



# CENTRAL CROSSINGS

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
CENTRAL RAILWAY MUSEUM



SERVES THE UPSTATE

Volume 29, Issue # 3

July 2019

108 Werner St  
Central, SC 29627

**Website:**

[www.crmha.org](http://www.crmha.org)

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Joanne Cunningham

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Wayne Cunningham

**NEXT  
MEETINGS**

**7/11,  
8/1, 9/5**

**@ 7:00 PM**

**AT THE  
CENTRAL  
RAILWAY  
MUSEUM  
ANNEX**

**FROM THE EDITORS:**

Welcome to the latest issue of Central Crossings.

Back in March (1958) Eddie Cochran made famous the line "Ain't no cure for the summertime blues". Eddie, and the others that have covered that song, obviously were not model railroaders.

I mean, what could be better than some new projects after the spring cleaning that we did during the rainy spring that we had? I know, yard work, gardening, chickens (at my house) family trips, kids (and teachers) out of school, all sorts of things on the to do list. But honestly, what could be better than locking yourself away in your train room or at the museum for a couple hours and playing with the trains?

**Now on to one of my sadder duties.**

At the beginning of June, the CRM&HA lost long time member Lowell Holt. I asked Club Secretary Sage Viege for some thoughts about Lowell as they worked closely together on so many projects in the Lionel Room.

"Lowell was remarkable in subtle ways. I never heard him say anything negative about anyone. He also spoke his mind but when the discourse was concluded, he moved on, he was a gentle man.

Whenever asked to complete a project you could be sure that it would be done, but "rules were meant to be broken" as he was fond of saying. You could always be sure that whatever he wired would work even though it may not still look as the manufacturer designed.

We shared the projects that created the Lionel room but there was always some surprise in the process. The "kill switch" for the accessories was his creation for the over active children. He also made one accessory special. The ore dump car would arrive in front of the kids, they would push the button and out dumped candy!

He was a friend to the museum and will be remembered that way by all the visitors who knew him." ~Sage



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

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### MODELING SKILLS WORKSHOPS:

July 25: Realistic Structures (Joe Fitzpatrick)

August 22: Painting and Detailing (Joe Fitzpatrick)

September 27: Home Layout Tour - Tentative  
(visit several CRM members' home layouts)

## 🔗 SCHEDULED EVENTS & SHOWS 🔗

### CRMHA 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).

## OPERATING SESSIONS SECOND THURSDAY @ 7PM

JULY 18TH (3RD THURSDAY)

AUGUST 8TH

SEPTEMBER 12TH

The Central Railway Museum holds regular operating sessions on our museum HO layout from 7-9pm(ish) on the second Thursday evening of most months. This is when we use our unique "scenario card" system to assemble and run trains around the layout, setting out or picking up loads at industries, clearing the main for a crack passenger train to roll by, etc. etc. So if you're interested in realistic railroad operations, or if you just want to learn how to run trains on the museum layout, you're encouraged to attend these sessions. No experience is necessary; rookie engineers are routinely paired with experienced ones.

### MUSEUM OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

THURSDAYS - WORK DAY

9AM(ISH) - ??

(LUNCH IN THERE AT SOME POINT)

SATURDAYS - TRAIN OPERATIONS

9AM TO 2 PM

THE COST IS ALWAYS FREE!!

# Modeling Skills Workshops

**Are you looking for a fulfilling retirement or weekend hobby?**

**Are you fascinated by real or model trains?**

**Did you have a model train set that you loved as a kid?**

**Do you still have a stash of “train stuff” in boxes someplace?**

**Did you ever start building a model railroad, but gave up?**

**Is having your own model railroad somewhere on a mental bucket list?**

**If you answered YES to any of the above questions, The Central Railway Museum has just the thing to get you started on the right track.**

🔗 **What:** Our Modeling Skills Workshop series.

🔗 **When:** Begins on Thursday Evening, February 28, 2018, 7:00-9:00pm.

🔗 **Where:** At the Central Railway Museum, 108 Werner Street, Central, SC, 29630.

🔗 **Cost:** This is a FREE program! 6 additional free workshops are in our 2019 Modeling Skills Workshops series – meetings on the fourth Thursday evening of each month.

**Our “Getting Started” workshop will answer your questions:**

**Is model railroading the “right” hobby for me?**

**What kind of layout do I want, and what's feasible given my constraints?**

**What's the right Scale/Gauge combination for me?**

**Track Planning: how can I create a “good” track arrangement?**

**Benchwork: What do I do to create a solid Layout Base?**

**What tools will I need in my Modeler's Toolbox?**

**Where can I find useful information and modeling supplies?**

**How and where can I get help as I go along?**

**If you are interested in attending; sign up now by sending an email to Sandy Eustis (seustis13@gmail.com.) It's free, but space is limited, and registration is on a “first come” basis. Visit our web site (www.crmha.org) for more information.**



**Favorite Scenes #1: The Peachtree Industrial District**  
by Sandy Eustis

My favorite scene on the entire CRM&HA museum layout is the Peachtree Industrial scene, located on the lower level in the meeting room, right by the back doorway. This scene features a smaller and older industrial area in an urban setting, with crowded industries and a tight network of trackage serving them. I'm particularly fond of how the complexity of the track work and the structures seem to fit together perfectly. The track plan definitely came first, with structures squeezed in later to fit. Imagine that you're an engineer arriving here with just 4 freight cars in tow behind your little switch engine. It can take most of our typical two hour operating session just to spot those cars where they need to go, and to make the pick-ups for the return trip. So this little scene is actually a doozy of a switching puzzle. The viaduct was added to the left edge of the scene as a “scenic divider” – to separate it visually from the rest of the layout.

This was the first scene on the entire layout to reach anything close to a semi- finished look, and so for a long time, I studied it regularly and imagined what other scenes might look like in time. Many of the industries here are named for CRM&HA members, including Dan’s Junkyard in the foreground (named after former CRM President Dan Marett), Joe’s Foundry at the right hand end (for Joe Fitzpatrick), and Carter Produce (for builder Don Rumer’s wife.) The Carolina Candy and Nut Company lists its products on the company sign: Reece’s Nutty Buddies (Jim Reece was our President at the time), Folsom’s Wholesome Snacks for Bob Folsom, and my own favorite snack, Uncle Sandy’s Candies. Add in the McGraw Oil Company and a team track, and you’ve got a good excuse to route boxcars, reefers, oil tankers, scrap gondolas, corn syrup tankers, and flat cars here – a wonderful variety of car types.

I also love this scene because it contains not one, but two, neighborhood bars named after me. Sandy’s Bar and Grill, an upscale establishment, is right across from the Peachtree Station on the elevated street to the left of the scene, while Sandy’s Other Bar and Grill is a working man’s place, down along the industrial tracks. Both bars are lighted and have a few regular customers inside. If you stop by whichever of my places you feel most comfortable at, and let the bartender know you’re a CRM member, then your first drink is on me.



## RAILFANNING CORNER

### SAGE'S ADVENTURES: WENONAH, NJ



Wenonah was founded in 1871 by Philadelphia businessmen as a country resort, drawn by its location along the Mantua Creek <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mantua\\_Creek](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mantua_Creek)> and on the West Jersey Railroad <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West\\_Jersey\\_Railroad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Jersey_Railroad)>. Over the next 40 years, numerous dams were installed to create recreational lakes. From 1902 until the Great Depression <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great\\_Depression](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Depression)>, Wenonah Military Academy, a private military school, trained cadets there. [ <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wenonah,\\_New\\_Jersey#cite\\_note-26](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wenonah,_New_Jersey#cite_note-26)>

Wenonah was established as a Borough by an act of the New Jersey Legislature <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_Jersey\\_Legislature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Jersey_Legislature)> on March 10, 1883, from portions of Deptford Township <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deptford\\_Township,\\_New\\_Jersey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deptford_Township,_New_Jersey)>, based on the results of a referendum that was held two days earlier. The borough was named for the mother of Hiawatha <<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiawatha>> in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry\\_Wadsworth\\_Longfellow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Wadsworth_Longfellow)>'s work.

In 1983, NJT assumed operation of all commuter rail service in New Jersey from Conrail <<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conrail>>, which had been formed in 1976 through the merging of a number of financially troubled railroads and operated commuter railroad service under contract from the NJDOT. It now operates every passenger and commuter rail line in the state except for Amtrak (Wikipedia) <<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amtrak>>

## RAILFANNING CORNER



ONCE  
IN  
A  
LIFETIME...



That is a saying that folks use for a lot of different events that happen all the time...

But to Railfans, a once in a lifetime event usually means a nice long car trip, hoping that the weather, the railroad and even other railfans cooperate so they can get that one photo to remember. This year we have had some great Once in a Lifetimes... Train consists or appearances that we may never get again.

For example, the 150th anniversary of the Golden Spike in Utah. The special train to celebrate consisted of not one, but two of the most recognizable Union Pacific Railroad locomotives in active service. The FEF-3 # 844 and the newly restored 4-8-8-4 4000 class 'Big Boy' # 4014. Talk about a railfan's wildest dream in the terms of operating steam.

At the end of 2018, we had a more somber event, the passing of the 41st United States President, George W. Bush. Union Pacific again pulled out a very unique locomotive to lead the processional train, using UP SD70ACe #4141, a locomotive that is specially painted and lettered in honor of President Bush.

Just last week, up at the North Carolina Transportation Museum in Spencer, NC, they hosted their 5th annual Fire Truck Festival. I was able to go last year, and Norfolk Southern Railroad had their 'OAR' training train in attendance. This year, NS had their special 'Honoring Our First Responders' Locomotive, a SD60E # 9-1-1. What was really special this year is that the CSX Corporation also sent their newest special paint schemes to the show. ES44AH's # 911 and # 1776, 'The Spirit of our First Responders' and 'The Spirit of our Armed Forces', respectively. Brandon Langston made the trip to Spencer this year and got some great photos of the three units, as well as some good chasing on the way back.

Of course, around here, it could be as simple as Amtrak getting through the Upstate to and from Georgia on time...

## **CLOSING THOUGHTS:**

2019 sure is flying by. Our next issue will be coming out at the end of September. Football season will be starting up, Baseball season will be winding down and the weather will be cooling down - I hope.

Here at the CRM, we continue to make progress on our layouts at the Museum, with some major changes in the works on the G Scale around the ceiling. We learned some lessons about using too tight of curves there that we are taking to heart on our other major project - the new, much more portable, portable layout. Scenery is constantly being added to and redone to make things look better and more accurate. The Electrical and Track are in a constant state of improvement, and one of these days, that pesky signaling system will finally give trains the highball...

As we trudge through the dog days of summer, remember, your trains are probably in a nice cool air conditioned room and they really miss you playing with them. Unless of course, you are chasing that Atlanta bound freight on the NS main, then hope for a breeze at least and cold drink.

Until next time,  
Keep running those trains.

Wayne