



CENTRAL CROSSINGS

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

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FROM THE EDITORS:

Welcome to a very special issue of Central Crossings.

Shortly after Joanne and I joined the CRM, longtime member and friend to many, Glenn Nasworthy passed away. While we did not have the honor of knowing Glenn, we share some common traits with him.

Joanne is a 1990 alumnus of Clemson and we bleed Orange and Purple. The love we have for model railroading and railroads in general. The love we have for our families and friends.

It is incredibly difficult to do a man like Glenn justice without knowing him, which is why we relied heavily on the members that did, those that contributed photos and stories, we thank you.

Another group we have to thank is his family. We reached out to his daughter, Elizabeth, to let her know of my plans and to see if there was anything that they would like to add or say, which she did - but more on that throughout the story.



Glenn and Joe working the 2018 CRM Train Expo.



Glenn Nasworthy will be remembered at the Central Railway Museum both for his dedicated service as our Secretary and/or Building Manger, but also for his modeling skills and scenery work on the CRM's signature HO scale museum layout. There are two major Nasworthy-built scenes on the layout -- the Passenger Station in Seneca and the entire town of Central on the inside of the rear peninsula in the museum's front room. Both scenes were tackled relatively late in our collective modeling progress, due I suspect for the need for some difficult scratch building in both locations. I spent some time last weekend studying both of Glenn's major scenic contributions to the layout, and I was struck again by how "sharp" and "clean" was his vision.



Glenn's buildings, street corners, and station platforms are all built at perfect right angles, and placed at perfect right angles to each other, and they are each an architecturally perfect condensed replicas of real-world structures. The next time you visit the museum, compare the pictures of downtown Central that we have displayed on a nearby wall with Glenn's model of Central's downtown business block as it looked in the 1950's. Sharp! You'll also note that Glen's scenes are finished in slightly brighter colors than other areas on the layout, that everything is neat and tidy. Glenn's artistic vision comes through loud and clear to me -- depicting scenes from his memories, but in an almost idealized way. The autos he parked on Main Street or at the station are almost all shiny new models, and there's no trash or clutter lying around. No crime on these streets, happy and productive folks everywhere! Clean! So call me sentimental, but I see Glenn's wonderfully positive outlook on life in his models, and I will miss him.

Sandy Eustis



Now, Glenn did a lot on the Museum layout, but he did so much more for the CRM in general. He was there at the very beginning helping with the remodeling of the building, so that it could be used as a suitable home for the many collections that we are host to.



Glenn served as the Club Secretary, he was on the Steering Committee, and he was the longtime Building Manager.



It is this last role that Glenn will leave a lasting legacy within the CRM. One of the requests that Glenn's family made at the time of his passing was that memorials be made to his Church and the CRM. CRM&HA Superintendent Sandy Eustis announced the creation of the *Glenn Nasworthy Memorial Building Fund*. All memorials that the CRM has received to the point will be used as the seed monies for the fund with any additional memorials added to the fund as they are received.



While Glenn was an important member of the CRM, he also had a life outside of the Club. Glenn was a 1957 graduate of Clemson College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Management. He retired from Thomasville Furniture as a Purchasing Director. He was a proud supporter of Clemson University where he was in the first Industrial Management graduating class, the first president of the Industrial Management Society, and a member of the Class of 1957 Alumni Association.

Now, earlier I said I had reached out to Glenn's daughter, Elizabeth. She had some wonderful comments that she wanted to share on behalf of her family. These comments show how much Glenn enjoyed his time with the CRM and all of us, as well as his style of modeling.

Our family would just like to express gratitude for the many happy hours CRMHA provided to Dad. He loved every minute of his work there and found deep satisfaction in the work accomplished together with other members.

My dad's love of trains began in his childhood when he would ride the train from Florida to New Jersey to visit his grandmother. The two of them would then have adventures to New York City, again by train, and these early experiences sparked a fascination with railroads. He loved the engineering and precision involved but also the beauty of the landscape and the opportunity to see the towns and countryside while passing through. Trains seemed to nurture his innate sense of wonder, and this continued throughout his life as he developed his love of model trains.

Many of the buildings in his layout at home are reminiscent of special places, some from his childhood in Florida, and some from our family travels. For example, the Howard Johnson's on the hilltop in his layout is a nod to my grandad's favorite place to stop for lunch and a milkshake while on a roadtrip. There are also buildings from Easley, my mom's hometown, one bearing her family name. All of these details were meaningful and intentional for my dad, and they are part of the reason he loved to create his model train world.

*Model trains were a way to honor one's history, a pursuit he found both humbling and gratifying, as well as fascinating and fun. The countless hours he spent were a testament to the joy he found in model railroading, and our family is grateful that he was able to share that with CRMHA. - **Elizabeth N. Crocker***

Some other members had thoughts and memories of Glenn that they wanted to share, so here are some of those.

*My favorite memories of Glenn are related to the fact that Glenn was an ardent Clemson fan and grad and I am an ardent fan and grad of Virginia Tech. Ours was the friendliest of an ACC rivalry. Glenn was always the perfect gentleman, we never disagreed and enjoyed discussing our various teams' accomplishments. I will miss our good friendship as football season approaches...and through the years. - **Bob Earle***

*Glenn was a very special friend and we talked many times about model railroading. I was honored to be invited to his home to view his model railroad. He and his wife were most gracious hosts. - **Jimmy Kimble***

My fondest memories of times shared with Glenn centered on the time when we (mostly he) would talk about modeling, or the museum, but mostly about his life at Clemson and Orlando/ Winter Park in the way way way before Disney years. There were only a couple of houses on Red Bug Lake Road - one of them belonged to the school Principal, Glenn's family lived in the other. The area was used for tomato farming. If you use Google Earth to view the area now it is a tangle of road traffic stores and suburbs. Glenn's father was manager of the A&P store first in Winter Park, later in Orlando and I believe also in Pine Castle. Rollins College and the train depot were there then but little else from that day has survived.

There is a concept in psychology referred to as Flow. From Wikipedia: In positive psychology, flow, also known colloquially as being in the zone, is the mental state of operation in which a person performing an activity is fully immersed in a feeling of energized focus, full involvement, and enjoyment in the process of the activity. In essence, flow is characterized by complete absorption in what one does, and a resulting loss in one's sense of space and time. Glenn knew flow in his speech and his plan for that day. Not plodding or methodical, closely focused on the task or story or the concept he was teaching, he was a great teacher, so that those around him also could focus and achieve a good result. He used his words to paint a picture.

My favorite Glenn story was his rendition of the days before and after he and Faye were married. It was Graduation time, he from Clemson, she from Nursing school in Greenville. He was slated to report for basic training almost immediately and they spent their honeymoon at the now also gone Clemson House. Tales of Friday afternoon trips (if they could find someone with a car) to Walhalla for supper at the Steak House and getting back to campus just in time for curfew are another favorite. Faye is not so bad herself at spinning yarns. One would be fortunate and entertained to hear her tell of her and her twin sister playing for the Easley High School basketball team. It seems that at half time they traded jerseys and the referee and coach were completely unaware of the switch.

I was already missing Glenn having moved away, now a bit more melancholy knowing that we won't be sharing any more talks.

Requiescat in pace

*Gone from this life, not to be forgotten. - **Ralph Watson***



These photos are all from Glenn's personal layout. I received them from various sources, for those people, thank you.















