

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

The May program will be by George Lasley: Another great slide show.

Important Notice-Locking Front Door

If you have trouble locking the clubhouse door from the outside when you are leaving , it may be that the knob on the inside is not in the neutral position. Correct that and you should be able to lock the door from the outside. If there is still a problem you can lock the front door from the inside and exit via the O-Scale room and the door will lock behind you.

Under the Crown Sheet by John Ragan

Our "Spring into Trains" Model Train Show and Sale was a success. With an attendance of 518 and good club table sales it was a profitable show. The Board has voted to continue the spring show in 2019 with the possibility of it becoming a two day show. Thank you to all of our club members and volunteers that make our shows successful.

On Thursday May 17th at 7pm, we will hold our monthly meeting. This meeting will include our annual election of officers. If you are a senior member in good standing please vote! If there are questions about the voting procedure, please contact a Board member BEFORE Thursday evening. George Lasley will be in charge of our program. I understand we can look forward to another amazing slideshow from George.

Our next Open House will be Saturday, June 23rd from 10am - 4pm. Volunteers are needed to greet guests. We will also need refreshments and volunteers to work with the refreshment table. Please plan on attending and supporting our Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club.

The Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club will be visiting the New Hope Valley Railroad on Saturday, July 28th, at a time to be determined. This date is associated

with their monthly Brew & Choo and ice cream social. Stay tuned for more information.

November 2nd - 4th is the 34th Annual Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club Show & Sale. Mark your calendars for this weekend. Volunteers are needed in all aspects of the show. Please plan on attending and support your train club.

I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as president for the last three years. It has been a life changing experience for me. Donna and I thank you for all of your support.



Minutes of the Membership Meeting

Scott Gagnon called the Membership Meeting of April 19, 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, John Kuchnia and Tom Magnani.

Members present were: Richard Calfee, Bernie Dawson, Dan Egy, J. R. Fisher, Michael Keelean, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Ted Leonard, Collin Martinko, Jim Murrell, Ethan Quiram, Henry Shirley, John Spach, Richard Walz and Jay Wilson.

Guests

Our guests were Donald Hunsicker, Barry McLaughlin and Jerry Womack.

Donald Hunsicker introduced himself. He has an HO layout, centered on the Reading Railroad, at home and has rolling stock that he is considering donating to the club. That was how he learned about our meetings.

Barry McLaughlin is new to the area and interested in Lionel Legacy equipment.

Jerry Womack heard about the club through Clif Kelly and decided to accept his invitation to visit us.

Approval of the Minutes

George Lasley's motion to approve the minutes of the prior 2 meetings, as printed in the April 2018 WhistlePost with the correction noted by Tom Magnani, was seconded by Michael Johns and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Tom Magnani summarized the Treasurer's Report that was presented at the April 2nd Board Meeting less the expenses since then associated with the Brick Universe Event and our Spring into Trains show.

Show Reports

George Lasley provided an update for our May 5th 'Spring into Trains' show in the Kerr Scott Building at the NC State Fairgrounds. To date he has sold 87 of the maximum of his latest goal of 100 tables. Some of the sales have been to TCA Vendors.

The North Raleigh Club will be there with their 'T Track' N Gauge layout on several tables. The S Gaugers will be bringing 2 layouts and there will be an extensive NRV Lego Layout, a small Lionel layout, lent by John Kuchnia, and On3 holiday loop.

Tom Magnani asked, for John Ragan, for the Board and membership to approve an expenditure for Facebook 'Boosting' of our site. George Lasley's recommendation to cap the amount at less than \$100 was seconded by Michael Johns and approved

unanimously by the Board. John Spach recommended that the membership be sure, once the show is 'posted' on our site, to share with their Facebook friends.

Tom Magnani is to post it on 'Next Door'.

Set-up for the 'Spring into Trains' show will be on Friday, May 4th from 3 PM to 8 PM. The show is only 1 day, Saturday, May 5th, from 9 AM to 4 PM. The membership was asked to distribute fliers

An attempt will be made to do the pricing over the weekend. We will bring a Marklin catalog and a copy of our inventory to the show.

Elections

Mike Johns, speaking for his committee of John Kuchnia and Bill Ferguson, provided a summary of where they are in their search for club officers.

The Board Members At-Large under the By-Laws of the Organization have nominated the following Senior Members in good Standing to serve as Officers of the Club.

- President - Clif Kelly
- Vice President - Mike Johns
- Treasurer - Steve Wills
- Secretary - Tom Magnani
- Members at Large- Bill Ferguson already elected serving his third year term.
- Member at Large - Ethen Quiram to serve the second and third year term. This position is available due to Mike Johns' Nomination to Vice President
- Member at Large - for this three year term two people have been nominated:
 - o Michael Keelean
 - o John Spach

Nominations are now open. The By-laws require that nomination be members in good standing and that they have been asked before Standing for Election to ensure that if elected they will serve.

Mike Johns' motion to open the floor to nominations was seconded by George Lasley and approved unanimously. No additional nominations were made. George Lasley's motion to close the nominations was seconded by John Kuchnia and approved unanimously.

Tom Magnani is to design a ballot and distribute it by email to all of the Senior Members in good standing. This media was chosen as all of the current Senior Members have email. The email, and the ballot, will include instructions on how to use the ballot, a caution not to sign the ballot but to sign the flap of the mailing envelope and, to Post Office mail it back to the club's Post Office Box. Ballots of members who are present at the May Membership meeting and chose to vote at that meeting will be destroyed.

Donations

Tom Magnani summarized the most recent donations.

- The large wood crates are an enormous collection of Marklin 3 rail HO equipment, several types of their tack and turnouts, Catenary pieces, structures, bridges, wire, controllers, etc. It has been cataloged by Tom Magnani, John Kuchnia, Michael Keelean and Mike Johns. John Ragan's EBay store possibility has not worked out. Mike Johns has sent our inventory to a club in the Maryland area to see if they are interested in it. If that does not work we will investigate selling it to an auction house.
- We have another modest HO donation. The donor will retrieve the plastic boxes that he used to bring it to the clubhouse and is considering donating a set of wall mounted display shelves.
- We received an N Scale donation over a month ago. Some of that is already running on our layout, some is on the hallway shelves. We will sell it at the upcoming shows.

Front Door

Tom Magnani reported that several people have had some issues trying to lock the front door with a key. He traced the problem to the position of the lock's inside knob after it has been turned from within. If not in the proper position, the key will not turn the bolt.

Announcements and Club Events

The Lego 'Brick Universe' will be in Raleigh April 14th and 15th at the Raleigh Convention Center. Brick Universe is presented as 2 - Four Hour events each day with tickets for event each sold separately. The Club will be there with our Lego Layout. A sign-up sheet will be generated.

Our Club's 'Spring into Trains' show is May 5th with setup the day before from 3 PM to 8 PM. It will be in the Kerr Scott Building at the NC State Fairgrounds.

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

George Lasley reported that an opening dates for the new Amtrak Station in Raleigh are still to be completely determined. The Opening for the 'Stakeholders' will be on May 1st. The opening for the public is expected some time this late summer. To date neither the signboards nor the PA system have been installed. The escalators will be installed in a later phase.

Our 34th Annual Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Show & Sale will be November 2nd - 4th.

A summer club excursion was discussed with Spencer being one venue. Bernie Dawson suggest a trip to Bonsal, The New Hope Valley Railroad. Scott Gagnon suggested coordinating it with one of their 'Brew & Chew' days.

Hayes-Barton Grand Age Club Visit

Steve Wills reported that the Hayes-Barton Grand Age Club visit went very well with 20 members of their group in attendance. John Kuchnia reported that many of them had fond memories of Lionel trains from their childhood with several of the women having had their own trains.

Litchford Falls Healthcare Visit

George Lasley described the visit that he and Will Allen made to the Litchford Falls Healthcare & Rehabilitation Facility where they set up a large diameter O Gauge oval in response to a request for a 'Manly Hobby Time' program. They brought a Y3 steam locomotive and an RS Diesel along with several cars. They ran both engines as short trains following each other around the oval over 6 tables. They decided to use 072 tubular tinplate rather than Fastrack in order to accommodate the differences in height between adjacent tables.

The facility's director thanked them saying it was one of the best turnouts for these men and women that he had seen. They plan on returning, with some turnouts and more track, towards the end of the summer or early fall.

The membership was reminded that, to assure complete enjoyment by all, the Clubhouse is a politics free zone. Please remember that just because the person with whom you are having a discussion agrees with you, the person who overhears you may be offended.

Evening Programs

Tonight's program will be: John Kuchnia: "Poisons in the Hobby....or, What not to drink" ..

Next Month's program will be a slide show by George Lasley.

Mike Johns will present June's program about 'The North West Live Steam Railroad'. He needs some assistance in transferring his photographs to an electronic show.

Next Meetings

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

The next Membership Meeting, with elections, will be on Thursday, May 17, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

George Lasley's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Jim Murrell at 8:12 PM.



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors

John Ragan called the meeting of Thursday, April 19, 2018. to order at 7:00 PM.

Secretary Tom Magnani recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

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

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

Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that our Edward Jones investment account is unchanged from a month ago. Our total assets we are, as of the end of March, are also basically unchanged from the end of February and are up considerably from a year ago. The amount does not reflect all of the expenses and income from the recent May 5th show. He noted that, pending a completion of the accounts and billing by the Fairgrounds, we appear to be ahead for the show. John Ragan reported that the extra cost associated with Facebook was \$50.

Spring into Trains Show

George Lasley stated that, pending the completion of the accounting, he is quite satisfied with the show. He noted that we had mainly vendors associated with our November show and that there were quite a few requests for us to make the May show a 2 day show as well. There was a discussion about the pro and cons of a 1 day versus a 2-day show. George noted that we would charge more for tables for a 2-day show and that we might lose 6 - 8 tables for vendors who could do a 1 day show without incurring an overnight stay. We might also gain some vendors who would come if they could get 2 sale days. He believes that he can tell his Fairgrounds' contact, Claudine, that we would like to reserve the building for the full weekend and still be able to back out of the second day for a while.

Tom Magnani's motion to commit for 2 days on the first weekend of May 2019 was seconded by Scott Gagnon and approved unanimously.

George provided the following totals for the show. We had 518 paid attendees; 280 @ \$7/ticket and 238 @ \$6/ticket. Of the coupons: we had 33 from the N&O; 11 from the prior Sunday, 7 from Wednesday, 8 from Thursday and 7 from Friday; we had 129 Fliers presented; 14 from the Lego show 59 of the Green card stock, 6 from Nick's and the remainder undetermined. We also had printouts from 2 different web sites. His estimate is that we had 1.5 admissions per flier The proportion of children seemed less than the November show.

There was a discussion about using the N&O advertising money for a Television ad. If not all of the N&O funds are spent on TV we would run a larger ad, on the right-hand page on the preceding Sunday and Thursday rather than the usual 4 days. We will have adequate time to plan and implement a spot. Our initial estimates will be based

on the costs for the 2017 November show. Carolina Parent and 4 color ads. Steve Wills would like to cap our advertising expenses at \$1,500.

Marklin Donation

John Ragan reported that the Action house that he had contacted was not really interested in the materials. Mike Johns has not had a response from the Marklin Club in Maryland and considers it a dead end. John Ragan asked that Tom Magnani send him a copy of the inventory.

It was agreed that this is proving to be more difficult to unload than originally anticipated. We need to free up room in our storage areas.

Upcoming Events

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

John Ragan has been informed that the electrical power to our clubhouse will be interrupted on Thursday, May 11th to replace a power transformer. Scott Gagnon has agreed to be here to provide access. ALL EQUIPMENT WILL NEED TO BE UNPLUGGED THE DAY BEFORE. The refrigerator will be placed in the Men's Room so it's ice can melt and drain.

NOTE: This has been postponed to the Fall.

John Ragan has been informed by Michael Irwin that since he has moved he will be joining the Greensboro club.

Scott Gagnon reported that the New Hope Valley Railroad will be having Brew & Chew' events, with ice cream on May 26th, June 30th and July 28th. After a brief discussion, it was decided to have a club event on July 28th.

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, May 17, 2018, at 7:00 PM

June's Board meeting will be on Monday, June 4, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

Tom Magnani's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Steve Wills at 8:00 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

A superb vireo of model steam by [Christopher Novacs](#). A really cool pacer from the adjacent track start at 4:50.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTC0JYY9JQk&feature=em-uploademail>

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Thursday, May 17th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.
Board of Governors, June 4th at 7 pm.
LOCATION: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh, NC 2760**

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Steve Wills	Treasurer	919-845-4968
Tom Magnani	Secretary	tommag1@aol.com
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