

Please Share With A Friend

THE WAYBILL



Mystic Valley Railway Society Newsletter
A Non-Profit Educational Corporation
1970-2016 • Over 46 Years of Service



credit R. Goelet

VOL. 47 NO 2 ISSN 0897-7577 Got a question? Call us at 617-361-4445, 24 Hours • E-Mail at contactus@mysticvalleyrs.org

JUNE - AUGUST 2016

www.mysticvalleyrs.org

CAPTAIN BILL'S WHALE WATCH

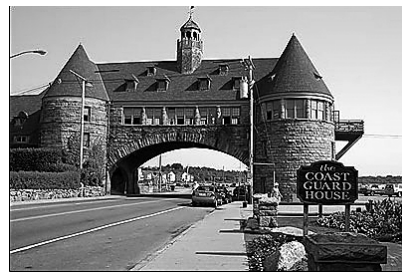
SUNDAY - JUNE 5, 2016



Details on page 5

TOWERS AT NARRAGANSETT

SATURDAY - JUNE 11, 2016



Details on page 5

SEASHORE TROLLEY MUSEUM

SATURDAY - JULY 16, 2016



Details on page 5

CABBAGE ISLAND

SATURDAY - JULY 30, 2016



Details on page 5

CALLING ALL MEMBERS – WE NEED YOU!

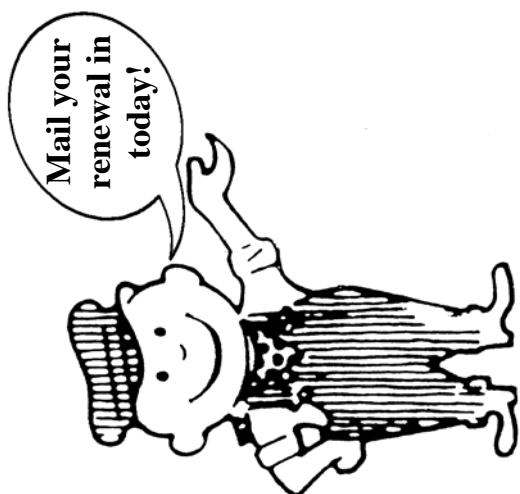
PLEASE SHARE YOUR TALENTS WITH US AS A VOLUNTEER



Details on page 6

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 58868

Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 365486
Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009



Deadline for Next Issue: August 1, 2016

Include your previous address with all address corrections



NOTICE!

2017 N. E. RAILROADING CALENDAR



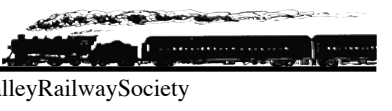
AVAILABLE JULY 1st
Order from the Society.
Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017



Keep the Good Times Rolling

Details on Page 2



From the President - Theresa E. Rylko

Happy New Year as we start our 46th year. There has been a lot of changes, but one thing stays steady that is your love for traveling with the Society. Thank you for your help in distributing the Waybills in your area. I want to welcome both Nancy Roney as our new Secretary, and Judy Berson-Hoyt as our new Treasur-

er. We are starting the year with an open director's position so if you feel inclined to help keeping the Society on track please call the MVRS number to let us know. Also, please feel free to talk to your tour leaders on what it is like to be a director. Thank you all for your support this past year with helping me feel like travel-

ing again. Please say a prayer for Sally Avjian as she is undergoing a serious illness. I am happy to announce that Roma Hertel has volunteered to be editor of the Waybill starting with the August issue.



From the Vice President - Jeff Costello

Mystic Valley Railway Society has had a busy past few months with successful trips, our Annual Election and Annual Business and Appreciation Banquet. We have two new board members, Nancy Martin, and Lillian Garvey. They will be attending

meetings and participating on committees and training on our future trips. We presented the W. Russell Rylko Memorial Grant to New England Steam Corporation Maine, and the Historical Society Mass. (pending) at the May 7th Annual Business Meeting. As

you can see, we have been busy and would welcome anyone who wants to volunteer and share your talents and skills with us. Climb on board folks!



From the Membership Chairperson - Ellie Manning

It's time to renew your membership. On the front of the Waybill- on the address label - to the right of your name there is a code. In order to receive your 2017 New England RR Calendar the code next to your name must read either LIFE or M16.

years and you will be taken off the rolls unless you wish to join again.

you will have to purchase the calendar from our boutique form. The United States Post Office does not forward bulk rate mail.

LIFE – means that you are a member for your natural life.

The Membership Year runs from April 1st to March 31st. Anyone who joins after January 1st automatically will be assigned to the new membership year. If you join or renew in the month of December, it will depend on the supply of the calendars whether or not you will receive the current edition of the calendar. The calendars are mailed in July by the volunteers of the Society and take approximately 4-6 weeks to go through the postal system. If you move, please notify us of your address change, otherwise

The membership fees starting **April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017** are Regular Membership, \$10.00, Family Membership \$4.00 per additional person, and Life Membership \$125.00. We look forward to your continued support.

M15 – means that you are a member for the year April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016. It is time to renew.

M16 means that you are a member for the year April 1, 2016-March 31, 2017

MAIL – means that you have not been a member for several

Board of Directors April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017

President
Theresa E. Rylko (Tracey)

Vice President
Jeffrey Costello (Jeff)

Treasurer
Judy Berson-Hoyt

Recording Secretary
Nancy Roney

Directors:
Lillian Garvey
Eleanor Manning
William Manning
Nancy Martin
Joseph McDonough
Marcia Pennington

Positions They Fill
Roma Hertel – Button Maker

Dr. Dirk Hertel –
Photography/Calendar

Billy Manning –
Mailing Chairperson

Ellie Manning –
Membership Chairperson

Sally Avjian & Ellie Manning-
Trip Team (Planning Trips)

Sally Avjian – Waybill Editor

Dan Ouellette –
Web Master/Computer

Joe McDonough & Jeff Costello –
Trade Show Coordinators

Jeff Costello –
Communications Radios/
Defibrillators

Marcia Pennington & Jeff Costello –
Boutique

Mary & Jay Verner –
Waybill Mailing Coordinators

Albert W. Avjian,
Treasurer, Emeritus

Sally M. Avjian,
Recording Secretary, Emeritus

You will see many of these volunteers as
tour leaders on your trips.

It takes a team effort to have a successful
volunteer organization. Please share your
talents as a volunteer with MVRS and be
rewarded by seeing your work in action.
Call 617-361-4445 and a volunteer form
will be sent to you.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Mystic Valley year runs from April 1 - March 31



- Here's what's included:**
- Our quarterly paper, *The Waybill*, filled with pictures and schedules of RR events.
 - Exclusive members-only tours to unique activities and locations.
 - Color Railroad calendar with 12 frameable prints (while supplies last).
 - Annual Calendar Color Slide Contest for members.
 - Railroad Socials.
 - Membership card, The Mystic Valley Pass.
 - Railroad films and guest speakers available upon request.

- Membership Fees & Classes**
- 1. Regular Membership** (one person) \$10.00
 - 2. Family Membership**
Price of regular membership for one member plus \$4.00 per additional person living in the same house with regular member. All are full members with only one copy of every mailing mailed to the family address.
 - 3. Life Membership** (one person, U.S.A. only) \$125.00
 - 4. For membership outside the U.S.A.,** please double the above fares (remit in U.S. currency only).
Calendars will be mailed during holiday season to all current members as stated above and not necessarily presented at time of joining (while supplies last).

PLEASE INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE

Mail to:
MYSTIC VALLEY RAILWAY SOCIETY, INC.
c/o Membership Committee
P.O. Box 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009
 Check here if this is an address change



Name: _____
Address: _____
City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Please include telephone number (with area code) _____
E-Mail: _____
Family members (no separate mailings). Please list full names: _____

Got a Question:
call us at 617-361-4445 (24 hours) or online at:
www.mysticvalleysociety.org

| | |
|---|----------|
| _____ NEW _____ RENEWAL | |
| _____ Regular Membership | \$ _____ |
| _____ at \$10.00 per person | |
| _____ at \$4.00 per additional person | \$ _____ |
| _____ to the price of the regular | |
| _____ Membership | \$ _____ |
| _____ Life Membership | \$ _____ |
| _____ at \$125 per person (U.S.A. only) | |
| _____ Tax deductible donations to a 501(c)(3) | \$ _____ |
| _____ organization are gratefully accepted. | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED | \$ _____ |

If you join more than once in the membership year, it will be considered a donation. Please send a SASE, a #10 business size envelope. Cards will be mailed to you in 5-6 weeks. There will be a \$20 service charge for returned checks.





NEWPORT PLAYHOUSE & CABARET LOBSTERFEST



Sunday – August 14, 2016

Enjoy the buffet with “all you can eat” lobsters, chicken, and 15 other items of delicious food to satisfy your palate. Watch a comedy live show of “Unnecessary Farce.” Two cops, Three cooks, Eight doors, Go. In a cheap motel room an embezzling mayor is supposed to meet with his female accountant, while in the room next door two undercover cops wait to catch the meeting on videotape. But there’s some confusion as to who’s in which room, who’s being videotaped, who’s taken the money, who’s hired a hit man, and why the accountant keeps taking off her clothes.

After this performance you will enjoy a Cabaret performance with music, comedy skits and more laughter.

Please make sure we have received your reservations in by Friday, July 15, 2016 because the Newport Playhouse needs the exact headcount for their due date.

Note: Please note the Newport Playhouse dress code. They do not allow t-shirts, baseball hats or cut-off jeans. Thank you for your consideration.

FEATURES:

- Comfortable round trip motor coach
- Newport Playhouse & Cabaret
- Lobsterfest Buffet



TIMETABLE

| | | | |
|--|-----------|---|--------------------|
| 8:30 a.m. Wellington T (Exit -Rte 16, Medford) | 6:30 p.m. | ↑ | \$106.00 pp |
| 9:00 a.m. Riverside T (Exit 22 off Rte 128/95) | 6:00 p.m. | | |
| 9:30 a.m. Braintree T (Exit 17 off Rte 3) | 5:30 p.m. | | |

All times are approximate and subject to change

Reserve in advance – capacity limited. Please read carefully and complete all details when requesting passage. Please include FULL NAMES OF ALL IN YOUR PARTY when completing this form. Tours run rain or shine. Timetable is subject to change. NO REFUNDS.

NEWPORT PLAYHOUSE & CABARET LOBSTERFEST



Sunday – August 14, 2016

\$106.00 pp

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name(s): _____ Phone# _____
 Address _____ Boarding Station _____
 City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Emergency Contact Name & Phone # _____

Please make all checks payable to: Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc. and mail to: MVRS, P.O. BOX 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009. Thank you. Information for handicapped Accessibility will be provided upon request. Your tickets and itineraries will be mailed about 5 days prior to departure. Note: A service charge of \$20 will be assessed for returned checks.

HOBO RAILROAD TURKEY TRAIN AND MOULTON FARMS



Saturday - September 17, 2016

Please join us as we travel to Lake Winnepesaukee for a beautiful **Hobo Railroad** train ride along the lake while eating a delicious full turkey dinner, just like Grandma used to make for Thanksgiving. After that delicious meal, we will visit **Moulton Farms** for the freshest cooking ingredients, beautiful plants, and tasty breads and pies. The farm house was built in 1811. After Austin Moulton purchased it, it became a cattle ranch for 50 years. There will be farm animals and pets to visit, Cider Bellies (famous warm cider doughnuts) and other treats from the Farm Bakery, free tractor rides with special events and demonstrations.

FEATURES:

- Round trip comfortable motor coach
- Hobo Railroad Train Ride
- Moulton Farm



MEAL CHOICE:

- Turkey Dinner

TIMETABLE

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---|-------------------|
| 8:30 AM Braintree T (Exit 17) RTE 3 | 7:30 PM | ↑ | \$86.00 pp |
| 9:00 AM Riverside T (Exit 22) | 7:00 PM | | |
| 9:30 AM Wellington T (RTE 16) | 6:30 PM | | |

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PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS FOR 2017 MVRS CALENDAR



John. R. Morse - Front Cover

Thomas J. Nanos - January

Dirk Hertel - February

Louis H. Beaudoin - March

John Kloczkowski - April

Rick Kelliher - May

Thomas J. Nanos - June

Robert A. LaMay - July

Robert A. LaMay - August

Stuart Lovell - September

David Jodoin - October

John R. Morse - November

Dirk Hertel - December

Louis H. Beaudoin - Back Cover

International News

Transport for London Announces Takeover of Surrey Rail Networks By: James Scannell

In January Transport for London (TfL) announced plans to take over more rail services from Surrey to London. TfL which operates all rail services in the Greater London area, has won government backing to take over the Southern Rail franchise in 2018, operating services from Dorking, Redhill and Reigate to the capital. This will then be followed by TfL taking over Southern, Thameslink and Great Northern services in 2021. The British Government and TfL are currently consulting ahead of the publication of detailed proposals.

TfL is also expected to control the South West Trains (SWT) franchise from 2017, which connects places such as Halsemere, Godalming, Walton, Esher and Guildford to London, but SWT say discussions are still on-going. The South West Trains franchise is currently under negotiation but is likely to include a “break clause” that means it could be taken over in 2019. TfL, which will set up a joint management team with the Department of Transport, (DoT) will run services which operate within the capital’s boundaries while DoT officials will be responsible for the wider South East.

SPT Signs Up 100,000th Smart Customer

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) which operates public transport in Glasgow, Scotland, signed up its 100,000th Smart customer in December 2015 with the lucky recipient, Rizwan Akhtar, receiving a year’s free Subway travel. Rizwan Akhtar, from Barrhead in East Renfrewshire, uses the Subway for all-day park and ride at Shields Road to get into St Enoch in Glasgow City Centre; and also to get to Hillhead to attend his evening class at Glasgow University.



Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/MysticValleyRailwaySociety



**HEAR YE!
HEAR YE!**
The Call Goes Out
To All Groups! 10 For 10



Group Sales Policy: 10 or more tickets purchased in ADVANCE by the SAME PERSON will be entitled to a 10% DISCOUNT subject to availability.

BLOCK SPACE may be arranged on any non-restricted event with Ticket Coordinator or Tour Director (when assigned) at least 50 days prior to departure. For further information, please contact the Mystic Valley Railway Society, 617-361-4445 or e-mail at contactus@mysticvalleirs.org.

MEMBER-O-GRAM



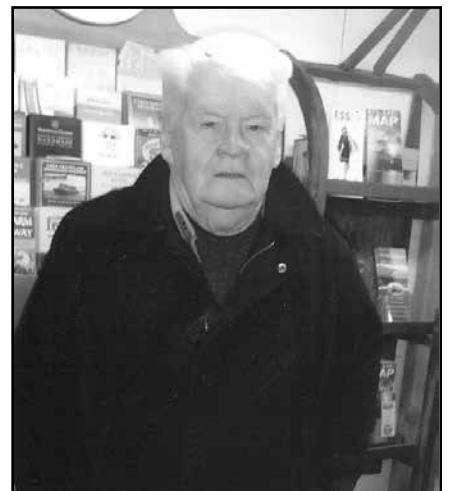
L-Mary Connors and Margie Baldwin enjoy watching the making of maple syrup.



Jim Crowe enjoying another MVRs trip to Vermont



Robere & Harriet Sant Fournier, love those gifts in the gift shop.



Dennis Dunnigan enjoying the Green Mountain State of Vermont



MVRs Secretary Nancy Roney, with her brother Ricky and son Joseph

idea TRIP IDEAS!

Have you visited somewhere around New England that you think the Mystic Valley Railway Society's members and friends would enjoy as much as you did?

PLEASE LET US KNOW!

Our Trip Team is always looking for new ideas, places to eat, things to see and do, train rides, museums, boat rides, etc.

With your help we can offer trips at a reasonable cost, that otherwise might have been overlooked.

Please contact us by e-mail at contactus@mysticvalleirs.org or via regular mail at MVRs, P. O. Box 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009.

Please provide your phone number or e-mail address, so that we may contact you, should we need more information.

**THE MVRs TRIP TEAM IS HERE FOR YOU!
BE THERE FOR THEM!**

Handicapped Information

The Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc., endeavors to provide its passengers with information regarding the accessibility of and facilities available for the benefit of our handicapped ridership. In doing so, we make inquiries of the facilities visited and equipment used on each of our trips. Accordingly, since we merely convey this information, we cannot be held responsible for its accuracy.

If you are not self-sufficient and have special needs, you must travel with a companion who can provide assistance to you. By making a reservation for a trip, you are certifying that you do not have any mental, physical or other medical/disability condition that could compromise your safety or that of other trip participants. If you are uncertain about the demands or difficulties of a particular trip or event, please call us for details.

RESERVATIONS

Please send a separate check and SASE for each trip. This way, if a trip did have to cancel, your check could be returned immediately. You will now find a separate coupon for each trip. If you want to come as a group, please list your group together in one reservation and sent to one address.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
AUGUST 1, 2016**

Booking Conditions



"We expect people to act respectful in a cordial manner. We also expect our passengers to follow instruction from supervised personnel on all transportation vehicles, i.e., trains, buses, boats, etc. It is important instructions be followed to maintain safety of all participants.

If any passenger is disruptive or refuses to follow direction they are subject to be prohibited from taking part in future trips. To be clear we consider non-compliance with safety directive to be a serious matter as well as use of foul language and disruptive conduct. Any of these behaviors will be grounds for prohibition of participation in future trips and events."

2016 W. Russell Rylko Memorial Grant

Applications were mailed to prospective Grant candidates, and information posted on the Society web-site during November 2015 with a January 20, 2016 deadline for submission. Six (6) submissions were received from railroad oriented non-profit organizations in Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, and Vermont. These submissions were reviewed by the Grant Committee, and two (2) recipients were selected. We presented the 2016 W. Russell Rylko Memorial Grant to two (2) deserving recipients, New England Steam Corporation, and the Boston & Maine Historical Society, at the May 7th Annual Business Meeting. Additional information may be found on www.mysticvalleirs.org.



WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

CAPTAIN BILL'S WHALE WATCH

Sunday - June 5, 2016

Please join us as we travel to CAPE ANN. First we will have a delicious lunch at the famous **GLOUCESTER HOUSE** before you experience a cruise you will never forget. We will board **CAPT. BILL'S NEW ENGLAND WHALE WATCH** for a 3 1/2 to 4 hour cruise to view the world's largest mammals surfing, feeding and breaching in the important feeding areas of Stellwagen Bank and Jeffreys Ledge. The unique and awe-inspiring Cape Ann whale watch offers many great photo opportunities! Don't forget to visit the Nautical Gift and Souvenir shop.

FEATURES:

Round trip comfortable motor coach
Lunch at Gloucester House Restaurant
Captain Bill's Whale Watch

MEAL CHOICES:

Pot Roast
Baked Stuffed Chicken

TIMETABLE

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| 8:30 AM | Braintree T (Ex 17 Rte. 3) | 7:30 PM | Price \$103 P/P |
| 9:00 AM | Riverside T (Exit 22) | 8:00 PM | |
| 9:30 AM | Wellington T (Rte. 16) | 8:30 PM | |

All times are approximate and subject to change

Reserve in advance – capacity limited. Please read carefully and complete all details when requesting passage. Please include FULL NAMES OF ALL IN YOUR PARTY when completing this form. Tours run rain or shine. Timetable is subject to change. NO REFUNDS.

CAPTAIN BILL'S WHALE WATCH

Sunday - June 5, 2016 Price \$103 P/P

MEAL CHOICES:

- Pot Roast
- Baked Stuffed Chicken

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name(s): _____ Phone# _____
 Address _____ Boarding Station _____
 City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Emergency Contact Name & Phone # _____

Please make all checks payable to: Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc. and mail to: MVRS, P.O. BOX 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009. Thank you. Information for handicapped Accessibility will be provided upon request. Your tickets and itineraries will be mailed about 5 days prior to departure. Note: A service charge of \$20 will be assessed for returned checks.

TOWERS AT NARRAGANSETT

Saturday - June 11, 2016

Come along with us to the resort community of Narragansett, RI, where we will visit the famous Towers to embrace the romance of the past, and the style and elegance of the Victorian era. Lunch is at the Narragansett Coast Guard House. Afterwards, enjoy exploring the Narragansett shopping area.

FEATURES:

Round trip comfortable motor coach
Towers at Narragansett
Lunch at The Coast Guard House
Shopping in Narragansett, RI

MEAL CHOICES:

Grilled Beef
Pan Roasted Salmon
Chicken Penne

TIMETABLE

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 8:00 a.m. | Wellington T (Medford, Rte 16) | 5:30 p.m. | Price \$94 P/P |
| 8:30 a.m. | Riverside T (Exit 22, 128/95) | 5:00 p.m. | |
| 9:00 a.m. | Braintree T (Ext 17, Rte. 3) | 4:30 p.m. | |

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MEAL CHOICES:

- Grilled Beef
- Pan Roasted Salmon
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SEASHORE TROLLEY MUSEUM

Saturday - July 16, 2016

A delicious meal at **Warren's Lobster House, in Kittery, Maine.** A ride along Ocean Avenue with a scenic view of the coast of Maine that will take us past the summer home of former-president, **George W. Bush** in Kennebunkport. Our visit to the **Seashore Trolley Museum** will include a trolley ride, and visits to the car barns, restoration shop, and museum gift shop. This museum was founded in 1939 and has grown into the largest electric railway museum. See the beginning of mass transportation from the omnibus to the development of the electric street car.

FEATURES:

Round trip comfortable motor coach
Warren's Lobster House
Ocean Avenue scenic ride
Seashore Trolley Museum

MEAL CHOICES:

Ritzy Filet of Haddock
Top Sirloin Steak
Includes salad bar

TIMETABLE

| | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 9:30 a.m. | Braintree T (Ext 17, Rte. 3) | 7:30 p.m. | Price \$80 P/P |
| 10:00 a.m. | Riverside T (Exit 22, 128/95) | 7:00 p.m. | |
| 10:30 a.m. | Wellington T (Medford, Rte 16) | 6:30 p.m. | |

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SEASHORE TROLLEY MUSEUM

Saturday - July 16, 2016 Price \$80 P/P

MEAL CHOICES:

- Ritzy Filet of Haddock
- Top Sirloin Steak
- Includes salad bar

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name(s): _____ Phone# _____
 Address _____ Boarding Station _____
 City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Emergency Contact Name & Phone # _____

Please make all checks payable to: Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc. and mail to: MVRS, P.O. BOX 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009. Thank you. Information for handicapped Accessibility will be provided upon request. Your tickets and itineraries will be mailed about 5 days prior to departure. Note: A service charge of \$20 will be assessed for returned checks.

CABBAGE ISLAND

Saturday - July 30, 2016

We will travel to **Boothbay Harbor, Maine** and board the **Bennie Alice** on Pier 6 for a scenic tour of Boothbay Harbor en-route to the 5 1/2 acre Cabbage Island in Linekin Bay. A succulent feast of Maine lobsters and clams with all the traditional fixin's awaits you by your hosts the Moore family.

FEATURES:

Round trip comfortable motor coach
Cabbage Island Clambake

MEAL CHOICES:

2 Lobsters 1 1/2 lb each
1/2 BBQ Chicken

TIMETABLE

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| 7:00 a.m. | Braintree T (Exit 17- Rte 3) | 10:00 p.m. | Price \$115 P/P |
| 7:30 a.m. | Riverside T (Exit 22 -Rte 128/95) | 9:30 p.m. | |
| 8:00 a.m. | Wellington T (Medford - Rte 16) | 9:00 p.m. | |

All times are approximate and subject to change

Reserve in advance – capacity limited. Please read carefully and complete all details when requesting passage. Please include FULL NAMES OF ALL IN YOUR PARTY when completing this form. Tours run rain or shine. Timetable is subject to change. NO REFUNDS.

CABBAGE ISLAND

Saturday - July 30, 2016 Price \$115 P/P

MEAL CHOICES:

- 2 Lobsters 1 1/2 lb each
- 1/2 BBQ Chicken

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Name(s): _____ Phone# _____
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Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/MysticValleyRailwaySociety



Railroad Boutique



All prices U. S. Funds, includes shipping and taxes

2016 N. E. Railroading Calendars - 37th edition \$8.00 each

This column will no longer list Boutique items. If you are interested in any of the items that were listed previously please look at the MVRs web site. www.mysticvalley.org

Calling all Members!

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR ACTIVITY??



NEW FRIENDS

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

REWARDING EXPERIENCES

WAYS TO HELP OTHER MEMBERS

or

SHARE A CAREER SKILL??



MVRs BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016 - 2017



(L-R) Front Row: Jeff Costello, Nancy Roney, Judy Berson-Hoyt, Tracey Rylko
(L-R) Back Row: Nancy J. Martin, Joe McDonough, Ellie Manning, Billy Manning, Lillian Garvey, Marcia Pennington

ALL ABOARD with the Mystic Valley Volunteers – the activities are as varied as their locations. Auto transportation is essential for some events, but many are located on the MBTA routes and may gather at special locations or at members' homes. Is distance an impediment? **NO WAY**, for we have dedicated members in many states and foreign countries who complete their activity by letter or E-Mail. Remember: volunteering allows you to share your talents and interests with those who would benefit most.

TO JOIN THE FUN Please request a volunteer form by submitting your request & membership number to: **M.V.R.S. P. O. Box 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009** or visit our Website www.mysticvalleys.org.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? Your request is presented at our regular meeting so that you will be contacted by the appropriate chairperson. From there it is up to you how involved you wish to be, for the level of activity and variety of trips offered by the Society are solely determined by the level of participation supplied by our volunteer members. **WELCOME ABOARD!**

Tracks We Have Crossed

Sugaring in Vermont



By Gerard Sevigny

Riding the Rails

By Robert A. LaMay



P&W unveiled its newest locomotive at Railroad Expo 2016



Other railroads brought locomotives to the Expo



Pan Am's latest addition was there also



Rainy night in Springfield, MA



NECR #3844 waits for work at Hartford, CT



Valley Railroad at Essex waits in the fog

On Saturday, March 12, 2016, the weather was bright sunshine and the temperature was an average of 33 degrees. I traveled with Mystic Valley Railway Society group at MBTA Wellington Station. We took a motor coach and the bus driver picked passengers up at two other stations. I saw snow and ice on rock wall along the highway. We traveled to Brattleboro, VT and it took three hours each way. We had lunch at the 99 restaurant in Brattleboro in Vermont.

After lunch we arrived at the Maple Sugar house at Paradise Farm. They were making maple syrup to show the group. They had a great gift shop which sells their maple syrup, Vermont cheese, home baked pies, cider donuts and candy, etc. We

stopped at the Cremery Covered Bridge and walked across it and took pictures. The bridge was a beautiful color of red and made of thick wood.

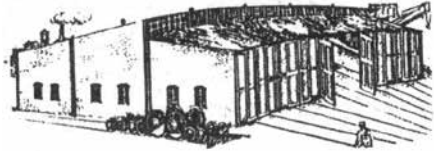
Basketville in Putney, VT was our last stop. They had many different kinds of baskets for sale as well as chairs, tables, lamps, Easter and Spring decorations. I saw some of the baskets handmade by American Amish. They had wine tasting this day and they sell many different fruit wines.





The Roundhouse

By Bill McCaffrey



In January the Portland Press Herald reported that Pan Am Railways has started to move containers on flat cars from the Portland waterfront to Ayer, MA. This involves a partnership with the Icelandic Ocean Shipping company, Eimskip.

Here is some data from an Association of American Railroads (AAR) press release. Carload traffic in January totaled 968,042 carloads, down 16.6 percent or 192,747 from January 2015. U.S. railroads also originated 1,039,621 containers and trailers in January 2016, up 3.4 percent or 34,523 units from the same month last year. For January 2016, combined U.S. carload and intermodal originations were 2,007,663 down 7.3 percent or 158,224 carloads and intermodal units from January 2015. Coal was down 33% from last year. Petroleum and petroleum products were down 24.9 percent.

In February Amtrak announced some changes to the rules about bringing pets on trains. At the moment the New England trains involved are Northeast corridor (pets on weekends only on Acela) and the Downeaster. Here is a quote

from Amtrak's web site:

- You must book your ticket by calling 1-800-USA-RAIL or at an Amtrak ticket counter.
- Pet parents will be charged \$25 to travel with their furry friends.
- Pets in carriers must weigh 20 pounds or less.
- Pets must be placed under pet parent's seat at all time during trip.
- Trips with pets may not exceed seven hours in length.

As we look for ways to further expand the pets on train programs, we are also excited to announce a new pilot program launching on February 20th, which will bring weekend pet travel (Saturday and Sunday) to our Acela Express service.

Internet comments on the new pet policy ranged from joy from pet lovers to rage from people who are allergic to cats and dogs.

Progressive Railroading reports that the MBTA signed a contract with J.F. White to repair the former Boston and Maine RR Bridge between Beverly and Salem. This will affect both Rockport and Newburyport commuter trains. The bridge's swing span which was built in 1885 will be replaced. The MBTA will close the bridge for 21 days in April 2017 while the swing span is replaced. Two additional

closures will occur in May 2016 and September 2016.

February 18, 2016 will be remembered for a long time by South Station commuters. MBTA/Keolis and Amtrak trains were badly delayed in entering and leaving South Station due to major signal problems. This problem affected both the morning and evening rush hours. It was an ordinary winter day and there was no snow, ice, or extreme cold to take the blame. Some commuter trains were cancelled. News reports talked about problems with "Tower 1" at South Station. South Station no longer has a traditional railroad signal tower with operators controlling switches and signals. The current "Tower 1" is a building crammed full of electronics but has no crew. The interlocking is remotely operated by a dispatcher in Amtrak's dispatch theatre. Although both MBTA and Amtrak trains use the interlocking, the dispatcher is an Amtrak employee.

Wells Fargo Bank has entered the rail-car finance, leasing and fleet management business. The company recently acquired GE's rail-car and locomotive leasing business and now owns more than 175,000 rail cars and 1,800 locomotives. (Full disclosure: Your columnist is a Wells Fargo stock

holder).

The Boston Globe had some good advice for the MBTA Fiscal Control Board. The board is looking at the Ashmont to Mattapan trolley line as a place to save money. This line runs with historic PCC type trolley cars which are about 70 years old. The Globe names several cities around the nation which now regret getting rid of trolleys and are spending big money to bring them back.

RAILPACE reports that Connecticut DOT plans to replace old diesel powered trains on Shore Line East with modern M-8 electric cars. The old equipment will move to the Hartford line to implement new commuter service.

Boston's Government Center MBTA station re-opened on 3/21/16 after a 2 year closure for a construction project to improve handicapped access. The Providence Journal reports that the deficit for MBTA trains running south of Providence to T.F. Green Airport and Wickford Junction is much higher than expected. There are also disagreements between the MBTA and the State of Rhode Island in regard to the amount that Rhode Island owes.



Lines from Ireland - January to March 2016

Refurbishment of the Boyne Viaduct which spans the River Boyne in Drogheda, Co. Louth, has been completed. The work involved the installation of a new drainage system to collect and remove rainwater, repairs to the steelwork, and the relaying of the track over the viaduct. The old paintwork was removed and replaced with a more suitable and modern protective paint system.

Freight trains on the Irish Rail network are smaller in size compared to those used in other parts of Europe where they can be generally up to 759 meters in length. The maximum length of an Irish Rail container train is 18 x 42ft wagons, which is about one-third that generally used in Europe. 21 wagon trains used to operate between Dublin and Cork, and un-braked loose-coupled goods trains were allowed to operate with up to 75 small 4-wheel wagons, nearly twice the length of current trains. In an effort to increase rail freight competitiveness, Irish Rail is hoping to increase the size of container trains to 27 x 42ft wagons with trials to schedule to take part in February, 2016 as part

of the certification process.

In January Irish Rail announced that 39.7M passenger journeys were made in 2015, an increase of 5% on the 2014 figure. Taxpayer revenues and sales volumes grew significantly during 2015, increased by 11% to US\$45 M.

Dublin City Councilors were told that during 2015 Irish Rail had spent US\$ 490,000 cleaning graffiti from trains and that the courts were failing to take the issue of criminal damage seriously. 172 incidents of graffiti were recorded in the Dublin suburban area compared to 57 in 2014. There were 79 incidents of vandalism to property compared to 35 in 2014. Incidents of trespass rose to 288, an increase of 10 on 2014. Assistant Police Commissioner Jack Nolan said that graffiti came under the heading of criminal damage and was a matter that could be tackled through education in schools. He admitted that the current police schools programme does not deal with graffiti but that the issue was serious enough to warrant inclusion in it.

Irish Rail hosted a special family fun day at Westport Station, Co.

Mayo on Saturday 30th January to celebrate 150 years of the railway to Westport. Festivities kicked off at Noon with face painters on hand to entertain the kids while the Westport House Road Train gave free trips around the town to children of all ages. The Westport town band provided music and refreshments were served. Display boards showed familiar faces of the many, many Westport people that have worked on the railroad through the years.

On February 17th it was announced that due to flooding in Ballycar, the railroad line between Limerick and Ennis remained closed until further notice and that bus transfers would continue to operate between Ennis, Co. Clare, and Limerick City with restricted service into and out of Sixmilebridge. With water levels continuing to rise, this disruption was expected to continue until the end of April 2016 at the earliest.

On February 15th, Locomotive 226 was observed with a Dublin Hueston Station Yard to Sallins test train drawing 16 autoballast wagons with Locomotive 8209 dead

at the rear and believed to be the heaviest train to run on the Irish Rail network. Engineer Reminder Appliance (ERAs) have been fitted to all operational trains - this involved fitting out 308 engineer's cabs at a cost of US\$ 550,000.

In Northern Ireland, following two years of negotiation, Translink has been awarded a contract to exclusively public transport in Northern Ireland, including rail services, for a period of five years.

In Belfast City Mott MacDonald has been awarded the contract for design checking the proposed double tracking for the Dargan Viaduct, built in 1994. The work will involve confirming the Proof of Concept for widening the existing viaduct; the designing of pier and pile strengthening solutions for track strengthening; and the construction work of piers and foundations in an initial section.





WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

Hyannis Duck Boat Tour

Saturday - July 9, 2016

Climb aboard the Duck Boat for a tour of Hyannis and the Hyannis Harbor. Have a nice visit of the JFK Museum and enjoy shopping and dining on your own in downtown Hyannis.

FEATURES:
Comfortable Motor Coach
Tour of JFK Museum
Duck Tour
Downtown Hyannis on your own

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|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| TIMETABLE | | | |
| ↓ | 8:00 am Wellington T (Rte16) 8:30 am Riverside T (exit 22) 9:00 am Braintree T (exit 17 rte 3) | | ↑ 6:00 pm 5:30 pm 5:00pm |
| All times are approximate and subject to change | | | Price \$70 P/P |

Reserve in advance – capacity limited. Please read carefully and complete all details when requesting passage. Please include FULL NAMES OF ALL IN YOUR PARTY when completing this form. Tours run rain or shine. Timetable is subject to change. NO REFUNDS.

CAPE COD JAZZ CRUISE

Sunday - August 28, 2016

Back by popular demand, we will head south towards the Cape for a cruise on the Cape Cod Canal from the quaint village of Onset, MA. The music on the boat will be by the Hazy Hot & Humid Band. We will be having Lunch at the Bailey's Surf and Turf in Wareham MA, serving homemade pot roast and crab cakes.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Motor Coach
Bailey's Surf & Turf – Wareham, MA
Jazz Cruise – Onset on Cape Cod

MENU CHOICE:
Chicken Piccata
Pot Roast
Crab Cakes

| | | | |
|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| TIMETABLE | | | |
| ↓ | 9:00 AM Wellington T (Rte16) 9:30 AM Riverside T (exit 22) 10:00 AM Braintree T (exit 17 Rte 3) | | ↑ 7:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:00pm |
| All times are approximate and subject to change | | | Price \$90 P/P |

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Hyannis Duck Boat Tour

Saturday - July 9, 2016 Price \$70 P/P



PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name(s): _____ Phone# _____
 Address _____ Boarding Station _____
 City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Emergency Contact Name & Phone # _____

Please make all checks payable to: Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc. and mail to: MVRs, P.O. BOX 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009. Thank you.
 Information for handicapped Accessibility will be provided upon request. Your tickets and itineraries will be mailed about 5 days prior to departure.
 Note: A service charge of \$20 will be assessed for returned checks.

CAPE COD JAZZ CRUISE

Sunday - August 28, 2016 Price \$90 P/P



MENU CHOICES:

- Chicken Piccata
- Pot Roast
- Crab Cakes

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

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CONNECTICUT EASTERN RAILROAD MUSEUM 5th ANNUAL RAILROAD DAY

Saturday – September 3, 2016

Our travels today take us on the Southern route to Willimantic, CT. We will enjoy a delicious luncheon at the Willimantic Brewing company Café. This day is the 5th Annual Railroad Day at The Connecticut Railroad Museum, which offers train rides (\$3.00), turntable & gallows signal demos, museum tours throughout the day, Equipment displays, locomotives & cars, live music starts at noon.

FEATURES:
Comfortable Motor Coach
Willimantic Brewing Company Cafe
CT Eastern Railroad Museum

MENU CHOICE:
Chicken Piccata
Roast Prime Rib of Beef

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|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| TIMETABLE | | | |
| ↓ | 8:00 am Wellington T (Rte16) 8:30 am Riverside T (exit 22) 9:00 am Braintree T (exit 17 rte 3) | | ↑ 7:30 pm 7:00 pm 6:30pm |
| All times are approximate and subject to change | | | Price \$80 P/P |

Reserve in advance – capacity limited. Please read carefully and complete all details when requesting passage. Please include FULL NAMES OF ALL IN YOUR PARTY when completing this form. Tours run rain or shine. Timetable is subject to change. NO REFUNDS.

CONNECTICUT EASTERN RAILROAD MUSEUM 5th ANNUAL RAILROAD DAY

Saturday – September 3, 2016 Price \$80 P/P



MENU CHOICES:

- Chicken Piccata
- Roast Prime Rib of Beef

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 Address _____ Boarding Station _____
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Please make all checks payable to: Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc. and mail to: MVRs, P.O. BOX 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009. Thank you.
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 Note: A service charge of \$20 will be assessed for returned checks.

CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH AT LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE

Sunday – September 11, 2016

Please join us as we travel to the beautiful Lakes region of New Hampshire, where we will spend a luxurious afternoon on board the M/S Mount Washington. We will enjoy a wonderful CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH CRUISE on glorious Lake Winnepesaukee, NH, departing Weirs Beach. You will travel the waters between Sleepers Island and the mainland. After the cruise, we will have some free time to explore Weirs Beach before we visit the famous KELLERHAUS for ice cream, candy, gifts and other sweet goodies.

FEATURES:
Round trip comfortable motor coach
M/s Mt Washington at Weirs Beach Champagne Brunch
Kellerhaus Candy and Ice Cream Shop

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|---|---|--|------------------------------------|
| TIMETABLE | | | |
| ↓ | 8:30 am Braintree T (exit 17- Rte 3) 9:00 am Riverside T (exit 22 –Rte 128/95) 9:30 am Wellington T (Medford- Rte 16) | | ↑ 8.30 pm 8:00 pm 7:30 pm |
| All times are approximate and subject to change | | | Price \$90 P/P |

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CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH AT LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE

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