

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”

Hope you all had a bang up Fourth of July - beer and brats, fireworks, or whatever it took to celebrate.

We had a very successful outing to Tichy Trains earlier this month. Thanks to Randy Foulke for organizing the trip. We saw first-hand how all those little pieces we use get designed and made, had a grand tour and a chance to purchase stuff at a great discount, and they had bagels for us. You can't beat that!

Despite Covid, bad weather and other hinderances, the HO layout group has made remarkable progress in the renovations. Concrete proof of their progress is in the layout room. New modules are roughly placed, so we all can see what to expect. We are also making great progress in our review and upgrading of the layout wiring. Many thanks to new member Ralph James for all his work on the wiring to date. Progress can be seen every week. This is going to be great!

We have received an enormous donation of magazines. Thanks to Wayne Aiken they have all been reviewed against our library files, needed copies placed in order, and a huge number are available to anyone who might like them. Unwanted issues will go to the show in November.

Speaking of the show, George reports that table sales are progressing and plans are taking shape. Please mark your calendars accordingly. We will need all hands to work and support our efforts.

On a personal note, I have turned to the dark side... I have entered the world of 2-rail O-scale thanks to Tom Garren and Jerry Davis. For those who have not yet experienced it, a single trip to Jerry's magnificent layout can be life changing. It might turn you to the dark side, too.

This looks to be a busy, busy month. Thanks in advance for all you will do. One last thing – if you know anyone interested in trains, bring them to the Club and introduce them to our group - - let us keep building our membership.

OK Train's leaving the station on track 1 - - - ALL ABOARD

John Spach, President

Tichy Train Group Field Trip

Thanks to Randy Foulke for arranging and organizing a field trip to Burlington, NC for a tour of the Tichy Train Group manufacturing plant. The trip and tour were a smashing success. Sixteen members of the Club met at Barry's Café, the Clubhouse, or Fuquay-Varina and rendezvoused at the factory. Don Tichy led a very thorough tour of the production floor and mechanical rooms in the basement that support his injection machinery. Following the tour members enjoyed bagels, soft drinks, and a variety of spreads courtesy of Terri Tichy. Members also had a chance to peruse merchandise and make purchases of train cars, buildings, parts, or supplies at a discount.



The gang's all here. Sixteen members made the tour.

Thanks to Ted Kunstling for the following photos documenting the tour.



Don explains details of a mold to John and Ralph,



Don explains the 3D printing process to the group.



Don explains the plastic injection molding process to the group.



The basement electrical and cooling plants that support the machines upstairs.

Parking Stickers

As many of you are aware from attending Membership and/or Board Meetings, the new neighboring gym under construction has only limited parking. The Board is concerned that the lack of spaces will probably present a problem once the gym begins operations later this summer. Action to prepare the Club for parking problems has been initiated.

Those of you who have been to the Club recently have probably noticed the new signs that read “No Gym Parking.” In addition, the Board is investigating possible towing contracts, should it become necessary to remove unauthorized vehicles from Club property.

To eliminate the possibility that members’ cars could be towed by mistake, the Board has printed decals to be placed in the rear window of members’ cars. Proper display of decals on members’ vehicles will prevent any issues with towing if problems arise. Please contact Bob Witwer or Mike Keelean for as many decals as you have vehicles that you may bring to the Club.

Procedures for identifying guests’ vehicles during our Club hours of operation and at open houses or other events are still being developed. As this issue is still under discussion, stay tuned for further developments.

Future Events

Tom Magnani passed on the following information from Company Shops Railroad Club (CSRRC) in Burlington, NC:

Put **Saturday, August 20** ON YOUR CALENDAR!!! There will be a one-day CSRRC ‘Field Trip’ to Roanoke, Virginia to visit both the O. Winston Link Museum and the Virginia Museum of Transportation. Details for this trip will be outlined in the August issue of the CSRRC News.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/421208222960597>

BULLETIN

2022 MER Carolina Special - ALL ABOARD!
Charlotte North Carolina
20 to 23 October 2022 is OPEN!

Hilton University Place
8629 JM Keynes Drive
Charlotte, NC 28262

To register, go to: <http://www.carolinasouthern.org/MER2022registration.html>

To reserve your hotel room, visit: <http://www.carolinasouthern.org/MER2022hotel.html>

Call for Clinicians!!! If you interested in presenting a clinic at the 2022 MER Convention, the Carolina Special, in Charlotte, NC on October, 20 to 23, 2022. Contact the Clinic Chair:

Doug Algire at 2022clinics@carolinasouthern.org

38th Annual Train Show and Sale

November 5 – 6, 2022 – 9am to 5pm each day
Jim Graham Building, NC State Fair Grounds
4285 Trinity Road, Raleigh, NC 27607

Admissions: Adult \$10 / under 12 free w/adult

It's not too early to set these dates aside on your calendar and to start talking up the show to friends, neighbors, and civic and church groups.

Neat Links

Tom Magnani passed on the following links from Bob Milback showing the various N scale layouts at the Nashville 2022 convention posted on YouTube - enjoy!

<https://youtu.be/yyaGFPPNk9Y>

<https://youtu.be/GNEz7YMPCoY>

https://youtu.be/k9_1nQXwtq0

<https://youtu.be/K3AGDj5wpWQ>

<https://youtu.be/MjOBEIdF0Ls>

HO Layout Committee Activities

Our July 9th workday was met with a persistent rain that limited the activities of the participants to light duty work that could be completed in the HO layout room. Despite the gloom and rainy weather, a considerable amount of progress was made including:

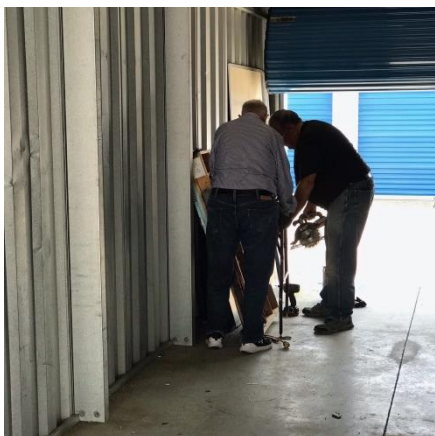
- repairs and gluing of loose pieces of table framework on a half dozen module sections,
- removal and salvaging of the turntable and associated track from module 11, and
- removal of one of the sidings from module 11.

Thanks to Peter Denofrio, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Ted Kunstling, Tom Tiemann, Don Weaver, and Bob Witwer for participating and getting only slightly damp. Thanks also to the folks who were displaced from operating on the layout by the seismic events required for track removal.

HO Layout Committee Work Sessions of July 16th and 17th

photos by Ken Howard

A huge amount of progress has been made in two months. We have gone from rough modules to a working base for the layout expansion. On the 16th and 17th, Peter Denofrio, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Ted Kunstling, Don Weaver and Bob Witwer formed the nucleus of the working group (average age 75) that reassembled the module sections into 2½ by 8 foot table tops. The riser and caster leg extensions for raising the modules to match the existing layout height were also completed and are ready for installation at the next work session.



May 18th - Mike Johns and Bob Witwer prepare the last module for movement to the Club.



July 17th - The first assembly of the new layout expansion modules is completed in the HO layout room.

Ralph James has also completed his assessment of the wiring on the existing layout and will need help to complete the repairs and wiring upgrades. He is also preparing the wiring plan for the expansion to include the wyes and reversing loops in the track plan. The expansion track plan will also be revised to reflect connections to the existing mains that will be consistent with our operational goals and objectives. As always, plans change over the course of a project to reflect

the real world problems encountered during construction. Please plan on attending the next HO Committee Planning Meeting on July 24th at 1 pm to participate in the final design and planning phases of the expansion.

Real Train Photos

Jake Forbes recently took a trip to visit the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad in Cumberland and photographed their newly restored 2-6-6-2, number 1309. He sent the photos below for Club members to enjoy in the Whistle Post.

Jake also sent a link to a Google Photos album from his trip, if you would like to see more of his pictures:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/WPYgjtnc8aeyNUY7>



Layouts and Operating Sessions

The following photo comes to NRV from Fred Krauss via Tom Magnani. This is a scratch built train on the Michigan Central Railroad. The train is the work of John Miller: as Fred commented in his e-mail – “some people do good work!”



At a recent operating session on Jerry Davis's layout, Marilyn Calfee got an introduction to 2-rail O-scale operations. Reliable sources claim that she had a ball! Others in the photographs from Rick Calfee include Jerry Davis, Tom Garren, Joe Scales, and Brian Upchurch.



Upcoming Meetings and Activities

July Membership Meeting: The next meeting is on Thursday, July 21st at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. John Wallis will give a presentation on “Troubleshooting DCC.” Attendance via Zoom is optional.

HO Layout Committee Meeting: The next meeting of the HO Layout Committee is scheduled for July 24th at 1 pm in the Clubhouse. The meeting will discuss construction progress and schedule additional work dates.

August Board of Governors Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 1st, 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

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

Notes from the Editor and Webmaster

Please send recent photos of Club activities to Bernie Dawson, at nrvwebmaster@gmail.com, so he can maintain and update our website.

Thanks to all who are contributing items for the Whistle Post. 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 interesting links to Ken Howard, Whistle Post Editor, at klhowardjr@aol.com.

Minutes of the Membership, Board, and Committee Meetings

Minutes of both Board of Governors and Membership meetings are now available to those who wish to read them on the Club website. Also, minutes from HO Committee meetings are now available, so members can follow the planning and construction of the new HO layout additions. The link below takes you directly to the Minutes page:

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

NRV Whistle Post
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First Class

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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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
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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
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