



# CENTRAL CROSSINGS

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER OF THE

CENTRAL RAILWAY  
MODEL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 18, Number 6

June 2009

P. O. Box 128  
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[www.crmha.org](http://www.crmha.org)

MUSEUM &  
MEETING SITE  
108 Werner Street  
Central, SC

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**Next Meeting:**  
**June 4, 2009**  
**7:15 PM**

**Museum layout  
work sessions  
continue on  
Thursday and  
Saturday  
mornings!**



The engine terminal at Delmara is quiet since the train crew has already left for the day's work. That will give Mac McMillin plenty of time to get his motorcar out onto the tracks for a ride into Baltimore. Come along this month for a tour of the Western Maryland's Delmara Branch, a work in progress by Sandy Eustis. Photo by Sandy Eustis.

## CENTRAL RAILWAY MUSEUM DEDICATED!

In this month's issue check out our photographs from the 2009 Central Railroad Festival and Central Railway Museum Dedication! Mac McMillin graciously loaned the original bell from Southern Railway 2-8-2 No. 4512 (right) to herald the event, and Jim Reece built a rolling platform to make that possible

Also, as this issue is published a carload of Ramblin' men are stalking the N&W and Clinchfield in Virginia Kentucky, West Virginia and Tennessee. We're looking forward to seeing those photos, fellas! 🚂





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

**September, 2009, Date TBA**  
**ANNUAL FALL PICNIC**

Hosted by Dale Reynolds and the  
 Iva, Pendleton, Tigerville, and York Railroad  
**Pendleton, SC**

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

June 4 Dale Reynolds w/ Bob Folsom  
**Railfanning the N&W and Clinchfield**

July 2 *Open*  
**Plenty of space for you!**

August 6 Anne Sheriff  
**Railroad History of Central, SC**

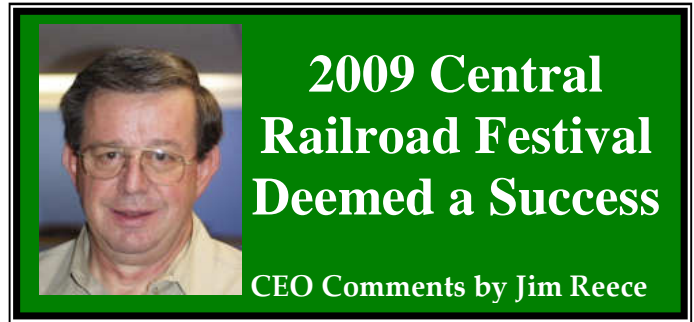
September **Annual Picnic**  
 Hosted by Dale Reynolds

October 1 Herb Schmidt  
**3-D Cardstock Modeling**

November 5 *Open*

December 3 **Christmas Dinner**  
 Hosted by Bob Folsom

January --, 2010 *Open*  
**Sign up now!**




The Central Railroad Festival was held last weekend (*May 15-16, ed*). Even with three other festivals in the upstate and a continuing threat of rain, the festival was considered a success. The Festival Committee and the city leaders were very appreciative for the support they received from CRM&HA.

A Festival Committee follow-up meeting was held the Monday after the festival. It is estimated about 7,000 people attended during the Friday – Saturday event. The attractions that had the most activity were FUNction Junction, the Central Express Train and the Museum. Local restaurant business was up about thirty percent. The food vendors were happy with the amount of business available to them, and overall everything ran very smooth. With better weather the attendance would have been larger. It was decided to plan a 2010 festival. Bobby Ballentine has agreed to chair the committee again next year, and the members of the committee agreed to volunteer with him.

At the Monday meeting there was no attempt to solve any problem. We did make a list of what we felt like was good and what needed to be improved or changed. A few of the major items on the list follow:

1. Change from Friday and Saturday to a longer Saturday only.
2. Have more of a variety of music.
3. Attract more food and craft vendors.
4. Develop more railroad activities.
5. Have more activities for the 12–14 age group.
6. Involve the train bell in more activities throughout the day.
7. Try to schedule a weekend with fewer upstate festivals.
8. Provide air conditioning for the FUNction Junction Center.

If you have an improvements or suggestions for the festival next year, email it to me and I will pass them on to the committee. 

# 2009 CENTRAL RAILROAD FESTIVAL

**By Rob Seel.**

For some of us it was only a matter of time, while for others of us it was a dream come true. From the time the CRM&HA organized and began work on the venerable, portable HO layout in 1992 there has been the desire to maintain a permanent, public presence in a club house and museum – to preserve and enjoy our railroad heritage and the wonderful hobbies of model railroading, toy trains and railfanning. Within less than the past year the many years of perseverance and community good will came to fruition when the Town of Central asked us to occupy and develop the Allen House for our home. From that time last summer until now, the work at the museum has been non-stop and the results have been phenomenal – all in time to put out a great showing for the 2009 Central Railroad Festival. The Museum dedication on Saturday, May 16 at 1:00 PM was indeed a highlight among the many we've seen as the CRM&HA. Especially, though, the dedication was a momentous occasion to propel us ahead, to create a unique and wonderful community asset and build upon our strengths as an organization. Thanks to everyone who contributed photos and worked the festival. Grateful appreciation also to the Town of Central, the Central Area Business Council, the Clemson Area Chamber of Commerce, and WSPA Channel 7. Congratulations! 🚂



**Above: Kimberly Kelly** of WSPA's *Your Carolina with Jack and Kimberly*, along with her cameraman Ken, produced a fantastic, 2-minute promotional clip that aired on her television show days before the festival. Here, **Dale Reynolds** gets giddy while sharing the toys in the Heritage Room. Photo by Rob Seel.



**Above: Howard Garner** was interviewed also, to tell **Kimberly Kelly** about the "serious side" of model railroading. Photo by Rob Seel.



**Jim Reece** provides umbrella coverage for our dedication speakers Mr. (shown), Mayor Mac Martin, SC Rep BR Skelton. **Jim Reece** and **Jim Selton** also spoke before the public unveiling of the Museum. Photo by Brian d'Entremont.

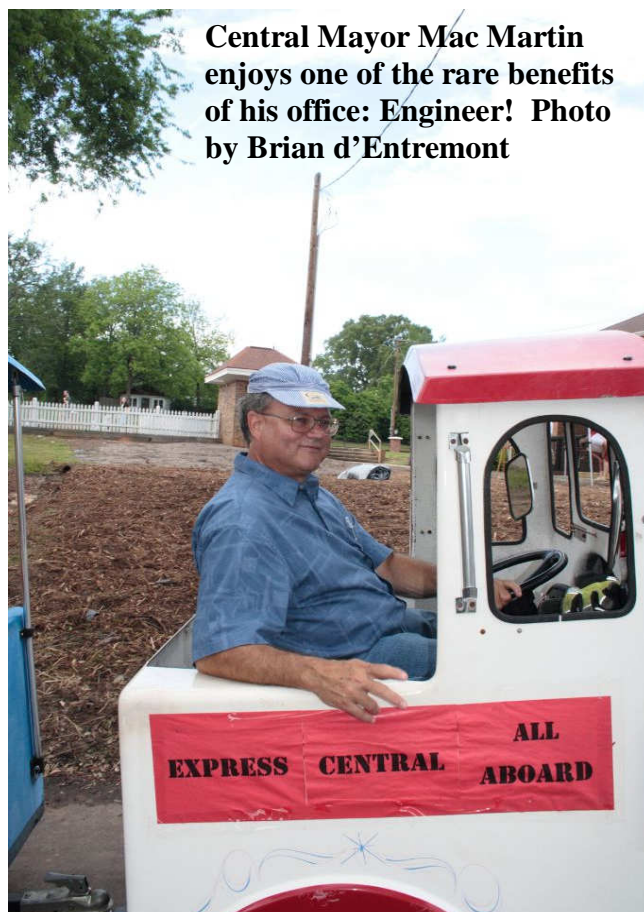
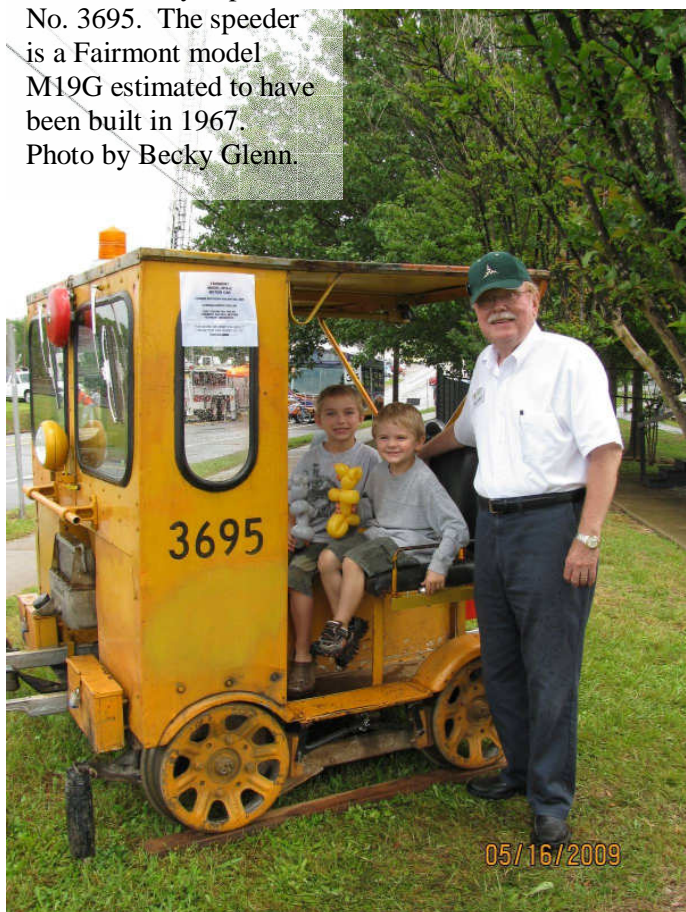
**Bottom Right:**

Mac McMillin writes, “It seemed like there were at least 500 children and a few adults that sat on my motor car and most of them moved every lever and knob they could find. This didn't hurt anything as Fairmont anticipated that people would do this. Every time I fired up the engine to demonstrate it, it cranked on the first pull of the crank.”

Becky Glenn of Seneca brought her two grandsons, **Brandon and Parker**, to the Festival on Saturday. The boys are shown seated while CRM&HA member Mac McMillin stands next to his ex-Southern Rwy. speeder, No. 3695. The speeder is a Fairmont model M19G estimated to have been built in 1967. Photo by Becky Glenn.



Rob Seel, Bob Folsom, and Jack Merrill enjoy a brief time of calm before two days of wonderful craziness running trains for every family with toddlers in the Upstate. Photo by Robyn (Folsom) Randle.



Central Mayor Mac Martin enjoys one of the rare benefits of his office: Engineer! Photo by Brian d'Entremont



Photo by Robyn (Folsom) Randle



Photo courtesy of Curt Ehmann



Photo by Robyn (Folsom) Randle



Photo by Rob Seel

**Above:** CRM&HA Member Emeritus **Curt Ehmann** joins Dale Reynolds the festivities in the Heritage Room. Curt is an S-scale toy train enthusiast whose collection forms the backbone of our Heritage Collection. Great to see you, Curt!

**Top Left:** FUNction Junction was a busy place for both days of the Festival with Thomas and coloring activities upstairs and the HO portable layout downstairs. Special thanks to members Brian d'Entremont, Doc McInnis, Margo Torelli and persevering wife Lorraine Garner for keeping the "Under 5" crowd happy!

**Middle Left:** The museum looked great for the opening, with lots more to come. See Jim Selton, our collections curator if you have anything to donate!

**Bottom Left:** As part of our May meeting program, Sandy Eustis demonstrated his perlite and vermiculite (a.k.a. Baby Poop) method so that we'd have scenery to show at the opening.

**Bottom Right:** Thanks, folks!



Photo by Brian d'Entremont in the pouring rain.

## Open Letter to "The Club"

Dear Gentlemen all.... I just wanted to take this opportunity to let you know just exactly what I think of you and being a member of this near "Gentleman's Only" hobby club.

Actually, I am quite amazed and amused and awed by all of you. Your varying degrees of expertise, talent, and interest are pretty mind-boggling. As one who appreciates all forms of art, and one who tries in her own way to construct her own, I look at all the wiring, framing, miniature construction and landscaping... and just shake my head.

I feel so privileged to know each of you, and so blessed to be a part of your group, my group. I had so much fun this past festival, it only makes me excited to do more and participate more in all the rest coming up... You guys are so good with the public, and know so much about all of this, that just "hanging out" with you and listening to you "educate" the "visitors" is terrific! And the way that I felt working with you all over the weekend, made that weekend one of the best for me in a long time.

As some of you know... the reason I have not participated more is because of a lot of personal illness and transportation issues. I, also, had to work more Saturdays than I could shake a fist at, for the past two years... so my life has been more than "full".

But I have always thought of you "slaving away" in Central or having fun at some train show... and really felt like I was missing out.

So this note comes by way of a Big Thank You... for your encouragement, your patience, your good humor, and your seeming appreciation of the little bit I feel I can contribute. Mr. Jim Reese, President, Esquire.... paid me an enormous compliment, actually via his beautiful and talented wife, Jamie. She said, he said, that he thought I was very talented. Well, needless to say that blew my mind. Any way.... many, many thanks for letting me join and feel like I really am something more than "somebody's mom". And Thanks for all the good times yet to come. Bless you all and may the Steam be with us.

Most sincerely, Margo

## SCHEDULED TRAIN SHOWS

**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 – Ptttthhddd!)

[www.nctrans.org/events/rail\\_days.php](http://www.nctrans.org/events/rail_days.php)

**July 23-26**

**OWASSO, MICHIGAN**

**TRAIN FESTIVAL 2009**

**Steam Railroading Institute**

### Train Festival 2009

Scheduled to appear AND perform:

4-8-4 SP Daylight **4449**

2-8-4 Pere Marquette **1225**

2-8-4 Nickel Plate **765**

0-4-0T Flagg Coal **75**

4-6-2 Little River **110**

0-4-0T Little River **1**

4-4-0 Leviathan **63**

0-4-0T Viscose **6**

Plus assorted diesels and models

[www.trainfestival2009.com](http://www.trainfestival2009.com)

**June 27, 2009**

**CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**

**North Carolina Rail Fair**

**Metrolina Expo Trade Center, Building 1**

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

\$6.00

Children 12 and under Free

Sponsored by Golden Spike Enterprises, Inc. Over 200 tables of model trains and railroad collectibles for sale.

<http://www.gserr.com/shows.htm>

## *It Takes a Train*

Margo Torelli  
May 2009

It takes a train to take me back  
to childhood times and smaller track  
to rhythms and motion and clackety clack  
the sound of my model railroad

It takes a train going whizzing by  
with freight cars and flat cars on the fly  
to many to count that fill my eye  
to bring to mind my railroad

The train set that went on the table or floor  
that wound 'round the Christmas Tree or out of doors  
that took my youthful mind away  
from the problems or troubles of those days

The train set that my Daddy had or Mom gave to me  
Or perhaps it was Grandpa who so lovingly  
set it up so I could play  
All of that I recall today

So inside there lives someone you can't see  
a younger, more energetic personality  
who still hopes in the future that is yet to come  
but remembers full well where I am from

I am eight or ten or almost eighteen  
Though that isn't exactly what you see  
I've lived longer than that as you can tell  
But inside I'm a child who plays with trains still

so please be patient and understanding of me  
I'll be on my way  
In a moment you'll see  
If you can hold on  
I'll be there shortly  
I'm just waiting for my engine  
to build a full head of steam



July 5 – 11, 2009

**HARTFORD,  
CONNECTICUT**  
NMRA National Convention  
National Train Show (July 10-12)  
Connecticut Convention Center

August 2, 2009

**RALEIGH, NORTH  
CAROLINA**  
TCA Southeastern Division Train  
Show

N. Kerr Scott Building  
North Carolina State Fairgrounds

9:00 AM – 3:30 PM  
\$5.00

August 8, 2009

**NORCROSS, GEORGIA**  
Atlanta Model Train &  
Railroadiana Show

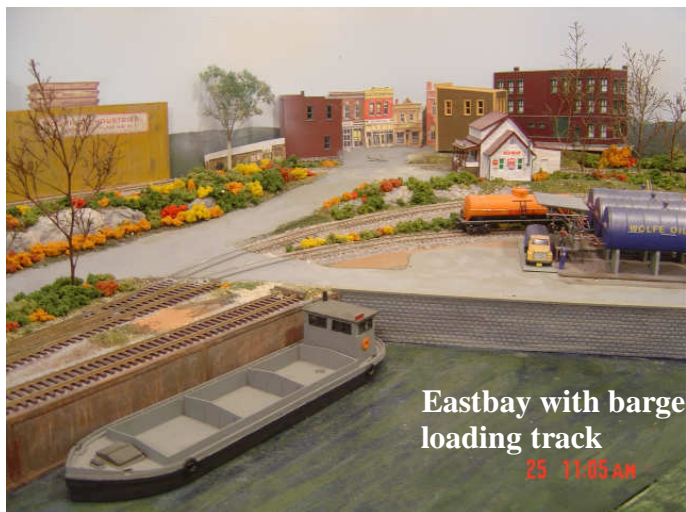
North Atlanta Trade Center,

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
\$7.00  
Children 12 and under Free

Sponsored by Golden Spike  
Enterprises, Inc. Over 300 tables of  
model trains and railroad collectibles  
for sale. Operating layouts.  
<http://www.gserr.com/shows.htm>



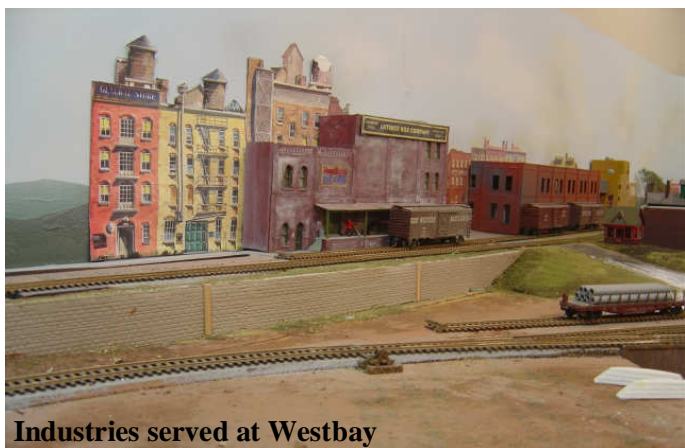
# TOURING THE WESTERN MARYLAND DELMARA BRANCH



Eastbay with barge  
loading track  
25 11:05 AM

## Text and Photos by Sandy Eustis

The Western Maryland Railroad (WM) is usually remembered as a major eastern coal hauler, collecting loads from several branch lines radiating from Elkins, WV, and shipping them to its eastern terminus in Baltimore, MD. Less well known is the fact that the WM also operated several short industrial branches in and around the city of Baltimore itself. In my version of history, one such branch served a couple of industrial areas north of downtown Baltimore, terminating at the Delmarva power plant.




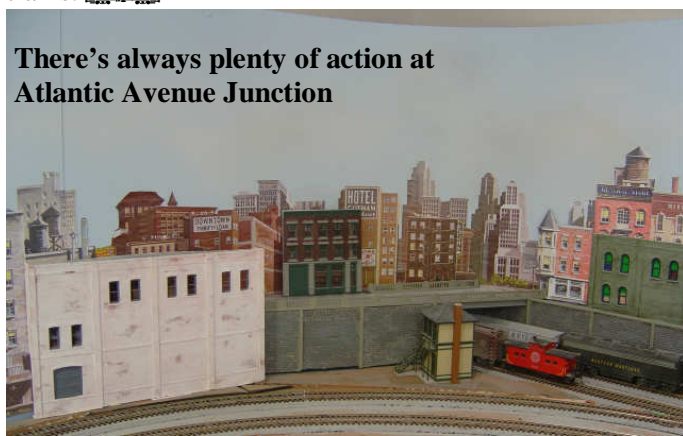
Industries served at Westbay

My WM Delmarva branch runs from a junction with the WM main line at Atlantic Avenue in Baltimore, through the suburban towns of Baltimore Heights and Cornett Corners, to serve its major customer, Delmarva Light and Power, in Delmarva, on the Maryland-Delaware border. A

further branch switches back from there down to the industrial Chesapeake Bay communities of West Bay and East Bay.

The Delmarva Branch occupies a 14' x 12' spare bedroom at my home in Keowee Key. My trackage rights included only a 30" wide shelf around the outside walls of the room, as the central area had to be kept open for an inflatable air mattress, used when the grandkids visit. The track plan (in order) includes a one track fiddle staging yard, the branch line junction at Atlantic Avenue, short industrial sidings at Atlantic Avenue, Baltimore Heights, and Cornett Corners, the branch terminus at Delmarva, and finally a short switchback down to the industrial towns of East Bay and West Bay. The line serves a total of 14 customers, plus a two track yard and a very minimal engine terminal at Delmarva. A bit of clever track planning allows me to run two trains on independent loops when friends visit, or when I'm not in the mood for more realistic operations. All trackage is in place, and the scenery is somewhere around 20% complete.

The attached photos show my progress to date. Though small, the Delmarva Branch of the WM allows me plenty of opportunity for modeling realistic urban and suburban scenery, and for operating a variety of short branch line trains. 



There's always plenty of action at  
Atlantic Avenue Junction



Atlantic Avenue, where it's best not  
to railfan alone!



