



CENTRAL CROSSINGS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
CENTRAL RAILWAY MODEL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC



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SERVES THE UPSTATE

108 Werner St
Central, SC 29627

Website:
www.crmha.org

Superintendent
Dan Maret, Jr.

Vice Presidents
Joe Fitzpatrick
Rob Seel, AIA

Stationmaster
Sage Viehe

Paymaster
Jim Alexander

Curator
Jack Green

Newsletter
Ralph Watson

Webmaster
David Mead

CENTRAL RAILWAY MUSEUM SURVIVING THE GREAT BLIZZARD 2016

BOB FOLSOM PHOTO



NEXT MEETING

**MARCH 3
2016**

7:10 PM

**AT THE
CENTRAL
RAILWAY
MUSEUM**

Your Editor is struggling to learn Microsoft Word on a borrowed Windows computer. Please bear with us as we adapt to the environment (or become extinct). Articles photos web links columns jokes and favorite recipes are needed to fill these pages.

rxalph



APPROACH SIGNALS

Central Railway Model & Historical Association
as well as regional shows and events worth mentioning

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Program ideas and presenters **URGENTLY** needed. Contact Sandy Eustis to volunteer to share your railroading experiences and modeling techniques.

MUSEUM OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
EVERY SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
9AM TO 2 PM

OPERATING SESSIONS

SECOND THURSDAYS &
FOURTH TUESDAYS 7PM

FEBRUARY 23
MARCH 10
MARCH 22

The CRM&HA has begun regular operating sessions on the second Thursday and fourth Tuesday of each month. Members interested in learning how to operate the layout and gain their certification in order to be able to run trains on the museum layout are encouraged to attend these sessions.

If you have locomotives equipped with DCC decoders and/or you have a Digitrax handheld throttle, please bring them. This way, we can be assured of having enough equipment to run.

Going to try to placing a link here to a Google calendar for CRMHA. Stay tuned.

Central Railroad Festival
April 23

NMRA
2016 Annual Convention
Indianapolis July 3-10

2017 Annual Convention
Orlando July 30-August 5

NEWS YOU CAN USE (?)

Message from Jim Alexander

A special thanks to all the folks from CRM&HA for their fantastic efforts in collecting, wrapping, moving, removing, hammering, toting, lifting, carrying, vacuuming, from Hanson's Westview Terminal. I have not counted up all the man-hours spent but it will be impressive. It will be worth our efforts. Thanks!

Industry News

Atlas has purchased all assets of BMLA Models located in Fullerton California. BLMA Models was founded in July of 2000 to bring Z, N, and HO Scale products of superior quality and originality to the model train community. The principals are concentrating on other business interests and are optimistic that Atlas will continue to offer quality rolling stock, scenery, and detail items developed by BMLA.

Model Railroader Magazine has announced the availability of an All Time Digital Archive with instant access to every issue of the magazine since 1934 including a mobile app. A one year subscription is \$42.95 and includes the current year paper magazine or the digital edition.

Also announced by Model Railroader is an opportunity to visit the offices and meet the staff of the magazine. The event is April 1(!) – 3 2016 in Waukesha Wisconsin. Check out Model Railroader.com/live.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Fred's column is taking a break while Fred adjusts to changes in his health. Please continue to share encouragement and well wishes during his recovery.

Chaplain Fred



Central Railway Model & Historical Association Regular Meeting Minutes

December 3 2015

Thirty Members and guests gathered at the Museum to run trains and socialize prior to adjourning to the Central Station Cafe for a very nice buffet supper. A brief business meeting to elect new officers for the upcoming biennium was called to Order. Dan Marett Jr and Joe Fitzpatrick will continue as President and Vice President respectively. Sage Viehe will become Secretary taking over from Ralph Watson who in turn will take over as Newsletter editor from JT Thorpe.

January 7, 2016

Called to Order at 7:10 pm by Paymaster Jim Alexander.

Approximately 23 members were in attendance.

Treasurer—Jim Alexander

Bank balance is \$11,795.54

We received a thank you from the Holly Springs Baptist Church regarding their tour of our museum on December 11, 2015.

Please Keep Fred Rimer our Chaplin in your prayers. He has lost part of his leg below the knee but the doctors think they have now gotten all of the infection.

Our luggage wagon will be on display soon in the parking lot. We also need to get the signal standing and wired prior to the train festival. The G gauge railroad will need to be suspended from the ceiling.

New members and visitors were welcomed.

Station Master—Sage Viehe

Looking forward to working with Ralph Watson and David Mead. If you need anything please be sure to ask. We have 24 paid members and five more have paid tonight. Dues are due now so if you have not done so you are late!

Second Vice President--Rob Seel

Dan Marett is working with the town as Railroad Festival representative for the museum. Dan reports things are going well.

Museum Curator Jack Green displayed a very old RR hand signal that was recently donated via Dale Reynolds.

Property Inventory Steve Humphrey

The Data Base has been moved to the new computer.

Marketing

This position remains open. Mention was made to members that one of the keys to increasing our membership is to be sure and ask visitors if they would like to join. It isn't enough just to give them a tour. Let them know that we want them as a member.

Computer Administrator--Howard Garner Lower station sectors are complete.

Electrical work Coordinator--Howard Garner Signaling project continues

Portable Layout Dan Maret

The portable is coming along nicely. Some scenery refurbishing still needs to be completed. Function Junction is open when we have enough operators beyond our needs in the main Museum which is open every Saturday from 9 to 2. I will be the manager. You will notice that the work desk is clean. If it is left unorganized action will be taken.

Web Master David Mead

Work continues on revamping the web site.

Newsletter--Ralph Watson

Work is ongoing to bring you the quality product that you are accustomed to getting. It may not be as pretty or as frequent. Please submit many articles and photos.

Museum Education Coordinator Sandy Eustis

The revised organizational chart is being clarified as are the job descriptions The program tonight is a primer on Rail Road photography by Rob Seel Next month's program on Operation Life Saver will precede next month's general meeting as it is being presented by a representative from Norfolk Southern.

American Flyer Layout Sage Viehe

Thanks to Mac McMillin and Dale Reynolds for mentoring on this layout for the past 3 years. Dale had graciously allowed me to make all of the decisions for this layout for the last six months! Part orders will be placed soon with the hope of getting more accessories in operation. Thanks to all of the members who have volunteered to run the layout when I cannot be present: Anthony, Jim, Dan, Ette, Bob and others.

Lionel Layout—Mac McMillin

Thanks to Jim Alexander for donating from his rolling stock of old Lionel 1950's 3 dome tank car, 1952 milk car, and a reel car. The 1666 locomotive, circa 1938-1942, now has enough parts to complete refurbishing by combining parts from 3 units.

Railfan Report—Mac McMillin

A report on the history and continuing saga of the Clemson Hwy 133 railroad bridge was given. A brief history of the Gaines Street Bridge was discussed. An unusually large number of rail cars have been seen parked on sidings apparently being stored.

Interior Construction-Don Baldwin

Function Junction bathroom work continues. We need to solve a plumbing problem.

Track Work—Bob Folsom

A reminder how important it was to fix broken electrical connections quickly. Extensive switch work improvements are taking place. The work we are doing is no difficult. We enjoy showing you how to build and repair. What we need is more hands on from everyone who runs the HO layout.

Company Store—Roger Smith and Glenn Nasworthy

We have commenced collecting for the train show. Old Business Please keep Fred Rimer in your prayers, call or send a card. Signal installation equipment is will soon be available thanks to Chevis Crenshaw.

The Newcomers meeting in Seneca has produced a lot of interest and people continue to call about Lionel and other train sets they remember or still have packed away in boxes.

New Business

We are getting ready for the train show! There are still some tables available. We will need everyone February 5th to 7th. Set up involves everyone on Friday, and be sure to sign up at least for 4 hour shifts.

An ad hoc by-law review committee is being formed.

Program

Rob Seel presented his photography Clinic, "Beyond the Roster Shot"

DID YOU KNOW?

Palmer Massachusetts is the town of 7 railroads

Palmer Massachusetts has been called the "Town of Seven Railroads". These included five operating railroads (Boston & Albany, Central Vermont, Springfield, Athol & Northeastern, Ware River, and Central Massachusetts), one which was built but never operated (Hampden), and one which was not completed (Southern New England) The B&A, CV, and Ware River served Union Station, which was designed by H. H. Richardson.

{Ed. Note- Rob Seel, can you do a presentation on Richardson's stations? I like the Japanese Temple inspired ones.}

The Central Vermont was sold to RailTex in 1995 and operated as the New England Central Railroad. RailTex was merged into RailAmerica in 2000, which in turn was acquired by the Genesee & Wyoming company in 2012. The B&A is now the CSX Boston Subdivision, while parts of the otherwise defunct Ware River and Central Massachusetts are operated by the Massachusetts Central Railroad. The SA&N was abandoned in the 1930s when the Quabbin Reservoir was built.

Amtrak's *Lake Shore Limited* passes through Palmer, as did the *Montrealer* from 1989 to 1995 and the *Vermont* from 1995 to 2014, but no trains have stopped at Palmer since 1971. Union Station is privately owned and houses a restaurant. Palmer is celebrating a 300 year anniversary this year.

Source: *Wikipedia.org and townofpalmer.com*

N&W J611 Excursions Announced



Norfolk and Western Locomotive J611 will be pulling excursion trains this April May and June including a round trip from Spencer NC to Lynchburg VA on April 9 and a trip from Spencer to Asheville the next day (which sold out immediately). The railfans will be seeking out prime viewing angles along the route through Cleveland, Statesville, Catawba, Newton, Hickory, Drexel, and Clinchcross. You can find more details at NCtrans.org under Events. The traffic department at Central Railway has not received any requests for trackage rights related to this train.

- April 9, 2016 - *The Virginian*, Spencer, N.C., to Lynchburg, Va.
- April 10, 2016 - *The Blue Ridge Special*, Spencer, N.C., to Asheville, N.C.
- April 23, 2016 - *The Roanoker*, Greensboro, N.C. to Roanoke, Va.
- April 24, 2016 - *The Roanoker*, Greensboro, N.C. to Roanoke, Va.
- May 7, 2016 - *The Powhatan Arrow*, Roanoke, Va., to Lynchburg, Va.
- May 7, 2016 - *The Pelican*, Roanoke, Va., to Walton (Radford), Va.
- May 8, 2016 - *The Powhatan Arrow*, Roanoke, Va., to Lynchburg, Va.
- May 8, 2016 - *The Pelican*, Roanoke, Va., to Walton (Radford), Va.
- June 4, 2016 - *The American*, Manassas, Va., to Front Royal, Va., (runs once)
- June 5, 2016 - *The American*, Manassas, Va., to Front Royal, Va., (runs twice).

Ticket sale dates will be announced soon. For excursion information and to sign up for email notifications, visit FireUp611.org

SAGE VISITED THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD MUSEUM



The Pennsylvania Railroad's class *DD1* were semi-permanently coupled pairs of third rail direct current electric locomotives built for the railroad's initial New York area electrification. They operated between Manhattan Transfer and Pennsylvania Station in New York City, and from there to the coach yards at Sunnyside Yard in Queens, New York. Some also operated on the PRR-owned Long Island Rail Road's extensive third rail network. They had a wheel arrangement of 4-4-0+0-4-4 in the Whyte notation, in other words, two 4-4-0 locomotives coupled back-to-back, hence its class letter, as the Pennsylvania listed all 4-4-0s under Class D. In the AAR wheel arrangement notation, this is described as 2B+B2. Each half-locomotive contained one large electric motor mounted in the body and driving via a jackshaft and side rods. Those electric motors gave the DD1 a potential top speed of 85 mph (137 km/h), though PRR/LIRR timetables never allowed more than 65 mph. The simplicity and reliability of these locomotives allowed it to outlast its potential replacement model, the PRR L5. One pair, Nos. 3936 and 3937 is in the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Source: Wikipedia

OPERATING SESSION WITH GRANDSON RYAN

Photo by Ralph Watson



We ran HO, On30, O27, N and a few Brio toys on the same rails and had a great time.