

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”**

Well, here we are again, another month has gone by and we are all still struggling with Covid regulations and keeping our families safe. Please, please do everything you can do to help beat this thing for all of us.

My personal rehab has been going well and I look forward to finally being able to actually get back to the Clubhouse, do some work, talk to some people, and play with trains. To help this, I just got cleared to drive again – look out world I’m mobile again!

The Club has taken a much-needed step to protect us from any potential litigation in regard to participation in the Club by Junior and Youth members and any youthful guests. We have put in place a policy to require at least two Senior or Associate members whenever there are youthful persons in the Club. Please be sure to comply with this policy, for the benefit of the Club and for yourself as well.

Our HO group is making great progress on plans to reinvigorate the layout and put in place policies that will make member participation and use of the layout a smoother and more enjoyable occurrence. There are plans to have regular meetings to discuss and implement their plans. Anyone interested please contact a standing member of the committee and let them know how you can help. The HO group is our largest percentage of membership, so we need to make sure we give all the input and help we have available.

Remember to block off time in November for the Show. The fall show has always been our best source of revenue and new membership, so we need all of you to be there and helping. Plan on it!

Reminder - dues are past due – please catch up if you have not, or, if you have a problem in making the payment, please contact a board member so we can see how we might be able to help.

OK Trains ready to go - - - -ALL ABOARD

**John Spach, President**

## **New Policy for Youth Attendance**

As outlined above in John Spach's "**All Aboard**," the Board of Governors has adopted a policy to protect Youth members, young guests, and the Club. Please read and understand the intent and specific implementation of this new requirement. The specific policy is included below:

"If a minor Youth or Junior member with a parent or guardian requires admission to the building, there must be either two Senior members or one Senior member and one Associate member present while the minor is in the Clubhouse. The only exception to this is if the parent or guardian of the minor is also a Senior or Associate member of the Club."

## **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.

## **S-scale Layout News by Ron Abraham**

The S scale layout is getting bigger and better. First, we have two new S gaugers in the Club - Bill and Darlene Edwards. Second, we are upgrading the locomotives to DC power for more reliable operation. And third, the layout has expanded four inches from the wall to accommodate large steam locomotives. Bill brought his "Big Boy" last Saturday (way cool).

Finally, I am asking all members to search their attics, basements, storage sheds for your old American Flyer trains and track, especially track with rubber roadbed.

## **Member Input Needed for Club Inventories**

The Club is trying to complete an inventory of its equipment on each of the layouts for tax purposes. This process has been particularly difficult for the HO layout because of the large amount of privately owned rolling stock and locomotives that seem to be permanently stored on the layout. It is important that the Club clarify the ownership of all rolling stock so that an appropriate inventory can be prepared for future reference and tax filings.

While the modules are the property of the Club, an additional issue has been raised about ownership of certain buildings and structures on portions of several layouts and whether or not they are considered privately owned. It is the policy of the Club that all buildings, track and scenic additions to any layout become the property of the Club. This question is important to resolve for **all** of the layouts in the Clubhouse.

What the Club wishes to obtain are the following items:

- 1) A description of any engines and rolling stock that individual members have on the layout that are personal property. The description should include sufficient information to positively identify the items in question (e.g. engine type and number, car type and number, railroad). Items not described or removed from the layout will be considered property of the Club and included in the new inventory.
- 2) Any claim to structure, buildings, or accessories that the member considers personal property that could be removed from the Club layouts for any person. If no claims are filed for such materials, they will be considered the property of the Club.

Thank you all for your assistance. As we grow as an organization, the amount of equipment in use at the Club is also growing. This is a good point in time to clarify ownership issues for materials in the Clubhouse. Please respond to a member of the HO Committee (Richard Calfee [rhcalfee@yahoo.com](mailto:rhcalfee@yahoo.com) or Ken Howard [klhowardjr@aol.com](mailto:klhowardjr@aol.com)) by October 18<sup>th</sup> with any questions, issues, or ownership information.

## Neat Links

**Wayne Aiken** provided the following links and commentaries:

Virtual Rail Fan - <https://virtualrailfan.com/>

Huge network of web cams set up at train stations and yards, watch on your computer any time. Members can control the cams. There is a Youtube channel where many of these cams are streaming continuously. The site includes a "backup" feature so you can go back 10 days later to see your favorite trains.

Here is another great resource:

<http://www.rrpicturearchives.net>

Lots of pictures on just about every locomotive and rolling stock. Search by road, number, model, serial number. There is also a search function at:

<http://www.rrpicturearchives.net/Search/SearchLocomotives.aspx>

## Request for Help with Lego Brick Universe Show

Steve Wills is asking for help to exhibit the Lego layout at the Lego Brick Universe show. While the show takes place on September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, help is needed other days to get the layout torn down, transported, and set up at the show. Here are the specific needs:

Sept 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> - take down and packing at the Clubhouse

Sept 24<sup>th</sup> - car/van loading (need at least three) and setup – Steve requests that this start at the Clubhouse about noon.

Both Sept 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> - **Steve needs at least 3 helpers** (more is better) for both morning and afternoon shifts - hours are 8 to 4:30 PM. Odd, but they are doing 3 - 2 ½ hour windows. 8 to 10:30, 11 to 1:30, and 2 to 4:30.

Sept 26<sup>th</sup> - evening after 4:30 breakdown and load up.

Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> - help setting up the layout - 1 to 3 is all that are needed.

Steve suggests the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> shifts as 8 to 12:30 and 12 to 4:30, or it could be just for the 2 ½ hours for each show but recommend two shifts. Steve will be there for all days and shifts. There are a few more people needed to assure that we have help to hand out flyers for our Fall show.

Please let Steve Wills know when you can participate, or to ask a question by sending Steve an email at [srwills@lenovo.com](mailto:srwills@lenovo.com).

## Member's Layouts

### Dan Egy's HO Layout:

This month's Whistle Post features the second of Dan's layouts – his Russian HO shelf layout. The dimensions are 8 x 1.5 feet. The layout features a relay-controlled automatic point-to-point operation between stations at each end of the line.





The buildings are entirely 3D puzzles assembled without glue! The time period modelled is Soviet era.

### Joe Scale's Layout

For those of you who clicked on the links to the 2009 videos of Joe Scales' layout in the August Whistle Post, here are 2021 photos taken by Tom Garren. Joe models the Southern Railway from Danville, VA to Greensboro, NC in O scale. Note that the bare bones railroad from 2009 has grown scenery. The transformation is a great credit to Joe.



Southern 2-10-2 tractor engine coming out of Danville.



The left tracks are looking south toward Brown's Summit.  
The right tracks are looking south toward Ruffin.



Southern 2-10-2 tractor engine bringing a train out of Reidsville.



Train heading south out of Ruffin.

## Real Train Photos

For those of you who might have missed Ken Howard's presentation on "Steamtown – National Historic Site after the last membership meeting, here's a sample of what you would have seen.



Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Alco RS3 Number 4118 - note "RADIO" on the cab. There was a day when radio communication was the newest and best way to run a railroad.



Ken Howard also contributed this photograph of Reading and Northern Pacific 4-6-2 Number 425 at Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania from August 30, 2021. The engine operates on the Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway. It was built in 1928 by Baldwin Locomotive Company.

## **Railroad Slang Contest (courtesy of John Spach)**

Test your train trivia 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. Bending Rail    | a. Yardmaster          |
| 2. Buggy           | b. A suitcase or trunk |
| 3. Dinger          | c. A Hobo              |
| 4. Gaffer          | d. A cook              |
| 5. Keester         | e. Relining a switch   |
| 6. Main Pin        | f. A 10 cent tip       |
| 7. Lizard scorcher | g. A tank Car          |
| 8. Rintail         | h. A section Boss      |
| 9. Smooth          | i. Railroad Official   |
| 10. Tin Can        | j. Observation Car     |

**Answers can be found on Page 9.**

## **Future Events**

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

The **37<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.carolinamodelrr.org)

## **Autumn Rails 2021 – All Scales Model Railroad Show**

Friday, October 1, 2021 from 12 to 6 pm, and October 2, 2021 from 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/](http://www.fbe-nscale.org/autumn-rails/)

## **Model Train Show**

### **South Carolina Trade Shows**

Saturday, October 9, 2021 from 9 am to 3 pm

Jamil Temple, 206 Jamil Rd

Columbia, SC

Admission: free

Todd Pletcher

PO Box 277

Hartsville, SC 29551

(843) 621-5531

<http://www.southcarolinatradeshow.com>

## **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 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](mailto: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**

September Membership Meeting: Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

Board of Governors Meeting: The October BOG meeting will be held Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 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-e, 2-j, 3-a, 4-h, 5-b, 6-i, 7-d, 8-c, 9-f, 10-g**

**How Did You Do?**

## **Minutes of the Membership and Board Meetings**

Because the minutes of these meetings have become very long as the Club recovers from the Covid-19 epidemic, we have decided to cease publication of the minutes in the Whistle Post. Minutes of both Board of Governors and Membership meetings are now available to those who wish to read them on the Club website. The link below takes you directly to the minutes page:

<https://nrvcclub.net/meeting-minutes/>

Thanks to Tom Garren for creating this page on the Club website.

NRV Whistle Post  
The Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club, Inc.  
1615 Old Louisburg Road  
PO Box 19573  
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First Class

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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

### OTHER KEY POSITIONS

George Lasley	Show Grand Poobah	<a href="mailto:glasley@bellsouth.net">glasley@bellsouth.net</a>	919-757-4503
Calfee (Richard Calfee)	Membership Chair	<a href="mailto:rhcalfee@yahoo.com">rhcalfee@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
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**WEB SITE** [www.nrvclub.net](http://www.nrvclub.net)

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