

# *Steam to Michigan Irish Fest*

**3 Days: March 13 – 15, 2015**

**PRICE INCLUDES:**

- Round Trip Amtrak coach seat Chicago-Durand, MI and Ann Arbor-Chicago
- Motorcoach Transfers to/from Owosso, Michigan
- 2 Nights Accommodations at First Class Comstock Inn & Conference Center
- Steam Excursion Train Ride, Owosso to Clare, MI and return to Owosso
- Photo run-by
- 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Clare Irish Festival
- 2 Full Breakfasts



*Pere Marquette 1225 on the turntable*

Pere Marquette Railway locomotive #1225 resumed steam trips last year after a four year hiatus for repairs. Come along with 20<sup>th</sup> Century Railroad Club as we ride behind this famous locomotive from Owosso, Michigan to the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Irish Festival in Clare.

**Day 1:** Meet us mid-afternoon at Chicago Union Station for group early boarding of Amtrak eastbound train #364, *Blue Water*. Relax in a comfortable coach seat and laugh at the Friday night rush hour traffic. There's a café car with table seats for dinner on your own, or "carry out" to your folding tray table back in our coach. After 238 miles and four and a half hours we reach the historic Durand Union Station. Built in 1903 with twin turrets, it has been owned by the city since 1979. A chartered motorcoach awaits for the 13 mile ride to Owosso and the Comstock Inn & Conference Center in downtown Owosso. This first class property has 64 rooms, wireless internet and an indoor pool. Unpack for two nights, then get a good rest for a full day tomorrow.

**Day 2:** Catch the Comstock's full breakfast then stroll the block to the train. Star of the day is Pere Marquette Railway #1225. Its story has won it a listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Built for the Pere Marquette by the Lima Locomotive Works in October 1944, this Berkshire class 2-8-4 locomotive pulled passengers and freight over a million miles before being retired. In 1957, it was donated to Michigan State University by the C&O Railway, successor to Pere Marquette. On campus, it was displayed near Spartan Stadium until 1971 when a restoration was begun by Michigan State's student railroad club. Their work was rewarded with its first fire up/whistle in 1975. The first excursion train was in 1988. Since 1983, 1225 has been

tended at Owosso by the Michigan State Trust for Railway Preservation at the former Ann Arbor Railroad for Railway Preservation. Our ride from there this morning is three hours/60 miles to the town of Clare, MI, population 3,118. At its 1870 founding, it was named for County Clare by a homesick Irishman. For 41 years now, the town has celebrated its heritage just before St. Patrick's Day. Enjoy the festival during the three-hour train layover. Live music, parade, a craft show and Irish Bed Races are all scheduled. Shop the downtown or raise a pint in the Leprechaun Lounge of the historic Doherty Hotel. Moved 1,800 feet to a new foundation, Clare Union Depot, is being restored as a community center. The steam excursion train is due back in Owosso early this evening. Dine on your own at the hotel's Tanglewood Restaurant (tour members get 10% off), or find supper elsewhere in downtown Owosso.

**Day 3:** Sleep in awhile, then enjoy a full breakfast. Mid-morning our charter motorcoach departs Owosso for Ann Arbor to catch Amtrak train #353, the westbound *Wolverine* service. Have lunch on your own in the café car before the late afternoon return to Chicago Union Station. You may also detrain at Hammond/Whiting, IN, before Chicago. What a great weekend getaway on the trains to ride a train!

**TRIP 15-B**  
**3 Days: Mar 13 - 15, 2015**  
 \$425 dbl / \$525 sgl  
 Deposit: \$100 per person

*Travel Protection is available for this trip.  
 Please call the Club office for a quote.  
 312-829-4500*

**Final Payment Due: JAN 24**

# 20th Century Railroad Club

# Order Form

P.O. Box 247  
Arlington Heights, IL 60006  
Phone: 312-829-4500  
www.20thcentury.org

## Steam to Michigan Irish Fest — Trip 15-B

March 13-15, 2015

➤ FULL names of ALL persons in your party (or, if you're rooming with another single, name him/her):

Number of travelers age 62 and over \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*REQUIRED so we can contact you quickly with questions and/or itinerary changes*

Email \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOMODATIONS	PERSON(S)		PER PERSON	TOTAL
Number traveling <b>DOUBLE</b> occupancy		x	\$425.00 =	
Number traveling <b>SINGLE</b> occupancy		x	\$525.00 =	

Optional Trip Protection – Call our office at 312-829-4500 = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** = \_\_\_\_\_

Required deposit of \$ 100 per person x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

>>> Final Payment Due by Jan 24 <<<

PAYMENT METHOD: \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ Money Order \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_ Discover  
— make check or money order payable to "TCRC"—

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's signature x \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL ORDER TO:** Trip 15- B • 20th Century Railroad Club • PO Box 247 • Arlington Heights, IL 60006

*We will mail trip information on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>.*

**NOTICE:** Your trip order is subject to the "General Information, Terms and Conditions" attached.

## General Information, Terms and Conditions

**ORDERING:** Please mail your orders to us, on the original form mailed to you, or the one you printed from the PDF file on our Web site.

**CHANGES:** To avoid misunderstandings, requests for changes to any tour reservation must be made in writing, mailed to "Trip Manager," PO Box 247, Arlington Heights IL 60006-0247.

**PRICES & DEPOSITS:** All tours are priced per person as based on double occupancy of one hotel room, if applicable.

A tour price includes: All common carrier transportation, admissions and meals listed in the itinerary as being included, (CB=continental breakfast, B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner), hotel accommodations, luggage handling for one suitcase, services of a tour escort, and all taxes for included features. Tips for tour guides and drivers are standard industry practice and are encouraged.

Tour prices and/or departure dates are subject to change at any time. Fuel surcharges added by common carriers, taxes added by governments, or other fees not included at time of printing will be added to the final balance as they are imposed, unless final payment has already been received.

All travel booked through 20th Century is priced at special group fares. No additional discounts of any kind are applicable, except for children ages 2–15, via Amtrak,

If you're looking for a roommate, write us a note, and we'll notify you if anyone else is looking.

A deposit per person (amount specified on trip order form) is due with a completed reservation form, unless stated otherwise. Final payment is due upon the date specified on the trip order form.

If you pay by MasterCard, VISA, or Discover please enter all 16 digits of your account number, and the expiration date, and your signature. We may call you for the three-digit security code on the back of your card. We'll mail a receipt to you.

Trip documents, including instructions, baggage tags, etc., will arrive by mail 10 to 12 days before departure.

**NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE:** Items of a personal nature, meals and admissions not listed in the itinerary, and customary gratuities for the tour escort and motorcoach driver. Guidelines for gratuities are provided with tour tickets.

**ENTRY INTO CANADA or OUTSIDE of the UNITED STATES:** A passport, or passport card, valid six months after tour return date, is required for all tour travelers going to/from Canada. For application information, call 877-487-2778, or visit [www.travel.state.gov/passport](http://www.travel.state.gov/passport). Give yourself enough time before departure!

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** If you choose to cancel your trip reservation, you must notify 20th Century Railroad Club in writing — either by mail (Trip Manager, PO Box 247, Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0247). or by email ([trips@20thcentury.org](mailto:trips@20thcentury.org)). Your cancellation will be effective on the postmark date of your letter or the date of your email.

**REFUNDS:** Each trip description page has a "final payment due" date and on the trip order form. If you cancel before the due date, 20th Century will retain \$25.00 per person and refund your remaining collected balance. Some trips may charge a higher cancellation fee.

If you cancel after the final payment date, there will be no refund.

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip insurance, available on selected trips. Please call our office at 312-829-4500 for details.

**LUGGAGE:** Each trip member is allowed one large suitcase (weighing less than 50 pounds) and one small carry-on bag that fits in the overhead rack. Please attach the supplied baggage tag before departure. The 20<sup>th</sup> Century Railroad Club does not assume any liability for loss of or damage to your luggage or any other personal property.

**SMOKING:** Unless you specify otherwise on your order form, all hotel rooms are non-smoking. Every effort will be made to reserve a smoking room if you so request, however most facilities are entirely non-smoking. Smoking is not allowed on board any train, plane or motorcoach.

**SLEEPING CARS:** Sleeping accommodations aboard Amtrak trains are an extra cost option, priced separately going and returning. All Amtrak rooms accommodate one or two persons (in upper and lower berths) and are priced per room. Meals in the diner are included in the cost of an Amtrak sleeping accommodation.

**DELUXE MOTORCOACH:** Many of our trips include travel on a deluxe motorcoach, in addition to train(s) or plane(s). A deluxe motorcoach is a large, comfortable, restroom-equipped bus designed to transport travelers and their luggage over long distances — it is not a city transit bus or a school bus.

**MOBILITY:** All of our trips involve some degree of walking and stair-climbing. If your mobility is limited in any way, please consult us before you reserve space.

**CONDITIONS:** The 20th Century Railroad Club reserves the right to decline to accept or to retain any person as a passenger on any of our trips. We reserve the right to alter a published itinerary if conditions beyond our control require such alterations.

We also reserve the right to cancel a trip prior to departure, in which case your entire payment to us will be refunded without further obligation on our part.

Some of the trips in this Catalog are arranged through professional tour operators which are in turn booking agents for various travel vendors. No liability shall be incurred by 20<sup>th</sup> Century Railroad Club, its agents or tour operators because of personal injury or sickness, death, loss of or damage to property, delay, inconvenience or other irregularity experienced by trip members.

## **What You Need To Know about traveling with "The Century"**

WHAT WE ARE... If you enjoy trains and travel, we have a lot to offer you! The 20th Century Railroad Club is an educational and historical organization (incorporated not-for-profit) dedicated to promoting the advantages — and celebrating the history — of travel by rail.

WHAT WE DO... Since 1971, the 20th Century Railroad Club has specialized in planning unique rail-oriented trips for its members, their guests and the public. Most of our trips include at least one ride on a train or trolley.

In recent years, 20th Century has teamed up with tour providers for some of our trips, to offer superbly structured tours all around the U.S., with professional escorts.

Some of our trips are loosely-structured to allow our passengers to choose exactly how and where they will spend their time at a destination, In such cases we will provide information on available destination options.

You should think of traveling with “the Century” as an adventure — a unique experience that may not be entirely predictable, but is nearly always much more fun than you'd have on your own! WHO CAN GO? YOU CAN! Unless a trip is marked “for Club members only,” anyone may travel with us. Of course, our members receive advance notice of all our trips in our monthly newsletter, THE FAST MAIL, and are always first in line for the limited space available. If you're not yet a member, we invite you to sample our public trips and our members meetings before deciding to join our Club.

TYPES OF TRIPS... We offer five categories.

First are One-Day Adventures by various modes.

Second are Getaway trips: These are two to four-day trips via Amtrak and/or other carriers. They usually span weekends and are open to the public.

Third are “Vacations with the Century”: These special five- to ten-day trips, which are open to the public, are the most elaborate we offer. While the ideas come from our Trip Committee, all travel and lodging arrangements are made by a professional tour operator with special expertise in group travel by rail and other carriers. These vacation packages are among the finest available to the train-oriented traveler, and are designed to offer the highest value for your travel dollar.

Fourth are chartered trains, which are open to the public and usually travel to destinations not accessible by regularly scheduled service.

Fifth, we may offer trips available only to our members. Other trips may not be listed in this Catalog, and instead will be advertised in our monthly newsletter for members, THE FAST MAIL, or posted to our website.

Sixth are Private Varnish (PV) tours. What are they? Travel on special or historic railcars, rebuilt and upgraded to ride the rails in wood paneled luxury, complete with first class accommodations. Vista domes, observation cars, and meals cooked on board fit for royalty. Best of all, upon reaching your destination city the train itself is your hotel, centrally located for touring. Our PV train sets are quite possibly the finest rail passenger cars to ride American rails. Absolute elegance! We have taken the service, and rail cars of the past and upgraded everything to today's far higher standards ... for you!

WHY WE DO IT: There is still a special magic to traveling by train. It's a chance to travel in comfort and style; to slow down, settle back, watch the scenery and enjoy a journey the carefree, car-free way.

As Agatha Christie wrote, “Trains are wonderful... To travel by train is to see nature and human beings, towns and churches and rivers...in fact, to see life.”

So, come on along for a ride on the railroad — it's the most civilized form of land transportation.