SPEAKERS, MODELERS AND EVENTS LINE UP FOR SECOND ANNUAL GREAT STONE VIADUCT CELEBRATION

The GSVSociety announces that two well known speakers to Baltimore and Ohio Railroad enthusiasts have agreed to participate and present lectures at the Great Stone Viaduct Celebration scheduled for Saturday, September 28, 2013. Both will continue in the tradition begun last year of providing scholarly material relating to the railroad history of the upper Ohio Valley.

John Teichmoeller of Ellicott City, Maryland, will return to Ohio to give a morning presentation on the Rail Marine Connections at Bellaire, Ohio. John is closely associated with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Historical Society, and is co-ordinator of the Rail Marine Information Group (RMIG) which concentrates on vessels, terminals, and the operations relating them to railroads. He has written articles for the “Sentinel” published by the BORHS, and contributed to the “Keystone” of the Pennsylvania Railroad Historical Society. An avid model railroader, John has a track layout in his basement representing 7 miles of the old B & O mainline. He also models with emphasis on building rail marine models. John will speak on “Rail Marine Connections at Bellaire, Ohio”.

Also attending will be the well known and published author, James Dilts. He, will be on hand to present a lecture entitled “Connections: Bellaire in the World of Bridges”. Jim is no stranger to B & O enthusiasts. His monumental work published in 1993 entitled The Great Road: The Building of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, has become the resource guide for information on the nation’s first railroad. An architectural and railroad historian, he has authored books about the architecture and cast iron buildings of Baltimore, Maryland, and is presently working on a book capturing the railroad architecture of the United States and Canada. His knowledge as an independent scholar and writer on railroad architecture makes his appearance here in Bellaire, Ohio, home to the “Great Stone Viaduct”, greatly anticipated.
Also participating this year will be the East of the River Shawnee, a band of the Shawnee Indians who are descended from Shawnee once inhabiting what is today the State of Ohio. This band will setting up their trading village and selling handmade items to the public. Along with the tribe will be the Chief Snow Owl and the Women’s Chief Autumn Buffalo, who will lead the tribe members in illustration of dances for the public.

Also being planned is a steam whistle festival as another attraction for the outdoor portion of the GSVSociety celebration. The event is planned to take place on the interior curve of the Great Stone Viaduct behind the former Bellaire Clinic now operated by Wheeling Hospital. Sponsors for this portion of the event are Maroon Enterprises and Wheeling Hospital.

Lawrence “Yogi” Wallace of Bellaire, Ohio, a well known local railroad modeler of G Scale models, will be on hand to give modeling demonstrations of the techniques that he has perfected over 50 years of modeling. Wallace, using common materials that do not come in a kit, has built water towers, coal tipples, buildings of all kind, bridges, tunnels and stone work. He will display some of his creations and demonstrate his techniques using the materials used to construct them. Joining Wallace will be John Bowman of Wheeling, West Virginia, who is known throughout the Ohio Valley as the master of steamboat modeling. John has built 43 steamboats over the past 6 years for private collections and museums, and has just recently completed “The Eliza H” depicting the sternwheel vessel once owned by famed Bellaire resident Jacob Heatherington. This steamboat was named after his beloved wife, Eliza Heatherington, whose likeness appears in the old Greenwood Cemetery overlooking Bellaire. The boat was piloted by one of Heatherington’s sons and used in coal operations from the Heatherington coal mines. Bowman has written 3 books on steamboats, including his most recent book *Steamboats on the Western Rivers in the Civil War*. 
The Great Stone Viaduct Historical Education Society is proud that it can provide a forum for historical education by tapping into the knowledge of these speakers, performers, modelers, and historical presenters and participants.

Charter memberships will be available through April 15, 2013, as the first year of the organization comes to a close. Anyone wishing to become a Charter Member of the GSVSociety must do so prior to this deadline to insure their Charter Membership. This membership provides them with the watercolor print of the first year of the organization, and will permit continued discounts and priority to all events sponsored by the Society. Applications are available online at www.greatstoneviaduct.org, or may be picked up at Frizzi Law Offices in Bellaire.