

Heritage Grant – Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley RHS Stations

Text and photos courtesy of NORMAN J. BARRETT, Director, Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Historical Society, NRHS

MOSCOW, PA Late Summer / Early Fall – The Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Railway Historical Society received its special order of period light fixtures. The existing fixtures on the Passenger Station, one of which failed and fell off the building, are estimated to be about 40 years old and were showing signs of wear and tear. The new fixtures, made in the USA, are of a fitting design for the age of the station. They have a powder-coated paint finish that replicates a weathered copper patina. They are equipped with LED bulbs which are energy-efficient and will reduce electric costs, especially since they will be on from dusk to dawn.

The Freight Station never had exterior lighting, so this required installing proper wiring along with mounting boxes over each door. The new light fixtures are of an industrial type, appropriate for a Freight Station. They are powder-coated in a dark green that goes with the station colors. Like the passenger station, they are equipped with LED bulbs and will operate dusk to dawn.

Of special note, the new MOSCOW station sign on the east end of the station will have separate lighting (it just needs to be adjusted in spring).

We were able to complete this lighting project THANKS to a grant received from the National Railway Historical Society "Heritage Grants Program." *(Continued on p. 4)*



MOSCOW STATION – New period light fixtures suitable for the age of the station.

NRHS NEWS – MARCH 2025

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Announcements

NRHS RailCamp in 2025

*RailCamp is held at two locations: RailCamp East (Newark, Delaware) and RailCamp Northwest (Tacoma, Washington). **April 1, 2025 is the final deadline to apply for 2025 RailCamp.***

- **RailCamp East: June 22 – June 28, 2025**, headquartered at the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware.
- **RailCamp Northwest: June 22 – June 28, 2025**, headquartered at the University of Puget Sound, Washington.
- The **Application Form** for the 2025 RailCamps is available by clicking [here](#) or using this link <https://nrhs.com/site/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2025-RailCamp-ApplicationFinal4.pdf>

2025 NRHS Spring Conference - May 1-3, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Sponsored by the George L. Carter Chapter.

- **Thursday**, registration and opening reception at Johnson City Railroad Experience; **Friday**, tour of Knoxville Locomotive Works and excursions on Three Rivers Rambler Train and Star of Knoxville riverboat; **Saturday**, NRHS business meetings and evening railroad heritage food & beverage walking tour.
- The fee is \$170 per person for the full conference, or \$30 for the Saturday meetings only. To register, login to your NRHS membership portal at secure.nrhs.com.
- **Lodging** - Carnegie Hotel, 866-757-8277. Mention “NRHS meeting” for group rate (May 1, \$149, May 2, 3, \$199 per night + taxes), by April 1.
- Up-to-date info at www.nrhs.com and on pg. 4 of this issue.

Submission Deadlines for NRHS News

- March 9th, 2025, deadline – **April 2025** issue (online PDF)
- April 6th, 2025, deadline – **May 2025** issue (online PDF)

About the NRHS News

NRHS News is published nine times a year by the National Railway Historical Society. Six full-color issues are published usually in even-numbered months. The three remaining issues are printed in black-and-white and mailed to members across the year. Issues are available (pdf file) online at <https://admin.nrhs.com/NRHSNews/>

Valli Hoski, Harrisburg Chapter NRHS, Editor. Alex Mayes, Potomac Chapter NRHS, Content Assistant. Elizabeth Guenzler, Central Coast Chapter NRHS, Editorial Assistant. Eileen Weber, St. Louis Chapter NRHS, Editorial Assistant. Email submissions to News@nrhs.com or mail to NRHS News, c/o Valli Hoski, P.O. Box 234, York Springs, PA, 17372. The address for the Society is: National Railway Historical Society, Inc., 505 South Lenola Road, Suite 226, Moorestown, NJ 08057. Membership information changes should be sent to Patti Webb at Membership@nrhs.com. Membership dues should be mailed to NRHS - Membership, PO Box 31074, St. Louis, MO 63131-0074

NRHS Spring Conference – Johnson City, Tennessee, May 1-3, 2025

By NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, www.nrhs.com

The Spring 2025 NRHS Conference takes place in Johnson City, Tennessee.

The George L. Carter Chapter, our host, has arranged a full weekend, including a tour of *Knoxville Locomotive Works* and excursions on the *Three Rivers Rambler Train* and *Star of Knoxville* riverboat. And of course, NRHS meetings!



THREE RIVERS RAMBLER – Enjoy your ride during the 2025 NRHS Spring Conference!

Conference timetable:

- Registration welcome center **opens Thursday, May 1, 4:00 pm**, at the Carnegie Hotel in Johnson City. Join us for a welcome reception at the *Johnson City Railroad Experience*.
- **Friday, May 2:** Our deluxe chartered motor coach departs Johnson City at 8:00 am for Knoxville. First stop is an hour-long tour of *Knoxville Locomotive Works*. Next, the motor coach whisks us across town where we board the *Three Rivers Rambler*. 3RR advises our train is expected to be steam powered. At Volunteer Landing, we detrain and board the *Star of Knoxville* riverboat, with luncheon served. The buses are expected to arrival back at Conference Hotel at 5:40 PM.
- NRHS Fund meeting: At the hotel, 8:00 pm.
- **Saturday, May 3:** *Advisory Council* and *Board of Directors* meetings. In the evening, join us for a railroad heritage food and beverage walking tour of Johnson City, viewing historic railroad buildings that have been repurposed into dining and entertainment venues.

Conference Registration

- The Conference fee is \$170 for the full weekend, or \$30 for members who wish to attend the Saturday meetings in person only. To register, login to your NRHS membership portal at secure.nrhs.com.
- Registration is now open and closes when the event sells out. The links above are valid for your NRHS membership account only.

Conference Hotel and Transportation

- Tri-Cities Airport, about sixteen miles from downtown Johnson City, is served by Delta Air Lines and American Airlines. Rental cars are available, and Uber and Lyft operate there.
- Conference headquarters is the **Carnegie Hotel**, 1216 W. State of Franklin Road, Johnson City. Our group rate is \$149 for Thursday night, and \$199 per night Friday and Saturday, plus taxes. Call the hotel to reserve, 423-979-6400.

Full conference information is available on the NRHS site at <https://nrhs.com/news/2025-spring-conference/>. We are looking forward to seeing you! Cordially, George L. Carter Chapter and the NRHS Conference Team

Your Email Address is Important

By MIKE YUHAS, Membership Committee, NRHS

NRHS uses email to communicate with members about...

- Membership
- Upcoming conferences, conventions, and other events
- The availability of NRHS News online editions
- NRHS programs

Additionally, NRHS provides timely acknowledgements of donations via email.

If it's been a while since you've received an email from NRHS on any of these topics, it's likely because we do not have your email address on file. If that's the case, won't you please keep us up-to-date? Just send an email to membership@nrhs.com to let us know. Please include your NRHS member number, if it's handy, or your ZIP code.

Heritage Grant – Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley RHS Stations

Text and photos courtesy of NORMAN J. BARRETT, Director, Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Historical Society, NRHS

(continued from p. 1)



MOSCOW PASSENGER STATION - *New lights have a powder coated paint finish that replicates a weathered copper patina.*

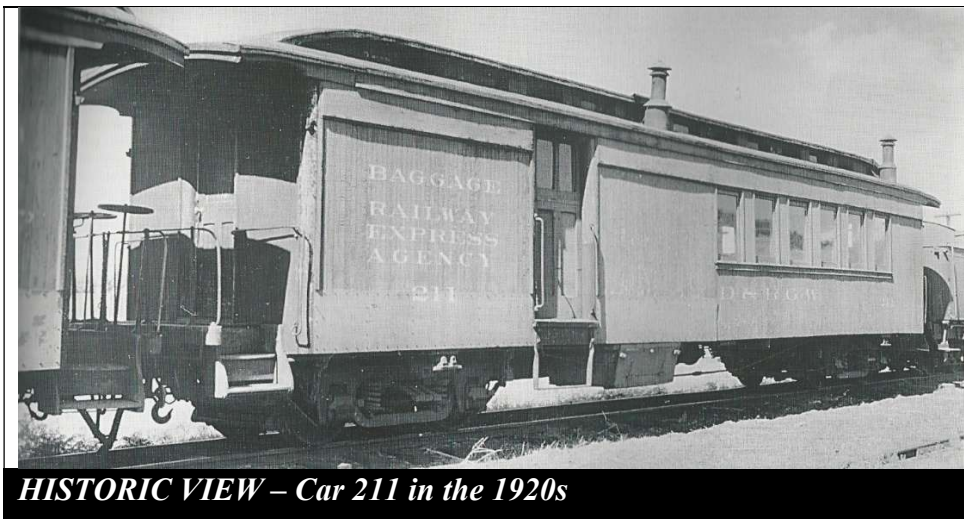


MOSCOW FREIGHT STATION – *Appropriate for a Freight Station, the new lights are powder coated in a dark green that goes with the station colors.*

Heritage Grant – Narrow Gauge Combine Rail Car #211

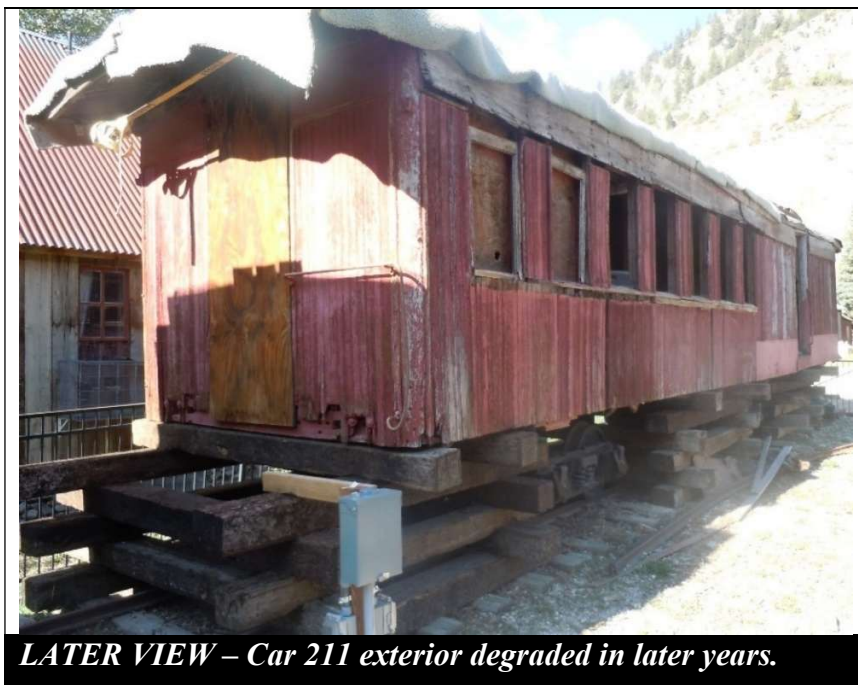
Text and photos courtesy HINSDALE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF LAKE CITY, COLORADO

Hinsdale County Historical Society of Lake City, Colorado is pleased to report on the completion of another phase of restoration of its narrow gauge combine Rail Car 211. With grant funding from the National Railway Historical Society and successful local event fundraising and donations, work has been completed to restore the flooring and sub-flooring of this historic rail car.



HISTORIC VIEW – Car 211 in the 1920s

Rail Car 211 was first manufactured as Coach 74 by Jackson & Sharp in 1881. After being renumbered as Car 298 in 1885, it was briefly retired and rebuilt as the current combine (passenger/freight) car in 1900 and was renumbered as car number 211. Combine cars were instrumental in serving small rural communities. Following the construction of the Lake City Branch of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad, Car 211 later serviced that branch, hauling passengers, mail, commodities, mining ore and lumber between Sapinero and Lake City, Colorado.



LATER VIEW – Car 211 exterior degraded in later years.

Restoration of Rail Car 211 has been a multi-year project requiring numerous grants and significant fundraising. All restoration work is being done by Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad in Durango, Colorado. Since Car 211 sat in an open field, stripped of most metal since World War II, weathering had severely deteriorated the car.

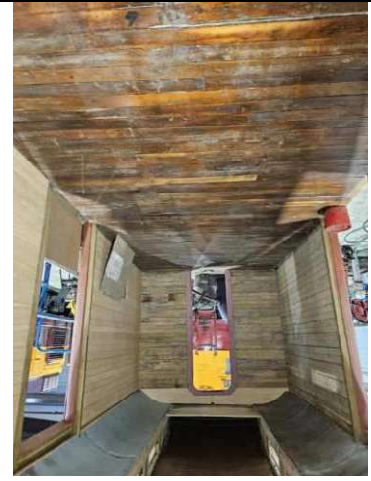
Having acquired the car for viewing and interpretation at the Hinsdale County Museum, this Society sent Car 211 to Durango in 2022 for restoration. Since then, Car 211 has received new framing & bolsters, end platforms, couplers, steps and railing, a new wooden and duck-bill metal roof, windows, external siding, and now flooring have been restored.



**RESTORATION SINCE
2022 – Car 211.**



**INTERIOR PASSENGER
COMPARTMENT – As of
January 2025.**



**INTERIOR FREIGHT
COMPARTMENT – As of
January 2025.**

Future restoration plans include restoration of interior siding, ceiling panels, restroom and shelving while adding lighting, stoves, Bunton seating and swapping out current trucks for correct passenger trucks before stenciling the exterior of Car 211.



WORK UNDERWAY – As of January 2025.

We are excited that Car 211 will then take several runs on the D&SNG Railroad in the Fall of 2025 before being returned to the museum in Lake City where Car 211 has been designated as a historic property and added to the Lake City Historic Register. At the museum, it will be accessible to visitors and be open to small lectures by historians and periodic school history lessons.

Heritage Grant – Union Traction Company Indiana # 429

Text and photos courtesy CAMERON NICHOL, President, Hoosier Heartland Trolley Company

JANUARY 20, 2025 - INDIANAPOLIS, IND. - Thanks to a Heritage Grant from the National Railway Historical Society, with support from the Indianapolis Chapter, more than \$1,000 in cash donations, and nearly 1,000 volunteer hours, one of Indiana's only surviving electric interurban railway cars is looking closer to how Hoosiers experienced their journey a century ago. The now-operable Union Traction Company of Indiana No. 429 interurban takes center stage as the nonprofit Hoosier Heartland Trolley Company develops Indiana's only electric heritage railroad and museum.

"The Indiana interurban was truly the interstate highway of its time. This fast, clean, and efficient high-speed electric railroad network connected cities and rural communities to opportunity in ways never thought possible throughout the early 20th century," comments HHTC Chief Mechanical Officer Jakob Stage. The Hoosier Heartland Trolley Company preserves a handful of Indiana's surviving electric railway cars to showcase this legacy as an operating heritage railroad and museum develops. The organization strives to foster education, tourism, and community placemaking through immersive train rides and educational experiences surrounding the iconic yet mostly forgotten chapter of the state's heritage.

"This grant opportunity from the NRHS allowed our volunteer team to return the interurban car's interior to its 1920s faux red mahogany wood-grained walls and warm, cream-colored ceiling. We are thrilled this partnership has allowed us to bring Union Traction No. 429 interurban closer to the way Hoosiers experienced it nearly a century ago as we once again aim to do so for the enjoyment and education of future generations," adds HHTC President Cameron Nichols.

In many cases, the team replicated the methods used in 1925 to recreate the faux mahogany finish with few technical resources. The process required stripping the car's interior to bare steel with sandblasting and applying six coats of primer, base paint and wood stain on the surface, roughly as large as a small cottage home. Volunteer Coordinator Michelle Yerkeson, a professional interior designer and restoration expert, explains, "Wood stain is manipulated with several brushes to achieve a "grained" appearance similar in look and texture to mahogany wood. "Graining" was a common practice in the 1920s and 1930s when steel was more practical than wood, as production methods evolved to permit a rich finish and warm interior, with which the public felt most comfortable."

Those interested in seeing the finished interior and operating interurban are encouraged to sign up for the organization's email list and engage on social media at hoosiertrolley.org. The website also hosts announcements regarding the development of the heritage railroad and the restoration of Union Traction interurban No. 429, along with donor membership and volunteer opportunities.

About the Hoosier Heartland Trolley Company - The Hoosier Heartland Trolley Company is an Indiana nonprofit 501(c)(3) founded in 2018 to save the last remaining railroad cars representing Indiana's rich electric railway heritage. The organization exists to spark imagination in people across all walks of life regarding the art, science, culture, technology and economic empowerment of Indiana's world-renowned electric railway industry from the 20th century. The company is developing the state's only electric heritage railway to immerse Hoosiers in authentic transportation experiences as a community asset for education, economic development and tourism.

More information regarding preservation efforts, news and development can be found at hoosiertrolley.org. Media Contact: Cameron Nichols, President cameron@hoosiertrolley.org



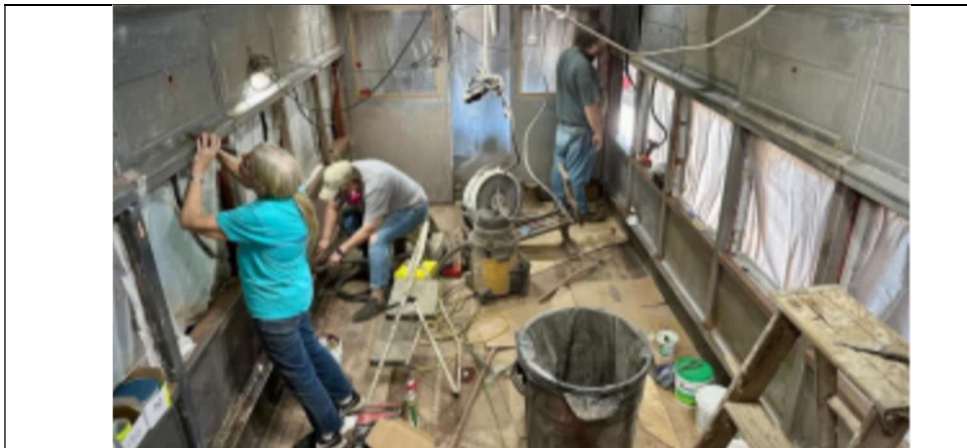
After being stored for 50 years following a prior restoration attempt and 25 years as a gravel pit office, the car's interior was structurally sound but rough.



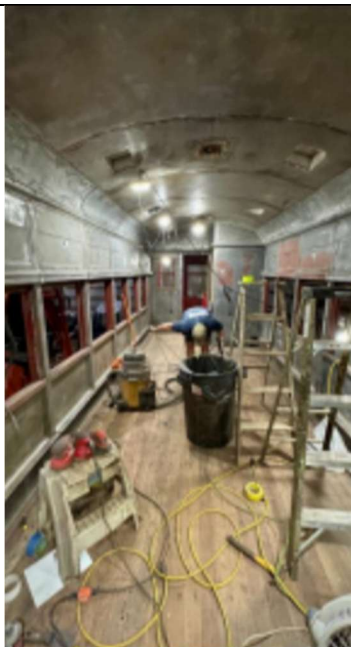
Volunteers Jakob Stage (left) and Michelle Yerkeson (right) fix and reinstall bent, corroded or missing panels.



Volunteers Michelle Yerkeson (left) and Jakob Stage (right) wear respirators while slowly sandblasting all interior panels.



Volunteers Lavonne Stage, Michelle Yerkeson and Adam Fisher (left to right) sand and conduct detailed surface prep work.



Volunteer Michelle Yerkeson cleans the interior for proper paint adhesion.



Volunteers Lavonne Stage and Matthew Kertes (left to right) apply primer.



Reddened earth paint is applied to allow the highs and lows of the faux wood grain to match the car's original samples when the stain is applied.



Volunteers Richard Witmer, Michelle Yerkeson and Lavonne Stage (left to right) apply and texture the first coat of stain.




Attention to detail in the simulated highs and lows of wood is shown.

CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS

THE RAILROAD EXPLORER V – SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025


EXTRA! EXTRA! tickets can be purchased through our website at www.lehighlines.org

Two groups...



Railroad Historians of the Lehigh Valley
and the
Lehigh Valley Chapter, NRHS
www.lehighlines.org
-ANNOUNCES-

...one million!



The RAILROAD EXPLORER V


A Railfan R.D.C. Branchline Excursion

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

Ride the Reading C Northern's RDCs over the entire length of the Lehigh Division Main Line (former Lehigh Valley/CNJ trackage) from Nesquehoning Regional Railroad Station. Experience the splendor of Lehigh Gorge State Park, then battle the rugged grades over Penobscot Mountain. Upon arrival at Pittston, explore rare mileage on the Taylor Branch, then travel the Susquehanna Branch to Tunkhannock and Vosburg Tunnel.
* The Railroad reserves the right to substitute motive power.

Boarding begins at 8:30. Train Departs Nesquehoning promptly at 9:00
 Nesquehoning GPS Address is: 1 Iron Horse Way, Nesquehoning, PA 18240
- A route map will be provided -

Your choice of Turkey, Italian, or Ham Hoagie *
 Please list your choices on the Ticket order form, below.
SNACKS, SODA, & WATER WILL BE AVAILABLE ALL DAY AT AN ADDITIONAL COST - SOLD BY THE RAILROAD



All are welcome, membership not required!

FARE: \$ 99.00/per Rider

Includes train charter over rare mileage, limited seating, photo-stops, run-bys, and lunch.

PLEASE RESERVE BEFORE APRIL 4, 2025
 Information or questions – KGJR1554@earthlink.net
 Mail checks to: Kermit Geary Jr, 1266 Riverview Drive, Walnutport PA 18088
 Make checks payable to: Lehigh Valley Chapter- N.R.H.S.

*** ALL Tickets will be held for pickup the day of the Trip . ***

✂
clip

RIDER NAME(S)	1.	2.	3.
*FOOD CHOICE	Hoagie	Hoagie	Hoagie

ADDRESS: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____,00 TELEPHONE: (____) _____ EMAIL: _____

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NRHS News

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