October 12, 2023

Our speaker is John Lyons. In 1850 the Bradford station was the last stop on the Concord to Claremont Railroad line. The climb to Lake Sunapee of 100 feet per mile was almost impossible for a train. Ten thousand cubic feet of granite rock at the Newbury summit barred the way for 20 years until 1871.

Newbury Historical Society member John Lyons, will present a slide show about the challenge of extending the railroad from Bradford to Newbury and on to Claremont. Learn about how the impossible became only difficult and the steamboat era began.



John Lyons is a Professor Emeritus of Business at New England College. He taught there from 1973 to 2015.

His interest in history began with learning more about his home that was built in 1800. It yielded a series of stories about the owners over two hundred and twenty years. Newbury's pioneers lived their lives within thirty miles of where they were born. The coming of the railroad would dramatically change the lives of their descendants.