

Apple Valley Model Railroad Club

Meeting Minutes

September 24, 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 2-4 PM. Dave Simmons has retired as Ombudsman. New ombudsman Bill Meyers started in September. Bill will be coordinating the fifth Wednesday programs. Train show is coming up in October 10th and 11th in Asheville. Christmas party is December 11th at the Hendersonville CC. Arrive at 11 AM, lunch at noon, done at 2 PM. One guest is free and you need to sign up in October. No jeans. A band will entertain us. Disparaging comments about other club members will not be tolerated. Thomas layout has own committee headed by Romar Taylor. Need volunteers to work with new potential engineer in training members. Callie is the new publicity chair. Need help with mentoring Junior engineers (email sent last week). November 15th is Train days and there will not be a farmers' market that day. Committee chairs need to submit their 2026 budget requests in November. Written Instructions for turning the layout off and on are posted in the Asheville division.

Vice President (Bill Davies): No report

Secretary (Brad Jones): Make sure you let me know of any email updates.

Treasurer: (Larry Morton): Received \$1,171 in donations box and in sales. Received \$15,612 YTD. Expenses this month were \$2,067. YTD expenses \$15,132. Balance is \$26,019. Expect Christmas party to cost \$4,000. New awning for outdoor layout is a little more than \$4k. The \$1,200 for the Model railroad clinic was not budgeted. We still have \$3,000 left to pay on the new awning.

Ombudsman (Bill Meyers): Railroad days will be November 15th. A locomotive will be parked here on the siding from Blue Ridge Southern. Looking at getting a food truck for the event and perhaps other things for kids. Will be looking at trip options.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: (Chuck Place): Voted in 2 new members. There are 5 more applications in progress to vote on in October, 1 in November, and 1 in January.

New members are Jerry Wise and Kelly Orr.

Mentor Program (Ken O'Brien): Have new members needing Larry's presentation. It can be done via computer recording or Larry can give his talk again.

Good and Welfare (Earl Hall): Ben Bartlett is at the Oaks. Would appreciate visitors.

Website (Dan Bails): Need people to set up passwords on our web site. Has 104 members on his list.

HO Operations (Bill Raymond): Ops Day went well. Need to coordinate club events with Ops Day set up days.

Electrical/DCC (Dan Lang): 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. Dan attended the NMRA meet in Gatlinburg. Track cleaning cars are not being cleaned after use. Discussed windows 10 to 11 update. New Digitrax controllers are not holding up well except DT602D seem to be okay. May look at those for future club purchases. TCS has a universal controller that seems to work well. Rick bell has stopped doing train shows.

Get your Flu and COVID shots.

Scenery (Terry Ketcham): Thomas the Tank Engine layout will have its own committee to oversee it. Romar will chair the committee. Scenery materials have been moved to under the Old Fort area. There is a nice You Tube video of the club available. Video was made by Brian Marshall. Pete Bain has been assembling building kits that were donated to the club to sell at the train show. Mentioned that the N scale club across the street has made a number of improvements and has gained membership. They are open Saturdays 10-2 PM and Wednesday and Friday 7 PM to 9 PM.

Thomas layout: (Romar Taylor): A proposal to place an interactive farmland is being looked at for the end opposite the carnival. Changed out old cars.

Building: (Terry Ketcham): Paint chips are falling off the ceiling in the Piedmont division. Terry is looking at scrapping the loose paint off in the near future.

Training Workshop (Tom Hagerty): Classes start at 9:30 AM and run about 45 minutes. An email will be sent to attendees outlining what they need to bring to the next class. Next class is October 1st. There are 11 total classes.

Outdoor Layout (Larry Williams): absent. Terry reports the new awning is to be installed Friday. The donated Bachmann Shay has had a battery and decoder installed by Scott.

Club Computers (Dave Hull): All club computers have been updated. Terry Orr is now working with Dave on the Club Computers.

City Liaison (Terry Ketcham): No report

Engineer In Training: (Chuck Batherson): Next EIT is Oct 4 with 4 EITs and mentors scheduled. Wyatt is moving to Junior Engineer status.

Sales and Donations (Pete Bain, Steve Anderson, Kevin McGill): Train show Oct 10th and 11th. Will have donations out on the Wednesday prior to the show for club members to purchase.

Artifacts (Sally Ruff. Callie): absent

Library: (Callie) no report

OTHER ITEMS

Next Meeting: Oct 22nd at 10AM

Old Business:

New Business:

Attendees: 40 members present Meeting ended at: 11:10AM