

The

Whistle



Post

Official Newsletter of the

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

1001 Airport Blvd, Morrisville, NC, 27560

Phone: 919-460-3003

Under the Crown Sheet

Friends, the time is finally here. I have talked with the new owners of the mall and we will have to vacate our location before June 1, 2012.

The Board has begun a search for a new home while preparing to put everything in storage if one is not found before the deadline. We need to begin the process of sorting everything, making a complete inventory and deciding what to keep, what to sell, and what to throw away.

Buildings and rolling stock to be saved will be carefully packed for transport or storage. Items to be sold will be offered to the membership first and then to the model railroad community.

If you know of, or see or hear about, suitable locations, please bring them to the attention of the Board of Governors as soon as possible.

This Saturday, February 11, 2012, the management is sponsoring a Chinese New Year celebration at the mall and has requested that we be open. They are expecting around 3,000 guests, many of them children, and would appreciate us being there as entertainment.

We need as many of you as possible spread out over the course of the event which runs from 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. Please dress nicely and be polite and courteous to our guests. You never know where a source of help will come from. **THIS IS IMPORTANT!** We need all day and evening coverage.

We hope to see all of you this Saturday and again next Wednesday evening at our regularly scheduled general meeting. We are beginning the election process soon and I know you will have many questions. I hope I can answer them to your satisfaction.

Please look at this as not only a challenge but an opportunity.

J.R Fisher

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

J.R. called the meeting of January 18, 2012 to order at 6:59 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by AJ Green.

Tom Magnani called the roll.

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

Members present were: Bernard Dawson, Bill Ferguson, A.J. Green, Robert Harvey, Thomas Harvey, John Held, Don Jennings, Fred Krauss, George Lasley, John Suhr, Doug Tomlinson, Roland Waggoner, and Richard Walz.

Guests present were Martin and Edward Blackburn, Donna Hansma and Joe Wolozyn.

Steve Wills reported that he had just received the bank statements and has no update since the end of November. Our accounts are somewhat ahead of a year ago at this time.

Steve reported that he gave the club's donation to Operation Lifesaver to Donna Hansma at the Club's annual dinner on January 14th. Donna read a thank you letter from Operation Lifesaver.

George Lasley reported that he had mailed our response to the Raleigh City Council concerning the resolution of the routing conflict between the City of Oaks Marathon and our annual show.

J.R. addressed the rumors about the status of the Mall. As of this Monday, January 16th, it has not been sold. He anticipates that we may need to vacate by June. To meet that time line we need to begin a decision process to reduce our inventory. We are looking for approximately 5,000 square feet at \$500/month. The distance should be no more than 45 - 60 minutes from our present location.

J.R. informed the members that Ray Mumford's family had listed the NRV as one of the organizations to which his friends and family could make a donation in his memory. Ms. Martha Short of Charlotte sent a donation in Ray's memory. Mr.

Magnani was asked to send her an acknowledgement on our behalf. Mr. Wills suggested using some of the donation to print more copies of the Club's "History".

Anyone still owing dues should contact Steve to arrange payment. Any changes in a member's email or postal information should be sent to Tom.

Although the Mall's commercial traffic is much reduced we still have a steady stream of visitors and need our members to be here on weekends to provide support.

John Held has requested a speaker to cover the subject of 3 Rail maintenance.

Tonight's program will be by Doug Tomlinson and AJ Green on the ins and outs of using computers and iPhones to run a DCC system using JRMI, Java Model Railroad Interface.

The Club's date for our "annual" WUNC-TV phonathon is Sunday, March 25th beginning at approximately 6:30 am. Our session will be over at 11 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM on a motion by Fred Krauss, seconded by Joe Johnston.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors

J. R. called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM, February 6, 2012.

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

Members present were: Bill Ferguson, A.J. Green, Scott Hall, John Held and Don Jennings.

Guests present were Donna Hansma and, Bill Bailey, a former member and O Gauge railroader.

Steve Wills reported that our funds were somewhat less than last month but ahead of last year at this time. We have sent our deposit for this year's show to the Fairgrounds.

J.R. asked Bill Bailey, a former member, to introduce himself. J.R.'s motion for Bill Bailey to be permitted to rejoin the Club as a Sustaining member was seconded by Steve Wills and unanimously accepted.

J.R. read a letter from Carolina Coastal Railroaders announcing their 17th Annual Train show to be held in New Bern on March 3rd and 4th. It will be at a new location, the Sudan Temple located at the intersection of East Front Street and Broad Street. [403 East Front Street, New Bern, NC 28560.]

J.R. restated the limits of our Liability Insurance. It does not cover members' personal property. It is purely liability coverage for the Club. Our Show's liability coverage is the same.

This Saturday, February 11th, there will a celebration of the sale of the Mall to a group that will replace it with an upscale Chinatown. 3,000 people, mostly children, are expected. The celebration begins at 2:00 PM and ends at 9:00 PM. We will need the Club to be cleaned up and ready. We will open at 10 AM for housecleaning and preparation.

All members are requested to dress in Club shirts or aprons with their name badges. DO NOT PARK along the RED painted CURBS.

J.R. reported on the status of the Mall. It is due to be sold on April 1, 2012 with the demolition of the wing that we are in to begin demolition on June 1st. Our wing will become an Asian supermarket which is expected to be open this September. The new owners' web site is www.chintatownncusa.com

He had discussed our staying on with the new owners and was refused. They intend to divide the renovated mall into 1,500 sq. ft. units as compared with our present 3,200 sq. ft. He is looking at locations within a 50 mile radius that would closely match our present \$500/month rent and \$140/month utility costs.

J.R. introduced the discussion of our immediate need to vacate the club by noting that we have had an anonymous donation of Model Railroader Magazine, 1935 – 2010, on a CD. This will simplify our decision to save/keep, discard or sell our Library. We will be packing all of our books and videos as well as the other magazines and Model Railroader from 2011 and 2012.

Our initial plan, unless we can relocate in the next few months, will be to save the: fire retardant table curtains; O gauge layout (It folds into relatively flat, same size, sections.); HO Buildings; N Scale Layout; electronics and working O Gauge transformers; and most rolling stock.

We will need to carefully decide which of the remaining items are to be saved (inventoried and carefully packed) sold or discarded. The goal is to minimize storage costs while retaining the most valuable portion of our collection. We will be leaving the ceiling fans.

Steve Wills' motion to purchase J.R.'s O gauge GP-38 for \$100 was seconded by Joe Johnston and unanimously approved. This will enable us to retire the New Haven "Little Joe" which is at the end of its useful life.

J.R. asked Joe Johnston and the 2 other "At large" members, Pete Hansma and Clif Kelly, to poll the membership for officers for the upcoming elections. He will be stepping down.

On a motion by Tom Magnani, seconded by Joe Johnston, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 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, February 15.

BoG meeting on March 5.

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.

Who were the Presidents?

We have found a picture that shows five present- and past-presidents of our club. If you can identify them, send an email to George at glasley@bellsouth.net and we'll see who the first is to identify all five.



A Little Southern Railroad that Grew Up: The History of the Neuse River Valley Railroad

Chapter 3, The Line to Morehead City

The construction of the eastern half of the Neuse River Valley Railroad went fairly rapidly. Goldsboro, North Carolina was reached within a year, and the tracks were extended to New Bern about 18 months afterwards. The goal of Morehead City was reached achieved in December of 1888. The first two segments had fairly easy construction, owing to gentle grades requiring cut and fill.

All of the bridges on the line were built initially as wooden pile trestles, but some were replaced in later years by steel. The last section required more bridge building, including two swing spans over navigable waters. The contract for these two bridges was awarded to the Cambria Iron Works of Apex, North Carolina.

Yard facilities had been established in Raleigh Goldsboro and New Berne. Upon reaching Morehead City, a large yard was laid out along with two freight piers. These piers were each capable of handling four ocean steamers or several coastal barges. The piers had a covered shed down the center with a track on each side. The ships' cargo winches were used for loading and unloading. Agricultural products provided most of the traffic with tobacco being amongst the largest.

The primary locomotive and car shops were located in Raleigh with only minimal servicing facilities elsewhere. Water tanks were placed at approximately 15-mile intervals. All had small steam pumps and were manned by the local section crew

The first complete timetable went into effect on January 1, 1889. It listed two passenger trains and one freight train each way each day. Dispatching was done with train orders and timetables. Telegraph operators were located at all manned stations.

The NRV was destined to stay this size until the turn of the century. The roadway saw upgraded, and the company could boast of an excellent cash flow. No serious financial difficulties were encountered during these years. The future continued to look bright for all the investors.

(Editor's note: We have been publishing this history of the Neuse River Valley Railroad, especially for newer members. If you have not received previous chapters, you can get one at the club, or you can email Joe @ joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com and I'll send you as much as I have typed so far (up to Chapter 4).

NRV Whistle Post
The Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club, Inc.
PO Box 19573
Raleigh, NC 27619-9573

First Class

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Monday, March 5, 2012, 7:00 p.m. BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING, at the club at Morrisville Mall.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

J. R. Fisher	President	919-782-3677
Frank Simmons	Vice President	919-676-2081
Steve Wills	Treasurer	919-845-4968
Tom Magnani	Secretary	tommag1@aol.com
Clif Kelly	At Large	bkelly11@nc.rr.com, 919-614-8891
Pete Hansma	At Large	pkh@bellsouth.net, 919-217-0407
Joe Johnston	At Large	joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com

WEB SITE

Joe Johnston

WWW.NRVCLUB.NET

Newsletter editor & webster

joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com