

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

January 2020's program will be a presentation by George Lasley on "Look Inside my Toolbox".

Under the Crown Sheet by Clif Kelly

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heart felt wishes to the Club Membership for a most healthy and prosperous New Year. I hope the Holidays were filled with family, good food and good friends as we saw 2019 fade into the twilight. With its passing we look forward to 2020 and the renewed camaraderie we have come to enjoy and as we look forward to working together to resolve the challenges we will certainly face in the months to come. In addition, I wish to express my appreciation and that of Board of Directors for the outpouring of support the Membership has given to the Club during 2019 to make all our activities a big success.

The Membership Meeting will be conducted this coming Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Club House at 1615 Old Louisburg Road in Raleigh. Everyone is encouraged to attend to catch up on all the news and happenings. Topics of interest will cover:

Plans are being formulated to participate in this Spring's Brick Universe LEGOs Show at the Raleigh Convention Center on the weekend 7-8 March from 10 to 4:00 pm. Volunteers working with the Club's layout will get free admission.

The next Club Open House has been scheduled for Saturday, March 21st from 10 to 4:00 pm, with the 28th designated as a snow date.

The Thomasville Train Weekend will be on April 25th and 26th at the Thomasville Civic Building.

The Club's Spring Show, "Springs into Trains," will be the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd, with Friday used for vendor set up.

George Lasley will make an appeal and "pass for hat" for an annual collection for local charities which will be donated this year to the Baptist Men's Hurricane Relief Fund. The Club will match proceeds collected during the meeting.

Following the general meeting George Lasley will make an informative presentation on "A Look Inside My Toolbox." Please plan to attend.

As a reminder a standing invitation is made 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 run trains, work on projects or otherwise socialize for a few hours. All are welcome.

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

The next Membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 20th at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse.

Minutes of the Membership Meeting

President Clif Kelly call the meeting of December 19, 2019 to order at 7:00 PM.

The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mike Johns called the roll and took the minutes.

Board Members present were:

Wayne Aiken, Michael Keelean, and Clif Kelly.

Those members in attendance were:

Ron Abraham, Preston Cudd, Jerry Davis, Bill Ferguson, Thomas Garren, Mike Johns, Bob Kibbe, George Lasley, and Brian Parrish.

Recognition of New Members/Visitors

Our guests were Mary Lou Ferguson, Darron Parrish, and Scott Schulz, his first meeting.

Treasurer 's Report

Clif Kelly reported for Steve Wills that, Steve Wills reported that, as of the end of November, our Net Worth was \$57,442.08 vs. \$34,760.05 at the end of October. Our Edward Jones account had, as of 12/01/2019, \$9518.61. A year ago our Net Worth was \$41,942.02. We have benefitted from two fine Club Shows and strong membership.

Update Report on 35th Club Show (8-10 Nov)

George Lasley reported that we have no other business to report on our Last show. Our November Show was well attended and shows a fine revenue growth.

December 7-8: Club Participation in Train Collectors Association (TSA) Show

George Lasley reported that our Club Table at the Train Collectors Club of America's produced \$211 in sales for the club.

December 14: Participation in USO Event Holiday in the Hangar

Mike Keelean reported that our Club participated in the USO Holiday in the Hanger event. We had LEGO and O scale layouts.

December 22: Soup and Salad Holiday Gathering at the Ferguson's

The club is invited by Bill and Mary Lou Ferguson to their home for the annual Soup and Salad Holiday Gathering. It is on December 22nd from 3-5 pm at 4042 Landover Lane Raleigh.

Set Date for Next Club Open House

We shall have the next Club Open House in March 2020 on either 3/21 or 3/28. A committee will be formed.

Annual Collection for Local Charities

The hat was passed for the club annual charitable donation for Baptist Men's Hurricane Relief. The hat will be passed at the January meeting as well. The club will match member donations to this cause.

New Business

It was suggested that we post our club hours on the front door with a phone Contact number. We should seek to cover our posted Hours with Senior members. Ron Abraham's volunteered to help cover posted hours. Guests usually come at posted hours.

There will be a Thomasville train show on April 26-27, 2020.

Mike Johns will send a thank you letter to Peter Cusden for his Recent HO train car donation.

An assisted living group, Brookdale Assisted Living of Wake Forest, will visit our Club on February 19, 2020 during our Wednesday morning club opening. Club member assistance is needed.

May's Show will be the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd of 2020 with setup on May 1st.

Discussion for Program Volunteers/Ideas/Presentations

Tonight's program will be by Tom Garren about the work that he, Wayne Aiken and George Lasley have done to set up the Club's Library.

February – Scott Hall Presentation to be Announced.

Next Meetings

January's Board meeting will be on Monday, January 6, 2020, at 7:00 PM.

January's Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, January 16, 2020, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Minutes of the Board of Governors' meeting

President Clif Kelly called the meeting of January 6, 2020 to order at 6:50 PM. Secretary Tom Magnani called the Roll and recorded the Minutes.

Board members present: Wayne Aiken, Clif Kelly, Tom Magnani, Steve Wills, Ethan Quiram, and John Spach.

Members present: Ron Abraham, Richard Calfee, Bill Ferguson, Tom Garren, Mike Johns, George Lasley, John Ragan, and George Sawyer.

Recognition of Visitors and New Members

Our guests were Margaret Magnani and Larry Pearlman.

Larry Pearlman has recently moved from Chicago and has had 3 rail O, S and HO gauge railroads. He does not model N.

Mike Johns asked that Larry be afforded the opportunity to have a weekend Membership meeting convened to accommodate his work schedule in order to facilitate him attending a 2nd meeting and gaining membership.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Wills reported that, as of the end of December, our Net Worth was \$41,642.91 vs. \$57,442.08 at the end of November. Our Edward Jones account had, as of 12/31/2019, \$19,655.24. A year ago our Net Worth was \$30,764.61.

Steve Wills reported that one of our long term members seems to be having some issues and initiated a motion to change that member's status from Senior to Special Circumstances. The motion was seconded by John Spach and passed unanimously by all the Board Members present.

Steve Wills thanked John Ragan for his review of one of the Treasurer's Books. Steve asked that the Audit Committee complete the remaining books ASAP. George Lasley and John Ragan committed to having a meeting in the near term to complete the task.

Steve Wills reported that because it appears that we will be filing the IRS's long form for the foreseeable future that he would like to handle the show details separately to lessen his workload. Also, the IRS's tax year does not match the Club's membership year which complicates his work.

Clif Kelly's motion to accept the Treasurers' Report was seconded by Tom Magnani and passed unanimously.

Update Report on November 8th - 10th Club Show at Fairgrounds

George Lasley reported that we netted \$11,017.78 from the Gate and the Club table. We also netted \$211.00 from the club's table at December's TCA show. Tom Magnani's motion to close the books on the 2019 November show was seconded by John Spach and passed unanimously.

Tom Magnani's motion to open the books on the 2020 May 'Spring Into Trains' show was seconded by John Spach and passed unanimously. The show is the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd with setup on Friday, May 1st.

Update on Past Club Events:

George Lasley reported that the Train Collectors of America (TCA) show Dec 7th and 8th was glacial with extremely poor attendance. Our table may have been one of the most successful.

Steve Wills reported that on the USO Christmas in the Hangar which was held at RDU Airport on Saturday, December 14th. Our Lego layout was well received. He had support from Scott Gagnon, Mike Keelean, John and Donna Ragan and 2 of Steve's family members. Mike Keelean established a contact channel with the show's organizer.

Clif Kelly thanked Bill Ferguson and his wife for a lovely Holiday Soup and Salad Gathering at their home. Bill thanked those who came and especially those who brought cans of food which were then donated to a local food bank. John and Pat Held were there with one of their children.

Upcoming Club Related Events:

Steve Wills announced that this Spring's BrickUniverse Lego Fan Convention will be the weekend of March 7th and 8th at the Raleigh Convention Center. Volunteers working the Club's layout will get free admission.

Clif Kelly thanked Bill Ferguson for his work with Brookdale Assisted Living of Wake Forest. A group from the facility will visit our Club on February 19, 2020 during our Wednesday morning club opening. They expect no more than 10 guests. All aisles will need to be clear for walker and wheel chair access. Club member assistance is needed.

After some discussion the date for the next Club Open House will be March 21st with the 28th as a snow date. John Ragan will handle flyers. Tom Magnani will announce on Next Door.

The Thomasville Train Weekend will be on April 25th and 26th at the Thomasville Civic Building.

The Club's Spring Show, Spring into Trains, will be the weekend of May 2nd and 3rd with set up being on Friday May 1st.

There as a discussion of the Selma train show with the opinion expressed by several members that the show needs better and more cohesive organizing if it is to survive and succeed. The date needs to be confirmed but is expected to be the first weekend in October.

Annual Collection for Local Charities

George Lasley reported that there had been approximately \$200 collected from the membership for matching by the club. It will be donated to the Baptist Men's Hurricane Relief fund following the January Membership meeting.

Discussion for Program Volunteers/Ideas/Presentations.

January – A look inside my tool box by George Lasley

February - Scott Hall Presentation TBA

March – A railroad themed 'Songs of the Railroad' sing along led by Mike Johns

New Business

George Sawyer presented the concept of using the 'Square' credit card reader for future club shows. Square charge 2.75%, or \$0.25 on a \$9 ticket as a fee, Money is automatically deposited into a designated account within a short period of time. The device encrypts the information before it goes out into the WiFi network. It would save our customers who do not carry cash the \$4 service fee at the stand alone ATMs. The Club table could use it, over a specific amount, to handle credit card sales that now require buyers to provide cash or checks.

Because Square will 'claw back' disputed funds he recommended that we establish an independent account to be used for their devices/services. Steve Wills said that we will need to maintain \$500 in that account to avoid bank fees.

Tom Magnani's motion for Steve Wills to open a 2nd Checking Account for the Square credit card reader/service and, an account with Square was seconded by John Spach and passed unanimously.

Tom Magnani's motion for Steve Wills to reimburse Ron Abraham \$61 for the purchase of building for the S Scale layout was seconded by John Spach and passed unanimously.

John Spach initiated a discussion of possibly setting up the power tools in one of the storage rooms. George Lasley made the point that this was not what the Board had approved which facilitated a further discussion. Paramount was that

cleanliness is MANDATORY. Your day is not over UNTIL, and AFTER, everything, inside and outside has been swept or vacuumed.

It was agreed that for reasons of set-up room the table saw should be used only in the parking lot. The other tools, and a vacuum system would go into the designated Tool Room. For reasons of safety the door lock is to be rekeyed or replaced so that the room can be kept locked when not occupied.

At Tom Garren's request Steve Wills' motion for Tom to purchase a step stool for the library for less than or equal to \$100 was seconded by John Spach and passed unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings

The next Membership Meeting will be on Thursday, January 16, 2020, at 7:00 PM.

February's Board meeting will be on Monday, February 3, 2020.

Adjournment

Steve Wills' motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded by Clif Kelly at 8:20 PM.

Neat Links

Scott Hall forwarded the following links from the Sipping-&-Switching Layout at this fall's show.

Sipping-&-Switching of NC Layout Map 2019:

<https://sandsofnc.groups.io/g/main/attachment/9385/0/2019%20NRV%20F-F.pdf>

CAB RIDE; NRV 2019 #1 Clock wise:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PoIUnxkIl6Y&feature=youtu.be>

CAB RIDE; NRV 2019 #2 FREE-MO ZONE & SOME SWITCHING DISTRICT:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=etiDQ7HOErA&feature=youtu.be>

CAB RIDE; NRV 2019 #3 Counter Clock Wise:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WxmK_IMCeqI&feature=youtu.be

CAB RIDE; NRV 2019 #4 BRANCH LINE & DUAL GAUGE TOUR:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fl4NdxSC3-s&feature=youtu.be>

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.

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

First Class

**NEXT MEETING - Thursday, January 16th, 2019 at 7:00 pm.
Board of Governors, Monday, February 3rd, 2020 at 7:00 pm.
LOCATION: 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh, NC 2760**

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Clif Kelly	President	bkelly11@nc.rr.com	919-614-8891
John Sprach	Vice-President	jtspach@earthlink.net	937-215-2723
Steve Wills	Treasurer	919-845-4968	
Tom Magnani	Secretary	tommag1@aol.com	
Ethan Quiram	At Large	ejq84@vt.edu	
Michael Keelean	At Large	keeleanmike@gmail.com	
Wayne Aiken	At Large	htmoc42@hotmail.com	

WEB SITE

Joe Johnston	Newsletter editor	WWW.NRVCLUB.NET
Patrick Bradley	Webmaster	nrvmrrc@gmail.com Professor.Miner1@gmail.com