



**Meeting at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh**

**Phone: 919-400-5570**

### **Special Invitation from Bill and Mary Lou F**

Save the date for 3rd annual soup and salad for December 18 from 4-6 pm.  
All members and significant others are invited.

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

The 32nd Annual Neuse River Model Railroad Train Show & Sale is over. I want to thank all of our wonderful volunteers, as well as their wives and loved ones for their efforts in making this show a success. The Board heard good reports from the vendors and guests about the show. We are still tabulating the information from the attendance survey; hopefully, we will have that in time for the member's meeting on November 17.

Our Open House the weekend of October 22nd and 23rd was a success. We had between 70 and 80 visitors to the clubhouse over the weekend. Thank you to all the club members who participated; without you our good showing would never have been possible.

This month, our meeting program will be presented by George Lasley on "How to Use Our Library". Next month, Steve Wills will present "How to Build Roads on Your Layout". In January, Joe Johnston will present "How to Use DecoderPro". The Board is looking for ideas for more programs and people to present them. Do you have a train or modeling topic to share with our members, or know someone who does? Please contact any board member with your suggestions.

We offer our sincere condolences to Pete and Donna Hansma in the passing of Pete's mother.

### **Earthquake strikes Legoland**

On Saturday morning , November 12, as several NRVers were working or running trains in the club house, a terrible crash was heard. The Lego layout had collapsed and half the layout and pieces were on the the floor. At first it was thought the the earthquake was caused by fracking, but then we remember that there was not yet any fracking in the city of Raleigh, Then we thought that it was a result of the blasting that was being done in the area, but they ware not blasting that day.

The disaster crew was very prompt and quickly went to the assistance of the Legomaster, removing tracks, trains and parts, buildings and parts

The HO layout was used for temporary storage of these pieces.

Henry Shirley acted as a human sawhorse, on hands and knees , shoulder holding up one end of the table until the tables were cleared.

When everything was removed, the broken table was serrated from the sound table, and was turned on its side, Henry was then free to extract himself from under that table and resume a normal life. It was discovered that one of the table legs was improperly made, one of the welds being weak. Steve and Dan found a new table leg set, modified it to attached rollers and got the broken table upright. Steve was able to start moving parts back to the table, and assemble broken parts back into trains and buildings. This work will probably take a while so please be patient with our Legomaster.

## **Minutes of the Membership Meeting**

John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of September 15, 2016 to order at 7:06 PM.

John Held led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Magnani called the roll and took the minutes.

### Minutes

The minutes of the last membership meeting were accepted by the vote of the membership.

Board members present: Bill Ferguson, John Kuchnia, Tom Magnani, John Ragan and Steve Wills.

Members present were: Patrick Bradley, Erik Dyke, Scott Gagnon, Scott Hall, John Held, Michael Irwin, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Michael McCarthy Scott Rexer and Jim Songer.

Our guests were: Robert Bradley and Jerry Cram.

Treasurer's report:

Steve Wills reported to John Ragan that our accounts, as of the end of September, were basically unchanged from those of August except for a few minor bills. He noticed that our newsletter is also on our web site.

He would like to schedule a meeting with the new Ways and Means Committee as soon as after the show as possible. The Committee's members are Ron Abraham, Michael Irwin and Ethan Quiram.

#### Minutes

George Lasley's motion to accept the minutes, as published in the Whistle Post, was seconded by Steve Wills and unanimously accepted.

John Ragan reported that, although Frank Simmons is doing much better, he would be unable to participate at either the Open House or, the Show.

#### Visitors

Jerry Crain introduced himself to the club. He is getting started in HO and will be modeling the Southern.

#### Show Report:

George Lasley reported that we are running even with new vendors replacing those who have dropped out for various reasons with most due to Hurricane Matthew. The Antique Barn had 5' of water but was able to move all of their stock off the main floor. We lost 2 of our usual layouts; 1 due to the hurricane, the other due to retirement.

He will send the Fair Grounds a reminder to clear the manure piles away from the building .

George would like for one of the members to step up to 'PooBah' in training.

The schedule for the Show is as follows:

- Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>: All hands to support set up and the vendors. Bring gloves and pliers.
- Pizza will be served and everyone will be out by 8 PM.
- Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>: He would like for members to arrive shortly after 8 AM as we officially open at 9. Closing is at 5 PM.
- Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>: He would like for members to arrive shortly after 8 AM as we officially open at 9. Closing is at 5 PM. Please count on being there well past that time as we need to help vendors leave and we need to pack the Club's materials.

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We will load vehicles beginning Wednesday morning.

We will need members to cover several tables:

- The Club's Membership end cap.
- The Club's sale table.
- The Lego layout.

- The Thomas HO layout. The Lego and Thomas Layouts will be set close to each other to enhance overall supervision.
- The ticket sales table.

John Ragan asked that people also volunteer to poll the ticket buyers to assess the following demographic information:

- Zipcode/Town
- How did you learn about this show?  
Carolina Parent  
N & O  
Hobby Store  
Friend  
Our Web  
Other
- How long have you been attending this show?
- The number of children attending.

Tom Magnani was asked to develop a questionnaire.

As we have done at past shows, vendors and attendees will be asked, if necessary, to refrain from advertising political opinions. If you notice a dealer seeming to cross the line Speak to George FIRST!

We will have the following non hobby sale vendors:

- Wake Up Wake: to advocate for the regional Light Rail
- Edward Jones: to help modelers fund their hobby
- Flu Shots from the Five Corners Rite Aid
- Operation Life Saver

John Ragan thanked Bob and Lucy Bradley for their donation of the Club's new presentation backdrop and its canister as well as for all their work on the slide show. John Ragan thanked Scott Gagnon for his pricing of our Maps, Books and VHS tapes. Scott included the usual \$3.50 shipping charge that most vendors assess for this sort of item when purchased on the web.

#### Open House/NMRA CPD13 Convention's Clubhouse Tour

The Club's NMRA CPD13 Convention's Clubhouse Tour will be Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. and Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our Open House will be that Saturday. The clubhouse will be open 9-5 on bother days. Refreshments will be served. 'G' rated language is the order of the day!

Will Allen's O Gauge layout will be open to club members on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Tom Magnani will drop off the Club's Show fliers at Jerry Davis' house Friday morning.

John Ragan reported that he and J.R. had attended Jane Smink's funeral.

#### Upcoming Club Events

The schedule of the additional events for which the club would like volunteers are:

Support of the Garden Scale Club and New Hope RR at the NC State Fairgrounds during the State Fair. Scott Gagnon reported that their shifts are for 6 hours and will include nearby parking.

32nd annual NRV Show, at the Fairgrounds, Friday, Nov. 4th setup, 5th and 6th the show,

TCA, December 3rd at the Fairgrounds,

USO's Holiday in the Hangar, Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at RDU.

The Club will be bringing the Thomas and Lego layouts to the USO's Holiday in the Hanger event. It is an annual event for service members and families in this area.

There will be sign-up sheets for all these events.

### Evening Program

John Ragan announced that the evening's program, following the meeting, will be a presentation by Steve Wills on: 'How Not to Build a Layout'.

The next Board Meeting will be on Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, November 17, 2016, at 7:00 PM.

George Lasley's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Steve Wills at 8:05 PM.

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

John Ragan called the meeting of November 7 to order at 7:04 PM

Tom Magnani recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

Board members present: Bill Ferguson, Tom Magnani, John Kuchnia, John Ragan and Steve Wills.

Members present: Patrick Bradley, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, and Jim Songer.

Guest Present: Robert Bradley.

### Treasurer's Report:

Steve Wills reported that the final results for the show will be known once we receive all of the bills from the Fairgrounds. Our approximate net from the Show is attributable to the Club's table.

Our daily attendance was as follows:

	2016	2015
Saturday	882	1193
Sunday	589	606

### Advertising Results

Tom Magnani had confirmed that the Pap John's outlet on the corner of Six Forks and Wake Forest had used all of the 5,000 fliers that we provided for that store. Pending a detailed report by Michael Irwin John Ragan reported that, out of a total of 20,000 pizza box fliers, we had less than 50 turned in at the show. After a short discussion it was agreed that this advertising venue did not cover our costs.

Quite a few N&O coupons and blue flier cards were turned in. There seemed to be a decent amount of Carolina Parent magazine coupons with many younger attendees reporting that they had either read about us in 'a magazine' or learned about us on a web site. The Board believes that the investment in the Carolina Parent Magazine advertisement was worth its cost. The N&O expenses were made even more effective by their articles about the show in the Friday and Saturday.

These articles may be viewed at:

Friday's - <http://www.newsobserver.com/living/family/article111767142.html>

Sunday's - <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/counties/wake-county/article112832448.html>

Tom Magnani suggested, initiated by our first attendee being a young cancer patient from Duke, that he contact Duke to offer our Clubhouse as a location for their patients to visit.

#### Show Status

Tom Magnani's estimate was that we had 30% - 40% children vs. adults on Saturday and over 100% (more children than parents) on Sunday. He also reported seeing many parents taking pictures of their children around the Bradley's inflatable trains outside our main door.

Bob Bradley reported that the Lego layout was mobbed, as was the adjacent Thomas layout. Joe Austin's G Scale Thomas Layout also drew a considerable young crowd. He suggested that we consider making some sort of a locomotive themed backdrop with facial cutout(s) to facilitate photo opportunities for our next show. It could be a 4' x 8' sheet of plywood or foam board.

John Ragan thanked Patrick and Bob Bradley for their donation of the Club's new display and for their lending of their Lego materials for the show.

The scooter rental was briefly discussed. The Board agreed that it was worth the \$150 for the weekend and should be made a part of our regular expenses. It was also agreed that it would not be a good investment to purchase one for \$900, as we would need to store it, replace the batteries after several years and, maintain it.

#### Current Roster

Tom Magnani has made several revisions in an attempt to make our current roster accurate. Once completed, he will distribute copies to the Board. He will make a copy on red paper for posting in the Clubhouse.

Tom Magnani will provide Clif Kelly with his copies of our Membership applications as well as our latest roster.

#### Show and Club Marketing Ideas

Tom Magnani suggested that we offer our facilities and/or layouts as backdrops to local news outlets for the occasion that they run pieces on railroad safety.

#### Future Events

- TCA is scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. We have 9 tables reserved and the Bradleys and Steve Wills will set up our combined Lego layout as well as the Club's display.
- USO Holiday in the Hanger is tentatively scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup>. John believes that it will be from 11 AM to 2:30 PM. He has been unable to contact the organization to receive confirmation as to the actual location and what space will be available for us.

After some discussion, noting that the present clubhouse does not offer the seating space that had been available at the Mall, it was decided to change the Club's annual holiday celebration to 'Dessert Sampling' with members bringing in snacks. A date will be chosen in the future.

#### Future Programs

Our Thursday Membership Meeting programs for the next 3 months are:

- November 17th - George Lasley - How to use our Library
- December 15th - Steve Wills - How to make Highways on your Layout
- January 19th - Joe Johnston - How to use DecoderPro

We are always looking for program ideas and people to present them.

There was a general discussion about the presentations running into the late evening and it was decided to reorder the Thursday evening program timeline.

We will have a 30 minute presentation beginning at 7 PM with the Membership Meeting immediately following. The presentation's Q&A, as well as greater details, would then continue following the meeting.

#### Meeting Dates:

The November Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. The presentation at this meeting will be by George Lasley – The subject will be 'How to use our Library'.

The December Board Meeting will be held on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Steve Wills' motion to adjourn at 8:12 PM was seconded by Bill Ferguson.

## Editor's Notes

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

Please send articles to me at [nrvmrrc@gmail.com](mailto:nrvmrrc@gmail.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.

Our Facebook page is at [www.facebook.com/Neuse-River-Valley-Model-Railroad-Club-133691203373473/](http://www.facebook.com/Neuse-River-Valley-Model-Railroad-Club-133691203373473/)

## An amazing find at the show.

At our show I (Joe) took a look around to see the layouts and was was on sale. At one of the dealer tables there was a boxcar from the Reading Railroad, with a banner on both sides of the Mennonite Central Committee. MCC, as it's known in Mennonite circles is an organization of Canadian and US Mennonites, which reaches out to people in disaster situations. In particular it rescue several thousand Mennonites who had escaped from Russia at the end of World War II, and since while Russia wanted these people back, and sent many to Siberia for leaving Russia, MCC hired a boat to take many to Paraguay, which was the only country which would accept this large group of people. My wife's parents were in this group, and she was born in a refugee camp before the group reached their final destination, the Chaco of Paraguay. I was, to say the least, flabbergasted.

If anyone knows if there really was such a car, please let me know.

Joe Johnston





**FOR SALE BY BILL ORAM:**

Hi All,

Cleaning out the attic. Need to move the big stuff.

I have ET&WNC 10th anniversary 10 wheeler and 9 ET&WNC rolling stock plus 2 others.

Modeling On30 and On3.

Also have a copy of "The Blue Ridge Stemwinder" with maps and signed by John Waite and Chris Ford

still in wrap.

Email me at [billoram@embarqmail.com](mailto:billoram@embarqmail.com) for list.

I live near Louisburg,NC.

Cheers,

Bill Oram

[919-793-5552](tel:919-793-5552)

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Thursday, November 17th, 2016 , 7:00 pm. At: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh.**

**Board of Governors meeting: Monday December 5th , 2016, 7: 00 pm, at the same location.**

**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>John Kuchnia</b>	<b>At Large</b>		<b>919-675-4172</b>
<b>Bill Ferguson</b>	<b>At Large</b>		<b>919-217-3409</b>
<b>Doug Alumbaugh</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>medxmnaol.com</b>	<b>919-602-6548</b>

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

**Joe Johnston**      **Newsletter editor**                      **nrvmrrc@gmail.com**

**Bob Bradley**      **Webmaster**

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