**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Scandinavia’s railroad history talk slated for Iola Historical Society on August 11**

Railroad buff and Iola Historical Society board member Doug Watson will present his program "Scandinavia -- A Railroad Hub" on Saturday, August 11, at the society’s museum located at 210 Depot Street.

Before explaining through vintage pictures why the small village of Scandinavia become an important transportation center, a brief background also with vintage pictures will be given about the Green Bay & Western Railroads "forefathers." Although 20 some years would eventually pass before two additional railways would arrive, and depart, Scandinavia's bustling depot, program attendees will learn about the birth and demise of these short lines -- the Iola & Northern and the Waupaca-Green Bay.

All aboard at 1 pm. The presentation is free of charge, although goodwill donations are appreciated.

The Historic Iola Village buildings will also be open for visitors from noon to 3:00 p.m., except the Iola And Northern Railway depot which is undergoing restoration to its original design. The other buildings on the grounds include a replica of a schoolhouse, a 1930s log cabin, the original Helvetia Town Hall, and the historical society’s museum.

The museum features recently acquired collections such as the Ray Towne collection of native American artifacts found around Iola and throughout Waupaca County, and the Bert Stromberg violin collection. Stromberg was a former constable of Iola who also built violins. Other items of local historical significance are also on display. Docents will be at each building to talk about their historic significance and answer any questions.

For more information, go to [www.iolahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.iolahistoricalsociety.org).

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