Great Northern Railway Historical Society
Annual Convention
------- St. Cloud, MN, July 16-20, 2011 -------
Best Western Kelly Inn
(320) 253-0606

Saturday, July 16, 2011
7:00 - 8:00 AM - Registration in the Lobby (for those going on the Saturday Tour)
8:00 AM - Tour departure from the Kelly Inn (Charter buses)
Stops: (Arrive back at approximately 5:00 PM)
- Osceola & St.Croix Valley Railway, at Osceola, WI. Ride GN and NP passenger cars on a train that is part of the Minnesota Transportation Museum. Round trip along the St. Croix River to Marine on St. Croix, MN. Box lunch served at Osceola.
- Iron Horse Central Railroad Museum, rural Chisago City, MN. Ride the train and view Museum artifacts. Full-size train cars, most from the Northern Pacific.
- Restored Great Northern Depot, at Princeton, MN. Built 1902 in a combination of Queen Anne and Jacobean architectural styles, using local Brickton brick.
6:30 PM - “Traditional” Dinner with fellow GNRHS Members at Cafe Renaissance in Waite Park

Sunday, July 17, 2011
6:30 - 8:30 AM - Breakfast on your own.
8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon - GNRHS Board Meeting
10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon - Registration in the Lobby
10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon - Setup for Rail Fair, Model Contest, and Photo Display
10:00 AM - 6:30 PM - Operating Modular “027” layout (Open to public)
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM - Lunch on your own.
1:00 - 6:30 PM - Rail Fair, Model Contest, and Photo Display
5:00 - 6:45 PM - Dinner on your own
6:45 - 7:00 PM - Welcome to the Convention
7:00 - 8:15 PM - “Wenatchee to Oroville Line” presentation
8:30 PM - ???? - Socializing Time “Meet and Greet Your Fellow GNRHS Members”
- Husky Room, where you can bring your own snacks, drinks, etc.

Monday, July 18, 2011
6:30 - 8:30 AM - Included Breakfast Buffet for paid registrants
8:00 - 11:45 AM - Rail Fair, Model Contest, and Photo Display
8:30 AM - 2:45 PM - Non-Railroad Tour - “Saint John’s Bible and tour of St. John’s Abbey”, lunch at St. John’s, stop at Grande Depot (depot relocated, sells kitchen items, antiques).
1:00 - 5:00 PM - “Great Northern St. Cloud Area Comprehensive Program - Freight car and caboose shops, Roundhouse and turntable, Yards, Museums, etc.”
5:00 - 7:00 PM - Dinner on your own
7:00 - 9:00 PM - “Bob Downing Remembered” - including video interview, etc.
9:00 PM - ???? - Socializing Time “Visiting and Discussing with Fellow GNRHS Members”
- Husky Room, where you can bring your own snacks, drinks, etc.
Tuesday, July 19, 2011
6:30 - 8:30 AM - Included Breakfast Buffet for paid registrants
8:15 - 11:30 AM - Tour, includes “BNSF Ballast Production - Quarries, crusher, loading;
Site of GN St. Cloud/Waite Park Shops; old GN St. Cloud stone depot, etc.”
8:30 AM - 1:00 pm - Non-Railroad Tour - “The Working White House: 200 Years of Tradition
and Memories” (A Traveling Smithsonian Tour), LBJ Barbeque for lunch.
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM - Lunch on your own.
1:00 - 1:55 PM - “James J. Hill Farms - Then and Now”
2:00 - 2:55 PM - “GN Pictures”
2:55 - 3:15 PM - Break
3:15 - 3:55 PM - “The Winnipeg Limited” and other GN passenger trains of this area
4:00 - 4:55 PM - “Western Fruit Express”
5:00 - 7:00 PM - Dinner on your own
7:00 - 9:45 PM - Model Railroad Tour - Includes live steam and indoor layouts
9:00 - ?? - Socializing Time “Talking GN Railroad with your fellow GNRHS Members”
- Husky Room, where you can bring your own snacks, drinks, etc.

Wednesday, July 20, 2011
6:30 - 8:30 AM - Included Breakfast Buffet for paid registrants.
8:30 AM - 1:00 PM - Non-Railroad Tour - “Historic Charles Lindbergh Home and Museum,”
with lunch also in Little Falls, MN
8:00 - 8:25 AM - “GN Engine 1355 in Sioux City”
8:30 - 8:55 AM - “St. Cloud to Crookston” and “Sauk Centre to Cass Lake” Routes
9:00 - 9:25 AM - “St. Cloud to Lyndale Jct.” and “St. Cloud to Willmar” Routes
9:30 - 9:55 AM - “Willmar to Garretson” and “Garretson to Sioux Falls or Sioux City” Routes
10:00 - 10:25 AM - “Abandoned GN Line, a St. Cloud ‘Shortline’”
10:30 - 10:55 AM - “Willmar to Breckenridge,” “Morris to Browns Valley,” “Aberdeen
Line Jct. to Aberdeen,” and “Rutland to Forbes” Routes
11:00 - 11:25 AM - “Benson to Huron,” “Watertown to Sioux Falls,” and “Sioux Falls to Yankton”
11:30 - 11:55 AM - “Coon Creek to Sandstone,” “East St. Cloud to Brook Park,” and “Milaca
to Elk River” Routes
12:00 - 1:00 PM - Lunch on your own
1:00 - 1:55 PM - “Cascade Division in HO Scale - Layout Planning with Historical Research”
2:00 - 3:30 PM - “Modeling the GN - a Modeler’s Forum”
3:30 - 4:30 PM - “Great Northern Veterans (Rocky’s Rails) - Reminisce and Forum”
4:45 - 6:00 PM - Happy Hour
6:15 - 7:30 PM - Banquet Meal
7:30 - 8:00 PM - Don Hofsommer, Speaker - “Railroad Humor”
8:15 - 8:45 PM - Raffles
9:00 - ?? Socializing Time “Visit and Wish Friends in the GNRHS Godspeed Until Next Year”
- Husky Room, where you can bring your own snacks, drinks, etc.