

The Official Newsletter of the Prince William County Model Railroad Club

**THE
MANIFEST**

POINTS OF INTEREST

I remember When.... 4

THE BUSINESS CAR

The Corporate Office 2
From the Cab 2
Board Briefs 3

EXCURSIONS

2005 Shows 2
Rail Excursions 6
The Time Table 8

Reminder:

*Come Learn and
Have Fun at
Quantico!*

**NEW CLUB
ADDRESS –
P.O. Box 592
Quantico, Va.
22134**

The Prince William County
Model Railroad Club is a
non-profit 501(c)(7)
Corporation.

We provide a forum for
model railroaders to learn
and enjoy the hobby of
model railroading. But
more importantly, we are
an organization who likes
to have **fun!**

WE HAVE ARRIVED!



Club members gather at the first official club meeting at the Quantico Train Station.

Photo by R. Rodriguez

After 12 years of meetings, negotiations and discussions, PWMRC officially signed a lease with the Virginia Railway Express on May 10th for the South Room (formerly the REA baggage room) at the Quantico Train Station. Members began forming committees to address various layout construction projects including design, benchwork, trackwork, electrical and scenery. Club member Brion B. worked tirelessly on a design that met membership preferences while complying with the required code and ADA requirements of the lease. Tim B. worked to obtain PWMRC's Certificate of Occupancy and he also obtained permission from the Code Official to remove the station side Exit Sign. On June 22nd, PWMRC officially received their Occupancy Permit from Prince William County and on June 28th, the club held their first official meeting at the train station.

The fully renovated station includes restroom facilities, heating and air conditioning, finished ceilings and floors, new windows and doors, and new interior and exterior lighting. PWMRC's space is equipped with a programmable thermostat which will help reduce our utility bills.

Club members began construction of the permanent layout in July and bench work is expected to be complete by the beginning of September. Track work is well under **SEE ARRIVED, PAGE 5, COL. 2.**



THE CORPORATE OFFICE

Board Members of the Prince William County Model Railroad Club.

President

Rob McKeever
e-mail: president@pwmrc.org

Vice President

Dave Ruebsamen
e-mail: vice_president@pwmrc.org

Treasurer

Tim Barr
e-mail: treasurer@pwmrc.org

Secretary

Ernie Little
e-mail: secretary@pwmrc.org

Membership Officer

Roman Rusynko
e-mail: membership_officer@pwmrc.org

SHOW SCHEDULE

(M-Modular, Q-Quantico)

June

4 Manassas Railway Festival - CANCELLED

July

9 PWMRC Open House – Quantico (M)
16-17 Martinsburg Raildays (M)

August

No Shows Scheduled

September

No Shows Scheduled

October

15-16 Central Library Show (M)
29-30 ClearBrook Train Show (M) – *unconfirmed*
29-30 NMRA Tidewater Division Train Show (M) - *unconfirmed*

November

5 Quantico Station Open House (Q)

December

3-4 Quantico Station Open House -
Santa Trains, Christmas Parade (Q)
10 - 11 – Bull Run Library Show (M)

2006

January

7 Quantico Station Open House (Q)
7-8 Chinn Park Library Show (M)

February

4 Quantico Station Open House (Q)
11-12 Worlds Greatest Hobby Show – Dulles (M) - *Tentative*

July

2-8 NMRA National Convention – Philadelphia (M)⊗

FROM THE CAB

A Message from our President

Pushing 15

By Rob McKeever

While we are intently focused on Quantico and construction there, it should not be lost on any of us that the club is in its 15th year. It seems so long ago we celebrated the 10th anniversary with cake and trains at Ed Maldonado, Jr.'s home, yet in some ways it seems like just the other day. We have grown in size and age since then, not one of us has gotten any younger. At the same time, we have lost some old friends.



I take this opportunity to reflect a little upon how we got here. Call it staying on the blueprint of success, if you will. Some of the charter members have related stories of the transition from permanent layout to modules back in 1995 -- the club was half the size it is now or smaller. The first modules were done in time for the first Manassas Railfest, and the club continued doing shows on the average of one per month. The traveling modules provided the Club with an extended visibility that it was not afforded by a prior permanent layout space. That visibility, along with word of mouth, and, in recent years, a top-notch website, has served to foster the great growth in membership we have seen. The community has been a great friend and us to them, and we have enjoyed many successes for our efforts, and we have been able to enjoy our hobby at the same time.

There have been many hours put into the club by many members that often go unrecognized. We owe being in Quantico to several such members. Not to be overlooked in this process are the contributions of those members who cannot give a lot of time, but give what time they can. We've seen the Rip Track layout come and go, but that effort gave additional opportunities to participate that many members jumped on. Quantico will offer the same opportunity for the less-available members to be able to be involved at whatever pace they can.

We've had our share of controversies, disagreements and occasional long business meetings. For all the trying moments, the camaraderie that we've built up through shows, clinics, outings, parties, op sessions and other special events rivals many of the closest fraternities. In many ways, we are a fraternal organization, even though we are not a secret society. (Except for the Club Song) We've had even more email threads than we can count, and in most cases, this simply adds to the camaraderie. In short, the whole of PWMRC is greater than the sum of its parts.

The effort at Quantico will serve to strengthen the bonds in the club, as long as we do not lose sight of the common goal – sharing the hobby of model railroading with the community and ourselves, all the while having fun in the process. Let us not forget the old *Model Railroader* slogan: "Model Railroading is Fun". ⊗



BOARD BRIEFS

A Summary of Club Business Meetings

CLUB MEETINGS

APRIL

Bylaws

Presented the committee draft revision of the bylaws, and gave a short report on what the amendment process is, and fielded some questions.

Motion made to instruct the chair to address the draft By-laws Article by Article at the upcoming regular meetings at his discretion, with the understanding that at least Articles III (Meetings of the Members), IV (Elections of Directors) and V (Board of Directors) would be acted upon on the May 10th meeting. Motion passed by a voice vote.

Communications

Reviewed three handouts concerning email/Yahoo groups archiving, Financial Records / Corporate records, Meeting Minutes & Agendas. **Motion made to accept** the committee's report and adopt the three items as communications Motion passed.

NMRA Committee

The Committee wanted to evaluate modules at Saunders, but ran out of time. Committee is asking for permission from individual members to evaluate their modules. July 1, 2005 is due date to commit to the NMRA Committee.

Steamtown

Reported only 18 commitments for May 21, resulting in an untenable cost of \$75 per person. Considering postponing the trip to late in June, and possibly making it an overnight trip.

Membership

One member passed his 90 days, motion passes to accept member in to Active membership.

Web Committee

The website had an active April with two busiest days ever, at 3,500 and 4,000 hits respectively. March 2005 had more than 56,000 hits.

Scout Show recap

Reported 70% in favor of continuing with the large multi-club layout next year. The other clubs had been surveyed, and Potomac Module Crew had no problems with a multi-club layout. Still awaiting a response from Piedmont Railroaders.

Quantico:

Track Laying & Low Voltage Wiring Committee – On hold for Layout Planning & Benchwork Committees. Will need 30 days to lay track. Want a firm wish list soon.

Brion B. has been informally appointed as overall Layout coordinator.

Jim C.I approved by membership to coordinate all requests for donations.

Martin E. has received a donation on behalf of the club that includes 10 tortoises, some track, and some rolling stock.

Jim C. expressed concern for safety at Quantico, suggested a prohibition against anyone being at Quantico alone.

Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee reported the following nominations:

- President – John H.
- Vice President – Dave R.
- Secretary – Ernie L.
- Membership Officer – Russ R.

Floor nominations should remain open until the bylaws amendments for Article IV and V are adopted at the May 10th meeting. Amendments need to be acted upon before elections so that elections can be held that day.

Quantico Spending

The Vice President made a **motion** that the Quantico motions from the agenda be considered in two votes, 1 + 4. Motion passed.

Motion #1 “to authorize the BOD to enter into a 5 year lease with VRE for the South Room of the Quantico Train Station” Motion passed.

Motions #2 through #5 :

2. “To Authorize the BOD to spend up to \$7000 on layout construction supplies & materials”
 3. “To Authorize the BOD to spend up to \$1000 for building supplies for year 1 at Quantico (fire extinguishers, trash cans, etc.)”
 4. “To Authorize the Treasurer to pay all recurring Quantico expenses for utilities and maintenance, and include those expenses in his periodic reports to the club”
 5. “To Authorize the BOD to enter into a HVAC maintenance agreement with VRE for \$400.
- Motions passed

MAY

Quantico

Present estimate is that PWMRC will not occupy the station no earlier than 15 June based on VRE status.

Passed out DCC [component] recommendations handout.

Need committee chairs to meet with Brion. Dave R. to put out email proposing 5/31 committee chair meeting.

Meeting Schedule

Consensus is that the 2nd meeting (4th Tuesday) would be at Quantico. Hosts would still be asked for, so that members would take turns bringing refreshments. Perhaps shoot for regular open house on 1st Saturday? Some concern raised about holiday weekends such as Labor day or fourth of July.

Storage/Logistics

Suggested donated equipment be located at a storage place not far from the Quantico main gate

Module Shows: - Martinsburg Rail Days - July

Many improvements to structure since last year. Ten members showed interest in supporting this show.

Manassas Recreation Department show at the Boys & Girls Club in Manassas, June

A last-minute replacement for the void of the Railfest cancellation. Will be indoors City hopes to bring the vendors back. Looking like any layout will be a combined layout, albeit on **SEE BOARD, PAGE 5, COL. 1.**



I REMEMBER WHEN

By Bob Rodriguez

As we approach our 15th year this coming January, I though I would take this moment to reflect upon our progress over the last decade and a half.

I remember when....

- We were only 9 guys meeting in a home in Montclair and dreaming about being a railroad club.
- The club was made up of me, Ed B., Jim C., Jerry and Chris L., Joe and Josh, Mike H., and Doug C.
- We sent a letter to VRE and asked if we could fix up the REA baggage room for a club layout.
- We accepted an offer from the RIP Track to build a layout in the back room.
- Working on the layout and hanging out with a great bunch of guys on Tuesday evenings.
- DCC was not even in our vocabulary.
- Module was a bad word!
- We decided to call ourselves the Prince William County Model Railroad Club.
- Our first charter written on a single sheet of paper.

I remember when....

- We moved our layout from the old RIP Track to the new, bigger Rip Track.
- We worked on our layout on Tuesdays and Saturdays with great pride.
- The club newsletter was 2 pages long.
- Zack was Club President.
- Athearn was as good as most of us had.
- I learned a lot from the club.
- Potomac Mills became something and rent rose because it meant something to be in Potomac Mills.
- We tore down our layout at the Rip Track.
- We met round robin on Tuesdays.
- The club ran on the first Nickel City Line at my house and Ed B. could not see the inside of my layout.
- Ed B. and Russ R. helped me widen my aisles and Ed B. could see the rest of my layout!

I remember when....

- We discussed modules for many months!
- We looked at the Granary in Manassas as a possible home.
- We decided to build modules
- We built modules in my garage in February 1995
- Our modular layout debut at the 1st ever Manassas Railway Festival in 1995.
- Submitting our paperwork to Virginia to be incorporated.
- Our Certificate of Incorporation arriving in the mail in May, 1995.
- Getting our Federal Tax Exempt Status.
- We had to call people to tell them about club business because none of us had e-mail!

I remember when....

- We did 12 to 14 modular shows a year.

- We traveled to Richmond, Timonium, Upper Marlboro and Chantilly to do shows.
- We worked on modules as Lynn's church on a Saturday.
- DCC was something we should look at.
- We took layout tours of famous and not so famous home layouts.
- We took rail fan trips to Pennsylvania.
- We bought our first DCC set for the club.
- We had a table for our kids inside the modular layout and the kids drew pictures and colored at every show.
- Our membership topped 60 members!

I remember when....

- We helped each other work on our home layouts.
- VRE asked us if we were still interested in Quantico.
- We had Railfest breakfast at the Ed M's and Lew R's.

- We did Christmas parties at the Ed M's
- We had DCC clinics at George H's house.
- Art Hawck was alive
- We did clinics at Greenberg Shows
- We did our first Giant layout at a Greenberg Show.
- Professional Train Shows were abundant.
- We won 1st Place at the Great American Train Show.
- Quantico was dealt one set back after another.
- We made an good impression on our politicians and VRE regarding Quantico.
- We had some great clinics at club meetings.

I remember when....

- Quantico became a reality.
- Club rail fan trips were still a big event.

Having been with the great organization for 15 years I can say that I have many fond memories. I hope to have many more in the next 15 years as I hope each of you will too. ☼

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Membership Updates

PROMOTIONS

John J. voted in as an active member. ☼

MODEL RAILROADING IS FUN!!

COME DOWN TO THE QUANTICO TRAIN STATION AND HELP BUILD PWMRC'S NEW LAYOUT!

LEARN NEW SKILLS OR JUST REFRESH SOME OLD ONES.

WE NEED PEOPLE TO HELP WITH BENCHWORK, TRACK WORK, WIRING, SCENERY, TRAIN OPERATIONS, BUILDING AND GROUNDS AND A WHOLE LOT OF OTHER THINGS.

STEP UP AND GET INVOLVED....THIS IS YOUR LAYOUT! CONTACT BRION B. OR ANY COMMITTEE CHAIR.



Board, From Page 3.

a much smaller scale than Saunders. Bruce S. of Potomac is coordinating. Only a handful of PWMRC'ers expressed any interest.

JUNE

Membership Report

Updated membership roster as of June 1st was distributed. Discussed adding cell phone numbers to the roster in place of the work phone numbers. Each member will decide which number to display.

Bylaws committee

The committee had made changes to the club's Articles of Incorporation to reflect the changes made in the bylaws in May.

Communication Committee

Presented four new parts to the communications standard: Incorporation and tax exemption documents; Opinion polls; Communication and data backup documents for committees; and Records Storage. Motion passes to accept documents.

Web Committee

The number of hits on the club web site had decreased last month and believed this was due to the amount of activity of the club. Been updating several of the pages on the club web site.

NMRA 2006

Provided an updated handout containing several objectives for the committee and milestones for actions of the committee.

Reported that 25 modules were committed to this activity and that the members committing modules wished to participate in the large layout.

Quantico Reports

Mail Box

Discussion of mail box change and the need to notify contacts of the change in mailing address for the club. Members who correspond with outside contacts shall provide the mailing address of such to the Secretary who will make a contact list for future use.

Lease status

Club in possession of a copy of an executed lease for the space at Quantico.

Overall -

Presented an overview of what has been done by each department regarding planning for the Quantico layout.

A website page is being developed that will have the construction activity schedule posted on it when work begins on the layout.

Acquisition of materials for the layout.

Motion passed concerning donations:

Those who donate materials will be listed on a page on the club's website (no charge) and in a brochure about the layout. A plaque would also be placed in a prominent spot on the layout for the sponsors. Sponsors to be limited to Woodland Scenics, Digitrax, Walthers, and Atlas".

Those individuals wishing to purchase Digitrax equipment as part of the Digitrax equipment package for Quantico need provide Jim C. a detailed list of such no later than June 17th.

Layout planning-

Design is 97% on the CAD program. All track, switches, and other layout items have been located on the drawing at this time.

Track/ DCC-

The Track/DCC department has compiled a list of equipment. Several control boards will be done off site for the DCC equipment.

Scenery-

Seeking assistance with this department.

Structures-

Attempting to get a committee meeting set up.

Old Business.

Meeting Schedule

Provided an historical perspective of club meetings since the days the club was chartered. There was a considerable amount of discussion regarding when business meetings would be held and how many times the Quantico station would be open for activity. We would continue to meet at member's homes and meet at the Quantico station. There was not a clear decision, nor were there any motions, as to how many meetings or where meetings would take place per month.

Occupancy permit for Quantico Station.

Secured a Zoning permit approval from the Town of Quantico on June 13th. Secured the necessary paperwork to apply for an occupancy permit from the County Building Development It is expected that the permit process will be completed by June 24th if everything goes smoothly. The club will have to secure a business license from the Town of Quantico.

Riptrack layout.

The layout needs a new home. John E. made an offer to store it at his home and will get in contact with Dave to make arrangements to do so.

2004 audit

The audit committee completed the audit of the 2004 financial records and found everything to be properly accounted for.

New Business

Articles of Incorporation

Provided a copy of the amended club Articles of Incorporation to the. A to accept the amended Articles of Incorporation passed. ✖

Arrived, From Page 1.

way and the majority of the rail is expected to be completed by September 1st. Scenery will be commencing shortly and will continue up to the first official open house on November 5th. Activity at the train station can be seen at least three nights a week and on the weekends.

Several major manufacturers have donated materials or offered reduced prices to PWMRC. Digitrax donated a Radio Chief DCC system and extended a 30% discount to the club for the

remaining DCC items needed. Woodland Scenics offered many of the club scenery materials at reduced prices. Tony's Train Exchange donated a cleaning machine and several DCCD computer interface components. Trains, Etc., on our area hobby stores has offered the club up to 30% off items required for the club layout. Several other vendors and merchants have also made offers which are under evaluation by the layout committee as well.

The club layout will be quite impressive. The design includes an around the wall concept with several lobes which provide staging yards and a Dispatcher's Office. There will also be rollout work tables and storage lockers for members. Scenery will represent some local areas around Quantico as well as free-lanced towns and industries. The track design incorporates continuous running as well as operations oriented sessions.

Digital Command Control will be a big part of the club layout. The DCC Committee has planned to incorporate a variety of DCC options which will take advantage of the many higher end features provided by DCC. The layout will include computer interfacing; DCC turnout and route control; block detection; signally; transponding; layout automation; and special animation triggered through specific DCC events. While these features may seem complex, the layout will be designed to operate with just the base function we all are familiar with, if desired, so anyone can come and run a train.

Official open houses are planned beginning on November 5th and will be held the first Saturday of each month. The club will also participate in special events such as the VRE Santa Trains, the Quantico Town Christmas Parade, and Marine Corps Birthday celebration in 2006.

PWMRC's presence in Quantico has already generated new interest. The club has gained 4 new members. Many people have stopped by to see the layout developments.

The club looks forward to a productive future at the Quantico Train Station for years to come. ☼

RAIL EXCURSIONS

Highlights of Club Events Over the Last Quarter



Dumfries District Supervisor Maureen Caddigan says some words at the Quantico Station Reopening Ceremony. Photo by R. Rodriguez

Well a wet Spring warmed up to a hot summer real fast. PWMRC participated in several events this summer. First and foremost, we participated in the Quantico Station Grand Reopening Ceremony in April. We set up a modular layout in our new home, the South Room of the Quantico Station. The event was a catered affair by VRE, with the Marine Jazz Band, many politicians speaking on behalf of the train station, and numerous tours of the station and our layout. After 12 years of discussions, we had finally arrived at our final destination.



The main passenger waiting area was nicely decorated for the Grand Reopening. Photo by R. Rodriguez



Club members chat with County Officials during the Grand Reopening, which featured a modular layout by PWMRC. Photo by R. Rodriguez

In July, we held our first formal open house at our new home in Quantico. Despite less than 2 weeks notice, we had a fair size crowd and we even earned some donations and a few new members. We ran trains for most of the day and enjoyed speaking with visitors, while watching 1:1 scale trains running past the station throughout the afternoon.



The PWMRC banner adorns our new home at the Quantico Train Station.
Photo by R. Rodriguez



PWMRC set up a nice modular display for our 1st open house. The permanent layout construction was due to start a few weeks afterward.
Photo by R. Rodriguez



Max attempts to take control of a fast freight with his DT400!
Photo by R. Rodriguez

"Hot" on the back of our Quantico open house we headed West where we literally worked up a sweat at the Martinsburg Rail Days in mid July. The heat was exhausting and we sweat a lot over the weekend. Dave R., Walt N. and John H. rallied together

to provide a few free standing fans to help cool us down. The round house had seen more renovation since we were there last year. New windows, paint and less dust were evident. All in all, we had a great weekend.



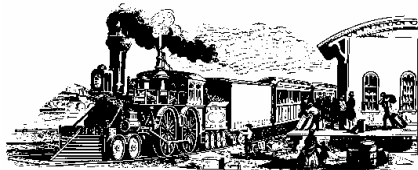
Significant improvements were made to the roundhouse and adjacent structures.
Photo by R. Rodriguez



Crowds enjoyed PWMRC's layout at Rail Days.
Photo by R. Rodriguez



Well, that wraps it up for Summer. See you next Issue! ☒



THE TIME TABLE

July 9 (Saturday)

PWMRC Open House 10 – 5
 Quantico Train Station

July 12 (Tuesday)

Club Meeting –
 Manassas, Virginia

July 16 – 18 (Friday – Sunday)

Martinsburg Rail Days, Martinsburg, West Virginia

July 26 (Tuesday)

Club Work Session - Quantico

August 9 (Tuesday)

Club Meeting –
 Woodbridge, Virginia

August 23 (Tuesday)

Club Work Session – Quantico

September 13 (Tuesday)

Club Meeting –
 Manassas, Virginia

September 27 (Tuesday)

Club Meeting – Quantico

October 11 (Tuesday)

Club Meeting –
 Lake Ridge, Virginia

October 15–16 (Saturday – Sunday)

Central Library Show (Setup 8am Sat.) Sat: 10 – 5, Sun
 12-4. Manassas, Virginia

October 25 (Tuesday)

Club Meeting –
 Alexandria (Mount Vernon), Virginia

October 29-30 (Saturday – Sunday)

Clearbrook Show (Bunker Hill Train Club)
 Warrenton, Virginia **Unconfirmed**

Key: =Home Layout, =DCC equipped
 =DCC Radio/IR =DCC Infrared
 = Clinic Scheduled

The PWMRC News

Published Quarterly and is the official publication of the Prince William County Model Railroad Club. PWMRC News is distributed to the general membership of the Prince William County Model Railroad Club and affiliated organizations.

Articles from members are welcome. All articles should be submitted at least one month prior to publication dates as listed below:

- December for Winter Issue
- March for Spring Issue
- June for Summer Issue
- September for Fall Issue

Views expressed are not necessarily endorsed by PWMRC.
 Bob Rodriguez, Editor e-mail editor@pwmrc.org

How to reach us:

Submissions and inquires may be made to:

Mailing Address:

Prince William County Model Railroad Club
 P.O. Box 592, Quantico, Virginia 22134

Site Address:

550 Railroad Avenue
 Quantico, Virginia 22134

E-Mail Address:

info@pwmrc.org – General Inquiries

editor@pwmrc.org – Newsletter Submissions

Web Site Address:

<http://www.pwmrc.org>

Eric Nystrom, Jim Connal, Webmasters

webmaster@pwmrc.org

Please return to:



Prince William County
 Model Railroad Club
 P.O. Box 592
 Quantico, Virginia 22134

Place
 Postage
 Here

Please Deliver to:

Place Address Label Here