

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”**

All Aboard May2023

Hello again, and welcome to one and all. It's been a fast moving and event filled month. We have had a very successful Open House, a special road trip to Spencer and are in the middle of preparations for our “Spring into Trains” Show. Wow – we really packed this month with things to do.

Our Open House was a major success; thanks to all who attended. We had a record number of visitors, and several new member applications were received. All Club members who attended had lots of very interested visitors to show around, and they all did a great job. This is what we need to continue to grow and prosper.

I want to give a special thank you to Randy Foulke for putting together our road trip to Spencer. Sixteen members met early in the morning in Cary to board Amtrak for the trip. When we detrained, we were met at the Salisbury station by a white stretch limo for the transfer to the museum, where we were met by a personal guide for our visit. We had a great day and even had time to visit Little Choo Choo train shop for a few purchases. Thank you Randy – Great Job.

And now we are in serious Show prep time. We have tuned up a nice N Scale layout for our raffle and cleaned and piled bins full of stuff for sale at the Club table. Now its transport, setup, sell, pack up, and return – what we always do at show time. Of course, we need all available hands on deck for this event. Any and all help will go toward producing a successful event. Remember, it's the revenue from our 2 shows that helps to keep our dues down and the lights on. Thanks in advance for your contributions to our success.

OK Train's leaving the station on track 2 - - - ALL ABOARD

**John Spach, President**

**Editor's Note:** John wrote this All Aboard before he had to leave on his trip and before the show. See the article about the show further on in this issue.

## April 22, 2023 Open House

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Club held an Open House to show off our layouts to the general public. To say the least, the event was well attended. Approximately 75 people attended. At times the HO and O rooms were absolutely full. Several new membership applications were received and donations plus sales amounted to several hundred dollars. Lots of drinks and cookies were consumed by guests and members alike, and a post-Open House pizza was enjoyed by the members. Thanks to the members who helped make the day a remarkable success: Wayne Aiken, Ed Bottum, Kelly Darden, Bernie Dawson, Darrell Dennis, Pete Donofrio, Dan Egly, Jake Forbes, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Ralph James, Mike Johns, Joe Johnston, Mike Keelean, Clif Kelly, John Kuchnia, Ted Kunstling, Larry Martin, John Spach, John Wallis, Don Weaver, Ron Wertenberg, Ken Wesp, Steve Wills, and Bob Witwer. Special thanks to Mike Johns for coordinating the effort and being the best official greeter ever.



Club members showing off the HO and N scale layouts to our visitors (photo by Ken Howard)



Members relaxing with a pizza after the Open House. Thanks to Jake for ordering. (photo by Ken Howard)



It takes a village to run an open house. John Kuchnia, Mike Keelean, Daryl Dennis, John Wallis, John Spach, and Ralph James. (photo by Ken Howard)



From right to left John Spach working, John Wallis instructing and Darrell Dennis supervising. (photo by Tom Garren)



## April 28<sup>th</sup> Trip to NC Museum of Transportation

On Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> sixteen Club members took the *Piedmont* from Cary to Salisbury, for a visit to the Spencer North Carolina Transportation Museum. Thanks and kudos to Randy Foulke for designing, organizing, coordinating, and directing the trip. His ability to herd cats is truly remarkable. THANKS RANDY! Attendees were Liam Bryant, Tim Covell, Peter Donofrio, Jake Forbes, Randy Foulke, Ken Howard, Ralph James, Joe Johnston, Clif Kelly, Ted Kunstling, John and Marilyn Mezera, Alan and Adam Servas, John Spach, and Bob Witwer.

The trip got off to a damp start, but the skies cleared for the trip west and the Museum. The group travelled by Limo from the Salisbury station to and from the museum. (Memories of long gone prom days) The museum provided a knowledgeable tour guide for the shop and roundhouse tours. Some of the participants also took rides on the turntable and train. Others visited the Little Choo Choo hobby shop, the automotive museum, and/or dined al fresco on burgers and dogs in Spencer. The group reunited for the return trip on the *Piedmont*.



A slightly damp start to the trip at the Cary station  
(photo by Ted Kunstling)



Riding the rails. (photo by Ted Kunstling)



The Piedmont arrives in Cary (photo by Ted Kunstling)



The hike to the exhibit, (photo by Ted Kunstling)





Randy Foulke taking pictures inside the original shop building. (photo by Ted Kunstling)



The museum train was powered by Southern E8 number 6133 (photo by Ken Howard)



The museum docent guiding the roundhouse. (photo by Randy Foulke)



Some of the members debarking from the museum train ride. (photo by Ken Howard)



The museum docent expounding on engines 542 and 6900. (photo by Ted Kunstling)



Waiting for the trip home (photo by Ted Kunstling)

A good time was had by all!

## “Spring into Trains” Show

The first item of business about the 5<sup>th</sup> annual “Spring into Trains” show is to thank all the Club members who came out to work and make the show a rousing success. The Club acknowledges the efforts of the following members:

Ron Abraham  
Alan Bradley  
Kelly Darden  
Peter Donofrio  
Jake Forbes  
Mike Garver  
Mike Irwin  
Clif Kelly  
Mike Marsh  
Alan Servas  
Don Weaver  
Bob Witwer

Wayne Aiken  
Richard Calfee  
Darrell Dennis  
Dan Egy  
Randy Foulke  
Jimmy Hall  
Ralph James  
Ted Kunstling  
Larry Pearlman  
Tom Tiemann  
Ken Wesp

Ed Bottum  
Thomas Charnley  
Bernie Dawson  
Sam Ely  
Tom & Daphne Garren  
Ken Howard  
Mike Johns  
George Lasley  
Joe Scales  
John Wallis  
Steve Wills



Dan Egy and show banner. (photo by Randy Foulke)



The “Official Greeters”. (photo by Randy Foulke)



The Club sales table before the onslaught of willing buyers. (photo by Ken Howard)



Show overview from the front of the hall. (photo by Randy Foulke)



A more complete report on the show will appear in the June edition of The Whistle Post after the dust has settled, the bill from the Fairgrounds has come in, and all involved have had a chance to catch a couple of breaths and a shot of bourbon. For the time being, here are a few of the many pictures of the event that will be further documented later. Anyone who hasn't submitted their photography for consideration should do so quickly. Send jpegs to [klhowardjr@aol.com](mailto:klhowardjr@aol.com).

## And the Winner Is.....

Buff Irish from Wallace, NC is the winner of this Spring's NRV Raffle . He attended with his wife and children. Mr. Irish remarked that his 7-year old daughter was super excited when she heard the phone call that they had won. We wish the family a lot of enjoyment from their win.



Mr. Buff Irish (left) was the winner of the N-scale raffle layout. He was congratulated by Clif Kelly. .(Photo by Randy Foulke)

## HO Layout Committee Activities in April/May

With the work required for the Open House and the “Spring into Trains show, there has a slight lull in construction activities. Construction will resume after the show is wrapped up. Planning of the industrial area, new town, sidings, team track, caboose track, passenger depot and other features is slated to wrap up in mid-May with final plans to be completed at the May 21<sup>st</sup> Committee meeting. We’re looking forward to lots of ideas from the members. While you’re

coming up with ideas about the town and industrial area, don't forget that the mountain area to be served by Main #4 Extension is slated to start construction in the near future also.

## **Future Events**

### **Historic Spencer Shops Train Show**

May 20 – 10am to 5 pm and May 21 – 10 am to 4 pm

North Carolina Transportation Museum

Spencer, NC

Admission \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 children 3-12 with adult

### **The Durham North Carolina Area Model Train Runners Consortium**

invites you to an Open House and Inaugural Train Run.

Sunday, May 21st from 12 pm to 4 pm

RSVP for Directions to: [damtrc.club@gmail.com](mailto:damtrc.club@gmail.com)

### **Brick Universe Raleigh LEGO Fan Expo**

Friday, June 23, 2023: 4:30 to 6:30 pm

Saturday, June 24, 2022: 9:00 am to 6 pm

Sunday, June 25, 2022: 9:00 am to 6 pm

Raleigh Convention Center

500 S. Salisbury St.

Raleigh, NC 27601

**Steve Wills** has been displaying his Lego layout at this event since 2017. He invites Club members to participate and will allow members who work shifts to hand out materials and to display the Club flags. As in past years, Steve requests that members work on particular shifts. Club members interested in helping Steve should respond at [gltterstim@aol.com](mailto:gltterstim@aol.com),

### **Company Shops Railroad Club**

#### **Field Trip to Rocky Mount, North Carolina**

Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> via Amtrak *Carolinian*

Attractions include Golden East Railroad Modelers, Imperial Centre for the Arts and Sciences & Howard Art Museum, Rocky Mount Railroad Museum & CSX "A-Line"

Further information available in June

Contact: Dutch Tubman, President, CSRRC, by email at [cstubman@gmail.com](mailto:cstubman@gmail.com)

## Member Layouts

**George Lasley** has been at it again. He submitted the following photos of a house he recently completed from a 40 year old DPM kit.





## **Upcoming Club Meetings and Activities**

May Membership Meeting: The next meeting is on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Tom Garren will present the program “Saluda Grade: An Introduction and Overview” following the meeting. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

May HO Committee Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup> at 1 pm in the Clubhouse.

June Board of Governors Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:nrvwebmaster@gmail.com), so he can maintain and update our website. Also, don’t forget to send your material to Ted Kunstling at [trkunstling@aol.com](mailto:trkunstling@aol.com) so that he can keep our Facebook site current.

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](mailto: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  
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	<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:rhcalfree@yahoo.com">rhcalfree@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:gwasley52@gmail.com">gwasley52@gmail.com</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
Wayne Aiken	Librarian	<a href="mailto:tomgar@mindspring.com">tomgar@mindspring.com</a>	919-805-0909
George Lasley	Historian	<a href="mailto:gwasley52@gmail.com">gwasley52@gmail.com</a>	919-757-4503
Ken Howard	Newsletter Editor	<a href="mailto:klhowardjr@aol.com">klhowardjr@aol.com</a>	919-851-3805

**WEB SITE** [www.nrvclub.net](http://www.nrvclub.net)

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