



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

2016 has been a banner year for our Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club. We've moved into a new clubhouse, and thanks to the expertise of the club wives, it has been decorated and furnished to impress.

Our members have started work on 3 layouts. In January the club began work on the new HO and O scale layouts. Work continues on these projects and tremendous strides are being made monthly. Mid-year, we were able to install a G scale layout in the clubhouse. The G scale with Thomas has become an instant favorite with the children that visit the clubhouse.

We have welcomed many new members and made dozens of new friends over the last year, many of who came to visit during our Open Houses and during our open hours on Saturday, Sunday and Wednesdays.

This year the Board has decided to spend \$200 in charitable donations. We would like to further enhance that amount by "passing the hat" at our December meeting on the 15th at 7pm. The Board has directed the Treasurer to match up to \$200 in donations from our members for a total of \$600. The Board has earmarked the money to Salvation Army and its food banks as North Carolina recovers from Hurricane Matthew and the wild fires in the western part of the state. Any money you put in the "hat" can be considered a charitable donation.

Steve Wills will be providing this month's program. He will present "How to Build Roads on Your Layout" at our December meeting on Thursday the 15th at 7pm.

Joe Johnston will present January's program, "How to Use DecoderPro", and Kim Parker will give February's: "All About Lighting".

NRV Club members and spouses are cordially invited to Bill and Mary Lou Ferguson's home on December 18th from 4pm to 6pm for soup and salad. Their address is 4042 Landover Lane, Raleigh NC 27616. This is a special event for us every year. We appreciate the Fergusons inviting us to their home for the holidays.

Please remember Frank Mansfield this holiday season; he is our oldest club member. Frank is currently living at Cary Rehab and Nursing Home at 6590 Tryon Rd., Cary NC 27518. I know he enjoys visitors and Christmas cards.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone from my family to yours

Message from Roland Waggoner

Thanks (for the reverse loop information) I have saved this for future reference. Do you think you might add a reversing loop to the HO layout? Joe wanted to add a turntable but unfortunately there isn't enough room.

We have settled into our house, but much of our stuff is still in boxes. This is a smaller house and we have to find space for everything. My address is:

316 Randolph St.

Holgate, OH 43527.

There are no clubs nearby. The closest one is in Toledo, maybe 30-40 miles away.

Good luck to you all.

Roland. roland.waggoner@gmail.com

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of November 17, 2016 to order at 7:05 PM.

Patrick Bradley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Magnani called the roll and took the minutes.

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

Members present were: Patrick Bradley, Fred Krauss, George Lasley, Kim Parker, Henry Shirley and Jim Songer.

Our guest was: Robert Bradley.

Presentation

The meeting was suspended temporarily to permit George Lasley's presentation "How to Use Our Library". John Ragan reminded the meeting that our library is open to all modelers in the area.

The presentations for the following months are:

December 15th	Steve Wills	How to make Highways on your Layout
January 19th	Joe Johnston	How to use Decoder Pro
February 16th	Kim Parker	Lighting

The meeting resumed after George's presentation.

Treasurer's report:

Steve Wills reported to John Ragan that our accounts, as of the end of October, were basically unchanged from those of September. The final results for the show will be known once we receive all of the bills from the Fairgrounds. He expects to have the final information by December's Membership Meeting. Our net from the Show is attributable to the Club's table.

Show Report:

George Lasley reported that our table count was reduced from last year. A mix of Hurricane Matthew and 2 major vendors having scheduled surgery that weekend accounted for most of those tables. Additionally, we lost 2 of our usual layouts; 1 due to the hurricane, the other due to retirement.

Our Lego and Thomas layouts were a good draw for both children and adults. John Ragan thanked both Bradley's and Steve Wills for combining resources to create a huge layout. He thanked Michael Irwin, not only for the Thomas HO Layout, but for his ongoing work on analyzing our demographics.

There was a general discussion of the show and what various vendors saw as their most important reason for attending it and, what items sell best on which day. One new vendor was quite complementary about the show.

The man who was injured while helping load one of the layouts after the show is recovering.

Upcoming Club Events

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

TCA, December 3rd and 4th at the Fairgrounds,

USO's Holiday in the Hangar, Saturday, December 10th at RDU?

Soup & Salad at the Ferguson's, December 18th,

Open House, tentatively set for Saturday, January 21, 2017.

The Club will be bringing the Lego layout to the TCA Show. We have 9 tables available. We will need support staffing to help with the layout and to hand out Club materials.

John Ragan reported that he has been unable to determine if this year's Holiday in the Hanger will take place. Although the Club had planned on bringing the Thomas and Lego layouts to the event we will need further information and a confirmation before we continue with any detailed planning.

Bill and Marylou Ferguson are hosting a soup and salad event at their home on Sunday, December 18th.

There will be signup sheets for all these events.

Holiday Party

Following a short discussion it was decided that the Club will have an Open House, with light snacks, on Saturday, January 21, 2017.

Miscellaneous

John Ragan reported that the Club has received an offer of a donation, a 2 layer, combined HO and 3 rail O gauge layout

The next Board Meeting will be on Monday, December 5, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, December 15, 2016, at 7:00 PM.

Steve Wills' motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by George Lasley at 8:37 PM.

Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting

John Ragan called the meeting on day, December 5, 2016 to order at 7:10 PM

John Kuchnia recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

Board members present: Bill Ferguson, John Kuchnia, John Ragan and Frank Simmons.

Members present: Arthur (AB) Boone, John Berninger, George Lasley, and Jim Songer.

Guest Present: Richard Calfe.

Show Status

The group discussed the payments, past and future, energy consumption costs and pizza costs.

The plan for next year's Show will include advertising in Carolina Parent's magazine, possibly TV; but not Pizza Box Top flyers.

John Ragan said that the club needed to be more proactive with the G scale garden club. Frank Simmons discussed what sort of help we can provide for them.

George Lasley reviewed the work performed on past O Gauge layout setups in prior shows.

John Ragan described the effect of the O Gauge layout at the state fairs, advertising for the show in previous years and the need for manpower commitments to make it effective.

Request for Club Assistance

John Ragan reported that we received an email on Nov. 28th from a parent asking for the NRV to build an N Scale layout, measuring perhaps 2' x 4' for an autistic child. The person has numerous rolling stock, locomotives and buildings that he is willing to contribute to the project. He has asked us to build the layout for him and was supposed to attend this meeting to more fully explain what he was hoping that we could do. The person failed to attend the meeting as promised.

Discussion among the members addressed several facets of the project including the child's age and facilities and the location of the layout. Further discussion is on hold until the person provides additional input.

Holiday in the Hanger

John Ragan reported that the Club will not participate in the Holiday in the Hanger but that we may do something in that vein around Memorial Day. He will follow up with his contact with that organization, Anna Martin.

January Open House

The January Open House will be on January 21, 2017 and will be held at the clubhouse from 10 AM to 4 PM. Club members will be asked to bring in light appetizers; dessert items and nibble stuff. We will set up a table in the corner for selling items such as club kits, hats, etc. We can also clear one of the shelves in the main room to use as the 'Company Store'.

Membership Meeting Presentations

The presentations for the following months are:

December 15th	Steve Wills	How to make roads on your Layout
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January 19th	Joe Johnston	How to use Decoder Pro
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February 16th	Kim Parker	Lighting
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Advertising in Carolina Parent Magazine

John Ragan said that our date information needs to be delivered to the magazine 60 to 90 days ahead of the event for timely publication. The advertisement size will be about ¼ page. The cost, for just a listing on their web calendar, is free. The issue closest to the show comes out 2 days before next year's show. Our ad needs to be fully prepared by September 15th which will require the work to be done in August.

Donated O and N Scale Layout Table

The donation was received on December 2nd. John Ragan would like to see it cleaned up and put in the assisted living facility in which Frank Mansfield lives. He has already OK'd it with the management. There was a discussion among the members which addressed maintaining the layout at the facility and operating safely and

carefully. George Lasley expressed a concern with respect to the Club's liability. There was a discussion as to the plausibility of the layout running only when club members were present. John will meet with the facility supervisor, Rebecca, to discuss schedules.

Soup & Salad

The Soup & Salad get together will be held at the Ferguson's from 4 – 6 PM on Sunday December 18th. for members and their mates at 442 Landover Lane, Raleigh.

Pot Luck Lunch

The Pot Luck Lunch will be at the home of Scott Gagnon and Mary Ann Loss on January 29, 2017.

NRV Charitable Donation

Steve Wills had informed John Ragan that we need to limit our annual holiday donation to \$200 and to have the donation go to an organization involved in hurricane relief. AB recommended raising the minimum to \$400 due to the severity of the damage and the hardship for the victims. It was agreed that club members would be encouraged to meet the that goal through a combination of official club donation and "passing the hat" during the next meeting. George Lasley suggested that the "passing the hat" funds be given to the Salvation Army.

Next Show

The members critiqued our past show and the feedback received from the vendors. A vendor interviewed at the TCA show last weekend suggested mixing layouts in and among vendor tables according to gauge size so as to present commonality in a different arena. This and other ideas were discussed in detail.

Jim Songer suggested reducing the floor area with a suspended curtain provided by the same venue to cover the unused/unneeded space. This idea was discussed in detail.

John Ragan emphasized that we need to sell ourselves by making visits to potential vendors across the state and nearby states including some of the larger companies. Another subject that was discussed was increasing the rates charged for both the gates and the tables; rates which have been held steady for many years.

TCA Show

The recent TCA Show was critiqued to compare the similarities and differences of doing business and the facilities used for presentations.

Meeting Dates:

The December Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 15th at 7 PM. The presentation at this meeting will be by Steve Wills. The subject will be 'How to make roads on your Layout'.

The January Board Meeting will be held on Monday, January 2nd at 7 PM.

John Ragan's motion to adjourn at 8:33 PM was seconded by Bill Ferguson. 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. 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/

Some Links on Reversing Loops, Thanks to Scott Hall.

Manual/Automatic Reversing Loop Solutions

<http://track2.com/info/lgb-reverse-loop/LGBReverse.pdf>

Reverse Loops Parts 1-3

http://www.gaugemaster.com/articles/guides/reverse_loops_part1.html

http://www.gaugemaster.com/articles/guides/reverse_loops_part2.html

<http://www.gaugemaster.com/articles/guides/Reverse-Loops-part3.html>

Video links from our show; Sipping and Switching

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kc9NZdFWYyU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZICkAZ1KtI>

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

John Ragan	President	trainsndogs@gmail.com,	919-304-5474
Frank Simmons	Vice-President		919-676-2081
Steve Wills	Treasurer		919-845-4968
Tom Magnani	Secretary	tommag1@aol.com	914-815-2708
John Kuchnia	At Large		919-675-4172
Bill Ferguson	At Large		919-217-3409
Doug Alumbaugh	At Large	medxmnaol.com	919-602-6548

CLUB WEB SITE: www.nrvclub.net

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

Bob Bradley **Webmaster**

SHOW WEB SITE: www.nrvshow.org