

Meeting at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh

Phone: 919-400-5570

Under the Crown Sheet by John Ragan

The 33rd Annual Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club's Show and Sale on November 4th and 5th, 2017 is now less than 4 months from now. George Lasley, our Show Grand Poohbah, informs me that there are tables still available for those wishing to part with some of their treasures. The show committee is also still looking for vendors with railroad related items for sale. Please remember to mark your calendar; this club and show runs on its members' participation. We appreciate our volunteers! This month's program on Thursday, July 20th, is Part II of "Railroads around Raleigh in the 60's and 70's" with George Lasley. Those of you who were there for the June meeting were treated to images of all 3 Raleigh turntables, the Boylan Interlocking Tower, and many others. This month's program promises to be extremely interesting as well.

Next month's program, on August 17th, will be presented by Scott Hall. The topic "An introduction to the Raspberry Pi, Arduino, Launchpad and other single - board computers and microcontroller starter boards." These systems can help animate your layout cheaper and easier and still be connected to your existing DCC system. I encourage everyone to attend.

The NRV Club's next field trip is August 5th to Goldsboro, NC. We will be visiting Sipping & Switching's Summerfest at the Goldsboro Family YMCA. We will be allowed to run trains on the Sipping & Switching layout.

There are 3 rules that we must abide by:

- 1) Locomotives must be DCC,
- 2) All rolling stock must have metal wheels,
- 3) Please make sure that your rolling stock couplers are knuckle type and in good repair.

We will also visit the Waynesborough Model Railroad Club during that trip. They have a 20 x 56 HO layout that has a Digitrax system. Their club is currently in an expansion project where they expect to double their layout. We will be leaving at

approximately 8:00 am from our clubhouse on Saturday August 5th. Please register on our sign-up sheet at the clubhouse as soon as possible.

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting of the Membership of Thursday, June 15, 2017. The meeting was held at the NRV Clubhouse located at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd., Raleigh, NC
John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of June 15, 2017 to order at 7:03 PM.

Frank Simmons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Magnani called the roll and took the minutes.

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

Members present were: Ron Abraham, Richard Calfee, Bernie Dawson, Dan Egy, Frank Simmons, Scott Hall, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Ted Leonard and Jay Wilson.

Our guests were: Robert Bradley and John Spock.

Approval of the Minutes

George Lasley's motion to accept the minutes of the last membership meeting, with corrections noted by Tom Magnani, was seconded by Frank Simmons and approved unanimously.

Bernie Dawson, Richard Calfee and Tom Magnani reported being unable to open the latest Whistle Post on either Apple or Microsoft based computers. Tom Magnani will ask Joe Johnston to inspect his platform and to resend it.

Guest

John Spock introduced himself. He is thinking of getting back into model railroading and is interested in HO.

New Member

John Ragan introduced Richard Calfee, noting that this is his second meeting. George Lasley's motion to suspend the rules and admit to the Club as a probationary member was seconded by John Ragan and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report:

John Ragan reported that, based upon totals provided by Steve Wills, that our accounts were down approximately \$3,000 from a year ago and basically unchanged from what had been reported to the Board at their June meeting.

Steve has asked that all members pay their dues as soon as possible as the new year started on June 1st.

George Lasley's motion to for the dues for the coming year to remain at last year's was seconded by Bill Ferguson and unanimously approved.

Show Report:

George Lasley reported that almost every vendor has responded and will be returning this year.

One vendor's letter was returned as undeliverable because the time period for forwarding had expired. Two vendors have declined based on our doubling of table prices over some 25 years.

Advertising

John Ragan reported that he has talked with WRAL TV and that Bill Ferguson has been in contact with radio stations WPTF and WPTK. Bill will provide an update at the July 10th Board meeting.

Club Outings

There will be a club outing the Goldsboro YMCA on Saturday, August 5th, where the 'Sipping' and 'Switching' group will have a layout.

We will also be visiting the Waynesboro Model Railroad Club in Goldsboro. They have a 20'x56' layout using Digitrax for DCC control. They are in the process of doubling the size of their layout. Although they do not have a web page they have a FaceBook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Waynesborough-Model-Railroad-Club/241139285972115>.

Their physical address is 118 West Mulberry St. Goldsboro NC 27530. Their contact person is Alan Outlaw.

Open House

The next NRV Open House will be on Saturday, August 19th from 10 AM to 4 PM. Membership will meet at the clubhouse at 9 AM for last minute cleaning and setup.

CA show report

John Ragan announced that the next TCA event will be the weekend of December 2nd and 3rd at the Fairgrounds. He would like for the Club to bring the Lego layout.

Scott Hall asked if the club will be participating at SPARKcon at Moore Square in Raleigh on Sept. 14 – 17. He will provide more information to the Board to enable an informed decision.

Holiday in the Hangar

The USO's Holiday in the Hangar will be on Saturday, December 9th at the Eddie Smith Field House at UNC Chapel Hill. Scott Gagnon has been asked to contact the USO to determine which of our layouts would be most welcome.

Jay Root's Passing

John Ragan announced the recent death of Jay Root who, although not a club member, had worked with Frank Simmons to build our G scale layout. Frank described his meeting Jay as G Scale Modelers and working with him over the years including the hanging layout at the NC Museum of Transportation. The memorial service will be

this Saturday at 1 PM at the the First United Methodist church in Fuquay-Varina. Donations in Jay's name can be made to the Methodist Home for Children (<http://www.mhfc.org>). Frank asked that the membership attend the service.

Tom Magnani will send out a notice to the membership.

Evening Programs

Tonight's Membership Meeting will be a slide presentation by George Lasley of railroading in Raleigh over the years.

New Business

Scott Hall described a soldering workshop that he is running on June 10th at 'Splat*Space in Durham. Tom Magnani will send the information to the membership. It will be necessary for attendees to purchase kits in order to take part in the workshop.

Mike Johns mentioned that there was a person at Spencer who demonstrated a simple way to make trees.

July's Board meeting will be on Monday, July 10, 2017, at 7:00 PM.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, July 20, 2017, at 7:00 PM.

George Lasley's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Arthur Boone at 8:40 PM.

Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting

Minutes of the Board of Governors of the Neuse River Valley Model Railroad club for July 10,

2017. The meeting was held at the clubhouse at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd., Raleigh, North Carolina.

President John Ragan called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Secretary Tom Magnani recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

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

Members present: Patrick Bradley, Richard Calfee, Clif Kelly and George Lasley.

Our guests were Bob Bradley and Jim Murrell. This was Jim Murrell's second meeting.

WRAL, WPTF, WPTK Proposals

Bill Ferguson has the 2 radio proposals and is waiting for one from WRAL (TV). He has been reminding the WRAL contact to get back to him.

Carolina Parent

John Ragan reported that the Carolina Parent advertisement will cost \$735, the same as last year.

He is considering a digital option which would place our ad onto their web site. There was a discussion, using estimates of readership vs viewers provided by the magazine. It was decided not to go purchase the web, digital, advertisement option as it would not significantly increase our attendance. The print advertisement will also include our October 21 st Open House.

Show Report

George Lasley reported that he has assigned 206 tables and has received payments for 52 vendors for a total of 140 paid reservations. Don Tichy is not attending this year as he will be at another, bigger, show. Presently, our vendor responses seem slower than prior year's.

Bob Bradley will place our latest vendor show materials on our web page.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that he had found an error in his annual report; a misidentification of a line item labeled 'Donations' twice. Steve's motion to amend the report was seconded by Tom Magnani and approved unanimously.

Our treasury, at the end of June has increased with most members coming current on their dues.

It is down from a year ago.

Directors & Officers Insurance

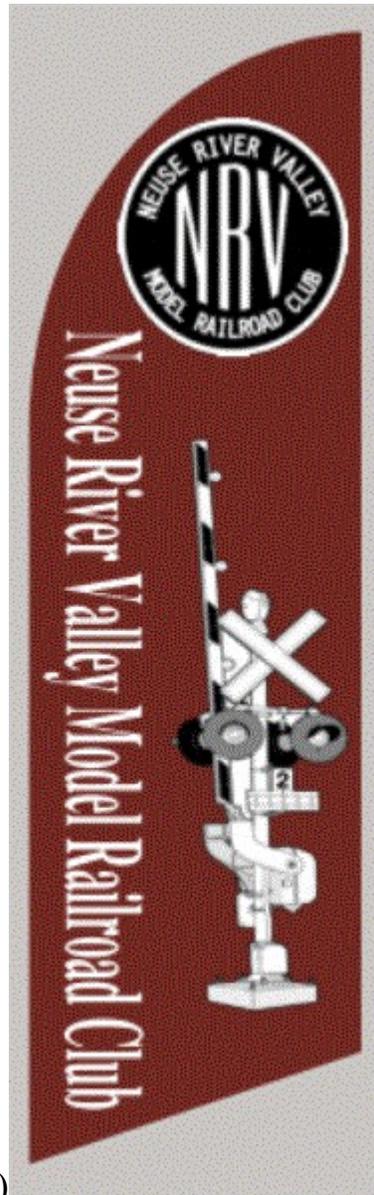
John Ragan reported that our non-profit liability insurance renewal will be \$842.00. He believes that the club cannot afford to go without this policy. In this lawsuit-happy age we can be sued for anything or nothing at all. There is a sentiment among some Board members that we (The Board Members) should pay for this. In his opinion this insurance policy not only benefits us, the Board, but also the club and its members and should be a club expense. There was a considerable discussion about whether or not the Board members should pay for this insurance. Mike Johns's motion for the club to pay, this year, for this insurance, was seconded by Tom Magnani and approved by the Board with one (1) abstention.

Board Meeting of 2017-07-10

Balloon signage vs. Banner

John Ragan passed a screen shot of his design of a Balloon Sign that he designed for us to use to announce our table at shows such as the TCA, LEGO, Holiday in the Hanger, etc., as well as a more visible temporary sign for the clubhouse for use during open house and tours.

This particular vendor sells a one-sided sign with a curved top section. The cost for a 2' wide by 8' tall sign, with supporting pole, stand and water fillable weight, is \$186 plus



shipping. (John's first design is shown here.)

There was a discussion about the design, visibility from Old Louisburg Road, choice of background color, etc.

John will develop another 2 alternatives and send them to the board for their consideration. A decision will be made at the upcoming Membership meeting. Mike Johns offered to donate the sign.

Building signage

George Lasley reported that he had inconclusive talks with our next door neighbor about signage ordinances. John Ragan reported that the resurfaced adjacent lot is zoned for almost every commercial use except a junkyard. He will ask his wife to continue her investigation into the lot's title and permits.

A discussion ensued about what type of permanent sign to place on our building to enhance our visibility from Old Louisburg. It was decided to add our 'house number with no other permanent indication so as to minimize our visibility during off hours.

Goldsboro Trip
There will be a club outing to Goldsboro on Saturday, August 5th. We will visit 2 places there: the Waynesborough Model Railroad Club. (They do not have a current website.) They have an HO scale DCC Digitrax layout measuring 20' x56'. It is currently under construction with the goal of doubling the size.

They do have a Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Waynesborough-Model-Railroad-Club/241139285972115>

They are located at: 118 West Mulberry St. Goldsboro, NC 27530. About 1 ½ hours from the clubhouse. (The contact person is Alan Outlaw.)

The other place we plan on visiting is the Sipping & Switching Summerfest which will be held at the Goldsboro Family YMCA located at 1105 Parkway Dr. Goldsboro NC 27534. John spoke with AB and we are welcome to bring trains, however all rolling stock must have metal wheels and Kadee couplers.

Board Meeting of 2017-07-10

Status of the Lenovo Grant Application

Steve Wills reported that he has not had time to complete it but will try to get to it as soon as possible.

Holiday in the Hangar

Scott Gagnon reported that he has yet to get any further details from his USO contact. He is waiting for confirmation that the Holiday in the Hangar Site will be the Eddie Smith Field House at UNC Chapel Hill. It will take place on Saturday, December 9th.

Open House

John Ragan reminded the Board that our two Open House events will be on Saturday, August 19th, and Saturday, October 21st.

New Hope Valley Railroad

Scott Gagnon announced that the New Hope Valley Railroad in Bonsal is looking for volunteers to staff their display at the State Fairgrounds in 3 hour shifts. Scott will send their schedule and related information to Tom Magnani for distribution to the membership.

Nancy's Trains

John Ragan described his coming across Nancy's Trains web site, www.nancystrains.com. It is located at 385 Southwick Ave., Clayton, NC 27527 and is owned by Charlie Neal. Tom Magnani was asked to contact Mr. Neal to ask him if he would be interested in purchasing a table at our show.

New Business

John Ragan presented a June 2017 Trains magazine article which described the Aberdeen, Carolina and Western Short Line. It is located in the middle of the state. He will invite them to the Show.

Scott Gagnon asked for the Board, and the membership, to contact their local adult/senior centers to inform them about our club, our open houses, the Show and that we welcome visitors.

Bob Bradley reported that he and Patrick are unable to use the 4 corner sections from our old HO layout and would like to offer them to the club or for sale at the show.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, July 20, 2017, at 7:00 PM.

August's Board meeting will be on Monday, August 7, 2017, at 7:00 PM.

September's Board meeting will be on Tuesday, September 5, 2017, at 7:00 PM.

George Lasley's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Mike djourn the meeting was seconded by John Ragan at 8:594 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. 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/

