



Meeting at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh

Phone: 919-400-5570

Under the Crown Sheet by John Ragan

The program for our February 16th meeting will be given by Kim Parker. It's entitled "Lights, Action....Lights". This is part 1 of a 2 part series on lighting your layout. The 2nd part of the series will be our March 16th program called "LED lighting in Buildings and Scenery" or "You light up my layout and enlighten my life". We look forward to seeing everyone for these informative and entertaining programs.

Work on our show, the 33rd Annual Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Show, has begun. Vendor letters and applications will be mailed next month. The show committee is looking to you, our membership, for suggestions of vendors you would like to invite. If you have connections to a vendor you would like to invite to the show, please provide the name, address, phone number and email to George Lasley or John Ragan.

The club has been invited to an Open House at the clubhouse of the Chesapeake Bay and Western Model Railroad Club in Yorktown VA. The dates are March 11th and 12th 10am-4pm and noon-4pm. The club is putting together a contingent to visit. If you are interested in going, please sign up with Steve Wills or John Ragan (please tell us if you would be willing to drive). <https://www.facebook.com/CBWRailroadClub/> <https://www.cbw-mrc.com>

NRV has been invited to display our LEGO layout at the upcoming Brick Universe LEGO FAN Convention at the Raleigh Convention Center on April 8th and 9th. This is an excellent opportunity to talk about NRVMRRC, model trains, and our show. We will need volunteers to help at our display. We will also need the salespeople in our group to sell our show to the LEGO vendors. Please thank Bob Bradley for this opportunity. <http://www.brickuniverse.org>

Construction continues on Old Louisburg Rd. As I write this, the Atlantic Avenue side is now closed and the Capital Boulevard side is now open. Please be careful, there is still heavy equipment in the road.

Our January Open House was a big success. We had 30-40 guests, and all had a wonderful time. The layouts all ran well. Thank you to all the members and their wives for their participation. The Board has approved the next Open House for April 22nd.

I look forward to seeing all of you on Thursday February 16th at 7pm. ...Remember, Tuesday is Valentine's Day.

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of January 19, 2017 to order at 7:05 PM.

Frank Simmons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Magnani called the roll and took the minutes.

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

Members present were: Arthur Boone, Bernie Dawson, Scott Gagnon, David Johnson, Joe Johnston, Clif Kelly, Ted Leonard, George Lasley, Kim Parker, Henry Shirley and Jim Songer.

Our guest was Jay Wilson. His interest in HO goes back over quite a length of time during which he has collected approximately 100 locomotives, emphasizing big steam, and 700 cars. His railroad interests are the B&O and the Western Maryland. Prior to his moving to this area he was a member of the Greensboro club.

Treasurer's report:

Steve Wills reported that the books are still at the end of November and that he has not had time to prepare this month's report.

Show Report:

John Ragan informed the members that the Board has opened the books for the 2017 Show. It will be our 33rd annual show. The Show will be the weekend of November 4th and 5th with the membership's participation beginning on Friday, November 3rd. The Board has raised the table rates to \$50/table and admission to \$8. George Lasley is looking for an assistant.

UNC-TV

UNC-TV will no longer will be doing early Sunday morning, Winterfest, volunteer telethons. They have severely reduced the number of available time slots and reserved most of the remaining for corporate sponsors. It appears that, under a new manager,

they are phasing out volunteer fundraising and changing the rules for the remaining volunteer efforts. Additionally, there will not be a train related time slots this year available to non-corporate groups nor, if we do provide volunteers, will we get any interview or logo presentation opportunities. The date available for us is Sunday, March 12th, mid-day.

George Lasley's motion to not participate in this year's UNC-TV telethon was seconded by Arthur Boone and unanimously approved. John Ragan will contact UNC-TV and explain the Club's reason for not participating this year.

Participation in Upcoming Train Shows

John Ragan has received an invitation to visit Chesapeake Bay & Western Model Railroad Club open house that will be held on the weekend of March 11th and 12th. Their club layout features 16 scale miles of double-track mainline, multiple sidings, marshaling yards, and 247 turnouts. Their clubhouse, located at 110-F Dare Road, Grafton, VA 23692, is about 3 ½ hours from the NRV clubhouse. He would like to organize a series of carpools for the club to visit. The website is www.cbw-mrc.com.

Henry Shirley's motion to attend the Chesapeake Bay & Western Model Railroad Club open house was seconded by Arthur Boone and unanimously approved.

John Ragan summarized the Board's reasoning that led to their recommendation that the club decline to participate at the New Bern train show on March 3rd to 5th. The Board believed that we would not gain membership nor gain enough attendees for our show to justify the 3 hour drive each way and associated accommodation costs. Additionally, the New Bern show asked that we not bring most of our portable layouts.

The show at Spencer, coinciding with National Train day, will be May 13th. This is also the day before Mother's Day. The Board has decided not to participate this year.

Another event of which he recently became aware of is the one day TCA show in Greensboro February 11th. Their organizer asked Bob Bradley if he could bring the Lego layout and Bob was unable to be there that weekend. As our club has so many activities scheduled for the next few weeks he decided not to pursue our attending.

Kim Parker described the COASTAL CAROLINA TRAINFEST which will be on April 1st & 2nd at the Coastline Conference Center, 501 Nutt Street, Wilmington (Across the parking lot from the Wilmington Railroad Museum). This show is the combined effort of six area model railroad clubs:

- Carolina Coastal Railroaders - New Bern
- Onslow Model Railroaders - Jacksonville
- Cape Fear Model Railroad Society - Wilmington

- Wilmington Railroad Museum - Wilmington
- Intracoastal Model Railroad Club - Calabash
- Grand Strand Model Railroad Club - Myrtle Beach

For Details Check Out their Web Site: www.coastalcarolinatrainfest.org

Miscellaneous

Steve Wills asked that anyone who is working on a section of scenery on the HO layout label their work area with their name written on blue painter's tape.

Bernie Dawson asked that anyone working on the N Scale layout attend a 9 AM meeting this coming Saturday, January 21st. Tom Magnani was asked to distribute the announcement by email.

Presentations

Following the meeting we will have Joe Johnston 's presentation "How to use Decoder Pro".

The presentation for February 16th will be by Kim Parker. The subject will be Layout Lighting.

Membership Application Revision

John Ragan informed the members that the Board has decided to revise the Club's Membership Application. After much thought, and several prior discussions with both our Board and with other organizations, he is recommending that we add a list of standard background questions relating to a member's full background. Our interest is to learn if any member has ever been convicted of a felony in order to protect the Club. Every member will have to resubmit their application for membership. The applications will be reviewed by a very limited number of people and will not be accessible to the membership.

Upcoming Club Events

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

Open House, Saturday, January 21, 2017,

Holiday Pot Luck Lunch at Scott & Mary Ann's, Sunday, January 29, 2017.

Future Meetings

The next Board Meeting will be on Monday, February 6, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, February 16, 2016, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

George Lasley's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Steve Wills at 7:41 PM.

Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting

John Ragan called the meeting of Monday, February 6, 2017 to order at 7:05 PM
John Kuchnia recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

Board members present: Doug Alumbaugh, John Kuchnia, John Ragan, Frank Simmons and Steve Wills.

Members present: George Lasley, Ethan Quaram and Jim Songer.

Our guest was Robert Bradley.

Open House

John Ragan reported on the January 21st Open House. 12-15 Club members participated with 35 – 45 guests of all ages attending. He will continue them on an occasional basis. Going forward we will advertise through local media, hobby shops and Facebook. Facebook had 8 – 15 new likes. A guest, with a 3 year old, son found us on Facebook, stayed for 3 hours, bought from our library and made a contribution. He came here even though the road appeared closed. On Saturday the HO layout was filled to capacity.

He is recommending that our next open house be held on April 22nd, the weekend following April's Membership Meeting. John Ragan's motion to hold our next Open House on April 22nd, was seconded by Doug Alumbaugh and passed unanimously by the Board.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that the treasury, as of the end of January, is lower than a year ago. He has received dues payments from several members who were in arrears. He will provide the names of those in arrears to the Secretary so that letters can be sent.

Shows

George Lasley provided John Ragan with his vendor data from the 2014 and 2015 shows. This year's show will be our 33rd annual show. Our color this year will be hot pink.

Any new or potential vendor should be able to be 'Googled' by John Ragan to obtain their correct contact information.

Brick University

Bob Bradley described the Brick University which conducts Lego activities with teams of Lego fans. He sent them information about our upcoming show. They advertise through 'Carolina Parent'. They will be at the Convention Center on April 8th and 9th. That weekend begins the 'Spring Break' for all Wake County students.

Show Advertising

George Lasley summarized the problems that happened with the N&O this past year. He will not be using the Pizza box top advertising venue again. John Ragan asked George to run 2,000 copies of our Show's flier to be handed out at the Brick University event.

The club's new tri-fold was discussed. It was recommended that we include our Facebook information on the tri-fold's front cover.

Maker Faire will be in Burlington this year.

Work Sessions

John Ragan reported that he has been approached by new and potential members about having scheduled work sessions on the layouts. They expressed an interest in everything from ballasting, 'rusting' rails, painting ties and overall scenery is a reasonable sequence. He would like to try using Facebook or a similar open method to handle the schedule so that everyone could view it. He, with Steve Wills, will develop a sample handout for distribution this weekend prior to our Membership Meeting on the 16th.

Spencer Train Show

This year's show at Spencer will be Friday, May 12th from noon to 7 PM and on Saturday, May 13th, from 9 AM to 5 PM. (This is also the day before Mother's Day.) Setup is on Thursday. It will be in the Back Shop rather than the Roundhouse. We can get free tables so long as we do not sell anything. The Club will not commit a layout. Frank Simmons will survey the membership for volunteers. Saturday would be our best day. He will propose a motion at the upcoming Membership Meeting.

New Membership Application

John Ragan presented a draft of the updated Membership Application. The main change, to protect the club, has been to add the following questions:

- Are you under indictment or has a finding of probable cause been entered against you for a pending felony charge? _____
- Have you ever been adjudicated guilty in any court of a felony? _____

With the note: 'A yes to the question will not be disclosed publicly and will not automatically disqualify you for membership.'

A signature line will be added.

He recommended that it be sent out, with a cover letter and return envelope, to all members.

There was a discussion about the need to form a defined membership committee to confidentially review the submitted applications.

It was decided to halt spending on the layouts until such time our dues can support our fixed costs of rent, utilities, insurance, etc.

Membership Meeting Presentations

The presentation this month will be:

February 16th

Kim Parker

Lighting

Meeting Dates:

The February Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16th at 7 PM. The presentation at this meeting will be by Kim Parker. The subject will be 'Layout and model lighting'.

The March Board Meeting will be held on Monday, March 6th at 7 PM.

Doug Alumbaugh's motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM was seconded by John Ragan.

Neat links

The Rail Report from the NCDOT, Rail Division

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/RailPoliciesDocument/2017.02%20Monthly%20Rail%20Report.pdf>

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/

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

First Class

NEXT MEETING - Thursday, February 16th, 2017 , 7:00 pm. At: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh.

Board of Governors meeting: Monday, March 6th , 2017, 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
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Joe Johnston Newsletter editor nrvmrrc@gmail.com

Bob Bradley Webmaster

SHOW WEB SITE: www.nrvshow.org