N&WHS 2026 Convention Schedule

(Online registration preferred at: https://www.nwhs.org/commissary/convention.html)

May 2026 Special Edition

Thursday, June 11

Morning:

9:00 a.m. - **Convention Check-in** opens in the main lobby of the Hotel Roanoke. Volunteers will staff the convention desk. For convention badges, latest schedule, and tour sign-ups, make sure to stop by the convention desk!

11:00 a.m. - **The N&WHS Board Meeting** will take place at the Archives.

Afternoon:

The afternoon is open for you to rail-fan around Roanoke if arriving early.

2:00 p.m. through 4:30 p.m. - **Open house** at the N&WHS Archives building and Commissary at 2101 Salem Avenue in Roanoke!

Evening:

5:00 p.m. - **Barbecue at the Virginia Museum of Transportation** at 303 Norfolk Avenue SW.



Featured Speaker We are honored to host Mr. Steve Powell, President of the Buckingham Branch Railroad, the largest short line railroad in Virginia! Mr. Powell will speak about what it is like to run the N&W Class J 611 on a modern short line railroad! For those of you who don't know, the Buckingham Branch has been intimately associated with running the Class J 611 excursions over the last few years in close cooperation with the Virginia Museum of Transportation (VMT).

7:30 p.m. - **Seminars begin** in the Hotel Roanoke Buck Mountain Room! See the list at the end of this schedule.

Friday, June 12

All Day: Modeling and Clinics Kudos! Our Modeling and Clinics Team has been working overtime!! See the list at the end of this schedule.

Morning:

9:00 a.m. - **Convention Check-in** opens in the main lobby of the Hotel Roanoke. Volunteers will staff the convention desk. For convention badges, latest schedule, and tour sign-ups, make sure to stop by the convention desk!

Afternoon:

1:00 p.m. - **Tour of Kidd Locomotive Works in Roanoke Shops** Tour is expanded from 2023! Preregistration is required during check-in at the convention desk, and the tour is limited to 50 participants. Hard sole, closed-toe shoes are required. First come, first served.

3:30 p.m. - **Seminars** begin in the Buck Mountain Room.

Afternoon and evening: There will be **welcome and socializing** in the Hotel's "Speakeasy" known as AKA. This is a vintage room in the basement of the Hotel with quite a nice history feel.

Evening:

7:00 p.m. - **Seminars** resume in the Buck Mountain Room.

8:00 p.m. - **Modeling Committee** meets.

9:00 p.m. - **Virginian Interest Group (VIG)** meets.

Saturday, June 13

Morning:

9:00 a.m. - **Convention Check-in** opens in the main lobby of the Hotel Roanoke. Volunteers will staff the convention desk. For convention badges, latest schedule, and tour sign-ups, make sure to stop by the convention desk!

9:00 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. - **Annual membership meeting** (Buck Mountain Room). All are welcome!

10:30 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. - **Modeling and Clinics** See the list at the end of this schedule.

Morning through Afternoon:

10:30 a.m. through 1:30 p.m. - **CPL (Color Position Lights) Historic Signal Tour** Sign up details to be determined and will be available at the check-in desk; tour size will be limited by the number of guides, so car-pooling is encouraged.

10:30 a.m. through 2:30 p.m. - **Open House** at the N&WHS Archives building and Commissary at 2101 Salem Avenue!

Evening:

6:00 p.m. - **Cocktail Hour & Banquet** in the Pocahontas Room, Hotel Roanoke. Join us for an evening banquet. **Keynote speaker** is Mr. David R. Goode, retired Norfolk Southern Corporation CEO. Mr. Goode was CEO from 1992 to 2005. He was voted Railroader of the Year in both 1998 and 2005! Mr. Goode was recently added to the National Railroad Hall of Fame!



Please note that cocktail hour beverages are not included in your convention or banquet fees.

Turn the Page! There's more to see!

SPECIAL GIVE AWAY – MODELS, LIMITED PRINTS, ANTIQUES!

During the banquet, we will be hosting a special fundraiser to support the society. There will be a series of drawings! We are asking for a $5 donation per entry, per drawing. You can make more than one donation per drawing! The drawings will take place at the end of the banquet, with all proceeds benefiting the N&WHS general fund. All items will be available for inspection, prior to the drawings.

Drawing 1 - The **RAPIDO HO Scale Norfolk & Western #139** - $5 Donation per entry.



HO SCALE F-M H16-44



HO SCALE F-M H16-44

Drawing 2 – Vintage N&W marked **Switch Lantern** (approximately 16”h x 9”w) - $5 Donation per entry.



VINTAGE N&W SWITCH LANTERN

Drawing 3 – Limited edition print (unframed), "**Blue Ridge Depot**". Total copies limited to 1218! Dimensions of print, 26 inches x 38 inches. 4 copies will be available! - $5 donation per entry.



Blue Ridge Depot - Limited Edition of 1218 Prints (26"x38")

Drawing 4 – N&W Crossing Watchbox Model Kit. The iconic crossing watch box was a common sight along the N&W into the 1970s. These kits include two examples in each set: one for the two-window version and another for the three-window version. 2 kits will be available! - $5 donation per entry.



N&W Crossing Watchbox Kit

Sunday, June 14

Time to go home! Enjoy a final morning of fellowship and breakfast at the hotel. Please note: Breakfast costs are the responsibility of the attendee and are not covered by your convention fees.

Please note that this schedule is provided for informational purposes and is subject to change. The Norfolk & Western Historical Society reserves the right to alter times, speakers, and activities. For the most up-to-date information during the convention, please check at the convention desk.

List of Clinics & Seminars from the Modeling and Clinics Team!

Detailed schedules with presentation times, will be available at convention check-in, and updated as needed. Seminars, Clinics, and Modeling will take place in the Buck Mountain room.

PRESENTATION	PRESENTER
What Could Possibly Go Wrong? Operating Steam in Modern Times	Mr. Rick Musser
N&W Diesel Pictures, etc.	Mr. Ed Painter
Modeling the Sleepers	Mr. Jim Nichols
Using the N&WHS Digital Archives Effectively	Messrs. Ron Davis, Roger Link
Cranes, Pouches, and Catchers	Dr. Frank Scheer
Dispatching Stories	Mr. Chris Dalton
Modeling the Bristol Line	Mr. Andre Jackson
The Modeling Committee; Who, What, Why, Why Not?	Mr. Jim Cochran
Norfolk Southern on the Former N&W	Mr. Kurt Reisweber
N&W Signals	Mr. Rick Stone

!!Norfolk & Western Class J 611 Excursion News!!

The Virginia Museum of Transportation, in partnership with the Virginia Scenic Railway, has announced the "Summer of Steam"! (https://www.virginiascenicrailway.com/rides/summer-of-steam/) Virginia's 2026 Summer of Steam kicks off in June with a two-week residency in historic Staunton. Starting on 06/12/2026, the Virginia Scenic Railway in cooperation with VMT will begin these excursions. The Hotel Roanoke is just a hop, skip, and jump (90 minutes) from the historic town of Staunton Virginia. Since you will be in Roanoke for the convention, you might want to consider modifying your trip to include riding behind the famous Class J 611. This would be a wonderful way to cap your 2026 N&WHS convention experience! If you want to take advantage of this opportunity, buy your tickets now to avoid disappointment. *Please note that the Norfolk & Western Historical Society (N&WHS) maintains no control over, financial interest in, or liability for these excursions.*