

The

Whistle



Post

Official Newsletter of the

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

1615 Old Louisburg Rd Raleigh, NC 27604

Phone: 919-400-5570

Next Meeting's Program

Tom Garren will make a presentation on the need for an updated website and its capabilities for this month's program following adjournment of the Membership Meeting.

Under the Crown Sheet by Clif Kelly 14 September 2020

As fall approaches, we turn our attention to the annual Fall Show scheduled at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, the long weekend of 6-8 November, with Friday being set aside for vendor setup. Show times both days are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. George Lasley, our Grand Pooh Bah, continues to be extremely excited about this year's event. Despite the State Government announcement to cancel this year's State Fair, a special vote conducted by the Club's Board of Directors rendered an enthusiastic and unanimous decision to continue with the planning and execution of the Club's involvement and sponsorship of the Fall Show. Vendor response to participate has been excellent. Table sales have been brisk with fewer than thirty tables remaining for sale. Protocols will be in place to conduct temperature checks of Club members, vendors and show goers alike. The wearing of face masks will be mandatory. Social distancing will be practiced along with the availability of several hand sanitizer stations. George continues to seek Club members to work and support the Fall Show. If you have not already given your name to George, please consider making this commitment for November.

I'm happy to report that a special election was conducted on Thursday, August 20th as part of last month's Membership Meeting. We reluctantly say good-bye to Steve Wills who has faithfully served as Treasurer since 2003. Steve will remain active in the Club focusing his energy and expertise primarily on making constant improvements and additions to the LEGOs railway village. In addition, Steve will be pursuing other interests in supporting the Club. He is replaced by Mike Keelean who vacates his position as the Senior At-Large member to serve as Treasurer. Mike's position will be backfilled by Richard Calfee. Thanks again to Steve for his years of service and to Mike and Richard for stepping up to fill these critical positions.

The next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 17th at the Clubhouse. Start time is 7:00 pm. We will be operating under the Governor's revised guidance for indoor

activities currently limited to twenty-five persons. In the event participation exceeds the maximum the meeting will be moved to the outside parking lot. The use of face masks, social distancing protocols and the use of hand sanitizers will continue to be observed.

If you believe that you may have a fever, been exposed to someone with the virus or suspected of having the virus, or have recently traveled out of state, please contact Tom Magnani, 914-815-2708, if you wish to join by phone. Please dial in a few minutes prior to 7:00 pm.

We will also attempt to do a teleconference with a recording.

Tele-Conference Dial-in Number: 712-775-7031

Participant Access Code: 175235#

I'm pleased to announce the Club's new website is up and running. Special recognition goes out to George Lasley, Tom Garren, John Ragan and Bernie Dawson for their leadership, ideas and energy to coordinate this effort with the WRAL Digital Design Team. You can judge the results for yourself by visiting the website at "nrclub.net." Tom Garren will make a presentation on the need for an updated website and its capabilities for this month's program following adjournment of the Membership Meeting.

The accolades and achievement of the Club's new library are further recognized. We would not continue to enjoy this facility without the combined efforts of George Lasley and Tom Garren to reorganize the old library and filter thru numerous books, magazines and other railroading mementoes and paraphernalia. In addition, Tom has been designated to serve as the Club's new librarian. He reports the recent receipt of twenty new books, including four on the Norfolk & Western, one on the Railroads of Virginia and additional magazines to our already extensive collection. If you have not already seen what's available and how to take advantage of our library, see Tom at the Membership meeting.

For those who have not yet settled their dues for the new year or made special arrangements for their collection, please contact Mike Keelean as Treasurer at the email address you'll find on the last page.

As a reminder Senior Rate = \$360.00, Associate Rate = \$216.00, Juniors = \$108.00, Youth = \$72.00.

The Club has identified a new venue for Breakfast. We are now meeting in west Raleigh at Barry's Café, located at 2851 Jones Franklin Road in the Swift Creek Shopping Center (intersection of Jones Franklin with Tryon Roads). The meeting time will continue to be on Wednesdays at 9:00 am. The food and service have been enjoyed by one and all.

Best regards for now and everyone stay well and safe. See you this Thursday.

Minutes of the Membership Meeting of August 20th, 2020

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call – Tom Garren
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 6:59 PM.
 - b. Those in attendance were: Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Dan Egy, Tom Garren, Scott Hall, Bill Hanses, Mike Johns, Mike Keelean, Clif Kelly, George Lasley, Mike Marsh, John Spach and Ken Wesp
 - c. Attending Remotely: Bill Ferguson, Ted Kunstling, Tom Magnani and Ron Wertenberg
2. Treasurer's Report – Clif Kelly for Steve Wills
 - a. The detailed Treasurer's report has been sent to the Secretary.
 - b. Taxes have been prepared and submitted to the Ways and Means committee for approval.
 - c. We are being charged the expected rate for use of the credit card machine.
3. Election of Board Officers
 - a. The resignations of Steve Wills from Treasurer and Mike Keelean for from an At Large Board Member position have been accepted by the Board effective at this Membership Meeting of August 20, 2020.
 - b. A motion to open nominations for these two vacancies was passed by acclamation.
 1. Mike Keelean was nominated for the office of Treasurer by John Spach.
 2. Richard Calfee was nominated for the vacant At Large Board position by Mike Johns.
 - c. A motion to close nominations was made by George Lasley and seconded by Tom Garren. It was passed by acclamation.
 - d. A motion was made by George Lasley and seconded by Mike Johns to accept these nominations by acclamation. The motion passed unanimously.
 - e. It is noted by these minutes that Mike Keelean should be added to the signature cards as an authorized signer with the club's bank and financial accounts. If needed in addition to these minutes, the Secretary will provide a letter to this effect for our financial institutions.
 - f. It was further noted that both Steve and Mike should be authorized signatories for a transition period of one to two months.
4. Reminder for Collection of Dues (Due 1 Jun 2020 for FY 2020-21) – Steve Wills and Clif Kelly.
 - a. Approximately 2/3 of FY2020-21 dues have already been collected. This amounts to approximately \$8,000.00.
 - b. Members must pay their dues, in total or partially, by September 01 to remain in good standing.
 - c. Members can now pay their entire dues for the year with a credit card with no added fee.
 - d. The Secretary will send a note to members reminding them of the need for dues by September 01 to remain in good standing.
 - e. Following September 01, members who are delinquent in their dues will be notified individually by the Secretary.
 - f. As a reminder, below is a list of the different levels of membership and their rates.
 - 1) Senior Rate - \$360.00, Voting Rights and Club Key
 - 2) Associate - \$216.00 (60 Percent), No Voting Rights or Club Key
 - 3) Junior - \$108.00 (30 Percent), No Voting Rights or Club Key
 - 4) Youth - \$72.00 (20 Percent), No Voting Rights or Club Key

5. Report on WRAL Digital Design Team Progress on Updating Club Website – Tom Garren and George Lasley

The committee (John Ragan, Bernie Dawson, George Lasley and Tom Garren) met with our WRAL representative on August 19. We were presented with the first working version of our new web site. A few changes and updates needed were noted. The committee was pleased with the overall look and feel of the new website. The platform on which the new site has been developed recognizes the type of device/resolution of the user's device and adjusts the presentation accordingly. It is anticipated that we will go live with the new website by September 01.

6. Update on Fall Show, 6-8 November 2020 – George Lasley.

- a. The Board has approved going ahead with the November show.
- b. Letters have gone out to our vendors.
- c. Most vendors are excited to have a show to attend.
- d. We have 120-130 tables committed so far with only 3 vendor cancelations.
- e. We have some new vendors signed up for this show.
- f. Work is being done on layout space allocation to allow for social distancing needed for vendor tables.
- g. Precautions will be enforced at the show including temperatures checks before entering the building, masks being worn at all times, social distancing will be practiced and hand sanitizing stations will be available.

7. Suggestions for Upcoming Events

- a. We are currently awaiting the next phase of restrictions before scheduling a Club Open House.
- b. Scott Hall mentioned the Big 16 Maker Fair in Burlington as a possibility in 2021.
- c. A club outing to Bonsal next summer was mentioned as a possibility.
- d. We have been asked to do Selma Railroad Days again.
 - 1) Based on the current restrictions this is not an event we can support.
 - 2) Should the restrictions change before October 1 we may reconsider.

8. New Business

- a. Two no-touch thermometers authorized by the Board have been obtained. These were used at tonight's meeting.
- b. Wayne Aiken and Steve Will are scheduled to complete work on acquiring an HO donation that has been made to the club.
- c. Wayne Aiken will follow up on a donation of magazines.
- d. Mike Johns is working on a potential HO donation.
- e. Will Allen's sale went well.
- f. Ted Kunstling advised that his presentation on Civil War railroads has been updated and is available for viewing on the website of the Raleigh Civil War Roundtable.
Go to <http://www.raleighcwr.org/monthly-meeting-videos/> Enjoy.

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Johns and seconded by Ken Wesp. The motion was passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 PM.

10. Program

Following the meeting George Lasley projected a show of pictures mostly from around the Winston-Salem area.

Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting of August 31, 2020

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call – Tom Garren.

The meeting was called to order by Clif Kelly at 6:50PM.

Attendees:

Board Members: Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Tom Garren, Tom Magnani (call in) and Clif Kelly,

Members: Bernie Dawson, Mike Johns, George Lasley and Steve Wills.

2. Introduction of New Board Members and Visitors – Clif Kelly.

Clif introduced Richard Calfee as the newest member of the Board, replacing Mike Keelean.

Clif also recognized Steve Wills for his service to the club as treasurer for 18 years.

3. Treasurer's Report – Steve Wills.

The treasurer's report has been forwarded to the secretary.

4. Status on Membership Dues Received to Date – Steve Wills.

Approximately \$11,000 has been collected to date in dues. This includes both full and partial payments.

However, there are still some members who have not yet paid. As of September 01, these members will no longer be in good standing. If these members have not paid their dues by the first of December, they will be dropped from the rolls.

The secretary is requested to send a letter to those who have not yet paid their dues to make them aware of the situation.

It was also noted that Mike Marsh should be added to the roll.

5. Update on Fall Show (6-8 November) – George Lasley.

Checks have been coming in from vendors for the November show. These checks will be held until the time of the show in the event that the show is canceled at the last minute.

So far there are approximately six vendors who have decided not to participate at the show this year.

The final table layout and the space allocated for layouts is still being determined.

We will do advertising through WRAL the week of the show, after the election. It has not yet determined if we will advertise in the N&O this year.

6. New Business.

Selma RR Days discussion:

George Lasley reported that he needs to give the folks in Selma an answer tomorrow as to whether we will be able to participate in the 2020 Selma RR Days. It appears that we are the total event this year.

After a discussion of the pros and cons of our club participating in Selma RR Days for 2020 it was determined that we should not participate in the event this year. This was formalized in a motion made by Tom Garren and seconded by Richard Calfee to not participate in Selma RR Days for 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Notice Wording Change:

Tom Garren suggested that the wording be changed in our meeting notices to state that we will meet in the clubhouse until we exceed the government limitations. Once that number has been reached, we will immediately move the meeting to the parking lot.

The secretary has been asked to make these changes and incorporate this message into our meeting notices for the duration of the pandemic.

Newsletter Comments:

We need to assure that the newsletter we publish is of the highest quality we can produce.

Club members are asked to create content and submit them to the editor for inclusion in future issues. This could include articles from the layout chairmen to share the activities on the club layouts. Members are also encouraged to submit articles about their modeling or railroad activities outside of the club.

It was noted that in past years the newsletter was proofed by another person before it was published. This may need to be considered again as an effort to help assure our first impression is its very best.

The webmaster needs to be changed to Bernie Dawson, email nrvwebmaster@gmail.com. Bernie will take over this role with the deployment of our new website.

The quote mark (") should be removed from the end of Wayne Aiken's email address.

Firebox:

A fire-resistant box has been secured to store important club documents. The box has been placed in the library.

In addition, four sets of the NRV corporate documents stored on memory sticks were assigned to members for off-site storage. The members to whom these copies were assigned were Wayne Aiken, Richard Calfee, Tom Garren and George Lasley.

The need for access to some of this information was demonstrated during the development of our new website. Considerable time was spent by John Ragan to locate this information and put it into one place. It is hoped that no one will have to do this research again.

7. Report on WRAL Digital Design Team Progress on Updating Club Website – John Ragan, Bernie Dawson and Tom Garren

The new website was shared with those in attendance. It received a favorable response. We are awaiting the addition of our club calendar to the site before we go live. This is expected to happen later this week.

Training will be conducted for our team will on Wednesday, September 09 so we can make changes to the content of our new website.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned following the demonstration of the new web site.

Neat Links

Ted Kunstling advised that his presentation on Civil War railroads has been updated and is available for viewing on the website of the Raleigh Civil War Roundtable.

Go to <http://www.raleighcwrt.org/monthly-meeting-videos/> Enjoy

Future Events

When we can resume some activity, the club will be open on Saturdays at 10 am. And Sundays at 1 pm.

We are currently meeting for Wednesday Breakfast at Barry's Café, located at 2851 Jones Franklin Road in the Swift Creek Shopping Center, Raleigh 27606.

Events at the club site, 1615 Old Louisburg Rd, Raleigh, NC 27604.

For details on how to arrive at the club, check out our website:

<http://www.nrvclub.net>

Notes from the Webmaster and the Editor

Please send Bernie Dawson recent photos of our club activities, by email at nrvwebmaster@gmail.com, so he can update our website.

Please send articles to Joe Johnston, Whistle Post Editor, at nrvmrrc@gmail.com no later than Thursday, one week prior to the next scheduled Membership Meeting.

Check out our website at: <http://www.nrvclub.net>.

Check the website to see when the club will be opened and call 919-400-5570 to be sure that the doors are open, if you don't have a key.

NEXT MEETINGS

Membership, September 17th, 7 PM inside or, if necessary, outside, at the Clubhouse, bring your own chairs, masks and hand sanitizer.

Board of Governors, October 5th meeting inside or, if necessary, outside, at the Clubhouse, bring your own chairs, masks and hand sanitizer.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Clif Kelly	President	bkelly11@nc.rr.com	919-614-8891
John Spach	Vice-President	jtspace@earthlink.net.	937-215-2723
Michael Keelean	Treasurer	keeleanmike@gmail.com	
Tom Magnani	Secretary	tommag1@aol.com	914-815-2708
Calfee (Richard Calfee)	At Large	rhcalfee@yahoo.com	
Tom Garren	At Large	tomgar@mindspring.com	919/805-0909
Wayne Aiken	At Large	htomc42@hotmail.com	

OTHER KEY POSITIONS

George Lasley	Spring and Fall Shows	glasley@bellsouth.com	
	Grand Pooh Bah		
Calfee (Richard Calfee)	Membership Chair	rhcalfee@yahoo.com	
Tom Garren	Librarian	tomgar@mindspring.com	919/805-0909
George Lasley	Historian	glasley@bellsouth.net	
Joe Johnston	Newsletter Editor	nrvmrrc@gmail.com	

WEB SITE

		www.nrvclub.net	
Bernie Dawson	Webmaster	nrvwebmaster@gmail.com	