



Now meeting at [1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh](#)  
Phone: is 919-400-5570

### **Note on dues from Steve Wills**

Our dues have increased for this fiscal year. For Senior members, dues are \$195 (\$120 + \$75 increase). For sustaining members, dues are \$97.50 (\$60 + \$37.50 increase).

You may pay your increased dues during any club meeting, or to Steven Wills at the club house, or mail your dues to either the Club's PO box or to my home address - 7716 Cart Track Trail Raleigh NC 27615.

Next fiscal year our dues will be Senior member \$300 and sustaining members \$150.

### **Under the Crown Sheet by John Ragan**

Things are coming together well at the clubhouse. The HO layout is wired and DCC is connected. {Please see note below in the Editor's section} Dan and Steve are in the process of checking out the HO track for rough spots. The N scale is back together and ready to power up. The LEGO layout is ready and running.

Work continues in the O scale room. The sheet metal for the wall has been delivered and work is progressing on the floor. We have preliminary plans for a G scale layout in the ceiling of the lobby.

Mike Irwin is working with the smaller HO layout in the lobby; you will enjoy stopping by to see his cardstock buildings.

The decorating committee has been hard at work making our new clubhouse a showplace. They are still looking for a few items, including picture frames and a bookcase. The committee is also looking for a dorm refrigerator. If you have any of these items, or other railroad related items you would like to donate to the club, please contact a member of the Board.

I encourage everyone to come to the new clubhouse and get involved. There are projects everywhere, and NRV will benefit from your skills.

On March 6, NRV will be at UNC-TV from 7:30am to 11:30am to participate in Winterfest. We will be answering phones during their train related programs as in

years past. If the club has 20 volunteers to participate, NRV gets TV airtime to advertise for our club. This is an important community service event for us. Tom will have a sign up sheet at the member's meeting on Thursday, February 18th.

If you haven't already, it is time to mark your calendars! Our 32nd annual show is November 4 to 6, 2016. We will be back in the Jim Graham building again this year. Lets make it bigger and better than ever!

It is with a heavy heart I announce the passing of [John \(Jack\) T. Hall](#). He was a charter member and the attorney of record for the incorporation of the club. Mr. Hall was responsible for the club's constitution and by-laws.

Our potluck dinner will be February 20th at Scott and Maryann's from 1:30 till 4pm. Their address is 11808 Pembridge Lane, Raleigh, NC 27613.

Our February meeting is at the clubhouse at 7:00 on Thursday, February 18, 2016. For our program, Gene Sing will discuss his project, The Piedmont Railroad Museum & Library. We look forward to seeing you then!

[Here is a link](#) to an auricle about Howard Zanes's layout

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

John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of January 21, 2016 to order at 7:01 PM. The meeting was held in the Clubhouse at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd., Raleigh, NC.

Tom Magnani called the roll and took the minutes.

Board members present: Doug Alumbaugh, Arthur (AB) Boone, Bill Ferguson, Tom Magnani, John Ragan, Frank Simmons and Steve Wills.

Members present were: Patrick Bradley, Dan Edgy, Erik Dyke, Scott Gagnon, Pete Hansma, John Held, Michael Irwin, Joe Johnston, Clif Kelly, John Kuchnia, George Lasley, Ethan Quiram, Henry Shirley, Jim Songer and Roland Waggoner.

Our guests were Ron Abraham, Katie Alumbaugh, Mrs. Bradley, Scott Hall and Mary Ann Loss.

John Ragan asked Ron Abraham to introduce himself. He has not chosen a scale to model as he lives in a space-constrained apartment. He is considering, at this time, either HO or N and hopes to learn more about each.

In response to his questions about dues John said that our Senior Member's annual dues are \$25/month, \$300/year. He will need to attend 2 more meetings before he can become a Probationary Member.

Treasurer's report: Steve Wills.

Our Treasury is about where it was a year ago at the end of December. He estimates our show's net to be somewhat over \$5,000 pending some last minutes receipts and invoices.

George Lasley announced that the subject of tonight's post meeting event would be a railroading quiz.

Tom Magnani was asked to remind the membership by email that Scott Gagnon and Mary Ann Loss will be hosting a Pot Luck Lunch at their home on Saturday, January 23rd from 1 – 4 PM. Signup can either be by email to [Tom](#) or [Mary Ann](#) or through the link to [Sign-Up Genie](#) in one of Tom's emails.

Security System:

John Ragan described the security system that he had been recommended to the Board. It would be keypad based, with a motion detector, glass break sensors and would first link to a local central office. It would have entailed an immediate outlay of \$1,100 to cover installation and the first year's rent. After considerable discussion the Board decided not to enter into an agreement at this time but will review the decision in 6 months. Tom pointed out that the typical response time for the Raleigh PD to respond to an alarm is on the order of an hour; long after everything will either be gone or damaged.

Tom reported that the vent that had been the original diesel generator's air intake was not as secure as might be expected. To that end, Arthur Boone had found a sheet metal dealer who had 2 pieces of sheet steel that could be placed inside the vent so that a curious person might feel a secure inner barrier. He will ask the Board to appropriate \$160 for the metal.

In response to Erik Dyke's question about 'Renter's Insurance'; John said that it is being investigated.

Show report: John Ragan

At their January meeting the Board closed the books on the 2015 Show and opened them for the 2016 Show.

New Clubhouse: John Ragan

John announced that the club's goal is to provide a key to each fully dues current member. He is working to develop a formal lock up procedure that will include checking the locks on all doors, shutting all lights, the water heater, fans, removal of all garbage and walking of the perimeter prior to finally driving off.

Mary Ann Loss thanked Mary Lou Ferguson and Walter Hoffman for their help with the decorating. Mary Lou for her overall assistance and ideas with the decorating and; Walter who willingly responded to any request for help with mechanical items. Mary Ann asked for funds for extra carpet and picture frames for our railroad materials. Her request will be considered at the next Board meeting.

Frank Simmons complimented our landlord on his accessibility and responsiveness. John described his concept of our 'Crew Lounge'. It will have 3 walls used for the library and a small refrigerator, microwave and coffee pot. Tom asked that members carefully clean the bathroom sinks when they wash out the coffee pot and cups.

Tom Magnani reminded the membership that we will need to remove all the trash, every day, as there are no waste facilities at our new clubhouse. A particular concern is food and food containers. He will be responsible for providing trash bags.

George Lasley cautioned members to be especially careful during icing conditions when walking or parking near the base of the tower, as it will shed ice.

#### UNC-TV Telethon:

John Ragan announced that we will be working the telephone at UNC-TV on Sunday, March 6th, from 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM. We need 20 people, club members, significant others, older family members, to get an on-air interview. Scott Gagnon inquired if we could use 'photographs' to advertise our new clubhouse during the interview. John doubted that we could but will ask.

#### New Business:

John Ragan reported that Steve Wills will ask the board to provide funds to add wheels to the Lego Layout. This will facilitate attending to the inevitable loss of power and derailments on wall side of the layout.

The HO layout has benefited from quite a few members gathering to get it up and running and to begin placement of structures.

The O layout is still a work in progress. Steve Wills has loaned a book of O layouts to support that effort.. {Please see note below in the Editor's section}

The G layout will go up in the main room. Frank Simmons is seeking a corporate sponsor, similar to the arrangement at the Spencer gift shop.

John described the search for a suitable skirt material for the tables. The former curtain material is old and too heavy to be reliably hung using Velcro. It would be designed to attach to the individual layout sections. A discussion of materials covered:

- Burlap.
- Scott Hall suggested material used in theaters and will try to obtain a sample.
- George Lasley suggested 'dust ruffle' material as it is inexpensive and will provide a uniform look within each room.
- It was noted that the Durham Maker Space could do silkscreen printing for us at a nominal cost.
- Michael Irwin suggested using a "Thomas" Themed material for the Thomas Layout.

Steve Wills described his search for a club phone that will provide a Wi-Fi hot spot for the club at a nominal cost. He will have more to report at the next meeting.

There will be an excursion tour on 611 from Spencer to Lynchburg and back on April 9th and 10th. Tickets will go on sale to the public on February 2nd.

Pete Hansma provided a short presentation of the available library materials which could be displayed on the shelves in the 'Crew Lounge'.

The next Board Meeting will be on Monday February 1, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the new clubhouse at 1615 Old Louisburg Road, Raleigh, NC 27604.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 7:00 PM.

Jim Songer's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Arthur Boone at 8:17 PM.

## Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting

The meeting of February 1, 2016 was called to order at 7:00 PM by John Ragan. George Lasley recorded Minutes and called the Roll.

Board members present: Arthur Boone, Bill Ferguson, John Ragan, Frank Simmons and Steve Wills.

Members present: Scott Gagnon, Pete Hansma, John Held, Clif Kelly, George Lasley and Jim Songer.

Treasurer report: Steve Wills:

There has been no change since Membership Meeting report.

Diesel-Generator Room Outside Vent

Frank Simmons' motion to provide Arthur Boone with \$160 + Tax, for 2 pieces of steel, so that he and Tom Magnani can fabricate a metal barrier within the Diesel-Generator Room's outside vent was seconded by Bill Ferguson and approved unanimously.

Decorating Committee

Frank Simmons' motion to approve an increase in the Committee's original allocation from \$250 to \$333.31 was seconded by Bill Ferguson and approved unanimously. The Committee has a proposal to evaluate prints from our sale and will request funding for the purchase of frames for them.

Potluck Lunch:

Mary Ann Loss and Scott Gagnon will be holding a rescheduled potluck lunch at their house.

Date: 02/20/2016 (Sat.)

Time: 1:00pm - 4:00PM EST

Location: 11808 Pembroke Lane, Raleigh, NC 27613

Please contact [Mary Ann](#) or [Tom Magnani](#) if you wish to attend.

UNC-TV Winterfest March Telethon:

John Ragan announced that we will be working the telephone at UNC-TV on Sunday, March 6th, from 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM. We need 20 people, club members, significant others, older family members, to get an on-air interview.

Tom Magnani will Email the membership and track the attendance.

Open House:

The Board has yet to decide on an Open House. They will discuss it at the March Board Meeting.

Layouts: We would like to use the Thomas layout for community outreach. It needs to be upgraded and ruggedized. Considering a box for transport.

Frank Simmons is developing a proposal for the G Scale layout to be hung in the main room.

The N Scale layout is physically together and awaiting repowering.

The HO layout is assembled and powered. Areas are available for building construction and scenery. {please see note below in the Editor's section}

The Lego layout is running and will have wheels added to improve access.

Security Checklist:

The Security Checklist will be published and posted.

Club Telephone:

The Club's new telephone number is [919-400-5570](tel:919-400-5570).

Miscellaneous:

John Ragan will put PVC caps over the outside pipes.

John will update our business cards with our Logo, address and telephone number. He will purchase 1,000 cards.

Doug Alumbaugh will purchase a first aid kit for the clubhouse.

Our fire extinguishers will also be updated.

There will be a picnic or cookout in mid-June.

Future Meetings:

The January Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 18th, at 7 PM.

The March Board Meeting will be held on Monday, March 7th at 7 PM.

Bill Ferguson's motion to adjourn was seconded by Steve Wills at 8:15 PM.

**Note from the Editor**

The Universal Panels that are marked "OK" on the HO layout are working. Also the Digitrax Simplex radio is working. There is also an infrared receiver located on the inside center, that faces the space between the HO layout and the N layout. All Digitrax throttles equipped with a nine-volt battery can operate by aiming the throttle at this receiver. You must turn on the Zephyr unit and press Power button to get power to the track. The ability to use iPones and iPods and Android devices has not been implemented yet.

Please send me recent photos of our club activities, so we can put them in the newsletter.

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 **919-400-5570** 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>

A [link](#) to my Mikado at the new clubhouse.

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 , 7:00 pm. At: [1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh](#), entrance is on Old Louisburg Rd, not Atlantic Ave  
Board of Governors meeting: Monday March 7<sup>th</sup> , 2016, 7: 00 pm, at the same location.**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

<b>John Ragan</b>	<b>President</b>	<b><a href="mailto:trainsndogs@gmail.com">trainsndogs@gmail.com,</a></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><a href="mailto:tommag1@aol.com">tommag1@aol.com,</a></b>	<b>914-815-2708</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>
<b>Doug Alumbaugh</b>	<b>At Large</b>		<b><a href="mailto:medxmn@aol.com">medxmn@aol.com</a></b>

**CLUB WEB SITE: [www.nrvclub.net](http://www.nrvclub.net)**

<b>Joe Johnston</b>	<b>Newsletter editor</b>	<b><a href="mailto:joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com">joe.nrvmrrc@pobox.com</a></b>
<b>Pete Hansma</b>	<b>Librarian &amp; Webmaster</b>	<b><a href="mailto:pkh@bellsouth.net">pkh@bellsouth.net</a></b>

**SHOW WEB SITE: [www.nrvshow.org](http://www.nrvshow.org)**