

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 Program

George Lasley will make a presentation on the Train Collectors' Association National meeting in York, Pennsylvania

Under the Crown Sheet by Clif Kelly

I begin this newsletter with a favorable report on two recent Club activities. The much anticipated open house conducted on Saturday, March 23rd was enjoyed by one and all. Over 70 guests and children participated in layout operations, chatted with Club members and enjoyed an array of refreshments. Of the many applications received it is believed that four to five potential new members will emerge. In addition numerous positive comments were received.

Thanks to all who participated in this event. Plans are currently underway for a follow on open house in early June and another in October prior to the November show. Your input and comments to improve these events are appreciated.

Mike Keelean reports that our Club's participation in the Thomasville Train Show last Saturday, April 13th was also well received. Our traveling layouts included the O scale/LEGO layout, and the Thomas and HO travelers. Mike adds that our layouts drew the majority of visitors and noted that numerous favorable comments were received. This outing provided an additional opportunity to further promote the Club in other planned activities this spring. Many thanks are extended to the club members that provided their energy and that travelled to Thomasville that made this activity possible.

All are invited to participate in the Membership meeting scheduled for this coming Thursday, April 18th at the Clubhouse beginning at 7:00 pm. This meeting marks the close of the nominations process for Club officers and at large members. Instructions for voting and validation of those eligible to vote will be given by George Lasley. The confirmation of elections will be made at the May meeting. Club officers will take office June 1st.

The Spring to Rails (show name) Show is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, 4-5 May at the Kerr Scott Building, State Fair Grounds. Final coordination of events will be presented by George Lasley. Setup for this event will be on Friday afternoon. Load up time for Club assets will be finalized at the meeting. Signup sheets will be available to ensure we have adequate membership coverage during the show. Plan to take a few event fliers with you and distribute to your family and friends. Please make yourself available to support and make this event a big success for the Club.

Two other Club sponsored events will be discussed at the membership meeting. A signup sheet will be available for a day trip train ride from Raleigh or Cary, or wherever you want to depart from, to visit the NC Transportation Museum at Spencer (east of Salisbury) on

Saturday, May 18 th . In addition to visiting the museum other events will also be on going at the site. Departure time will be around 7:00 am with return planned for midafternoon. Ground transportation will be arranged by the Club. Food will also be available at the site.

In addition, a second signup sheet will be available for a special Club project. Steve Wills is planning a hands on seminar for a Saturday in June for model railroading bridge building. The event will commence about 10:00 am and end around 3:00 pm. A break for lunch is planned. The cost of materials to be provided by Steve will be \$10.00 for each participant.

Following the meeting George Lasley will present of program on the Train Collectors' Association (TCA) recent gathering in York, PA, which George attended. This is a huge annual national show and George's report promises to be informative and an educational experience.

As a remainder a standing invitation is offered to the Membership 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 operate trains, work on projects or otherwise socialize for a few hours. All are welcome.

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 6th at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse.

The next Membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 16 th at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse.

Please plan to attend this Thursday as we look forward to shared camaraderie and working together to make 2019 a great model railroading experience for all.

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

President Clif Kelly call the meeting of March 21st to order at 7:00 pm.

George Lasley lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Magnani took the Minutes and called the roll:

Those present where:

Ron Abraham, Arthur, AB, Boone, Preston Cudd, Bernie Dawson, William Ferguson, Michael Johns, Michael Keelean, Clif Kelly, Fred Krauss, John Kuchnia, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, Ted Leonard, Tom Magnani, Collin Martinko, Bryan Parrish, Ethan Quiram, John Ragan, John Spach, Ron Wertenberg and Kenneth Wesp.

Recognition of New Members/Visitors

Visitors: Wayne Atkin, Tom Garren, Joe T. Milko and Ron Wertenberg.

Tom Garren introduced himself. He was one of the first members of the Club. He models mainly in 2 rail O and was out of the hobby for a while. This is his 2nd meeting.

Clif Kelly presented the idea of setting aside the last Sunday's of March, April and May as a Membership Meeting to accommodate those modelers who are unable to attend our usual scheduled meetings. Mike Johns suggested that a 2 PM would accommodate people's Sunday morning schedules and family lunches.

Treasurer 's Report

Treasurers report by Clif Kelly noted that we had in the bank approximately \$22,143 at the end of February. We had had \$28,612 at the end of January. A year ago we were at \$17,331.

Clif noted that inventories for all the Layouts are due for our financial record keeping by the May Meeting.

The Leads on the Layouts are as follows:

HO = Mike Johns

Thomas HO = Garrett Brown

O = Mike Keelean

S = Ron Abraham

N = Bernie Dawson

G = Scott Gagnon

Lego = Steve Wills

Note: The Secretary was asked to add Phil Vaughn to the N Scale Committee.

Report on Brick Universe LEGOs Event, 9-10 March

Mike Keelean reported that it was an excellent Club event. He thanked, as best as he could remember who was there, Patrick and Robert Bradley, Preston Cudd, Bill Ferguson, Mike Keelean, Ted Kunstling, and George Lasley and Steve Wills. Most of the time there was a 30 - 45 minute wait line for our layout and Lego devices. They

gave away all 1,200 flyers and, by the end of the show people were taking pictures of the flyers

Upcoming events:

Spring Open House, 23 March

Our Spring Open House will be March 23rd from 10 AM - 4 PM at the club house. Final clean-up will begin at 9 AM. All hands need to host participants in running trains and talking with guests. The Club has cups and plates. We need non-gooey cookies and small edibles, soft drinks and ice. Layouts should be cleaned and have their tracks wiped down.

Thomasville Trackside Trains Day Event, 13 April

The Cub will participate in the 1st Annual Thomasville Trackside Trains Day Event on April 13th. It can be reached by taking Exit 108 on I-85. We will bring some small traveling layouts.

Report on May and November Club Shows

George Lasley reported that the 'Spring into Trains' Model Railroading Show, to be held May 4-5, 2019, has only 4 - 5 tables left. It will be held in the Kerr Scott Building at the State Fairgrounds. The building opens at 7 AM on Saturday. The layout area will be somewhat crowded compared to our November show. Club Members are asked to help.

Findings/Recommendations of "Ways and Means" Subcommittee on Membership Dues Structure

George Lasley reported that the Board voted to approve the recommendation of the "Ways and Means" Subcommittee on Membership Dues Structure from \$25/mo. to \$30/mo., \$300/year to \$360/year, and to refer it to the Membership for an up or down vote. Steve Wills noted that we will still be in a deficit spending mode; only not as drastically. Also, that all our dues, which are tied to the Senior dues, The Junior and axxociate dues will change in proportion.

Bernie Dawson's motion to approve the Subcommittee's recommended Dues increase was seconded by Fred Krauss and voted upon by the Senior Members in good standing who were at the meeting. The vote was: 14 For, None against and 1 abstention.

Conduct of the Election Process

George Lasley explained that the 3 At-Large Directors; Bill Ferguson, Mike Keelean and Ethan Quiram, will be contacting the Membership. Nominations can be presented to the Secretary of the Club or any Officer for Club Officers for the June 2019 to May 31, 2020 term of office. The nominations close at April's Membership Meeting. The voting will be completed at May's Membership Meeting.

George Lasley made a motion to open the nominations for the Club's officers was seconded by Mike Johns and approved unanimously.

Discussion for Program Volunteers/Ideas/Presentations

Tonight's presentation will be 'Empire Building' by Bernie Dawson.

April's presentation will be by George Lasley on his trip to the TCA Spring Train Show in York, PA.

May's presentation will be 'A History of British Railways' by Aidan Ledoux.

John Spach suggested that we ask if someone from the Norfolk & Western Historical Society would be interested in a talk to our membership.

Mike Johns suggested asking someone to speak about the Amtrak volunteer process.

New Business

Mike Johns presented the idea of a club train ride to the May 18th Train & Truck Show at the NC Museum of Transportation at Spencer. We would catch an early morning train, arrive around 10 AM and leave on the 3PM back to this area. Parking is free at the Cary station. Admission is \$12 including a ride at the museum.

George Lasley's motion to suspend the rules for Tom Garren to be elected to Probationary Membership as this was his 2nd meeting was seconded by Arthur Boone.

Mike Keelean's motion to elect Tom Garren to Probationary Membership was seconded by George Lasley and approved unanimously.

Clif Kelly's motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM was seconded by Arthur Boone.

The Motion carried.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors

President April 1, 2019. The meeting was held at the NRV Clubhouse located at 1615 Old Louisburg Rd., Raleigh, NC 27604.

President Clif Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Secretary Tom Magnani called the Roll and recorded the Minutes.

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

Members present: Brock Bowden, Tom Garren, George Lasley and John Ragan.

Clif recognized Tom Garren as our newest Probationary Member.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that as of the end of February our Total Assets were \$1,961.44 vs \$22,143.61 at the end of February. A year ago our Total Assets were \$18,324.03. Our Edward Jones account has recovered almost all of the drop from late last year's market fluctuations.

Steve reminded the Board and the attendees that the club inventory ***MUST*** be completed ASAP. For each layout he needs a count of Modules, Locomotives, Rolling stock, Power supplies and DCC controllers, etc. Anything that is not for sale ***MUST*** be included in the inventory.

Steve reported that the 200 Pieces of Lego style railroad straight track have arrived. The Lego style charger is still on order.

Steve stated, for the record, that he wanted to thank the people who organized and cleaned the Tool Room and the Lobby's S Scale and N Scale layouts. They were ready in time for the Open House and ran nicely.

Clif Kelly reported that 1 of 3 basic Digitrax DCC controllers, a UT-4, is here and in use. The other 2 are on order from Train Buddy.

Report on Recent Club Activities

LEGO BrickUniverse Show

Steve Wills reported on the Club's participation at the LEGO BrickUniverse Show at the Raleigh Convention Center this past March 9th and 10th. Although we were placed against a wall so that only 1 side was accessible to the public. The result was that there was often a 45 minute wait for the people to get to our layout. We could have used 1 or 2 more people. He has asked that we be placed so that we have more than one side accessible to the public.

March 23rd Open House

Mike Johns reported that we had an excellent turnout. He counted 74 sign-ins with 9 membership applications submitted. There were several unsolicited rave reviews of our clubhouse and its layouts as well as our cleanliness and

organization. He thanked Bill and MaryLou Ferguson for shepherding our snacks. He thanked Mike Keelean and his assistants for cleaning the building. Mike Keelean submitted the following to the Board by email:

The Open House on the 23rd was very well attended by both the public and club members. I didn't get an exact count on attendance but we got 8 applications filled out with one "youth" membership individual paying for the remainder of the year. The youth has been to several club events and weekends so is recommended for approval (Mark Roberts) at the general meeting. Two others look promising for membership based on their expressed interest and local residences.

The Board discussed possible dates for the next several Open House events and came to June 2nd and October 12th for the next 2 events.

Report on May and November Club Shows

George Lasley reported that we are in good shape for May's show on the 4th and 5th. He has reached 'sell out' with approximately 150 tables sold. This count does not include our Club tables.

Following a discussion, Tom Magnani's motion to authorize John Ragan to spend up to \$100 to advertise the show on Facebook was seconded by Mike Johns and approved unanimously. Advertising will begin 10 days to 2 weeks before the show.

Friday, May 3rd, will have set up beginning at the Fairgrounds around 2 PM. Both days the show will run from 9 AM to 5 PM. Pizza will not be provided.

The Board discussed transportation requirements for the show and it was concluded that we will need 3 'van' loads to handle just the Lego items. It was decided to manage this with multiple trips if required rather than acquiring a large van or enclosed trailer. Ethan Quiram is planning to move and needs for the Club's portable HO layout to be returned to some other facility at the end of the show. He will discuss with John Spach.

Ticket prices for the May show will be \$7 and \$8 depending on whether the purchaser has a coupon.

The November show will be November 9th and 10th with set up on Friday, November 8th. George will begin work on that show following May's show.

Ticket prices for the Fall show will be \$8 and \$9 depending on whether the purchaser has a coupon.

Update on Upcoming Club Events

Thomasville Show, 13 April 2019

Mike Keelean submitted the following to the Board by email:

The club's attendance at the Thomasville First Annual Track Side Train Show on the 13th is on schedule with the new O-gauge/Lego layout ready, the HO traveler, and the Thomas layout prepared also. We have the minimum

volunteers already planning to attend but could always use more. Setup will be about 2 pm on Friday and the show starting at 9 on Saturday until 5pm.

Spencer Show and Train Museum (NC RailWay), 18 May 2019

Mike Johns reported that he is working to set up a club train ride to the museum.

Conduct of Election Process and Voting Procedures for May Officer Elections

Mike Keelean submitted the following to the Board by email:

The election committee has identified two members interested in the "at large" position on the Board of Directors. They are Ted Kunstling and John Spach. Both are qualified and recommended by the committee. To date no one has expressed an interest in any of the Officer positions so we will continue to ask.

Proposed Amendment for Club Constitution/Bylaws

George Lasley presented his idea to streamline the classes of membership as described in the By-Laws. He has chosen John Spach, Mike Keelean and John Ragan for his Committee.

New Business

George Lasley mentioned that he will be going to the main TCA Spring Train Show in York, PA. It will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday – April 11, 12 & 13, 2019.

Upcoming Meetings

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, April 18, 2019, at 7:00 PM.

George Lasley will be the presenter. The subject will be his trip to the TCA Spring Train Show in York, PA.

May's Board meeting will be on Monday, May 6, 2019, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

Mike Johns' motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded by Tom Magnani at 7:58 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.

Spring Open House will be March 23, 2019 10 - 4

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.

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Thursday, April 18th, 2019 at 7:00 pm.
Board of Governors, Monday, May 6th, 2019 at 7:00 pm.
LOCATION: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh, NC 2760**

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