

The

**Whistle**



**Post**

*Official Newsletter of the*

**Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club**

**1615 Old Louisburg Rd Raleigh, NC 27604**

**Phone: 919-400-5570**

### **Program for February 18<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting**

George Lasley will offer another installment of slides from his memory stick on various North Carolina railroads from the 1980s and other topics of interest. The presentation will commence immediately following adjournment of the Membership Meeting and will be made available to those participating from the Zoom community. The meeting and program are expected to end by 9:00 pm to ensure that Club members can return home safely in compliance with the Governor's Covid-19 curfew set for 10:00 pm.

### **All Hands on Deck**

***Please mark your calendars.*** The club plans to hold the "Spring into Trains Show" from April 30 to May 2, 2021. The Fall Show was a bit of a scramble as the Covid-19 outbreak left us short-handed with many members unable to participate. The Board would like to avoid a similar situation this May. Anyone who can participate, even if for only a short time period to help set up or to man the show, will be welcomed with open arms and Covid-19 protocols. Please contact George Lasley about times when help will be most needed. Thank you in advance.

### **Under the Crown Sheet by Clif Kelly February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The second Membership Meeting of the year is scheduled for this coming Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at the Clubhouse. Start time is 7:00 pm. Protocols will be in place to conduct temperature checks at the door for Club members planning to attend in person. The wearing of face masks will be mandatory. Social distancing will be practiced, and hand sanitizer will be available. If you believe that you may have a fever, have been exposed to someone with the virus, or suspect you have the virus yourself, please take adequate precautions by staying isolated at home.

As an alternative Ted Kunstling has generously provided a link to allow the Membership the option to attend remotely by Zooming in at the following link if you do not feel comfortable attending the meeting in person:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86568702292>

All you need is a lap-top, note-pad or cell phone that receives your email. Dial in will begin at 6:45 pm and Ted will log you in. To ensure some degree of order and minimize background disturbances, each participant is asked to mute his microphone which is found in the lower left portion of the screen. Please contact Ted at 919-787-5282 if you have any questions. This production will be coordinated from the Clubhouse and will provide an exciting off campus experience to join in the meeting if you have not used this medium before.

The meeting will be highlighted by the monthly Treasurer's Report given by Mike Keelean. George Lasley, acting in his capacity as Grand Pooh Bah and Show Producer, will present an update to the "Spring into Trains Show", scheduled for the State Fairgrounds (Scott Building) over the long weekend of April 30 through May 2, 2021. Mark your calendars now for this event. As in the past, Friday will be the setup day for attending vendors. Show times for Saturday and Sunday will be 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Tickets will be good for both days, and are priced at \$8.00 with coupons and \$9.00 for general admission. Cash, checks and credit cards will be accepted. Coupons can be found at the Club Website at:

<http://www.nrvclub.net>.

It is not too early to begin thinking about the election process for Club Officers. Positions for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be on the ballot. One of the senior At-Large Members will rotate off the Board leaving this position open for nominations as well. The Board Officers serve for one year and the At-Large positions serve staggered three-year terms. The At-Large Board Members will begin canvassing the Membership for interest in the elected positions during March. A slate of Officers will be presented at the April Membership Meeting at which time nominations will be closed. Election of Officers will be held in May, with the new slate taking office on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Only Senior Members in good standing are eligible to seek office.

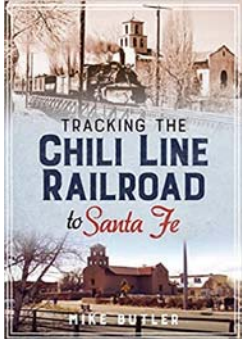
The May Show is now less than three months away. As a viable vaccine for the COVID-19 virus has now become available, there is discussion that large segments of the general population may have received the immunization by the Show date. A number of Club members have already received the first of two doses. This may work to help create a more positive attitude toward attendance and working the Show. Social protocols will continue to be in effect. You are asked to thoughtfully consider supporting the Show by your attendance, if possible.

For those with an interest in good food and service we are now meeting in west Raleigh for breakfast every Wednesday at 9:00 am at Barry's Café, located at 2851 Jones Franklin Road in the Swift Creek Shopping Center (intersection of Jones Franklin and Tryon Roads). If you have not yet participated in this event you are encouraged and invited to join us. This activity has been ongoing since July' and we practice all Covid-19 social protocols.

Best regards for now and everyone stay healthy, safe and well. See you this Thursday.

## Articles of Special Interest

**BOOK REVUE by Ken Howard:** *Tracing the Chili Line Railroad to Santa Fe* by Mike Butler



Butler documents the history of the narrow gauge Denver & Rio Grande Railroad line from Antonio, Colorado to Santa Fe, New Mexico. The book is organized into chapters that document each important segment of the line including: 1) a richly illustrated description of each section of line, its construction and operation, 2) a guide book if the reader wants to trace the now abandoned right-of-way, and 3) sections on interesting characters who were involved with the history of the railroad. Several maps are included to help the reader relate the 1880-1941 railroad to the modern highway system and area of interest (Taos, pueblos, etc.)

I found the book very interesting from both historical and technical perspectives. The author really dug into the New Mexico photo archives to document the D&RG operation. There are great shots of stations, order boards, signals, section houses, storage buildings, trestles and bridges, steam power, and rolling stock spanning the 1880s to 1940s. Because I am modelling the D&RG on my home layout, I found this reference particularly relevant for building models representative of the period. Don't buy the book if you are looking for specifications on rolling stock or locomotives, but if you're interested in western narrow gauge history, it's a fun read.

The book was published in 2020 and is available from Amazon, or other sellers for about \$25.00.

## Neat Links

Ken Howard would like to refer members to the following documentary about the Arctic rail lines of Alaska and Yukon Territory:

[Klondike Alaska: A Rail History - YouTube](#)

(To access the video use ctrl and click)

The video is an hour and 30 minutes in long and highlights the history of the region and the development of the railroad lines built to serve the gold rush and other mining ventures in the Arctic. Good action footage of the surviving railroads (Alaska – White Pass and Yukon) is included along with lots of photos of the smaller roads that did not survive when mining ceased. I was surprised at the number of short lines that were actually built in the early 1900s.

Tom Magnani submitted the following link from U-Tube on British steam locomotives and particularly the very beginnings of locomotive development. This video of the world's first operating locomotive replica the Trevithick built in Colebrickdale, England by an insurance company and donated to this museum. Running time is about 1 minute, but there are lots of pictures and links to other steam related videos.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K40XrR67fas>

Tom Magnani sent an additional U-Tube link to a 1948 steam locomotive explosion in Ohio. The video by TA Productions is only a few minutes, but shows the explosive power of big boilers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IrN9MTj5YI>

Tom also submitted another link "130 moves on the mainline" that came to him via William Bailey, a former club member. 130 is a restored steam engine on the Welsh Highland Railways for those interested in European railroading. Running time on the video is 6½ minutes.

<https://youtu.be/HRrKXknvltE>

## Member's Home Layouts

We're launching a new section in the Whistle Post this month where members can highlight their home layouts for others in the club to see. We hope there will be sufficient interest to make this a monthly feature. Thanks to George Lasley for the initial contribution.



George Lasley models the Virginian Railway in O scale, 2-rail. The photograph is the town of Prosperity, West Virginia, on his layout. To see other photos of this spectacular railway, go to the Club website and look under member articles.

## **Minutes of the Membership Meeting of January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

1. Call Meeting to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call — Clif Kelly and Tom Garren (Acting Secretary).

The meeting was called to order by Clif Kelly at 7:00 pm.

Those in attendance at the Clubhouse were: Wayne Aiken, Dan Egy, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Keelean, Clif Kelly, George Lasley and Mike Marsh.

Those attending by Zoom were: Doug Alumbaugh, Jerry Davis, Scott Hall, Mike Irwin, Ted Kunstling, Tom Magnani, George Sawyer and John Spach. Also attending by Zoom as guests were Donnie Baca and his son Max.

2. Recognize Visitors and Applications for Prospective Members — Clif Kelly.  
Donnie Baca and his son Max attended by Zoom. They are getting starting in the hobby and working in HO scale. Donnie is in the Army and is currently stationed at Fort Bragg. They live in Moore County.
3. Treasurer's Report – Mike Keelean.  
Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report.  
Checks are beginning to come in for the "Spring into Trains Show".  
Mike is continuing to follow up with two members about their dues.
4. Update Report on "Spring into Trains Show" (30 April- 2 May) — George Lasley.  
The flyers for the show have been printed and are available.  
The vendor letter will go out late next week.  
There are 162 saleable tables for this show.  
TCA has taken a block of 36 tables with an option for up to 12 more.  
Layouts for the show will include North Raleigh NRail, our Lego and traveling O layouts.  
The Club table will also be located in the area with the layouts.  
Ted Kunstling has linked Facebook to our website to share information about the show.
5. Report on Holiday Charitable Giving — Mike Keelean.  
Thanks to everyone's generosity we were able to send a \$900.00 check to both the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC and the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle.
6. Announcement of Appointment of Ted Kunstling as Social Media Chairman — Clif Kelly.  
Ted Kunstling has accepted the position of Social Media Chairman.  
He will maintain the Club's activities on Facebook and other interactions with our website.  
This position has been vacant since October.

7. Passing of Bob Patterson — Clif Kelly.

Clif reported that Bob Patterson recently passed away unexpectedly. Bob had been a member of the Club years ago and had made recent inquiries to rejoin in the near future. He had a lifelong interest in model railroading. We will miss the opportunity to renew his friendship.

8. Call for New Business — Clif Kelly.

Mike Keelean announced that his granddaughter is selling Girl Scout cookies. The cost of any cookies purchased by Club members will be matched by Mike in the form of a cash donation to the club. The sign-up sheet will be at breakfast on January 27.

Tom Garren announced the creation of a new cleaned up donation form. The old one had been copied too many times and looked bad. The new form is available at the Clubhouse in the top bin near the door in the library. Please use this form when you receive donations.

Mike Keelean reported that the roof replacement at the Clubhouse started today. Members should take care in parking near the building until the work is completed and any nails that have fallen into the parking lot are cleaned up.

Mike Irwin is putting together starter sets of HO equipment for folks new to the hobby. He will be working with tonight's guests on one such set.

9. Adjournment — Clif Kelly.

Tom Garren made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mike Marsh and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Following adjournment of the Membership Meeting George Lasley presented a Program of slides on North Carolina railroading interest, with emphasis on the Winston-Salem area.

## **Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of February 8, 2021**

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call – Clif Kelly and Tom Garren (On-site Secretary).

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Clif Kelly.

Those attending in person: Wayne Aiken\*, Dan Egy, Tom Garren\*, Ken Howard, Mike Johns, Mike Keelean\*, Clif Kelly\*, George Lasley, Mike Marsh and John Ragan.

Those attending by Zoom: Brittani and Max Boca, Jerry Davis, Bill Ferguson, Tom Magnani\*, Mike Mannella and John Spach\*.

\* Denotes member of the Board of Governors.

2. Recognition of New Members and Visitors – Mike Keelean and Clif Kelly.  
Tonight we had Brittani and Max Boca and Mike Mannella attending by Zoom as potential new members. We have received applications from both families. They can be voted on at the upcoming Membership Meeting.  
We have received an application from Fabian Zaens and need to follow up with Richard Haek.  
Members are reminded to make sure guests sign the guest book and make sure guests are shown around and understand the offerings of the Club.  
John Ragan expressed concern about the Clubhouse being open during the posted hours.
3. Treasurer’s Report – Mike Keelean.  
Mike Keelean gave the treasurer’s report.  
All members have now paid their dues.  
The Edward Jones account has been moved to the EJ office in Morrisville. The funds have been remixed to produce more income.
4. Report on Club Renovations to Roof – Mike Keelean.  
The new roof has been installed.  
We are waiting for another good rain or two to be sure that there are no leaks before moving the books back to the library.  
Additionally there are 5 or 6 ceiling tiles that need to be replaced due to water damage. It was suggested that the Club buy a case, use what is needed to fix the problem and sell the rest to George Lasley.
5. Outlook for Spring and Summer, 2021 – Clif Kelly.  
George Lasley gave a report on the “Spring into Trains Show.”  
At this time there are only 25-30 tables remaining for sale of the 155 total. Following the meeting George updated the available table count to 12.  
If the TCA is unable to sell their tables to their members and we need them, we may buy back a block of 12 tables.  
We need all hands on deck to help with this show. This appeal for help will continue to be made as we get closer to the show dates.  
  
We would like to have an open house in July. This may not be possible due to Covid restrictions in place at that time.  
  
We were asked if we had considered hosting birthday parties. At this time Covid restrictions will prevent us from doing this.  
  
We were reminded that elections are coming up.  
The nominating committee will be charged at the March Board meeting.  
The nominations will be presented in April and the election will be held at the May Membership Meeting.
5. Call for Articles and Pictures of Interest for the Whistle Post – Clif Kelly.  
The membership is reminded that we need content for the Whistle Post.

There was discussion about the Alaska Railroad video link.

Ken Howard reiterated that additional content will make the Whistle Post more than just the minutes of our meetings.

Tom Garren reminded everyone that the Webmaster needs updated descriptions of the Lego, S and G scale layouts for the website. Please send these to Bernie Dawson, club webmaster.

7. New Business – Clif Kelly.

Mike Johns requested money to fund the construction of a yard on the HO layout.

Tom Garren made a motion to authorize up to \$400.00 to fund this project. Should more funds be needed the HO committee will come back to the Board with an additional request.

The motion was seconded by Mike Keelean. It passed unanimously.

There was a discussion about the addition of a turntable to the HO layout. No conclusion was reached so John Spach made a motion to table this issue. It was seconded by Mike Keelean and passed unanimously.

This picks up on John Ragan's concern.

We advertise that the Clubhouse will be open from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. There seems to be a problem keeping the club open for this time period, especially from 12:00 - 2:00 pm.

After much discussion, it was suggested that a signup sheet needs to be created to allow members to sign up for shifts during our advertised open hours at the Clubhouse.

This will be discussed further at the Membership Meeting on February 18.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

## **Future Events**

The Club is open to friends and guests most Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Club has resumed most social activities with a limitation of ten persons per room. Protocols call for social distancing, face masks and use of hand sanitizers. If you do not have a key to the Clubhouse, please call 919-400-5570 to ensure that the Club is open.

The Club anticipates planning for an Open House in July 2021, depending upon status of the Corona Virus.

All events and meetings are held at the Clubhouse, 1615 Old Louisburg Road, Raleigh, NC 27604. For directions to the Clubhouse, check out our website at <http://www.nrvclub.net>.



## Notes from the Editor and Webmaster

Please send recent photos of Club activities to Bernie Dawson, at [nrvwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:nrvwebmaster@gmail.com), so he can update our website.

Please send articles and video links of interest to Ken Howard, Whistle Post Editor, at [klhowardjr@aol.com](mailto:klhowardjr@aol.com) no later than Tuesday, March 9th, one week prior to the next scheduled Membership Meeting (March 18th).

The Whistle Post and the website will host a new section to give members the opportunity to display photographs and descriptions of their home layouts. As we work our way into this feature, please consider sending about a half dozen photos with some descriptive verbiage of your handiwork to [klhowardjr@aol.com](mailto:klhowardjr@aol.com). Tom Garren and I will see that your work is presented.

Check out our website at: <http://www.nrvclub.net> to see when the club will be open and call 919-400-5570 to be sure that the doors are open, if you don't have a key.

## Upcoming Meetings

Membership: Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

Board of Governors: Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

Breakfast: every Wednesday at 9:00 am at Barry's Café, located at 2851 Jones Franklin Road in the Swift Creek Shopping Center (intersection of Jones Franklin and Tryon Roads), Cary, NC.

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Clif Kelly	President	<a href="mailto:bkelly11@nc.rr.com">bkelly11@nc.rr.com</a>	919-614-8891
John Spach	Vice-President	<a href="mailto:jtspach@earthlink.net">jtspach@earthlink.net</a>	937-215-2723
Michael Keelean	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:keeleanmake@gmail.com">keeleanmake@gmail.com</a>	919-886-9238
Tom Magnani	Secretary	<a href="mailto:tommag1@aol.com">tommag1@aol.com</a>	914-815-2708
Calfee (Richard Calfee)	At Large	<a href="mailto:rhcalfree@yahoo.com">rhcalfree@yahoo.com</a>	301-335-1054
Tom Garren	At Large	<a href="mailto:tomgar@mindspring.com">tomgar@mindspring.com</a>	919-805-0909
Wayne Aiken	At Large	<a href="mailto:htomc42@hotmail.com">htomc42@hotmail.com</a>	919-602-8529

### OTHER KEY POSITIONS

George Lasley	Show Grand Pooh Bah	<a href="mailto:glasley@bellsouth.net">glasley@bellsouth.net</a>	919-757-4503
Calfee (Richard Calfee)	Membership Chair	<a href="mailto:rhcalfree@yahoo.com">rhcalfree@yahoo.com</a>	301-335-1054
Ted Kunstling	Social Media Chair	<a href="mailto:trkunstling@aol.com">trkunstling@aol.com</a>	919-787-5282
Tom Garren	Librarian	<a href="mailto:tomgar@mindspring.com">tomgar@mindspring.com</a>	919-805-0909
George Lasley	Historian	<a href="mailto:glasley@bellsouth.net">glasley@bellsouth.net</a>	919-757-4503
Ken Howard	Newsletter Editor	<a href="mailto:klhowardjr@aol.com">klhowardjr@aol.com</a>	919-851-3805

### WEB SITE

Bernie Dawson	Webmaster	<a href="mailto:nrvwebmaster@gmail.com">nrvwebmaster@gmail.com</a>	919-275-2144
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