

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

Note: this Newsletter is a bit early. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 21, which will be a time when those items we wish to sell will be available to the attending club members. We hope to reduce our inventory, make a little money for the club and reduce cost of storage.

. Under the Crown Sheet

The first thing I want to discuss, or rather remind you of, is that we are doing the UNC-TV Festival on Sunday morning, March 25th at 7:30 a.m. Please wear NRV shirts if you have them or some other solid color shirt. No stripes or plaids!

We have a good start on packing up the trains at the clubhouse and hope the progress continues at this fast pace. Please see the assigned chairs of the respective committees if you would like to help. The HO and O layouts will be the last things to come down.

Each third Wednesday meeting night will be a time when those items we wish to sell will be available to the attending club members. We hope to reduce our inventory, make a little money for the club and reduce cost of storage.

There is no good word on a new home as of this writing.

The three "at-large" members of the Board of Governors will begin to canvas the membership at this month's meeting to see if anyone wishes to run for an office on the Board. The offices of: President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer are one-year terms. The "at-large" position is a three-year term. If you are considering running for an office, please be sure that you have the time to commit to this endeavor. You are expected to attend all meetings and perform the duties you are assigned.

Pete has begun to pack the library beginning with the videos. If you have any of our videos or DVD's, please return them ASAP. The same holds for any books that are checked out. Magazines do not leave the clubhouse.

Please be sure that you are paid up on your club dues so that you are eligible to vote in the May elections.

Please do not go through boxes of inventoried items at the clubhouse. Many are carefully packed for storage and travel and disturbing the arrangement may cause harm to them in transit.

Even though we are leaving our current home, please help us keep it clean. Take your trash to the containers in the mall and do not leave food or dirty cups and plates in our trash cans. Please rinse out your drink cans before crushing them and do not dump ice or liquids in our trash cans.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the 21st!

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

J.R. called the meeting of February 18, 2012 to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by George Lasley and Doug Tomlinson.

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: Joe Austin, Bernard Dawson, Erik Dyke, Bill Ferguson, A.J. Green, Bill Hanley, Robert Harvey, Thomas Harvey, John Held, Don Jennings, Arthur Katz, George Lasley, John Ragan, Tom Staley and Doug Tomlinson.

Guests present, for their second meeting, were Martin and Edward Blackburn. On a vote by the membership, with Tom Magnani as their sponsor, both were accepted into the Club as probationary members

Steve Wills reported that our accounts are somewhat ahead of a year ago at this time.

J.R. read the letter of appreciation from Leigh Duque, Executive Director of InterAct, a woman's crisis center, for the Club's donation.

J.R. thanked all those who were here on Saturday, February 11th, to help with the crowds that attended the Mall's new owners' celebration. He reminded the

membership that we still have a heavy attendance on weekends and the membership is needed here so that we can have the club open to the public. If there are not enough members while others are sorting and packing it will be necessary to close the club to the public.

Next month, March, the At Large Board members will solicit the membership for Board candidates. The term of Joe Johnston, one of the At Large Board members, expires this year. He can seek reelection.

George Lasley's quiz in the most recent Whistle Post, "Who was in the photograph?", was answered correctly by only one member, Jerry Davis. The five, all past presidents, were: Edward Breeden, John LePere, JR, Pat Moore and George Lasley.

George Lasley reported that the routing conflict between the City of Oaks Marathon and our annual show appears to have been resolved with their use of the Greenway rather than Hillsboro Street.

Arthur Katz's wife has an art show at the Horace Williams House in Chapel Hill.

J.R. addressed the status of the Mall. It is expected to change hands on April 1st or sooner. Our wing will be the first part to be redone. It will become an Asian supermarket with a planned completion of September 2012. He anticipates that we may need to vacate as soon as May 1st if the sale is completed sooner than planned. The rest of the mall is scheduled to be redone by January 2014.

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. In response to Erik Dyke's question J. R. stated that we are considering locations that are no more than a 45 minute drive from this general area; essentially all of Wake County.

At this time we plan on keeping the O & N Gauge layouts. The 2-rail HO will be kept without the buildings. Dan Egy will take back the 3-rail HO. Frank Simmons will take back the G track and power pack. We would like to keep the layouts up and running as long as possible.

We need to carefully cull the models, rolling stock and equipment. The "Lionel" transformers need to be tested before a decision is made on each one. Some of the older O Gauge locomotives will be sent for repair.

We will keep the books and videos. A decision needs to be made with respect to the magazines. The Kalmbach Model Railroader digital copy of their magazines does not appear to be of the best quality for some issues that had been randomly viewed.

Steve Wills needs for more members to be here on weekends while he oversees the culling.

- O Scale committee: Chairman Clif Kelly
Co-Chair Tom Magnani
- N Scale committee: Chairman Bernie Dawson
Co-Chair Joe Austin
- Thomas Layout: Chairman Frank Simmons
Co-Chair Tom Staley
- Library Inventory: Chairman Peter Hansma

All questions regarding this matter will be addressed to Frank Simmons, Vice President at fssimmons@hotmail.com

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.

The Club's date for our "annual" WUNC-TV phonathon is Sunday, March 25th beginning at approximately 7:30 am. Our session will be over at 11:30 am. Club members are requested to sign up with Tom Magnani in person or at tommag1@aol.com.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM on a motion by Tom Magnani, seconded by Doug Tomlinson.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors

J. R. called the meeting to order at 6:58 PM.

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

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

Donna Hansma was present as a guest.

Steve Wills reported that our funds were somewhat less than last month but ahead of last year at this time.

George Lasley reporting on the 2012 Fair, said that, as of the meeting, out of 210 tables, 153 are reserved or assigned. He will be sending out letters to all of last year's vendors and will be invoicing those with reservations. He does not expect to raise our

rates this year. Some vendors had asked about more costly chairs with padded seats but it was decided that this would not be logistically practical.

We may have to reduce the size of the Sipping & Switching layout and address the overall size of the S Gauge layout so that adequate access into the building can be maintained. He will get the information contained in the floor plan assignments to Pete Hansma, in the next two weeks so that Pete can update our web site. Pete advised the Board, pending no change in advertising rates, to maintain our N&O advertising coverage at that of last year.

George reported that there will be a conflict with NC State's homecoming game on Saturday, November 3rd. The game's start time has yet to be announced.

J.R. and Steve reported that we received a donation of 3 boxes of HO and DCC equipment from Tom Noffsinger of Raleigh.

All members are requested to remove their personal property from the Club in a timely fashion.

J.R. read a letter from John Ragan, a former Senior Member, requesting a change in his membership from Sustaining Member to Senior Member. Frank Simmon's motion to recommend to the membership that John Ragan's membership be changed from Sustaining Member to Senior Member at the March Membership meeting was seconded by Tom Magnani and unanimously approved.

J.R. reported on the status of the Mall. He has talked with Mr. Martin, owner of the South Hills Mall, and was informed that there is no space available for us at this time. His search for a location is ongoing.

John Held said that he had thought that he had learned that the State or Wake County government might have property that would be available for rental by charitable organizations and suggested that someone from the club investigate this possibility.

J.R. asked "At Large" members: Pete Hansma, Joe Johnston and Clif Kelly, to poll the membership for officers for the upcoming elections. Honorary and Probationary members are ineligible to vote. In response to Joe's question J.R. stated that for an "At Large" member to run for an officer's position it would be necessary to first resign the "At Large" member position.

The program that will follow our Members meeting on March 21st will be an auction of our surplus models. An auction format, rather than individual sales, is being

employed so that everyone will have an opportunity to purchase each item. Each item will begin from a minimum price.

The Club's date for our "annual" WUNC-TV phonathon is Sunday, March 25th beginning at approximately 7:30 am. Our session will be over at 11:30 am. Club members are requested to sign up with Tom Magnani in person or at tommag1@aol.com. All members are requested to dress in Club shirts (solid colors) or aprons with their name badges.

Scott Hall stated that Maker Faire will be having a show at the NC State Fairgrounds' Scott Building on June 16th. The admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for ages 6-18. Ages 5 and under are free. Their web site is www.makerfairenc.com.

On a motion by Tom Magnani, seconded by Frank Simmons, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 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, March 21.

BoG meeting on April 2.

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.

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 Berne 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 costal 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.

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

First Class

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Monday, April 2, 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

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