



CENTRAL CROSSINGS

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER OF THE
CENTRAL RAILWAY
 MODEL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.



Volume 18, Number 4

April 2009

P. O. Box 128
Central, SC 29630

WEBSITE:
www.crmha.org

**MUSEUM &
MEETING SITE**
108 Werner Street
Central, SC

OFFICERS

President / CEO:
Jim Reece

Vice President:
Ron Keith

**Stationmaster &
Webmaster**
Brian d'Entremont

Paymaster
Bob Folsom

Shows Chairman:
Bruce Gathman

Museum Chairman:
Bob Folsom

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ARE YOU READY TO RAMBLE ?



October 2008 near Norton, VA & Matewan, WV
Photos by Bob Folsom

Are you looking for ideas to inspire your layout design? Do you want to see heavy freights battle real, full-scale mountains? Are you a Clinchfield or N&W fan? Are you bored and need something to do? Then get ready for one heckuva ramble! Bob Folsom and Dale Reynolds are organizing a trip to see some amazing rail operations first-hand. See Page 2 for details and their coming program! 

Next Meeting:
April 2, 2009
7:15 PM

Central Railroad
Festival
Central, SC
May 15-16, 2009



APPROACHING HEADLIGHTS

Upcoming Events for the
Central Railway Model & Historical Association
For other shows and events, please see the list at the end
of the newsletter.

May 15 – 16, 2009

**MUSEUM DEDICATION &
CENTRAL RAILROAD DAYS FESTIVAL**
Central, SC

May 25 -- 29, 2009 *Tentative, TBA*

CRM&HA RAMBLE 2009 No. 1
TN, VA, & KY – see itinerary at right

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- April 2 Ron Keith & Cast of Dozens
Central Festival & Museum Opening
- May 7 Sandy Eustis presents
Scenery Clinic: Baby Poop Mud Sling
- June 4 Dale Reynolds w/ Bob Folsom
Railfanning the N&W and Clinchfield
- July 2 *Open*
Plenty of space for you!
- August 6 *Still Open*
- September **Annual Picnic**
Hosted by Dale Reynolds
- October 1 *Open*
- November 5 *Open*
- December 3 **Christmas Dinner**
Hosted by Bob Folsom



CRM&HA RAMBLE 2009 No. 1

Proposed itinerary:

Day 1 Central to Erwin, TN, Kingsport, TN (Frisco Jct on CSX/NS), Appalachia, Norton, and stay overnight at Big Stone Gap, VA

Day 2 Russell, Louisa the Hagans swithback and stay at Pikeville, KY

Day 3 Williamson and Matewan, VW (site of Matewan Massacre and Hatfield/McCoy feud); return to Pikeville.

Day 4 Dante Yard, Stearns and other Clinchfield RR sights, possible operating session at Bob Helms' CRR layout; stay at Johnson City.

Day 5 return to Central via Altapass and the Blue Ridge Loops

Proposed dates (but could be shifted to a different time to maximize participation) Monday, May 25 through Friday, May 29. Cost would be sharing in fuel; four nights at motels, and food.

If you are interested in participating, contact Dale.



MEETING MINUTES

By Brian d'Entremont, Stationmaster

5 March 2009 Regular Meeting Central Railway Museum

CEO Jim Reece called the meeting to order at 7:15. One guest, Jim Selton, was in attendance.

Insurance

At last month's meeting we voted to go ahead and get property insurance until July while we study what to do long term. Glenn Nasworthy and Roger Smith are working on this. Mr. Smith reported that he had talked to Sandy Brown with the Town of Central, who indicated that the contents of all town buildings are insured with the state. It is not clear what status this leaves us with, but it was agreed that we should look in to this. Mr. Nasworthy indicated that he would take care of buying insurance until July.

Train Show

There were numerous comments about success of the train show. Bruce Gathman indicated that there were about 200 more people than last year, with just under 1700 paid adults. 645 unpaid kids were estimated to have attended making up about 30% of attendance, compared to an estimated 50% last year. Steve Zonay reported that 160 tables were rented by 52 dealers. Two dealers rented space only for a total of 181 dealer tables. Rent from the tables totaled \$2712.50 in revenue.

On the subject of dealer satisfaction, Mr. Reece indicated that vendors he talked to were pleased with the turnout, but didn't sell a lot. Mr. Smith said that one of the dealers selling videos had claimed to have done really well. Roger White, himself a dealer, said that Sunday's turnout had been light, but those present were spending money. Sandy Eustis indicated that several dealers had positive comments on the extensive Thomas the Tank activities for children.

Several problems were discussed. The snowy weather on Sunday was thought to have significantly impeded turnout. Brian d'Entremont indicated that of the three presentations on Saturday, only Alan Warner's presentation on the Appalachian Lumber Company was well attended. All presentations on Sunday were canceled due to low turnout. The PA system didn't work in one of the three rooms and was said to be unintelligible in the others.

Mr. Reece thanked Train Show Superintendent Bruce Gathman for his work, which was affirmed with applause from the members. Dale Reynolds presented Mr. Gathman with a G-scale passenger car kit as a "Train Show Creativity Award"

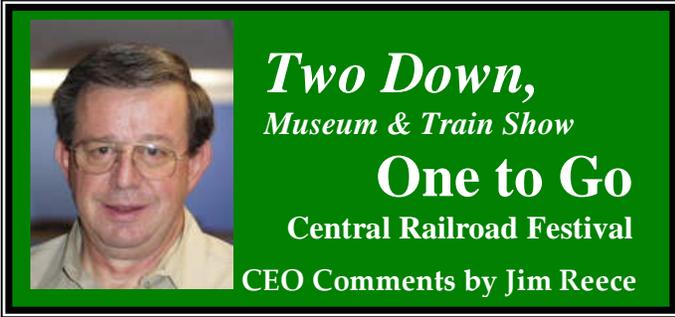
Central Railroad Festival

Mr. Reece said that he was going to talk to the mayor of Central about proclaiming a "railroad week" Mr. Keith had little to report since the festival planning committee meeting had been canceled due to poor weather. Mr. Gathman said that the portable layout needed some more work before the show.

Central Railway Museum

Mr. Reece reported January expenses and stated that \$1154 in expense for the new floor in the kitchen and bathroom would be reported to the city for February. Mr. Reynolds indicated that the upper loop of the Heritage layout would be done with the week and Mac McMillin said that the S-gauge would be his focus at this point. A RR crossing sign with lights has been obtained. The city will provide a piece of heavy pipe for mounting in the yard. We will need to dig the hole. The building alarm has been engaged. Richard Nichols and Jim Reece plan to compose a sign with instructions for the alarm and Howard Garner has offered to laser engrave it when it is ready. Sandy Eustis said that Wal-Mart would like to donate some landscaping materials, but that the garden railway should to be planned before landscaping begins. Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Gathman will work on a rough plan so that planting can begin. There was also discussion, instigated by Margo Torelli, about the bank next door barricading the pass-through from our parking lot.

Mr. Reece adjourned the business meeting. He and Mr. Seel did a presentation on methods for making tree and painting background clouds. 



TWO DOWN

Remodel the Museum & Train Show

ONE TO GO

Central Railroad Festival

If you can just manage to live in our model railroad world, the year of 2009 is off to a very good start. We are about to begin the second quarter and two out of three of our major goals for the year have been accomplished. It's just a matter of a few days and the Museum remodeling will be complete. And the February Train Show was a big success. Now we need to focus on the 2009 Central Railroad Festival.

Let me give you a rundown on what the Festival Committee is planning. There will be radio spots, press releases, street banner and directional signs promoting the festival. The festival will be Friday May 15 from 6:00 PM to Midnight. This night will be targeting mainly young adult. And Saturday May 16 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This is to be a family day. At no time during the festival will there be alcohol consumption allowed on public property.

Main Street (Hwy. 93) will be closed from Bank Street to Pepper Street. This space will be occupied by a stage and craft vendors. Church Street will be closed from Main Street to Werner Street. This area will host the food vendors. The food vendors will only be at the festival Saturday. The town's restaurants will serve food Friday and Saturday. CAT will run bus shuttles from three predetermined parking lots.

FRIDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES:

1. **Museum and Train Store Front will be open**
 - a. **Trains running**
 - b. **Thomas the Tank**
 - c. **Vendors**
2. **Caboose and Motor Car tours**
3. The Royal Express Trackless Train will be running
4. Craft Vendors
5. Entertainment –
 - a. Christopher Branch
 - b. Austin Webb
 - c. Tony Tidwell
 - d. New Dixie Storm

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES:

1. **Museum and Train Store Front will be open**
 - a. **Trains running**
 - b. **Thomas the Tank**
 - c. **Vendors**
2. **Caboose and Motor Car tours**
3. The Royal Express Trackless Train will be running
4. Craft Vendors
5. Food Vendors
6. Puppet show
7. Face Painting
8. Balloon Art
9. Touch a Fire Truck
10. Scavenger Hunt
11. Dean Watson Storyteller
12. Kids Drawing Contest
13. Making Conductor Hats from newspaper
14. **Museum Grand Opening & Dedication at 1:00 PM**
 - a. **Mayor and other Political Leaders will speak**
 - b. **Festival Sponsors, Conductor Level will be recognized**
 - c. **CRM&HA CEO will speak**
 - d. **Ribbon Cutting**
15. Entertainment :
 - a. Charles Wood
 - b. Lonesome Road Band
 - c. Curtis Blackwell and The Dixie Bluegrass Boys
 - d. The Wildhog Band

Mark these days on your calendar. It will be our chance to help Central. 

Tip of the Month - Conversion Software Bruce Gathman recommends this handy program for conversions between scales and from Imperial to metric. Also includes great info for wiring, lighting, and grades, and general layout planning! <http://www.stanstrains.com/SoftwareHandyConverter15ug.htm>



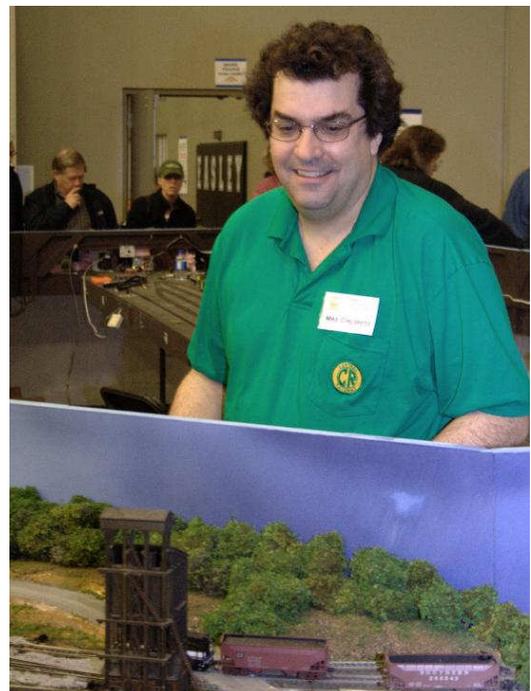
ANNUAL TRAIN SHOW 2009

It was our biggest and best show ever in our best facilities so far. Bagwell Gymnasium, Easley, SC on February 28-March 1, 2009

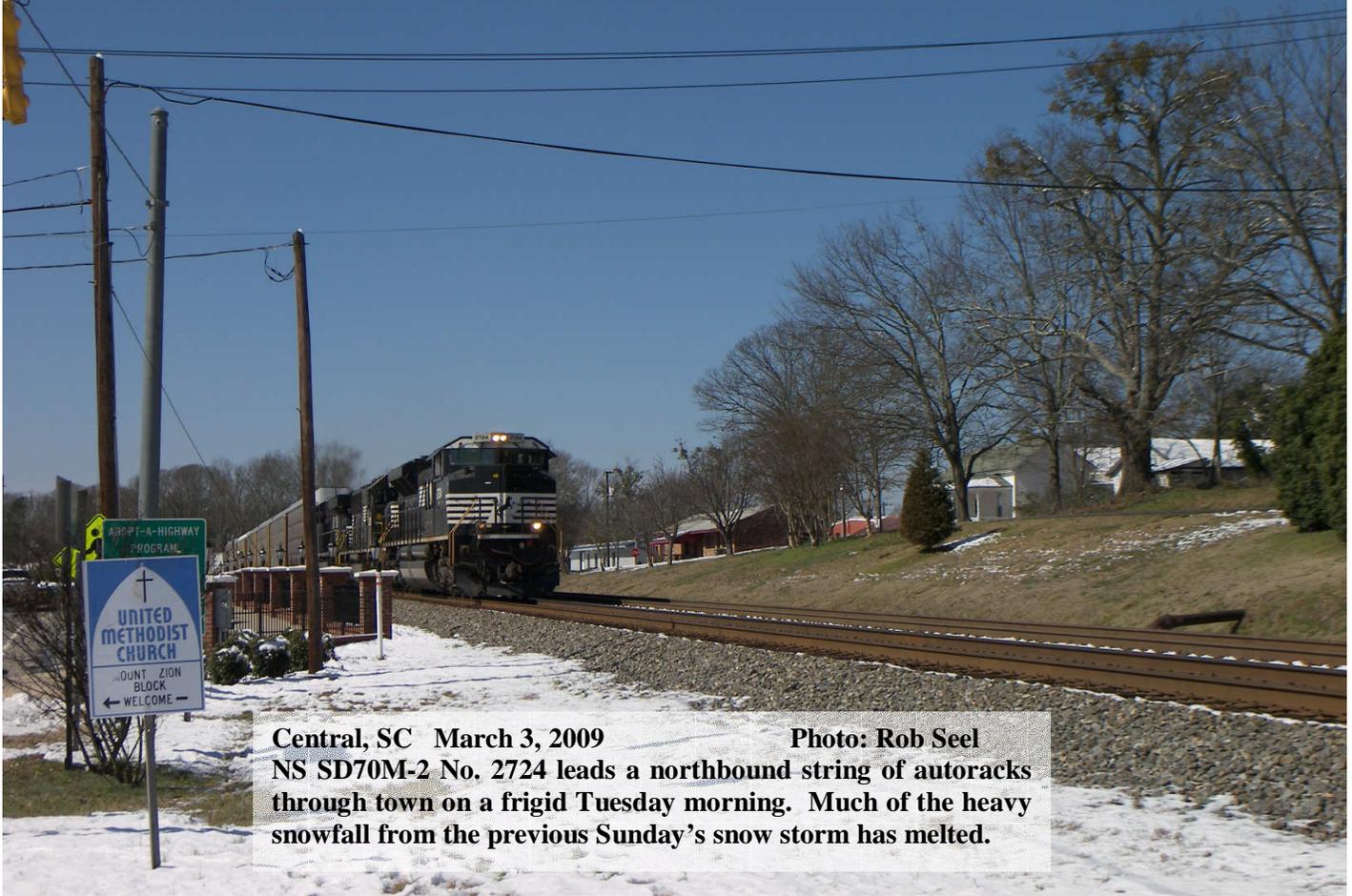
Photos this page by Brian d'Entremont



Top Left: Shay No. 5 brings a load down the logging branch in a scene new for this year. Be sure to attend Sandy Eustis' scenery clinic coming up soon. **Bottom Left:** It's either 6:00 AM on a Sunday or Howard's Corner, SC a ghost town. As you can see, there's still much work to be done on the portable layout. **Bottom Right:** Michael Childress drills the coal yard before the approaching thunder storm gets the coal wet.



TRAIN SNOW 2009



Central, SC March 3, 2009 Photo: Rob Seel
NS SD70M-2 No. 2724 leads a northbound string of autoracks through town on a frigid Tuesday morning. Much of the heavy snowfall from the previous Sunday's snow storm has melted.



Pendleton, SC March 2, 2009 Photo by Dale Reynolds
The unexpectedly massive snow storm completely shut down operations on the Iva, Pendleton, Tigerville And York. All trains were annulled while CEO Reynolds called around looking to borrow a rotary plow or at least a hair blow dryer.

Below: Easley, SC March 1, 2009
Photo by Brian d'Entremont
Time to go home, eh, Mac?





Central Railway Model and Historical Association, Inc.

Grand Opening and Dedication

Dedication
1:00 p.m.
Saturday

Newly remodeled historic house
and layout under construction at
108 Werner Street
Central, South Carolina 29630

Friday May 15th 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Saturday May 16th 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Other railroad activities include historic displays, dealer tables, operating model railroads, and free **Thomas the Tank** activities for the children. Other events taking place in historic downtown Central both days. For more complete festival info go to www.CentralRRFestival.com



Model train info at: www.crmha.org

CRM&HA Information: Bruce Gathman 864-850-3642 shaygearhead@bellsouth.net

SCHEDULED TRAIN SHOWS

April 4, 2009

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA
Annual Train Show
AMROC & Atlantic Coast S-Gaugers

Associated Model Railroaders of Columbia
Arsenal Building Basement Corner of Lincoln and Laurel
Streets across from Finley Park

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
FREE!

Model Railroad, Operating Exhibits. No Vendors
www.amroc.org

April 4-5, 2009

NORCROSS, GEORGIA
The Great Train Expo

North Atlanta Trade Center
1700 Jeurgens Court

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
\$7.00 for adults, Kids under 12 are FREE

Model Railroad, Operating Exhibit, Toy Train /
Collectibles, Workshops and Clinics
www.GreatTrainExpo.com

April 25, 2009

MARIETTA, GEORGIA
Model Train Show

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church
4495 Sandy Plains Rd

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
\$3.00, 12 & under free. Scouts in uniforms free

Large displays, No Vendors.

Atlanta Interlocking Model Railroaders
North Georgia Modulrail

April 25, 2009

HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
Spring Rails 2009

Whitmire Auditorium
Lily Pond Lane

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
\$5.00 adults & teens.
Scouts in uniforms & kids 12 and under Free

Dealers, N-Trak layout
www.fbe-ntrak.com

May 1-2, 2009

DALTON, GEORGIA
Southeast Garden Railroad Show

Northeast Georgia Convention and Trade Center
2211 Dug Gap Battle Road

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
\$10.00 for 1 day, \$18.00 for both days

Former SELSTS show. Open houses, operating layouts,
vendors. Banquet Friday night
www.segrs.com

May 2, 2009

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA
Toy & Model Train Show

SC State Fairgrounds / Ruff Building
1200 Rosewood Drive

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
\$5.00, 12 & under free

All types of model trains and toys with Vendors from
about 10 states
www.knightshows.com

**CENTRAL RAILWAY
FESTIVAL**



SERVES THE UPSTATE

May 15-16, 2009

Save the Date!

May 10, 2009

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
TCA Southeast Division Train Show

N. Kerr Scott Bldg.
North Carolina State Fairgrounds

10:00 AM – 3:30 PM
\$5.00

Train show and sale

June 13-14, 2009

SPENCER, NORTH CAROLINA
Rail Days

North Carolina Transportation Museum

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
\$10.00

Special events and train rides. Model trains and chili
cook-off. (No steam mentioned)

www.nctrans.org/events/rail_days.php

