



Linda Howe



THE ST. LOUIS RAILWAY ENTHUSIASTS, INC. WHISTLE TALK

ST. LOUIS DIVISION OF THE RAILROAD ENTHUSIASTS, INC.

FEBRUARY 2007

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Membership year runs September thru August. Meetings, 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM at Brookings Retirement Home, 307 Woods Mill. The 2nd intersection north of I-64 on "141". It is across "141" from St. Lukes Hospital. It is up the hill a couple blocks from the intersection and is the building on the right.

COVER:

This started out as a Toronto PCC, but storylines changed when an unusual freight move occurred on the Terry RESPONDEK Railroad alongside Metrolink west of Grand Avenue. SLRE Dennis Alton Smith, a veteran full time railroader on the Union Pacific and a “moonlighting” brakeman for this shortline “empire”, phoned me on Wednesday afternoon, January 3rd, 2007 and invited me to come down and observe the operations on Thursday. They were bringing in 12 carloads of steel for the U.S. Metals plant near Boyle Avenue and would switch them into the plant most of Thursday and then take them back out on Thursday night. I really wanted to go down there, but I was in a murky, sick mood and felt like hell. Besides all of that I don’t usually get “too inspired” with railfanning when it is cold and raining and looking overall yukky. I told general railroading friend Skip Gatermann of the situation and he said he would try and get down there. His “getting down there” is the story beginning on Page 7. Yes, the cover: Photo by Skip Gatermann of RRC #14, an SW-9, on a cut of coiled steel gondolas at Boyle Avenue on January 4, 2007. A WB Metrolink train consisting of car 3009 is passing by.

CONTENTS:

- The usual musings and great info from DJN.
- Article about archeological remnants of streetcar lines in the St. Louis area.
- “Riding Respondek” by Skip Gatermann.
- Article about Metro’s Cross County Extension.
- Lots of great photos.