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First Annual Celebration for Great Stone Viaduct Held Saturday

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By Rachael Dierkes - [email](#)

The Great Stone Viaduct Education Society held their first annual celebration Saturday in Bellaire.

John Hankey, the former curator of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Museum, delivered the keynote address to the attendees excited about the historic structure that is unique to the city.

The Great Stone Viaduct railroad bridge was constructed following the civil war and was completed in 1871.

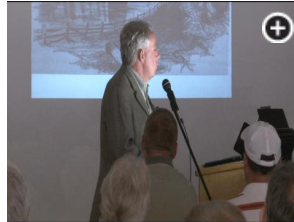
It stretches across the Ohio River from Benwood to Bellaire.

Daniel Frizzi, chairman of the historical education society, says the bridge had a nickname that not many people know about

Frizzi said the it was the shortest point between Baltimore and St. Louis in terms of rail lines so it was called the great short line.

The viaduct has 43 arches through downtown Bellaire.

It was placed on the National Register of Historic Structures in 1976 and the stones where marked with a historic marker by the Ohio Historical Society in 2008.



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