

August 10th – 14th - Rail Fans Weekend 2006, Flint, Michigan

This year the Michigan Small Scale Live Steamers (MSSLS) are going to extend their most popular steam-up to a 4 day multi location event!



August 10th, Bob Weltyk (home of Weltyk's Whistles) will be opening up his dual main line raised layout of approximately 160 feet. Bob is located 30 minutes south of Flint, Michigan off of I-75 and just minutes from Great Lakes Crossing and Canterbury Village. Two of the most popular and unique shopping locations in the area, for the non-steamers.

On August 11th we will be starting the day with breakfast at the Country Junction. A local mom & pop restaurant next to the railroad tracks with good home style cookin'. Following breakfast, John Fuller will be hosting a steam-up on his dual main line raised layout of approximately 280 feet. John is 5 minutes West of Flint right off of I-69.

August 12th & 13th will be the annual MSSLS Steam-up during Rail Fans Weekend at Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad. Saturday we setup at 8am and run engines all day (10am to 5pm), right in the village. The village is open to the public all weekend so there are lots of spectators. When the park closes, our group and other vendors get a private ride behind the 464 with multiple stops along the way for photo opportunities. Then the evening is finished off with a bar-b-que back at the workshop where you can meet the railroad staff and get up close with the engines. Then on Sunday we spend another day running in the Village, 10am to 5pm.





On Monday, August 14th, Bob has invited us back to his home for another day of steaming. For those people who are retired or just not ready to stop having fun.

Crossroads Village is located just north of Flint and there is a lot of affordable lodging and camping in the area. Additional information regarding these facilities can be found on the following pages.

Local Attractions

There are a lot of great attractions in the area for non-steamers and those wishing to spend a few extra days in the area.

Durand Union Station is a great stop for rail fans. The station is now home to a museum and Amtrak Station. Located 15 minutes west of Flint on I-69, the station was built in 1903, burned to the ground in 1904 and was rebuilt in 1905. At its peak it handled 3,000 passengers a day and was the second largest station in Michigan. The MSSLS have an annual steam-up at the depot during the town's Railroad Days weekend every May. The station is open Tuesday through Sunday from 1pm to 5pm.



The Steam Railroading Institute is home to the Pere Marquette 1225 locomotive. The exact locomotive used for creating The Polar Express movie including the sound track. The institute is located about 30 minutes west of Flint off of I-69. They are open Fri, Sat and Sun from 10am – 5pm.



Olde World Canterbury Village, a designated historical site in the State of Michigan, extends over 21 acres. It is host to 18 specialty shops and offers some unique shopping in a Bavarian Village atmosphere. The village is located 30 minutes south of Flint, just off of I-75 and just 5 minutes from Bob Weltyk's house. So while your running trains your significant other can go shopping.

Great Lakes Crossing is also located at the same exit as Canterbury Village. Great Lakes is one of the top malls in Michigan and includes the Bass Pro Shop and the Rain Forest Café. Another great place to shop while others are running engines at Bob's.

Frankenmuth is another one of Michigan's unique shopping locations. It is located 30 miles north of Flint, just off of I-75. 3 million people a year visit the shops, restaurants and attractions in Frankenmuth, known as Michigan's Little Bavaria.

The Prime Outlets at Birch Run are about 40 minutes north of Flint and is also a big shopper's attraction in the area. 170 outlet stores including J Crew, Calvin Klein, Gap Outlet, Adidas, Nike and a lot more.

So there is lots to do no matter what your interest. Have your wife drop you off at a steam-up while she shops or we can even arrange for a club member to pick you up for an event. We really hope to see a lot of our steaming friends from out of state. For those that might like to fly in, Bishop International Airport in Flint is just 5 minutes from John Fuller's steam-up, 8 minutes to local hotels and 15 minutes from Crossroads Village.

Steamin' Details

All Gauge 1 locomotives are welcome. Both Bob's and John's layouts have 20+ foot diameter curves and the portable tracks used at events are of 20 foot diameter and 10 foot diameter with dual main lines. One portable even has HO track for the little steamers.

Butane fuel will be available for \$1 a can, water and steam oil will be supplied by the club. Crossroads Village entrance fee is free to all steamers as well as the after hours train ride and bar-b-que.

Detailed maps will be available pointing out all attractions as well as restaurants and other convenience stores.

Flint is located right where I-75 and I-69 meet. So it is real easy to get to from the lower 48.



Events location Map



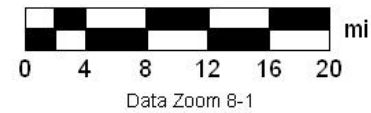
Street Atlas USA® 2005



Data use subject to license.

© 2004 DeLorme. Street Atlas USA® 2005.

www.delorme.com



For further information about the event, lodging and other sites of Interest, visit the web sites below:

- **Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad** - <http://www.geneseecountyparks.org/crossroadsvillage.htm>
- **Steam Railroading Institute** - <http://www.mstrp.com/>
- **Durand Union Station** - <http://durandstation.org/>
- **Olde World Canterbury Village** - <http://www.canterburyvillage.com/home.htm>
- **Great Lakes Crossing** - <http://www.shopgreatlakescrossing.com/>
- **Frankenmuth** - <http://www.frankenmuth.org/>
- **Prime Outlets at Birch Run** - <http://www.primeoutlets.com/cntrdefault.asp?cntrid=1015>
- **Michigan Small Scale Live Steamers** – <http://www.mssls.info>
- **Bob Weltyk of Weltyk's Whistles** – <http://www.weltykswhistles.com>

Lodging

Just off I-75 at Exit 122 – 9 Miles from Crossroads Village

- Ramada Inn – 810-732-0400
- Super 8 West – 810-789-0400
- Baymont Inn – 810-732-2300
- Great Western – 810-733-7570

Camping

- Holiday Shores Resort – 989-288-4444
2 miles off of I-69 at Exit 123. Just six miles from John Fuller's, 18 minutes from Crossroads village and 10 minutes from Durand's Union Station Museum. Full hookups with 30 and 50 amp service.

For additional, feel free to contact John Fuller at 810-630-0169 or Bob Weltyk at 248-391-1002. We really hope to see a lot of our out-of-town friends here.