Please Share With A Friend

THE WAYBILL

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

credit R. Goelet

VOL. 48 NO. 4 ISSN 0897-7577 Got a question? Call us at 617-361-4445, 24 Hours • E-Mail at contactus@mysticvalleyrs.org DECEMBER 2017 - FEBRUARY 2018
www.mysticvalleyrs.org

Bright Nights

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 2, 2017

Details on page 5

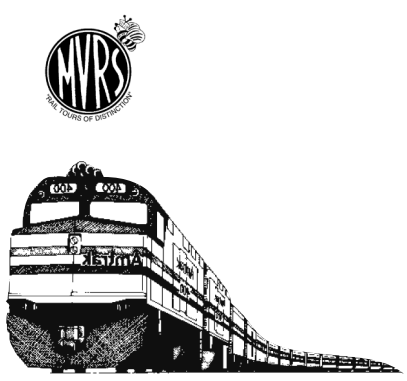
Yuletime in Newport

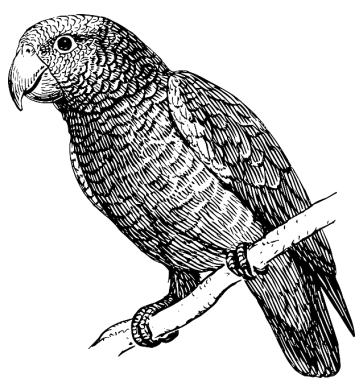
SATURDAY - DECEMBER 9, 2017

Details on page 5

Dashing through the Snow

SATURDAY - JANUARY 20, 2018

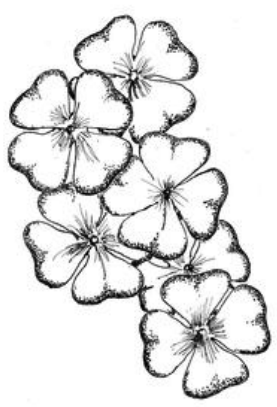




Details on page 5

Little Bit of Ireland

SUNDAY - MARCH 18, 2018



Details on page 5

CALLING ALL MEMBERS – WE NEED YOU!
PLEASE SHARE YOUR TALENTS - VOLUNTEER

Details on page 4

NOTICE!

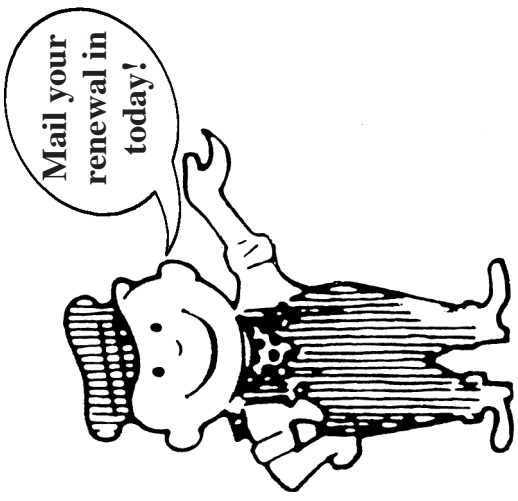
See page 3 for 2019 calendar contest rules and entry coupon!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018

Keep the Good Times Rolling

Details on Page 2

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



Deadline for Next Issue: February 1, 2018

Include your previous address with all address corrections

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www.facebook.com/MysticValleyRailwaySociety

From the President - Theresa E. Rylko

As we head into the Holiday Season, I want to say thank you to all for helping keep the MVRS on track. If you wish to share any interesting stories or pictures of yourself on the trips, please send them in care of Member-o-Gram. Remember that Saturday February 3rd is our election meeting at the Mt Vernon Restaurant in Somerville MA. This is your chance to nominate your favorite member to run for director or officer for the upcoming year. It is also when we can all judge the entries for the 2019 calendar, and sit with old and new friends to build and share memories.

From the Vice President - Jeff Costello

Happy Holidays! It doesn't seem possible but it's that time again – the end of one year, and soon the start of another. MVRS will finish the year celebrating fall with visits to Salem Cross Inn and the Log Cabin for Thanksgiving – enjoying traditional New England feasts. Winter brings Christmas cheer and spectacular lights. There is still room to come with us. In 2018 we look forward to old favorites, sleigh rides, maple syrup, and more. If you have any favorite places to visit, let the MVRS trip team know and they can plan a visit there. In January, for the train lovers, MVRS will be at the Amherst Train Show, promoting the society and our educational activities. If you have any train-related items that need a new home and you wish to donate them, contact MVRS for more information. We would appreciate hearing from our members with articles for the Waybill. It is your society and you are the ones that make it enjoyable. So, climb on board and volunteer your thoughts or time. The Russell Rylko Grant Committee will soon present the final check to the Shelburne Museum in Vermont and will be gearing up for another award to another group. As you see MVRS is still busy and we appreciate our volunteers that keep us chugging along. Join us as a volunteer or enjoy our activities as passengers or participants. Welcome Aboard!

From the Membership Chairman – Nancy Jeanne Martin

I have been on a number of trips this Fall. I think my favorite was the one to Essex CT. I have been there before but always enjoy the train and the boat ride. I have not been leading trips but helping other board members.

I hope to continue going on trips with the organization in November and December. I am off to the Salem Cross Inn and the Breezeland Orchards. I look forward to this repeat visit. For Thanksgiving I will be "training" it to my son's house in PA. If you are going to be alone at this time, consider joining MVRS and travel "West for Thanksgiving" to Holyoke MA. I will also be on the trip "Yuletime in Newport". I thoroughly enjoy the mansions in Newport and look forward to seeing the Elms and La Salette Shrine again. Anything to do with Christmas and the lights and gift shops is always a treat.

We have moved our bimonthly board meeting to the Mt. Vernon in Somerville. I can get there on the Orange Line with my electric scooter or, as I say to little boys and girls, my electric car. For the trips I take The Ride to Wellington and then arrange for a ride home following the trip. I usually bring my rollator or, as it is also known, my walker-on-wheels. As the bus drivers are always helpful storing it under the bus, if you need a rollator feel free to bring it along.

Remember you can call the club at any time with questions or if you want to reach me leave a message at 617-361-4445.

From the Waybill Editor – Roma Hertel

Who to ask when an urgent need arises? While putting together the September-November Waybill, I was unexpectedly called away on family business. My thoughts immediately turned to Sally Avjian. After a quick email exchange, she agreed to take over the Waybill editorial process at short notice, and I knew the edition was in safe hands. As my predecessor, every task and step would be familiar – after all, she'd taught me. It was arranged so quickly and at such a late stage that there was no opportunity to credit her contribution. She saw it through the proofing stages, and dealt with the printer. Which is where this column comes in: it is my opportunity to thank Sally for lending a hand during my hour of need.

So, what does being Waybill editor involve? Though I provide a reminder about a week before the published deadline, most items arrive under their own steam from the board, Trip Team, the regular columnists, and beyond. My name is at the top of this column, but each contribution requires hard work well away from the limelight.

I'm most familiar with Trip Team activities as this was one of my earlier roles with the MVRS. These volunteers put together a schedule they hope will be popular and achievable: are there enough volunteers to staff all the trips? Then the individual planner fleshes out each trip. This involves juggling departures, arrivals, meal times, and attraction schedules. Some may be at a fixed time: the boat leaves when the boat leaves. Will a leg-stretch break be needed before reaching the first destination? Everything needs to be in place long before the trip: a July trip goes into the March-May Waybill to allow plenty of time for ticket sales. That means it is planned in January and February, before many attractions open for the season. Comfortable motor coaches don't appear out of thin air: someone submits a slate of trips to the different bus companies for quotes. A lot of skill and dedication brings everything together.

I have no experience of how the Russ Rylko Memorial Grant team goes about its work, but can't you just imagine them poring over submissions from different groups around New England, considering their activities and equipment, and weighing the significance of what a MVRS check could help each of them achieve? For a certain sort of person this window into the region's railroad preservation movement must be a dream job.

And may I mention that while most columnists write of their own free will, Dirk agrees to be volunteered? That puts him in a category of his own! However, once he gets started and his inner researcher gets going, there's no holding him back.

The bottom line is that The Waybill is a team effort. Every contributor, member and reader belongs to something we hope is greater than its individual parts: the Mystic Valley Railway Society.

Board of Directors, Positions Held
April 1, 2017 – March 31, 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

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
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).

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.

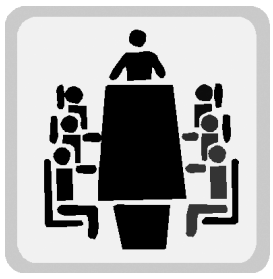
TRAIN SHOWS & EXCURSIONS

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.

- **Sat. 12-2** (10am-3pm): **Winooski Train Show** sponsored by the Champlain Valley Chapter of the **National Railway Historical Society,** Winooski Educational Center, 80 Normand St, Winooski VT (exit 16 off I-89). $5 adult; $1 ages 6-12; free under 6 (with adult), $10 family. Info: https://sites.google.com/view/winooskitrainshow/home
- **Sat. 12-2** (10am-5pm) and **Sun. 12-3-17** (10am-4pm): **New England Model Train Expo** hosted by **The HUB Division, Inc.,** Best Western Royal Plaza Trade Center, 181 Boston Post Road West (Rte. 20), Marlborough MA. Two-day admission: $10 adult; free under 12 (with adult). Info: TE.info@hubdiv.org, www.hubdiv.org
- **Sat. 12-9** (9am-1pm): **NETCA Division Train Show,** Holiday Inn Marlborough, 265 Lakeside Ave (Rte. 20, exit 24 off I-495), Marlborough MA 01752. $5 adult; children free (with adult). Info: http://netca.org
- **Fri. 1-5-18** (6-9pm): **Family Open House & Scout Night, South Shore Model Railway Club & Museum,** 52 Bare Cove Park (Bldg. 51), off Fort Hill Street, Hingham MA. Admission: $2 adult; free 4 and under (with adult). Info: www.ssmrc.org
- **Sat. 1-6-18** and **Sun. 1-7-18** (10am-4pm): **Greenberg's Train & Toy Show,** Hanover Mall Event Center, 1775 Washington Street, Hanover MA 02339. Adult $10 Sat or $9 Sun; free 11 and under (with adult). Info: http://train-show.com/hanover/
- **Sat. 1-27-18** (9am-5pm) and **Sun. 1-28-18** (10am-5pm): **Amherst Railway Society 50th Anniversary Railroad Hobby Show,** Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds, 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield MA. 01089. $15 adult per day; free 15 and under (with adult). Info: http://www.railroadhobbyshow.com or ShowOffice@amherstrail.org
- **Sun. 2-11-18** (9am-2pm): **Classic Shows, LLC – Train and Toy Show,** Zandri's Stillwood Inn, 1074 South Colony Rd, Wallingford CT. $6 adult; free under 15 (with adult). Info: 203-926-1327, www.ClassicShows LLC.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): **Greenberg's Train & Toy Show,** Shriners Auditorium, 99 Fordham Road, Wilmington MA 01887. Adult $10 Sat or $9 Sun; free 11 and under (with adult). Info: http://train-show.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, efmenter@aol.com

Special Events

NOMINATING/ PHOTO JUDGING CONTEST



Saturday February 3, 2018

MOUNT VERNON RESTAURANT
14 Broadway, Somerville MA 02145 Tel: 617-666-3830

10am Nominating Meeting (members only)
12pm Buffet Lunch $25 per person
1pm Calendar Photo Judging for 2019
MVRS Calendar with Dirk Hertel

Travel directions will be included on your itinerary.
Public transportation: Sullivan Square stop on the Orange Line.
Coupon below:

❑ MVRS Buffet Luncheon - $25 per person
Saturday February 3, 2018

Please make all checks payable to Mystic Valley Railway Society, Inc.
Mail to MVRS, P.O. Box 365486, Hyde Park, MA 02136-0009
Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Thank you! Sorry – NO REFUNDS

Your Name_____

Address_____

City/Town_____State_____Zip_____

Phone number (with area code)_____

Steam - Diesel - Electric - Modern - Vintage
Photo Contest for the 2019 New England Railroading Calendar

40th Edition - Cash Prizes!

Contest to be held on Saturday February 3rd, 2018
Deadline for photo submission is Saturday December 16th, 2017

CONTEST RULES:

1 Each participant must be a member in good standing.
2 All photos must be taken within the six states of New England: CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT.
3 No participant may submit more than 10 photos.
4 Photos printed in past MVRS calendars must not be resubmitted.
5 All photos MUST be in landscape (horizontal) orientation.
6 If a person's face is recognizable in the photo, written consent of that person must be included.
7 Photos can be submitted as 35mm slides or as digital images.
8 The following are not acceptable: copies of 35mm slides, prints on paper, or digital reproductions of either 35mm slides or prints.
9 Digital cameras shall have at least 6 megapixels (3000 x 2000), and should be set to the highest resolution and lowest compression (highest quality).
10 Digital photos should be submitted unaltered (as downloaded from the camera) in JPEG, TIFF, or RAW formats (if supported by the camera) on a recordable compact disc (CD-R, DVD-R) or USB flash drive.
11 Entries must be accompanied by a signed MVRS entry form. Entry forms will be printed in the December 2017-February 2018 Waybill (photocopy acceptable) or else can be downloaded from www.mysticvalleyrs.org/calcontest.html
12 A caption must be supplied for each photo, and, if possible, submitted electronically (Word, PDF, or any other text file format).
13 Digital photo files must be numbered (1-10) so that photos and captions can be matched.
14 Entries must be postmarked no later than 11:59pm December 16, 2017.
15 A prize of $150 will be awarded for the front and back cover; $100 for each calendar month.
16 The final selection of photos for the Calendar is at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. The decisions of the Board shall be final and non-appealable. The Board will be under no obligation to provide any reasons for its decisions.
17 Winning entries become the property of the MVRS, Inc.
18 Non-winning entries will only be returned if a self-addressed stamped envelope or package with correct postage was supplied at the time of submission.
19 The MVRS is not responsible for any loss or damage to items sent through the mail.

ENTRY FORM IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:
www.mysticvalleyrs.org click on CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST
Paper form - see OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM below

MEMBERS ONLY – MEMBERS ONLY

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

VOTE – VOTE – VOTE

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

in the

MVRS – ELECTION OF OFFICERS: 2018-2019
SATURDAY MARCH 3, 2018

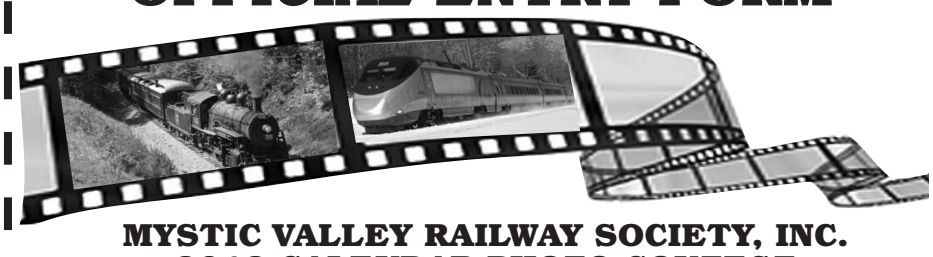
Come and join us at the **Mt. Vernon Restaurant,** 14 Broadway, Somerville MA 02145 (phone 617-666-3830) to support your choices for the MVRS Board of Directors. Your participation helps ensure the society's future growth. Voting will take place from **10am – 12pm** on Saturday March 3, 2018 and is for Members Only – please bring and show your membership card.

Coffee and muffins will be available, along with MVRS Waybill.

ABSENTEE BALLOT:
If you are unable to attend, please request an Absentee Ballot. Send your name, address, telephone number and membership number no later than Monday February 12, 2018 to Nancy Roney, Recording Secretary, MVRS, P.O. Box 365486, Hyde Park MA 02136-0009.

Directions to the Mount Vernon,
14 Broadway Somerville MA 02145:
• Public transportation: **Orange Line to Sullivan Square stop.**
• Driving (parking in rear of restaurant and on both sides of the street):
• **From the South** take I-93N to exit 28 toward MA99 Sullivan Sq. Somerville. Turn left at Cambridge St/MA38N. Take right at Myrtle St. Take 1st left onto Pearl St. Take 1st right onto Franklin St. Turn right onto Broadway.
• **From the North** take I-93S to Exit 28 Sullivan Sq/Charlestown. Go straight then take exit toward Mystic Ave/Broadway. Turn slight right toward Alfred A Lombardi Way. Take 1st left onto Broadway.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM



MYSTIC VALLEY RAILWAY SOCIETY, INC.
2019 CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST

Name:_____

Address:_____

City/Town:_____State:_____Zip:_____

Phone_____Membership #_____

Signature_____

Date_____

NO MORE THAN 10 entries may be submitted per person.

Description(s) must be supplied for each entry.

1_____
2_____
3_____
4_____
5_____
6_____
7_____
8_____
9_____
10_____

Electronic form available at http://www.mysticvalleyrs.org/calcontest.html
See CONTEST RULES above

Mail entry to:
MVRS Calendar Contest, P.O. Box 365486
Hyde Park MA 02136-0009

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/MysticValleyRailwaySociety

MEMBER-O-GRAM

Our correspondent from Ireland, **James Scannell,** is presently working on two presentations to be given in his local Dublin area: one for a community group in Blackrock, Co. Dublin about a 1946 air crash in the Wicklow Mountains, and the other about the 1867 Bray Head derailment for the Old Dublin Society at the Dublin City Library and Archive History Day on Saturday November 25th. James also recently took the DART to visit an open-air transport exhibition in Dun Laoghaire where buses, cars, and other vehicles were on display.

Board member **Nancy Roney** sent a photo of her Australian penpal's husband, **Geoff Wright.** Now retired, he was a freight railroad engineer on the line from the town of Tocumwal on the New South Wales border to the docks in Melbourne. This picture was taken at Shepparton, Victoria in front of his G class 3300 HP locomotive, (with a T class rebuilt to a P class 1000 HP engine as the second unit). The train, which carried export freight including frozen meat, frozen fruit, tinned fruit and lots of dairy products, has now been taken over by another company.

And last but in no way least, here's the **MVRS Trip Team** looking cheerful as they work. Left to right: Judy Berson Hoyt, Sally Avjian, Tracey Rylko, Ellie Manning and Billy Manning. Nancy Roney is not in the Picture. To learn what they get up to, see "From the Waybill Editor" on page 2.

In Memoriam

Member Pat Savage died on Wednesday August 30, 2017 surrounded by her loving family. She volunteered on the MVRS Mailing Committee, helping get the Waybill out to the membership every quarter, and also enjoyed travelling with this and other groups. Our condolences go to Pat's family.

Sugaring in Vermont by Gerard Sevigny

On Saturday April 2nd, 2016 I joined a group tour. We went to the Weathervane restaurant in Lebanon NH. The restaurant inside had a lot of pinewood on the walls. Many boats on the walls and ceiling. I looked around this place. After our lunch, we headed to Vermont. We saw a gold dome at the Vermont State House in Montpelier.

We arrived at the Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks. I liked to breathe fresh air, which is better than in Boston. We saw their real woodshed theater. This place was very beautiful. People can sit on tree stumps and watch the video. There are lots of maple syrup products and soft ice cream cones. We watched how maple syrup was being made in the building.

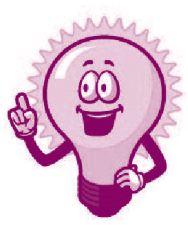
We saw two cute goats that were white and black in a cage in a farm. I fed them some popcorn. They ate fast because they were hungry. They looked me. I stared at them. We walked around, it was beautiful. I saw some snow on the ground.

We went to the gift shop that sold Vermont maple syrup products and Vermont cheeses and home baked good for such as fruit pies.

We saw two rainbows, the first rainbow in Vermont and another rainbow in New Hampshire. We went there for one day. We had a nice time there. The weather was a little cold. I liked it so much.

Editor's note: as we enter winter, this description of a previous year's maple sugaring trip might get you in the mood for spring: see page 8 for an our next sugaring opportunity.

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@mysticvalleyrs.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!

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
February 1, 2018

WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

Bright Nights

Saturday - December 2, 2017 Fare: $85 PP

We will experience the ambience of Christmas Days of long ago with a delicious meal at the Deerfield Inn, at an old-time country inn dating back to 1884. After lunch, we will travel to the Yankee Candle Village Store and see Fairy Tale Fantasies, Santa's Workshop and hands-on candle making. Our travels will then take us to Bright Nights in Springfield MA, where we will drive through three miles of spectacular Christmas Lighting.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Motor Coach
Deerfield Inn
Yankee Candle, Deerfield MA
Bright Nights, Springfield MA

TIMETABLE

8:30am	Wellington T (Rte 16 – Medford)	10:00pm
9:00am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	9:30pm
9:30am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	9:00pm

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.

❑ **Bright Nights**

Saturday - December 2, 2017 Fare: $85 PP

MEAL CHOICES:

- ❑ Baked Chicken Breast
- ❑ Apple-Brandy Pork Loin
- ❑ Shepherd's Pie

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.

Yuletime in Newport

Saturday - December 9, 2017 Fare: $106 PP

Start the Yuletide holidays with a visit to The Elms, a National Historic Landmark modeled on a French mid-18th century chateau. This Newport RI mansion will be dressed in Christmas glory showcasing its lavish European furnishings. Following a seasonal lunch at the famous La Forge Casino there'll be time to visit the shops on Bellevue Street. Afterwards we will head for the dazzling Christmas lights of La Salette Shrine in Attleboro MA.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
La Forge Casino, Newport
The Elms, Newport
Shopping on Bellevue Street
La Salette Shrine in Attleboro

TIMETABLE

9:00am	Wellington T (Rte 16 – Medford)	8:00pm
9:30am	Riverside T (Exit 22, Rte 95/128)	7:30pm
10:00am	Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	7:00pm

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.

❑ **Yuletime in Newport**

Saturday - December 9, 2017 Fare: $106 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:
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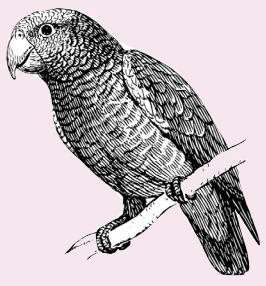
Note: A service charge of $20 will be assessed for returned checks.

Dashing through the Snow

Saturday - January 20, 2018 Fare: $95 PP

Enjoy the day in the Monadnock region of New Hampshire. Papagallo's Restaurant in Keene will serve a scrumptious meal in a Mediterranean setting. We will then go to Silver Lake Stables for either a sleigh or a hay ride, depending on the weather. It will warm your heart on a cold day.

FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
Papagallo's Restaurant, Keene NH
Silver Lake Stables, Jaffrey NH



TIMETABLE

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

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.

❑ **Dashing through the Snow**

Saturday - January 20, 2018 Fare: $95 PP

MENU CHOICES:

- ❑ Lasagna
- ❑ Stuffed Haddock
- ❑ Chicken Marsala

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name(s):_____Phone#_____
Address_____Boarding Station_____
City/Town_____State_____Zip_____
Email_____
Emergency Contact Name & Phone # _____

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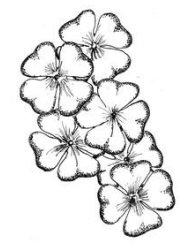
Information for handicapped Accessibility will be provided upon request. Your tickets and itineraries will be mailed about 5 days prior to departure.
Note: A service charge of $20 will be assessed for returned checks.

Little Bit of Ireland

Sunday - March 18, 2018 Fare: $95 PP

HAPPY ST PARTICK'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.

❑ **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 # _____

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Norway by train

By Dirk Hertel

The Society for Imaging Science and Technology (IS&T) chose a rather unusual venue in 2017 for their annual Color Imaging Conference: not the Southwest or Silicon Valley but the small city of Lillehammer, Norway. Located north of the capital Oslo in the country's mountainous heart, Lillehammer gained international recognition for hosting the 1994 Winter Olympics.

Reading the conference invitation, I noticed that the organizers recommended train travel: "Lillehammer is 145 km (90 miles) from the airport and may be reached via train. There is frequent, direct train service from Oslo Airport Gardermoen (OSL) to Lillehammer every hour, depending on the time and day. Travel time is approximately 1 hour 45 minutes. Trains generally leave from Spor (platform) 1. Train information can be found at www.nsb.no/en", the website of the Norwegian State Railways (Norges Statsbaner, NSB). The NSB was founded in 1996 after the government split the state-owned railways into several governmental agencies responsible for track maintenance and construction, passenger trains, buses to cover regions not served by rail, and freight. NSB's first large construction project was the 1998 high-speed rail link from Oslo to the newly built Oslo Gardermoen Airport.

The opportunity to combine work (attending a technical conference) with pleasure (traveling by train in a foreign country) was too good to pass up, so in early September Roma and I were on our way. After landing at OSL, we followed signs within the airport to "Trains". The tracks are conveniently located below the main terminal, with tickets available from automated machines or a staffed kiosk on the main level. Single fares from Oslo airport to Lillehammer were about $30 or $40. The cheaper fare requires booking at least 24 hours in advance for a specific train and cannot be transferred to a different one.

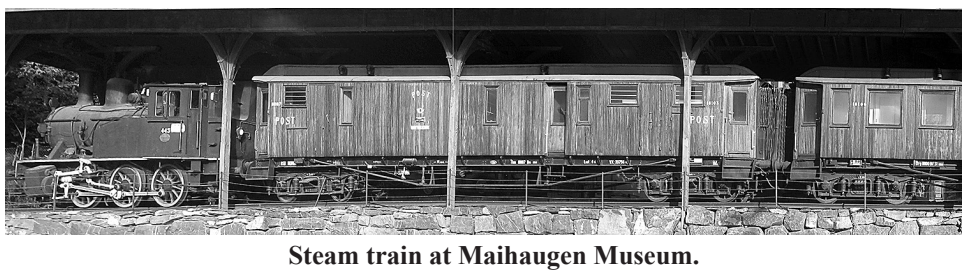
Lillehammer railway station with Class 74 EMU.

Our train pulled into track 1 on schedule. It was a streamlined electric EMU Class 74, also known as FLIRT (Fast Light Innovative Regional Train). Built by Stadler Rail of Switzerland, the articulated trainset consisted of six cars. As Norway generates more than 95% of its electricity from hydropower, its trains are powered by Norway's swiftly flowing mountain streams. Trains are popular and this one arrived quite full. Although we didn't have reservations the conductor let us on saying we could sit in the café car. Being seated at a table allowed us to "telecommute" to our jobs back home, thanks to the train's free and fast internet access. However, it was hard work to resist the ever-present distraction of glorious scenery framed by large picture windows.

The line to Lillehammer is part of the 344-mile long Dovre Railway, Norway's trunk line connecting Oslo with the historic city of Trondheim via the picturesque Gudbrandsdalen valley and across the Dovrefjell mountain range. After a brief stop at Eidsvold, once the northern terminus of Norway's first public railway that opened in 1854, we followed the course of the river Vorma on a high bank, crossed it on an impressive steel viaduct then continued along the shore of Mjøsa, Norway's longest lake (73 miles) and also one of its deepest (down to 1500 feet). Until the conversion in 1921, the section between Eidsvold and Trondheim was narrow gauge, which was cheaper to build in difficult mountain terrain but resulted in many tight curves. Now standard gauge, these curves no longer slow down rail journeys as tilting technology allows a train to lean into the curves, almost like a motorcycle, and traverse them at speed.

On a siding at the next station stop in Hamar, I noticed a large German-made steam locomotive, a leftover artefact of the WW2 German occupation of Norway. A cluster of antique railway buildings and equipment piqued my interest, and a quick internet search revealed that these belonged to the Norwegian Railway Museum. Established in 1896 as a private collection, it has expanded into a large "open-air park containing tracks, signals, authentically furnished station buildings, and a narrow-gauge steam railway" (http://jernbanemuseet.no). Although this conference trip did not have time for a stop at the museum, I marked it for inclusion in a future trip. Our train continued north with the lake becoming narrower and, at its northern end, we pulled into Lillehammer station. This is a beautifully preserved 19th century brick edifice complemented by 21st century amenities such as high-level platforms, elevators, and a tourist information center. Equipped with maps we made our way up the steep hill through Lillehammer's pedestrian city center with many 19th century wooden houses to our hotel overlooking the valley and Lake Mjøsa.

The conference venue was Maihaugen, an open-air museum with more than 200 relocated buildings ranging from the Middle Ages to the 20th century (https://eng.maihaugen.no). To my delight, the 19th century "town" featured a railway station with steam train, headed by a 0-6-0 tank locomotive No 443, built in 1923 by Thune's Mechanic Workshops in Kristiania (now Oslo). It hauled a wood-sided Traveling Post Office (TPO) No 18107 and combine car No 18100 of matching design, each from the early 1920s. The interior of the TPO was fitted out with sorting tables and pigeon holes since sacks of mail would be dropped off and picked up at each station.



Steam train at Maihaugen Museum.

After the conference, we returned to the airport by train, and a pleasant visit came to an end. Back home, I did some research, and found that Norway has largely been spared from major closures or cutbacks in passenger rail service. Instead, existing rail lines, some dating back to the 1850s, have been regularly upgraded, for example by electrification, conversion to double lines, and tunneling projects, especially in the area around Oslo. Older rolling stock makes way for the latest in train technology to improve passenger comfort and safety. These large public investments are fueled by recognition that rail travel is popularized by offering comfortable, clean, fast, and frequent trains, with convenient connections to other trains and the long-distance buses serving those areas of Norway not reached by rail.

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Riding the Rails

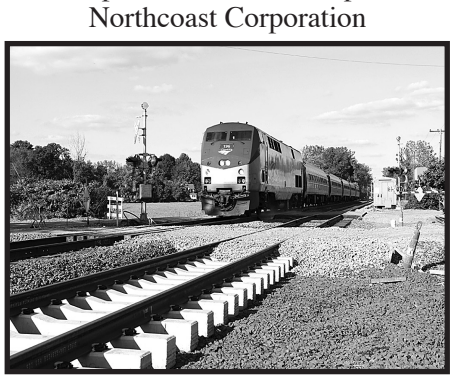
By Robert A. LaMay

Restored Caboose at
CT Eastern Railroad Museum

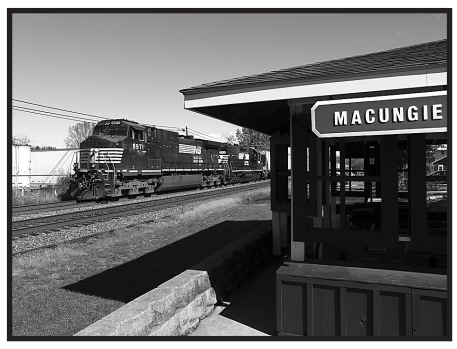
New delivery of G&W-P&W -
Willimantic CT

New power for New Hampshire
Northcoast Corporation

Southbound Amtrak -
New Britain CT



Southbound Amtrak - Windsor CT



NS Freight - Macungie PA

2017 W. Russell Rylko Grant Update

The second installment for the 2017 Rylko Grant was paid to the Shelburne Museum during August. Their project for work on the refurbishment of private rail car *Grand Isle* and its track is progressing well. The third installment is expected to be paid in December after receipt of the required progress report.

Applications for the 2018 Rylko Grant will be mailed to prospective candidates and information posted on the Society web site during December 2017 with a Saturday March 31, 2018 deadline for submission. Submissions received will be reviewed by the Grant Committee and one or more recipient(s) will be selected. The award is expected to be presented at the Mystic Valley Railway Society 2018 Annual Meeting to be held during May 2018. Additional Information will be forthcoming on www.mysticvalleyrs.org.

Railroad Boutique

MVRS
'RAIL TOURS OF DISTINCTION'

A selection of gifts and unique items with a RAILROAD FLAIR
All prices US$, including shipping & tax

_____ 2017 N.E. Railroading Calendar, 38th edition: 13 full color views $8.00

CATCH ALL THE TRAINS YOU EVER MISSED
_____ Vintage New England Railroading Calendars .....
$4.00 each OR 3 for $10.00
Available: 82___, 86___, 87___, 94___, 00___, 03___, 06___, 10___, 14___, 15___, 16___

_____ 12 full-color frame-able calendar prints of N.E. Railroading (our choice) $3.00

_____ **EXCLUSIVE** Mystic Valley Railway Society 2" diameter sew-on cloth patch: $1.50

_____ Metal pin with clasp: dual flashing red LEDs with RED Locomotive $3.50

_____ Flashing RR-crossing LED pin $3.00

_____ Gold-colored 1" train locomotive pin $5.00

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
_____ Set 2: Little Train Sticker Activity Book, Train Stickers &
Train Station Activity Book

All orders require payment by money order, cashier's check, or personal check
Quantities limited

Ship to:
Name _____

Address_____

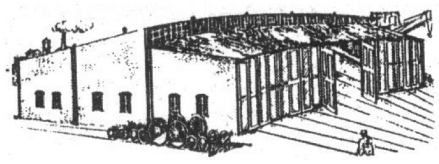
City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Total amount enclosed: $_____

Please allow 2-4 weeks delivery. Make checks payable to Mystic Valley Railway Society
Send orders to: M.V.R.S. – MAIL ORDER, P.O. BOX 365486, Hyde Park MA 02136-0009
($20 service charge applies to checks returned by the bank)

The Roundhouse

By Bill McCaffrey



Railpace reports that Pan Am Railways is selling or retiring most of their EMD locomotives except business train locomotives PAR1 and PAR2. The freight hauling fleet will be mostly GE locomotives (all bought used).

Speaking of General Electric locomotives, Railway Age reports that GE will cease production of locomotives at its Erie PA plant. This will result in the loss of 575 jobs. GE will now build locomotives at its facility in Fort Worth TX. The Erie plant will continue to operate in design, engineering, prototype development and components production.

TRAINS Magazine reported that Norfolk Southern's net profit climbed 23 percent for the second quarter as traffic and revenue growth combined with productivity gains to help the railroad set an all-time record for operating ratio.

NS reported its revenue rose 7 percent, to $2.6 billion, as gains in coal and intermodal traffic led to a 6-percent increase in volume. Income from operations was up 15 percent, to $888 million. The railroad's operating ratio improved for the sixth straight quarter, to 66.3, down from 68.6 a year ago. (When it comes to operating ratio lower numbers are a good thing.)

NS has seen an increase in coal traffic and has benefitted from the fact that the widened Panama Canal has caused more international containers to come into East Coast ports rather than West Coast ports. So far NS has seen only a small amount of business come to them from the turmoil at CSX.

Progressive Railroading reports that Amtrak and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) have reached a new agreement for the operation, maintenance and use of the 37.9-mile Attleboro Line between Boston and the Rhode Island state border. Under the contract, Amtrak will provide maintenance-of-way and dispatching services through 2021. For its part, the MBTA will be responsible for directing the line's capital program. In addition, Amtrak will allow the MBTA to use the South Station's system for dispatching of south-side branch lines. Amtrak will charge the transit agency for its use of the facilities based on a proportionate sharing of facility and system costs, Amtrak officials said in a press release.

"The joint effort of Amtrak and MBTA to reach this new agreement demonstrates our shared recognition of the importance of continued investment in the rail infrastructure in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and throughout the New England region," said Tom Moritz, Amtrak assistant vice president of infrastructure access and investment. This resolves a dispute between Amtrak and the MBTA on cost sharing. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts owns the Massachusetts portion of the Northeast Corridor.

Railpace had some commentary about the new General Manager of the MBTA, Luis Ramirez. Mr. Ramirez was a General Electric Co. executive at the time of his appointment by MA Secretary of Transportation Stephanie Pollack. He has no transit or rail experience. Here is a quote "Officials said throughout the process that a higher salary ($320,000) would help the MBTA attract qualified candidates. Except it appears that the current selection is not particularly qualified, with no experience in public transit."

State Street Station in New Haven, CT is getting a new 400-foot platform. This will allow Hartford and Springfield trains to stop there. [Railpace]

Railpace reports that CSX has closed the hump at the large classification yard at Selkirk NY. CSX has decided that flat switching is cheaper than a hump at all but the very largest yards. Selkirk has served at least four owners: New York Central, Penn Central, Conrail, and CSX. It has long had a major role in classifying freight cars coming to and from New England.

You might find this web site to be fascinating. Check out https://ASM.Transitdocs.com/. It has a map of the United States and Canada showing the current location of all Amtrak and VIA trains. It lets you know if a train is on time or late. It is not perfect, since there are occasional errors.

On July 18 an Amtrak inspection train ran from St. Albans VT to Montreal. This train was to allow Amtrak officials to determine what track improvements are needed to resume service from Vermont to Montreal. There has been no service from Vermont to Montreal since the Montrealer stopped running in 1995. [Railpace]

Chicago's Metra unveiled a new locomotive wrap to commemorate 40 years of continuous passenger service with its EMD F40PH locomotives. The agency started off with 28 of those units and eventually grew the fleet to 118. EMD developed the model and produced more than 500 of the units for the North American market. [Progressive Railroading]

Washington State has announced that beginning 12/18/17 two more round trips will be added to the Cascades route between Seattle and Portland OR. In addition, the running time will be reduced by 10 minutes to 3 hours and 20 minutes. The new route runs parallel to Interstate 5. It eliminates some scenic waterfront running which was the cause of freight train interference in the past. Washington State's new Charger locomotives are used on this route. [www.wsdot.wa.gov]

Tragedy at an Indian Rail Station: Twenty-two people were killed and thirty-nine injured in a stampede on a pedestrian bridge at a Mumbai station. There was an unusually large crowd at a time of heavy rain which had not been predicted by weather forecasters. [The Indian Express]

Bloomberg Businessweek ran a story about Canadian transportation equipment maker, Bombardier, in the October 2, 2017 edition. After months of secret talks about merging with Germany's Siemens AG the proposed merger died when Siemens instead teamed up with France's Alstom SA. This leaves Bombardier to compete on its own against Chinese giant CRRC which controls about half the global market including some sales in the USA. The rest of the article was about Bombardier's aircraft division and its major battle with Boeing.

The first China-made subway cars tailored for Boston's Orange Line rolled off the production line October 16 in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province. The cars are due in Massachusetts in December. The cars are part of an 84-car order signed by CRRC Changchun Railway Vehicles and Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). These prototypes were built in China but most of the cars will be built in Springfield MA by American workers. [Xinhua.net]

Lines from Ireland

August to October 2017

By James Scannell

Testing of the LUAS Cross City route is currently under way with trams (streetcars) operating from St. Stephen's Green, Dublin City, the northern terminus of the Green line, across the River Liffey to Parnell Square and return, with these trips also being used for driver training. One difficulty being encountered is automobile drivers parking their vehicles on or too close to the running tracks and a public awareness campaign is now under way concerning this parking issue. Dublin City Council introduced new traffic arrangements in the city centre on Sunday August 20th in advance of increased daytime LUAS testing and training which commenced in September, and to acclimatize vehicles users with these arrangements before revenue earning LUAS services commence later in the year.

In August the Commission for Railway Regulation issued its 2016 Report covering the national railroad operators, LUAS, the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland, and heritage railways such as the Waterford and Tramore Railway, and the Stradbally Woodlands Railway. The report was positive with all operators making efforts to improve compliance and safety. The full report can be read on the website www.cre.ie

In advance of Brexit, the scheduled 2019 departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union, the Irish Seanad (Senate) Committee on Brexit heard from the National Transport Authority that a 'hard border' between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland would impact public transport, making it impossible for transport operators to deliver reliable journey times for passengers. At present there are no border controls for passengers using the Dublin-Belfast Enterprise cross-border service, operated jointly by Iarnród Éireann in the Republic and Northern Ireland Railways in Northern Ireland. It is anticipated that the current arrangements will remain in place post-Brexit.

Builder, philanthropist, and Laoiseman William Dargan (1799 - 1867) was known as the 'Father of the Irish Railway'. During his life he built about 1800 miles of the Irish railway network, 1200 of which are still is use today. He was remembered on August 25th, the 150th anniversary of his death, at Portlaoise Station, Co. Laois, with the unveiling of a commemorative plaque outside the station waiting room, and the opening of a station garden which was completed in partnership between Iarnród Éireann, Laois County Council and Portlaoise Tidy Towns.

During August, An Post (the Irish Postal Service) issued four stamps depicting four stations on the Iarnród Éireann network. The stations featured were Dublin Hueston, Cork Kent, Dundalk and Muine Bheag (Bagenalstown). These stamps can be ordered on-line from www.anpost.ie.

It is understood that Limerick City and County Council has formed a partnership with the National Transport Authority to develop a Transportation Plan for Limerick, similar to one that has been produced for Dublin. All forms of transport are being discussed with the light rail option being heavily favored. It is anticipated that the advisory board will meet for the first time in November or December 2017.

On Monday October 6th, the National Emergency Co-Ordinating Committee instructed that public transport services through the Republic of Ireland be suspended for most of the day as Hurricane Ophelia passed over the country. This was the first time since the early 1960s that public transport services were suspended due to a weather event. Automobile owners were advised to stay off roads, schools were closed for the day with most businesses closing early. Three people lost their lives as the result of this hurricane, all due to falling trees.

I**nternational News**

Specialist trains lead the charge against leaf fall on London Underground's Piccadilly Line

The two Rail Adhesion Trains (RATs) are part of a package of measures introduced this autumn by London Underground to tackle wheel flats and prevent disruption. In September Transport for London (TfL) confirmed that London Underground had implemented a robust action plan to tackle leaf fall on the Piccadilly line for the Fall months. This action followed the publication of an independent report, commissioned by TfL, into leaf fall issues on the Piccadilly line that led to delays and disruption on the line over the past two years.

Two 1973-stock trains that have been converted into specialist engineering trains entered service at the end of September on the Piccadilly line to treat rails and reduce the risk of poor adhesion. The adhesive material they dispense helps the train wheels grip the tracks during braking. When trains brake on slippery tracks it can cause the wheels to lock and subsequently wear down, an issue known as wheel flats.

Other measures TfL is taking to ensure that services on the Piccadilly line run as smoothly as possible this Fall include:

• Completing the most intensive trackside vegetation clearance programme to date to significantly reduce the amount of leaves falling on or near the track. This is already nearing completion.

• Securing access to more detailed weather prediction data which will allow a quicker response to changing leaf fall conditions and aid the decision on when to deploy the RATs.

• Erecting new trackside signage which warns drivers of any low adhesion areas and temporary speed restrictions in place.

• Developing a new Fall timetable which allows for a reduction in train speeds in areas where low adhesion is expected, to reduce the risk to train wheels. This is in line with industry best practice and put in place every year on the Metropolitan Line and Network Rail services.

• Recruiting additional train maintenance staff, and purchasing more new spare wheels, to provide a 24/7 train wheel changing facility at both depots on the Piccadilly Line if conditions prevail that cannot be controlled by the other mitigation measures.

National Transport Safety in Greater Manchester, U.K.

A national week of action, Rail Safety Week, aimed at reinforcing vital safety messages around rail and light rail, was held across Greater Manchester from September 27th to October 1st with the Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM), Metrolink operator KeolisAmey Metrolink (KAM), Network Rail and train operating companies.

On September 28th a special awareness-raising event was held at Manchester Piccadilly station, where visitors were able to try their hand at the tram driving simulator used to train Metrolink drivers. This enabled people to experience and understand the daily challenges facing drivers, such as inclement weather conditions, poor visibility and navigation through highly pedestrianised areas such as town and city centers.

Passengers were reminded to remain vigilant around rail and tram tracks; not to become distracted by mobile phones/headphones; not board trams or trains when the door tones are sounding; not to put belongings in the carriage doors to stop them closing; not to rush for a tram or train and to stand back from the platform edge.

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/MysticValleyRailwaySociety

WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

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

MEAL CHOICES:
- ❑ Lobster Roll Dinner
- ❑ Grilled Chicken Dinner
- ❑ Fried Shrimp and Haddock

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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City/Town_____State_____Zip_____
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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

MEAL CHOICES:
- ❑ Grilled Salmon
- ❑ Black Jack Top Sirloin
- ❑ Lemon Chicken Chardonnay

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

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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

MEAL CHOICES:
- ❑ Grilled Beef
- ❑ Pan-roasted Salmon
- ❑ Chicken Penne

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

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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

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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 Winnipesaukee 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

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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.

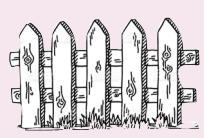
FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
Curtis House Inn
Mark Twain House & Museum

MEAL CHOICES:
- ❑ Roast Turkey Dinner
- ❑ Grilled Pork Chop
- ❑ NE fish & Chips

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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