



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

### **Under the Crown Sheet**

It is a new year with new faces on the Board and familiar ones in new positions. I am happy to welcome Arthur Boone to the Board and Frank Simmons as vice president. Please congratulate them on these accomplishments. I look forward to serving with them for the membership of the Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

Progress on the new HO layout is happening quickly. The first eight modules are in house and laying track will start before the June meeting. I would like to thank the paint party gang for their help; Roland, Arthur, Tom, Jim, Doug, Joe and John Kuchnia. We need to give special thanks to Steve for his expertise in layout planning. The group is looking for members interested in laying track, scenery, wiring and all other aspects of layout building.

All applicants excepted.

We are five months away from our show, it will be held November 6 through 8, 2015. This is our first year in the Jim Graham building and a large undertaking for the club. We need every member to make this the successful show for Neuse River Valley. Poobah and the Board are brainstorming advertising ideas...suggestions are welcome. I hope you are as excited about this new opportunity as I am.

Lastly, I want your suggestions and comments about how to improve our club. You will find my phone number and email address on the newsletter. Please feel free to call or see me at the clubhouse.

~John Ragan

### **Minutes of the Membership Meeting.**

John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of May 20, 2015 to order at 7:00 PM.

John Held led the Pledge of Allegiance.

John Ragan noted that we have 'Get Well' cards for the speedy recovery of Joe Johnston's wife and Richard Walz's wife and, a condolence card for Edna Todd's (owner of Todd's Trains) family for the membership to sign.

Tom Magnani called the roll.

Board members present: Joe Austin, Bill Ferguson, Tom Magnani, John Ragan, Frank Simmons and Steve Wills.

Members present were: Arthur (AB) Boone, David Craft, Scott Gagon, John Held, John Kuchnia, Jim Songer, Roland Waggoner and Richard Walz.

Tom Magnani read the list, confirmed by Steve Wills, of those members who are eligible to vote.

Treasurer's report: Presented by Steve Wills.

The club is, as of the end of March, basically where it normally at this time of year. Our finances are in line with where it should be as compared to last year in March with allowance for our prepayment of next year's show in the new building and an increased advertising budget for the 2014 show.

Show report:

John Ragan reported on the show's status for George Lasley. We have assigned approximately 263 of a total of 300 tables to 80 vendors and have received an early burst of vendor checks. We have several new vendors and a new, narrow gauge, G scale layout. We have about 30 tables unassigned. They are open for sale to our membership. Sharing of tables is recommended, and preferred, so that all members are able to support the Club's running of the show in our new location.

**ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO WORK ON CLUB ASSIGNMENTS DURING THE SHOW.** Set up is on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> with the full show on November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

Frank Simmons stopped the meeting and asked that group talking cease while the business of the meeting is being conducted. He stated that we need to have a more appropriate group behavior during our meetings.

Frank Simmons announced that our new goal will be to actively recruit new members. We have a variety of activities: track laying and siding design in HO and N; scenery design in O, HO and N; electrical work in O, HO and N, etc.

Layouts:

N: Jim Songer reported that he has purchased 6 turnouts and 12 sections of flex track. He has cleared the modules so that they can be moved towards the Mall window. AB strongly recommended that the track be carefully, and completely, cut at each juncture to minimize any chance of damaging the track. Bill Ferguson asked that

consideration be given to raising it to the elevation of the 'LEGO' layout to facilitate viewing.

O: John Ragan asked for a volunteer to mind the O gauge layout. Bill Ferguson will assume responsibility for the O-gauge layout.

G: John Ragan reported that there is a problem with dirt accumulation. It needs a detailed track cleaning. To enable this, a second ladder has been purchased that will be stored within the O gauge layout. Scott Gagnon will take over the G Layout, on an as available basis. AB will assist. Frank Simmons and Steve Wills will work with Scott to develop instructions and trouble shooting notes for it.

LEGO: Steve Wills reported that he has constructed 1 new building, is working on a 2<sup>nd</sup> one and that a Ferris Wheel is on order.

HO: The 8 new layout will measure 8' x 40'. It is based on Raleigh and Goldsboro with 3-track mainline. Layout design is basically complete. It will have 3 loops plus sidings and small yards to permit simultaneous looping and operating/switching sessions. It will begin with plywood prairies and will require track laying, weathering, buildings, wiring, scenery, etc. It presents a fantastic teaching and learning opportunity for all. The present layout's DCC, buildings and new track will be salvaged.

Inventory:

Steve Wills asked that all inventory be completed by the weekend.

he HO, office Equipment, Tools and, Scenery are completed.

The inventory assignments are as follows:

G will be by AB and Scott.

HO will be by John Ragan.

Scenery will be by John Kuchnia.

N will be by Jim Songer and Joe Austin.

O will be by Tom Magnani and Roland Waggoner.

General + office will be by Eric Dyke.

Roland will complete his O Gauge inventory notes and provide them to Tom for submission to Steve.

Roland Waggoner has an inventory of someone's Lionel equipment that is available for purchase.

Elections

Bill Ferguson reported that he and Joe Austin have a slate to fill the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and one At-Large position.

Jim Songer's motion to accept the proposed slate, as read by Bill, and described below:

President                      John Ragan  
Vice President                Frank Simmons  
Secretary                      Tom Magnani  
Treasurer                     Steve Wills  
At-Large position             Arthur (AB) Boone

David Craft seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Those Board members still within their elected terms of office are:

Joe Austin At-Large position            2 years remaining  
Bill Ferguson            At-Large position            1 year remaining

Future Board meetings will be on Monday, June 1, 2015 and on Monday, July 6, 2015.

There will be a one time Membership meeting on Wednesday, **AT NOON**, June 17, 2015 followed by continuation of the Membership meeting at 7:00 PM.

The following Membership on Wednesday, July 15, 2015 will be at the usual 7:00 PM.

**The Luncheon to celebrate the election will be held at the clubhouse at 1 PM on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Pizza will be served.**

Steve Wills' motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by David Craft at 7:59 PM.

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

John Ragan called the Board Meeting of May 4, 2015 to order at 7:08 PM.

Tom Magnani took the minutes and called the roll.

Board Members Present: Joe Austin, Arthur Boone, Bill Ferguson, Tom Magnani, John Ragan, Frank Simmons and Steve Wills.

Members present were: Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Jim Songer and Roland Waggoner.

John Ragan stated that one of his goals is to bring the monthly Board Meetings into line with the usual definition of a Board Meeting; as opposed to the way in which the meetings had drifted. Tom Magnani provided the following statement from the Board:

To provide time for the Board to think about and respond in the best possible way to a question; Questions from the Membership are to be directed, several days in advance, to any one of the Board Members who will then distribute the specific question to the entire Board.

His other goal is to provide an opportunity for those prospective members, who are unable attend a weekday meeting due to work conflicts, to attend a Membership Meeting . **Therefore, our June 17<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting will be held on June 17<sup>th</sup> at Noon.**

Treasurer's report: Presented by Steve Wills.

As of March, we are comparable to the end of February and, consistent with March of 2014.

**Dues** : Senior Member annual dues are \$120 and are due now.

Show report: George Lasley:

Show date: Nov. 6-8, 2015. 260+ of 300 tables have been assigned. He acquired a new vendor while at the latest TCA meeting. The Tinplate Layout will be larger than originally anticipated. He will purchase some additional banners to direct visitors to the new location at the Graham Building. He will also put up some signage to direct vendors to the Graham Building's service bays.

John Ragan reminded the Board, and those members present, that we will require full participation by the entire membership during the 3 days we are setting up, running and taking down, the show. He will assign people, with designated days and hours to tasks such as: ticket sales, staffing the front of the Club's Booth (as opposed to sales at the Club's table), etc. He and George will perform a dry run at the Graham building to gain a more complete understanding of the difference in operating issues between the Graham and Exposition Buildings.

There was a discussion about the effectiveness of the show's advertising last year. George supported continuation with the local, Raleigh – Durham TWC service area. He believes that the funds for the Greensboro area coverage would be more effective if directed eastward, towards the New Berne – Wilmington area. This presumes TWC Coverage in these areas.

Also discussed was whether we want to advertise, perhaps only the prior Sunday and 1 or 2 days immediately prior to the show rather than for a full week, in the N&O.

It was agreed that John Ragan will design and circulate a draft of a simple business card to the Board that he would have run, with raised lettering, on a decent paper stock by VistaPrint or similar service.

Layouts:

There was a general discussion of the positions, duties and responsibilities of the individuals assigned as the controllers of each of the layouts. It was agreed that each person, or group, would have control over things such as changes to track, addition of sidings and scenery. One concept, which had been used at our prior location, is to delegate sub-responsibility for a particular section to an individual who would then be responsible for specific tasks, such as scenery, planned addition of a turnout, siding, signals, etc. Board approval is still required for the expenditure of club funds.

G: The layout is functioning as planned with the loop without turnouts recommended for rolling stock that may have specific issues with track or turnouts.

O: In response to a question from Jim Songer about his difficulty running Lionels with the '5<sup>th</sup> rail' pickup shoe on the layout's inner loop, both Steve Wills and Tom

Magnani noted that this is an acknowledged, unsolvable, issue with Atlas turnouts. It was recommended that he use the outer loop, which is pure 3 rail and has no turnouts to inadvertently energize the shoes.

HO: John Ragan: The 8 new straight modules, measuring 8' x 30" have been delivered. The remaining 4 end pieces are under construction by Bill Swint. Layout design is basically complete. It is based on Raleigh and Goldsboro with 3-track mainline.

#### Miscellaneous:

Tom Magnani was requested to work with Steve Wills to update our Roster information so that an accurate copy can be left at the clubhouse. He will move Tom Staley to the Vendor portion and add the Antique Barn's information.

Officer Installation dinner: Will be held Sat June 20 at 1 PM at the clubhouse; cost to be paid from the club treasury. Guests are welcome; RSVP by the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Bill Furguson's motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01PM was seconded by Arthur Boone and unanimously adopted.

Minutes submitted by Tom Magnani.

**Our June 17<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting will be held at Noon on June 17, 2015, followed by a continuation of the meeting at 7:00 pm.**

**The Luncheon to celebrate the election will be held at the clubhouse at 1 PM on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Pizza will be served.**

### Future Events.

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

Membership meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 12 noon (this month), continued at 7:00pm .

BoG meeting, July 6, 2015 at 7 pm.

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

Thanks very much for the well wishes for my wife, Mary, who broke her ankle.

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

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

Pete Hansma has set up a club Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Neuse-River-Valley-Model-Railroad-Club-Inc/620489421310389?fref=ts>

### Interesting links

Most of these videos are better when you look at them full-screen.

Norfolk and Western 611 has just been re-fired up. [Here is a video](#) of its run from Spencer to Greensboro.

WRAL-TV, on its program [Tarheel Traveler, featured Mike Noonkester](#), his videos and his O-gauge layout .

From Will Allen: See the first 8 minutes of this [WUNC-TV video](#) on the Charlotte Light Rail for a look at what we might have here in Wake County:

Here's video of the [opening](#) of the [Twin Peaks Tunnel](#) in San Francisco, from 1918.

In the above video, you will see some [steam shovels](#). You can see some real ones in operation at the [Old Time Threshers Reunion](#) in Denton, NC from June 30 to July 4. There are usually some NRV members who attend.

One of the most unusual railroads is the [Black Mesa and Lake Powell](#) in Arizona, which is electrically powered at 50kV, 60Hz, not connected to any other railroad, and is strictly for hauling coal 78 miles from Kayenta Mine to the generating station at Page. Here is the [video](#). I saw the right of way several years ago on a trip to the Grand Canyon.

There is another 50kV railroad, the [Desert Power Railroad](#), also a mining railroad, 35 miles long in Utah and Colorado. You can see a video [here](#).

There is also the [Navajo, Mine Railroad](#), another high-voltage-AC-powered railroad. <http://www.trainweb.org/southwestshorts/navajo.html>

[How rails are made.](#)

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at Noon, continued at 7:00 pm.**  
**LOCATION: Morrisville Outlet Mall, 1001 Airport Blvd.**  
**Board of Governors meeting: July 6, 2015 at 7: 00 pm**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

<b>John Ragan</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>trainsndogs@gmail.com,</b>	<b>919-304-5474</b>
<b>Frank Simmons</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>		<b>919-676-2081</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>914-815-2708</b>
<b>Joe Austin</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>jaustin@nc.rr.com</b>	
<b>Arthur Boone</b>	<b>At Large</b>		<b>919-452-8660</b>
<b>Bill Ferguson</b>	<b>At Large</b>		<b>919-217-3409</b>

**CLUB WEB SITE:           www.nrvclub.net**

<b>Joe Johnston</b>	<b>Newsletter editor &amp; co-webster</b>	<b>joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com</b>
<b>Pete Hansma</b>	<b>Librarian &amp; co-webster</b>	<b>pkh@bellsouth.net</b>

**SHOW WEB SITE:           www.nrvshow.or**