

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”

OK here we are, weather turning cooler, leaves falling, and our Fall Show just weeks away.

Wow, are you prepared for this? Have you cleared your calendar and made ready to work the Show? I sure have! This show has signs of being the biggest and best show we have ever produced. We are sold out for vendor tables. We have loads of layouts coming. We, thanks to a bunch of recent donations, have a ton of great materials to sell at the Club table. Needless to say, we need EVERYONE there and prepared to work. This is the most important event in the Club year. Please give an extra effort and help us make it the biggest and best we have ever done.

Speaking of the show, we will have a really neat N scale layout that we will be raffling off. It has been refreshed, rewired, redecorated, and is ready to go to a new home - \$1 a ticket and 7 tickets for \$5. Remember to take a chance, and to push ticket sales at the show.

We also will have a beautiful winter snow scene layout with a chair lift that we will be selling. Club members have been working on rebuilding this donated layout, and it will be ready to go to a new home.

A word on donations we have received. I want to give a big thank you to all who have showed up for pick up, sorting, storing, and pricing of a huge amount of donated materials. Thanks Guys. That's what being a Club member is all about.

And of course, it's time for the friendly reminder to those who have let it slip - dues are past due. Please clear your balance by the end of this month. Thank You.

One last thing – if you know anyone interested in trains, bring them to the Club, 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

Open House of September 17, 2022 (by Ken Howard)



Bernie Dawson setting up to run the N scale new locomotives. Photo by Richard Calfee



Ted Kunstling, Ken Howard, and John Wallis with visitors to the HO layout. Photo by Richard Calfee

According to members present, the Open House was a resounding success. Attendance was steady throughout the day with a wide mix of ages represented. Our best estimate is that some 75 people visited. Donations and Club sales were very good. We received four Membership Applications and eight “Request for Information” forms. Interest in the Club was very high! Good work guys – you obviously put our best foot forward.

There were enough members present so that all the layouts were in operation, and each guest was greeted as soon as they came through the door. Members gave a lot of personal attention to each visitor. Lots of cookies and bottles of water were consumed by members and guests alike.

Thanks to the members who helped make the Open House a resounding success: Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Bernie Dawson, Peter Donofrio, Jake Forbes, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Ralph James, Mike Keelean, Clif Kelly, John Kuchnia, Ted Kunstling, George Lasley, Mike Mitricska, George Sawyer, John Spach, Don Weaver, Ken Wesp, and Bob Witwer.

In Memoriam

We regret to inform you that Club member Bill Hanses passed away on September 22nd after a long illness. A service for Bill is being planned in the future in his home state of Michigan rather than in North Carolina. Please keep Bill’s family in your thoughts and prayers.

Parking Stickers

Don’t forget to contact Bob Witwer, Mike Keelean, or another board member for as many decals as you have vehicles that you may bring to the Club. We are not sure when the gym will begin operations, but we should all be prepared. There aren’t many stickers left, so don’t wait too long as the Ace Towing sign has gone up at the entrance to the Clubhouse.

Neat Links

John Spach provided the following video titled "Railcars Galore!" The video shows the October 1st Speeder excursion that made a 90-mile roundtrip into the Adirondacks from Remsen to Tupper Lake, NY. The event was sponsored by North American Railcar Owner Association (NARCOA). The video runs slightly less than 27 minutes.

<https://youtu.be/xLxHXvP-5xw>

Bob Witwer passed this website along. If you're travelling to Mexico and looking for a unique experience on the Tequila Train, this may be your thing. You'll find some neat pictures of Mexican trains on the website, if nothing else.

<https://travelbible.co/the-all-you-can-drink-tequila-train-in-mexico/?fbclid=IwAR0awFGt5j3L89tVtSr5ERW5ZeK5pACHdUAeP0fUwfO66ZtFeSZ43OaKwaM>

Scott Hall sent a link and brief description of the video by Jaw Tooth titled: RAREST TRAIN IN AMERICA! Railroad Switching On Electric Railroad! Iowa Traction Railway Shunting! Running time is about 17 minutes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfSK27pZzNc>

These trains are in Mason City, Iowa on a short line railroad that operates an electric railway branch line. We see the train coming back from the Canadian Pacific Railroad interchange with a grain train. Then we see them working the grain elevator in Mason City, Iowa by setting the cars off on the grain railroad spur. We also see the out of service track at the very end of the branch line. The tracks were abandoned past this point. We see the main office of the railroad and maintenance of way equipment stored at the end of the line. I have several other videos of this railroad so make sure that you see them also! These locomotives are ancient. One is over a hundred years old and the other one is almost a hundred. Can you believe that they are still in common carrier service?! This railroad is a must see for all rail fans! Filmed in 4K with 60fps on August 13, 2021.

Tom Magnani forwarded the following link to videos about the Boston & Maine from **Jack Dziadul** who provided the following description:

Long, but interesting video. Lots of standard gauge steam. Track repair and replacement vignettes interspersed throughout. I spent many years commuting on the lines depicted in the video. Many of those suburban stations are still standing, but have commercial occupancy, not waiting rooms.

<https://archive.org/details/bostonmaineinthe4seasons19461951volume1summerfall11>

Tom Magnani also passed along a video link from **Fred Krauss** about the trains in the Griffith Park Museum in Los Angeles: The video runs about 30 minutes.

[Riding All The Trains in Griffith Park - Southern Railroad / Los Angeles Live Steamers / Travel Town](#)

September and October Club Activities

As we have gotten past our Open House, we have placed further construction on the HO layout extension on hold as we prepare for the Fall Show that is only three weeks away. If you haven't been to the Clubhouse recently, you will not have noticed the piles of boxes full of donated model railroad materials. These donations are an important source of equipment that support our layouts and our sales tables at the Fall and Spring Shows. Additional donations are also expected in the coming weeks, so don't expect a high level of cleanliness in the Club.

On October 5th, a large contingent of members travelled to North Raleigh to pick up the **first 150 boxes** of donated model railroad equipment. Thanks to the crew who participated and formed the bucket (box) brigade from the attic down the stairs to the first floor: Randy Foulke, Ken Howard, John Kuchnia, Peter Denofrio, Bob Witwer, George Lasley, Don Weaver, Bernie Dawson, Mike Johns, Doc Lou, Ron Abraham, John Spach, and Doug Alumbaugh. About 25 boxes were delivered to the Club, and the remaining 128 boxes are in Ken Howard's storage shed as work sessions are conducted to sort, sift and price the contents.



October 5th work detail left a pile of 128 boxes of HO, S, and O gauge railroad models in Ken Howard's shed. Photos by Ken Howard



October 12th. Ken had made some progress in a week, but help was definitely needed.



October 12th. John Spach, Randy Foulke, George Lasley, Mike Johns, Mike Keelean and Ken made a big dent after a Barry's breakfast.

Other show preparation that may have escaped your notice included the final preparations of the N scale layout that will be auctioned off at the Fall Show. Thanks to Phil Michaud and John Spach for the lion's share of the work. If you missed seeing it, you're out of luck until the show.

The Clubhouse meeting room is overflowing with boxes of donations from a number of sources. Pictured below is the winter portion of a layout donated by Nelson Norden. The 4x6 layout of a ski town and ski area is being prepared for sale at the Fall Show. It is currently in the shop where benchwork has been lightened, new track has been laid, scenery modified, and power added. Randy Foulke, Ken Howard, and John Spach have been leading the prep work.



And in case you hadn't noticed, there is also a youth movement underway in the Club. Photos by John Spach.

Wayne Aiken and Don Weaver took two trips to Chapel Hill to retrieve boxes of HO and O gauge train materials that are also stacked in the meeting room awaiting inventory and pricing for possible sale at the show.

HO Layout Committee Activities in September/October

Remember, that while the new expansion has been completed and track laid ahead of schedule, that this is only the first step in the process of constructing the fully functional layout expansion.

To further additional development and to make the legacy layout better are still primary goals that require further planning and effort. Please note that there are now two new methods for reporting problems with rolling stock and track work:

1. One of the storage rack shelves on the wall behind the layout has been designated as a bad order track. Instructions for filling out Bad Order Cards and the cards themselves are present on the shelf. If you find a Club car or engine in need of repair, please complete a card and leave it with the equipment on the shelf. When repairs are completed, the date should be noted on the card and the rolling stock returned to the general storage racks.
2. Track problems for the legacy layout can now be reported systematically in the green notebook on the shelf above the bad order track. The notebook contains maps of each module with mains and switches numbered for easy reference. Each module also has a sheet for recording problem discovery and repair. When we have a number of problems identified, we will hold a work session to correct issues.

The cost of the expansion currently stands at \$525. The Board of Governors has authorized an expenditure of up to \$750 for continued construction. We are in the process of identifying the additional materials that will be required for further construction.

Real Train Photos

Ken Howard has been out and about again visiting operating railroads and tourist trains in the northeast. Here are a few of his pictures from an eleven state September trip.



Wilmington & Western Railroad was operating a dinner train behind B&O SW1 #8408 on September 25th.



West Chester Railroad GP38 #7706 operating the yard tour train for the railroad's 25th anniversary celebration.



New Hope Railroad excursion leaving New Hope, PA station with the noon tourist run behind GP30 #2198..



Wicasset, Waterville & Farmington in Alma, ME fired up BS&R #7 to make up the day's tourist train. The 2-4-4 is a 1917 Baldwin 2-foot gauge.

Future Events

2022 MER Carolina Special - ALL ABOARD!

Charlotte North Carolina
20 to 23 October 2022
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.

North/South Carolina MODEL TRAIN Shows

11/11 & 12: **Summerville, SC:**
Rollins Edwards Community Center, 301 N. Hickory St. 29483
Friday 1pm-6 and Saturday 9am-3pm
Admission \$6; good for both days!

Layouts and Operating Sessions

No contributions from members about layouts this month, so here are some photos of Club members preparing a layout to sell at the Fall Show. This is one of the modules donated by Nelson Norden. It is being remodeled in the shop to include a complete operating loop and to repair damages to the scenery from the move to the Clubhouse. The module has also been revamped to lower the weight for easier handling and display.



The winter portion of the Norden layout donation that will be sold at the show on its way to the shop. Photo by Ken Howard



John Spach and Ken Howard working on layout preparation in the shop. Photo by Tom Garren.

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

October Membership Meeting: The next meeting is on Thursday, October 20th at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. John Wallis will present a program titled “Evolution.” Attendance via Zoom is optional.

HO Layout Committee Meeting: The next meeting of the HO Layout Committee is scheduled for November 20th at 1 pm in the Clubhouse. The meeting will discuss construction progress and schedule additional work dates for laying track, wiring, and scenery construction.

November Board of Governors Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 7th at 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://nrvcclub.net/meeting-minutes/>

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	gwasley52@gmail.com	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
---------------	-----------	--	--------------