

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2018 SLHTS CONVENTION
STEVENS POINT, WI "In the Heart of WI Soo Country"
SEPTEMBER 20-23, 2018



The Soo Line Historical & Technical Society (SLHTS) officers and board of directors invites the SLHTS members, their guests, former railroad employees, and other interested individuals to attend the 40th Annual SLHTS Convention in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. The Convention Headquarters will be the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center, 1001 Amber Ave. Stevens Point, WI.

A block of rooms is being held for our group at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center at the convention rate of \$98.99 plus applicable taxes per night. These rooms will be held at this rate until August 21st, 2018. To secure a room at the convention rate you must call the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center at 715.344.0200 and press #3. Reference the group name Soo Line Historical Convention with the Group Block Code: SOO.

For those not driving, Greyhound Bus serves Stevens Point and the Holiday Inn provides a free shuttle service. Central Wisconsin Airport is 20 miles away in Mosinee, WI which is served by American, Delta, and United; the Holiday Inn does shuttle service to/from the airport for a fee. Just call a few days before the convention with arrival times to make arrangements. There is no direct Amtrak service to Stevens Point but the Empire Builder stops in Tomah, WI (68 miles away), Wisconsin Dells, WI (80 miles away) or Columbus, WI (100 miles away) depending on which direction you are coming from. Remember when booking with Amtrak, seniors receive a 15% discount for coach fare. Below is a tentative convention agenda. Interest Session speakers and session titles are still being finalized. Registration form is enclosed.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

5:00 - 8:30 PM	Registration at the Holiday Inn Convention Center
5:30 - 7:30 PM	Meet & Greet with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar
6:00 - 7:00 PM	<u>Interest Session # 1</u> - Ron Kaminen and Dave Rasmussen
7:00 - 8:00 PM	<u>Interest Session # 2 - History of the Area</u> - Portage County Historical Society
8:15 - 9:15 PM	<u>Interest Session # 3 - Modeling Soo Line Express Cars</u> - Darin Umlauf
9:30 - 11:00 PM	Sharing of Digital Pictures/Slides - LCD projector and laptop will be provided. Pictures or slides need to be loaded onto a flashdrive or accessed via the web.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

6:30 - 7:00 AM	Registration
6:15 - 7:15 AM	Breakfast Buffet
7:30 - 4:30 PM	<u>Interest Session # 4 - All Day Motor Coach Tour</u> - Limited to the first 100 registrants. One of the stops will be the Weston WPS coal facility. Participants MUST have picture ID to enter Weston coal facility, MUST wear long pants, and must wear shoes that are fully covered. No open toe or sandals are allowed. We will also visit various Soo Line depots in Central WI as well as Soo Line steam engines #2713 and 2-8-0 #2442, the potato car in Waupaca, and a Canadian National tour in Stevens Point. A Potato Bar Luncheon will be provided in Waupaca.
4:00 - 6:00 PM	Vendor Setup for Sales - - <u>ONLY vendors allowed while setting up for the sale</u>
6:00 - 7:30 PM	Dinner
7:00 - 10:00 PM	Vendor Sales
7:30 - 9:30 PM	<u>Interest Session # 5 - DSS&A Division Meet</u>
8:00 - 8:30 PM	Registration
9:30 - midnight	Sharing of Digital Pictures/Slides - LCD projector and laptop will be provided. Pictures or slides need to be loaded onto a flashdrive or accessed via the web.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

7:00 - 8:00 AM Breakfast Buffet and Registration

8:00 AM – 11:45 AM Vendor Sales

8:45 AM - 3:30 PM Ladies Only All Day Tour - The tour begins with the breakfast buffet from 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. The bus will leave from the Holiday Inn Hotel Corner Entrance at 8:45 a.m. The morning tour includes personalized tours of the Heritage Museum and the Sunset Point Winery. Lunch will be back at the convention center. The afternoon will start with a tour the world famous Point Brewery and then downtown for shopping and relaxing with time to talk and laugh. The Chamber of Commerce has provided us with a bus to drive us around the area for the day. We will return to the hotel at 3:30 PM.

8:15 - 9:30 AM **Interest Session # 6 - Modelers Show & Tell** - Tom Dowling will facilitate this session. Bring your models, in progress or completed, to share with us. Perhaps you want to share a digital picture or pictures of your layout, or models. Bring these on a JPG that we can use.

9:45 – 11:00 AM **Interest Session # 7 - Photographers Show & Tell** - Rick Martin will facilitate this session. Bring your digital/JPG pictures to share with the group.

11:15 – 12:00 PM **Interest Session #8 – Portal to Whitetail, MT** – George Forero will be presenting a slide show on the Soo's end of line Portal to Whitetail, MT.

12:00 - 1:00 PM Soup and Sandwich Buffet

1:00 - 2:30 PM **Interest Session # 9 - Annual Business Meeting** - President David Leider

2:45 – 3:30 PM **Interest Session # 10 – Milwaukee Road's Beer Line** – John Kelley presenter

3:45 – 4:30 PM **Interest Session # 11 – The Lake Shore and Eastern – A Logging Railroad in North Central Wisconsin** – John Berg presenter

5:00 - 6:00 PM Attitude Adjustment Hour with Cash Bar

6:00 - 9:00 PM **Annual Convention Banquet** - The banquet is a plated meal with vegetables, potato, salad, choice of meat (pork or chicken cordon bleu), and dessert. Master of Ceremonies: Gregg Condon.

Guest Speaker George Forero. George is a retired Soo Line Train Master and in the 1970s was stationed at Fond du Lac and the First Sub. He will be presenting a slide show of his time working for the Soo Line.

9 pm - ??? **Annual Auction** - Auction proceeds go to the SLHTS Archives.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

7:30 - 8:30 AM Breakfast Buffet Plus - Heading Home Breakfast

8:30 - 9:30 AM **Interest Session # 12 - Board of Directors Meeting**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM On Your Way Home – Layout Tours in the Area. Information will be provided during the convention about Sunday's Layout Tours.