



# CENTRAL CROSSINGS

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER OF THE

CENTRAL RAILWAY  
MODEL & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 18, Number 7

July 2009

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 &  
Webmaster  
Brian d'Entremont

Paymaster  
Bob Folsom

Shows Chairman:  
Bruce Gathman

Museum Curator:  
Jim Selton

Editor & Publisher  
Robert M. Seel, AIA  
rmseel@bellsouth.net

**Next Meeting:**  
**July 2, 2009**  
**7:15 PM**

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



## SUMMER RAILFAN SEASON 2009



**It's summer time**, and that means railfanning! From now through the autumn leaf season there are special events scheduled across the country. In this month's issue, check out two pictorial articles! **Above:** ex-Southern FP7 No. 6133 and E8 No.6900 lead an eight-car passenger train around the loop in Spencer, NC on June 13, 2009. **Left:** Streetcar 756 approaches the west end of its route along River Street in Savannah on June 6, 2009. **Photos by Rob Seel**



## 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.



## MEETING MINUTES

By Brian d'Entremont,  
Stationmaster

**4 June 2009**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Central Railway Museum**

September, 2009, Date TBA  
**ANNUAL FALL PICNIC**  
**LOCATION CHANGE PENDING, TBA**

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### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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July 2            **Jim Reece: Taking Care of Business**  
                     **Ron Keith: Building Switches**

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

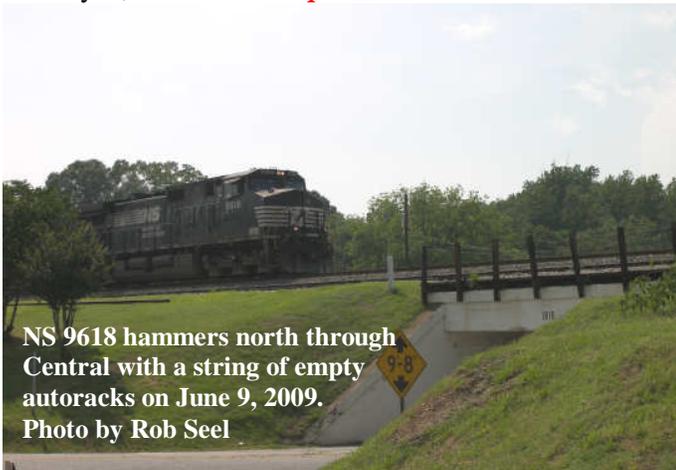
September     **Annual Picnic**  
                     **New Location and Date TBA**

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

November 5    **Open**

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

January --, 2010    **Open**



NS 9618 hammers north through Central with a string of empty autoracks on June 9, 2009.  
Photo by Rob Seel

CEO Jim Reece called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM with 29 members and 1 guest in attendance. Two new members, Jay Farmer and John Cadmus, introduced themselves. Paymaster Bob Folsom gave a treasure's report, indicating that we needed to reserve \$5000 for the train show and that money is tight. He requested that all expenditures be pre-approved and said that some museum projects may have to be put on hold, unless someone wants to pay the material cost with *possible* reimbursement at an unspecified future date. Several donations were accepted to pay for the new chairs. There was discussion of the fact that the club will need to pay for the building electrical service soon.

### Old Business:

#### **Liability Insurance**

Glenn Nasworthy and Roger Smith agreed to come with a proposal in July.

#### **Trainshow**

Bruce Gathman indicated that nothing was new; date is still set for 27-28 February 2010.

#### **Central Railway Festival**

Ron Keith indicates that Bobby Ballentine (of the Central Business Council) has agreed to be chairman of the festival planning committee for next spring. There should be better planning to avoid conflict with other area events. Mr. Reece suggested Memorial Day weekend. The portable layout remains in Maria's building. She is reported to have said that she would think about allowing it to stay as long as the building remains vacant and has not gotten back to us.

#### **Programs**

At the festival an NS conductor offered to bring an Operation Lifesaver program for one of our monthly meetings, but the July program remains open.

## **Museum**

The city has paid \$12837 for building renovations so far. Mr. Reece said that we needed to get more organized and create active subcommittees to organize the layout development. With a shortage of money, this would be a good opportunity to step back and focus on creating and documenting standards before proceeding. Rob Seel said that he was planning to build a clay model of terrain for reference during construction. There was a review of who has volunteered to be in charge of what:

- Howard Garner: Overall layout, electrical, track planning, and towns.
- Bob Folsom: Track and final wiring
- Jim McInnis: Benchwork and rolling stock
- Rob Seel: Scenery

Margo Torelli suggested that we need a sign up sheet so that people can sign up for what they want to do. Ms. Torelli further suggested that she would be interested in doing publicity. Ron Keith said that each committee needed to have a meeting schedule so that any one interested could participate. Mr. Folsom suggested something like his church's "time and talent" form to review the interests of members periodically. At the request of Mr. Gathman, Brian d'Entremont agreed to work on setting up a web forum for coordinating group activities. On the subject of committees, Mr. Reece further said that committees were going to need to take responsibility for training others to work in their areas, to work within an overall budget set by the layout committee, and report to the group what they are doing.

Mr. Garner gave a detailed explanation of the layout electrical components and indicated that city buildings with lighting were needed. Mr. Gathman offered a computer to use for decoder programming.

## **Heritage Room & Layout**

Mac McMillin gave a report on the heritage layout. He said that the American Flyer Standard gauge was running, but that we need Lionel O27 and Lionel Standard Gauge track. Mr. McMillin is working on restoration of a Marks train from 1952 for display.

## **Museum & Collections**

Curator Jim Selton reported on the results of last month's survey regarding the desired themes of the museum, reporting that there was great interest in representing the railroads of this area, particularly the Southern and its predecessors. He said that a steady stream of donations

was coming in. Although Mr. Selton would like to review donations before acceptance, he realized that some things just show up while people are working at the museum. Thus, everybody needs to know where to find donation forms. Donation forms require acknowledgement that we reserve the right to do what every we deem necessary, including putting donated items up for sale. Mr. Selton particularly wants to acquire a Southern Railway conductor's uniform.

There was discussion of the merits of putting reflective paint on the wall facing the projector versus getting an projection screen, the later allowing other museum artifacts on the wall. Neither appears likely to happen at this point given funding priorities.

## **Newsletter**

Rob Seel said that the newsletter was in need of photos and articles. Specifically requesting that people report on recent trips, etc.

## **New Business:**

### **Junior Members**

Jim Reece said that he knew of an interested member and was interested in how we could recruit junior members. Brian d'Entremont suggested that we might consider amending the bi-laws to waive or reduce membership fees. There was discussion of getting Boy Scouts involved, perhaps letting them use CRM&HA facilities and/or providing counseling for Railroading Merit Badge. Jim Selton, although very interested in the idea, stated that we were not prepared to do that at this point in the museum development.

### **Museum Hours**

Bruce Gathman said that he has been getting inquiries about when the museum would be open. Richard Nichols suggested opening quarterly. Brian d'Entremont suggested that we could support at least monthly operation. Sandy Eustis suggested coordinating with the history museum down the street. A motion was made by Mr. Selton and seconded by Mr. Nichols to open the second Saturday of the month, starting in July, from 9AM to noon. This passed without opposition. Ron Keith said that he may propose and amendment to this schedule after talking to people from the business council, city, and chamber of commerce.

The meeting adjourned to a program on "Central Ramble No. 1," a recent trip by several members. 



In an effort for the club to better transition from a building restoration mode to a model railroad and museum creation mode, the officers have decided to make some necessary changes. Lately the method of operation has been the Shotgun approach. One interest group may fire a shot, for example, decide to move a town. But how will that affect other interest groups such as scenery or the overall plan the Curator has for the museum? With the Shotgun approach, members show up to work and have no one to direct or teach them. With the Shotgun approach, if you bring it we will store it and someday decide if it's a keeper. With the Shotgun approach, if I don't need it I'll trash it or put in any drawer.

These changes are designed to allow the officers to become the center hub in which they can provide direction and coordinate the efforts of members and their committees. We plan to reduce the existing frustration and duplicated efforts. Therefore, the existing Central Railway Museum Committee and the Committee for Overall Layout Planning are being dissolved. They will be replaced by the CRM&HA officers. These officers will establish and assume directional responsibility for present and future association guidelines such as seen below.

- ⇒ Creating standards
- ⇒ Documenting standards and procedures
- ⇒ Better communications as to how each layout committee views the final look of any or all layout scenes and the museum as a whole
- ⇒ List of prioritized goals
- ⇒ Control of budget
- ⇒ Developing committee timelines that conform with total layout timelines

We are asking some members to take responsibility for important areas of the museums development. To create committees that will help the officers implement the above guidelines. The goals of the committee are as follows.

- ⇒ Each committee will consist of no more then two to three members.
- ⇒ Each committee member will be well versed on its committee plans.
- ⇒ At work sessions committee members are to be leaders and teachers.
- ⇒ Members can be on more then one committee.

We have asked the following members to chair committees. As you can see most are already filling these roles.

<b>Museum Building</b>	Glen Nasworthy
<b>Heritage Room</b>	Mac McMillin
<b>Bench Work</b>	Jim McInnis
<b>Track Work</b>	Bob Folsom
<b>Wiring</b>	Howard Garner
<b>Scenery</b>	Sandy Eustis
<b>Structures</b>	Jim Reece
<b>Rolling Stock</b>	Jack Merrill
<b>Central Festival</b>	Ron Keith
<b>Annual Train Show</b>	Bruce Gathman
<b>Museum Curator</b>	Jim Selton
<b>Program Director</b>	Dale Reynolds

All other association members are asked to be willing to accept a position on a committee and to join the weekly work force.

How will this help bring about a smoother operating group? Using the officers as an example, I will attempt to explain. Each officer will have to stay up to date on what all committees are planning. If one officer receives information about one committee he must pass it to the other officers ASAP. This way no matter what work session or group function is occurring there would probably be an officer attending that would be up to date on all committee plans. The same goes for each committee. If all two or three members know the latest committee plans, most likely at least one of them would be at all work sessions. Thus work would proceed with the proper direction and training. And than there is the necessary work no one wants to complete. Creating and documenting standards and procedures. Developing goals and budgets. With no established requirements and no one really pushing for them, *it just won't happen*. With this plan there will be a group of four officers working with and pushing the committees to get results. Let there be no mistake, this method will require more time, more planning meetings with your committee or officers. But it will enable us to have a smoother operating group. Let's do a better job of planning, organizing and teaching as we

go and not put ourselves up against a clock that does not exist.

This is the direction your association officers would like to pursue. We are open to and welcome any questions or comments. 

**EASLEY TO SEE**



**Photo by Rob Seel, June 10, 2009**  
Pickens Railway U-18B No. 9502 (ex-CXS 1918, nee-SCL No. 320, built 1973) awaits transfer to Pickens for an overhaul. This unit actually had spent much of its time leased out to Johnson Rail Service in Laurinburg and Monroe, NC, but has also been photographed in this month in an NS consist through Boyce, VA. The Pickens has eight U-18s on their roster.

**SCHEDULED  
TRAIN SHOWS**

**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>

**July 5 – 11, 2009**

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

**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)

**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 &**  
**Railrodiana Show**

**North Atlanta Trade Center,**

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

\$7.00

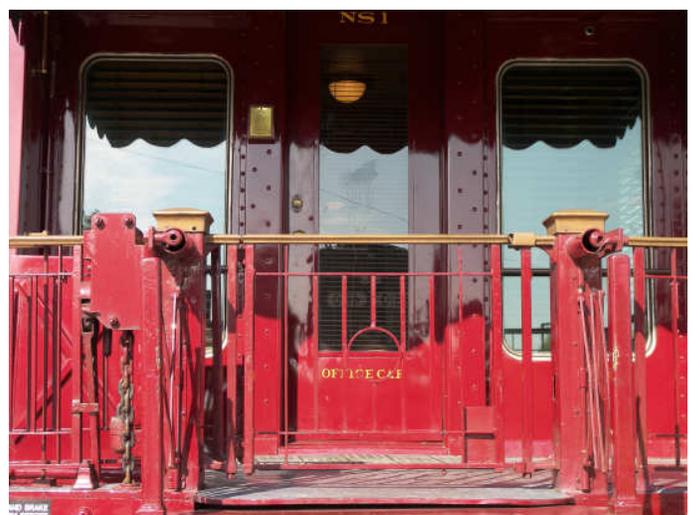
Children 12 and under Free

Sponsored by Golden Spike Enterprises, Inc. Over 300 tables of model trains and railroad collectibles for sale. Operating layouts.

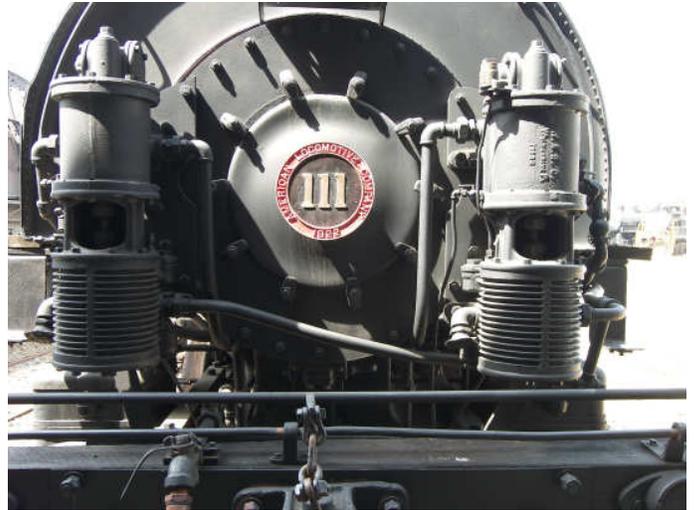
<http://www.gserr.com/shows.htm>

# SPENCER SHOPS RAIL DAYS

NORTH CAROLINA TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM  
June 13, 2009 By Rob Seel



The annual Rail Days event drew large crowds as the NC Transportation Museum opened up an extended yard lead and new Roundhouse exhibits. “Visiting dignitaries” included NS GP-59 No. 4610 (above left), NS “GenSet” remote control unit 3GS21CDB No.3850, and NS executive F-9A No. 4270, F-7B No. 4275, and observation car NS 1 “Virginia” (bottom). NRHS Roanoke Chapter observation car “Mardi Gras” (above right) currently resides in Spencer.



The 1924 Flue Shop and bridge crane by the roundhouse provide many architectural / industrial photo opportunities (above left and lower right). Ex-Southern, Pullman Standard 10-6 Sleeper No. 2003, named "Catawba River," (built 1949?) resides in the roundhouse (lower left), as does ex-Duke Power saddletank 0-4-0 No. 111, built by ALCO in 1922 (above right).



Top left: Seaboard Air Line 2-10-0 Russian No. 544, built by ALCO in 1918. Upper right: NS GP-59 4610. Lower left: NS SD70M-2 No. 2720 reflected in the windows of the Back Shop, which is still closed awaiting renovation. Lower right: A Steamer Speeder! Among the half dozen motor cars that provided short rides was this propane-fired steamer. The “live steam” locomotive has belts looping the driver axels that propel the car. It was also the quietest one of the bunch.

# SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

CENTRAL OF GEORGIA ROUNDHOUSE & RIVER ST.  
June 6-7, 2009 By Rob Seel



Since this past February the City of Savannah has operated a renovated 1925 W5 streetcar from Melbourne, Australia. The 47-foot car quietly burns recycled biodiesel to run on-board electric generators. The 3/4-mile River Street route is FREE, and makes five stops.



Above: Central of Georgia 2-8-0 (ex-Wrightsville & Tennile, BLW Class C-3, 1907) No. 223 and Savannah & Atlanta GP35 No.2715 are permanent residents, courtesy of the Coastal Heritage Society.