

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

We will be planing for Open House and George Lasley will make a great presntation.

Under the Crown Sheet by Clif Kelly

The 34th Annual Neuse River Model Railroad Train Show and Sales have been completed. As President I want to thank the many Club members who have devoted their personal time and energy to make our Show a big success. The Board has received numerous good reports and comments from various vendors and guests alike. George Lasley will make a preliminary report to the Membership Meeting this coming Thursday, November 15th.

Plans are being finalized for the Club Open House this coming Saturday, November 17th. The Club will be open to the public from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to welcome and escort guests, man the various railroad layouts and convey a welcoming atmosphere to visitors and prospective members. Club members are asked to help out with the refreshment table by providing a bottle of soft drink, cookies or baked brownies. Please plan to attend if you can. Cleanup for this weekend is planned for Wednesday following breakfast and prior to the Membership meeting on Thursday evening.

The TCA Show has been announced for December 1st and 2nd. Volunteers are needed for two Club tables designated for sales and membership promotion. Others will be needed to assist with the LEGOs table setup and operation.

A standing invitation is made to all Club members and interested visitors for breakfast every Wednesday morning at 9:00 am at Big Ed's Restaurant, located at Quail Corners Shopping Center (Raleigh) at the intersection of Millbrook and Falls of the Neuse Roads. The street address is 5009 Falls of the Neuse Road. Following breakfast club members make the short drive to the Clubhouse to run trains, work on projects or otherwise socialize for a few hours. All are welcome.

The Membership Meeting is coming up on Thursday, November 15th at 7 pm at the Clubhouse. Everyone is encouraged to attend to catch up on all the news and

happenings. Following the business meeting an exciting program will be given by George Lasley.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 3rd at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse.

As we enter this Holiday Season make us truly mindful of the many sacrifices of those who have preceded us and for the freedoms that we cherish and enjoy today.

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

Clif Kelly called the Membership meeting of Thursday, October 18, 2018 to order at 7:01 PM.

Michael Johns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Magnani recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

Board members present: Mike Keelean, Michael Johns, Clif Kelly, Tom Magnani and Ethan Quiram.

Members present were: Shelton Bass, Arthur Boone, Richard Calfee, Dan Egy, Jake Forbes, Scott Hall, Donald Hunsicker, Fred Krauss, George Lasley, Ted Leonard, Collin Martinko, Jim Murrell, Bryan Parrish, Zackary Riggs, Henry Shirley, John Spach, and Jay Wilson.

Recognition of New Members/Visitors

Our guests were: Paul Caparatta (His 2nd meeting.), Preston Cudd (His 3rd meeting.), Rod Martinko, Daaron Parrish, Michael Velez (His 1st meeting.) and Eric Werner.

Paul Caparatta introduced himself. He models in HO and has been involved in model railroading since 1961 or 1962. He wrote an article on track work for Model Railroad Craftsman.

Eric Werner introduced himself. He models in primarily in HO and some G. He also has a custom model train business with a family member.

Treasurer's Report

Clif Kelly reported that the Treasurer's report is in relatively good shape with approximately \$25 in the Treasury.

Update on November Show

George Lasley reported that the table sales are ongoing, and on track, with approximately 255 tables sold to date. He reminded the meeting that we need volunteers. The Club's revenue comes from the ticket sales and from the Club's tables. We need all members to be ready to staff the ticket table and the Club's table.

The Show begins with setup on Friday, November 2nd. The actual show is Saturday, November 3rd and Sunday, November 4th. Friday is basically 8:30 AM - 8 PM with a Pizza dinner for all members who have worked the day at 6 PM. Saturday is 8 -

5. Sunday is 8 - Closing again with a Pizza dinner for all members who have worked the day.

The News & Observer advertisement copy still requires proof reading. The WRAL advertisements are finalized.

He wants to use the Wednesday mornings following the Club breakfast to put the storeroom contents into the main clubhouse's main room

We will meet here on the Thursday before the show, November 1st, between 6 PM and 7PM to load vehicles. We will unload them at the show the next day beginning at 8:30 AM.

Please wear good shoes and bring leather work gloves and pliers. The pliers are to remove staples from the tables. Wear your Club name badges, shirts and hats.

Please remember that Daylight Savings Time takes effect at 2 AM Sunday morning.

Fall Open House Set for November 17th

Clif Kelly informed the membership that our Fall Open House is set for November 17th from 10 AM to 4 PM. The date was chosen by the Board to support public interest in the Club and in model railroading as a result of the show 2 weeks before. The Open House will follow November's Membership Meeting and enable us to have the clubhouse completely cleaned.

New Business

Our Youth members expressed an interest in doing a Membership Meeting presentation. They were encouraged to do so and to feel free to ask other members and past presenters for assistance.

Clif Kelly asked for members to volunteer for Membership meeting programs for our future meetings.

George Lasley announced that Nick's Trains is going to hold its 1st Modeling Contest. The theme will be a flat car, in any gauge, with a 'space' related load. The load can be real or imaginary in any gauge from Z to G. Entrants will be judged in one of two age categories. Either 16 years and under or, over 16. The models must be a new build.

The model will be judged professionally along the NMRA's guidelines as well as by popular vote at Nick's booth at our show on Saturday, November 4th. The prizes will be gift certificates of \$100, \$50 and \$25. The entry forms are at the Clubhouse, by the front door, and at Nick's.

The State Fair is running from October 11th through October 21st and our members are encouraged to visit the Garden Scale group's layout and display.

Michael Johns asked that our members think about which of the Club's Committees they can either add to, or learn from, and join. The more fully populated a Committee, the better the overall fellowship.

Evening Program

The presentation of Tonight's Program; Layout Operations, will be by Mike Keelean and will commence 10 minutes following meeting.

Next Meetings

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

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

Adjournment

George Lasley's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Mike Keelean at 7:35 PM

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors

Clif Kelly called the meeting of November 5, 2018. to order at 6:15 PM. The meeting was held earlier than usual due to the Board and Members meeting at 4 PM to unload the show materials from the van and cars.

Secretary Tom Magnani recorded the Minutes and called the Roll.

Board members present: Bill Ferguson, Michael Johns, Michael Keelean, Clif Kelly, Tom Magnani, Ethan Quiram and Steve Wills.

Members present: Ron Abraham, Patrick Bradley, Scott Gagnon, John Kuchnia, George Lasley, Ted Leonard and John Ragan.

Recognition of Visitors

Our guests were Robert Bradley and Aidan Lidoux.

Aidan Lidoux introduced himself. He learned about the Club from Patrick Bradley and he models in OO.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that this month's Treasurer's report is not ready as he has not had time to work on it. It will take approximately two (2) months for all the Show's money to settle out. What is clear is that we made a reasonable profit between the admissions and the Club's table.

Tom Magnani's motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was seconded by Clif Kelly and approved unanimously.

Preliminary Report on 3 - 4 November Show

George Lasley provided a preliminary report on the show. We had a total of 1,730 paid ticket sales; 1,083 on Saturday and 647 on Sunday. This did not include almost 500 children and over 100 repeat attendees on Sunday.

By comparison we had a total of 1873 last year, 1,471 in 2016 and 1,799 in 2015. We know that people had difficulty finding parking on Saturday due to the Game and the City of Oaks Marathon.

Based upon the number of N&O coupons that were returned the N&O seemed to be effective. He also made a last-minute decision to hire a 'sign spinner' for both days. None of our ticket sellers reported anyone saying that they were there because they saw the spinner.

John Ragan reported that he swapped placing of our flyers with both the Gourd Show and with the Antique Show. We had people from both shows attend our show.

WRAL was another issue. It appears that a good number of our advertisements, for which we had a contractual commitment as to time slots, were bumped to the 11 PM - 5 AM time frame. He and John Ragan have been in contact with WRAL and have requested a meeting. The person who responded was not able to be at tonight's meeting and has requested a Wednesday meeting.

Ron Abraham asked about our placing flyers at the Flea Market and, about the extent of our promoting Club membership at our table. George explained that we are not a part of the paid vendor contingent at the Flea Market and that this would be almost impossible to achieve. John Ragan believes that we will see a decent number of prospective new members both from the show and from our advertised Open House.

Michael Johns asked if we could provide an honorarium to the person who loaned us the trailer. Following a short discussion, Tom Magnani's motion to present the person with a \$200 honorarium and for the Club to pay associated expense such as fuel was seconded by Michael Johns and passed unanimously. Tom is to draft a Thank you letter.

George Lasley thanked Bill Ferguson for bringing John Held to the Show.

George reported that he was able to leave on Sunday by 9:45 PM. This was primarily due to one vendor who was there for at least an hour after all the others had left. He complimented Steve Wills and being able to order just enough pizza's so that we did not have much in the way of leftovers either Friday or Sunday nights. Steve reported that we were given a very good price this year from CiCi.

Report on Status of Club Open House on November 17, 2018

Clif Kelly asked that all available hands be at the Clubhouse for our Open House on Saturday, November 17th. We will have clean-ups on Wednesday, November 7th and Wednesday, November 14th following our usual breakfasts and on Thursday, November 15th prior to the Membership Meeting.

Report on Renewal Club Lease with Landlord

Clif Kelly reported that he has been playing telephone tag with Tom Fisher. He is asking the Ways & Means Committee to begin a review of our dues structure because of the coming rent increase of \$200/month. Clif replaced Bernie Dawson with John Ragan on the Ways & Means Committee

New Business

Ethan Quiram proposed moving, and storing, the Club's traveling HO layout at his house rather than in one of our rear storerooms. Michael Johns' motion for Ethan Quiram to store and manage the Club's traveling HO layout at and from his house was seconded by Steve Wills and passed unanimously.

Ethan Quiram suggested that we consider building one or more modules, to Sipping & Switching standards that we could add to their layouts. our module would include some sort of advertisement for our club as a part of its theme. Steve Wills reminded the meeting that our present HO layout was designed to Sipping & Switching standards and that any pair of modules can be removed and the layout contracted by 8' on each side.

Ethan Quiram, speaking for both himself and John Spach, suggested that we consider developing an itemized inventory of our stock as we get donations. Their reason being that during the show they realized that quite a bit of the purchased HO materials replicated what had been in stock in the storerooms and was for sale during the Show. Clif Kelly asked them to come back with a detailed proposal.

Michael Keelean presented the idea of the club providing a presentation at one, or more, of the regional libraries on layout building and model railroading. He believes that the libraries are looking to offer a diverse set of programs and that we might increase our exposure.

Michael Keelean summarized his original email about the use of the main, meeting, room of the clubhouse and Mary Ann Loss' response on behalf of the interior furnishing committee. A further discussion was tabled until the Membership Meeting on November 15th.

George Lasley briefly summarized what he knows about the Fairgrounds change in ticketing policy as of the meeting. The Fairgrounds is taking over all ticket taking after January 1, 2019. We will no longer handle any ticket sales or discounts. Paid Attendees will be able to purchase tickets on-line using E-Ticket. There will be a \$1/ticket charge added to every purchase along with a Fairgrounds imposed \$0.10 per ticket charge to for printed tickets. We will not have to pay the usual credit card transaction fees. Additionally, the Fairgrounds will charge \$15/hour for an unspecified number of ticket takers. As of now we do not know the number of ticket takers for which we will be charged. He is trying to get more information from the Fairgrounds.

What it achieves for us is:

- we don't handle money,
- we can have advance purchases,
- we can design our own tickets,
- we can issue tickets on-line,
- we will be able to accept credit cards at the gate and,
- we can bump ticket prices in \$0.50 increments since we won't have to make change at the gate.

With the May show in mind George made some logical assumptions as to the number of outside ticket takers (Two ticket takers would cost us \$30/hour), \$1.10 for E-Ticket and printed tickets and, for a 2 day show, came to the conclusion that we can make a profit if we charge \$40/table, \$8.50 and \$7.50 for tickets. Ethan Quiram's motion to approve charging \$40/table, \$8.50 and \$7.50 for tickets was seconded by Tom Magnani and passed unanimously.

There was a general discussion of the upcoming TCA Show on December 1st and 2nd. We will have 2 Club tables for sales and membership promotion and up to 12 tables for Lego.

Upcoming Meetings

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, November 15, 2018, at 7:00 PM. The presentation will be by George Lasley following the final clean up prior to that Saturday's Open House.

December's Board meeting will be on Monday, December 3, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

Michael Keelean's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Bill Ferguson at 7:55 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

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

First Class

NEXT MEETING - Thursday, November 15th, 2018 at 7:00 pm.
Board of Governors, December 3rd at 7:00 pm.
LOCATION: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh, NC 2760

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Clif Kelly	President	<u>bkelly11@nc.rr.com</u>	919-614-8891
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Steve Wills	Treasurer	919-845-4968	
Tom Magnani	Secretary	<u>tommag1@aol.com</u>	
Bill Ferguson	At Large	919-217-3409	
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