



32nd Annual Soo Line Historical & Technical Society TENTATIVE Convention Schedule - Neenah, WI

The Holiday Inn Neenah Riverwalk will host the 2010 SHLTS Convention with a convention room rate is \$91.00 plus tax. Rooms are being held for convention attendees thru July 18. Call 920.725.8441 to make reservations, and don't forget to mention the SLHTS Convention to receive the convention rate.

Some changes to this year's convention include more meals being offered through the registration process, and the annual SLHTS business meeting happening Sunday morning. We will also have a Soo Vets Roundtable Saturday afternoon.

We are offering for purchase a maroon polo/golf with the above 1874 Red & White Wisconsin Central Logo and "2010 SLHTS Convention Neenah WI" embroidered on the right chest. This must be ordered no later than July 16th. It will be delivered when you register at the convention. As with last year full fare and partial fare registrations will include a convention mug.

The roundtables for modelers and photographers will again be offered this year so be sure to bring your pictures or projects along to share with others. These roundtables were very popular last year. An all day bus tour, interest sessions/clinics, the swap meet, an outing for the ladies, the annual banquet and auction, plus plenty of food will fill our time together. The Friday all day bus tour is first come, first serve and space is limited.

More specific information is covered in this tentative convention schedule.

Thursday, August 19, 2010

6:00 - 9:00 P.M. Registration - Ballroom B

Early evening registration will kick off the Convention while we are showing railroad DVDs and tapes.

7:30 - 8:45 P.M. Meet and Greet - Ballroom B

There will be a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres to go along with the annual ritual of getting caught up with friends that share a love of our beloved Soo Line Railroad.

9:00 - 11:00 P.M. Slides/Videos - Ballroom B

The sharing of slides/videos of the Soo Line/Wisconsin Central Ltd./Canadian National/Canadian Pacific Railroads. Slide presenters must provide their own slide projector.

Friday, August 20, 2010

6:25 - 7:50 A.M. "Let's Go" Classic Country Breakfast Buffet - Ballroom B

Buffet selections will include assorted chilled juices, bowl of fresh fruit, fluffy scrambled eggs, pancakes, crisp bacon, sausage links, American fries, homemade muffins and Danish pastries, and served with coffee, tea, and milk. A minimum of 25 participants needed for this offering to take place.

7:15 - 7:50 A.M. Registration - hotel lobby

8:00 A.M. - Late Afternoon Motor Coach Tour - we will be load in the front parking lot out the front door past the motel front desk/lobby area.

This is an all day deluxe motor coach bus trip. In Appleton we will visit the SLHTS Archives Building, and the Soo Line # 736 Steam Locomotive, a 4-6-2 wheel configuration, that is on display. In Menasha we will see a wooden Wisconsin Central caboose, and where the Wisconsin Central Railroad began and had its initial office. In New London we will stop at the Heritage Historical Museum where we'll see a C&NW depot built in 1923 and filled with railroad memorabilia, #138 Wooden Soo Line Caboose built in 1888 by the Lafayette Car Works in La Fayette, Indiana, an outside braced 40 foot Soo Line box car loaded with more railroad related items, other railroad equipment, and other historical buildings. We will also be in Winneconne where we will visit the Historical Society Museum Complex. Included at this complex is the 1881 built Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul Railway Depot. Inside it we will see more railroad memorabilia, to include telegraphy equipment, lanterns, steam equipment, etc. There is also a speeder, "put-put", car on display. Also in this complex is a two story steamboat cabin from one of the steamboats that at one time traveled the Wolf River. As with our stop in New London there are other historical buildings on the museum grounds. Lunch will be served "along the way". Participants MUST sign a liability waiver before boarding the buses. Unlike the 2009 Convention we will stay in one state on this tour, but our eight hours will be full so don't get left behind.

3:30 - 7:00 P.M. Vendor Set-Up - Ballroom A

4:30 - 5:30 P.M. Registration - hotel lobby

5:30 - 7:00 P.M. "Welcome" Valley Buffet Dinner - Ballroom B

Buffet selections will include iced relishes and dill dip, seven-layer salad, marinated vegetable salad, fresh fruit tray with dip, pasta salad, Wisconsin cheese tray, country dressing with giblet gravy, whipped potatoes, vegetables selected by the chef, roasted chicken, baked ham, dessert table, assorted dinner rolls, and served with coffee, tea, and milk. A minimum of 50 participants needed for this offering to take place. Welcome by SLHTS President Galen Fromm, and introduction of SLHTS officers followed by a historical presentation by David Leider, SLHTS officer and author of THE WISCONSIN CENTRAL IN ILLINOIS.

7:00 - 8:30 P.M. Registration - hotel lobby

7:00 - 9:00 P.M. Swap Meet - Ballroom A Open to convention registrants only

9:15 - ????? Sharing of Slides - Elisha Smith Room Presenters must provide their own slide projector

Saturday, August 21, 2010

6:30 - 10:00 A.M. Breakfast on your own

7:30 - 8:15 A.M. Registration - motel lobby

8:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. Free Swap Meet - Ballroom A Open to convention attendees and the public

8:15 - 9:00 A.M. Interest Session/Clinic # 1 - Theda Clark Terrace Room

"Model Weathering Tips" Longtime modeler, SLHTS Member, and SLHTS Director Fred Firkus will share with us model weathering tips that he uses. If you have not "aged" your layout yet, want to know how the experts do it, or wanted to learn more about different techniques, you won't want to miss this interest session.

9:00 - 11:30 A.M. Ladies Outing Part 1 - meet in motel lobby

Part 1 of the ladies tour will include going to a local market and art fair in Appleton as well as visiting a chocolate lovers candy factory. You'll see it all and even learn a few secrets Mom never told you about. The ladies will return to have lunch with the convention attendees before departing on Part 2 of the outing.

9:15 - 10 A.M. Interest Session/Clinic # 2 - Theda Clark Terrace Room

"What the SLHTS Achives Can Do For You" presented by the Archives Committee. You saw the SLHTS Archives Building yesterday, and now you can see how the SLHTS Archives can assist you with a project. Maybe, just maybe, there are some questions on the Soo Line that you need answers to, and that this research can lead to an article for **THE SOO**. Now wouldn't that be great? Don't ever say never!

10:15 - 11:30 A.M. Interest Session/Clinic # 3 - Elisha Smith/Shattuck Rooms

"Modelers Roundtable" led by Mark Preussler. Share completed and "in progress" modeling projects with your fellow modelers. This was one of our most successful sessions at the 2009 SLHTS Convention in Alexandria, MN. Come share your knowledge, your projects, and ask modeling questions. You'll leave this session networked with other SLHTS modelers.

11:45 - 12:45 P.M. Wisconsin Picnic Buffet Lunch - Ballroom B

Buffet selections include Wisconsin bratwurst simmered in beer and onions, all beef hamburgers, barbecued baked beans, bakery fresh rolls, German potato salad, sliced tomato, onion and pickle platter, sliced Swiss and cheddar cheese, creamy coleslaw, potato chips, seasonal sliced fresh fruit, vegetable and relish tray with dill dip, fruit cobbler, and served with coffee, tea and milk.

NOTE THAT THE ANNUAL SLHTS BUSINESS MEETING WILL BE HELD TOMORROW, SUNDAY, AFTER THE "SEE YOU NEXT YEAR" BREAKFAST.

12:45 - 2:00 P.M. Interest Session/Clinic # 4 - Elisha Smith/Shattuck rooms " Photography Roundtable" led by Rick Martin. Come and share your photos and photography techniques and equipment with other photographers. This is the second year that we have offered this session. Everyone can "oooo" and "ahh" at pictures presented and everyone can learn what it takes to get that "special" shot, camera techniques, and even learning more about digital technology.

1:00 - 3:30 P.M. Ladies Outing Part 2 - meet in motel lobby Part 2 of the outing will include museum tours. First, will be the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum to view the world's largest glass paperweight collection as well as a large Germanic Glass display. We will then travel to the History Museum at the Castle giving you a look at early life in the Fox Cities and a favorite hometown son, magician Harry Houdini. We will return in plenty of time for the banquet.

2:10 - 2:55 P.M. Interest Session/Clinic # 5 - Theda Clark Terrace Room "Modeling Soo Line Express and Baggage Cars" long time modeler and Walther's employee Darin Umlauff will show you how easy it is to model Soo Line Express Cars and Baggage Cars.

3:05 - 3:50 P.M. Interest Session/Clinic # 6 - Theda Clark Terrace Room

"A Pictorial History of Railroading in the Fox Cities Area" presented by SLHTS Archivist Larry Easton. Larry is well known to the SLHTS community as a long time member, former Editor of our publication **THE SOO**, former officer SLHTS office holder, and the force behind the SLHTS Archives. Without his past and present efforts the SLHTS would not be what it is today. We are honored for Larry to share his Soo Line knowledge.

4:10 - 5:05 P.M. Interest Session/Clinic # 7 - Elisha Smith/Shattuck Rooms

"Working on the Soo Line" We are very pleased to end the interest sessions of the 32nd Annual SLHTS Convention with a Soo Line Veteran's Round Table. Come and hear some of the first-hand stories and comments about working on the Soo Line Railroad. This will be filled with stories, antics, and oral history. All will leave knowing more about the railroad and a funny story or two from the men who were there.

5:10 - 6:10 P.M. Attitude Adjustment Hour - cash bar Ballroom A

6:15 - 8:45 P.M. Convention Banquet - Ballroom B

Guest Speaker: Author Kerck Kelsey from South Freeport, Maine will speak from his recent book, "Prairie Lightening - The Rise and Fall of William Drew Washburn". Mr. Kelsey will talk about the men who built the Minneapolis, Sault Ste. Marie, and Atlantic Railway across Northern Wisconsin. Kerck has used the SLHTS Archives and individuals in our society in his research. He has authored three books on the Washburn family, of which he is a descendant. This will prove to be a very interesting presentation on the history of the Soo Line Railroad.

Approximately 20 minutes after the speaker - the Annual Auction will begin- Bring plenty of money and your sense of humor. This is ALWAYS a fun time, and who knows you may find that special item(s) that you just can't live without. With any luck Ken Soroos just may find another Potato Car to go into the auction! Now wouldn't that be a lucky find for some bidder.

Sunday, August 22, 2010

7:30 - 8:30 A.M. "See You Next Year" Sunrise Buffet Breakfast - Ballroom B

Sunrise Buffet offerings include assorted chilled juices, seasonal sliced fresh fruit, assorted yogurt, fluffy scrambled eggs, eggs brioche, crisp bacon, sausage links, rissole potatoes, cinnamon-swirl French toast with maple syrup, homemade muffins, bagelettes with cream cheese, Danish pastries, assorted cereals, and served with coffee, tea, and milk. One last time to socialize at the 32nd Annual SLHTS Convention.

8:30 - 9:45 A.M. Annual SLHTS Business Meeting - Ballroom B

SLHTS President Galen Fromm will preside over the Annual Business Meeting. Informational packets will be given out on the 2011 Convention.

10 Minutes After Business Meeting - SLHTS Board of Directors Meeting - Elisha Smith Room

Area model railroad layouts will be open for you to visit before you begin your safe trip home.

This is a tentative schedule and things may change without notice.