



## 2025 NSFVA Conference Schedule

Wednesday, July 9 “The Oregon Trail & Its Wagons”

**Location: Legacy of the Plains Museum (2930 Old Oregon Trail, Gering, NE)**

**1:00 pm to 5:00 pm: Presentation of Welcome Packets to Members and Guests**

**1:00 pm to 5:00 pm: First tour of The Legacy of the Plains Museum and Museum Area**

**1:00 pm to 7:00 pm: Set up your Trade Table(s) and Trading begins!**

**1:00 pm to 7:00 pm: Set up Stagecoaches and Wagons for the show.**

**6:00 pm: “Come and Get It”** - Serving Chuck Wagon Stew and biscuits for dinner.

While dining, listen to Welcome and Introductions along with Historian Jerry Lucas speaking on Studebaker Wagons and the history of the Oregon Trail. (30-40 min.)

**7:00 pm:** Entertainment and time to visit around the Chuck Wagon campfire.

Please note that there is a folded brochure inside your Welcome Packet – “104<sup>th</sup> Annual Oregon Trail Days - Schedule of Events”. While a great many things are happening in the area, we want to call your attention to the Vera Dulaney Memorial Art Show and Sale (July 10 -July 12). Also, the Oregon Trail Days Parade promises to have numerous teams pulling stagecoaches and wagons this year (July 12 @ 10:00 am) Enjoy your conference and Oregon Trail Days with the many activities that each event holds!

To simplify the schedule, the following keys are provided:

**KEY: All Red letters are addresses to important places.**

**KEY: All Green letters are scheduled activities/events.**



## 2025 NSFVA Conference Schedule

Thursday, July 10 "The Oregon Trail & Its Wagons"

**Location: Legacy of the Plains Museum (2930 Old Oregon Trail, Gering, NE)**

**\*7:30 am - Cowboy Coffee and Donuts at the Chuck Wagon** (Provided Thursday and Friday)

**\*8:00 am – 5:00 pm: Open all day. Load the wagon for the trip to Oregon Territory. Let the kids, and/or adults learn how and what to load to make the trip successful. This is a fun learning experience for all who try it.**

**\*8:00 am – 5:00 pm: Stagecoach and Wagon Show, open all day. At each stagecoach and wagon, you will find a laminated picture and informational story for the public. The setup remains open.**

**\*8:00 am – 5:00 pm: Trade Tables open all day to Buy-Sell-Trade stagecoach, wagon, or harness-related items. Note that tables may close from time to time due to other events and activities.**

**\*8:00 am:** Gather around the stagecoaches and wagons to listen to *"Emigrant Experiences, Traveling the Oregon Trail"* with Eric Grunwald, Lead Interpretive Park Ranger at Scotts Bluff National Monument.

Enjoy a short break, and then passenger wagons will offer you a ride to the hay field.

**\*10:00 am: Haying with Horses and Mules** - Hay'n will have an emcee/narrator, paid to teach and entertain the audience and chosen because of his experience and knowledge of haying and horses.

**Noon to 1:30 pm:** Lunch Break

**\*1:30 pm: Finish Haying** – Please be advised that the haying operation may still be in progress, and its completion timeline will naturally unfold according to its own pace and circumstances. If the haying finishes early we can return to the Stagecoach and Wagon Circle for the next scheduled speaker, Rawhide Johnson.

**\*Approximately 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm:** Rawhide Johnson, a Yellowstone Touring Coach expert, will share *"Interesting Stagecoach Facts"* about Concord and Mud Wagons and introduce us to books that hold valuable reference material.

**3:30 pm – 4:45 pm:** NSFVA Director and NSFVA Membership Meeting under the Chuck Wagon fly if the temperature is favorable. If not, the meeting will be held inside the Museum in the meeting hall.

**4:45 pm – 6:00 pm:** Time for yourself

**\*6:00 pm Sharp: Dinner at the Log Cabin Restaurant (1205 M Street, Gering, NE)**

Choice of Chicken Fried Steak or Roast Beef Dinner. Each comes with mashed potatoes and gravy, seasoned green beans and homemade bread. They are excellent cooks, so enjoy your meal and relax. The meal is included in your registration. Drinks and tips are not included and are your responsibility.



## 2025 NSFVA Conference Schedule

Friday, July 11 “The Oregon Trail & Its Wagons”

**Location: Legacy of the Plains Museum (2930 Old Oregon Trail, Gering, NE)**

**\*7:30 am - Cowboy Coffee and Donuts at the Chuck Wagon**

**8:00 am -5:00 pm: Open all day with three areas and activities:**

- Wagon loading to prepare for setting out for Oregon Territory (for fun and a candy bar)

- Stagecoach and Wagon Show

- Trade Tables Open. For more information, please see the Thursday schedule. Note that tables may close from time to time due to other events and activities.

**\* 9:00 am – 10:45 am:** Gather around the stagecoaches and wagons and listen to Hansen Wheel and Wagon Shop owner Doug Hansen talk about *“The Oregon Trail Wagons and Issues Concerning this Trying Journey West.”* Right afterward, Doug will teach us how to identify the different makers of the wagons here in the show.

**11:00 am -12:00 pm:** Take a break and visit the Legacy of the Plains Museum (2930 Old Oregon Trail, Gering, NE) and the Scotts Bluff National Monument Visitor Center, located just west of The Legacy of the Plains Museum. (190276 Old Oregon Trail, Gering, NE)

**12:00 pm – 2:00 pm: Lunch Break**

There are a lot of restaurants in downtown Gering and Scottsbluff, and you may encounter waiting lines, but the food is tasty! Quieter places with great food that we recommend are the Sale Barn Café (815 Morrison Rd, Gering, NE) and the Log Cabin Restaurant and Lounge (1205 M Street Gering, NE).

**2:30 pm – 4:45 pm: Bus Tour (2930 Old Oregon Trail, Gering, NE)**

Meet at the Legacy of the Plains Museum where a bus, with Historian Jerry Lucas narrating, will take us on a few miles of the Oregon Trail to see trail ruts, pioneer graves, remnants of a trading post, and national markers along the way. Get a feeling of being there, where John Unruh notes that *“the register of 1850, 2,018 people and 550 wagons went through on June 6, and on June 17, the peak day, 6,034 people were on the road.”* [The Oregon Trail Yesterday and Today by William E. Hill]

Saturday, July 12 “The Oregon Trail & Its Wagons”

**Location: Legacy of the Plains Museum (2930 Old Oregon Trail, Gering, NE)**

**7:30 am** Cowboy Coffee and Donuts at the Chuck Wagon, along with the Trade Tables and the Wagon Show. These events will be open before and after the Oregon Trail Days parade at 10:00 am (in downtown Gering on 10<sup>th</sup> Street). Soon after the parade, an inexpensive lunch will be available back at the museum.