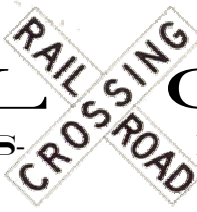




CENTRAL CROSSINGS

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



Volume 19, Number 4

April 2010

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
Glenn Nasworthy

Paymaster
Bob Folsom

Webmaster
Ed Welch

Shows Chairman:
Bruce Gathman

Museum Curator:
Jim Selton

Editor & Publisher:
Robert M. Seel, AIA

Next Meeting:
April 1, 2010
7:15 PM
No Foolin'!

**CENTRAL
RAILROAD
FESTIVAL**
April 24, 2010



A SHOW OF TRAINS AND A TRAIN SHOW

This month's *Central Crossings* presents TWO pictorial features! Continuing our story from last month, we'll follow Dale Reynolds, Bob Folsom, Roger Smith, Jack Merrill, and Ralph Watson on Ramble One from Savannah to Folkston, Georgia and Jacksonville. Also, we'll take a look back at another successfully run Annual Train Show! **Above:** CSX CW40-8 No. 7850 leads a manifest freight through Folkston, GA on Thursday, February 19, 2010; **Photo by Roger Smith.**



Below: Live steam continues to amaze youngsters, and our Annual Train Show is one of the few shows to feature live steam locomotive demonstrations. Mark Tilden's little steamer amused and delighted many. **Photo by Ken Ruinard, Anderson Independent Mail.**





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.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

April 1, 2010 TBA

Open Dates: Hurry and see Dale Reynolds to reserve
your spot to tell us what you know (before he sees you!)

SCHEDULED TRAIN SHOWS

April 17-18, 2010
KNOXVILLE, TN
The Great Train Show Expo
Knoxville Expo Center
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM both days
\$7.00, Children 12 and under Free

April 24, 2010
HENDERSONVILLE, NC
Spring Rails 2010
Whitmore Activity Center
Hendersonville, NC
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
\$5.00, Scouts in uniform & Children 12 and under Free
French Broad e'N'pire Ntrak Club

May 1 – 2, 2010
SAVANNAH, GA
21st Annual Train Show
Sports Center, Armstrong Atlantic State Univ.
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
\$5.00, Children 12 and under & Military Free
Coastal Rail Buffs

2ND SATURDAY
MUSEUM OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC
APRIL 10, 2010
MAY 8, 2010
JUNE 12, 2010
JULY 10, 2010
AUGUST 14, 2010



SERVES THE UPSTATE

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

By Glenn Nasworthy,
Stationmaster

March 4, 2010

Regular Meeting at the Central Railway Museum

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Reece
at 7:15 PM

Present: 30

Two new members were recognized:
Josh Phillips and G. Sage Viehe

Treasurer Bob Folsom reported that all the numbers from
the train show were not in but that we made
approximately the same as last year.

OLD BUSINESS

Under old business the President stated:

- 1) Some chairmen still need to turn in a committee list
and written "how to" standards for their committee.
- 2) Budgets for 2010 need to be in before the first
Monday in April.
- 3) We need a list of things we would like to ask vendors
to donate. Jim Reece will write the letters.

4) MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1) **Museum Building: Glenn Nasworthy** said there was nothing new to report.
- 2) **Annual Train Show: Bruce Gathman** reported that the show went well and that two dealers have already reserved tables for next year. He said we saved a little money on advertising but felt we still had good results with what we did.
- 3) **Central Railroad Festival: Ron Keith** said the festival scheduled for April 24th, from 10 AM to 9 PM, is coming along well. He said we will be responsible for Function Junction (portable layout, 2 Thomas tables, and coloring station) and having the Museum house open.
- 4) **Museum Layout: Jim McInnis** said we are adding more lights.
- 5) **Monthly Program: Dale Reynolds** was not available to report.
- 6) **Lionel Room: Mac McMillin** reported we have obtained some accessories, a coal loader, a newsstand with sound and a dog that goes to a fire hydrant, and some 072 turnouts.
- 7) **American Flyer: In Dale Reynolds'** absence there was no report.
- 8) **Museum Curator: Jim Selton** said he has found an LGB layout and has suggested it be donated. He also said he is working on an idea to have layouts in the front windows of vacant storefronts that could be set up to run at certain times and would serve to decorate the vacant windows. He was told to pursue this and report back to the club before committing to action.
- 9) **Web Master: Ed Welch** said he is going to post some train show photos on the web site and is working on a swap shop idea.
- 10) **Portable HO Layout:**
 - a) Bench Work: Jim McInnis said nothing to report
 - b) Track Work: Bob Folsom reported we are now working on the Branch Line and on the front side.
 - c) Wiring: Howard Garner reported the wiring is keeping up.
 - d) Scenery: Jim Kimble said they are working to get the front side done.
 - e) Rolling Stock: Jack Merrill-no report

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Reece brought up having a second key for the post office box and having an alternate to sign checks was discussed. Ron Seel is going to check to see if he has our second key. (Later confirmed he does indeed.) The club agrees these needs to be done so Jim said he would make a proposal as to how this would work.


Glenn Nasworthy brought up the time frame for paying dues. According to Article X, Section 1, the dues paying period is from November of the previous year to April of that year (the year being paid for). Glenn suggested the period be changed to a two month period. After some discussion Jim Selton volunteered to review this and make a recommendation back to the club.

Howard Garner brought up a call from the Carolina 1ST Center with reference to having a Train show there. After some discussion it was summed up that if they want to have a show we would bring our portable layout but we weren't interested in putting on the show. There also was discussion about the NMRA convention in 2013 or 2014. I was left that we would think about this and bring it up again.

Howard reminded us of the NMRA meeting March 27 in Greer which will include some layout tours. He said we would not have to be a member to attend our first show but if we wanted to go again we would be expected to join.

Dennis Moriarty told us about a ham radio show in Charlotte which he explained is an excellent place to pick up electronic supplies, relays resistors, etc

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.PM

The program was about the TrainFestival 2009 in Owosso, Michigan featuring the Southern Pacific Daylight #4449 that came from Portland, Oregon and the Pere Marquette Berkshire 1225 of Polar Express fame from East Lansing MI. and it sister engine Nickel Plate Road # 765 from Fort Wayne IN. Good program. 

ANNUAL TRAIN SHOW EASLEY, SC FEB 27-28, 2010

Photos by Brian d'Entremont



Train shows are great events for catching up with old friends and making new ones – just ask Steve Zonay!



Mac "Motorcar" McMillin woke the dead several times over the weekend by cranking his Fairmont speeder.

Our friends, the Piedmont 'N Southern Model Railroad Club returned with their spectacular, smooth-running, N scale layout.



Our G-scale Thomas trains are a perennial favorite for the kids to run themselves.



The Atlantic Coast S-Gaugers made their first appearance at our show with lots of push button action accessories and fun.



Mark Tilden checks for steam pressure by blowing the whistle as the boiler heats up.



RAMBLE REPORT LE PARTIE DEUX - OR - FIVE GUYS DO ONE LAP OF GEORGIA OVER A (CSX) WEEKEND

By Ralph Watson. Photos by Ralph Watson & Roger Smith



Continuing Rob Seel's story from last month, Ralph takes us along for the rest of the trip. Left to right: Ralph Watson, Dale Reynolds, Jack Merrill, and Bob Folsom. Photo by Roger Smith. ~ ed.

As previously described the Intrepid Wanderers had a great day at Savannah with our host Nate Stone, a fine modeler and a true gentleman.

Friday morning we were off to Folkston traveling cross-country via Jesup, where NS crosses CSX (Thanks for the maps and hats, Heather). We then went to Nahunta, where we caused a minor ripple in the fabric of the universe. It seems that the town cop was not accustomed to people parking at City Hall and jumping out of the car to watch trains go by. An old codger in a camouflage Budweiser hat explained "railfan" and everything was OK again.

Folkston, Georgia is home of the "Funnel" where all of CSX lines converge to avoid the Okefenokee Swamp. Train traffic was light but interesting with a variety of freight headed north and south. There were some scenery details that may end up on a layout somewhere. Note the replacement ties on the right of way (**below**).



Bob Folsom stands among new ties as CSX ES40DC No. 5351 leads its string of doublestacks through a crossover in Folkston on February 19, 2010. Photo by Roger Smith.

We overnighted in Folkston then were off to Jacksonville for a Train Show which was well attended and featured a variety of "railroadiana" vendors selling books, dishes, timetables, lanterns, and clothing items as well as the usual models and accessories. The show was held in an auditorium that was built as a train station. We later saw the current Amtrak station, hardly bigger than a couple of doublewides. There was a portable modular On30 layout running also, which was nicely done. Ralph invited them to come to our show next year.

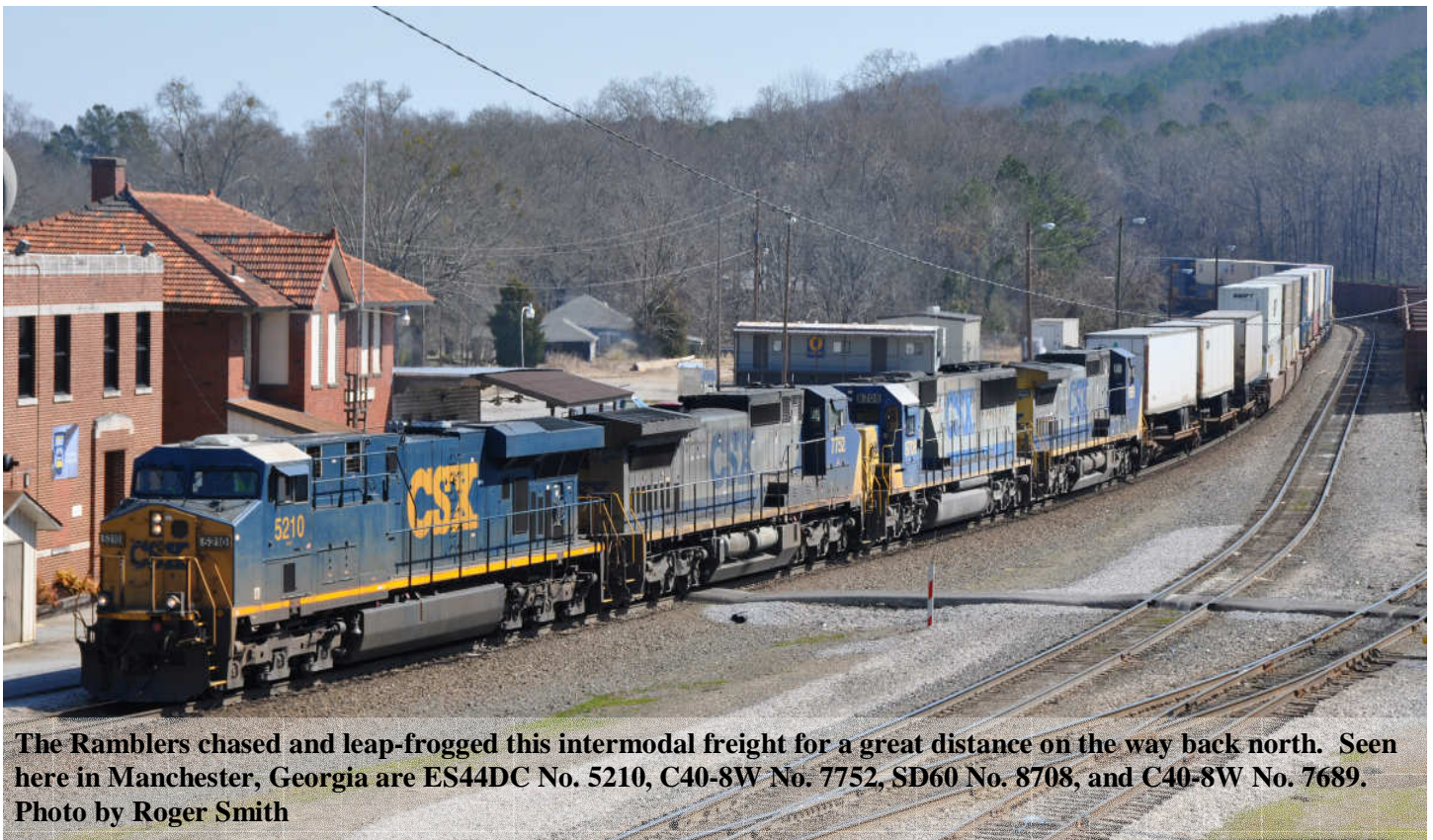
Our overnight was set up for Cordele, Georgia, so off we went via Waycross and CSX's

huge Rice Yard where, despite our incredible curiosity, we heeded Railfan Commandment #1 - Do not go past "Keep Out" signs. This yard is two miles long with two control towers like you might see at an airport. You can get some idea of the place from Google Earth. We dined at L-Bo's BBQ in Cordele and had quite a fine meal. From the motel we could hear trains moving about, and first thing in the morning we ventured down to the tracks near the support buildings for the Heart of Georgia Railroad. There, we found some very rustic buildings (**above right, photo by Ralph Watson**).



Official Interpreter of Trackage Signals Folsom announced that there was in fact a train coming toward our location. This was indeed the case as confirmed by the sound of an air horn and grade crossing gates lowering. Shortly, a CSX double-stack container train of tremendous length passed us by. We proceeded to follow that train across Central and West Georgia, sometimes getting ahead, sometimes behind, but we paced him all the way to Manchester where the train stopped for a crew change.

In Manchester there is a Highway overpass across the railroad yard and we had a unique vantage point to watch "our" train depart northbound (**below**). If FDR died now they would have to run the funeral train on CSX because NS has abandoned its tracks in that area.



The Ramblers chased and leap-frogged this intermodal freight for a great distance on the way back north. Seen here in Manchester, Georgia are ES44DC No. 5210, C40-8W No. 7752, SD60 No. 8708, and C40-8W No. 7689. Photo by Roger Smith



Photos by Ralph Watson:
Above left: On30 layout seen at the Jacksonville train show.

Above right: Simple maintenance sheds like this one in Folkston provide interesting modeling ideas.

Middle right: This 1906 depot in Ideal, Georgia was built by the Atlanta, Birmingham & Atlantic. Legend has it that two railroad executives renamed the town of Joetown by calling it “an ideal place for a railroad station.” The Seaboard Coast Line donated the depot to the town in 1974 for a community center.



Below left: Folkston is the convergence of three US highways, six state highways, and all of the Atlantic Coast Line’s tracks to Florida. Today, approximately sixty CSX trains pass through the Folkston Funnel each day, including some interesting ones like this power transfer movement. **Photo by Roger Smith**

All journeys must end, and after 700 miles of backcountry, Pull-off-here-do-a-U-turn, and All-eyes-on-the-lookout, I-85 and the Atlanta area was quite a wake up. Still, all arrived back home tired but pleased. Roger may even be able to straighten his legs out again by now after spending a lot of time in the third row seat! 🚂



April is just about here and that means time for fixing things up around the house. The Association's officers have decided how we should fix the one PO Box Key and the one Check Signer situations that now exist. Both solutions still embrace the idea of one person to be responsible, but they allow us a back-up person if needed.

Key Solution: There will be two Post Office Box keys maintained by the Association. The Treasurer will have one and be assigned the responsibility of routinely picking-up the mail. The Secretary will have the second key and be authorized to pick-up the mail only when the Treasurer is not available.


Check Signing Solution: Two officers, the Treasurer and the Vice-President will be authorized at the bank to sign checks. The Treasurer is to sign all checks issued by the Association. In the event that the Treasurer is or will be unavailable for an extended period of time the Vice-President is authorized to sign checks.

TRAIN SHOW – FEBRUARY 27 & 28, 2010

The Train Show attendance and revenue for this years show was down a little from 2009. Our actual attendance was 1,637 compared to 1,700 in 2009. Even with a \$1,000.00 increase in rent this year, our net profit for 2010 was \$6,241.85. With these numbers we consider the show to have been a big success. Thanks to all you members for all the time and hard work that made it so successful. The Bagwell gymnasium is a great location for our show. Our vendors, guest and members all praise the facility. One of my goals this year is to secure a fixed long term rent contract with the City of Easley, so we can continue to produce successful and profitable shows.

CENTRAL TRAIN FESTIVAL – APRIL 24, 2010

During this years festival our members are being asked to man the Museum, Function Junction, the Portable Layout and the loading of the Train Rides. The festival hour will be from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM. Most of these events will

be open until 9:00 PM. The Train Rides and Function Junction may close at dark. This is our chance to pay back the city for all the help they have given the CRM&HA, Inc. Please mark this date on your calendar and try to volunteer what time you have available. Ron Keith will be contacting everyone when he starts assembling the work schedule. 



A partial load of white marble chips waits at the power plant at the Savannah Roundhouse Museum's HO layout. Photo by Roger Smith

From the
**TRAVELERS REST, SC
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 412
 Travelers Rest, SC 29690

February 24, 2010

Dear Mr. Reece:

Thank you for the excellent program you and Mr. Folsom presented last week at the Travelers Rest Historical Society meeting! We thoroughly enjoyed your presentation; it has been a topic of conversation in the community for several days now. You inspired us with the account of the progress of your museum and you awakened the child in all of us with the pictures of the trains!

We look forward to seeing you at the Train Show this weekend and at the museum at a later date.

Sincerely,

Dot Bishop
 President, Travelers Rest Historical Society.