

NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK



Nevada Northern Railway Foundation

A Nevada 501 (c) 3 Non-Profit Corporation

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2025 Iron Horse Symposium

Nevada Northern Railway: War, Growth and Recovery 1915 through 1929

September 25 - 28, 2025

Thursday September 25 – Optional Add On

8:00 am – 4:30 pm: Check in East Ely Depot

9:00 am - 11:30 am: McGill Tour: McGill Kennecott Buildings, McGill Depot, McGill Wye to East Ely

11:30 am – 1:00 pm: Lunch on your own.

1:00 pm – 3:30 pm: East Ely to Ely, Ely Junction, Lane City, Keystone then to Telegraph Hill

Individual Participants Price: Members \$46.75, Non-Members \$55 Capacity 12, Individual price is for individuals that need a ride. Individuals will be assigned a vehicle for the duration of the trip.

Vehicle Participants: Members \$72.25 per vehicle, Non-members \$85 Capacity 12 vehicles. Vehicle must be 4-wheel drive and all passengers must wear seat belts. Vehicles need to be in good mechanical repair and leave East Ely with a full tank of fuel. The tour convoy will be split into four groups led by a NN Ry vehicle. It is required that you stay with your assigned group and display your vehicle number.

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm: Sunset, Stars and Champagne Train with drinks and finger foods and panel discussion. Synopsis: Running a blue-collar steam railroad in the 21st century. Panel: Mark Bassett, President, Angie Stevens, Superintendent, Con Trumbull, Archivist, Joan Bassett, Curator, John Henry McDonnell, Master Mechanic and Roger Bowers, Board Member in coaches 7 and 8

Friday September 26 – Conference Day 1

8:00 am – 4:30 pm: Registration and check in.

9:00 am - 11:00 am: Ping-Pong Train to White Pine Public Museum for tours. Archive tours at the Transportation Building.

11:00 am - 1:00 pm: Lunch on your own.

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm: East Ely Yard National Historic Landmark Tours, Hourly, Capacity 10 per tour.

4:30 pm - 7:00 pm: Train ride “mixer” with employees and participants. Coaches 7 & 8

Saturday September 27 – Conference Day 2 – Bristlecone Convention Center, 150 6th Street

7:30 am – 8:30 am: Continental Breakfast

8:00 am: Conference Welcome, Speakers: Mark S Bassett, President and Con Trumbull, Archivist

8:30-9:30 am: Presentation: Nevada Northern Railway: War, Growth and Recovery 1915 through 1929. Synopsis: The War to End All Wars had a profound impact on the railroad creating a growth spurt, then depression, the mill fire and recovery. Speakers: Mark Bassett, President and Con Trumbull, Archivist

9:45-10:45 am: Presentation: Construction of the Nevada Northern Railway McGill to Ruth and the Copper Mines, Synopsis: A Then and Now Comparison of the Nevada Northern Railway. Speaker Lawrence Meeker

11:00 am – Noon: Presentation: Nevada Northern Railway Caboose 15, Restoring a 4-wheel Wonder. Synopsis: The NN RY had six 4-wheel cabooses for use on ore train service. The last one, Caboose 15 was built by the railroad at East Ely shops, it's now scheduled for restoration. Speaker: Mark S Bassett, President

Noon - 1:30 pm: Lunch & Presentation: Restoring Locomotive 81, the War Baby, Synopsis: World War 1 has been raging in Europe for two years, when NN Ry President Eccles authorizes the purchase of a new 2-8-0 steam locomotive. Taken out of service in 1958, it was restored to service in 2022. Speakers: Mark Bassett, President and John Henry McDonnell, Master Mechanic

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm: Presentation: Development and Use of Archives as related to the Nevada Northern Railway. Synopsis: Using the original records of the railroad helps define the preservation of this National Historic Landmark. Speaker: Lauren Osier, Archivist

2:45 pm - 3:45pm: Presentation: Preserving a century of the railroad's records. Panel discussion by Lexy, Joan, Lauren. Moderator: Con Trumbull, Archivist

6:00 pm: Hall of Fame Banquet: Join us for the inaugural Nevada Northern Railway Hall of Fame induction ceremony. In celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Nevada Northern Railway Foundation, 40 honorees who had a profound impact on the Nevada Northern Railway will be inducted in the Hall of Fame.

September 28 – Conference Day 3 - Bristlecone Convention Center, 150 6th Street

7:30 am – 8:30 am: Continental Breakfast

8:30 am - 9:30 am: Presentation: The McGill Mill and Smelter Fire. Synopsis: After World War 1, the glut of copper on the market forced the shutdown of the copper industry and the railroad. Slowly, the region recovered and everything was looking up. Then disaster struck! On Sunday evening, July 9, 1922, a fire destroyed the entire mill complex, the only part saved was the concrete foundations. Was this the end of the copper dream? Speakers: Mark Bassett, President and Con Trumbull, Archivist

9:45 am - 10:45 am: Presentation: Wrap-Up, Thank You and Safety Briefing for the afternoon's photo opportunities. Speakers: Mark S Bassett, President and Con Trumbull, Archivist.

11:00 am – 12:00 pm: Sack Lunch at Nevada Northern Railway Museum

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm: Nevada Northern Railway Fire-Up: Locomotives #93 and #81. On Display will be Rotary Snowplow #B, Baggage/RPO #20, Coach #5 and Outfit 06, ALCOS RS-2 #105, RS-3 #109 and RSD-4 #201. Baldwin VO-1000 #801 will be fired up! There will be photographic opportunities through the yard with multiple buildings opened up. There will be photo runbys in the East Ely yard.

Conference Fee: Members \$255, Non-Members \$300; Capacity 60 - Includes all speakers, yard tour, two train rides, yard photo opportunities, continental breakfasts, lunches and Hall of Fame Banquet.

Hall of Fame Banquet Only: Members \$42.50, Non-members \$50