

## Apple Valley Model Railroad Club

### Meeting Minutes

August 27, 2025

**President's Remarks** (Rob Wright): Elections in October for President, Vice President. If running, please get your name to the board and what position you wish to run for. Scale Trains here Oct 18 from 2-4pm. Dave Simmons is retiring as Ombudsman. New Ombudsman Bill Meyers starting in September. Club has first choice on ALL donations – don't just grab what you want. Kevin and Bill will decide what MAY be available. Train show is coming up in October in Ashville. Christmas party is December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Hendersonville CC. Arrive at 11 AM, lunch at noon, done at 2PM. One guest is free and we need to sign up in October.

**Vice President** (Bill Davies): A two truck G Guage Shay has been donated to the club. A lighting upgrade is being done on the G scale church that currently has a very nicely done interior.

**Secretary** (Brad Jones): no report

**Treasurer:** (Larry Morton): Received \$987 in donations box and \$351 in sales. Expect Christmas party to cost \$4000. New awning for outdoor layout is a little more than \$4k. Club approved a \$1,000 donation to N scale club which was impacted by the cancellation of the WNC train show due to Helene. A \$1200 expense on training classes is forthcoming.

**Ombudsman** (Dave Simmons): Mike Whitaker donated two Midland radios to the club. Railroad days will be in November. Working on getting a locomotive parked here on the siding from Blue Ridge Southern. Also looking at having a Park Ranger from Carl Sandberg home here for a presentation.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Membership:** (Chuck Place): voted in new members Callie Beckman and Jack Lippincott. There are 7 more applications in progress.

**Mentor Program** (Ken O'Brien): no report

**Good and Welfare** (Earl Hall): Ben Bartlett is home and doing better. Also, Dave Hull, new meds working better. George Stein had glaucoma surgery and is recovering.

**Website** (Dan Bails): will look at adding training videos to web site.

**HO Operations** (Ben Bartlett): absent. Ken O'Brien stated that the August OPS session went well and had high turnout. Signals in Ashville have been repaired.

**Electrical/DCC** (Dan Lang): Dan will be the instructor for the forthcoming electrical class. Recommended a DCC book: DCC for Model Railroaders by Alan Gartner. Discussed issues Continue to have problems with controllers not being returned, placed in correct position, and

proper recharging. Please be attentive when using club controllers, ask for assistance if needed. One UT6D has been sent to digitrax for repair to the charging plug.

**Scenery** (Terry Ketcham): Broken Plexiglas in the Ashville division has been repaired. Working on grass around buildings Thomas the Tank Engine layout will have its own committee to oversee it. A proposal to place an interactive farmland is being looked at for the end opposite the carnival.

**Building:** (Terry Ketcham): Terry sprayed the hornet's nest under the eave on end of depot. Has set mouse traps and caught one so far. Make sure you clean up all food at end of day. The sticking members only door has been fixed. The swing bridge alignment has been adjusted.

**Outdoor Layout** (Larry Williams): absent

**Club Computers** (Dave Hull): Kelly Orr to work with Dave as backup. Kelly repaired the Ashville light system.

**City Liaison** (Terry Ketcham): Terry is working with Scale Trains visit coordination.

**Engineer In Training:** (Chuck Batherson): Next EIT is Sept 6 with 3 EITs and 5 mentors scheduled.

**Sales and Donations** (Pete Bain, Steve Anderson, Kevin McGill): Several donations have come in and we have been selling a lot to club members. October train show tables are signed up but not yet paid for. New Table fee is \$40 up from \$35 last year.

**Artifacts** (Sally Ruff): absent

**Library:** no report

## **OTHER ITEMS**

**Next Meeting:** Sep 24th at 10AM

**Old Business:** Still looking at having Railroad Day possibly the second weekend in Nov. Considering having Park Ranger in attendance along with Blue Ridge Southern engine.

**New Business:** Tom Haggerty discussed training workshops, first class is Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>. Larry Morton will be the presenter. Presentation is 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM with workshop to start after the presentation. 11 members are signed up. A fee of \$110 per kit will be charged if program is not completed. Larry will be sending an email to members who are signed up.

An email is to be sent reminding members of maximum train lengths allowed and observance of reserved hours. (sent 8/28)

**Attendees:** 35 members present      Meeting ended at 11:20 AM