

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”

Hey sports fans, how did you do with your Brackets this year? We certainly have had a bunch of happy State fans in the Club this month.

Anyway – we have a lot of other train stuff going on too. We have an Open House coming up, and of course the Spring Show is rapidly coming into play as well. I am certain that you all have cleared as much time as possible to work at our events. We look forward to a bigger and better Open House and Show each time we schedule them, and we rely on all of you to pitch in and make them a success. Let’s do it once again and make these the biggest ever,

For all who have not noticed the scurrying noises at the Club, let me advise you that we have been invaded by “critters”. Our landlord has provided the services of an exterminator, and he has investigated and discovered a nest, access point, droppings, and solid evidence of our not welcome guests. Bait has been placed, traps are set, and plans are in place to seal the access point. We will soon have the place to ourselves again.

There seem to be more and more people in the Club every weekend - It’s great to see so many Club members and visitors enjoying some time with our favorite pastime – running trains. And, breakfast has become a very well attended event on Wednesdays. We have a steady group of around 20 members every week, where we share a meal and have a nice time sharing stories and helpful facts about our shared hobby. If you can, you should join us; we still have room for more.

Lots more work being done at the Club, too, from layouts to landscaping, from cleaning to sorting, and everything in between. There is always something going on at the Club. Come find out how you can take part.

OK, enough for this issue. Trains leaving on track 8.

ALL ABOARD !

John Spach, President

O Scale Circus Train

By Mike Keelean

The following photos show a partially restored circus train which was donated a few years ago. The collection was very old and predominately constructed from wood kits glued together. Unfortunately, it was stored for many years in less than ideal conditions, and much of the glue has failed. Collection restoration has taken longer than anticipated but is ongoing. Some of the rolling stock and associated circus carts can now be run on our Club's layout as the circus consist in the photos shows. Other pieces are on display.

Space restrictions prohibit displaying other parts of the larger collection items such as the large main tent and assorted supporting items. We have not been able to identify the original period that this collection dates from, so anyone with possible input please feel free to contact us.



The circus train arrives in town.



The parade of the elephants begins.



Circus train accessories.



Animal cage and circus wagon. (photos by Ken Howard)

Bylaws Committee Activities

By
Alan Bradley, Ken Howard, and John Wallis

The Bylaws Committee was tasked by the Board of Governors to review and make recommendations to modernize the Club's organizational documents to include: Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and Bylaws. Under this charter, the committee has recommended that no action be taken with the Articles of Incorporation. The committee has recommended that

both the Constitution and the Bylaws be amended to reflect current governance practices, communication methods, and legal issues that may impact the Club.

As the first step in amending these documents, the committee has revised the Bylaws and submitted a draft of proposed changes to the Board of Governors. The Board has approved the changes proposed by the committee and will submit the amended Bylaws to the membership for approval. The proposed changes will be read (first reading) to the members at the April general membership meeting for consideration. Prior to the May general membership meeting, a copy of the revised Bylaws will be e-mailed to Senior members for consideration. A second reading will be conducted at the May general membership meeting, and a vote to accept the revised Bylaws will be held.

Assuming that the amended Bylaws are accepted by the Senior membership, the committee will begin the process of revising the Constitution to reflect the new Bylaws and changes that may be required to satisfy legal, communication, and procedural issues.

Neat Links

Don and Teri Tichy shared a YouTube video featuring their HO scale 55 gallon drums and skids on Boomers Dioramas. It is only 6 minutes long and even Don says he learned something.

[Boomers Dioramas Link](#)

Tom Magnani forwarded a pdf file of hand signals from **Fred Krauss**. In looking for a link to the source, the following link popped up with signals from the old Pennsylvania Railroad.

[Railroad/Train Hand Signals - RSUS \(railroadsignals.us\)](#)

Tom Magnani passed along the following link to the CPD13 newsletter (**The Herald**) archives from **Bob Gamble**, the Editor of The Herald.

<https://www.cpd13.org/newsletter---the-herald>

Unveiling a New Paint Scheme for the Neuse River Valley Railroad

By

Jake Forbes & Randy Foulke

In the August and September 2022 editions of *The Whistle Post*, two articles were published which continued the history of the Neuse River Valley Railroad through the 1990's. Volume Two, Chapter 2 stated that a new paint scheme was introduced in 1992, which replaced the green scheme. For the past few months, we have been developing what the new paint scheme looks like. At the General Membership Meeting on April 18th, we will unveil the new paint scheme. Please attend the meeting and see the new paint scheme.

Spring into Trains Show

If you haven't received a call from Bob Witwer or Bernie Dawson by this time, you soon will. Each Club member who is able to help is being asked to sign up for a time slot to work on various aspects of the show (Club sales table, ticket sales at the door, loading in and out for NRV and vendors, raffle ticket sales, show set up, posting signs, etc.). Even if you can only contribute an hour of your time, sign up to help and fill a slot on the spreadsheet. Remember, this is an all hands on deck event!

Social Committee Report

by
Randy Foulke & John Wallis

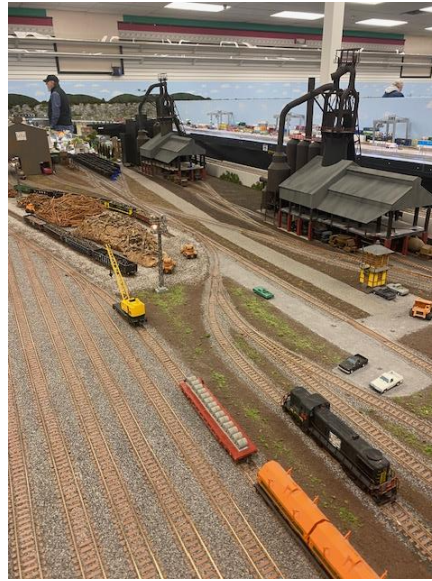
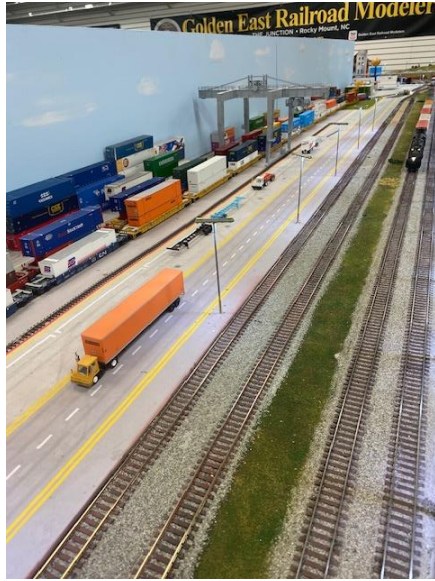
The Social Committee would like to take this opportunity to report on its activities planning.

Golden East Railroader Modelers

Arrangements have been made for NRV to visit the Golden East Railroad Modelers Club on May 18, 2024. The Golden East Railroad Modelers Club is located in the Golden East Crossing shopping mall in Rocky Mount, NC. Golden East Railroad Modelers Club has constructed a very large HO layout along with a small O gauge layout, an N scale layout, and a single-track *Thomas and Friends* layout. The Golden East Railroad Modelers Club is the former Wilson Area Railroad Modelers Club that was located over The Antique Barn in Wilson, NC, which closed in 2018.

Golden East Crossing is approximately 50 minutes east of the NRV Clubhouse. Their normal hours on Saturday are from 11 am to 3 pm. The Social Committee is proposing that we meet at the Clubhouse and leave no later than noon. There are a number of fast-food restaurants close to Golden East Crossing for lunch, and we can then proceed to the Golden East Club. They have requested that we give them advance notice of the approximate number of attendees. Please inform Randy Foulke of your intent to travel to the Golden East Club by end of day on Wednesday, May 15, 2024. Some pictures of the HO layout are included below.





(photos by Randy Foulke)

General Membership Meeting Presentations

We have presentations for the general membership meeting scheduled through February 2025. Upcoming month's program title and presenter are published in *The Whistle Post* each month. We believe we have a great variety of subjects along with some very knowledgeable presenters. If you are interested in making a presentation, don't hesitate to contact Randy Foulke or John Wallis. Thanks to all of the presenters who have come forward.

Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show

The Railroad Hobby Show sponsored by the Amherst Railway Society is arguably the largest train show in the world. The show is located in The Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds in West Springfield, MA, approximately 30 minutes north of Hartford, CT. The Railroad Hobby Show is located in four buildings totaling approximately 350,000 square feet, with over 3,500 exhibitors and approximately 60 layouts. Included among the exhibitors are all of the model railroad manufacturers, who usually announce their new products at the show. The train show in January 2024 saw a record attendance of 26,147.

The Social Committee will organize a trip to the next Railroad Hobby Show scheduled for January 25th and 26th, 2025, if there is sufficient interest. Proposed arrangements are roundtrip travel via Amtrak from Cary, NC to Hartford, CT. A connection would be made in Washington, DC. The proposal would be to leave on Friday, January 24th, 2025 and return on Monday, January 27th. The trip would include a stay in a nearby motel/hotel and ground transportation. On the basis of two to a room and a minimum of 15 persons, the approximate cost would be \$450. If you desire a single room, the cost would increase by \$150. If travel is by air, the cost would reduce by \$50 to \$100. Reservations for Amtrak are required by October 25, 2024 to guarantee space. Please note that the costs are approximate because Amtrak will not guarantee the rates until reservations are made. The Social Committee will need commitments by

September 30, 2024 in order to make arrangements. Some pictures of the Railroad Hobby Show are included below.



Clubhouse Doings

Reports of scurrying sounds in the suspended ceiling over the shop, crew lounge, and library have been confirmed after a visit from an exterminator. WE GOT RATS! Traps and bait have been set, and planning is underway to cut part of the tree on the north side of the Clubhouse that is giving the vermin access to the building.

Real Railroads

George Lasley has been back in Pennsylvania at the Bridgeview B&B and submitted the photo below of a Norfolk Southern legacy unit crossing the Susquehanna River on the Rockville bridge.



Upcoming Events

Keep your calendars open for the following events. Club members help will be required for some of these events.

April 20, 2024: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. NRV Club's spring Open House.

April 22, 2024: CSRRC meeting at the Southbound. Steve Hutchison will preview a video on the "ACE OF BLACK DIAMONDS, C&O 614"

May 4-5, 2024: NRV MRC "Spring into Trains Show" at Expo Building, NC State Fairgrounds.

June 28-30, 2024: Brick Universe, LEGO displays at Raleigh Convention Center.

August 15-17, 2024: CSRRC "Field Trip" to Bryson City including ride on the Tuckasegee Express and Andrew Rail Bike Experience as well as other fun activities. For information, questions, or problems, please contact the CSRRC Trip Coordinator, Dutch Tubman, at cstubman@gmail.com or by phone at 540-314-6092.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee will present the proposed slate for election of officers and Board of Governors members at the April 18, 2024 General Membership Meeting.

HO Layout Committee Activities in March/April

If you haven't been in the HO layout room recently, you need to pay a visit to observe the extensive progress that has been made over the past month.

- The spindly support framework that was used to establish the early configuration of Mount Witwer is being replaced with solid supports being constructed by Paul Lebiezinski,
- Bob Witwer has finished the track into the coal mine and has installed switch machines and the trestle over the reversing loop. Control panel for switch operation will follow shortly.
- Collin Martinko is continuing scenic work on the industrial area and construction of the new yard on Module 9 at the base of Main 4 Extension.
- Peter Donofrio has been burying the previously above ground lines for switch throws in the industrial area and has advanced track upgrade toward the logging camp on Main 4 Extension.
- Ken Howard has designed a track plan and logging camp based on a real logging operation from upstate New York. Buildings have been selected for the logging camp.
- Richard Calfee is working on the new, as yet unnamed village, on the extension.
- Milo Poulin is designing and building the quarry that will branch off Main 4 Extension just below the coal mine.
- Ed Stanton (John Spach's neighbor) constructed new shelving for the expanding roster of HO equipment.

- Jake Forbes has been organizing the storage shelves and making sure cars are returned to their proper place and repaired if needed.
- Many other members are contributing as well. If we overlooked your contributions this month, we'll try to give credit in the next edition of the Whistle Post.

Upcoming Club Meetings and Activities

April Membership Meeting: The next meeting is on Thursday, April 18th at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Larry Pearlman will present a program on Photography. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

April HO Committee Meeting: The April meeting will be held at the Clubhouse at 1 pm on Sunday, March 21st. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

May Board of Governors Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 6th at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

Open House: Keep April 20th open for your participation in our Spring Open House. This is a chance to put our best foot forward to the public and help draw folks to the Spring into Trains show. **The Clubhouse needs a thorough vacuuming and general cleaning. Please contribute to the cleanup effort this week. Also, don't forget to bring cookies for our guests. Contact Clif Kelly with any questions.**

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, especially videos, 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 Membership, Board, HO, and N Committee's Meetings

Minutes of Board of Governors, Membership, and HO and N Committee meetings are available on the Club website. The link below takes you directly to the Minutes page:

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

NRV Whistle Post
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First Class

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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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