

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”

Damn it's HOT !!

Just in case you haven't noticed, it has been outrageously hot for the last month, and summer has just started. Well, that means it's a perfect time to spend time in our air conditioned Clubhouse. And, we can use your help with a bunch of ongoing projects and routine maintenance of all our layouts. Just sayin'.

If you have not been at the Club recently, you will be amazed at the progress that has been made on the HO layout. We now have a coal mine, a logging camp, and a rock quarry. WOW ! Oh yeah, we have a new side yard on track 4, an amazing setup yard is being developed under the mountain, and work is being done to improve and expand the inner makeup yard, with new access through the former German Town, which is now under renovation. That is an amazing amount of work going on. If you have not had even a small part in that, its time you did. Roll up the sleeves and lend a hand.

We continue to receive donations, which are, of course, the main way we get materials for sale in the Clubhouse and at shows. If you know of any potential contributions, please refer them to Ken Howard so we can arrange securing them.

We continue to have issues with the mishandling of Club materials, especially in the HO and N scale layout areas. We are taking steps to help determine how these issues arise and have formed a security committee to help monitor the premises on a daily basis. Once again, if you damage something, just report it so it can be repaired. Don't just leave it to be found as an unpleasant surprise. It's most important that we get things repaired in a timely fashion.

It's really great to see so many of you at regular meetings, both in person and on Zoom. Thanks to John Wallis's efforts, we have some very interesting programs at membership meetings, and the 50/50 pots keep growing, and show and tell has produced some very unique items.

Well, enough for now. Time to board the train. ALL ABOARD !

John Spach, President

Annual Membership Dues Reminder

Dues for Fiscal Year 2024-25 are now past due. Members who have not paid by July 31 are subject to being dropped from the membership roster. Dues may be paid by check, cash, or credit card at the Club. Alternatively, dues can be mailed to:

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club
Attention: Membership Chair
PO Box 19573
Raleigh, NC 27619-9573

Thank you for your prompt payments.

European Train Enthusiasts

By Stretch Anderson

I have a deep interest in European trains and, as such, am a long-time member of an organization called European Train Enthusiasts (ETE). ETE has been around for more than 50 years and currently has 18 chapters around the country. Before relocating to North Carolina, I was a long-time member of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter.

Not unlike your club, ETE caters to those interested in all aspects of European Trains, both prototype and modeling. ETE had members involved in many scales, 2-rail and 3-rail. Until now ETE's presence in North Carolina has been limited to a few "members-at-large" and ETE has not had a dedicated local chapter. In the coming months, with the assistance of a couple of other local ETEers, I will be making an effort to establish a North Carolina Chapter.

I would very much appreciate NRV members' assistance in helping me reach out to NRV members and others with an interest in European railroads. I would like to make them aware of ETE, and what our organization is all about. Anyone who might be interested can reach me at:

Stretch Andersen
stretch@ete.org
925 963-2410
www.ete.org

Bylaws Committee

Based on the May vote of the Senior members, revisions have been made to the Bylaws for the members to consider. In compliance with the existing Bylaws, the committee will present the first reading of the new document at the June meeting. Changes have been made to the definition of a quorum and membership dues have been returned to the previous percentages. Copies of the revised Bylaws will be sent to members via email for review before the second reading and vote for acceptance or rejection at the August general membership meeting.

Real Railroads Part I

Lots of pictures of real railroad action this month. **Ken Howard** took a road trip throughout the Catskill and Adirondack Mountains of New York in June 2024 looking for railroads you never heard of. Hope you enjoy older equipment, some of it still operational.



Catskill Mountain Railroad Alco RS-1 No. 401 at Westbrook Station in Kingston, NY.



Catskill Mountain Railroad 1942 H. K. Porter 50-tonner at Phoenicia, NY.



Ontario and Western Railroad EMD NW2 No. 116 at Phoenicia, NY



Delaware & Ulster tourist train at Arkville, NY



Rail Explorers Catskill Division getting ready for tourists with pedal powered bikes at Phoenicia, NY



Catskill Mountain Alco S-1 No. 407 marooned at Phoenicia, NY by washouts.



The former Delaware & Hudson depot in Rouses Point, NY still services two Amtrak passenger trains per day between New York City and Montreal.



Marion River Carry Railway Porter 0-4-0 built in 1904. The entire railway was 1320 yards long and ceased operation in 1929.



Saratoga, Corinth & Hudson Railroad Alco S-1 No.5 at Corinth, NY



Saratoga, Corinth & Hudson Railroad tourist train.



Lake Champlain & Moriah Railway Alco RS-18 No.20 on display at Port Henry, NY. The railroad served the now defunct Republic Steel facilities.



LC&M caboose No. 5 was built from a converted iron ore car in 1946

In case you hadn't noticed – Alcos and Porters dominated the NY loco market, especially for short lines. The locomotives were mostly built in Pennsylvania and New York.

From the Hinterlands

Fred Krauss shared these photos of the Grayling Depot in Michigan through **Tom Magnani**. The depot was built in 1872 and is now a museum. Note log sled and the old log cabin.



Neat Links

Ted Kunstling provided the following links about Engine Driver. He believes the information might help members and encourage phone throttle use. He recommends including the links on our local addresses such as using NRVNET and HO-Layout and RPi-JMR, PR3.

[Detailed Instructions — Engine Driver Home documentation \(flash62au.github.io\)](https://flash62au.github.io)

The above link connects to a pretty comprehensive manual (25 pages) on operating with Engine Driver. Below is a link to a shorter version. Other versions are also available online.

[Quick Start / Getting Started — Engine Driver Home documentation \(flash62au.github.io\)](https://flash62au.github.io)

Clubhouse Doings

If you haven't been to the Clubhouse lately, there are some significant changes that you may or may not notice on your next visit:

- 1) The Crew Lounge has been graced by a large screen TV mounted in the corner of the room. The hope is to get more modern communication for our Zoom meetings and presentations to replace the current projector, screen, and audio visual cart. Seating has been rearranged to create more room for members to enjoy in person meetings.

- 2) Revised closing procedures have been posted on the bulletin board adjacent to the main door. The revisions reflect changes in the Clubhouse since last August. Particular changes involve the power strips in the Shop which should all be turned off at the present time. There are four power strips in the show that must be turned off at closing. If and when the charging station for throttles is available, the procedure will be amended to reflect leaving the charging station power strip in the on position.
- 3) Please remember that the last Senior Member (key holders) out of the building is responsible for proper shutdown. Recent oversights have included failure to shut down power strips, failure to shut down portable air conditioners, leaving lights on in a layout room, leaving the main thermostat on the wrong setting (72 degrees), and failure to properly lock all doors.
- 4) A new addition to the Clubhouse is the addition of motion activated security cameras. Two cameras have been installed thus far. The Board of Governors' has authorized the purchase and installation of additional cameras so that all interior rooms and the building exterior will be under surveillance. The Club has formed a Security Committee to follow the camera recordings and to recommend other possible enhancements to the security of the Clubhouse.
- 5) The search for someone to take over the duties of Webmaster continues. Anyone interested in managing and modernizing the Club website should contact John Spach.

Real Railroads Part II

Here's a collection of photographs from **Larry Pearlman's** recent travels. There's something for almost any railfan's interest in the selections from North Carolina and Virginia railroading..



Aberdeen Carolina & Western's dome car on the PGA special at Aberdeen, NC



Amtrak's Palmetto breezes through Ashland, VA, a favorite location with a classic train station and semi-street running



Not long for this world: Atlantic & Western GP10 109 will be scrapped by year's end due to non-compliance with emissions standards. It was originally built as Denver & Rio Grande Western 5943,



RJ Corman's 7107, an EMD SD40-2 sits in Fuquay-Varina. This locomotive will soon be replaced by an SD70.



NS 5642, an EMD GP38-2 is sitting in Durham. This is NS's first responder's unit, normally assigned to the first responders training train. The unit was originally built for Penn Central as GP38 7868.



CSX Norlina local on the S line in Henderson with a rare MP15 as the trailing unit. Thanks to Collin Martinko for the head's up.



Amtrak's Silver Star passes the NC DOT/Amtrak's PGA special at Aberdeen, NC.



Virginia Railway Express leans into the curve at Burke Center, VA.

Upcoming Events

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.

September 28-29, 2024: *Trains* Magazine staff members will lead a railfan weekend photo charter event in Rutland, VT to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Green Mountain Railroad (Bellows Falls Line). Tickets are \$375 per person (limited to 125 people). Included are round-trip rail fare, scenic photo stops, and box lunches. Travel to Rutland, overnight lodging, and meals are not included. [Tickets are available here, via Eventbrite.](#)

November 23-24, 2024: “Trainfest” at the Baird Center, Milwaukee, WI. Largest operating model railroad show in America.

Upcoming Club Meetings and Activities

July General Membership Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Thursday July 18th at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Hayden Harrison will present a program on Modeling European Railroads. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

July HO Committee Meeting: There will be no regular meeting of the Committee during July. The committee will resume its regular meeting schedule on August 18th.

August Board of Governors Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 5th 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 photos of Club activities to tomgar@mindspring.com or nrvwebmaster@gmail.com, so we 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://nrclub.net/meeting-minutes/>

NRV Whistle Post
The Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club, Inc.
1615 Old Louisburg Road
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First Class

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

John Spach	President	jtspach@earthlink.net	937-215-2723
Ken Howard	Vice-President	htomc42@hotmail.com	919-602-8529
Schaefer O'Neill	Treasurer	schaefer.oneill@gmail.com	919-740-6923
Tom Garren	Secretary	tomgar@mindspring.com	919-805-0909
Richard Calfee (Calfee)	At-Large	rhcalfree@yahoo.com	301-335-1054
George Sawyer	At-Large	gsawyer@ix.netcom.com	919-469-0442
Bob Witwer	At-Large	bobwitwer@gmail.com	919-632-0785

OTHER KEY POSITIONS

Bob Witwer	Show Chairman	bobwitwer@gmail.com	919-632-0785
Clif Kelly	Membership Chair	bkelly11@nc.rr.com	919-614-8891
Ted Kunstling	Social Media Chair	trkunstling@aol.com	919-787-5282
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WEB SITE www.nrvclub.net