



# CENTRAL CROSSINGS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL  
RAILWAY MUSEUM



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**108 Werner St  
Central, SC 29627**

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www.crmha.org

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## FROM THE EDITORS:

Well, here we are in 2021. Still, much of the same old stuff from 2020. We are still closed, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and all the concerns regarding it. However, the vaccine is rolling out, so we are hoping that things will be better controlled in the coming months. I know we are hoping to reopen sometime in the first quarter, but I am not sure exactly when.

As I communicated in December 2020, the CRM&HA, along with the Impact Center, have decided to use our backup date of May 14th and 15th for the 2021 Model Train Expo. See the included flyer for all the information on the show.

New year, so we have some new folks to help guide us as an Association. Joining the Board of Directors is Jesse Cranford as Treasurer and Jackie Bacon as the VP of Marketing. Now Jesse is a founding member of the CRM&HA, so he has been around our group of crazies for quite a while. Jackie just joined us last year, but she fits into the group pretty good too (she is my boss, so I have to be good). I think the most important thing about both of them is their love for cats, as I am a cat lover as well...

Thank you to outgoing Treasurer Jim Alexander and outgoing VP of Marketing John Johnston for all your years of hard work and dedication to the club.

At our February 2021 business meeting, we were discussing our ongoing signaling project on the main HO Scale layout. It was reported that while we were very close to the completion of the project, there was more cost involved than originally called for in the budget. Faced with possibly putting the project on hold for the rest of the year, Bob Folsom issued a challenge to the membership at the meeting. Bob pledged to match all donations made for that project, up to \$500. Not to be outdone, Howard Garner pledged to match each dollar that Bob donated. Long story short, what was supposed to be announced in this issue as an ongoing fundraiser was finished before 12 hours had passed. Thanks to Bob, Howard and the members that stepped up, we raised the needed funds to finish out the project this year, plus some extra for other projects.

## NEXT ZOOM MEETINGS

Can be found by  
clicking [HERE](#)



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## 🔗 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & SHOWS 🔗



Upcoming Events for the Central Railway Museum as well as regional shows and events.

### CRM&HA EVENT CALENDAR

Give it a [click!](#)

When the calendar opens click on an event to get more details and click on the arrows at the top left to move to another month.

If you would like to have your event added to our calendar, give us a shout at [centralcrossings@crmha.org](mailto:centralcrossings@crmha.org).

### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Our next public event is the 2021 Model Train Expo.

See the flyer on the next page for all the information.

### 2021 CENTRAL RAILROAD FESTIVAL

October 16th, 2021 from 10am - 3pm.

On Main Street (HWY 93)

### OPERATING SESSIONS SECOND THURSDAY @ 7PM

We are doing something a little different now, as we are not opening the Museum for Operations.

Many of our members have been kind enough to welcome us into their homes, virtually of course, and show us around their personal layouts. The monthly Home Layout Tours are hosted via a Zoom video conference.

You can look back at past Home Layout Tours by clicking [HERE](#).

We are looking into making the Live Zoom Tours available to the public, but this has not been worked out as of yet.

### MUSEUM CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

At this time, the museum is closed to the public.

We are constantly reevaluating our options in the hopes of reopening to the public as soon as possible.

**We have MOVED to MAY!**  
**Central Railway Museum's**



# **Model Train Expo 2021**

**Has been RESCHEDULED!**

**Friday – May 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm**  
**Saturday – May 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Rock Springs Church – Impact Center**  
**207 Rock Springs Road**  
**Easley, South Carolina 29642**

**Admission \$8.00 Adults**

Under 10 **Free** with adult admission

Admission good both days

**Hands-On Thomas the Tank  
& Junior Railroader Activities**

**7 Operating Model Railroads**

**160+ Dealer Tables**



**COMPLETE INFO AT: [WWW.CRMHA.ORG](http://WWW.CRMHA.ORG)**

Contact Sandy Eustis – (864) 719-0096 [seustis13@gmail.com](mailto:seustis13@gmail.com)

## NEWS AND HAPPENINGS...

Just when we thought it was safe after the interior remodel of the caboose, Tom and Harry are at it again. For as long as I have been a member, since March 2018 (feels like so much longer than that), there has been discussion of redoing the LBG (G Gauge) display near the ceiling. Tom and Harry made that discussion turn into a reality. They have made the curves a broader radius, so that we can run some longer passenger cars. Installed some staging tracks above the Clemson / Central portions of the HO Scale layout to have multiple trains available to run - which I am told that we can do this now.



Upstate Lake Living Winter 2020 featured an article about the CRM&HA written by Brett McLaughlin. You can find it [here](#).

## HO SCALE MODULAR LAYOUT...

Work continues on our new Modular HO Scale Layout. For those that don't know, in the Fall of 2019 we made the difficult decision to finally retire our HO Scale portable layout that was such a favorite when we set it up at events. Several issues led to this, but it basically boiled down to we are old, so was it and it was darned heavy to move around for us old guys. At the 2020 Train Expo, we debuted the t-shirts and lollipops - as we affectionately call them - to the attendees of the show. We also had a couple other modules on display that were works in progress.

When the new modular design was chosen, we decided to adopt the HO Scale FreeMo double track standards, so that our modules could be joined to other clubs and privately owned modules. For those not familiar with the FreeMo Standards, you can read all about them by clicking [here](#). Using the FreeMo double track standard, as well as our construction of a Double to Single track adapter gives us the ability to join our Modules with any other group that is running FreeMo standards as well.

So, where this is all going is that when we decided to do all this, we also decided that we were going to make Module 'kits' available to anyone that wanted to build their own to use with the Clubs layout or use for their own personal layout. Those kits are available to anyone interested. The standard module is 26" x 6' with a height of 4'. The kit includes 2 end plates that are correctly drilled for the connections, as well as the sides and cross braces and legs. Also included is the 2" thick foam board for the base. The cost to the CRM members is \$120.00. Cost to a non-member is \$150.00.

For those interested, please contact us at [centralcrossings@crmha.org](mailto:centralcrossings@crmha.org).



## **CLOSING THOUGHTS...**

So, even though the Museum has been closed, there has still been a lot of work being done on the building itself and the displays, in preparation that one day we will be able to open our doors to our friends and neighbors. Believe me, we missing seeing our regular and new visitors.

We also miss seeing each other. I for one have not been inside the Museum since last March. That makes things tough to report on to you folks, as I don't see all the little changes. Thankfully I have a group of people that send me photos and updates of different things as they progress. Also having the Virtual Layout Tours and Zoom meetings with the other members has been great to help us all feel included, while keeping each other safe without needless exposures (hence why I have not been at the Museum for a while).

Many thanks to you - the readers and friends of the CRM, for helping us continue in our mission of promoting understanding and enjoyment of railroad heritage in America, particularly in the Carolinas.

Until next time, be healthy and keep running those trains,

Wayne