

The

**Whistle**



**Post**

*Official Newsletter of the*

**Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

**1615 Old Louisburg Rd Raleigh, NC 27604**

**Phone: 919-400-5570**

### **Next Meeting's Topic**

Jake Forbes will give the program entitled "A Year told by Trains, 2017".

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

Happy New Year everyone!!! The Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club finished 2017 with grace and compassion, as demonstrated by our contribution to a worthy charity.

2018 presents new opportunities, celebrations and challenges, starting with our first Open House of the year on February 17th, from 10:00 to 4:00.

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, we will have our annual holiday pot luck meal at Scott Gagnon and Mary Ann Loss's home, 11808 Pembridge Lane, Raleigh NC 27613. The time is from 1pm to 4pm. Check with Scott, Mary Ann or Sign up Genie for a list of dishes needed.

We have multiple layouts at the club that need scenic attention from our members.

NRV has a new opportunity this year in our traveling layouts. We have a Thomas layout and a second layout that can be taken to assisted living centers and community centers on the weekends. The second layout needs work, so that is also an opportunity for our club members.

Our January 18th meeting will include a program given by our own Jake Forbes. The program is entitled "A Year told by Trains, 2017".

We are still looking for a program for our February 15th meeting. The March 15th meeting has a tentative program. We are also looking for members to suggest topics of interest or speakers, or volunteer to handle a program for April and beyond. Please contact me or any board member with your suggestions.

Stay warm this month!

### **Minutes of the Membership Meeting**

Scott Gagnon called the Membership Meeting of December 21, 2017 to order at 7:00 PM.

The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Magnani called the roll and took the minutes.

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

Members present were: Ron Abraham, Arthur Boone, Patrick Bradley, Matt Cotrell, Dan Egy, Jake Forbes, Clif Kelly, Keith Kollman, Fred Krauss, George Lasley, Henry Shirley and John Spach.

### Guests

Our guests were: Robert Bradley, Vaughan Davis, Michael Keelean and Collin Martinko and his father.

### Approval of the Minutes

Scott Gagnon's motion to approve the minutes of the last 2 meetings, with Tom Magnani asked to make sure that the dates were correct (The Gagnon & Loss event is on January 28<sup>th</sup>.), was seconded by George Lasley and approved unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report:

Scott Gagnon, reporting for Steve Wills, said that our End of November figures were basically unchanged from what had been reported to the Board.

Scott Gagnon reported on the handover to representatives of Michael McCarthy's family of his extensive collection of G, O and HO rolling stock and accessories. He also summarized a donation of 2 rail, O Gauge, and N scale rolling stock, 35 locomotives and boxes of cars that were donated last week. A donation of HO equipment from the same person is expected.

### Lenovo Grant

Tom Magnani and the O Gauge group need to prepare an estimate for a portable HVAC unit for and tools to install it to provide cooling and heating for their room.

The effort will be funded through our Community Grant from the Lenovo Next Generation Hope Fund of Triangle Community Foundation.

### Upcoming Club Events

The club has been contacted by the publicity department for an upcoming movie, The Commuter, starring Liam Neeson. It opens on January 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be provided some materials and expect to learn more over the next two weeks.

The Club will try to assemble a car pool to visit the "World's Greatest Hobby" Train Show in Charlotte which will be the weekend of January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Any planning will be to make the trip in a single day. An alternative to a carpool would be a train ride from Raleigh.

Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> will be a cleaning and prepping of the Clubhouse.

The Hayes-Barton seniors, the Grand Age Club, will visit the clubhouse on Thursday, January 18, at 11 AM. Membership support will be required both that day and on

the Wednesday just prior to clean the clubhouse. The clubhouse needs to be clean and neat and aisles widened to accommodate walkers and wheelchairs.

The Moorehead Planetarium at UNC-chapel Hill will be hosting a Lego-Palooza on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 11-4 & on the 28<sup>th</sup>, 1-4.

Scott Gagnon and Mary Ann Loss will be having a Pot Luck gathering at their house on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> with a weather alternative of Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Our next Open House will be on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

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The Brick Universe will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

NRV has been invited to participate in the Union Station grand opening. The date is TBA.

#### Annual Charitable Donation

Scott Gagnon described the Board's decision, as in past years, to set aside an amount, this year to be up to \$400, of the Club's for a donation to a charitable organization for flood relief. He also announced that he would 'pass the hat' for any additional sum that a member might want to contribute. George Lasley recommended the NC Baptist Ministry Disaster Relief Fund and made a motion for the collected funds to go to that organization. Arthur Boone seconded the motion. Mike Johns explained his dissenting vote in the belief that a 'charity' should not give its money to another charity, especially to one not related to the first's mission. John Spach asked that the Board review the current IRS rules as applied to 501 (c) (3) so that the club does not violate their regulations. A total of \$221 was collected.

#### Signage Removal and Clubhouse Care

Remember last person out of the clubhouse is responsible for following the closing procedure. Bringing in the flags is a part of the closing of the clubhouse. The privilege of having a key has the responsibility of following the rules.

#### Evening Programs

George Lasley will provide the evening's Program: 'What Makes a Steam Locomotive Go and Other Bits of Trivia'; complete with a color handout.

#### Membership

George Lasley's motion to suspend the membership rules and admit Vaughan Davis, Michael Keelean and Collin Martinko to Probationary Status was seconded by Arthur Boone and unanimously approved.

#### Next Meetings

January's Board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, January 18, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

Fred Krauss' motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Arthur Boone at 7:29 PM.

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors

President John Ragan called the meeting to order at 7:00 P

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: Clif Kelly, George Lasley and Jim Murrell.

### Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that we are, as of the end of December, up from substantially from a year ago, which is attributable to the excellent attendance at our Show including the sales at the Show's Club Table, the club's TCA table, and the \$5,000 from our Community Grant from the Lenovo Next Generation Hope Fund of Triangle Community Foundation. We still need to send the Fairgrounds the deposit, of \$4,500, for the 2018 Show. (Next year's show will be November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>; with setup on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.)

### Charitable Giving

John Ragan provided two legal clarification as to our status, as a 501(c)(3), with respect to donations by the club itself, to another 501(c)(3). In essence, they allow for such a donation as long as it does not adversely impact the club's finances nor serves a member. Michael Johns made a motion for the Treasurer to add a 'budget line' to our system to address gifts of the Club's monies up to \$500 to one (1) or more 501(c)(3)'s. The motion was seconded by Scott Gagnon and approved unanimously.

### Clarification of Club Event Dates

The Hayes-Barton Senior's visit will be on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. beginning at approximately 11:45 AM. Cleaning needs to be completed by Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Gagnon-Loss Pot Luck meal will be at their house on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM, with a weather alternative of Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Open House will be on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM - 4 PM.

The clubhouse will need a thorough cleaning before January 18<sup>th</sup>. This need has been overwhelming seconded by the Decorating Committee.

### New Business

George Lasley reported that our landlord has agreed to install 2 'handicapped' accessible toilets and a 'Grab Bar' for the 'men's room' if we purchase them. Tom Magnani's motion for George Lasley to purchase 2 'handicapped' accessible toilets and a 'Grab Bar' for an amount not to exceed \$600 was seconded by Scott Gagnon and approved unanimously.

John Ragan reported that we are entering the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of our 3 year lease. The lease ends on December 31, 2018. We have an option for another 3 years. It was decided to ask the landlord for another 3 year option.

Bill Ferguson will purchase our remaining four O Gauge tables.

### Upcoming Events

George Lasley has organized a Club train ride to visit the "World's Greatest Hobby" Train Show in Charlotte on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. The group will leave from, and return to, Cary. George will investigate purchasing a block of tickets.

John Ragan reported that the promotional materials for the movie, The Commuter, has yet to arrive. He will get them to the clubhouse, for a group picture of the club members and the materials, as soon as he gets them.

The Moorehead Planetarium at UNC-chapel Hill will be hosting a Lego-Palooza on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 11-4 & on the 28<sup>th</sup>, 1-4.

Brick Universe will be the Weekend of April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at the Raleigh Convention Center.

## Union Station Grand Opening

The exact date for the Union Station Grand Opening is still to be determined. We will ask for a booth and would like to have a display of 1 or 2 layouts. George Lasley would like for Bob Bradley to inquire if it would be possible for the Club to have a permanent wall mounted display in an enclosed cabinet.

George Lasley reported that Bob King, owner of Seaboard Ace Hardware, is selling the store including the G Scale hanging layout. Mr. King asked if the club would like any of the remaining supporting steel wire shelves. It was decided that we have neither the need nor the storage space and asked George to decline the offer, with our thanks.

Tom Magnani asked to postpone a vote on the O Ga. Room HVAC unit until he can determine the full scope of the project.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, January 18, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

February's Board meeting will be on Monday, February 5, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

Scott Gagnon's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Tom Magnani at 7:47 PM.

## **Future Events**

The club is open on Saturdays at 10 am. and Sundays at 1 pm.

Also, we meet for Breakfast on Wednesdays at [Big Ed's North](#) at 9 am, then go to the club.

All events at the club site, 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh, NC 27604

For details on how to arrive at the club, check out our website: <http://www.nrvclub.net>

## **Notes from the Webmaster and the Editor**

Please send [Patrick Bradley](#) recent photos of our club activities, so he can update our website.

Please send articles to Joe at [nrvmrrc@gmail.com](mailto:nrvmrrc@gmail.com) by the Thursday 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, if you don't have a key.

## **Interesting articles and links**

One of my favorite channels on YouTube is Elictopickle;

He does a lot of neat train videos

You can find it at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiYZUtyySxa8h422BhN8Xww>

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Thursday, January 18th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.**  
**Board of Governors, February 5th at 7 pm**  
**LOCATION: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh, NC 2760**

### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

<b>John Ragan</b>	<b>President</b>	<b><a href="mailto:trainsndogs@gmail.com">trainsndogs@gmail.com</a>, 919-304-5474</b>
<b>Scott Gagnon</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>	<b><a href="mailto:Scott.Gagnon.11808@gmail.com">Scott.Gagnon.11808@gmail.com</a> 210-861-2529</b>
<b>Steve Wills</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>919-845-4968</b>
<b>Tom Magnani</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b><a href="mailto:tommag1@aol.com">tommag1@aol.com</a></b>
<b>Clif Kelly</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b><a href="mailto:bkelly11@nc.rr.com">bkelly11@nc.rr.com</a>, 919-614-8891</b>
<b>Bill Ferguson</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>919-217-3409</b>
<b>John Kuchnia</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b>919-675-4172</b>
<b>Mike Johns</b>	<b>At Large</b>	<b><a href="mailto:scootermikej@gmail.com">scootermikej@gmail.com</a> 937-215-2723</b>
<b>WEB SITE</b>		<b><a href="http://WWW.NRVCLUB.NET">WWW.NRVCLUB.NET</a></b>
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