

The

Whistle



Post

Official Newsletter of the

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

1615 Old Louisburg Rd Raleigh, NC 27604

Phone: 919-400-5570

“All Aboard”

Hello there from the rehab center. I'm a couple of weeks past surgery, and things are progressing. PT is a real treat. But we will get through it all. Next knee has already been scheduled for the end of October. Thank you all for the nice card and get-well thoughts. It really cheered me up after a tough night.

But on to the business of model railroading – Things are progressing nicely on many upgrading and refurbishing projects, thanks in particular to Mike Keelean who is doing yeoman's work on numerous fronts.

At the August board meeting, a topic was brought up for discussion that will be expanded upon at the general membership meeting. It involves the liability that the club can be placed into regarding young members. I want to bring it up here so you all can think it through and bring your thoughts to the membership meeting. Thanks in part to the awareness that has been brought to the forefront by the issues faced by the Boy Scouts, we must have a written policy in place that defines our policy toward how we deal with underage members. Currently, we have a policy that Youth members must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian. At the board meeting we passed a temporary plan that basically states there must be 2 Senior members in the building to allow for a youth member to get admittance to the building, unless the Youth member's Adult Guardian is a Senior member.

This is a very complex issue, but so is our litigious society, so we must treat this situation seriously and get a formal policy in place. Please come prepared to discuss this.

Earlier this month all of us who model in HO and use the layout received a request from the committee to give our opinions on what we would like to see as developments for the HO layout. Please all - take the time to respond to the email or directly contact Ken Howard, Rich Calfee, or Mike Johns with your input so they can prepare a great game plan for the layout

On the bright side, we have several new member applications in process which bodes well for our goal for this year and the future. Okay. Let's get this moving.

John Spach, President

New Club COVID-19 Mask Policy

In accordance with the City of Raleigh mandate, a mask or face covering is required while you are inside the Clubhouse regardless of your vaccination status. Thank you for your cooperation

Communication Alert

After our recent election of new officers, Tom Garren became Secretary of the Neuse River Model Railroad Club, replacing Tom Magnani. Consequently, future electronic correspondence will be sent to members from Tom Garren's e-mail address. Please add this address to your "trusted senders" list so that you will not have to check your Spam folder for news of Club activities: tomgar@mindspring.com

July 17th - A Successful Open House



A Full Parking Lot Equaled.....>>>>



A Full Club Room

A full parking lot led to a full Clubhouse. Foot traffic was heavy throughout the day and kept Mike Johns (our unofficial greeter) and other club members hopping. Over 75 people signed our Guest Book, and many more attended but didn't sign in. All seven layouts were in operation throughout the 10 am to 4 pm hours for attendance.

The Club membership was well represented. Members helped demonstrate layouts and talked to guests about the Club and our activities. Some of the younger guests even had the opportunity to run trains for the first time. Thanks are due to the following members who helped make the event a success: Ron Abraham, Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Bernie Dawson, Dan Egy, Bill Ferguson, Randy Foulke, Jake Forbes, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Mike Johns, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, Mike Marsh, Ethan Quiram, George Sawyer, John Spach, Tom Tiemann, Bob Witwer, and Steve Wills. Thanks are also due to those who assisted in preparing for the event but were unable to attend.

Special thanks to Mike Johns for organizing the successful event.

New Lighting



Before



After

If you compare the two photos of our Clubhouse meeting room, you should notice quite a difference. Thanks to Bob Witwer for installing new LED lighting to replace our old fluorescent fixtures. The rooms throughout the Clubhouse are now much brighter, and perhaps more importantly, easier to keep cool.



Before



After

The HO layout room was noticeably brighter and more colorful for our members and Open House visitors thanks to Bob's efforts. Bob hopes to finish the rest of the lighting change out by early August.

Help Wanted Ad

The Club is seeking a talented and eager volunteer, or volunteers, to take over responsibility for care, feeding, maintenance, and development of the G scale layout in the meeting room. The layout has become an orphan and needs someone to care for it so that it remains an attraction for future open house and guest events. Anyone interest should contact John Spach. Such volunteer, or volunteers, will be immediately welcomed to a lead role on the G scale layout committee.

Neat Links

Ted Kunstling requested that we share the following information and link:

Dave Bright's website www.csa-railroads.com is pretty amazing - tons of info and entertaining accounts. Do share the link with our comrades.

Dave Bright is scheduled to speak at our September 13 Raleigh Civil War Round Table (CWRT) meeting on his book *Locomotives Up the Turnpike*, an account of a raid early in the Civil War when Stonewall Jackson captured a quantity of B&O RR locomotives and rolling stock and hauled them over roads with horses and mules to be used by the Confederates. Our meeting will be hybrid in-person / Zoom at 7:00 PM, and I shall send an invitation to be forwarded to NRVRR Club and CS RR Club members inviting their attendance.

Editor's note: The CWRT site is 22,000 pages of pictures, maps, essays, and transcribed period documents. Look for Ted's invitation to the September 13th meeting.

Jerry Davis provided the following links:

If you caught last month's links to Jerry Guth's O gauge layout you'll also enjoy these links to videos of Joe Scales' layout.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GBkLKeB_frw Joe Scales' Southern Rwy - Operations

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hycypxX8yK0> Layout Tour - Joe Scales' Southern Rwy - Part 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8w5uRvwNPo> Layout Tour - Joe Scales' Southern Rwy - Part 2

Editor's note: The first video runs 11 minutes and depicts operations from a normal photographer's view. The second and third videos run 9 1/2 and 11 minutes and are shot from a camera mounted on the front of a travelling train. They give an engineer's view of the layout southbound from Danville to Greensboro in Part 1 and northbound from Greensboro to Danville in Part 2. The videos show the great trackwork and benchwork on the layout, but they are old (2009). Visit the next Whistle Post to see the scenery.

Here are links to two new ones from Jerry Davis:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIXBGAx3jjU> A Day At Bealville - Part 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KU5BWg5iJDo> A Day At Bealville - Part 2

Editor's note: These videos run 14.5 and 13.4 minutes, respectively, and show the arrival of trains at Bealville and details of the town itself when no trains are running.

Both Southern Pacific and Santa Fee trains that operated on this beautiful layout. Be sure to enjoy the quality of the videos – both detail and depth of field. Enjoy!

Tom Magnani forwarded the following YouTube link:

'Why They Run Locomotives Back to Back'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LA6MWHPEc0>

Editor's note: This is a Distant Signal Production that runs about 23 minutes. It's a nicely narrated video about rail operations on CSX in Florida complete with the train crew radio chatter. Enjoy!

Member's Layout

Dan Egy's HO Layout:

This month the Whistle Post is featuring one of Dan Egy's layouts – his HO model of winter in the Bavarian Alps. If you're interested in modeling winter scenes, this German town with a ski hill would be a great place to pick up some pointers. The layout is entirely contained on one 4x8 sheet. A lot of action is going on in a small patch of real estate.



Town and depot with ski hill in the background.



Note the skiers – Dan says their falls were based on his experience.



Notice the tram in front of the buildings.



The church in the center background is a 3D puzzle building.

Look for pictures of Dan's shelf layout in the next edition of the Whistle Post.

Make Our Own Custom Detail Parts for Structures and Rolling Stock by Scott Otto

3D printers have a lot of potential for model railroading, but fused deposition modeling (FDM) printers leave a lot to be desired. FDM is an additive process where the material in the form of a filament is melted and squirted through a nozzle and fused together layer-by-layer in a specified pattern to create a 3D object. The layers can separate if not laid down properly and distort while printing. The result has rough edges that require smoothing -- hard to do with HO or N scale or parts. Certainly they're not suitable for rolling stock and main structural elements.

3D resin printers, however, solve this by using an epoxy resin that is fused by laser light while immersed in the resin. The laser is so much finer that superfine detail can be printed on the surfaces of an object and can create batches of small parts in a single run. After curing by UV light, the material is harder than FDM materials, easily paintable, and in a lot of ways superior to injection molded parts bought at a store. I also find that fixing existing pieces that have missing parts or applying more detail is easier when I can create my own custom parts. I now have a farmhouse that has a split-rail fence that I could not find in a catalog. I will say that it is a messy process, and cleanup can be a hassle, but no more so than the constant tune-up and fiddliness of a FDM printer - and the results are so much nicer!

Well, the same 3D resin printers that I used at Durham's MakerPlace (SplatSpace) are now being sold through August at a blowout price! We can get one for the clubhouse, or you could get one for your home, for the price of a good HO locomotive.

Anycubic Photon S: \$179:

<https://www.anycubic.com/collections/special-offer/products/anycubic-photon-s?variant=30084941119548>

Anycubic pretinted resin: \$39 ea or \$78 for 3 bottles:

https://www.anycubic3dstore.com/collections/basic-resin/products/colored-uv-resin-1kg-grey?fbclid=IwAR2FizPHV0QbIiVUoN-oG3hXC2oPvGWMX_-z4rnTWiKJ4hQkAKVhIqxcuko

Editor's Note: Thanks to **Tom Magnani** for providing the following Technical Specifications

- Printing Technology: LCD-based SLA 3D Printer
- Light source: UV integrated light (wavelength 405nm)
- XY DPI: 47um (2560*1440)
- Y axis resolution: 1.25um
- Layer resolution: 25 ~ 100um
- Printing speed: 20mm/h
- Rated Power: 50W
- Printer size: 230mm*200mm*400mm
- Printing volume: 115mm *65mm *165mm (4.52"*2.56"*6.1")
- Printing material: 405nm photosensitive resin
- Connectivity: USB Port
- Package Weight: 9.5kg

Real Train Photos

For those of you who might have missed Ken Howard's presentation on the Colorado Railroad Museum after the last membership meeting, here's a sample of what you would have seen. Denver & Rio Grande Western converted its main line from narrow to standard gauge in the late 1800s. Number 683 was one of the first standard gauge engines. It was built by Baldwin in 1890 and is the last remaining D&RGW standard gauge still in existence.



Railroad Slang Contest (courtesy of John Spach)

Test your railroad knowledge with this 10 part challenge match up. Match the term with the appropriate definition. Answers can be found at the end of this edition of the Whistle Post.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 – Banjo | a – spike puller |
| 2 – Car Toad | b – derail |
| 3 – Cats Claw | c – hobo camp |
| 4 – Gasket | d – fireman's shovel |
| 5 – Jungle | e – railroad car engineer |
| 6 – Lambs Tongue | f – lantern |
| 7 – Rabbit | g – fast train |
| 8 – Shiner | h – a 50 cent tip |
| 9 – Whiskers | I – seniority |
| 10 – Hot Shot | j - donut |

Answers can be found on Page 9, just before the Membership Meeting Minutes.

Future Events

Following the August Membership Meeting, Ken Howard will give a slide presentation on “Steamtown National Historic Site, Scranton, Pennsylvania.” The slide show will begin about 10 minutes following meeting adjournment.

Following the September Membership Meeting, Randy Foulke will give a presentation on “Railcar Cleaning Facilities.” The show will begin about 10 minutes following meeting adjournment.

The **37th Train Show and Sale** will be held at the Jim Graham Building, North Carolina State Fairgrounds, 4285 Trinity Road, Raleigh, NC 27607 on November 6-7, 2021.

“Best Little Train Show in Greensboro”

Saturday, September 25, 2021, from 9 am to 5pm
Recreation Center – 3110 Forest Lawn Drive
Greensboro, North Carolina 27455
Admission: \$5 (children under 12 free)
www.carolinamodelrr.org

Autumn Rails 2021 – All Scales Model Railroad Show

Friday, October 1, 12 to 6 pm, and October 2, 10 am to 4 pm
WNC Agriculture Center, Expo Building
785 Boylston Hwy., (NC 280), Gate 5
Fletcher, North Carolina 28732
Admission: Adults \$6 for both days, kids and scouts free
www.fbe-nscale.org/autumn-rails/

Notes from the Editor and Webmaster

Please send recent photos of Club activities to Bernie Dawson, at nrvwebmaster@gmail.com, so he can continue adding new materials and updating our website.

Thanks to all who are contributing items for the Whistle Post. I am building files for use in future editions. Your participation is appreciated, and your contributions will appear as space permits. Please send articles, photos of real trains, book reviews, product reviews, photographs of your home layouts, and video links of interest to Ken Howard, Whistle Post Editor, at klhowardjr@aol.com.

The Clubhouse is open to friends and guests most Saturdays, and Sundays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. If you don't have a key, 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.

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

August Membership Meeting: Thursday, August 19th, 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

Board of Governors Meeting: Because of the Labor Day Holiday, the BOG will be moved to **Tuesday, September 7th**, 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

Breakfast Social: Every Wednesday, 9:00 am at Barry's Café, Raleigh, NC.

**Answers to Railroad Slang Matching Game: 1-d, 2-e, 3-a, 4 -j, 5-c, 6-h, 7-b, 8-f, 9-i, 10-g
How Did You Do?**

Minutes of the Membership Meeting of July 15th, 2021

1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President John Spach.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Clif Kelly.
2. Roll Call of Members in Attendance and on Zoom
Those in attendance in person were Ron Abraham, Wayne Aiken, Bill Ferguson, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Mike Marsh, John Ragan and John Spach.

Those attending by Zoom included Jerry Davis, Mike Irwin and Tom Magnani.
3. Recognition of Guests in Attendance and on Zoom
Michael Giles attended the meeting in person.
4. Minutes of the Last Meeting
There being no additions or corrections to the minutes of the last meeting, George Lasley made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Ken Howard seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
5. Treasurer's Report
George Lasley made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as given at the July 05, 2012, Board meeting. It was seconded by John Ragan and passed unanimously.
6. Communications with the Club – (phone, mail, email)
George Lasley has followed up with two emails to the Club. In both cases, the people wanted to sell their items rather than donate.

If bills are sent to the Clubhouse, they should be placed either in the black box in the library or on the credenza in front of the TV so that the treasurer can easily find them.

7. Committee Reports

a. Membership

Wayne Aiken turned in an application for a new Youth member.

Wayne was also able to hand out one of our gift bags to some visitors at the Clubhouse last weekend.

b. Ways and Means

It has been requested that the Club obtain a CPA to perform an audit on our books, review procedures, and file future tax returns. This is in line with the requirements set forth in the constitution and bylaws. Three different firms are being contacted to obtain estimates for this work. The Board will evaluate the information and make a decision at its next meeting.

c. Program

Ken Howard stated that he needs more pictures for the newsletter of members' layouts. Pictures should be emailed directly to him at klhowardjr@aol.com.

8. Old Business

a. Fall show 2021 update

George Lasley reported that checks have started coming in from the vendors for the show.

He is also beginning the process of shifting table assignments around to meet vendor requests.

The contract with the State Fair has been signed and, along with our deposit check, has been delivered.

b. Youth and Junior Membership Encouragement Plan – Tabled Until Fall

John Spach reported that we currently have 11 Youth members and six Junior members listed in our member sheet. Only two people have paid so far. John has contacted most of these people and learned that there are numerous things in the evening tying up their time. This plan has been delayed until September when the activities calendar for schools are known.

c. July Open House Update

The open house is scheduled for Saturday, July 17 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. All members are requested to help if they can.

We have determined that the no parking signs that have appeared on-site are for the workers of the new building beginning construction. Our arrangement with the adjacent property owner is still in place and we can park in those spaces as needed.

- d. Presentation of New Club Brochure
John Spach thanked Ken Howard for his work in designing a new Club brochure. John was able to get 1,000 brochures printed for the cost of the paper. These are to be distributed wisely.
- e. 2021 Committee Assignments and Org Chart
John Spach passed out the new Club org chart showing the Board, the five standing committees and the subcommittees. John reminded those present that membership in all subcommittees is open to Senior members in good standing who are interested and willing to help.
- f. Additional Old Business as Needed.
Tom Garren mentioned that there seems to be some confusion as to Club hours on Wednesdays. We currently list 10:00 am – 12:00 pm on the door while we list 10:00 am – 2:00 pm on the website and on the Club calendar. This item has been referred to the Board for resolution.

9. New Business

- a. Club Layouts – All
John Spach stated that we need plans for upgrades and maintenance for all Club layouts.
The Committee Chairs are requested to hold meetings with all interested members for each layout.
Post notices as needed to make the meetings successful.
The proposed plans for upgrades and maintenance are to be submitted to the Board for approval at the September Board meeting.
The goal is to have an idea of what is happening on each layout, and everybody can be on the same page. We cannot have individuals doing something on a layout that is not part of the overall goal or intentions for that layout. For some layouts this will be relatively easy as they have already been working in this fashion. Examples are the O Scale and N Scale layouts. It is believed that we will need a comprehensive plan from the HO and Lego committees.
- b. Cleanliness and Respect for the Clubhouse
John Spach stated that all members are expected to clean up after themselves – be that a project or a lunch.
If you use an item – be it a tool or some rolling stock – return it to where you got it when you are done using it.
The meeting room area is not a dumping ground and should only be used when no other space is available.
John reminded us that the meeting room is our living room. We only have one chance to make a first impression. Let's work together to make it a good one.
- c. Membership – Recruitment, Retention, and Reinstatement
John Spach stated that our long-term goal is to make us self-sufficient by dues alone.

This means that our normal operating expenses should be covered by dues. At the current level of dues, we would need 83 Senior members to accomplish this. We currently have 41 Senior members.

Interim or short-term goals have been established to start us along this way.

For the remainder of calendar 2021 we want to add five new Senior members.

Further, we want to add five more new Senior members between January 01 and May 31, 2022. This will give the Club 10 new Senior members by the end of fiscal 2021-2022.

For the immediate future we have set a goal of increasing the number of Senior members to 50 by May 31, 2022.

We have also set a long-term goal of being self-sufficient by dues alone within five years, or by May 31, 2026.

There are also 54 or so people on our mailing list that are either former members or have expressed interest in the Club. Tom Garren has been asked to send each of these people an email and extend an invitation to join the Club or let us know they are no longer interested. The mailing list will be adjusted accordingly.

Each member is encouraged to try to recruit one new Senior member this year.

d. Additional New Business

George Lasley reported that a ceiling fan has been installed in the library to make that room more comfortable. He also suggested that we set the building thermostat down on Friday night this week to precool the building in preparation for the open house on Saturday.

Ron Abraham suggested getting a streaming device so we could show youtube videos on the TV.

Tom Garren suggested that we also look at using a Club computer rather than adding a streaming device.

Ron also asked about an outing to see the depot in Hamlet, NC. Currently, we are not sure the station is open.

George Lasley is planning some local outings for the Club once the weather cools down.

Other discussion among members included the belief that the World's Greatest Hobby show is no longer in business.

John Ragan stated that Train Fest has been canceled for this year.

John Spach shared that the Albemarle club has picked up our show information and included it on their website.

We need to communicate with other clubs on the possibility of reciprocal visits.

Two possibilities are the Waynesboro club in Goldsboro and the Golden East Railroad Modelers in Rocky Mount.

Randy Foulke reported that the Timonium, MD show is back on for October this year. The show is officially named the "The Great Scale Model Train and Railroad Collectors Show". It is scheduled for October 2&3, 2021.

Bill Ferguson pointed out the donation of a wooden trolley car built by Frank Mansfield. It is for display, not for sale.

Randy Foulke has contacted Bill Swint about building modules for us should we decide to pursue a new travelling HO layout. Bill is willing to do the work should

we need it. Pricing is still under consideration due the increased cost of materials. This information is being referred to Richard Calfee, chair of the HO committee. Ron Abraham asked John Ragan if he had any information on the Mebane train display. This site is open again. Information can be found at www.themebanetraindisplay.com. Their hours are on select Saturdays. Be sure and check before travelling.

10. Good and Welfare of the Club

In 10 days, John Spach will begin his knee replacement adventure. Good luck John!!!
Clif Kelly will have cataract surgery on August 23. Good luck Clif!!!
On August 26 Michael Giles will undergo hip replacement surgery. Good luck Michael!!!
Mike Irwin has put together an intermodal train set for a new young member. It will be delivered to the Clubhouse the next time Mike comes to Raleigh.

11. Motion for Adjournment

George Lasley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by John Ragan and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Following the meeting Ken Howard presented a picture show on the Colorado Railroad Museum.

Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of August 2nd, 2021

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call of Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Vice President Wayne Aiken.
Board members attending in person included Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Tom Garren, Ken Howard and Mike Keelean.
John Spach attended by Zoom.

2. Recognition of Additional Members and Guests in Attendance and on Zoom

Members attending in person included Ron Abraham, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, Mike Marsh and George Sawyer.
Members attending by Zoom included Jerry Davis and Scott Hall.
One guest, Owen Maddux, attended by Zoom. This is Owen's third meeting. He will be eligible for membership at the upcoming Membership meeting. He models in HO and is getting ready to build a home layout.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting – (read if needed) - motion to accept.

A motion to accept the minutes as submitted was made by Ken Howard and seconded by Mike Keelean. It passed unanimously.

4. Treasurers Report – motion to accept

Mike Keelean gave the Treasurer's report. A motion to accept the report was made by Tom Garren and seconded by John Spach. It passed unanimously.

5. Communications with the Club

a. Phone, mail, email

A call has come into the Club from someone wanting to get rid of a 5x9 027 O gauge layout. George Lasley will follow up with this person to determine if he wishes to donate or wants to sell his equipment.

b. A discussion was held about a proposal by Tom Garren and Ken Howard to put the meeting minutes on the website with links to them in the Whistle Post. This move will save space in the newsletter for more train related content. At this time almost half of our recent newsletters has been occupied by the meeting minutes. This change will happen after a new page is created on the website for this purpose. There was no objection to this proposal.

6. Committee Reports – as needed

a. Membership

John Spach reported an email request from Mitchel Martinez at mmartinez8484@gmail.com wanting more information about the Club. His interest is in N scale. This item was referred to Richard Calfee and the Membership committee.

We received two applications for three people at the July 17 Open House.

b. Ways and Means

Tom Garren reported that his CPA and Ken Howard's CPA had informed us that they do not do audits. Mike Keelean also reported the same response from an accountant that he knows. It was admitted that the Ways and Means committee are not capable of performing an audit. It was further determined that perhaps a review of our finances, rather than an audit is what is needed. Apparently audits require a particular set of activities that most CPA firms do not do. Mike suggested that we proceed with selecting a CPA to do our taxes. Wayne Aiken requested that they also fill out form 529, if required to maintain our 501C3 status. We want to assure that we stay up to date on our paperwork.

Mike Keelean also reminded all that inventories of the layouts, library, etc. need to be updated as of the end of May 2021 and given to Mike in September. This is needed for the preparation of our taxes.

c. House

Mike Keelean and George Sawyer reported that the vacuum cleaner and auto on-off switch in the shop has failed. This needs to be replaced quickly. Mike indicated that he has a vacuum that he will bring in that he thinks will work. A motion was made by John Spach and seconded by Tom Garren to allocate up to \$100.00 to buy the items needed to fix this problem. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Engineering

Richard Calfee made a request on behalf of himself, Steve Wills and Ken Howard of the HO committee for funds to purchase seven new HO switches. This will give us one left and one right of all three sizes used on the layout as well as

buying the one switch needed for immediate replacement. After some discussion, Tom Garren made a motion to authorize up to \$350.00 for the purchase of seven new HO switches. The motion was seconded by Mike Keelean and passed unanimously.

Ron Abraham presented a proposal to change the S scale locomotives from AC to DC operation. This will allow for the elimination of the mechanical E or reversing units in the engines. Steam engine conversions could be done by Club members by installing can DC motors in the locomotives and removing the E units from the tenders. Diesel locomotives would have to be sent to the vendor for motor replacement and other updates. Ron has been working with SNS Trains in Boise, Idaho to secure his information. Their correspondence indicates a Club discount but lacks details as to the quantity required for such a discount.

John Spach expressed concern about how to designate AC or DC powered locomotives. George Sawyer asked if the engines converted to DC could have a bridge rectifier installed in them to protect the equipment if it was to be put an AC power.

George Lasley suggested that if we proceed with this that all Club equipment be converted to DC operation.

Further discussion mentioned that if someone brought in a traditional Flyer engine, we could easily set up a track to run AC. This could be accomplished by moving the wires from that track to a different power supply, or by flipping a switch set up for such use.

Ron thinks this conversion can be done for around \$400.00.

George Lasley suggested that we convert all the Club S scale equipment to DC and put a notice on the layout that it now is a DC layout.

It was mentioned that there is another firm in Ohio that advertises this same service.

John Spach suggested Ron get a formal estimate from the vendor so we can understand the details.

Mike Keelean made a motion that we approve up to \$400.00 for this conversion pending final approval by the Board at the Membership meeting. This is contingent on there being a formal estimate from the vendor. John Spach seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

7. Old Business

- a. Fall show 2021 updates as needed.

George Lasley reported that John Ragan is talking to WRAL about advertising for the show.

Money is coming in for the tables and George is moving assignments around to accommodate the requests from the vendors.

- b. July Open House update

We estimate that somewhere between 100-125 people came to the Open House.

Seventy-nine people signed the guest book.

We had several Club sales at the Open House.

Congratulations to Mike Johns for organizing a successful Open House. It was suggested that we put flyers out at more places for the next Open House. This could include Senior Centers throughout the area.

- c. Clarification on Wednesday hours at the Clubhouse
After some discussion it was determined that we will drop the advertised hours for Wednesday. The website and Facebook will be updated to reflect this change. We will mark through the Wednesday hours in the new Club brochure.

- d. Clarification as to which meetings count toward membership requirement
Tom Garren reported that per the bylaws, these meetings count toward the two-meeting requirement for membership.
 - General monthly business meeting
 - Monthly Board of Governors meeting
 - Wednesday social meeting
 - Any other time as designated and approved by the Board of GovernorsIt was determined that an applicant for membership can fill out an application at any time during the probationary period but is best if completed early in the process so there is a record for tracking required attendance. It was further determined that a probationary member does not have to attend the meeting in which they are voted into the Club.

- e. Additional old business as needed.
Mike Keelean reported that the lock has been changed on the front storage unit. He handed out keys to the Board members. The lock has been changed to facilitate better control of items to be sold at the shows and better manage donations and other for sale items.
The lockers in the HO layout room will be moved to the storage closet off the main meeting room. When this moves occurs, all locks will have to be removed from the lockers so they can be unbolted. Sounds like a good Saturday project. The big cabinet currently in the corner of the HO layout room will be moved to the front storage room and will be used to store items we are selling on eBay.

John Spach stated that he needs the password for the nrvmrcc@gmail.com email account so that it can be used for the Club's eBay account.

8. New Business

- a. Club layouts – all.
 - i. Proposed plans for upgrades and maintenance to be submitted to the Board for approval at the Board's September meeting.
 - ii. Mike Keelean reported that the lower level of the O gauge layout will be out of service for two weeks to a month while the two bridges are reworked, and scenery is added. The upper level will remain active during this work.

- iii. Ron Abraham pointed out the need for someone to take ownership of the G scale layout. This would require improved maintenance to facilitate better operation.

George Lasley suggested using rail zip on the G scale track for improved performance.

John Spach suggested we place a note in the Whistle Post stating that we are looking for a G scale member to help with the maintenance of the G scale layout.

- b. Membership – recruitment, retention, and reinstatement

- i. Discuss meeting requirements for Youth and Junior members

Tom Garren made a motion to suspend the rules for the two-meeting requirement and accept Cameron Burns-Davis as a Youth member. The motion was seconded by Mike Keelean and passed unanimously.

The Membership committee will be asked to contact Cameron and let him know he is now a Club member.

Similar actions to this can be made by the Board, as needed, on a case-by-case basis.

- c. Need to formalize a written policy for members in the Clubhouse with Youth and Junior members

A long discussion was held on this item resulting in the idea that under no circumstances should a minor be in the building without two or more Senior members also being present. And that also, under no circumstance should a member be alone in a room, such as a bathroom, with a minor.

A motion was made by John Spach and seconded by Ken Howard that we establish a policy that if a minor Youth or Junior member with a parent or guardian requires admission to the building there must be two Senior members present while the minor is in the Club. The only exception to this is if the parent or guardian of the minor is also a Senior member of the Club.

The motion passed unanimously.

This issue will be further researched and refined at a future Board meeting.

- d. Additional new business as needed

Ted Kunstling announced a program at the Civil War Roundtable by Dave Bright on September 13. Look in the upcoming Whistle Post for a link to his website which documents the travel by train of a person during the Civil War.

9. Good and Welfare of the Club

- a. Bernie Dawson's Mom

Members were reminded about the services for Bernie Dawson's mom on Thursday at 11:00 am at Raleigh Memorial Gardens.

- b. John Spach's surgery. John thanked the Club for the card that was sent to him. Recovery is progressing.

- c. Bill Ferguson is now a grandfather.
 - d. If space is needed in the shop, the N scale layout in the shop can be moved to the front storage unit.
- 10. Adjournment of Public Meeting
The public meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.
- 11. 5–10-minute break for visitors to retire
- 12. Executive Session – as required
A short executive session was held.
- 13. Motion for adjournment of Board Meeting
A motion to adjourn was made by John Spach and seconded by Mike Keelean. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:40 pm.

NRV Whistle Post
The Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club, Inc.
1615 Old Louisburg Road
PO Box 19573
Raleigh, NC 27619-9573

First Class

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

John Spach	President	jtspach@earthlink.net	937-215-2723
Wayne Aiken	Vice-President	htomc42@hotmail.com	919-602-8529
Michael Keelean	Treasurer	keeleanmike@gmail.com	919-886-9238
Tom Garren	Secretary	tomgar@mindspring.com	919-805-0909
Calfee (Richard Calfee)	At-Large	rhcalfree@yahoo.com	301-335-1054
Ken Howard	At-Large	klhowardjr@aol.com	919-851-3805
Bob Witwer	At-Large	bobwitwer@gmail.com	919-632-0785

OTHER KEY POSITIONS

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

WEB SITE www.nrvclub.net

Bernie Dawson	Webmaster	nrvwebmaster@gmail.com	919-275-2144
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