

The

Whistle



Post

Official Newsletter of the

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

1615 Old Louisburg Rd Raleigh, NC 27604

Phone: 919-400-5570

The Club will be closed to the Public for the Holidays on December 23-24 and 30-31.

“All Aboard”

I hope you all have recovered from your eating binge during Thanksgiving. I think that double pumpkin pie with ice cream and maple syrup topped with whipped cream is a bit Uber the top – but if its your way to celebrate – then have at it.

Top news this month is about our fabulous Fall show. We had one great big beautiful successful show this year. I want to thank each and every one of you who participated in any way to help make the show such an amazing success. And at the same time, give out a “wet Willie” to any of you who didn’t think it worth your time to help the Club. Fortunately, there are not many in that category.

And now we are looking forward to our Spring Into Trains show – with great news – we are moving to the Expo building from the smaller Scott building at the fairgrounds. That effectively will double the space we will have to use and add the possibility of an additional 100 plus vendor tables and more layout space. Much more on this will follow.

There is an issue that is serious and does not appear to be going away. It is the security of the Clubhouse itself and everything inside. Several times this month the building has been found unlocked, lights and power strips left on, and layouts powered up. **THIS HAS TO STOP.** All senior members are charged with the responsibility of securing the building as per the closing procedure posted by the door. If you are the last senior member, possessing a key, that will be leaving, you are responsible for getting any other members or visitors out, as they don’t have keys, and locking everything up. This is an essential procedure for every time we are leaving the building.

OK enough said. Time to board the train. All Aboard !!

John Spach, President

Attention Senior Members

How Many Times Do We Need to Repeat This???

Senior members have keys to the building, and responsibility accompanies that privilege. Members have gotten very lax with Club closing procedures as the Holidays approach. In fact, the Club was found unlocked on the morning of November 20th. Other early openings have found the lights on in the layout room and, more seriously, the power strip on for the soldering station in the Shop (**FIRE HAZARD**). The Shop has been found unlocked on several occasions and other lights have been left on.

While members seem to be getting better about sorting recyclables, some are still leaving the remains of bag lunches and other pest attracting food items.

Come on Folks, let's make taking care of the Club for all to enjoy a **PRIORITY**.

Final Show Report

The Fall Show is now history. The books have been closed and the "Spring into Trains" show for Spring has been officially opened. Remember the dates are May 3 through 5, 2024.

Here are the final sets of photographs from the Fall show. The first section features some of our vendors, and exhibitor's layouts. Many thanks to these show participants who contributed to our success and to **Ted Kunstling** for the photos.



North Raleigh N Trax



Sipping & Switching



Mudd Creek Models



Wheeler's Trains



Kevin Spain Railroad Artwork



Models and more models



Jackie Harper of Mike's Trains



Eric Werner

Randy Foulke took a lot of pictures of Club members. Here are more of his photos of some of the folks who didn't get into the November Whistle Post.



Have I got a deal for you? Dan Egy



Don McPherson



Doc Lou Monville



Joe Johnston



Alan Bradley, Larry Martin, and Alan Servas



George Lasley in a relaxed moment?



Milo Poulin and John Kuchnia



Ian Fuller, Gordon Lucas, and George Sawyer



Bob Witwer, Daphne Garren, and Tom Garren



Liam Bryant



Alec Urban and Emily



John Wallis

Real Railroads

George Lasley sent in some additional photos from his recent trip. Bridges are back in vogue.



Bridge over the Susquehanna at Harrisburg that once carried the trolley tracks. Span was dropped by ice.



Hi-rail truck on the Rockville Bridge. They were building up a worn frog with welding.

Tom Magnani passed along the following article from **Fred Krauss**. If you enjoy visiting railroad museums full of model trains, this looks like a potential stop if you're in the area..



The train museum in Roscommon, Michigan (a village of about 1,400 people) is shown in the photo attached. The building is more than 150 years old. It used to be an office for a lumber mill, later became a small dime store, TV repair shop, and then sat vacant and boarded up for about 30 years before we moved into it. We have layouts in all the different scales, the smallest being about half the size of Z gauge. We are getting an N scale layout ready to display next year. The HO layout starts in the front room and track goes thru a restroom into the back room, where a part of the layout depicts what the village looked like 100 years ago. Members built all the historic buildings in the village from vintage photographs (I did three of them). There is a huge Lionel layout with six train loops, and a G scale layout depicting what lumbering was like in the area in the 1880's.

The riding train is behind the yellow building in the left background, about a block away. The parking lot in front of the yellow building is the site of a Saturday farm market during the summer. It is at the site of the old railroad depot, which was razed in 1969.

George Lasley took the following photos of track relocation work south of, and across the road from, the Graham Building on November 28th. The equipment is cutting in the shoefly on the north (SAL) track.



Model Railroad News

George Lasley passed along this photograph of **Tom Smith's** N scale layout in Yadkinville. Tom models the Nickel Plate in northern Indiana.



Tom Garren shared his photographs of an operating session on **Jerry Davis's** O Scale layout. Apparently there was a power shortage in California (go figure) that required Southern Railway to send a pair of Ps4s to help keep traffic moving over Tehachapi Loop. The engines belong to **Joe Scales**.



Double heading through Bealville.



Cresting Tehachapi Summit with freight in tow.

Upcoming Events

Keep your calendars open for the following events coming up early in the New Year. Club Members help will be required for each of these events. More information after the Holidays.

February 10, 2024: Mike's Trains Trackside Train Day, 12 West Main Street, Thomasville, NC. The Club will be taking the travelling layout and setting up sales tables at this show.

March 9, 2024: Train Group of Mebane, Annual Train Show and Sale, 209 W. Jackson Street, Mebane, NC 27302. The Club will be setting up four tables to sell trains.

April 20, 2024: Hold this date open for the Club's spring Open House.

Neat Links

James Hall has been building an O gauge layout at home and provided the following YouTube link so that you can tour his layout. The video runs about 4¹/₂ minutes, and you get to see a lot of trains running on two levels. Lots to watch and enjoy. Good job Jimmy!

[o-scalevideo2 - YouTube](#)

From Dutch Tubman here's a link to the CSRRC's YouTube channel for Steve & Susan Hutchison's outstanding video presentation from the last CSRRC meeting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8T9gaUigTM>

HO Layout Committee Activities in November/December

On November 18th we gathered at the Clubhouse and confiscated the Crew Lounge for three hours to organize all the construction materials that were stored haphazardly under the layout.

Members in attendance included: Brad Bouch, Alan Bradley, Richard Calfee, Bernie Dawson, Dan Egy, Jacob Forbes, Randy Foulke, Tom Garren, Ken Howard, Ted Kunstling, Colin Martinko, Don McPherson, John Spach, and Bob Witwer. As a result of their efforts, the materials under the HO layout are now organized and filed with like items. A box of forgotten donations was also unearthed in the process. Thanks to Tom Garren for the candid photos.



Bob Witwer, Brad Bouch, and Alan Bradley contemplating the contents of a rollaway.



Stoop labor was clearly involved. Jake Forbes, Ted Kunstling, Bob Witwer, and Alan Bradley.



Dan Egy, Ken Howard, and Don McPherson debate the future of wood scraps.



Randy Foulke and John Spach look clearly displeased with the scenic materials they are sorting.

Buildings are now stored in boxes and scenic materials, paints, tools, and other items are stored in roll away drawer units. The process of consolidation yielded a considerable amount of scenic materials that were 1) worthless and thrown away, or 2) separated for sale at the Spring show. As a result of consolidation, there are now several sets of plastic drawers that are available to Club members for nominal costs. Check out the description of these items in a later article.

News Event at the Clubhouse

Tragedy befell the Poobah chair during the Thursday Membership Meeting. George Lasley was unhurt as the chair failed with a loud crack. We are grateful that George wasn't hurt and was able to watch the remainder of Randy's presentation from the ultra-reclining position. George was extracted at the end of the proceedings, and the chair has been relieved of duty. A new office chair has been donated in its stead by Tom and Daphne Garren. (photos by Ken Howard)



The rocker became an ultra-recliner.



The Poobah chair on the way to its final home at the landfill.

Christmas Charitable Giving

Once again, the Club will hold a year end charitable giving drive. The Board has authorized the treasurer to match up to \$500 in member donations and distribute the funds to local charities in early January. Contributions can be made at the December membership meeting, at the Clubhouse, or by mail to the treasurer. Thank you all in advance for your generosity.

Storage Drawer Sets Available at the Clubhouse

After the HO Committee workday, the storage cabinets shown at right are available for acquisition by Club members. You can imagine how much junk was thrown out if this much storage space became available.

The cabinets include a 5-drawer standing cabinet, two 3-drawer standing cabinets, and a 3-bin rollaway set of baskets. Members interested in the purchase of any or all of these units should consult Ken Howard or any other Board of Governors member for viewing and prices. If no interest is expressed by members by the end of the December Membership Meeting, the pieces will be donated to a local charity.



Club Emblem Shirts Inventory Dwindling

The following clothing items were still available in the Clubhouse as of December 6th: If you are interested, please contact Colin Martinko, John Spach, or Ken Howard.

1	2XL	Denim Short-Sleeve Shirt
2	2XL	Burgundy Polo Shirts
3	XL	Green Polo Shirts
1	Medium	Green Polo Shirts

Upcoming Club Meetings and Activities

December Membership Meeting: The next meeting is on Thursday, December 21st at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. John Spach will present a program titled “Narrow Gauge Through Porthmadog. The Flestiniog and Welsh Highland Railroad.” Attendance via Zoom is optional.

December HO Committee Meeting: No formal meeting is scheduled for December. Enjoy the Holidays and running trains.

January Board of Governors Meeting: Because of New Year's Day the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2nd at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

Breakfast Social: Join us for the 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 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 so that he can keep our Facebook site current.

Please send articles, photos of real trains and Club activities, 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 HO Committee Meetings

Minutes of Board of Governors, Membership, and HO Committee meetings are available on the Club website. 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	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	gwasley52@gmail.com	919-757-4503
Tom Tiemann	Membership Chair	tiemann@elon.edu	919-636-2283
Ted Kunstling	Social Media Chair	trkunstling@aol.com	919-787-5282
Wayne Aiken	Librarian	htomc42@hotmail.com	919-602-8529
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
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