

SEPTEMBER, 2020

- 19 Chicagoland Lionel RR Club Open House – New Lenox, IL
1311 New Schoolhouse Rd; **See Jan 18**
- 19-20 IRM Museum Showcase Weekend – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; An opportunity to see and ride some of the less frequently run equipment at IRM as we honor the volunteers who make the museum work. Great photo opportunities. **See May 10**
- 26 IRM Bus Day – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; Join us for trolley bus and motor bus rides and see other buses that will be open and on display. Great photo opportunities. **See May 10**
- 26 North Western Illinois Chapter, NRHS - Rockford, IL
St. Mark Lutheran Church **See Jan 25**
- 27 76th Illinois Plastic Kit and Toy Show – Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds; **See Feb. 23**



MIDWEST RAILROAD

January 2020 – September 2020

National Model Railroad Association

SEPTEMBER, 2020

Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass'n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6910 Belvidere Rd; Clarence Welte
(815/398-4733) **See September**

Scan for our website:



Compiled by

Don Brindle

January 2020

The events listed in this publication have been confirmed to the best of my ability. However, some information could not be fully confirmed. Event organizers reserve the right to change times, dates, fares, locations, or to cancel the event entirely. You might consider calling ahead or checking for website updates to confirm that the event is still being held at the dates and times indicated.

- 5 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Beer Tasting **See May 2**
- 5-6 Memorial Days Steam Train Days - Freeport, IL
Silver Creek & Stephenson Railroad, **See May 30 NOT CONFIRMED**
- 5-7 Labor Day Weekend – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; Join us for 3 days and 2 evenings of fun. Enjoy a twilight ride and help us celebrate the 100th birthday of Frisco 1630.
Note: Extended hours Sat and Sun to 9:30pm. **See May 10**
- 12 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; “Local” Motive Small Plates **See May 2**
- 13 Rock River Valley Division Meet - Rockford, IL
Midway Village & Museum Center, 6799 Guilford 900 Rd, Rockford, IL; 12:30 - 4pm; Clinics: TBA; Contest: TBA; \$5 entry donation, NMRA members free; (815/965-4871) [www.rrvd-nmra.org]
- 13 South Central Wisconsin Division Meet – Fitchburg, WI
Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place; **See Jan 5**
- 13 Great Midwest Train Show - Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds **See Jan 12**
- 19-20 Decatur Train Fair – Decatur, IL
Decatur Civic Center; **See Apr 18-19**
- 13 Kishwaukee Valley & Eakin Creek Model RR Club Open House –Huntley, IL
Sun City Huntley, 13400 Sun City Blvd, **See Jun 14**
- 17-20 Soo Line Historical & Tech Society Convention – Manitowoc, WI
See website for details; [www.sooline.org]
- TBD North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library **See Jan 12**
- 19 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Fall Harvest **See May 2**

AUGUST, 2020

- Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass'n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6910 Belvidere Rd; Clarence Welte
(815/398-4733) **See September**
- 2 Annual Vintage Transport Extravaganza – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; The past comes alive through the display of antique autos, trucks, fire engines, tractors, motorcycles and buses—hundreds of vehicles assemble throughout the Museum campus; Ride the streetcars to the various display areas. Interurbans and diesel coach trains will be running on the mainline! **See May 10**
- 7-9 Diesel Days – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; Feel the ground shake as vintage diesels pass in review at the depot. Ride on a train pulled by one of these giants. Many great photo opportunities for the diesel fan! **See May 10 -18-**
- 8 North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library **See Jan 11**
- TBD Threshing Show & Antique Display - Freeport, IL
Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Lamm Rd, 1 mile south of Freeport;
Antique displays, Threshing displays, Blacksmith Shop, Daily Parade at 1pm, Huge Flea Market, Saw Mill, Antique Tractor Pull, Farmer Class Horse Pull; \$6, under 12 \$3; Stephenson Cty Antique Engine Club (815/232-2306 or 235-2198) [www.thefreeportshow.com] **NOT CONFIRMED**
- 14 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Ladies Cocktail Night **See May 2**
- 15 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; That's Amore' **See May 2**
- 19 Great Midwest Train Show - Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds **See Jan 12**
- 22 North Western Illinois Chapter, NRHS - Rockford, IL
St. Mark Lutheran Church **See Jan 25**
- 29 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Southern Delight **See May 2**

JANUARY, 2020

- Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass'n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6950 Belvidere Rd; 20' x 50' HO layout of the C&NW's "K-D Line" from Rockford to Harvard. Business meetings – 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm; Memberships: Regular - \$30, Junior - \$15 (must be accompanied by adult.) Clarence Welte (815/398-4733)
- 1-
2/2 Nicholas Conservatory Train Exhibit – Rockford, IL
1345 N. 2nd St; Tue-Fri: 9a – 5p, Sat-Sun: 10a – 3p, closed Mon; \$6 residents, \$8 non-resident; In cooperation with the operating Christmas trains running throughout the conservatory, we will have displays in the lobby; James DeVoe (815/963-5854) {jamesdevoe@sbcglobal.net} [www.nicholasconservatory.com]
- 5 Rock River Valley Division Meet - Rockford, IL
Midway Village & Museum Center, 6799 Guilford 900 Rd, Rockford, IL; 12:30 - 4pm; Clinic: Randy Garnhart – Modeling Short Lines in Northern Illinois; Contest: Graffiti - There will be two categories: car and structure. Show off your graffiti skills on a model railroad car or structure and bring it in.; \$5 entry donation, NMRA members free; (815/965-4871) [www.rrvd-nmra.org]
- 5 South Central Wisconsin Division Meet – Madison, WI
Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place; 1:00 p,m; No meet – instead: Model RR school.; open to the public; [www.nmra-scwd.org]
- 11 North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library, 2nd floor, 1170 N. Midlothian Rd.; 10a – 4pm; Eddie Pappert {fasteddie@aol.com} [www.ncogtrains.com] (2nd Sat of each month except Nov)
- 12 Great Midwest Train Show - Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 W. Manchester Rd, Wheaton (County Farm Rd & Manchester Rd, 2 blocks North of Roosevelt Rd); 9:30 - 3pm; Dealers with new and used model railroad equipment, memorabilia, and information will comprise this large show; now adding R/C cars, boats and planes, rockets, model cars, comics, trading cards, slot cars, dolls, die cast, action figures, toys, and more; \$7, under 12, free; (630/290-1962) [www.dupageshow.com]
- 18 Planes, Trains & Automobiles – Darien, IL
St. John Lutheran Church, 7214 Cass Ave; 9a-3p; \$5 adults, \$2 12-17, scouts in uniform and under 12 free; at least two operating model railroad layouts, over 60 vendor tables selling plastic model kits and model railroad-related items, raffle, food, and family fun for all!; two levels packed with plastic model and model train activities; (not a plastic model contest); Mark Greg (630/969-7987) [www.sjlcldarien.org/events/model-show.html]

JANUARY, 2020

- 18 Chicagoland Lionel RR Club Open House – New Lenox, IL
1311 New Schoolhouse Rd; 9am – 3pm; \$3, family \$8; watch the trains run on our reconfigured modular layout. over 30 Lionel operating accessories use pushbutton operation; huge O-Gauge 3 Track Modular Layout capable of running trains 142 cars long on 143 foot long mainlines with 072 and up curves; permanent beltline layout running the new Lionel Legacy Controls; Hot Dogs, Pizza, and Pop, free popcorn; gift shop; have your Lionel Train repaired in our backshop; we are an authorized Lionel Service Station; [www.clrctrains.com]
- 18-3/29 Wisconsin Garden Railway Society Show - Milwaukee, WI
Mitchell Park Domes; Daily 9am-5pm, 9-9pm Fri's; \$4 adults, age 6-17 and Milw Cty seniors \$2:50 ;
[https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Parks/Explore/The-Domes]
- 19 Milw Lionel RR Club Train Toy & Collectibles Meet – New Berlin, WI
Four Point Sheraton, 5311 S. Howell Ave; 8am - 12pm; \$4, 12 and under free w/adult; Art Oseland (414/764-5375) [www.milw-lrrc.org]
- 25 29th Annual La Crosse Great Tri-State Rail-Sale – La Crosse, WI
La Crosse Center South Hall, 300 Harbor View Plaza; 9am - 3pm; \$5, under 12 free; Vendor Tables \$20; Hobby Sale, Model Rail Flea Market, Swap meet, All scales equipment & accessories, railroad antiques & Memorabilia, RR books, magazines & pictures, Hobby supplies, antique toys; (608/781-9383) or Mark Hamre (608/498-9522) [www.4000foundation.org]
- 25 North Western Illinois Chapter, NRHS - Rockford, IL
St. Mark Lutheran Church, 675 N. Mulford Rd; Doors open at 6:30pm with the Meeting beginning at 7:00PM, followed by a railroad slide program; Subscriptions to NWI's monthly newsletter North Western Limited are \$20/yr (P.O. Box 5632, Rockford, IL 61125) Jerry Pyfer (815/654-2087) [http://www.nwinrhs.org/]
- 25-26 SSSMRE Open House – Sheboygan, WI
1001 N. 10ths St; 9am-4pm; free; Sheboygan Society of Scale Model Railroad Engineers, Ltd; seven operating layouts including Z, N, HO, S, O and G scales; main layout is a double deck HO with DCC. Leo Schneider (920/917-4598) {Lmschneider8@gmail.com} [www.sssmre.org]
- 26 Badgerland Train Trade Show - Greenfield, WI
American Legion Post 537, 9159 W. Beloit Rd; Badgerland S Gaugers; 8am-12pm; Vendor Tables \$15 – 8ft, \$12 – 6ft; Admission \$3, 12 & under free; Ron Schlicht (414/421-8512 {rons48tblue@wi.rr.com} [www.trainweb.org/bsg/tradesale/tradesale.htm]

JULY, 2020

- 11-12 International Toy Train Expo – Eau Claire, WI
Chippewa Valley Expo Center, 5150 Old Mill Plaza; Sat: 10a – 5p, Sun 10a – 4p; \$6 at the door, \$3 discount (Menards or menards.com/trains); vintage toy trains, collector trains, operating layouts, vendors & exhibitors, train dealers, railroad clubs and organizations; [InternationalToyTrainExpo.org] Charlie Schaaf (715/838-8858)
- 12-18 Gateway 2020 NMRA Nat'l Convention – St. Louis, MO
Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark, ; Base registration \$XXX, spouse \$XX, child/youth \$XX; Rooms \$134/night; Clinics, layout tours, prototype tours, contests, auction, SIGs; **see website for additional information** [https://www.gateway2020.org/]
- 18 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Stars & Stripes **See May 2**
- 18 Rail Fair '20 - LaCrosse, WI
Copeland Park shelter, Rose St and Clinton St.; 10am - 4pm; Railroad Show, Flea Market, Swap Meet, Buy-Sell-Trade, Model & Toy Trains, Railroadiana, Railroad Exhibits & Displays; Guided tours of the steam locomotive, caboose and Grand Crossing Tower; held in conjunction with Old Towne North's Annual Antique Flea Market; vendor tables \$20, proceeds got to maintain and restore the LaCrosse Short Line Railroad display: \$5, 12 and under free; The 4000 Foundation, Limited, P.O. Box 3411 LaCrosse, 54602; (608/781-9383) or Mark Hamre (608/498-9522) [www.4000foundation.org]
- 18-19 A Day Out With Thomas – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; **See July 11-12**
- 25 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; That's Amore' **See May 2**
- 31-1 14th Annual Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet – Collinsville, IL
Gateway Center, One Gateway Drive; Fri 9a-9p; Sat 9a-5p; \$25 both days, \$20 Sat only; manufacturers, suppliers, hobby vendors, historical societies, clinics, slide shows, home layout tours, operating layouts, door prize drawing, hands-on learning stations all day; co-sponsored by Gateway Division, NMRA; John Golden {Golden1014@yahoo.com} or Lonnie Bathurst (217/556-0314) {Bathurst@litchfieldil.com} [http://www.icgdecals.com/stlrpm/]

JUNE, 2020

- 21 Fathers Day Weekend – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; free fare for all dads accompanied by at least one fare-paying child or adult; **See May 10**
- 27-28 43rd Annual Galesburg Railroad Days - Galesburg, IL
Yard tours, steam and diesel engines on display, Galesburg RR Museum, Train Excursion Rides, parade, carnival, Showcase of cars, RR Days run/walk (5K & 10K), scenic and historic sites, road races, etc; free; Call Galesburg Chamber of Commerce (309/343-1194) [<http://galesburgrailroaddays.org/>]
- 27-28 Galesburg Railroad Days Train & Toy Show - Galesburg, IL
Galesburg HS Fieldhouse, 1242 W. Dayton St; Sat 9-4p, Sun 10-3p; \$5, 12 & under free; Swap Meet, Operating layouts, Slide & video shows, Hobby Supplies, Railroadiana; tractor display; Trains: Larry Anglund , {cobra@grics.net} (309/221-3909); Toys: Barry Wainer (309/343-6700) (barrywainer@yahoo.com) [www.galesburgtrainandtoyshow.com]

JULY, 2020

- Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass'n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6910 Belvidere Rd; Clarence Welte (815/398-4733) **See September**
- 4 4th of July Steam Train Days - Freeport, IL
Silver Creek & Stephenson Railroad **See May 30 NOT CONFIRMED**
- 4-5 Trolley Weekend – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; Vintage traction equipment will operate each day. Saturday join us for our Trolley Pageant. Great photo opportunities for the traction fan. You will be able to ride some of this equipment on the main line and streetcar line. **See May 10**
- 11 North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library **See Jan 11**
- 11-12 A Day Out With Thomas – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; Family favorites Thomas the Tank Engine and Percy return to IRM. **Special Fare applies on these days. No passes honored on these days. See May 10**

JANUARY, 2020

- 26 3rd Annual Train Show & Swap Meet – Monticello, IA
Berndes Center, Jones County Fairgrounds, 766 N. Maple St; 9a- 3:30p; \$5, under 12 free with adult; vendor tables \$20; Monticello RR Club, P.O. Box 169, Monticello, IA 52310; Denny Beasley (319/270-1171, 6-10pm M-F) {circleBarB607@aol.com} or Ron Ackermann (319/480-5671) {rack611@gmail.com}

FEBRUARY, 2020

- Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass'n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6910 Belvidere Rd; Clarence Welte (815/398-4733) **See September**
- 1-2 Arctic Run – Stevens Point, WI
Stevens Point Holiday Inn, 1001 Amber Ave: Sat 9a-5p, Sun 10a-3p; \$4, \$2 children 12-17; Model RR layouts, clinics and swap tables; Don Anderson (715/340-8105) {crm114@tds.net} or Jim Miller (715/340-0265) {jimbrow67@gmail.com} [www.thecwmrcticrun.com]
- 2 Rock River Valley Division Meet - Rockford, IL
Midway Village & Museum Center, 6799 Guilford 900 Rd, Rockford, IL; 12:30 - 4pm; Clinics: Rich Mahaney – “OMG” Prototypical Accessories to Buildings and Communities for Model Railroaders and “Selecting Industries for Your Model Railroad;” Contest: One minute video or photograph - a short (one minute or so) video or a photograph on any railroad topic, model or prototype. Bring the video as mp4 or wmv and photos as jpg on a memory stick. Ask about other formats.; \$5 entry donation, NMRA members free; (815/965-4871) [www.rrvd-nmra.org]
- 2 South Central Wisconsin Division Meet – Madison, WI
Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place; **See Jan 5**
- 8 Heartwarming Hebron Train Show – Hebron, IL
Alden Hebron HS, 9604 Illinois St; 11a – 4p; free; vendors, raffles, Fun Fair for children, Talent Show,(possible auction); Bobette Von Bergen (815-790-7367) {vbacres@hotmail.com} [Facebook Heartwarming Hebron]
- 8 North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library, **See Jan 11**
- 8-9 39th Annual Barron County Model RR Club Show - Rice Lake, WI
Cedar Mall, 2900 S. Main (intersection of “O” and “SS” off Hwy 53); Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11-4pm; Free; Joe Lewis, 2638 Freeway Dr., Bloomer 54724 (715/450-9526) {aurorabarstow1462@yahoo.com} [<http://www.thecedarmall.com/img/RR%202020.jpg>]

FEBRUARY, 2020

- 9 Great Midwest Train Show - Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds. **See Jan 12**
- 15 Chicagoland Lionel RR Club Open House – New Lenox, IL
1311 New Schoolhouse Rd; **See Jan 18**
- 15-16 53rd Annual Mad City Model Railroad Show & Sale - Madison, WI
Alliant Energy Center, John Nolan Drive, Madison, WI; Sat: 9am-5pm, Sun: 9am-4pm; \$12, seniors/active military-\$11, kids 5-15: \$6, under 5-free; 90,000 sq ft of Midwest's biggest and most beautiful model train layouts in Z, N, HO, S, O and G scale; classic toy trains; historical exhibits & railroad videos; Kids can build a giant wooden train layout or run a model train; Browse 300+ tables of model train merchandise; tools, railroad collectibles, videos, books, clothing and artwork; Hourly door prizes; Kids, age 5-11 can register to win an HO scale train set- 4 given away each day of the event! South Central Wisconsin Division, NMRA; Info recording: 608/835-3148; vendor info: Larry/Sue Bunce (608/455-4233); general info: Art Dawson {nkp284@yahoo.com} [www.nmra-scwd.org]
- 16 Peoria Train Show – Peoria, IL
Illinois Central College, Rte 24 1 mi east of Rte 116; 10am-3pm; \$3, under 12 free; general RR swap, mostly HO and N with some O and Lionel; some books, slides, and memorabilia; about half dealers and half local modelers; Ron Brown, 503 Lang St, Bartonville, IL 61607, (309/369-3515) {pepper7190@yahoo.com}
[https://www.facebook.com/events/illinois-central-college/peoria-train-fair/2516558305291027/]
- XX Snow Train - North Freedom, WI
Mid-Continent Railway; **CANCELLED** for 2020; This cancellation is necessary due to lack of volunteers[www.midcontinent.org]
- 22 Model RR Garage Sale – Dubuque, IA
Holy Trinity Church, 1700 Rhomberg Ave; 9:30-2pm; \$3, 12 and under free with adult; an event for Model Railroaders to buy, swap and sell to fellow hobbyists; sponsored by TLR Southeastern Div, NMRA; Gerry Miller, 1040 Hawkeye Dr, Dubuque, IA 52001 {tlrsoutheasterndivision@gmail.com}
- 22 North Western Illinois Chapter, NRHS - Rockford, IL
St. Mark Lutheran Church. **See Jan 25**
- 23 Badgerland Trade Train Show - Milwaukee, WI
American Legion Post 537; **See Jan 26**

JUNE, 2020

- 13 7th Annual American Heritage RR Train Show – Greenville, IL
American Heritage Farm Museum, 1395 Museum Ave (I-70 at Rte 127, Exit 45, follow signs); 10a-4p; \$5, under 12 free; 1 mi train ride with paid admission; operating toy/model train layouts, toy trains, books, videos, memorabilia and more; concessions; Dave Kessinger {dktrainman@hotmail.com}
[www.americanfarmheritagemuseum.com/ahrr-train-show.html]
- 14 Great Midwest Train Show - Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds **See Jan 12**
- 14 Kishwaukee Valley & Eakin Creek Model RR Club Open House –Huntley, IL
Sun City Huntley, 13400 Del Webb Blvd, off Ill Rte 47, in the Millgrove Woodshop next to the ball field; free; 11a-4p; the club features scale model railroads in G, O, HO and N scales; (847/669-2392) Bruce Thompson (847/450-3045) or Rick Hane {yoresoft@sbcglobal.net}
[www.sccah.com]
- 14 44th Kane Cty Railroadiana & Model Train Show/Sale – St Charles, IL
Kane County Fairgrounds, 525 S. Randall Rd; 10am-3pm; \$6 under 12 free; Russell Fierce (847/358-1185) {RussFierce@aol.com}
[www.kanecountyrshow.com or www.RRShows.com]
- 20 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; day before Fathers Day; **See May 2**
- 20 Chicago Day – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; commemorating the anniversary of the last day of streetcar operation in Chicago; the past lives on as you ride street cars, “L” trains, interurbans and commuter trains that served Chicago; **See May 10**
- 20-21 Father’s Day Steam Train Days - Freeport, IL
Silver Creek & Stephenson Railroad **See May 30 NOT CONFIRMED**
- 20-21 Strawberry Fest Model Railroad Show – Waupaca, WI
Waupaca Recreation Center, 407 School St; Sat 10am - 4pm, Sun 10a - 3pm; Operating layouts, swap tables, great food, yummy strawberry shortcake; demos on scenery, command control, rock castings, kit assembly, tree making;; miniature train rides, raffle, door prizes, vendors; free; (715/258-7343) [https://waupacamemories.com/event/strawberry-fest/]
- 21 Fathers Day Great Buffet Trains – Spooner and Springbrook, WI
426 N. Front St., Spooner, or US Hwy 63, Springbrook; **See May 10**

MAY, 2020

- 31-1 Memorial Days Steam Train Days - Freeport, IL
Silver Creek & Stephenson Railroad, N.E. corner of Walnut & Lamm Rds, 1/2 mi. S. of County Fairgrounds, Freeport; 11-5pm; Ride a 36 ton 1912 Heisler steam logging locomotive pulling three antique cabooses and a covered outdoor passenger flat car. Four mile ride through Illinois farm land and native virgin timber; \$5, under 12 \$3; [www.thefreeportshow.com] **NOT CONFIRMED**

Mem Little A-Merrick-A Amusement Park - Marshall, WI
to 700 East Main St, 12-6pm; 1/3 scale live steam railroad; Steam
Labor operates Sat/Sun; diesel on weekdays; open Memorial Day through
Day Labor Day weekends and some weekdays – **check website for actual dates**; 2 mile ride, visit the shops where the equipment is still being built; passes: Pink - under 36” tall: \$10.95; green - 36-42” tall: \$12.95; blue 42” and taller \$17.95; Gold – 42” and taller: \$21.95; (608/655-3181) [www.littleamerricka.com]

JUNE, 2020

Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass’n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6910 Belvidere Rd; Clarence Welte (815/398-4733) **See September**

- 6 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Gourmet Mac N’ Cheese; **See May 2**
- 6-7 RPO Days – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; See how railroads played a major part in the handling of the U.S. Mail; visit a post office on a train, see “live mail grabs,” mail being transferred on and off a speeding train. **See May 10**
- 6 9th Annual Davenport Model RR & Memorabilia Show– Davenport, IA
Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, 2815 W. Locust St; 9:30am-4pm; \$5, 12 and under free; 300+ tables of new and used N-HO-S-O and G scale trains; American Flyer, Lionel, lanterns, locks, keys, railroad items, Iowa’s largest train show; Glen Thede, (563/391-6431 8pm -10pm)
- 7 Rock River Valley Division Meet - Rockford, IL
Rail Junket, destination to be announced. Member watch for your email, check The Flimzie or website, or call: 815/965-4871 [www.rrvd-nmra.com]
- 13 North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library **See Jan 11**

FEBRUARY, 2020

- 23 75th Illinois Plastic Kit and Toy Show – Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 W. Manchester Rd, Wheaton [County Farm Rd & Manchester Rd, 2 blocks North of Roosevelt Rd]; 9am-3pm; \$5, under 12, \$2; Past-Time Hobbies, Inc. (630/969-1847) or Tom at (630/268-0859) [pthpowerinc@aol.com] [www.pthinc.com]
- 23 Milw Lionel RR Club Train Toy & Collectibles Meet – Milwaukee, WI
Four Point Sheridan – Milwaukee Airport **See Jan 19**

MARCH, 2020

Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass’n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6910 Belvidere Rd; Clarence Welte (815/398-4733) **See September**

- 1 Rock River Valley Division Meet – ~~Rockford~~ **Freeport, IL**
Special location – Mama Cimino’s Restaurant; 421 N. Challenge St, **Freeport, IL** (from the east, take the US 20 Bypass exit); Sunday Brunch (\$10.99) and full menu available 10-2pm; Meet held in the Atrium Room; 12:30 - 4pm; Clinics: History of the Fever River RR; Contest: Anything Freeport related; co-hosted with the Stephenson Society of Model Trainmen; Layout tour of their Fever River layout to follow; \$5 entry donation (1st-timers free), NMRA members free; (815/965-4871) [www.rrvd-nmra.org]
- 1 South Central Wisconsin Division Meet – Fitchburg, WI
Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place; **See Jan 5**
- 1 Model Railroad Buy*Sell*Swap Meet - Michigan City, IN
NECA/IBEW Bldg, 301 East 8th St.; 9:30-2pm CST; \$4 adults, \$1 (6-13), 5 & under free; Sponsored by the Duneland Model Railroad Club, Dave Novak (219/778-1186) {trains86@frontier.com}
- 8 Great Midwest Train Show - Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds **See Jan 12**
- 8 Metro Model Railroad Club Show and Swap - Cedarburg, WI
Circle B Recreation, 6261 Hwy 60; 9am-4pm; \$3, 12 & under free; multiple operating layouts, swap meet, RR displays, and more; Jim Bartelt 313 S. Spring St., Port Washington, 53074 (262/284-5876) {jimbartelt@gmail.org} [www.metrorrclub.org]
- XX Fox Valley Division NMRA High Wheeler - Palatine, IL
SUSPENDED DUE LACK OF VENUE
[www.HighWheelerTrainShow.com]

MARCH, 2020

- 13-15 Chicago O Scale Meet – Lombard, IL
Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, 70 Yorktown Center; \$20; Annual 2-rail O Scale convention; Model Contest, clinics, layout tours, buy/sell/trade; vendor tables \$50 (\$60 after 2/15/17); Melissa (630/745-7600) [www.marchmeet.net] (See local layouts open on the 17th below)
- 14 North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library **See Jan 11**
- 14-15 Delavan Toy Train Show – Delavan, WI
Layouts exhibited in many stores and buildings throughout the downtown area; free; family-friendly weekend with a small town festival atmosphere; operating layouts in multiple scales; operate accessories, complete an "I spy" to find characters and details on layouts, and in some cases, run the trains on the layouts; free parking in the downtown area. Ride the Trolley between locations! Food and beverage is available on site. [http://delavanwi.org/delavan-train-show-march-10th-11th-2018/]
- 14-15 Lena Train Show & Swap Meet - Lena, IL
Lena-Winslow Elementary School, 401 Freemont St (also at the High School and the Jr. HS and the Elementary); Sat 10am - 4pm, Sun 10am - 4pm; Lunch available 10-3pm; Admission Free, donations appreciated; (815/369-2684)
- 14-15 Rockford O Scalpers Open House – Rockford, IL
3886 Lookout Drive; Sat 7-9:30pm, Sun 12pm – 6pm; Large steam/early diesel two rail O Scale layout, DC and DCC, with emphasis on operation and scenery; John (815/207-3603)
- 14-15 O Scale Open House – Rockford, IL
4214 Gale Dr; Sat 3-6pm; Sun 1:30 – 4:30pm; Dick Lindquist (779/200-0616)
- 15 Milw Lionel RR Club Train Toy & Collectibles Meet – Milwaukee, WI
Four Points Sheridan **See Jan 19**
- 15 Springfield Train Fair – Springfield, IL
Orr Building - Illinois State Fairgrounds, corner of Peoria & Sangamon Ave; 10am-4pm; \$5, under 11 free, get in at 9am for \$10; Swap meet of model railroad of all scales and railroadians items, operating layouts; [www.springfieldtrainfair.com/]
- 21 Chicagoland Lionel RR Club Open House – New Lenox, IL
1311 New Schoolhouse Rd; **See Jan 18**

MAY, 2020

- 9 Scout Day – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum, 7000 Olsen Rd; Work on your RR merit badge; flag ceremony, awarding of badges and touring the museum; See website for fares and merit badge requirements [www.irm.org]
- 9 North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library **See Jan 11**
- 10 Mothers Day – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum, 7000 Olsen Rd; Free admission for all moms accompanied by at least one fare-paying child or adult; See website for fares; (1-800-BIG-RAIL) [www.irm.org]
- 10 Mothers Day Great Buffet Trains – Spooner and Springbrook, WI
426 N. Front St, Spooner, or US Hwy 63, Springbrook; call or check web site for menu; 13 and older \$40, 3-12 \$25; (715/635-3200) [www.spoonertrainride.com]
- 14-17 Peoria Rocket - Midwest Region Spring Convention** – Peoria, IL
Holiday Inn and Suites East Peoria; Days Inn, 101 Holiday Dr; Illinois Valley and Illinois Terminal Divisions; Check www.nmra-ivd.org for info
- 16 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Burger Train; **See May 2**
- 16 Chicagoland Lionel RR Club Open House – New Lenox, IL
1311 New Schoolhouse Rd; **See Jan 18**
- 23 North Western Illinois Chapter, NRHS - Rockford, IL
St. Mark Lutheran Church **See Jan 25**
- 23-25 Memorial Day Weekend/Founder's Weekend – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum; the Summer begins! Steam, Diesel & Electric trains will operate all three days; active military personnel and their families admitted FREE with military ID. **See May 10**
- 28-31 2020 C&NW Historical Society Annual Meet – Mankato, MN
Mankato City Center Hotel, across from the CNW station; See website for details; [www.cnwhs.org]
- 30 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Havana Nights; **See May 2**

APRIL, 2020

- 25 North Western Illinois Chapter, NRHS - Rockford, IL
St. Mark Lutheran Church **See Jan 25**
- 26 Lionel Collectors Club of America – Rockford, IL
Hoffman House @ Holiday Inn, 7550 E. State; free to public and members; vendor tables \$20; 8am – vendor setup, 9 open; Jerry/Bridget Dangelo (815/558-6718) {dangelo32@netzero.com} or Brady Thor (815/262-0211) {bradenthor@sbcglobal.net}
[www.lionelcollectors.org/lcca-events/special_events_calendar.aspx]
NOT CONFIRMED
- 26 40th Chicagoland Railroadiana Show – Elk Grove Village, IL
Holiday Inn, 1000 Busse Rd (Rte 83); 9am-3pm; \$6; over 300 tables of railroad artifacts, including china, timetables, keys & locks; Joe Mazanek (847/537-0891) {joe.mazanek@gmail.com} [graylandstation.com]
- TBD Winnebagoland Division Spring Meet – Merrill, WI
Location is TBD. Check website [www.wld-nmra.com]

MAY, 2020

- Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass'n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6910 Belvidere Rd; Clarence Welte (815/398-4733) **See September**
- 2 East Troy Railroad Museum Dinner Train – East Troy, WI
2002 Church St.; Kentucky Derby; boarding at 5pm, depart 5:30pm; fare includes meal, tax and gratuity; Trip to Phantom Lake and return; meal includes appetizer, rolls, salad, entree, vegetable du jour, dessert, and coffee, tea or milk; cash bar available; seating is limited - **reservations required** (262/642-3263) see website for fares and menu [www.easttroyrr.org]
- 3 Great Midwest Train Show – Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds **See Jan 12**
- 3 Rock River Valley Division Meet - Rockford, IL
Joint meet with SCWD, see SCWD entry below;
(815/957-4477) [www.rrvd-nmra.com]
- 3 South Central Wisconsin Division (SCWD) Meet – Fitchburg, WI
Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place; **See Jan 5**

MARCH, 2020

- 21 All American Railroad Show – LaGrange, IL
Lyons Township HS, 100 S. Brainard Ave; 9am-5pm; \$5, under 5 free;
The show includes operating model railroad layouts as well as displays by model railroad clubs, railroad historical societies and other model railroad related groups; Dupage Division; Patrick Golden (708-482-8225)
{Pggolden@aol.com}
[www.mwr-nmra.org/divisions/dupage/dupageindex.htm]
- 21-22 Delavan Train Show – Delavan, WI
American Legion Hall, 111 S. 2nd St; Sat 9a-4p, Sun 10a – 4p; free;
layouts will be displayed at the Legion Hall and other building throughout Delevan's historic downtown shopping area; ride the trolley between locations; Rebecca Barth {rebeccalbarth@gmail.com}
- 21-22 39th Annual Model Railroad Show - Onalaska, WI
Onalaska Omni Center, 255 Riders Club Rd; Sat. 9am - 5pm; Sun. 10am - 4pm; Operating Layouts, Movies, Exhibits & Displays, Railroadiana, Hobby Dealers & Swap tables, Door prizes; Also, Doll House Miniatures; \$7, \$6.50 with donation of a non-perishable food item for local food pantries, 11 and under free w/adult; \$10 for 2 day pass; La Crosse & Three Rivers Railroad Club, Belva Thompson (608/780-7364)
{bthom@live.com} [www.lcrsand3rvsrmmrclub.com/]
- 22 Badgerland Trade Train Show - Milwaukee, WI
American Legion Post 537; **See Jan 26**
- 28 North Western Illinois Chapter, NRHS - Rockford, IL
St. Mark Lutheran Church **See Jan 26**
- 28 Paper Valley Model Railroad Club Swap Meet - Appleton, WI
National Guard Armory 2801 W. Second St.; 9am-3pm; \$3 for 17 & up; family \$5; children free; New/Used, all scales, Lionel, Live Model Weathering Clinic, Switch Track Layout, memorabilia, vendor tables \$25 ea; Tyler Dreisow {gbwdude@yahoo.com} (920/850-7384)
[www.papervalleymodelrailroad.org]
- 28-29 29th Annual Rock River Valley Div Train Show – Belvidere, IL
Belvidere North HS, 9393 Beloit Rd; Sat: 10am - 5pm, Sun: 10am – 4pm; Operating N, HO, O & G scale layouts, Railroad Memorabilia displays, Railroad items for sale, Large Scale Model Train Rides, Railroad videos, Family Fun, 44,000 sq ft of displays: \$5, under 12 free w/adult; Doug Loy (815/765-3135) / Don Brindle (815/329-6112)

MARCH, 2020

- 28-29 Midwest Central RR Club Train Show – Urbana, IL
Urbana Lincoln Square Village, 100 High St; Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-4pm; free; sell, trade, operating layouts; Mike Lehman {trainshow@illinoisterminaldivision.org} [www.mcrr.org]

APRIL, 2020

Northern Illinois Historical Railway Ass'n – Argyle, IL
Paulson Agricultural Museum, 6910 Belvidere Rd; Clarence Welte (815/398-4733) **See September**

- 4 Will County Model RR Ass'n Spring Swap Meet – Joliet, IL
Stone City VFW, 124 Stone City Dr; 9am-2pm; \$4, under 12 free; Mike (708/308-9036) {swap@wcmrra.org} [www.wcmrra.org]
- 4 Will County Model RR Ass'n Open House – Joliet, IL
9 W. Cass St (basement); trains will be running and Club members will be available to answer questions about the layout, the DCC system and Membership; [www.wcmrra.org]
- 4 Green Bay Area Model RR Club Open House – Depere, WI
Kress Family Library, lower level, 333 N. Broadway; 10a-4p; free; John Grom (920/370-8790) [http://gbamrcdepere.wix.com/gbamrcdepere]
- 4 Bunny Trolley Hop – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum, During your ride along the Bunny Trail you can help the Easter Bunny find his missing treasure to fill his basket. At the end of your ride you will be able to join the Easter Egg Hunt, which will be outdoors weather permitting (inside one of the large exhibit buildings in case of rain). Please bring your own basket! **See Apr 13**
- 4-5 Bunny Trolley Hop – Union, IL
Illinois Railway Museum, 7000 Olsen Rd; Spring is here, and what better way to celebrate than with a festive train ride with the Easter bunny, egg hunts, and more; See website for fares; (1-800-BIG-RAIL) [www.irm.org]
- 4-5 Milw Lionel RR Club Open House – New Berlin, WI
2721 S. Calhoun Rd (behind the of Parkland Plaza); 10am - 5pm; [www.milw-lrrc.org]
- 5 Great Midwest Train Show - Wheaton, IL
DuPage County Fairgrounds **See Jan 12**

APRIL, 2020

- 5 Rock River Valley Division Meet - Rockford, IL
Special location –Nordlof Center, 118 N. Main St (enter south front door and take elevator to 2nd floor); 12:30 - 4pm; Clinics: Don Brindle – Simple Computer Aided Railway Modeler, Ron Johnson - Trains on Video: Why Trains Suck in America to Fastest High Speed Trains in the World 2019 to Train Coffee Table to Steam Engines in Sandaoling China and more in-between. ; Contest: There will be two categories, model and photograph. Derelict structures can be everywhere on a railroad. Bring in a model or photo of a railroad derelict structure. It just can't have wheels or be mobile.; \$5 entry donation, NMRA members free; (815/965-4871) [www.rrvd-nmra.org]
- 5 South Central Wisconsin Division Meet – Fitchburg, WI
Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place; **See Jan 5**
- 11 North Central O Gaugers Train Run – Mundelein, IL
Fremont Public Library **See Jan 11**
- 18 Chicagoland Lionel RR Club Open House – New Lenox, IL
1311 New Schoolhouse Rd; **See Jan 18**
- 18-19 Decatur Train Fair – Decatur, IL
Decatur Civic Center, 1 Gary K Anderson Plaza; Sat 10a-4pm, Sun. 11a - 4pm; \$5 adults, 12 & under free; several operating layouts of all scales from N to G, 200+ vendor tables of all scales of railroad equipment and railroad memorabilia, door prizes; hosted by the Decatur Mt. Zion & Southern MRRC; Steve Bricker (217/864-4397 or 217/454-2528) {sabricker@comcast.net} [www.decaturciviccenter.org]
- 18-19 First Presbyterian Church Model RR Show – Fond du Lac, WI
First Presbyterian Ch, 1225 4th St; 10am-4pm Sat, 9am-2:30pm Sun; Free; Model railroad exhibitors (Z,N,HO,S,O-27,O, & G layouts/displays), Fond du Lac Society of Model Railroad Hobbyist's "HO" Gauge Operating Layout, food is available from the First Presbyterian Youth Ass'n; Kids can have their picture taken in our "Railroad Cutout"! (Church: 920/922-0425) Les Mier Sr, (920/517-3901) {lmsrtrains@gmail.com} [www.fdlpresbyterian.org]
- 18-19 SSSMRE Open House – Sheboygan, WI
1001 N. 10ths St; **See Jan 25-26**
- 18-19 19th Titledown Train Show – Green Bay, WI
KI Convention Center, 333 Main St; Sat. 9-5, Sun 10-4; \$7, seniors \$6, 6-12 \$2, under 6 free; parking free; 35,000 sq ft of model trains, huge operating layouts and exhibits; Vendor info: Todd Bushmaker, 1242 Smith St, Green Bay 54302 (920/217-5318) {info@ttsgbllc.com} [www.titledowntrainshow.com]