



NAUSET MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

Date: April 7, 2017

Place: Train Room at Hilltop Plaza

of people present: 31

Call to Order: 7:30 p.m.

By: Jay Stradal

Secretary's Report: The Minutes for the March Business Meeting:

MOTION: A Motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes as read.

VOTE: The Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Peter Adam

The report for March 2017 was accepted as read and Filed.

Peter informed the members that he is limping due to his left hip. Surgery is scheduled for June 12th.

New Members:

Bill Clements – joined in March and his “gauge interest” is HO

Lee and Gavin Rice – joined March 24, 2017 and their “gauge interest” is HO and O (attended tonight's meeting)

Visitors: None

*Jay opened the meeting by thanking Bill Craig, Jeff Bassett, Jim Seaboldt, Alan Berg, Bob Borthwick, and Rich Houghtaling for their great work at the **STEM event** held at the 4C's on March 18th.*

*Jay also thanked Bruce Gibbs for his **Layout Visit** on March 25th. His N scale layout with multiple handcrafted trestle bridges is amazing!*

CLUB MEMBER INFORMATION:

1. Peter Valle is recuperating at the Cape Regency Nursing & Rehab, 120 S. Main Street, Centerville, MA 02632 Room 209A. He would welcome visitors. His cell phone # is: 508-364-9950

2. Memorial Service for Bob Feitlowitz – May 5, 2017

Club members have been invited to a **Memorial Service and Celebration of Life** on **May 5th**, 2017 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Nickerson Funeral Home, 77 Eldredge Parkway in Orleans.

Please gather at 10:15 a.m. in front of the Funeral Home so that we can enter as a group. We recommend wearing your Club shirts.

Lunch immediately following at the *Hog Island Beer Company*, 28 West Road, Orleans. At least 20 members indicated that they are planning to attend.



NAUSET MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

Bob Cortez will relay this information to the Family.

A REMINDER will be sent to members as the date draws near.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

As the focus of tonight's Agenda is the Presentation and Discussion of the results of the 2017 Member Survey regarding the "Youth Program", Jay dispensed with the usual Committee reports and asked for the Chairs to convey briefly any important items.

1. ACTIVITIES: Jim Seaboldt

- a. Tour de Chooch (a self-guided model railroad Layout Tour) is Saturday, April 8th from 10:00-4:00 p.m. A copy of the Layout Tour Schedule is on the Bulletin Board.

Our club member, Bob Blick in Buzzards Bay, has his Layout on the Tour.

Jim Seaboldt is driving and members are welcome to join him. George Muller will ride with Jim.

- b. **Monthly Meeting: RESCHEDULED TO Friday April 21st at 7:30 p.m.** from April 14th. All Club members are welcome to attend.

- c. **Operation Sessions for HO and O Gauge Layouts:** Jim Seaboldt and George Muller

The next session is scheduled for **Thursday, April 20th** from **7 to 9 p.m.**

NOTE: The Sessions will be held on the **3rd Thursday** of every month unless notified otherwise.

d. Layout Visit in April:

- i. **April 29th from 1-3 p.m:** Frank Dubas in Chatham – N, HO, and O
This 3-tier layout is under construction: N and O are "in process"; HO is still conceptual. All suggestions/advice will be welcome.

Directions will be provided.

- ii. Please contact Jim Seaboldt (jhsrails@yahoo.com) or Ross Hall (rosshall@comcast.net) if you are interested in having a **Layout Visit at your home** during 2017.

2. FINANCE: Bob Cortez

Deferred to after the "Youth Program - Presentation, Discussion and Vote".

3. MARKETING: John Charlton

- a. No updates as John has been on vacation.



NAUSET MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

b. **Marketing Committee Meeting: Friday, April 28th at 7:30 p.m.** in the Train Room.

NOTE: Meetings are usually held the 4th Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. (unless notified otherwise) ALL club members are welcome to attend.

4. **MEMBERSHIP:** Dick Boberg

a. **no update as focus has been on 2017 Member Survey**

b. **Membership Committee Meeting** - 30 minutes prior to the Monthly Business Meeting.

Next meeting: **Friday, May 5th, 7-7:30 p.m.**

ALL club members are welcome to attend.

5. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Jay Stradal

a. **Rack Cards for the Summer/Holiday Open Houses** have been reprinted with the hours for the Summer changed to 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and the Holiday are being kept at 1-4 p.m. on Saturday afternoons. 2,500 cards were printed for \$250.00

b. **Next meeting: April 26th (Wednesday) at 7 p.m. in the Train Room**

A "Reminder" will be sent to the Executive Committee Members.

Executive Committee Meeting: usually the last Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

a. 4th Annual **Cape Cod Mini Maker Faire:** Bill Craig

i. **April 29th, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at the [Mashpee Middle-High School](#) located at 500 Old Barnstable Road Mashpee (at the intersection of Old Barnstable Road and Route 151).

ii. Bill will be demonstrating "Raspberry Pi" to operate model trains with a Smart Phone. Jeff Bassett will be assisting Bill.

iii. [What is Maker Faire?](#) **Maker Faire** is a gathering of people who enjoy learning and who love sharing what they do. From engineers to artists to scientists to crafters, **Maker Faire** is a venue for these "makers" to show hobbies, experiments, projects.

iv. [Next year, 2018, the Cape Cod Mini Maker Faire will be at the Nauset High School in Eastham.](#)

b. **Barnstable County Fair July 21, 22 and 23, 2017:** Jeff Bassett

Jeff is looking for volunteers to help him run the G-scale layout and possibly the *Timesaver*. Please contact Jeff if you are able to help – more details to follow.

c. Jeff also asked about an N-scale locomotive that had been left in the Train Room. It appears that a Visitor had left it to be repaired – not necessarily to be "returned to operating condition" but to be suitable for display.



NAUSET MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

SURVEY RESULTS - YOUTH PROGRAM AND RECOMMENDTION:

In preparation for this meeting members received a copy of the report of the complete Survey. In addition, a copy of the Report focusing on the “Youth Program –Analysis and Recommendations” was also provided.

Note: For those members who do not have email, copies were provided at the Meeting and, for those unable to attend, a copy will be included in the mailing of these Meeting Minutes.

The focus at tonight’s meeting was the section of the Survey that pertained to the “Youth Program” and the resulting recommendation from the Membership Committee with Executive Committee input.

At the Business Meeting on May 5th, the remaining Survey questions will be discussed and any “next steps” will be identified.

Prior to the presentation, Jay thanked Mike Leen in particular for spearheading the Survey, and Dick Boberg and the other Membership Committee members for all their great work and dedication to this project.

Presentation of the Survey Results - Youth Program: Mike Leen

1. The complete Survey had 3 Sections – the second section dealt with the “Youth Program”
2. Overview:
 - a. Fifty members (62%) responded to the Survey
 - b. Forty-seven members (94%) want to encourage some sort of “Youth Program”
 - c. One-third of the respondents (17) indicated that they would have family members interested
3. Based on the ANALYSIS of the data from the 10 specific questions, the Membership Committee and the Executive Committee recommended the establishment of a trial “Youth Program” beginning May 1-December 31, 2017.
4. COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:
 - a. The Policy (Rules & Regulations) for the program must include a statement “no food or drink behind/on the layouts”.
 - b. The Sign-up Form will be standardized.
 - c. Can sign-ups be made on the day of bringing youth to the Train Room?: Response: YES
 - d. Can the “Sign-Up” sheet be available on our website? Jay and Jeanne will discuss this with our Web Consultant. (NOTE: If deemed to be doable, it would be applicable for the Final Program in 2018 and not during the Trial Period in 2017.)
 - e. The Trial Period is to determine what works and what we can do better.



NAUSET MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

5. The following Motion was made by Mike Leen and seconded by Bob Borthwick and Alan Berg:

MOTION: The NMRC will establish a trial “Youth Program” with the dual purposes of sharing the hobby with members’ families and attracting new adult members to the club.

The Program will have the following Guidelines:

- a. Begin the Program on May 1, 2017 and continue it for the balance of this year.
- b. Youth that turn 9 during the 2017 calendar year and older may participate.
- c. There will not be any fee associated with the Trial Program.
- d. Sign-ups are required (in advance of the youth visit is preferred) and will be administered by each layout group.
- e. There will be a “one-adult-per-youth” requirement with at least one of the adults being the club member.
- f. It is recommended that the youth run the sponsoring member’s equipment. In the case of a member without equipment, the layout engine may be used.
- g. The sponsoring member is responsible for any damage that may result from the actions of the youth, anywhere in the club (not limited to the member’s layout.)
- h. The layout group is responsible for assuring compliance with the spirit and rules of the program.
- i. The layout group may consider the option of limiting the time available during a Friday evening session to assure that members may run equipment unimpeded.
- j. The layout group may suspend a member’s use of the layout for youth participation if the member / sponsored youth violates the rules twice (or once in a case of major disruption or damage.)
- k. The Executive Committee is authorized to suspend the trial program if it deems it is not functioning in the best interests of the club.
- l. During the first quarter of 2018, the Membership Committee will report back to the Executive Committee and membership with the final analysis and recommendations based on the 2017 trial.

VOTE (show of hands): The Motion passed. There were no dissenting votes.

Please note that there is a difference between the “Youth Program” and “Family Membership” – “Family Membership” includes youth under the age of 18 *living in the same household as the member*.

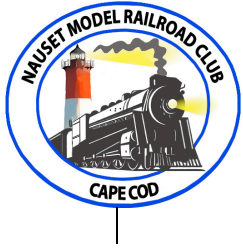
REMINDER: The remaining sections of the Survey will be presented and discussed at the Business Meeting on May 5th. Please bring your copy of the complete Survey.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Bob Cortez

Update on Investments:

- a. From March 31, 2016 to March 31, 2017, the portfolio with Fidelity Investments (value of stocks & dividends) has increased by \$3,034.00



NAUSET MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

- b. Year-To-Date the portfolio is up by 3.45% and in the past year it has increased by 12.5%.

GOOD OF THE CLUB:

1. “Tips ‘n Troubles” (Model Railroad Questions): Jack Kuchera

a. Urban backdrops: Jay Stradal

For a more realistic scene, having streets and building flats at different angles on a backdrop offers a more realistic perspective. This can be achieved by taking a photo of a building on your layout at an angle and it will appear more “triangular”, rather than “square” or “rectangular”. Also, take a picture of the same building from different angles and sides so that it could represent multiple buildings scattered along the backdrop.

Use of mirrors will also provide a different perspective.

Stan Snow showed the back drops being installed on the HO layout; matt board was used to mount the backdrop with a strip of bass wood attached to the back to provide stiffening.

b. Problem with DCC-N Scale: Jeff Bassett

Continuing problems with the recent installation of DCC for N-Scale– the system does not seem to recognize voltage on the track. Several suggestions were offered.

2. Power Point Presentation: Doug Scott

After tonight’s meeting, Doug gave an excellent presentation of *“Depots & Structures & Trains along the Burlington Route and the Union Pacific Route in Eastern Nebraska”*.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Next Business Meeting will be May 5th, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jeanne Karaim, Secretary