

# Come Ride With Us!



**FOX RIVER  
TROLLEY  
MUSEUM**

# 2018



Gold dates indicate operating days  
Blue dates indicate Special Event days  
See other side for details.

## EDUCATION THROUGH DEMONSTRATION!

Restored to its 1986 appearance, former CTA car 43 arrives at the newly rebuilt Blackhawk station of the Jon J Duerr Forest Preserve on a crisp Autumn day. Built in 1959 and designed for single car service on the CTA, car 43 carried thousands of Chicago commuters for 39-years. In 1998, car 43 started its new life at the Museum where it now teaches today's guests what it was like to go to work in the good old days of Chicago commuting.

**JANUARY**

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**FEBRUARY**

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**MARCH**

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**APRIL**

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**MAY**

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**JUNE**

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**JULY**

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**AUGUST**

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**SEPTEMBER**

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**OCTOBER**

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**NOVEMBER**

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**DECEMBER**

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## Come ride with us!

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www.foxtrolley.org  
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Fox River Trolley Museum

Calendar photo by Joseph R. Hazinski, October 2017.

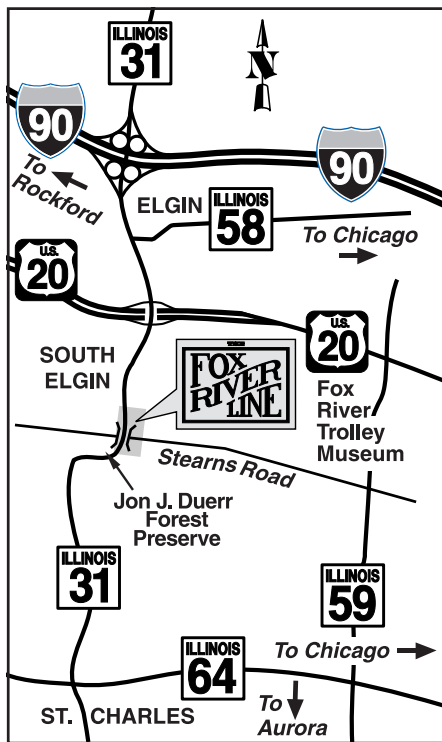
## Schedule

The Museum is open to visitors in season, **11 am to 5 pm**, as shown on the front of the Calendar:

**Sundays** - From Mother's Day, May 13, through October 28.

**Saturdays** - July 7 through September 8.

**Holidays** - Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day.



## How To Get There


The Museum is located on Illinois Route 31 (LaFox Street), three blocks south of the State Street traffic light in South Elgin, Illinois.

**From Chicago:** Take the Jane Addams Tollway (I-90) or US Route 20 west to Elgin and exit on Illinois Route 31 southbound. Take Route 31 to the Museum.

**From the West:** Take the Jane Addams Tollway (I-90) or US Route 20 east to Elgin and exit on Illinois Route 31 southbound. Take Route 31 to the Museum.

**From the South:** Take any route north to Illinois Route 64. Take Route 64 to St. Charles to Illinois Route 31. Take Route 31 north to the Museum.

**By Train:** Take Metra Commuter Rail's Milwaukee District-West line from Chicago (Union Station) to Elgin. Then take a taxi to the Museum.

 Bike to the museum along the Fox River Trail bicycle path, parallel to and between route 31 to the west and the Fox River to the east, often passing near our railroad right-of-way.

## Historic Preservation - Enjoyable Education

The Museum is preserving the transportation heritage of the Fox River Valley by operating Fox River Line original trolley #304 one of the last passenger cars to operate on what is now the Museum's portion of the old Aurora, Elgin and Fox River Electric Company trolley line. The Museum also runs 1902 trolley number 20 from the Chicago Aurora and Elgin, the oldest operating interurban trolley in the United States.

An enjoyable educational experience is shared by visitors traveling along the Fox River on the Museum's trains and in the Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve, an old railroad gravel pit, being restored as a forest preserve. The pit is home to many prairie trees and plants that have returned since the pit was closed over a half century ago. Fox, deer, raccoon, opossum and woodchuck again make their home here. After riding the trolley, get a closer look, hike, or bike the many trails and paths. These fulfill the Museum's mission of **EDUCATION THROUGH DEMONSTRATION**.

Besides a trolley ride, the Museum and the Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve offer great picnicking facilities for large and small groups, boat ramp, and fishing. The Castlemuir Station in South Elgin has a gift shop, pop machine, picnic tables, two 450 plus year old oak trees and over 23 electric railway cars including the only existing Chicago street railway post office car to inspect. This is a unique combination of recreation and learning.

## Special Events – 2018

### Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29 - RAILS TO VICTORY - NEW DATE!

Remember our Veterans this summer by attending the Fox River Trolley Museum's "Rails To Victory" WW2 Living History Reenactment. Experience a WW2 military encampment, view Period Battles on the banks of the Fox River, be a fan at an actual US Home Front Baseball game with the Rockford Peaches made famous in the 1992 Tom Hanks and Geena Davis film, "A League of their Own." On Saturday ride special museum trolleys into occupied France to experience the suspense and drama of the heroism of the American Allies. Special Fare on Saturday applies, and may be purchased in advance from the Museum web site.

### Sunday, May 13 - MOTHER'S DAY

The Museum helps celebrate Mother's Day. Mother and the entire family enjoy rides in our antique trolleys along the beautiful Fox River and through the Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve. Have a picnic at either location. Mothers and grandmothers ride free with payment of a child's fare and get a free carnation.

### Sundays, June 3 and 10 - SPRING CABOOSE DAYS

Ride with the Conductor in the Big Red Caboose or with the Engineer in the Locomotive!

### Saturday, June 9 - HOB0 NIGHT

Experience the thrill of the old fashioned lifestyle, reliant upon the rails! Visit the hobo camp and enjoy some eats, treats, and stories, from our very own hobos! Tickets may be purchased in advance from the museum's web site.

### Sunday, June 17 - FATHER'S DAY

"Father Knows Best" when he brings the entire family including grandfathers for a pleasant summer afternoon riding the Museum's antique trolleys. Fathers and grandfathers ride free with payment of a child's fare and get a free treat. Start the day off with a meal at any one of South Elgin's fine restaurants finishing it off with a ride along the Fox River and through the Jon Duerr Forest Preserve.

### Saturday and Sunday, August 18 and 19 - RIVERFEST EXPRESS

The Village and the Museum celebrate the long weekend along the Fox River with food, music, trolley rides, viewing historic rail cars and exhibits, carnival rides and FIREWORKS! Village celebration starts Thursday afternoon.

### Sundays, September 9 and 16 - FALL CABOOSE DAYS

Ride with the Conductor in the Big Red Caboose or with the Engineer in the Locomotive!

### Saturdays, October 20 and 27, and Sundays, October 21 and 28 - PUMPKIN TROLLEY

The pumpkin harvest is complete and the corn is in the shock ... and Indian summer with beautiful autumn colors decorates the "Ole Pumpkin Patch." Pick up a pumpkin at the patch and enjoy a small treat - great family fun at low cost.

## RESERVATION TRAINS:

BY RESERVATION ONLY, visit our web pages at [www.foxtrolley.org](http://www.foxtrolley.org) to make reservations.

### RAILS TO VICTORY - Saturday and Sunday, April 28-29 and HOB0 NIGHT - Saturday, June 9

See description above. Reserve early so you can get your preferred train time. Ride tickets are also available on the day of the event.

### GHOST STORY TRAIN - Saturdays, October 20 and 27

Ride a spooky trolley down to the haunted forest preserve. Listen to chilling stories around the campfire while enjoying monstrously good treats. Suitable for all ages.

### THE POLAR EXPRESS™ runs Saturdays, November 24 and December 1, 8, 15, and 22 and Sundays, November 18 and 25, and December 2, 9, and 16, also Friday December 21

THE POLAR EXPRESS™ comes to life when the real train pulls out of the Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve BLACKHAWK station with your family on board. The train will transport you to the North Pole where Santa will be waiting. On this magical journey, guests on board the train will enjoy hot chocolate and cookies while reading along or listening to this classic award winning storybook. Children are encouraged to wear their pajamas for the ride. Experience the joy of watching the children's faces when the train arrives at the "North Pole". Santa will board the train to greet each child and hand them their own sleigh bell. There will be caroling and entertainment, making this, what will surely become an annual holiday tradition for the whole family.

**Board the ALL RESERVED "POLAR EXPRESS" at Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve - Blackhawk Station for a ride north to meet Santa and experience the magic of the season.**