



**1001 Airport Blvd, Morrisville, NC, 27560**  
**Phone: 919-460-3003**

### **Under the Crown Sheet**

It is our sincerest hope that everyone had a good holiday and you are well-rested and ready to start the new year with a renewed interest in model railroading and our club.

We have a lot we wish to accomplish in the coming months and the more members we have helping, the sooner it will get done.

Our primary goal is to finish inventorying all of our goods and getting them packed and labeled. The N-gauge layout needs to be finished regards rewiring. Then we can look at finishing the scenery and continue operation.

If we have interest, the O-gauge layout needs sprucing up and bus wire run underneath. Probably a lot of other wiring needs work as well.

The recently rejuvenated HO portable layout we used in Garner needs new switches and some sections of track re-laid. More buildings are a possibility as well.

The current HO layout needs some work and Bill Hanley has some ideas and would like some volunteers to help with that.

Please make every effort to be at this month's meeting on the 16th, as we need to make some decisions as to the continued operation of our facility.

## Minutes of the Membership Meeting

J.R. Fisher called the Membership meeting of December 19, 2012 to order at 7:04 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Hanley.

Tom Magnani called the roll.

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

Members present were: Joe Austin, Bill Hanley, Don Jennings, Fred Krauss, Calvin Kuttner, Martin Kuttner and Henry Shirley.

Pre-probationary member Dale Sisson was present for his second membership meeting.

Steve Wills reported that our funds, as of the end of November, are comparable to last year with allowance for the gift from the estate of Ray Mumford. Our door donations have dropped considerably due to both low mall traffic and to low membership attendance on the weekends. Don Jennings motion to accept the treasurer's report was seconded by Fred Krauss and approved unanimously.

Pete Hansma reported that 108 of the flyers were received at the Club's November show. (He had 2,500 printed.) This compares with the 109 the year before. There were 67 N&O coupons turned in on Saturday and 26 on Sunday. This was less than the 108 turned in the year before for both days. 467 web flyers were turned in this year as compared with 463 the year before.

JR initiated a general discussion on the apparent effectiveness of our advertising with Pete noting that this is the first year, in 10 years, that we had a waiting list for vendors and that the vendors think this is a good show for them. We spent a total of \$2,500 on advertising with the caveat that reducing it substantially usually leads to a death spiral in attendance. Mr. Magnani noted that our advertising serves to attract new generations of attendees; replacing the older regulars, keeping our numbers in a fairly constant range even in the face of new, alternative, interests.

Fred Krauss presented an N&O article that MaryAnn Baldwin is again being faced with request from various segments of Raleigh to relocate races to minimize their impact on businesses.

Our next Board meeting will be on Monday, January 7, 2013 and the January Membership meeting will be on Wednesday, January 16, 2013.

The Great Scale Model Train Show will be at the Maryland state fair grounds in Timonium Maryland on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM on a motion by Bill Hanley and seconded by Pete Hansma.

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors**

J. R. Fisher called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, January 7, 2013.

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

The members present were Bill Ferguson, John Held and Joe Johnston.

JR welcomed Joe Johnston back from his medical outage.

Steve Wills reported that the latest financials were for the end of November. Our finances were comparable to the end of November last year with allowance made for the gift from Ray Mumford's estate and the substantial fall off in guest contributions. The fall off, 10 to 1 in donations, is attributed to two factors: first to the departure of all of the Mall's stores and foot traffic and second, to our rather low membership turnout on weekends.

A discussion ensued about the restored HO layout and whether or not to try to use our stock of turnouts and Pico switch machines to replace its rather well used turnouts. After a discussion it was decided to replace them, in kind, with Atlas turnouts so as to minimize relaying the track. Doug Tomlinson will organize a work group and use the replacement to teach basic skills of soldering and track repair.

There was a discussion of the Mall's hours and whether we had enough active members to ask that a key holder make the effort to have the club open on Wednesdays. Recently there has been almost no member attendance on Wednesdays.

**At the January 16 Membership Meeting the members will be asked to vote whether or not to keep the club open on Wednesdays.**

**A door bell button has been installed on the left side of the outside rear doors. It rings inside the clubhouse.**

**The Club's telephone number, [919-460-3003](tel:919-460-3003), will be added above the button.**

Pete Hansma reported that we received a donation of HO equipment, mainly brass track and buildings. He expects a donation of 1940's and 1950's magazines in the next few weeks.

In response to a question about our advertising budget Pete Hansma stated that our attendance appears to have reached a plateau in recent years. He thinks that we might get more show attendance but it would require an active out reach by the membership handing out flyers to individuals on a one to one basis.

John Held reminded the group that the Carolina Coastal Railroaders Model Train Show will be March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will be at the Sudan Temple, 403 E. Front Street, New Bern, North Carolina 28560. The hours are: Saturday: 10:00am – 5:00pm, Sunday: 10:00am – 4:00pm. Admission: \$6.00, Children under 12 with Adult: Free

**The next Membership Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.**

The next Board Meeting will be on Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.

**There is no more Mall Security. Members are urged to use only the front door and to keep all doors closed and locked.**

After closing time please use the Club's phone number, [919-460-3003](tel:919-460-3003), to gain admittance through the rear door.

On a motion by JR, seconded by Steve Wills, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

### **Neat Websites from Fred Kraus and Bill Bailey and others**

Below is a link to the video of the Brandywine RR on youtube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aViFclQGfdQ>

Wilmington (NC) Railroad Museum - Model Railroad Extravaganza 2011:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&v=knvOHfCsi1E&feature=endscreen>

Where should deer crossings be located?

<http://www.webpronews.com/donna-the-deer-lady-learns-what-deer-crossing-signs-are-for-2012-10>

So Papi, How did you like the iPad we got you?

<http://www.snotr.com/video/8965>

## **Future Events**

The club is open on Saturdays at 10 am. and Sundays at 1 pm.

Membership meeting on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

BoG meeting on February 4th.

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/Webmaster**

Please send me recent photos of our club activities, so we can update our website.

Please send articles to me at [joe.nrvmrc@pobox.com](mailto:joe.nrvmrc@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 and call 919-460-3003 to be sure that the doors are open.

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, January 16th, 2012 at 7:00 pm.**

**LOCATION: Morrisville Outlet Mall, 1001 Airport Blvd.**

**Monday, February 4, 2013, 7:00 pm. Board of Governors meeting, at the club at Morrisville Mall.**

### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

<b>J. R. Fisher</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>919-782-3677</b>
<b>Doug Tomlinson</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>dhtomlins@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Steve Wills</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>919-845-4968</b>
<b>Tom Magnani</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>tommag1@aol.com</b>
<b>Clif Kelly</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>bkelly11@nc.rr.com, 919-614-8891</b>
<b>Pete Hansma</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>pkh@bellsouth.net, 919-217-0407</b>
<b>Frank Simmons</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>919-676-2081</b>
<b>WEB SITE</b>		<b>WWW.NRVCLUB.NET</b>
<b>Joe Johnston</b>	<b>Newsletter editor &amp; webster</b>	<b>joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com</b>