum at Wilmington, NC. GBWR needed many people to help with all the details such as building the track roadbed and putting down the track in a folded over dog-bone design and building the 400 special train cars and fine tuning the 33 model locomotives used to pull the train. *See sketch of layout design.*

Guards were just one of the needed people for the protection of the layout in the Wilmington Convention Center for a record run of the HO Scale model train. There were people taking movies, and still pictures, witnesses to make a report for the GBWR plus all the workers to make sure the train runs perfectly on its quest to a world record.

I signed up my wife and I to be included as Crossing Guards as they called us. We were to sit on chairs spaced every ten feet or so with a barrier tape woven between them. We would explain to the public what was happening as it happened. We signed up early for this 'job' and were also able to purchase a specially designed Box Car that would be included in the run as part of the longest train run. We were able to have the car labeled with our name or business. I chose the Atlantic & Western RR – D. Jennings on the roof of all four cars I purchased as a donation for the event. *See Picture.* After the event was over, all those who made a donation of a car(s) would be able to keep those cars as a souvenir

World Record Model Train Run Continued

The GBWR has very strict guidelines that had to be adhered to so a record could be set. Here are some of the guidelines;

- They must exceed the length of the train that holds the current record
- The train must move under its own power for a distance equal to 15 scale kilometers. (they said it must be over 630 feet in HO scale)
- The event must be open to the public.
- Two qualified people must witness it.
- It must be documented via both video and still photography.
- All lengths and distances must be measured and certified by a licensed surveyor.
- A full description of the event must accompany the submission to Guinness.
- The use of HO scale equipment will be used (1:87.1).
- We will assemble a two loop track that will be over 1000 feet long (approximately 16.5 miles in full scale and place a marker every scale one half mile along its run.
- The train will be moved by at least 33 Bowser ALCO C-628 diesel engines.
- These engines will pull over 1600 scale train cars.
- The train will be about 920 feet long (about 15.2 miles long in full scale). This is over three football fields long, longer than the Battleship North Carolina.
- The train will move at least 630 feet and will continue to move if all is running well.
- The train will contain model cars borrowed from more than 15 local modelers in addition to the 400 custom boxcars purchased and decorated just for this event.
- If all runs according to plan, the record run should take about 28 minutes with the train running at a scale speed of 20 miles per hour.
- The total model train weighs almost 500 pounds.

Donald Jennings.

NRV Whistle Post
The Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club, Inc.
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Raleigh, NC 27619-9573

First Class

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: MORRISVILLE OUTLET MALL, 1001 AIRPORT BLVD. Next to Izod

Monday, June 4, 2011, 7:00 p.m. BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING, at the club at Morrisville Mall.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

J. R. Fisher	President	919-782-3677
George Lasley	Vice-President	glasley@bellsouth.net, 834-5531
Steve Wills	Treasurer	919-845-4968
Tom Magnani	Secretary	tommag1@aol.com
Frank Simmons	At Large	919-676-2081
Pete Hansma	At Large	pkh@bellsouth.net, 919-217-0407
Joe Johnston	At Large	joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com

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