



A Publication of the Railroad Model and Historical Society of Southeastern Ohio, Inc.

PO Box 1, Albany, Ohio, 45710

December 2014

Upcoming Events:

December 13-14, 2014

Railfair 2014
Sat. 10am - 9pm
Sun. 12pm - 5pm
The Market on State,
Athens, Ohio
Admission: FREE
Operating Layouts, Raffle

January 3, 2014

Show Dogs Train Show
Parma, Ohio
Admission: \$6
Train Show/Sale, Railroad
Memorabilia

January 14, 2014

Club Meeting
7:00pm
Kenny Shank's Garage
7 4th Street, Jacksonsville
Organizing and packing things for
Railfair after meeting!

January 17-18, 2014

Great Train and Toy Show
Columbus, Ohio
Admission: \$8
Train Show/Sale, Operating
Layouts, Workshops/Clinics

February 7-8, 2014

World's Greatest Hobby on Tour
Columbus, Ohio
Admission: \$3
Operating Layouts, Vendors

February 28, 2014

Winter Train Meet
Parma, Ohio
Admission: \$6
Operating Layouts, Buy/Sell/Trade,
New and Old Trains, Parts,
Supplies, All Scales

March 1, 2014

Darke County Model Railroad
Club Train Show
Greenville, Ohio
Admission: \$4
Operating Layout, All Things
Model Railroad and Train related

One Less Item on My Bucket List

By Kirk DePeel

What an unexpected surprise! I stood there, my eyes fixated on the most sought at items I have wanted to purchase in a very long time. Slowly I ran my fingers down the side of one of the two units. They were things of beauty. Two silver and red O-scale Santa Fe F-units, known as their war bonnet paint scheme, just begging to be purchased by me. In my mind, they were the item every model railroader needed for his or her collection.

My love for Santa Fe F-units started back when I was seven. For Christmas my parents got me an HO freight set being pulled by a Santa Fe F-unit. There was something magical about

watching it shoot out of a tunnel made of wooden blocks or seeing that single headlight piecing the darkness of my room. I must have ran the engines for hours. Eventually it got broke and replaced by a newer model of the times. But I never forgot the hours of fun it gave me.

But there was another, perhaps more important reason why I loved this engine so much. I grew up in a time when F (and E) units were rapidly replacing the steam locomotives. I can remember sitting trackside and watching them roar by pulling a string of passenger cars.

Continued on Page 2

One Less Item on My Bucket List

Continued from Page 1

There was nothing like the sound of their unique diesel horns, then or now, as they made their presence known. They were designed to look sleek and modern while breathing new life into an industry that was facing many challenges. The F-units spelled success.

In May I partook in the Streamliners event being held in Spencer, NC. Over twenty F and E units from several railroads being displayed in one

location. It was a sight that evoked strong memories of a time in my life that had long passed. Unfortunately there were no F-units on display in Santa Fe colors. To me it would have been the cherry on top; so instead I had to settle for other favorites I had missed as a child. Maybe one time I will get to cross that off my list as well.

Which brings me back to the F-units that I couldn't take my

eyes off of. Since my son and I had built our Lionel layout I had dreamed of owning a set of F-units. I had actually purchased a Santa Fe F-unit already; but it wasn't a detailed engine and I was disappointed on the way it ran. What I wanted was a better quality engine but like most family men, that was well out of my price range. Most set's

**Continued on
Page 3**

Don't Forget Your Raffle Tickets!

Prizes

- **Wooden Train Set** complete with trains, track, and table
- **Lionel Train Set** complete with track, power supply, cars, and puffing engine
- **Complete HO Scale Train Layout**

Ticket Prices

- 1 Ticket for \$1
- 7 Tickets for \$5
- 15 Tickets for \$10

Divide your tickets however you choose among the prizes!

One Less Item on My Bucket List

Continued from Page 2

I've seen had sold for a minimum of \$400 or more. Surprisingly these units had a price tag of \$280; still more than I had on me.

Now I had dealt with this dealer before and knew he sold quality stuff. As I stood there drooling over the engines, he explained that the set had been purchased by a collector about 15 years ago and had never been taken out of the box. Judging by the condition I had no reason to doubt his

word. They looked brand new. Then he smiled and made me an offer by holding up two fingers. Ever have a moment when everything seems to stop? That was one of those moments.

While I didn't want to let this deal get away, I still had to check with the boss (AKA, my wife) if I could spend that much money on what was in the end, still a hobby. I was kind of surprised she didn't argue with

me about the cost; or maybe she heard the excitement in my voice. Anyway she gave me her blessing and although it took all the money I had on me, I walked away with a treasure that would last a lifetime. To me the F-units were better than gold. It may have been just one item on my bucket list; but it was a huge item. I can't wait to run these beauties at Railfair!



Club Picnic 2014

For the annual club picnic this year, we decided to visit The Marion Union Station. Marion is home to three double-track mainlines which all come together at the station. There is a north-south Norfolk Southern (ex Norfolk and Western) mainline, north-south CSX (ex Chesapeake and Ohio) mainline, and an east-west CSX (ex Conrail) mainline. Here, Assistant Secretary Roger snaps a picture of a CSX train passing by the station heading east.

Union Pacific Converts Boxcar into Mobile Classroom

Union Pacific Press Release

Union Pacific, in collaboration with The Firefighters Education and Training Foundation, has converted a boxcar into a mobile classroom, expanding its fleet of training equipment used to educate emergency responders.

"We are excited about using the mobile classroom to support our extensive roster of first-responder training programs," said Bob Grimaila, Union Pacific vice president-Safety, Security and Environment. "This investment increases access to specialized hands-on training for firefighters and other emergency responders along our rail lines, and enables us to build more relationships with the leaders who help

keep our communities safe."

Using the climate-controlled boxcar, Union Pacific will pair classroom education with first-hand rail operations observations to provide emergency responders an enhanced learning experience. The training will cover a variety of topics including how hazardous materials are shipped, tank car types and construction, and the railroad's protocol in the event of a derailment.

The mobile classroom also will be used in conjunction with Union Pacific's training tank cars to provide hands-on experience in assessing tank car damage, including making various on-site repairs, controlling releases

from cars and teaching fire suppression techniques.

Union Pacific proactively reaches out to fire departments and other emergency responders to offer comprehensive training in communities where the railroad operates. The company annually trains approximately 2,500 local, state and federal first-responders on ways to minimize the impact of a potential derailment. In total, Union Pacific has trained nearly 38,000 public responders and almost 7,500 private responders (shippers and contractors) since 2003. This includes classroom and hands-on training.



Club Trip 2014

Every year the club tries to organize a weekend train trip. This year, we decided to attend the Streamliners at Spencer event in Spencer, North Carolina. On display were over 20 streamlined locomotives from the 1940's and 50's in various paint schemes and stages of restoration. Here, Secretary Jason (left) and President Kirk (right) pose in front of the 37 bay Bob Julian Roundhouse and the streamlined locomotives on display.

Whistle Blasts from the Past

By Keith Morrow

As we approach Rail Fair 2014, I note that this will be the 34th Rail Fair our club has sponsored. It has always been in December just before Christmas. This is our gift not only to rail enthusiasts but to all of the Athens community. It always amazes me, the number of people who stop and talk about having a train under the tree at Christmas. Many carry in boxes with an old Lionel that hasn't seen a track in 50 years. Most of the time, a little cleaning and oil will breathe new life into an old memory.

I love this time of year! This is a time of giving and sharing traditions. One of the reasons I look forward to Christmas comes from my own boyhood. Christmas was a time for my grandmother to use my grandfathers rail pass and take me to New York City on the New York Central from Albany, New York. We would arrive at Grand Central Station mid morning. The smell of the oil, grease and ozone from the electric locomotive



is thick in the air. Since trains pulled into a slot between the platforms, you got to walk the length of the train, right past the locomotive. Off we would go to Rockefeller Center to see the big Christmas tree and then to Radio City Music hall to see the Christmas show with the Rockettes. We would stop along the way and have lunch in the Automat and the Christmas



display in Macy's store window (which always had a train somewhere in there). The bright lights, the smells of the street vendors, the excitement of the Christmas decorations. Then the ride back on the train, coming home in the middle of the night. My dad worked for the NYC and would wave a lantern at the train as we pulled into the Albany Station.

Christmas was a time to put up the Christmas tree, and with that came out my old Marx train set that looped under it. We couldn't wait for gifts to be opened; not only because of the excitement of what we may be getting, but to get the presents off the tracks to we could play with the trains. The smell of the pine, and the ozone from the lead ice sickles arching as they fell from the tree and would spark across the

**Continued on
Page 6**

Interested in Membership?

Interested in becoming a member? Join today! Membership dues are as follows:

- \$60 for a single membership for 1 year
- \$80 for a family membership for 1 year

Benefits of becoming a member:

- Voting
- Several great trips throughout the year
- Friends who share a common hobby

Whistle Blasts from the Past

Continued from Page 5



tracks. I must admit that little hands may have helped some of those ice sickles fall. And the train wrecks! What great times those were. Like all things in the past, they are just memories. Gone is the Marx train and the lead ice sickles (which are now plastic) never to return.

Sadly we did not have trains under the tree when my children were young. HO and N scale don't lend themselves to running on the carpet under the tree. Although we had train layouts that my son and daughter played with, it is just not the same. When I was young, both my grandfathers were railroad men, as was my dad during my early life. I rode trains two or three times a year. How many families have railroad men in them today. How many of our young people have ridden a train?

I find that I am just like those Railfair visitors with a train in the box looking for a connection to my younger years. The big difference between them and I, is that my trains don't wait 40-50 years to see light of day. I no longer wait for Christmas to play with trains.

When I began to write this article, my intent was to take another trip on the "Way Back" machine into railroad club history on past Rail Fairs. Did I get off target!

As we travel through time we can see the evolution of Railfair beginning with the first show in 1981 at Irvine Hall. This show was held just for a few hours on one day. By 1983 it was expanded to three days (Fri, Sat & Sun) and held at the Athens Mall. That was when the Athens mall had inside space. In writing about this event Jim Canterbury was amazed at the number of community people that came out to this event. In 1984 it moved to the Athens Recreation Center for those who remember, it was the old OU airplane hanger. This show featured layouts of LGB, Lionel, HO, N, Z and others.

In 1985 our show was held in the Dairy Barn and was open to the public only on Saturday and Sunday.

From 1986 through 1990 the show was back at the Athens Rec Center. Notes on the 1990 show talk about space being cramped. And that we had to squeeze it into the space. In 1991 we moved to the Athens Mall. By 1992 we were holding Railfair at the University Mall. The University Mall is now known as the Market on East State and is the site of this year's show.

In 1995 we did two shows, one at Grand Central Mall in Parkersburg and one here at the University Mall. The result of the Parkersburg show was the formation of the Mid Ohio Valley Railroad Club that is still in existence today. They hold a show in November at WVUP and open houses at their clubhouse a couple times a year.

Tune in again next time as we take another adventure in the Way-Back machine to look at great and not so great moments in railroading history of Athens county and the world.

Our Mission

To Teach...

Those who want to know more.

To Educate...

Those who want to learn the history.

To Promote...

The hobby with enthusiasm.

And to share and enjoy the pleasure of all that is Railroading.



Like us on Facebook!

Find us on the web!

www.ironheadsofseo.org

Have stories, articles, or pictures?

Want to see them in a future edition of the Ironhead Gazette?

Send them to us!

Email: jdawg9292@yahoo.com

Mail: PO Box 1
Albany, Ohio 45710

Your contributions keep the Ironhead Gazette moving!

All Aboard!

The Railroad Model and Historical Society of Southeastern Ohio, Inc.
P.O. Box 1 - Albany, Ohio 45710

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: Area Code: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Birthday: _____

Application Date:

____/____/____

Type of Membership: ☐ Regular ☐ Affiliate/Family

Scales Modeled: (please check all that apply) ☐ Z ☐ TT ☐ S
☐ N ☐ O ☐ Narrow Gauge ☐ HO ☐ G ☐ On30 ☐ None

Do You Have a Home Layout? ☐ Yes ☐ No Scale: _____

How did you learn about The Railroad Model and Historical Society of Southeastern Ohio?

☐ Friend ☐ Hobby Shop ☐ Open house or show ☐ Other Train shows
☐ Newspaper ☐ Internet ☐ Other

I am interested in or would like to learn more about (please check all that apply)

- ☐ Operating trains
- ☐ Modeling Structures
- ☐ Modeling Scenery
- ☐ Modeling locomotives and rolling stock
- ☐ Layout Topside Maintenance (Track work)
- ☐ Layout Electronics
- ☐ Collecting
- ☐ Historical
- ☐ Photography
- ☐ Other (Please indicate)

I have previous experience in (please check all that apply)

- ☐ Operating trains
 - ☐ Modeling Structures
 - ☐ Modeling Scenery
 - ☐ Modeling locomotives and rolling stock
 - ☐ Layout Topside Maintenance (Track work)
 - ☐ Layout Electronics
 - ☐ Collecting
 - ☐ Historical
 - ☐ Photography
 - ☐ Other (Please indicate)
-
-

I have the following *skills or capabilities* that I could offer to the club:

- ☐ Food Preparation
 - ☐ Photography
 - ☐ Carpentry
 - ☐ Painting
 - ☐ Publicity and Promotion
 - ☐ Fund Raising
 - ☐ Librarian/Archive Maintenance
 - ☐ Setup, Tear Down, and Cleaning for Shows and Open Houses
 - ☐ Display Layout Operation and Hospitality
 - ☐ Website Design or Content Management
 - ☐ Other (Please Explain)
-
-

Thanks for completing this application. Please submit this form along with dues to the Club Treasurer or mail it to:

The Railroad Model and Historical Society of Southeastern Ohio, Inc.
P.O. Box 1 - Albany, Ohio 45710