



Meeting at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh

Phone: 919-400-5570

Under the Crown Sheet by John Ragan

March marks the beginning of the election season for the Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club. Bill Ferguson and John Kuchnia will be polling our membership for nominees. The offices available this year are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and one Member at large position. You must be a senior member in good standing to hold office and vote in the election at our May membership meeting. Letters have gone out to those members who are delinquent on their dues. Please see Steve Wills to pay.

The NRV Board is looking for members who like to travel to train shows to do an important service for the Show Pooh-Bah and the show committee. These person(s) would go to train shows, distribute show flyers, and invite prospective vendors to our show. The NRV Show Pooh-Bah, George Lasley, would like to have book sellers and more vendors that sold railroadians. The next opportunity is the Wilmington show on April 1st. The show is being held at the Coastline Conference Center, 501 Nutt Street, Wilmington NC.

April 8th and 9th the club will have our LEGO layout on display at "Brick Universe --the LEGO show". This will be at the Raleigh Convention Center. This is an excellent opportunity for the club to hand out NRV Show and NRV Club flyers and speak to potential vendors.

April 22nd is our spring Open House on Saturday from 10am until 4pm. I look forward to seeing members and guests at this event. Invite your friends and family, and make this Open House as successful as all the others.

May 12th and 13th is the model train show in Spencer NC. Our club will have a display at the show and we are looking for member volunteers to attend and help advertise our show and club. May 13th is also National Train Day, so Spencer is expecting larger crowds than normal.

Members, if you know of vendors that you would like to see at our show, please provide us with their name, address, email address and phone number so we can send them the appropriate vendor information for our show.

It's not too early to start planning your participation at our show, the 33rd Annual Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Show on November 4th and 5th. Our show runs on its volunteers, and we would like to see you and your families there

Our program for March is again presented by Kim Parker. It is the second in a 2 part series entitled "LED Lighting in Buildings and Scenery or You Light Up My Layout and Enlighten My Life" Kim's presentation is informative and entertaining. We look forward to seeing everyone on Thursday March 16th at 7pm.

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of February 16, 2017 to order at 7:05 PM.

George Lasley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

John Kuchnia called the roll and took the minutes.

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

Members present were: Arthur Boone, Bernie Dawson, Scott Gagnon, George Lasley, Michael McCarthy, Ethan Quarim and Jim Songer.

Our guest was Jay Wilson. As this was his second meeting and; on a motion by George Lasley that waived the rules and nominated him for Probationary membership, seconded by Arthur Boone, he was unanimously accepted.

John Ragan introduced Grant and Garson who, he invited as a result of a recent visit to our clubhouse, and were here with their mother, Miss Trish. They were here for Kim Parker's presentation on model lighting.

Treasurer's report:

Steve Wills reported that the accounts show that we have paid our deposit to the Fairgrounds for this year's show. All members need to become current on their annual dues. Tom Magnani will be contacting those members who are in arrears. Mr. Wills' motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was seconded by George Lasley and accepted unanimously.

Lineup of club activities for members for the next 3 months

John Ragan summarized the lineup of club activities for members for the next 3 months

MARCH

- March 4th and 5th, Saturday and Sunday. Carolina Coastal Railroaders Model Train Show in New Bern, at the Riverfront Convention Center, 203 E. Front Street, New Bern, North Carolina 28560.

<http://www.carolinacoastalrailroaders.org/default.htm>

· March 11th, Saturday, Mebane train show from 10 AM to 4 PM. The club is an O gauge club. Their web site is: <http://www.themebanetrainlayout.com/home.html>

The show usually has 30 – 50 vendors.

· March 11th and 12th, Saturday and Sunday, Chesapeake Bay & Western model train club Open House, <http://www.cbw-mrc.com>

The Board has decided to organize an NRV Club visit to their open house. 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. There is a sign-up sheet. Please see Steve or John (we are looking for drivers)

· March 16th, Thursday, Part 2 of Kim Parker's series LED lighting in buildings and scenery.

APRIL

· 1st and 2nd, Saturday and Sunday, Coastal Carolina Trainfest at the Coastline Conference Center.

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 at: www.coastalcarolinatrainfest.org

· 8th and 9th, Saturday and Sunday, Brick Universe LEGO Fan Convention at the Raleigh Convention Center.

We will set up a LEGO train display. They expect 20,000 to 25,000 attendees. While most will not be interested in trains even a small percentage is still a substantial opportunity. There is no cost for table rental. Volunteers are needed. There will be a sign-up sheet.

· April 8th and 9th, Saturday and Sunday. The N&W Class J #611 Steam Spring Excursions. (Described by George Lasley.) The Class J #611 will take an excursion to Lynchburg, Va. On Saturday, April 8th. The Queen of Steam will then host two half-day round trips on Sunday, April 9th, from Spencer to Charlotte and Spencer to Greensboro.

· 22nd, Saturday, our spring Open House has been approved by the Board. Our last Open House was attended by 40+ people. 10AM – 4PM

Volunteers are needed. There will be a sign-up sheet.

May

· May 12th and 13th, Friday and Saturday. NC Transportation Museum, Historic Spencer Shops Train Show. <http://www.nctrans.org>

It will be in the Back Shop which has been renovated as a part of an ongoing modernization program by the state.

Thursday, May 11th is Setup.

Friday, Setup is from 7 – 11:30 AM with the show running from Noon – 7 PM.

Saturday's show is 9 – 5

There are accommodations in Salisbury. The deadline to signup is May 1.

Bernie Dawson reported that the Cashier at the Wilmington Train Museum was not aware of our upcoming show. He will bring them some flyers.

Show Report:

John Ragan informed the members that George Lasley is looking for an assistant. John would like members to suggest any dealers who they think might want to be at our show. Get their contact information and, also ask them to contact John or George.

Miscellaneous

The Club badges for Kim Parker and John Berninger are ready to be picked up.

The person who suffered a broken leg outside of our building at last year's show has returned to work.

Presentations

Following the meeting we will have Kim Parker 's presentation "Layout Lighting – Part 1".

The presentation for March 16th will be by Kim Parker. The subject will be Layout Lighting – Part 2.

Future Meetings

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

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

Adjournment

Arthur Boone's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by John Ragan at 7:35 PM.

Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting

John Ragan called the meeting of Monday, March 6, 2017, to order at 7:00 PM

John Kuchnia recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

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

Members present: Scott Gagnon, Clif Kelly, George Lasley and Jim Songer.

Our guest was Robert Bradley.

Elections

John Ragan asked Bill Ferguson and John Kuchnia to poll the membership to fill the positions on the Board. Members telephone numbers would be provided to Bill following the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that the treasury, as of the end of January, is lower than a year ago. Our major, ongoing, expense is our rent. He has received dues payments from several members who were in arrears and letters have been sent to all those in arrears. With respect to Show related income, we had somewhat fewer tables last year than the prior, 2015, year. Another opportunity to increase our treasury would be to have a per-sale to our members of the Club's table. This was not done last year due to time pressures as having just moved into and renovated our clubhouse.

In response to a question about a severe weather event forcing a show cancellation the answer is that we would need to refund all of the vendor table sales and would also not have any income from the Club's table.

Shows

George Lasley reported that he has completed the vendor application form for this year's show. Initial table assignments have been made for those vendors who were at last year's show.

April 1st and 2nd, Saturday and Sunday, Coastal Carolina Trainfest at the Coastline Conference Center in Wilmington. We need someone to search for vendors. Need someone to figure out how to analyze the composition of our vendors. We do not need Post war Lionel or American Flyer. We do need tool vendors, and sellers of die-cast vehicles. An ideal vendor would be Factory Direct Trains from the Ashville region. The problems that pure Hobby stores have in attending our show is that they need to bring material to sell while still needing to staff their store.

The Chesapeake Bay & Western model train club Open House club trip will begin at the clubhouse at 7:30 AM on Saturday, March 11th.

Brick Universe

Bob Bradley described the BrickUniverse which conducts Lego activities with teams of Lego fans. They will be at the Convention Center on Saturday, April 8th, and Sunday, 9th. Friday, April 7th, will be setup. Over 10,000 advance tickets have been sold. (That weekend begins the ‘Spring Break’ for all Wake County students.) We have 5 volunteers as of this meeting. Car pooling from here is an option to minimize parking expenses.

Membership Application

John Ragan presented the updated Membership Application and passed it around for review and comment. One suggestion was to add the Club’s logo with our physical address.

There was a discussion about the handling of the applications as they will contain confidential information. George suggested that they be printed on a color stock to be clearly distinguishable from other papers and to avoid mishandling. George Lasley will provide a ‘lock box’ for the applications.

To reduce postage costs the new applications will be distributed at the next 2 meetings, March 16th and April 3rd.

O Scale Layout

Steve Wills reported that the O Scale Layout needs support to complete the 3rd loop; which will be designed to accommodate both 3 rail and 2 rail operation. Specifically; a complete circle of O72 Atlas track and a bridge structure for the unfinished end. His suggestion to develop a bridge, as in the full scale world, consisting of several short, straight, segments is the basis for the ongoing design. He has reviewed the history of donations for the other layouts and is trying to develop a forecast for this layout.

The existing layout needs to replace the present switches with ones that will accommodate both hi-rail and scale wheels.

George Lasley reminded the O Scale group that they need to develop an itemized, budgeted, plan so that our membership has an opportunity to donate.

Steve thanked Mike Johns for his donation of \$50. He also asked that the O Scale group inventory their surplus with the goal of selling it at the show.

John Ragan announced that the surplus O Scale tables, measuring 37 ½” x 81 ½”, from the prior O Scale layout will be available for sale for \$30.

John Ragan thanked Mary Ann Loss, Mary Lou Ferguson, Donna Ragan for the skirting around the O scale layout.

Membership Meeting Presentations

The presentation this month will be:

March 16th Kim Parker Lighting – Part 2

Meeting Dates:

The March Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 16th at 7 PM. The presentation at this meeting will be by Kim Parker. The subject will be 'Layout and model lighting – Part 2'.

The April Board Meeting will be held on Monday, April 3rd at 7 PM. Steve Wills' motion to adjourn at 7:55 PM was seconded by John Ragan.

Neat links

Some of our past shows:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVx8yi1Fpjpg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tI0O1iZKhSc>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lSg9S_NTcyg

Conference Bike: Another way of getting around:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBOSj1h00SQ>

2-foot Darjeeling Railway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMEKO4hAII4>

[La Trochita](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLj6t_p3zvQ

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 [**nrvmrcc@gmail.com**](mailto:nrvmrcc@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, March 16th, 2017 , 7:00 pm. At: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh.

Board of Governors meeting: Monday, April 3rd, 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
Doug Alumbaugh	At Large	medxmna@aol.com	919-602-6548

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SHOW WEB SITE:

<https://nrvclub.net/annual-model-train-show/>