



The Train Master

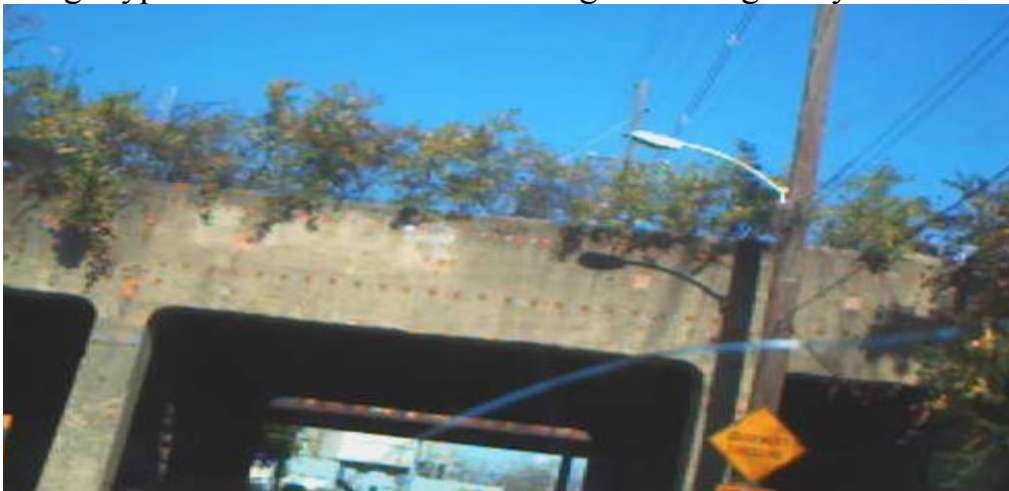


Newsletter of the Janis Center Railroad Club
February – March 2010

The Bridges of Franklin County pt. 2



Entering downtown Columbus from the West on Spring Street, one would have to look carefully to see the Pennsylvania Keystone logo on this bridge. Another unmarked PRR bridge sits on Souder Ave. just South of McKinley Ave. It has a rather fanciful art deco geometric design typical of the mid-1920s although the bridge may be older.



Union Station Memories



Photo taken in the late 1940's or early 1950's from the Bruce Warner Collection

I remember riding on High Street past Columbus Union Station in the 1950's and seeing the Union Station sign. It always made me want to take a train ride. The camera is looking north with High Street on the left, the Union Station Arcade straight ahead and the actual station off camera to the right about 500 feet. At the far end of the arcade walkway was the Columbus "O" Gauge Model Railroad Club. The tobacco/newspaper store, facing the camera, occupied the space that was the Columbus Railway Power & Light Co. waiting room when the arcade was built in 1897.

The wide drive divided by the island supporting the sign once held the main arch and a smaller arch that covered the carriage ways that led back to the station proper. Those two sections of the arcade were removed in 1928 to improve automobile traffic flow to the station entrance.

Behind the parked automobile is a wall blocking the view down to the track level. When the station was new this was open. Pedestrians could look down on the tracks as they walked back to the station.

In the mid-1950's passenger trains were being removed from service. The B&O was the first of the five to end all passenger train service through Columbus. The "Baltimore & Ohio" neon tubes were removed and the white letters painted over. Next the "Norfolk & Western" was removed in 1959. Then came Amtrak which continued to abandon passenger train service through Columbus until it was all gone.

From <http://www.columbusrailroads.com>

Janis Center Railroad Club Meeting December 2nd, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 12:41pm. There were 16 members present.

The November minutes were read and approved after one modification.

The treasurer's report was read and approved. The club has a balance of \$3946.94 from all sources.

There was a discussion involving dues collection for the upcoming year. Dues will still be collected by Oscar. The club may also need to become more involved in seeing that members pay their separate dues to the City Parks & Recreation Department.

The club was introduced to new member Bill Bergner.

In regards to the previously discussed situation with the club's bank account not drawing interest, due to the club's non-profit status, no bank is able to pay the club interest on funds. The club does continue to get free checking through 5th/3rd Bank.

There was further discussion involving holding get-together / meetings at member's houses. Don Weatherby volunteered to host in January. Time to be worked out at the January club meeting. Don will oversee sign up sheets for hosting other meetings. Don also reported the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad trip was still being worked on for a Saturday to be announced.

The City of Columbus is not completely set of funding the budget for 2010. Hearings will be planned for about December 17th.

Ken Smith was advised that the This Week Clintonville newspaper had an article on Dan Weatherby for possible inclusion in The Train Master newsletter.

Nelson Barker had knee surgery and is rehabbing. The memorial plaques for past members will be delayed until his return.

There are two train shows coming up. The Buckeye Show at the Ohio State Fairgrounds and another show at the Franklin County Fairgrounds.

The Huntington Bank model train display has been moved to the downtown library.

The mid-month get together will be on December 16th Noon – 2pm

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33pm

Janis Center Railroad Club Meeting
January 6th, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 12:37pm, there were 12 members present.

The minutes were Read and approved.

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

The club received recognition for the Heart Association for the memorial donations in the names of Carl Dewhurst and Charles Saylor.

Ruth Ling is currently unable to be located.

Nelson Barker is home and recuperating.

Don Weatherby's open house is planned for January 30th from 2pm-6pm.

Dan Weatherby is trying to host an open house in February.

Bob Riensheld has select days in January for a limited open house and is taking appointments.

There will be no mid-month get-together at Whetstone due to the open houses.

The City of Columbus is still in the budget approval process for 2010. Bob Harmon was involved in a discussion about potential candidates for the new Janis Center director.

Maintenance will probably be required to return the layout to operating condition if and when the Janis center reopens.

An inquiry regarding Clyde Eide reports he is ok.

The Meeting was adjourned at 1:09pm.

Simm Marketing to Acquire Darda from Walthers

Wm. K. Walthers, Inc. is pleased to announce the sale of its Darda line of high quality toys to Simm Marketing GMBH, a long time licensee of the Darda brand in Europe. Best known for its child-powered racing sets and accessories, Darda became a Walthers brand in 2005.

Simm Marketing GMBH traces its start to 1926 when founder Richard Simm began making costume jewelry. Production of toys began in 1965 and continues to the present day. The firm also distributes other high-quality toy lines in Germany and surrounding countries, and has been offering Darda products in Europe since 1999.

"This sale presents an outstanding opportunity for both companies," said J. Philip Walthers, President. "Darda helped us reach new markets outside the traditional hobby channels, where we're well known as the leading supplier of model railroad products. The sale clears the way for us to apply what we've learned from Darda to focus on and grow our core products and services. Darda's popularity with parents and specialty retailers makes it a perfect fit with Simm Marketing's current product mix. And their ability to reach a wide range of customers promises to make Darda even more successful in the future. Darda is a great brand and we have no doubt it will do well under Simm's management."

While the details of the arrangements, in particular the U.S. distribution of Darda products, were still being finalized at press time, "Customers should see a seamless transition," Walthers said.

Wm. K. Walthers, Inc. is the leading supplier of model railroad products in the world. Founded in Milwaukee in 1932 by William K. Walthers, and now in its third generation of family ownership, the firm has offices in Milwaukee and Baltimore and supplies 3,000 hobby shops at home and abroad with 100,000+ products from over 300 different suppliers.

Club Websites:

<http://www.janiscenterrailroadclub.org/>

<http://janisjunction.net/>



The Great Train Expo
America's Coast to Coast Train Show

Ohio Expo Center
717 E. 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211
Saturday & Sunday, February 13-14, 2010
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Admission: \$7.00 for Adults
Kids Under 12 Are FREE!
Riding Train for Kids!

<http://www.trainexpoinc.com/shows/2010Columbus.html>