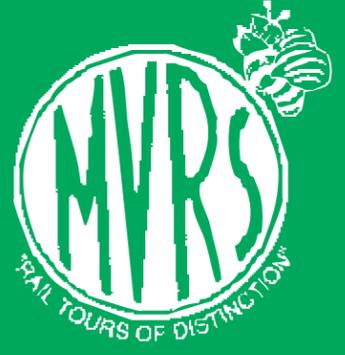


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THE WAYBILL



Mystic Valley Railway Society Newsletter
A Non-Profit Educational Corporation
1970-2017 • Over 47 Years of Service



credit R. Goelet

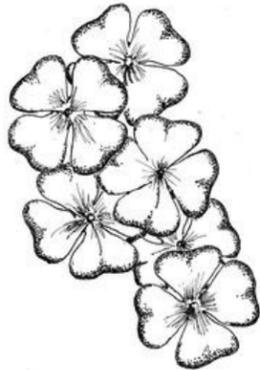
VOL. 49 NO. 1 ISSN 0897-7577 Got a question? Call us at 617-361-4445, 24 Hours • E-Mail at contactus@mysticvalleyrs.org MARCH - MAY 2018
www.mysticvalleyrs.org

Little Bit of Ireland

SUNDAY - MARCH 18, 2018



Details on page 5



Mac's Maple

SATURDAY - MARCH 24, 2018



Details on page 5

Springtime in VT

SATURDAY - APRIL 14, 2018



Details on page 5



Daffodil Days in RI

SATURDAY - APRIL 28, 2018



Details on page 5



SHELBURNE VT WEEKEND FRIDAY 6/22 – SATURDAY 6/24/18



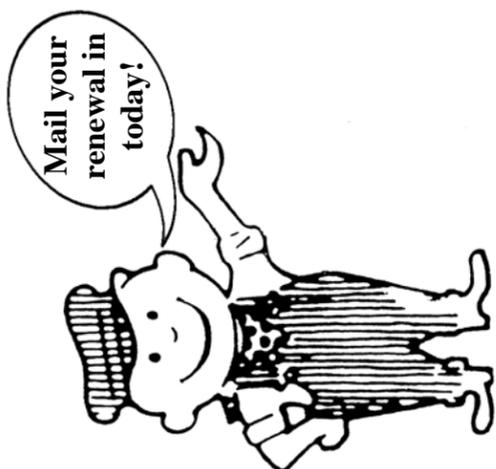
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Deadline for Next Issue: May 1, 2018

Include your previous address with
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Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 365486
Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009



NOTICE!

See page 3 for
2018 Annual
Business Meeting
and
Appreciation
Banquet

**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL**
April 1, 2017 –
March 31, 2018



**Keep the Good
Times Rolling**

Details on Page 2



From the President - Theresa E. Rylko

As we once again head into the spring season it is time to remember the Annual Meeting on Saturday May 5th at the Mt Vernon Restaurant in Somerville. This is your opportunity to tell us of any concerns or ideas for the new year. Please share your stories of adventures with the MVRS and

bring the memories alive for your fellow members. Come support your team in their effort to give you interesting trips and events. As you travel along you might see an area which others may enjoy. If you have a favorite restaurant you frequent and think it could handle a bus-load of hungry travelers,

let us know for we are always looking for new places to dine. Feel free to send the Trip Team some brochures to review for possible future visits. If we have a trip to your area feel free to meet us and say "hi". It is always a pleasure to see a friendly face.

From the Vice President - Jeff Costello

We at the Mystic Valley Railway Society welcome you in the spring season of 2018. Of course we still have familiar favorites Brimfield Flea Market and the Champagne Brunch. The trip team is looking for new ideas, so if you have a place of interest let the trip team know about it. Mystic Valley Railway Society again participated at the Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show in West Springfield MA on Jan 27

and 28, 2018. It was the 50th Anniversary of the Hobby Show. There were over 400 dealer/vendors and a crowd of 20,000 people. Volunteers Marcia Pennington and Mary Verner joined me and once again both did an outstanding job! They had an enjoyable time viewing many train layouts and merchandise. Of course, I was able to play with and run two vintage Lionel trains we were selling. And we had the MVRS Trol-

ley. Never too old for trains! Mary brought a train set to donate that got sold. As usual we are always interested in new ideas. At this time we are also looking for a volunteer to join Joe McDonough and Jeff Costello as a member of the Russell Rylko Memorial Grant Committee.

From the Membership Chairman - Nancy Jeanne Martin

It sure has been a cold winter so far and I have been staying at home a lot but am planning to go on a number of the new spring trips. In March I plan on Mac's Maple since I love maple sugar, whether liquid or solid. Later I'll go on the May trip to the Mark Twain House and Museum. On an earlier visit I really liked the house and the history so look forward to going again.

Somerville, easily reached from the Sullivan Square stop on the Orange Line. Parking is also available.

rollator, feel free to bring it along. My scooter is too large and heavy to go under the bus.

Our monthly board meetings are held at the Mt Vernon. I can get there on the Orange Line with my electric scooter or, as I say to little boys and girls, my electric car. As a train buff I can also take my scooter on the purple line and Amtrak.

Remember you can call the club on 617-361-4445 at any time with questions or to leave me a message about your membership. After the last Waybill one of my neighbors called about changing their address. It took me a minute to realize what he was talking about. This couple and their children and my husband, son and I went on our first MVRS trip together back in 1979. Russell [Rylko] asked for volunteers and my husband raised his hand. That was our beginning with the MVRS.

For MVRS trips, I take The Ride to Wellington and then arrange for The Ride following the trip. I usually bring my rollator or, as it is also known, my walker-on-wheels. The bus drivers are always helpful storing it under the bus. So, if you need a

From the Waybill Editor - Roma Hertel

Public transportation is an indicator of a civilized society willing to invest in infrastructure that is paid for by all and serves all. It requires foresight, determination, planning and investment in a cohesive manner. In the greater Boston area, we benefit from a subway and bus system, The Ride, commuter rail, ferry service, and Amtrak. Our airport has direct links to public transportation. Bicycle-sharing schemes are becoming more common.

to live in the city, populating the many new apartment developments springing up near public transportation hubs. They expect frequent and fast public transport options.

Bill McCaffrey writes about efforts underway, closer to home, to connect New Haven with Hartford CT and eventually Springfield MA. Nancy Martin, in her membership column, tells us how The Ride helps her travel around the Boston area, providing a link to activities and other forms of transportation. Every MVRS passenger traveling by car to Wellington, Braintree or Riverside in order to board that "comfortable motor coach" is taking advantage of parking infrastructure linked to public transportation.

Everybody wins when public transportation is available. Some rely on it as their only option. Others choose it to avoid the joint aggravations of driving and parking. For yet another segment of the population it is a way to decrease their carbon footprint. And those who never ever use it should be especially grateful: without its existence the roads would be more even congested.

This Waybill has a number of columns where contributors write about public transportation and how agencies near and far rise to these challenges. James Scannell in his "Lines from Ireland" (page 7) describes how public transport infrastructure will be central to future planning in Ireland, where an integrated network of high capacity electric rail- and subways is being created to connect homes with the places where people go for work, study, play, and even to fly away to other countries. In "International News" (page 3) he reports that in London night services on the Tube and overground rail lines help people to get home from late work and nights out. The service created more than 3,600 jobs and contributed more than \$242M to London's economy in its first year. Always of personal interest to me are James' continuing reports on the tram system of Manchester, a city I visit regularly.

No system is ideal or can afford to stand still. There will always be room for improvement and further development. But we ought to be thankful that those that came before us, such as electric railway pioneer Frank Sprague (see page 6), had the foresight to implement public transportation systems and must hope those responsible for ensuring its future understand its critical role in shaping the sort of community that people are proud to call "home".

TRAIN SHOWS & EXCURSIONS

By popular demand! To publicize an event please mail details to Mystic Valley Railway Society - Attn: Train Show Column, P.O. Box 365486, Hyde Park MA 02136 or else email contactus@mysticvalleyrs.org. Publication deadline: see page 4.

• Sun. 3-10-18 (10am-4pm): **Spring 2018 Vermont Rails Train Show**, Collins Perley Sports & Fitness Center, Rt. 104, Exit 19, Interstate 89, St. Albans VT. \$5 over 12.; \$1 ages 6-12; Free under 6; \$5 family with active military ID. Info: <http://www.nvrrailroad.org>, Ron Piro 802-598-0905, ronpiro@aol.com

• Sat. 3-10-18 (9am-4pm) and Sun. 3-11-18 (10am-4pm): **Model Railroad Show & Open House**, South Shore Model Railway Club & Museum, 52 Bare Cove Park (Bldg. 51), off Fort Hill Street, Hingham MA. Admission (2 days): \$5 adult; \$3 ages 5-12; free 4 and under (with adult); \$3 senior (65+). Info: www.ssmrc.org

• Sat. 3-17-18 and Sun. 3-18-18 (10am-4pm each day): **Greenberg's Train & Toy Show**, Shriners Auditorium, 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington MA 01887. \$10 (Sat) or \$9 (Sun) Adult; free 11 and under (with adult). Info: <http://trainshow.com/wilmington03/>

• Sat. 4-7-18 (10am-3pm): **Great Northern New England Train Show**, Dover Lodge of Elks #184, 282 Durham Road, Dover NH. \$5 per family. Info: Ed Martin 603-362-4300, efminter@aol.com

• Sat. 4-8-18 (10am-3pm): **New England O Scale Train Show**, Metrowest Model Railroad Society, Hudson Elk's Hall, 99 Park Street, Hudson MA. \$6 adult; \$8 family maximum; free 15 and under (with adult). Info: Larry Grant 508-337-6661, BigBrotherLar@netzero.net

• Sat. 4-14-18 (10am-4pm): **The HUB Division Inc. Spring Training**, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center, 103 Center Street, Bridgewater MA 01324. Adult \$5; free under 12 (with adult). Info: www.hubdiv.org

• Sat. 5-19-18 (9am-4pm): **Chester On Track, Chester Railway Museum**, off Rt. 20, Chester MA. Free (donations accepted). Info: <http://www.chesterrailwaystation.net/>, David Pierce, 413-354-7878, dpiercelp@aol.com

Reminder: these listings are provided as a courtesy. Please check all details before attending.

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
2. **Family Membership**
Price of regular membership for one member plus \$4 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
4. For membership outside the U.S.A., please double the above fees (remit in U.S. currency only).

Calendars will be mailed to all current members as stated above and not necessarily presented at time of joining (while supplies last).



Discover New England By Train!

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) _____

Email: _____

Family members (no separate mailings). Please list full names: _____

Got a Question:

call us at 617-361-4445 (24 hours) or online at: www.mysticvalleyrs.org

NEW RENEWAL
Regular Membership \$ _____
at \$10 per person
at \$4 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.



Board of Directors 2017 - 2018

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
Mary Verner

Positions They Fill

Roma Hertel - Waybill Editor, Button Maker
Dirk Hertel - Photography/Calendar
Billy Manning - Mailing Chairperson
Nancy Jeanne Martin - Membership Chairman
Sally Avjian & Ellie Manning - Trip Team (Planning Trips and Social Event Co-Chairs)
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



Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/MysticValleyRailwaySociety



Special Event



ANNUAL MEETING and APPRECIATION BANQUET

Saturday May 5, 2018

Mount Vernon Restaurant
14 Broadway
Somerville MA 02145-3398
Tel: 617-666-3830

- 10:00am Annual Meeting & Appreciation of Volunteers
- 12:00pm Buffet Lunch: complimentary for volunteers; \$25 for guests
- 1:00pm Awarding of the 2018 W. Russell Rylko Memorial Grant
- 1:15pm MVRS Through the Years – Sharing Memories with Show & Tell: bring pictures, mementoes, and stories from your favorite trips

Accessible by public transportation (Orange Line to Sullivan Square).
Driving directions will be sent with your itinerary.



ANNUAL MEETING & APPRECIATION BANQUET \$25 PER PERSON Saturday May 5, 2018



Please make all checks payable to Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc. and mail to:
P. O. Box 365486, Hyde Park MA 02136-0009
Enclose a self-addressed stamped #10 envelope. No refunds.

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please include your telephone number (with area code) _____

International News *by James Scannell*

Mayor of London, UK, launches Night Overground services

On December 15th the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, launched 24-hour Night Overground services in the capital for the first time. 24-hour weekend services began on the London Overground between Dalston Junction and New Cross Gate, making it faster and easier for thousands of Londoners working late hours or enjoying nights out, to get around, and will be extended to Highbury & Islington in 2018. The launch follows the huge success of the Night Tube which has seen more than nine million journeys, helped cut late night journey times by an average of 20 minutes, created more than 3,600 jobs and contributed more than £170M [\$242M] to London's economy in its first year. Night Overground will help more people enjoy this diverse and buzzing area of east London, rich with museums, galleries, restaurants, bars and nightspots. Enhancing transport options throughout the weekend will help those working shifts or in the service sector, providing safer journeys and reduced journey times. The Night Overground is part of the Mayor's draft Transport Strategy, which aims to create a fairer, greener, healthier and more prosperous city by improving public transport. Many other night shift workers, including hospital staff and those who work for the emergency services, will also benefit from Night Overground with frequent and reliable services helping them to travel around east London more easily. Connecting with the Night Tube network at Canada Water on the Jubilee line and, from next year, Highbury and Islington on the Victoria line, the Night Overground will transform journeys and open up London at night for thousands of people. Passengers using Night Overground will benefit from much shorter journey times than currently available at night. Specially trained Travel Safe Officers will also travel throughout the night across the London Overground network alongside TfL-funded British Transport Police officers who work across the London Overground and Tube networks.

Upgrade to Tram Services in Manchester UK

Metrolink customers are set to benefit from later running trams, better connections and improved capacity and resilience following a service pattern change introduced on January 28th.

- Airport line services running to Victoria (previously Deansgate-Castlefield), providing better connections and additional capacity through the regional city.
- Sunday services extended by approximately an hour into the evening.
- Additional platforms at Altrincham and Victoria stops brought into operation to improve reliability; customers are advised to check when using these stops.
- Services from MediaCityUK running to Etihad Campus (previously to Piccadilly).
- Altrincham services that previously ran to Etihad Campus terminating at Piccadilly.

Trams will continue to operate either a six or twelve-minute frequency as now. Metrolink staff will be on hand at key stops in the first weeks of the new pattern to explain any changes and guide customers.

Customers also noticed a change to the network map, which was re-designed to reflect recent service changes and took into consideration feedback from customers. Coloured lines have been reintroduced on the network map to make it easier to distinguish the services that operate as well as numbered flags. Additional trams introduced on the Altrincham and Bury lines before Christmas will continue to operate, providing additional capacity at peak times on the network's two busiest lines.

€65 million package for French Grand Est rural lines

On November 28th 2017 a convention was signed by Grand Est and SNCF Réseau committing €65M to upgrade and safeguard six rural lines in the Grand Est Region.

The €65 million package is made up of €35 million from the Grand Est Region, €20.7 million from the State, and €9.3 million from SNCF Réseau. Priority will be given to the Molsheim-Saint-Dié section of the Strasbourg-Saint-Dié line where, since December 2016 for reasons of safety, a 50km/h speed restriction on the Saales - Saint-Dié-des-Vosges section has led to the elimination of almost all rail services. A €15.9 million package will see the replacement of 9,000 ties between Saales and Saint-Dié with the intention of restoring the normal line speed and an increase in services by September 2018. Restoration work will also take place on the Colroy Tunnel, including replacement of the ballast, and the Magel bridge between Molsheim and Rothau. A second stage will see 16 km of track replaced between Rothau and Saales by 2021. The package is intended to secure the Strasbourg-Saint-Dié line for the next thirty years.

SHELBURNE VT WEEKEND

Fri June 22 – Sunday June 24, 2018

Travel to the Green Mountain state. After lunch on your own, we'll tour the Teddy Bear Factory to see the bears being individually crafted and visit the Bear Hospital. Two nights at Quality Inn, Shelburne VT. Group dinner.

After Saturday breakfast spend the day at Shelburne Museum. See special exhibitions, historic collections, circus displays and the steamboat Ticonderoga. Shuttles run between the 39 buildings. The ongoing restoration of the 1899 private rail car Grand Isle has been partially funded by the MVRS Rylko Memorial Grant. Lunch on your own at the café. Group dinner.

Leaving Shelburne after Sunday breakfast, we'll head to Quechee Village where many shops sell antiques, jewelry, and Vermont-made products including Cabot Cheese. Lunch on your own. As we return to Massachusetts with fond memories of Vermont, there'll be an additional supper stop.

FEATURES:

- Comfortable Motor Coach
- Teddy Bear Factory Tour
- Full day at Shelburne Museum, Shelburne VT
- Quechee Village, Quechee VT
- Included: two breakfasts and two dinners
- On your own: three lunches, one supper



Write or call for full itinerary

Fares:

- \$475 per person double occupancy
- \$565 per person single occupancy
- Non-refundable deposit of \$100 per person due by Friday April 20, 2018 to hold your reservation.

TIMETABLE

8:00am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	6:00pm
8:30am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	5:30pm
9:00am	Wellington T (Rte 16 – Medford)	5:00pm

All times are approximate and subject to change



SHELBURNE VT WEEKEND

Fri June 22 – Sunday June 24, 2018



Fares:

- \$475 per person double occupancy
- \$565 per person single occupancy
- Non-refundable deposit of \$100 per person due by Friday April 20, 2018 to hold your reservation.

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.

A Little Bit of Oz

by Geoff Wright

Editor's note: welcome to our new Australian member. Geoff has volunteered to write a regular Waybill column after having a short note in the previous edition's Member-o-Gram. And as I haven't (yet) visited Australia, here's a map to remind us how the country is divided into states.



Last time I spoke about an export train from the north-east of the state of Victoria, Australia. Now I'll write about another export train that runs between Melbourne and Mildura, on the state line to New South Wales close to South Australia. It carries perishable fruit for the Melbourne market, as well other produce and wine for export. Another pick-up is biscuits.

The G class GM locomotives entered service in 1984 and have a top speed of 115 kilometers per hour (just over 71 mph). The two back locomotives are A class, capable of the same speed. These were rebuilt in 1984 from 1952-1954 B class locomotives, with the under-frame being strengthened and engine capacity increased from 1500 hp to 2500 hp by the addition of turbos.



MEMBER-O-GRAM

In December **Barbara Peterson** enjoyed a trip to San Antonio TX. Her hotel was right on the Riverwalk, a-glitter with millions of Christmas lights. Attractions on the trip included a dude ranch, an olive orchard, and a sound-and-light show at a church. The weather was perfect: sunny and 77-83°F each day.



Lillian Garvey and Richard Vernick enjoying their lobster luncheon on a MVRs trip.

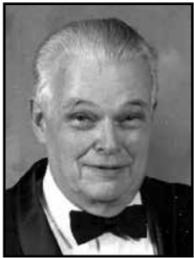


MVRs President **Tracey Rylko** got out her red cape, an important holiday tradition for her. And being with a horse that was also dressed up to the nines put the frosting on the cake.



For **Nancy Roney** and her son **Joe**, a highlight of their January 2018 visit to Palm Springs CA was the large G-scale garden railway at the Living Desert. They say this layout, run by volunteer hobbyists, is very impressive and a "must-stop" for any train fan visiting the area.

In Memoriam



CARL JACKSON (pictured) of Canton MA died Saturday January 19, 2018 at the age of 87 years. Carl, the beloved husband of Vajlit, loved trains and enjoyed not only collecting model trains but also traveling by train in the US, Sweden and England. He participated in MVRs train trips.

EDWARD OWEN died April 2017 at the age of 84 years. He was a long-time member of MVRs and served on the Board of Directors for several years. Building on his love of photography, Ed compiled vast scrapbooks of MVRs trips that he shared with members.

Tracks We Have Crossed

A Most Wonderful and Magical Day

by *Duncan and Douglas Maitland*

On Saturday December 9, 2017 MVRs sponsored a trip named "Yuletide in Newport": what an appropriate title since Mother Nature decided to add an early winter snow storm to the mix. We started from Wellington at 9am with people missing even before pickups at Riverside and Braintree.

Our first stop was the Newport mansion, "The Elms", specially decorated for the season. We waited outside, anticipating stepping back to a slower, less complicated era.

Inside, the Christmas trees and lights were displayed in beautiful surroundings. At one point the mansion was weeks away from demolition, till some forward-thinking Newport citizens formed The Preservation Society of Newport County. Most surprising was the magnificent display of antique Santas and Christmas animals in the formal dining room. Their size and fine detail put them in a class of their own. We have never seen better. These German pieces were the best on offer in the early 1900's. The large hand-carved wooden creche with its many pieces, displayed on the second-floor landing, came a close second.

We want to recognize the quick reflexes of our competent bus driver: he had to brake suddenly just after we left "The Elms," as a speeding car crossed our path even though we clearly had the right of way. He did an outstanding job in conditions that challenged everyone on the road.

Our next stop was the La Forge Casino Restaurant for a wonderful buffet. We were seated at round tables in a private area. The staff took pride in the service as well as the food. Everyone was overwhelmed with the meal so kept on eating instead of rushing out to shop. Special thanks to Trip Team

for choosing this venue, and the crew member who put us in a holiday mood with her magnificent red velvet cape and Santa hat. [Editor's note: see photo in Member-o-Gram, above.]

Then it was on to Attleboro MA for the dazzling lights at the La Salette Shrine. We arrived at 4pm and a welcoming Brother boarded our bus. He mentioned all that was on offer, and that at 5pm the lights would come on and International Creche Museum would open. The religious gift shop was the largest we've seen. We bought a foot-high wonderfully detailed statue of St. Patrick in memory of our mother and her mother, both born on March 17th.

We next went to the International Creche Museum where two large rooms house creches from around the world. They were collected by an anonymous donor. We were most impressed with the ones from Africa. We finished the museum tour and went outside to see the beautiful light display.

What a show our eyes feasted upon. It was wonderful to see multi-generational groups enjoying a true winter wonderland and mesmerized by the lights, the trees, the falling snow, and the crowds. The not-yet-frozen Rosary Pond reflected it all. It truly had been a most wonderful and magical day.

We were back on the bus by 6pm. As we pulled away a woman triumphantly exclaimed, "That hot fudge sundae was the best I've ever had!" Instantly, we realized that we had failed to do just one of the things mentioned by the welcoming Brother two hours before. If you only knew how much we love hot fudge sundaes! So, can we do this trip again? We need to sample them and we're wondering, how about the rest of you?

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."

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.

Calling all Members!

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR ACTIVITY??



NEW FRIENDS
TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES
REWARDING EXPERIENCES
WAYS TO HELP OTHER MEMBERS
or SHARE A CAREER SKILL??



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.mysticvalleyrs.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!**



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@mysticvalleyrs.org.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
May 1, 2018



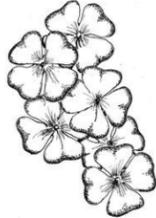
WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

Little Bit of Ireland

Sunday - March 18, 2018 Fare: \$95 PP

HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY!! Please join us for a corned beef and cabbage lunch at the Chateau Restaurant, with alternatives available. Then it's a short ride to Waltham's Reagle Music Theater for a "Little Bit of Ireland". This play is full of music, dancing, singing and comedy all around Irish traditions.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
Chateau Restaurant
Reagle Music Theater



TIMETABLE

10:00am	Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	6:30pm
10:30am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	6:00pm
11:00am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	5:30pm

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.

Mac's Maple

Saturday - March 24, 2018 Fare: \$78 PP

'Tis the season for the sweet smell of maple syrup. After a delightful luncheon at The Weathervane Restaurant, we'll travel through the early spring countryside to Mac's Maple. There, as part of Maple Weekend, they'll be boiling the sap down into maple syrup and offering samples. Many other surprises and treats await at the farm store: Gram's raised donuts and syrup, plus crepes with maple butter, maple kettle corn, maple cotton candy, and Bourbon maple syrup. At this working farm, the cows get milked late afternoon.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
Weathervane Restaurant, Lebanon NH
Mac's Maple



TIMETABLE

8:00am	Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	7:00pm
8:30am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	6:30pm
9:00am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	6:00pm

All times are approximate and subject to change



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Little Bit of Ireland

Sunday - March 18, 2018 Fare: \$95 PP

MENU CHOICES:

- Corned Beef & Cabbage
- Penne Pasta with Meatball and Sausage
- Minestrone Soup and Turkey Club

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.

Mac's Maple

Saturday - March 24, 2018 Fare: \$78 PP

MEAL CHOICES:

- Lobster Roll Dinner
- Grilled Chicken Dinner
- Fried Shrimp and Haddock

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Springtime in VT

Saturday - April 14, 2018 Fare: \$100 PP

Enjoy the lovely ride to Quechee VT for lunch at The Quechee Inn, established 1793. Then we will visit the Vermont Institute of Natural Science for a guided tour of the raptor exhibit with eagles and other birds that hunt and feed on animals. Our next stop is Quechee Gorge Village which showcases the delights of Vermont from the Cabot Cheese store to studios with jewelry, clothing, and gifts. There's a blacksmith shop, a distilling company and also the Vermont Antique Mall, a paradise for antiquers.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
Quechee Inn, Quechee VT
Vermont Institute of Natural Science
Quechee Gorge Village



TIMETABLE

8:00am	Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	8:00pm
8:30am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	7:30pm
9:00am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	7:00pm

All times are approximate and subject to change



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Daffodil Days in RI

Saturday - April 28, 2018 Fare: \$95 PP

Blithewold Mansion is a photogenic wonderland of blooming daffodils. We will take a self-guided tour of this 33-acre estate on Narragansett Bay, and learn how the family developed the thousands of daffodils over the years. Lunch will be at the Coast Guard House Restaurant in Narragansett RI, with beautiful views of the ocean. Afterwards we will travel to the Visitor Center in Newport RI, in convenient walking distance from the Brick Market Place with its many stores and art galleries, plus yet more views of the ocean.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
Blithewold Mansion, Bristol RI
Coast Guard House Restaurant, Narragansett RI
Brick Market Place shops, Newport RI



TIMETABLE

8:00am	Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	7:00pm
8:30am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	6:30pm
9:00am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	6:00pm

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.

Springtime in VT

Saturday - April 14, 2018 Fare: \$100 PP

MENU CHOICES:

- Grilled Salmon
- Black Jack Top Sirloin
- Lemon Chicken Chardonnay

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

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 Address _____ Boarding Station _____
 City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
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 Emergency Contact Name & Phone # _____

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Daffodil Days in RI

Saturday - April 28, 2018 Fare: \$95 PP

MENU CHOICES:

- Grilled Beef
- Pan-roasted Salmon
- Chicken Penne

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

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 City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
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Frank Sprague (1857-1934): Forgotten Pioneer of Electric Railways

By Dirk Hertel

Winter is not my preferred time for travel; if the weather is inclement I'd rather stick my nose in a book. Still, I must go to work, and the Red Line subway takes me most of my way. Rattling through dark mornings and evenings I often wonder what keeps the train going (or stops it when some part or other wears out), and realize that Albert Einstein's quote applies to me and probably most subway riders: "Everybody should be ashamed who mindlessly uses the wonders of science and engineering, without understanding any more of them than a cow understands the botany of the plants it happily munches."



Frank Sprague in 1932

Who invented the various parts and systems that power and control electric subway trains? I guessed the obvious names such as Thomas Alva Edison and Werner von Siemens, but an old book from the White Elephant Table at the South Shore Model Railway Club in Hingham MA told me I was wrong. The Trolley Car Treasury, written in 1956 by Frank Rowson, introduced me to Frank Sprague, a now lesser-known electrical engineering giant. Born 1857 in Connecticut, he had an outstanding mathematical talent. After graduating from the US Naval Academy in Annapolis MD, the young ensign spent most of his off-duty time writing electrical patents, trying to perfect dynamos, electrical motors, and apparatus for speed control. His visit to the 1882 Crystal Palace Exhibition in London fortunately resulted in a 169-page technical report on all electrical apparatus shown there that was brilliant enough to save him from court martial for having overstayed his leave by 6 months. While in London he directed his mind to the idea of electric transportation, which charted the course of his life. At this time, electrical engineering was still in its infancy.

There were no means for industrial-scale electrical power generation; batteries were still the main source of electricity. Early electric motors were weak and temperamental, and the first electric streetcars frightened people and horses with fireworks of sparks. Also lacking were reliable means for power distribution and speed control. Frank Sprague

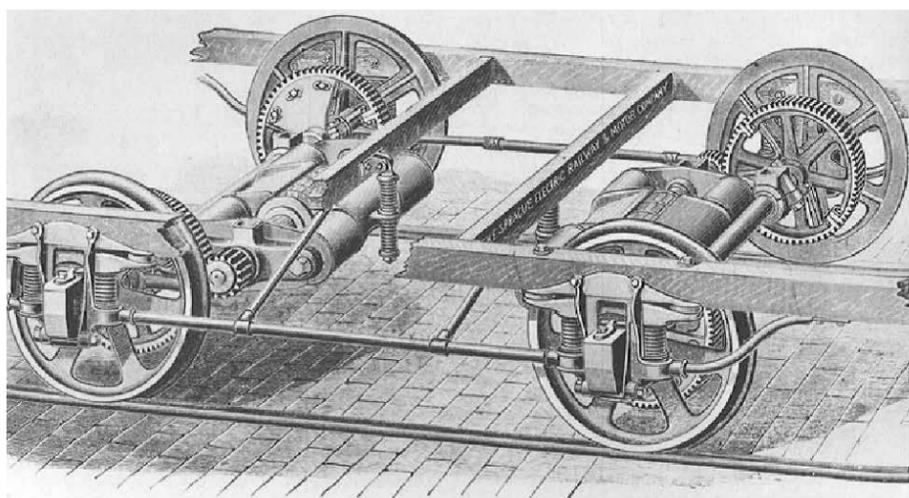
successfully tackled these many problems by relying on mathematical engineering rather than trial and error. This distinguished him from inventors like Edison who scorned mathematical principles, preferring the let's-try-it-and-see-what-happens approach.

One of Sprague's inventions was the "self-adjusting, upward-pressure contact wheel" (called trolley) to pick up electric power from overhead wires. He not only designed the first efficient railroad motor but also ingeniously mounted it into the railroad truck in what he called "wheelbarrow fashion." "Part of the motor was supported by the axle, and was spring-mounted on the truck frame. Thus on rough track the motor could bounce, but only in an arc about the axle that precisely maintained gear spacing." Other important inventions were motor speed control and regenerative braking – the motor acting as generator when the streetcar was slowing down, feeding electricity back into the system. He solved the problem of sparking in motors by using carbon brushes instead of brass.

These many inventions were first put to use in Richmond VA where Sprague's company installed the first technically and commercially successful electric streetcar system. In 1888 the Richmond Union Passenger Railway was the only large trolley-car system in the world, with its own power generation and distribution, able to handle a load of 40 streetcars simultaneously. Other cities took note. Henry M. Whitney, president of the horse-drawn West End Railroad in Boston, was impressed by a dramatic traffic-jam simulation that Sprague staged for him: starting up a line of 22 streetcars after the congestion cleared without burning out wires and generators. This made way for a franchise of the Sprague streetcar system in Boston, which in part survives as the MBTA Green Line. In 1889 more than 200 Sprague streetcar systems were under construction in the US, Germany and Italy. However, Sprague's involvement in streetcars ended in late 1889 after a hostile takeover by the Edison General Electric Company.

Not to be discouraged, he moved on to an impressive succession of design achievements: a 1,000 horsepower electric locomotive, the most powerful the world had yet seen; high-speed elevators that made skyscrapers practicable; and most notably, in 1895, "multiple unit control" which could precisely control the many electric motors of a train from the motorman's cab, paving the way for subway and elevated trains. In 1902 he invented the "dead man's button," a device to automatically stop the train should the driver become incapacitated.

When Frank Sprague died in 1934, he was widely recognized, honored and still busy with new patents. However today his name is nearly forgotten as he had not insisted that his inventions bear his name when selling them to big companies like GE, Westinghouse, and Otis Elevators. Learning by chance of this great engineer, I now have an appreciation of the inventor whose application of mathematical principles makes possible my daily commute on the T.



"Wheelbarrow" mounting of streetcar motors (1886)

Riding the Rails

By Robert A. LaMay



North Pole Trains meet at Deep River CT



Ethanol Train at Stafford Springs CT



Old and new meet at Palmer MA



Having Fun in Deep River CT



Acela Express approaches Connecticut River



Train 86 crosses Connecticut River

W. Russell Rylko Grant Update – Joe McDonough

The third of four payments for the 2017 Rylko Grant was made to the Shelburne Museum during December. They have pretty much accomplished the painting and track work they had planned for on their private rail car. The creation of the continuing slide show has been modified somewhat, but still falls within the criteria for the Grant. It is anticipated the final payment will be made during April 2018.

Twenty-five (25) instruction and application packages were mailed during January to potential recipients of the 2018 Grant and information posted on www.mysticvalleys.com with a submission deadline date of March 1, 2018. It is expected that the 2018 Grant will be awarded at the Society Annual Meeting on Saturday May 5, 2018.

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Small train books for children from Dover Publications

Choose from 2 sets, each with 3 different titles: 3 books for \$6.00

_____ Set 1: Famous Train Stickers, Little Train Stickers & Trains Activity Book

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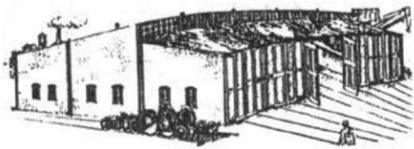
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The Roundhouse



The Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (NNEPRA) announced at the 2017 Annual Meeting in October that they will explore implementation of service on the Rockland Branch. The “Downeaster Coastal Connection” pilot program would be an extension of existing schedules, using existing equipment. This seasonal and weekend-only service would provide Downeaster transportation to Bath, Wiscasset, Newcastle, and Rockland, Maine. Details, including a schedule of public meetings to gather input from communities along the line will be announced soon. At this point Rockland service is under consideration but is not yet scheduled.

Speaking of the Rockland Branch, former Maine Eastern FL9 locomotive (ex-New Haven) was hauling Christmas trains in New Jersey for its parent company Morristown and Erie this season. It is still lettered Maine Eastern. Maine Eastern was the previous operator of the state-owned Rockland Branch. Central Maine and Quebec took over the freight operation at the beginning of 2016; there was no passenger service on the line in 2016 or 2017.

From the Connecticut Department of Transportation website: When Hartford Line service begins in the spring of 2018, CTrail and Amtrak will provide 17 roundtrip trains between New Haven and Hartford each weekday; 12 of these 17 roundtrip trains will continue to Springfield. Travelers in New Haven, Wallingford, Meriden, Berlin, and Hartford will be able to board trains every 45 minutes during the morning and evening peak hours, and approximately every 60-90 minutes during off-peak periods. Weekday service will begin as early as 6am and run as late as 11pm, providing a convenient alternative to driving for people traveling to work, school, or for leisure throughout the corridor.

Hartford Line trains will operate at speeds up to 110 mph, reducing travel time between Springfield and New Haven from an average of 89 minutes to 81 minutes, a savings of 8 minutes. The Hartford Line will also provide direct or connecting rail service to New York City, Boston, and Vermont; and local connections to CTtransit and CTfas-trak.

Controversial CSX CEO Hunter Harrison died on 12/16/17 in Wellington FL. He had made drastic changes at Illinois Central,

Canadian National, and Canadian Pacific. All of these companies saw a significant rise in their stock price. In his 2005 book, “How We Work and Why: Running a Precision Railroad,” Harrison laid out his core principles for running a rail carrier: service, cost control, asset utilization, safety and people. He was unpopular with rail unions. He began his career in 1963 as an 18-year-old carman-oiler for St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Co., lubricating train wheels while attending the University of Memphis.

From the MBTA web site on 12/21/17: Federal Transit Administration releases first \$100 million toward total approved \$1 billion for Green Line Expansion project. This project will eventually extend the Green Line to Somerville and Medford. The T has issued a “Notice to Proceed” to design-build firm.

Wollaston Station on the MBTA Red Line was closed in January 2018 for a construction project expected to last 20 months. [Editor’s note: this will make the entirety of the Red Line 100% accessible.]

WASHINGTON— Amtrak has named Ken Hylander Executive Vice President and Chief Safety Officer. Hylander most recently served as Chairman of the Flight Safety Foundation and previously served as the Chief Safety Officer at Delta Air Lines. He will report directly to President and CEO Richard Anderson and be responsible for implementing a proven Safety Management System (SMS) at Amtrak. [Amtrak Press Release]

Retired Norfolk Southern CEO Wick Moorman stepped down as co-CEO at Amtrak as scheduled on 12/31/17. He said when he came to Amtrak that he did not intend to remain long term. He is now a Senior Advisor to Amtrak.

Courtesy of Billy Leazer, a member of the Amtrak Northeast Group on Yahoo, comes a report that Amtrak is retiring the popular Pacific Parlour cars on the Coast Starlight in early February. The cars are former Santa Fe bilevels. It is not known why Amtrak Marketing chose to use the British spelling “parlour” when American railroads had a long history of offering high-class parlor car service. One more amenity has been taken away from Amtrak passengers.

A jury in Sherbrooke, Quebec acquitted all 3 railroad employees charged with criminal negligence in the Lac Megantic tragedy that killed 47 people on July 6, 2013. The verdict came after nine days of deliberation. This catastrophic oil train wreck caused the bankruptcy of the Montreal, Maine and Atlantic Railroad. [NationalPost.com]

The Conway Scenic Railroad suffered serious damage from a wind and rain storm in late October. The railroad and its contractors are working vigorously to put the line back in good shape for the 2018 tourist season. [Railpace].

The Maine Department of Transportation is looking at the possibility of creating a trail along the former Grand Trunk Railway line from Portland to Yarmouth. The last rail user was the St. Lawrence & Atlantic which delivered beans to the B&M Baked Beans factory but lost this business in 2015. [Railpace].

The problems at New York’s Penn Station continue to attract media attention outside the usual rail publications. Bloomberg Business Week January 15, 2018 issue devoted 6 pages to this topic. As with most other articles by New York media, the emphasis is on the woes of the daily commuters rather than the long-distance passenger. A particular concern is the two Hudson River tunnels built by the Pennsylvania Railroad 107 years ago. The reporters were given a close-up view of one tunnel from the rear of an Acela train. The marks left by the salt water that entered the tunnels during Super Storm Sandy 5 years ago are still very visible. Sulfates and chlorides have been eating away at the concrete ever since. Amtrak says the tunnels are safe for now. Every Amtrak and New Jersey Transit train that travels from New York to New Jersey and points south must pass through one of these tunnels. The loss of even one tunnel would have devastating effects on both New Jersey commuters and Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor. New Jersey, New York, and the Federal Government have been arguing for years about how to finance new tunnels.

The Bloomberg article contained some interesting statistics. Penn Station is the busiest rail station in the Western Hemisphere. It serves 430,000 people each weekday which is more than LaGuardia, JFK, and Newark airports combined. There are more than 1,300 train arrivals and departures every weekday.

From Progressive Railroading: On the Wolverine service from Detroit to Chicago, Michigan DOT has logged a 20-minute reduction in travel time.

In 2012, Michigan DOT purchased 135 miles of the rail corridor between Kalamazoo and Dearborn from Norfolk Southern Railway. Using \$347 million in federal funds, the department replaced worn track and smoothed curves for higher speeds, upgraded crossings and signals, and upgraded the train signaling and communication system.

Crews also installed a new bridge connection in west Detroit to allow for a faster connection for trains bound for Detroit, Royal Oak, Troy and Pontiac, Michigan DOT officials said.

From Washington Post on-line: CHARLOTTESVILLE Va — Just over an hour into the [January 31, 2018] train ride from Washington to West Virginia, Republican lawmakers traveling to their annual retreat were settling in for the long excursion, chatting with colleagues or family or simply stretching their legs.

Without warning, the train slammed into a white garbage truck. It was quite a jolt,” said Rep. Tom Cole (Okla.). “It was just bam.” “You could feel we had hit something,” said Sen. Mike Lee (Utah). “It took us maybe a quarter-mile to stop.”

The force from the chartered 10-car Amtrak train sliced into the truck on the tracks Wednesday, killing one person and injuring at least five, a deadly start for a GOP gathering focused on party unity and election-year strategy.

Shortly after impact, the doctors among the Republican rank-and-file ignored security officials’ warning not to leave the train and rushed to help. Sen. Bill Cassidy (La.), a physician, along with Sen. Jeff Flake (Ariz.) and Rep. Brad Wenstrup (Ohio), helped carry one truck passenger several hundred yards to an ambulance.

Their destination was West Virginia’s Greenbrier Resort, once home to secret government facilities built in the event of a nuclear attack that now often hosts the winter conferences held by Democrats and Republicans to plot strategy. Republicans opted to travel together by rail for security and logistical purposes. Speaker Paul D. Ryan (Wis.) was on the train and uninjured; Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (Ky.) was not on board. Republicans were scheduled to arrive by early afternoon.

The crash occurred in Crozet, Va., a town of about 5,500 residents 12 miles west of Charlottesville. Residents who live near the crash site said it’s not the first time vehicles have struggled at the Lanetown rail crossing.

The crossing “is not good for trucks of any size,” said Ray Page McCauley Jr., who said that the height of the crossing has long posed problems and that he’s seen other trucks get stuck before. “A lot of tractor-trailers have gotten stuck, and even limos seem to have trouble getting across it,” he said. “If a truck breaks down, there isn’t enough time to call the railroad to let them know.”

Lines from Ireland

The National Transport Authority (NTA) announced that 2017 saw a significant increase in passengers using Dublin Bus and Luas with Dublin Bus recording the largest number of passenger journeys at over 136M, an increase of 9% on 2016, the fourth consecutive year of passenger growth. Dublin Bus maintains that this passenger growth has been driven by focusing on enhancing customer experience, great bus priority measures and the introduction of new vehicles. Eighty new buses will be added to the company fleet on a phased basis during 2018. Numbers using the Luas service increased by 10.26% to 37.6M passenger-journeys during 2017. With the opening of the Blue line in December and the Green and Red lines now interconnected, it is expected that there will be a significant rise in passenger journeys in 2018.

Low Rail Adhesion (LRH) caused by falling leaves in the Fall is an annual problem for Irish Rail and other rail operators around the globe and to deal with this Irish Rail operates a vigorous programme of lineside vegetation management, has 110 automatic gel applicators located across their network, manual handheld gel applicators stored at

strategic locations for use by maintenance staff, and has on-board sanding equipment installed on passenger trains which is activated when wheel-slip is detected.

On Saturday December 9th Taoiseach [Prime Minister] Leo Varadkar; Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport, Shane Ross; and Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform, Paschal Donohoe were in attendance at the official opening of Luas Cross City line at the General Post Office in O’Connell Street, Dublin. The extended section of the Green Line runs from St. Stephen’s Green in the city centre to Broombridge on Dublin’s northside and became fully operational at 2pm. Up to this point, the Luas Green Line had brought passengers from Brides Glen as far as St Stephen’s Green, but now there will be services to 13 new stops north of St. Stephen’s Green, including eight in the city centre area.

This means that for the first time since Luas operations commenced in Dublin in 2004, the Red and Green lines are now connected, making passenger interchange between the two lines possible. With the new link-up in the O’Connell Street area, and by hopping on and off there, people can

now travel north, south, east and west, on the Luas. The new section also opens up the Green Line further by linking it to Iarnród Éireann [Irish Rail] inter-city and commuter rail services at Broombridge station. The new line also serves the new Dublin Institute of Technology [DIT] facility at Grangegorman which in the coming years will have over 10,000 students on campus. Communities in Dublin’s North Inner City also stand to benefit significantly from the fast, reliable light rail service that Luas will deliver.

This extended line will increase, by several million, the number of Luas journeys taken every year. It will also encourage more people to leave their cars behind, easing congestion and reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions. Luas Cross City will make the historic O’Connell St district more accessible to visitors, which will be good news for attractions in the area such as GPO’s Witness History, The Gate Theatre, The Abbey Theatre, and the Dublin City Hugh Lane Gallery.

The Irish Government has published ‘Ireland 2040 – Our Plan’ which recognizes that public transport infrastructure will be central to the future planning of Ireland.

By James Scannell

Delivering the key rail projects set out in the Transport Strategy for Greater Dublin including DART expansion will improve mobility and sustainability. DART expansion would see all the major rail routes in the Dublin area are ungraded to DART i.e. electrified. Furthermore a second line thru Dublin City – the high capacity DART Underground, linking the Northside DART with routes from Dublin Hueston – would dramatically increase capacity and ensure a major increase in train operation on all lines into Dublin and would connect all routes into an integrated network. It is also intended to improve access to Dublin Airport to include improved public transport including consideration of heavy rail access to facilitate direct services from the national rail network in the context of potential future electrification.

On December 1st fares on Irish Rail, DART, Dublin Bus, and Luas services increased by between 2% and 4% with the emphasis on trying to get users to switch to Leap cards which offer fares cheaper than cash ones. Cards can be topped up at railroad stations or in convenience stores.



WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

BRIMFIELD FLEA MARKET

Saturday - May 12, 2018 Fare: \$65 PP

Join us for a return visit to Brimfield Flea Market in the spring season. Explore the country's oldest, largest and best-known outdoor antiques event. Browse to your heart's content. Maybe that rare object you have been searching for is here, or perhaps an unexpected treasure will catch your eye. Lunch is on your own (food courts near the dealers).

FEATURES:
Round Trip Motor Coach
Browse and dine on your own



TIMETABLE

7:30am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	7:00pm
8:00am	Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	6:30pm
8:30am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	6:00pm

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.

BRIMFIELD FLEA MARKET

Saturday - May 12, 2018 Fare: \$65 PP



PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

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

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 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.

Champagne Brunch

Sunday - May 20, 2018 Fare: \$89 PP

Please join us as we head to the beautiful Lakes Region of New Hampshire to spend a luxurious afternoon on board the M/S Mount Washington. We will depart from Weirs Beach on the shores of glorious Lake Winnepesaukee NH. While enjoying a wonderful champagne brunch cruise we will ply the waters between the mainland and Sleepers Island. After the cruise there will be free time to explore Weirs Beach before moving on to 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 NH
Kellerhaus Candy and Ice Cream Shop



TIMETABLE

8:30am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	8:30pm
9:00am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	8:00pm
9:30am	Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	7:30pm

All times are approximate and subject to change

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Champagne Brunch

Sunday - May 20, 2018 Fare: \$89 PP



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Mark Twain House & Museum

Saturday - May 26, 2018 Fare: \$82 PP

We will set off for the lovely town of Woodbury CT and the comfortable Curtis House Inn, established in 1754. After a delicious luncheon our travels will take us to Hartford CT where we will visit the Mark Twain House & Museum. A guided tour of the home will provide insights into the life of Twain, author of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The Prince and the Pauper plus many other memorable books.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
Curtis House Inn
Mark Twain House & Museum



TIMETABLE

8:00am	Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	7:30pm
8:30am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	7:00pm
9:00am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	6:30pm

All times are approximate and subject to change

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Mark Twain House & Museum

Saturday - May 26, 2018 Fare: \$82 PP

MEAL CHOICES:

- Roast Turkey Dinner
- Grilled Pork Chop
- NE fish & Chips



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: MVR, 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.

SUMMAH IN MAINE

Saturday - June 2, 2018 Fare: \$95 PP

Dine by the sea at Cook's Lobster & Ale House on Bailey Island ME. We will travel over the unique 1927 Cribstone Bridge that was rebuilt in 2009-11 so it could withstand another 85 years of ceaseless motion. Afterwards we will visit the Lands' End gift shop with its three floors of Maine enticements for your browsing pleasure. Our next stop will be the Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum at Bowdoin College in Brunswick ME.

FEATURES:
Round trip comfortable motor coach
Cook's Lobster & Ale House
Lands' End Gift Shop
Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum at Bowdoin College



TIMETABLE

7:30am	Braintree T (Exit 17 - Rte 3)	7:30pm
8:00am	Riverside T (Exit 22 - Rte 128/95)	7:00pm
8:30am	Wellington T (Medford - Rte 16)	6:30pm

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.

SUMMAH IN MAINE

Saturday - June 2, 2018 Fare: \$95 PP

MEAL CHOICES:

- Broiled Scallops
- Cheddar Ale Meatloaf
- Chicken Cordon Blue



PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

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

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