



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

**Phone: 919-400-5570**

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

The Neuse River Valley Model Rail Road Club has a busy month ahead as we gear up for several events. On Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, we have our Open House from 9am to 5pm. That same day, and on Sunday, October 23, the club will also participate in the NMRA layout tour. The clubhouse will be open from 9am to 5pm for this layout tour on both days. NRV needs members here to shake hands, direct traffic, and generally have a great day with our guests. Your participation is needed!

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club's 32nd Annual Show starts at 9am on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Will you be there? Please be ready to help out at the club tables, talk to visitors and sell tickets. We want to make this a memorable show for our attendees. I look forward to seeing all of our club members at the fairgrounds on Friday the 4th for setup, and on Saturday and Sunday for the show. George Lasley says that there are still a few tables available for those who want one.

Cleanup for the weekend events will be on Wednesday October 19th and Thursday the 20th. We will post a list of tasks that need to be done, please help!

The long anticipated...and dreaded... construction has finally begun, and the detour is in effect. Currently Old Louisburg Road is closed coming south down Capital Blvd. The only access to the club is from Wake Forest Road, and the posted sign says local traffic only.

I am sad to report the passing of Jane Smink. She and her husband Tom were charter members of the club. Online condolences can be sent to the family at <http://jcgreenandsons.com/ObituariesPost.htm?id=5100>

We have our monthly meeting on Thursday, October 20 at 7:00 pm. Our program this month will be presented by Steve Wills. His program is entitled "How Not to Build a Layout". Come out and get an insight into the mistakes to avoid.

## **Minutes of the Membership Meeting**

John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of September 15, 2016 to order at 7:00 PM.

Jim Songer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

John Kuchnia 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: Doug Alumbaugh, Bill Ferguson, John Kuchnia, John Ragan, Frank Simmons and Steve Wills.

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

Our guests were: Robert Bradley, Seth Harris, Keith Kollmann and Kemp Sommers.

### Treasurer's report:

Steve Wills reported to John Ragan that our accounts were basically unchanged from a year ago.

### Visitors

Visitor Keith Kollmann introduced himself to the club.

Visitor Kemp Sommers, a friend of Scott Gagnon, arriving later, introduced himself upon his arrival. Both were welcomed after the meeting.

### Show Report:

George Lasley reported that he has 25 – 30 tables that are still available. He reported that the Board has decided not to advertise this year through Time Warner Cable.

George reminded the membership that we will need volunteers both on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Fairgrounds to assist with setup and coordinating the vendors and at the clubhouse on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, to unload.

### Membership

John Ragan announced that Seth Harris was eligible for elevation to Youth Member. He has become a regular visitor to the clubhouse. Seth told the group that he likes HO. As a young child he rode Amtrak, occasionally on the Acela. He learned about us when he first visited us with his family when we were in the Morrisville Outlet Mall.

George Lasley's motion to suspend the rules was seconded. George's motion to accept the changes in Membership status for Seth Harris was seconded by John Ragan and accepted unanimously.

#### Carolina Parent Magazine

John Ragan reported that our advertisement in Carolina Parent Magazine has been sent to their printer for a printing review and that the printer has concerns about the newsprint. Our only concern is that we meet the deadline for their October publication.

#### Great Train Exposition

John Ragan stated that we need to assure staffing of both the Great Train Exposition event and the Clubhouse on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>. There was a general discussion of the coverage and the volunteers.

There is a sign-up sheet for the weekend to track coverage for both the Great Train Exposition event and the Clubhouse.

He would also like for members to remember that Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, is the celebration of Frank Mansfield's 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party at his church. Anyone planning to attend should contact Bill Ferguson.

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

The Club's open house will be on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and will coincide with the NMRA CPD13 Convention's Clubhouse Tour. Refreshments will be served. The 'Open House' Posters were introduced.

Steve Wills encouraged the membership to add their talents to the layout additions. John Berninger was recognized and thanked for his assistance in setting up the JRMI Mobile Phone controls.

#### Shirts

The shirt order has been received and those that were not already picked up are in the clubhouse.

#### Upcoming Club Events

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

Great Train Expo, September 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, need 6 volunteers

Frank Mansfield's 95th Birthday Party at his church. Anyone planning to attend should contact Bill Ferguson.

CPD13's MER NMRA, our open house, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. We need volunteers,

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

TCA, December 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 slide presentation by George Lasley of railroading over the years with slides by and of his father and friends.

### **NOTHING IS TO LEAVE THE BUILDING!**

#### **Closing Checklist**

The Clubhouse Closing Procedure (Check Off List) is by the sign-in book at the front door. We need to always assure that the last person leaving the clubhouse makes sure that it is locked down, trash, especially food trash or empty containers, is removed.

The next Board Meeting will be on Monday, October 3, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, October 20, 2016, at 7:00 PM.

Steve Wills' motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by John Ragan at 7:30 PM.

## Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting

John Ragan called the meeting of Monday, October 3, 2016, to order at 7:01 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: Arthur, AB, Boone, Patrick Bradley, Joe Johnston, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Ethan Quiram and Jim Songer.

Guest Present: Robert Bradley.

### Treasurer's report:

Steve Wills reported that our accounts are almost the same as last month's. The difference from a year ago is traceable to rent, moving expenses, Ho Layout, etc. Steve requested that a list of all of the passwords for the various systems be assembled and stored so that systems can readily be restarted when needed. He would like for a file to be made with documents such as our lease, insurance documents, Constitution and By-laws.

Tom Magnani asked that the lead persons for the HO and N gauge layouts prepare 'Turn on Instructions for Dummies' for each layout so that members can turn on, start, control and shut down each layout.

John Ragan gave Tom Magnani a USB stick with his Club's files.

### Show Status

George Lasley reported that there are only 25 – 30 tables remaining. He has received an unsolicited payment for 10 tables from a new vendor. He is still working to finalize commitments by the vendors. The 5 Corners RiteAid will have a flu shot booth. Operation Lifesaver will also have a booth.

Rental of a golf cart was discussed as it would be useful to expedite solving vendor issues that inevitably happen at the table furthest from wherever George or John happen to be at that instant. There was a concern raised as to whether we would need a rider on our insurance for it. Tom Magnani suggested designating specific people to investigate and then, if necessary, try to enable George to resolve it first by mobile phone. George will ask the Fairgrounds if they have a cart.

It was decided to begin the first loading of cars and trailers at the Clubhouse on either Wednesday, following breakfast, or on Thursday evening. The Fairgrounds building will be open for unloading at 8 am on Friday.

### Greeters:

There will be several people assigned, for 1 – 2 hours each, to ask 3 questions of each ticket buyer while they are on line to purchase tickets. The questions that will be asked are:

- Where are you from? (Zip code)
- How did you learn about the show? (Advertisement, word of mouth, etc.)
- Have you attended this show before and, if so, for how long?

Tom Magnani is to create a sign up sheet for our ‘Greeters’.

### Grand Strand Railroad Club

John Ragan reported that the Grand Strand Railroad Club of Myrtle Beach, SC has contacted him and asked if we would be willing to share our Show’s vendor list. Their show is the weekend following ours at the Inlet Square Mall, 10125 Hwy 17 Bypass, Murrells Inlet, SC 29567. There was a discussion which included the expectation that the State Fair would go from 10 days to 14 days sometime after 2018 as well as the variability, from year to year of our own Show date. There is also the possibility that our date could, under some circumstances, move to that weekend. What made their request impossible to answer at this time is that we have been unable to secure a computer type listing of our vendors. Presently they are a series of individual notes and letters.

### Advertising

John Ragan presented the latest information about the News & Observer’s advertising proposals. Last year’s advertisement was 1/30 of a page. The next increment is twice the size to 1/15 with a doubling of the cost. An option, for an additional \$268 is to be added to their digital format. After some discussion it was decided to stay with the 1/30 size on the Sunday prior to the show, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday for \$1008. With the digital venue our total expense will be \$1,268. He will endeavor to have our advertisement on an odd numbered page. For Wednesday’s advertisement, he will ask if the N&O can place our ad in the individual, neighborhood, sections for the same price.

Tom Magnani’s motion to proceed with both the print and digital versions was seconded by Steve Wills and adopted unanimously.

### Show and Club Marketing Ideas

Bob Bradley stated that he will donate the red backdrop that was used by the club at the Great Train Expo several weeks ago. The intent is to use it as a backdrop for the Club’s table at our show. It can be viewed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Neuse-River-Valley-Model-Railroad-Club-133691203373473/>

Bill Ferguson asked that the membership sign up to staff the club’s table. The staffing would be separate from the Club’s sale item tables. It would have our new video slide show and display as well as our business cards on open display. If a passerby appears to be really interested in the club that person would be given one of our tri-fold brochures in addition to the business card.

Bob’s idea of a ‘treasure hunt’ was discussed with doubts expressed that it could be adequately developed in the time remaining.

### NMRA Layout Tour

John Ragan asked that, beginning with the Wednesday breakfast gathering on October 19<sup>th</sup> and the October 20<sup>th</sup> Membership meeting, that everyone work to get and keep the club and our layouts in immaculate condition. Tools and construction materials should be removed until the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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### State Fair – Garden Railroad Support

The membership was asked to commit to assisting the Garden Railroad Club with their presentation. John Ragan noted that neither parking nor admission to the fair could be guaranteed for this support.

### Layout Guidelines

John Ragan stated that, after a recent issue with the HO layout, we need to develop a series of ‘suggested’ guidelines for the using and parking of both club and personal rolling stock so that the mainlines are clear when someone is finished for the time being or, for the day.

### Carolina Parent Advertisement Status

John Ragan provided a brief summary of the trials and tribulations in getting the final copy of our advertisement into Carolina Parent magazine. Quite a bit was learned and will be useful next year.

### Club Member Pre-Sale

Because of time constraints related to the open house it was decided to have the member’s pre-sale at the Fairgrounds on the afternoon of Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> before the show.

### Miscellaneous

Bob Bradley would like to return the 4 corners of the original HO layout to the club. If time permits they may be put up for sale at the Show.

In response to a question about the chance of our getting a display in the new Raleigh train station it was noted that the station will actually be operated by Amtrak.

### Future Meeting Dates:

The October Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

The presentation at this meeting will be by Steve Wills. The subject will be ‘How Not to Build a Layout’.

The November Board Meeting will be held on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

Tom Magnani’s motion to adjourn at 8:25 PM was seconded by Steve Wills.

PM.

## 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/)

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Thursday, October 19th, 2016 , 7:00 pm. At: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh.**

**Board of Governors meeting: Monday November 7th , 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>medxm@aol.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)**