

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

Our program for March is presented by Matt Cottrell. It will be a slideshow "Railroads of the Columbia River Basin".

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, John Kuchina and Mike Johns will be polling our membership for nominees. The offices available this year are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and two Member at large positions. You must be a senior member in good standing to hold office and vote in the election at our May membership meeting.

The NRV "Spring Into Trains" show is scheduled for May 5th at the NC State Fairgrounds. It will be located in the Kerr Scott Building. Setup will be Friday, May 4th. Show hours on Saturday May 5th are 9am-4pm. There are tables still available, please see George Lasley if you are interested.

April 14th and 15th 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 and attendees.

Our next Open House is Saturday, June 23rd from 10am until 4pm. We 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.

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

It's not too early to start planning your participation at our show, the 34th Annual Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Show on November 3rd and 4th. Our show runs on its volunteers, and we would like to see you and your families there.

Our program for March is presented by Matt Cottrell. It will be a slideshow "Railroads of the Columbia River Basin". April's program will be presented by John Kuchina "Poisons in the Hobby... or what not to Drink"

I look forward to seeing everyone Thursday evening March 15th at 7pm for our March business meeting. Remember, visitors are always welcome.

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting of the Membership of Thursday, February 15, 2018. The Meeting of the Membership of Thursday, February 15, 2018, was held at the NRV Clubhouse located at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd., Raleigh, NC.

John Ragan called the Membership Meeting of February 15, 2018 to order at 7:00 PM.

Michael Johns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Magnani called the roll and took the minutes.

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

Members present were: Doug Alumbaugh, David Balkwill, Patrick Bradley, Richard Calfee, Matt Cottrell, Bernie Dawson, Dan Egy, Jake Forbes, Norbert Hubig, Joe Johnston, Clif Kelly, Keith Kollman, Fred Krauss, George Lasley, Ted Leonard, Henry Shirley, John Spach, and Richard Walz.

Guests

Our guests were: Robert Bradley and Mrs. Alumbaugh.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes that were published in the Whistle post were not accepted. George Lasley asked that the May 5th 'Shows' name in those minutes be corrected to read 'Spring into Trains'.

Treasurer's Report

John Ragan read the Treasurer's Report that was presented at the February Board Meeting. He noted that the amount in our Treasury will go down as we write checks, \$4,500 for the November Show and \$2,200 for the May show.

Show Reports

George Lasley provided an update for our May 5th 'Spring into Trains' show. To date he has sold 46 of the maximum of 156 tables. All of the sales have been to our usual vendors. 'Not bad for the 1st week since he sent out notices to them.' He does not know if the TCA Email's have been sent out.

Set-up would be on Friday, May 4th from 3 PM to 8 PM. With the show taking place on Saturday, May 5th. The membership was asked to distribute flyers.

Open House

Our Open House will be this Saturday, February 17th from 10 AM to 4 PM. We need members to bring snacks, cookies and soft drinks and to staff the clubhouse during that time. We will need to keep all extraneous materials off the layouts and to slide all work surfaces back under them.

Elections.

John Ragan summarized the upcoming annual elections for the Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club's Board. He thanked John Kuchnia for all his work over the past 3 years and noted that John ends his 3 year term this May. He charged the At-large officers; Mike Johns, John Kuchnia and Bill Ferguson with polling the Senior Membership for candidates for the following: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the At-large position. The At-large position is a 3 year commitment. Candidates must be Senior Members and in good standing.

Tom Magnani is to provide the 3 At-large members with the names and contact information for the Senior Members and in good standing.

Announcements

George Lasley reported that Nick's Trains has some of Michael McCarthy's G and O scale trains for sale.

Upcoming Presentations

John Ragan provided the following updates:

- Following the March 15th Membership Meeting Matt Cottrell will have a slide show/power point presentation on Western Railroading; specifically, the Columbia Gorge.
- Following the April 19th Membership Meeting John Kuchina will have a presentation "Poisons in the hobby or, what not to drink".

Litchford Falls Healthcare Program

George Lasley reported that he and Will Allen will set up a large diameter O Gauge oval at the Litchford Falls Healthcare Facility in response to a request for a 'Manly Hobby Time' program.

The Lego 'Brick Universe' will be in Raleigh April 14th and 15th at the Raleigh Convention Center. Brick Universe is set up a 2 Four Hour events with tickets for each sold separately

An opening date for the new Amtrak Station in Raleigh is still to be determined.

Club Events

The senior group, Hayes-Barton seniors, the Grand Age Club, will visit the clubhouse on Thursday, March 29th. Membership support will be required both that day and on the Wednesday just prior to clean the clubhouse.

Miscellaneous

George Lasley noted that May 17th to 19th will have a gathering of various Historical and Railroad groups at Spencer.

Evening Programs

Tonight Joe Johnston's program will be: " How to acquire and release locomotives and how to program them using the throttles" will be an informative talk about Digitrax throttles and more.

Next Meetings

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

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, March 15, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

John Kuchnia asked for a moment of reflection for the victims of the recent shooting in Florida.

Tom Magnani's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Matt Cottrell at 7:28 PM.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors

Minutes of the Board of Governors of the Neuse River Valley Model Railroad club for March 5, 2018. The meeting was held at the clubhouse at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd., Raleigh, North Carolina.

John Ragan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Secretary Tom Magnani recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

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

Members present: Clif Kelly, Michael Keelean, George Lasley and John Spach.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that we are, as of the end of February, down from the end of January due to our sending the Fairgrounds the deposits, \$2,200 for the May 5th 'Spring into Trains Show' and \$4,500, for the 2018 November Show.

Spring into Trains Show

George Lasley provided an update for our May 5th 'Spring into Trains' show. To date he has sold 77 of the maximum of 156 tables. To date, all of the sales have been to our usual vendors. The Emails to the TCA membership have recently gone out to TCA members in the Southeast.

Marklin Donation

John Ragan described the large Marklin donation that the club has received. He read Dan Egy's summarizing email, below:

Steve,

I looked, briefly, over the stuff of the donation and it strikes me that, since, so much of it is composed of things that were never opened and used and most of it is VERY high end stuff, selling it off at our train shows will be impossible.

I would like to propose that the club establish an E-Bay store and market this stuff world wide. Any single individual selling it off (such as me) would be begging for an IRS audit if the worth of this stuff is what I think it is (in the five figure category).

Ebay is Ebay and PayPal is PayPal world wide and anyone with an Ebay account can sell anywhere with PayPal doing the currency conversions virtually cost free. Frankly, the market for Marklin, while very lucrative, is severely limited in the US and very unlimited in Europe.

Could this proposal be made to the membership at the next meeting? I can set up the store for club; but, with my out-of-town employment, running this scheme would not be possible for me. Maybe an arrangement with Nick or Kim would be possible.

There was a wide-ranging discussion, beyond Dan's suggestions, about the donation and where and how to sell it. John Spach suggested that Tom Magnani contact Norbert Hubig. George Lasley suggested that we investigate selling it to an auction house. John Ragan asked if there was a Facebook page for Marklin. In any event, it will be necessary to inspect and catalog the donation.

Litchford Falls Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center

George Lasley reported on the visit that he and Will Allen made to the Litchford Falls Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center facility. They set up, on 6 tables, a large radius O Ga. layout and ran a large steam locomotive and an RS diesel with several cars for about an hour. He said there were many smiles, lots of questions and a very pleased audience. The facility's director thanked them and said it was the best response he has seen from the male patients. He is considering repeating it in the late summer with turnouts and several loops.

Upcoming Events

The Mebane Train Show is Saturday, March 10th. John Ragan intends to attend. It will be at the O Ga. Club's facility on Jackson Street in Mebane.

The March Membership Meeting is on Thursday, March 15th, at 7:00 PM.

The Greensboro Show is Saturday, March 17th, in the Greensboro Amtrak station.

The Hayes-Barton Senior's visit is Thursday, March 29th. It will begin at approximately 11:45 AM. Cleaning needs to be completed by Wednesday, March 28th.

Tom Magnani, pending approval of the Building Interior Committee, suggested attaching wide, yellow colored ribbon, to the HO Layouts skirts where the table's legs protrude under the skirt at the corners.

Brick Universe will be the Weekend of April 14th and 15th at the Raleigh Convention Center. We will need to have a sign-up sheet.

Our 'Spring into Trains' show is on May 5th with setup in the afternoon of the day before.

Our next Open House will be Sunday, June 23rd.

Upcoming Membership Meeting Programs

March 15th Matt Cottrell slide show/power point about Western Railroading.

April 19th John Kuchina "Poisons in the hobby or, what not to drink".

Elections

The Nominating committee has been able to find people willing to fill all of the available slots.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, March 15, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

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

Tom Magnani's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Steve Wills at 8:05 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 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.

Neat Links

Trains in the winter in Switzerland, including rotary snow plow and "hang glider" propelled ice skaters. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNGEahJheog>
[raleigh-union-station-nearly-complete/](#)

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Thursday, March 15th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.
Board of Governors, April 2nd at 7 pm.
LOCATION: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh, NC 2760**

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

John Ragan	President	trainsndogs@gmail.com, 919-304-5474
Scott Gagnon	Vice-President	Scott.Gagnon.11808@gmail.com 210-861-2529
Steve Wills	Treasurer	919-845-4968
Tom Magnani	Secretary	tommag1@aol.com
Bill Ferguson	At Large	919-217-3409
John Kuchnia	At Large	919-675-4172
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