

SFRH&MS 2025 Chicago Convention: Schedule of Activities

Extra-Fare Tours & Other Pre-Convention Activities

Tuesday June 10, 2025

- **Extra-fare trip to Illinois Railway Museum**
- Model Railroad Operating Sessions and/or Open Houses in the evening.

Wednesday June 11, 2025

- **Extra-fare trip to Joliet Tower Museum and Illinois Live Steamers.** The Santa Fe and GM&O crossed the Rock Island at Joliet Union Depot. UD Tower controlled this crossing. The tower has been restored as a museum. See the inner workings of the tower and history of the tower and Union Depot. Photograph trains and Joliet Union Depot from the tower (Link: [Joliet Railroad Museum](#),). Located in Lockport, IL, [Illinois Live Steamers](#) has over 2 miles of track on 7 acres. Three different gauges of track circle the property with steam, diesel, and electric locomotives powering the ride on trains. Lunch is included.
- Model Railroad Operating Sessions and/or Open Houses in the evening.

Thursday June 12, 2025

- **Extra-fare trip to Pullman National Historical Park.** In 1880 George M. Pullman started building his ideal company town for the manufacturing of railroad passenger cars on 4,000 acres of land that, at the time, was fourteen miles distant from downtown Chicago and surrounded by farms. On this Extra Fare trip, we will see and learn about Pullman – the plant, the residential community that surrounds it, and the role of the clashes of the company and its workers in American labor history. We will travel by bus from the SFRH&MS Convention in Lisle to [Pullman National Historical Park](#) on the far South Side of Chicago. This program includes a walking tour (about 40 minutes) over several city blocks with flat paved surfaces. The National Park facilities, the Pullman House Project Welcome Center, and the Historic Pullman Foundation Exhibit Hall are wheelchair accessible. Lunch is included.

Friday June 13, 2025

- **Arts & Culture Tour (Extra-Fare): Cantigny Park Museum & Garden**

Cantigny: Cantigny Park is the 500-acre estate of Chicago Tribune publisher Colonel Robert R. McCormick. The grounds consist of beautiful gardens, walking trails and the First Division Museum. Stop into the visitors' center for lunch and a trip to the gift shop.

This is a half-day tour and will be held during clinic presentations.

Saturday June 14, 2025

- **Arts & Culture Tour (Extra-Fare): Morton Arboretum**

Morton Arboretum: Located in Lisle, IL is the Morton Arboretum. 1700 acres of trees, gardens, lakes, and prairies. Go for a little hike or take the tram for a tour around the grounds. Stop into the welcome center for lunch and a trip to the gift shop.

This is a half-day tour and will be held during clinic presentations.

See the following page for Main Convention activities.

The Convention Starts Thursday Evening

Thursday June 12, 2025 (evening)

- **Modelers Round Table** – evening.

Friday June 13, 2025

- Vendor Area Open
- Company Store Open
- Contest Entries
- Contest Room Open for Viewing/Voting
- Clinics
- **Arts & Culture Tour (Extra-Fare): Cantigny Park Museum & Garden**

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- Awards Banquet

Sunday June 15, 2025

- Breakfast
- Annual Business meeting
- Layout Tours/Operating Sessions