

Please Share With A Friend

THE WAYBILL



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



credit R. Goelet

VOL. 48 NO 1 ISSN 0897-7577 Got a question? Call us at 617-361-4445, 24 Hours • E-Mail at contactus@mysticvalleyrs.org MARCH - MAY 2017
www.mysticvalleyrs.org

Space and Science

SUNDAY MARCH 19, 2017



Details on page 5

HARLOW'S SUGAR HOUSE

SATURDAY MARCH 25, 2017



Details on page 5

Seacoast Home & Garden Show

SATURDAY APRIL 1, 2017



Details on page 5

EARTH DAY

SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2017



Details on page 5

CALLING ALL MEMBERS – WE NEED YOU!

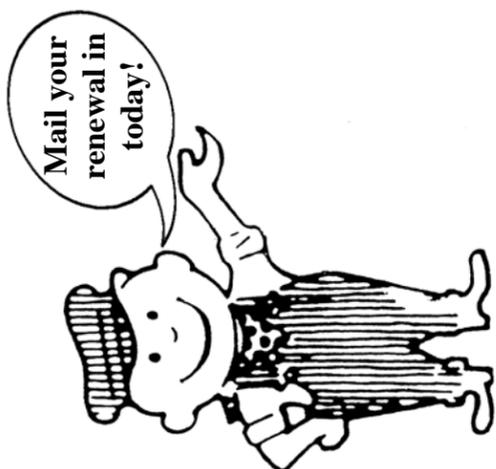
PLEASE SHARE YOUR TALENTS WITH US AS A VOLUNTEER



Details on page 6

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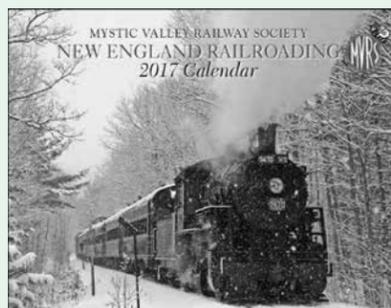
Deadline for Next Issue: May 1, 2017

Include your previous address with all address corrections



NOTICE!

2017 N. E. RAILROADING CALENDAR



NOW AVAILABLE, see Boutique on page 6

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018



Keep the Good Times Rolling

Details on Page 4



From the President - Theresa E. Rylko

As we once again head into the winter season it is time to remember the Annual Meeting on Saturday May 6th at the Mt Vernon Restaurant in Somerville. This will be your time to tell us of any concerns or ideas for the New Year. Please share your stories of adventures with the MVRS, and bring the memo-

ries alive for your fellow members. Come support your team in their efforts to give you interesting trips and events. As you travel along you might see an area which others would enjoy. If you frequent a favorite restaurant and think it might handle a busload of hungry travelers then let us know. We are

always looking out for new places to dine. Feel free to send some literature to the Trip Team to review for future visits. If we have a trip to your area, feel free to meet up with us and say "hi". It is always a pleasure to see a friendly face.

From the Vice President - Jeff Costello

Here we are - starting another year. MVRS is looking forward to more opportunities to provide interesting, educational and fun excursions for all our members. The trip team is working diligently to research and plan the trips that will appeal to you, and the members are encouraged to share suggestions. I started off the New Year at the Amherst Railroad Hobby Show.

This is the place to be if you like trains or have children who could enjoy trains. I worked with two exceptional volunteers, Mary Verner (past director) and Marcia Pennington (my wife, and also a MVRS director) to advertise and promote MVRS to train lovers. We had an enjoyable event and hope to return next year. Members can volunteer for this event and help publicize MVRS.

Another event to spread word of MVRS is the W. Russell Rylko Memorial Grant. The committee is accepting applications for this grant which is awarded to help train-associated organizations with their work. We strive to present to our members the best we can, but we still need and appreciate input from all of our members. Join us, learn and enjoy!

From the Membership Chairperson - Ellie Manning

It's time to renew your membership. On the front of the Waybill - on the address label - to the right of your name there is a code. To receive your 2018 New England RR Calendar, the code next to your name must read either LIFE or M18.

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

M17 - means that you are a member for the year April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2017. It is time to renew.

MAIL - means that you have not paid your current membership dues and will be taken off the rolls unless you join again.

The Membership Year runs from April 1st to March 31st. Anyone who

joins after January 1st will automatically be assigned to the coming membership year.

The membership fees for the year **April 1, 2017 - March 31, 2018** are Regular Membership \$10, Family Membership \$4 per additional person, and Life Membership \$125. We look forward to your continued support.

What Makes You Tick?

Roma Hertel - Waybill Editor

What made you decide that joining the Mystic Valley Railway Society was a good idea? Different people have different motivations and enthusiasms, but the Waybill brings them together.

Often the starting point is fond recollection of a train set or layout. It could be memories of journeying by train to see a special place, or to visit family or friends. Maybe you are a history buff, interested in how the growing railroad network helped shape this country

and its communication channels, then had to adapt in the era of the internal combustion engine. Do you have inner yearnings for mechanical engineering, and are constantly intrigued how individual parts can combine to make a whole? Perhaps train photography is your passion. Did an intriguing find at a train show hook you in, so now you are unable to resist browsing the tables, searching for the next elusive item for your collection? It's always a pleasure to meet people immersed in a shared interest. Perhaps you enjoy traveling and sightseeing in New England, and MVRS trips take you to places outside your normal sphere. Maybe the Waybill columns provide a window into the world as you sit at home and dream of

future plans.

The likelihood is that it's a combination of these aspects, along with some I haven't even thought of. Whatever motivates you, the Waybill could be an outlet for your enthusiasm. Write notes about a trip you have taken. Share a report of a train show you attended. Describe your model layout. The chances are, if it fired your imagination, it may spark another reader to contribute to the Waybill, and carry on the infectious chain of enthusiasm. Make the Waybill your vehicle, and use it to carve out a niche for enjoying your interest within the multifaceted hobby of trains and railroads.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Mystic Valley year runs from April 1 - March 31

Here's what's included:

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

Membership Fees & Classes

1. **Regular Membership** (one person) \$10.00
2. **Family Membership**
Price of regular membership for one member plus \$4.00 per additional person living in the same house with regular member. All are full members with only one copy of every mailing mailed to the family address.
3. **Life Membership** (one person, U.S.A. only) \$125.00
4. For membership outside the U.S.A., please double the above fares (remit in U.S. currency only).

Calendars will be mailed 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



Got a Question:

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

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

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

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

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. 3-5-17, 10am-3pm: Cheshire High School Train Show**, Cheshire High School, 525 South Main Street, Cheshire CT. Admission: \$6 adult; free 10 and under (with adult). Info: Thomas J Kotulski 203-265-7527, Thomas_J_Kotulski@sbcglobal.net

• **Sat. 3-11-17, 10am-4pm: Vermont Rail Model Railroad Show**, NWV Model Railroad Association, Collins Perley Sports & Fitness Center, Route 104, Exit 19 - Interstate 89, St Albans VT. Admission: \$5 adult; \$1 age 6-12; free under 6 (with adult); \$5 per family with active military ID. Info: Ron Piro 802-598-0905, ronpiro@aol.com, www.nwvrrailroad.org

• **Sat. 3-11-17 9am - 4pm and Sun. 3-12-17 10am - 4pm; South Shore Model Railway Club & Museum - Model Railroad Show & Open House**: Bare Cove Park Drive - Building 51, Hingham MA. Admission (good both days, must have ticket for re-entry): \$5 adult; \$3 senior 65+, child 5-12; free 4 and under. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Info: www.ssmrc.org

• **Sun. 3-12-17, 9am-2pm: Toy Train Show**, Train Collectors Association, NETCA Southern Chapter, Army Navy Hall, 1090 Main Street, Manchester CT. Admission: \$5 adult; free under 12 (with adult). Info: Dean Johnson 401-222-9708, trainshow@cox.net, www.snechapter.org

• **Sun. 3-12-17, 9am-3pm: Southern CT Model Train Show**, Greenwich Civic Center, 90 Harding Road, Old Greenwich CT. Admission: \$7 adult; free under 12 (with adult). Info: 914-967-7541, ronsbooks@aol.com, southerncttrainshow.com

• **Sun. 3-19-17, 10.00am-3.30pm: Worcester Model Railroad Club Show & Sale**, Auburn/Webster Elks Lodge, 754 Southbridge Street, Auburn MA. Admission: \$5 adult; free under 12 (with adult). Info: Ralph Kimball 508-755-1873, www.wmrr.org/show.php

• **Sun. 4-2-17, 10am-4pm: Railfair 2017 - Model Railroad Show & Open House**, Nashua Valley Railroad Association, Ayer/Shirley Regional Middle School, 1 Hospital Road, Shirley MA. Admission: \$5 adult; \$4 senior (65+) and teen (12-18); free under 12 (with adult). Info: www.nvrra.com

• **Sun. 4-2-17, 10am-4pm: New England O Scale Train Show**, Metrowest Model Railroading Society, Elk's Hall, 99 Park Street, Hudson MA. Admission: \$6 adult; free under 15 (with adult); \$8 family maximum. Info: Larry Grant 508-337-6661 BigBrotherLar@netzero.net www.trainweb.org/metrowest

• **Sat. 4-22-17, 10am-4pm: SPRING TRAINING Annual Model Railroad Clinic & Train Show**, The HUB Division, Wellesley Community Center, 219 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills MA. Admission: \$5 adult; free under 12 (with adult). Info: www.hubdiv.org

• **Sat. 4-29-17, "Torrington Extra" on the Naugatuck Railroad**, Thomaston CT, organized by Mass Bay Railroad Enthusiasts. Admission: \$55 MBRRE member; \$65 non-member. Info: www.massbayre.org

• **Sat. 5-13-17 is National Train Day**: Go ride a train! Although no longer supported by Amtrak, cast a thought back to May 10, 1869. That was when the Golden Spike Ceremony at Promontory UT joined the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroads, giving the USA its first transcontinental rail link.

CORRECTION

On page 4 of the last issue of the Waybill, the column Tracks We Have Crossed was inadvertently attributed to the wrong author. It was actually Gerard Sevigny who wrote Lucky in Right Time in The Towers of Narragansett.

Look out for another of Gerard's reports in this issue, and read his description of last fall's trip to the White Mountains of New Hampshire.



Special Events



ANNUAL MEETING and APPRECIATION BANQUET

Saturday May 6, 2017

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 2017 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 6, 2017



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) _____

Maine Escape

Sunday July 2 – Wednesday July 5, 2017

FARES:

- \$875 per person double occupancy
- \$225 single supplement

Once again, we shall traverse the highways and byways of the rock-bound Maine coast as we celebrate the Fourth of July. Learn about lighthouses, lifesaving and the U.S. Coast Guard at the Maine Lighthouse Museum, overlooking Rockland Harbor and Penobscot Bay. At the Maine State Prison Showroom see wood products handcrafted by inmates as they learn work-force skills to help them transition upon release. Also, enjoy shopping in Freeport, Camden and Rockland.

FEATURES:

Round trip comfortable motor coach
Three nights lodging at Trade Winds Inn, Rockland ME
Eight complete meals
Daily breakfast at your inn
Shopping at Freeport ME

Visit Camden ME
View the Fourth of July parade at Thomaston ME
Visit the Prison Store at Thomaston ME
Tour the Maine Lighthouse Museum, Rockland ME

TIMETABLE

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

All times are approximate and subject to change

RESERVE EARLY:

This Maine Escape trip is sponsored by the Mystic Valley Railway Society. Send your letter of request indicating full names of all members in your party along with boarding station, and a non-refundable deposit of \$200 per person to: MVRS, P.O. Box 365486, Hyde Park MA 02136.
Balance due by Friday June 16, 2017.

MAKE IT A GROUP AFFAIR!

If the same person purchases ten or more tickets in advance, they will be entitled to a 10% discount (subject to availability).

Maine Escape

Sunday July 2 – Wednesday July 5, 2017

FARES:

- \$875 per person double occupancy
- \$225 single supplement

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.

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

President - Theresa E. Rylko (Tracey)
Vice President - Jeffrey Costello (Jeff)
Treasurer - Judy Berson-Hoyt

Recording Secretary - Nancy Roney

Directors:

Lillian Garvey
Eleanor Manning
William Manning
Nancy Martin

Joseph McDonough
Marcia Pennington

Positions They Fill

Roma Hertel - Waybill Editor,
Button Maker

Dirk Hertel - Photography/Calendar
Billy Manning - Mailing Chairperson

Ellie Manning -
Membership Chairperson

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.

International News – James Scannell

Transport for London's Elizabeth Underground Line Train Undergoes Testing

In January 2017, the new Elizabeth line trains, that will improve travel across London, England, for hundreds of thousands of Londoners, commenced the most intense testing possible in readiness for any possible weather conditions they could encounter. Bombardier Transportation, which is building the new trains in Derby, delivered the front carriage of a test train to the Rail Tec Arsenal test centre in Vienna, Austria, for three weeks of testing in a number of weather conditions, with temperatures ranging from -25°C up to +40°C. The facility in Vienna is the only place in Europe that can carry out this level of testing on trains. The heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system, windscreen wipers and demister, train horns and the traction motors all went through intense simulations of hot, cold, windy and foggy weather to check that they can still function in all weather conditions the train may face when operating through London and beyond.

Bombardier continues to build the first trains which will be tested in Derby before coming to London where the drivers will learn to drive them. The first train is due to enter service in May 2017. The first trains, seven-carriages long, will be operating between Liverpool Street and Shenfield from May 2017. The first full-length, nine-carriage trains will be introduced between Heathrow and Paddington from May 2018. When fully operational in 2019 the Elizabeth line will serve Reading and Heathrow in the west through to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east, passing through new tunnels under central London. The trains are based on Bombardier's latest Aventura design which was designed in the UK.

Smart ticketing on track for Metrolink

Passengers will be able to use a single smart card for all their journeys on any Greater Manchester, England tram (street car) or bus from the summer of 2017. An update on the roll-out of Transport for Greater Manchester's (TfGM) 'get me there' smart ticketing system is included in a January report to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) meeting. This stated that the next phase for 'get me there' locally would be to make multimodal bus and tram travel with a single smart card possible for the first time. For passengers, it means that they will be able to buy and add any of the current Metrolink ticket range to their 'get me there' smart cards, or use any smart card for combined bus and tram tickets. Currently, smart ticketing is only available on buses, with 'get me there' on Metrolink limited to concessionary pass holders and a mobile ticketing app. In 2015 TfGM and more than 30 bus operators who make up the industry body Greater Manchester Travelcards Limited, the organisation behind the System One brand, introduced the first smart tickets for buses. These enabled passengers to travel on any operator's service and it is this scheme which will be offering combined bus and tram tickets on smart cards from the summer. The report also reveals that 'contactless account-based ticketing' – where passengers use their bank card to touch in and touch out instead of a smart card – is planned to be rolled out on Metrolink from 2019. Meanwhile, TfGM's 'get me there' computer system, which enables smart ticketing to work across transport modes and operators, could now be developed further as part of a much larger scheme covering the North of England. Transport for the North, of which TfGM is a member, is responsible for ensuring that smart ticketing schemes being introduced in the North of England are integrated, meaning a smart

ticket bought in Greater Manchester would work anywhere in the north and vice versa. Transport for the North comprises local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships across the North of England, from Cumbria and Newcastle to Liverpool, Sheffield and Hull. The report to GMCA says there would be greater value added if TfGM and TfN collaborated closely and included operators when developing the computer back office at this early stage, rather than evolving separate systems.

New Merseyrail trains by 2020 after City Region leaders give green light

The Merseyrail network is set to get brand new trains after Liverpool City Region leaders gave the green light to the US\$580M in December. The state-of-the-art trains that will come into service by the end of 2020 will replace the near 40-year-old fleet that currently runs on the network – the oldest in the UK. The trains will be built and maintained by Swiss manufacturer, Stadler, subject to a final legal process and the signing of the contracts this year. The new trains will be safer – most notably in the ease in which everyone can get on and off – and will also make Merseyrail the most accessible traditional network in Britain. The trains will be able to carry 60% more passengers while retaining the same number of seats, will cut journey times by 10% – equivalent of up to nine minutes on some end-to-end routes – and will have the capabilities to eventually run beyond the current Merseyrail boundaries to places like Skelmersdale, Wrexham and Warrington. The trains, which will not result in any additional fare increases or council tax rises, will be publically owned by Merseytravel, meaning that they can be designed specifically to suit the network, incorporating features local people have said they want to see.



Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/MysticValleyRailwaySociety



MEMBER-O-GRAM

MVRS Board Member Joe McDonough and his wife Carol are currently on the first part of a two-month sojourn in Portugal then Palma, Majorca, Spain. An apartment in the small fishing village of Fuseta in the southern province of Algarve is their present "home away from home". A pleasant three-hour trip from Lisbon on the Portuguese National Railroad (CP) brought them south. A local train station is also available for "rail fanning". Look for more on this venture, with photos, in the next Waybill.

Member Doug Smock sent this note about his local short-line railroad along the photos he submitted to the 2018 calendar contest: The Fore River Railroad, which is owned by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, operates on a 2.7-mile-long line that runs from Quincy Point to the Greenbush Commuter Line in Braintree MA. The Fore River Railroad served one of the busiest manufacturing complexes in the country during World Wars I and II, carrying more than 750,000 tons of construction materials used to build U.S. Navy cruisers, battleships, destroyers and aircraft carriers, including the USS Lexington. Its work today is humbler, shipping Bay State Fertilizer for the MWRA and fatty acids for Twin Rivers Technologies, which receives palm and coconut oil via freighter.



Ellie Manning, MVRS Director, is a busy lady. She is also president of the HONS club, Helping Our Nobles Serve. A fund-raising fair in October meant HONS could present a \$10,000 check to Aleppo Shriner's Potentate, Ted Polonsky. Ellie says "a lot of work went into that day and it sure made me proud".



Nancy Roney, MVRS Recording Secretary, got away from it all with a trip to Florida where she visited the Kennedy Space Center. Here she is at the NASA astronaut memorial.

Tracks We Have Crossed

Brunch at White Mountain Hotel, New Hampshire

By Gerard Sevigny

On Sunday October 16, 2016, I took a bus tour with MVRS. On our way to the White Mountain Hotel we stopped at a covered bridge with a river that ran beneath it.

At the hotel we enjoyed a huge buffet. The view of mountains all around us was spectacular. There was a huge rock wall that people climb, though this day there were no climbers.

After the delicious buffet, we traveled north to Cannon Mountain and enjoyed an aerial tramway ride for a bird's eye view of the fall foliage. The mountain is around 4,100 feet high. The tramway travels at a rate of 4 yards per second over 1 mile of cable. Each ride takes 7½ minutes. I saw

many turkeys walking forward into the woods from a piece of rock path. It was the first time I rode the tramway in Franconia Notch NH.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

• On page 4 of the last issue of the Waybill, Tracks We Have Crossed was inadvertently attributed to the wrong author. It was actually Gerard Sevigny who wrote Lucky in Right Time in The Towers of Narragansett.

• Gerard: please accept not only my apologies, but also my thanks for your frequent contributions to the Waybill.

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!**

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.

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!

2017 Rylko Grant Update

Grant instructions and applications have been mailed to prospective candidates and info posted to the Society web site during January 2017. The application deadline is Wednesday March 1, 2017. After submissions have been reviewed by the Grant Committee, the recipient(s) will be selected. The award(s) will be presented on Saturday May 6, 2017 during the Mystic Valley Annual Meeting at Mount Vernon Restaurant. The MVRS website www.mysticvalleyrs.org has additional information.



**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, 2017**



WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

Space and Science

Sunday March 19, 2017 Price \$75 PP

After a delicious meal at the 99 Restaurant in Hooksett NH, we head to the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center in the state capital Concord. This museum pays tribute to NASA astronauts Christa McAuliffe and Alan Shepard. There will be a 40-minute planetarium show and telescope observations (weather permitting), plus a chance to visit the Science Store. On the way home our rest stop at Hooksett NH has a diner, country store and many gift shops.

FEATURES:

99 Restaurant, Hooksett NH
McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, Concord NH

MEAL CHOICES:

- Broiled Sirloin Tips
- Balsamic Grilled Chicken
- Baked Scrod

TIMETABLE

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

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.

HARLOW'S SUGAR HOUSE

Saturday March 25, 2017 Price \$65 PP

After a delicious lunch at the 99 Restaurant in Brattleboro we will move on to Harlow's Sugar House in Putney VT. This fourth-generation family business boils sap down into maple syrup, and their gift shop is well-stocked with Vermont Maple Syrup products. Our next stop at Basketville has not only three floors of baskets and hand-crafted items (for yourself, or as gifts), but is also home to the Putney Mountain Winery tasting room.

FEATURES:

99 Restaurant, Brattleboro VT
Harlow's Sugarhouse, Putney VT
Basketville, Putney V

MEAL CHOICES:

- Chicken Parmigiana
- Broiled Beef Tips
- Baked Haddock

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

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.

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.

Seacoast Home & Garden Show

Saturday April 1, 2017 Price \$80 PP

Come Celebrate Spring as we travel to the seventh-oldest settlement in the United States: Dover, New Hampshire. At the Woodman Museum, you'll learn how life was in 1675. Then onto Seacoast Home and Garden Show to find inspiration. See the latest products and services, and maybe catch the shuttle bus to visit the Macfarlane Greenhouse Open House to discover how the new growing season is shaping up as the earth awakes after winter.

FEATURES:

Round trip comfortable motor coach
Woodman Museum in Dover NH
Weathervane Restaurant in Dover NH
Seacoast Home & Garden Show, Durham NH
Shuttle bus between Show and Macfarlane Greenhouse

MEAL CHOICES:

- Fish & Chips
- Seafarer Fried Native Shrimp
- Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad
- Cheeseburger Dinner

TIMETABLE

↓	9:00am Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte. 3)	7:30pm ↑
	9:30am Riverside T (exit 22, Rte 95/128)	7:00pm ↑
	10:00am Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	6:30pm ↑

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EARTH DAY

Saturday April 22, 2017 Price \$91 PP

Celebrate EARTH DAY at beautiful Tower Hill Botanic Gardens, viewing the grounds and greenhouse filled with spring flowers. You can purchase plants to take home. Following lunch at Clintons Bar & Grille Restaurant walk around the corner (200 yards) to the Museum of Russian Icons. After a docent tour, enjoy the gift shop and visit the tea room with its selection of Russian tea and coffee drinks for individual purchase.

FEATURES:

Round Trip Motor Coach
Tower Hill Botanic Gardens
Clintons Bar & Grille
Museum of Russian Icons

MEAL CHOICES:

- Classic Chicken Parmesan
- Breaded Eggplant Parmesan
- Potato Chip Encrusted Haddock

TIMETABLE

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

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Remembering the 40's

Sunday April 23, 2017

Prices: \$60 for Military Veterans (complimentary show ticket)
\$92 for non-veterans

This is a trip for everyone, but with a special reduced price for all military veterans. Join us for a delicious lunch at the Chateau Restaurant in Waltham MA. Then we'll proceed to the Reagle Music Theatre of Greater Boston for "Remembering the 40's". This revue has songs, music and dancing, plus comedy routines and tributes to stars of the era.

NOTE: All reservations and payment must be received by Saturday April 8, 2017.

FEATURES:

Round trip comfortable motor coach
Lunch at The Chateau Restaurant
Nostalgia show at Reagle Music Theater

MEAL CHOICES:

- Penne Pasta with Meatballs & Sausage
- Chicken Cutlet Parmigiana with Penne Pasta

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

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Nantucket Daffodil Days

Saturday April 29, 2017 Price \$99 PP

Visit one of America's most famous little islands. Make the most of spring and the cheerful yellow daffodils, as we travel by coach then ferry to Nantucket. We should arrive just in time to watch the noon-time parade through the town: antique cars adorned with daffodils are followed by an amazing array of pets. Be sure to enjoy this grand event. Explore the town and surrounding area at your leisure. Discover some special place for lunch on your own.

FEATURES:

Comfortable motor coach
Round-trip Hyannis Steamship Authority Ferry
Nantucket Daffodil Days
Over 5 hours on Nantucket

TIMETABLE

↓	6:30am Wellington T (Rte 16 - Medford)	10:00pm ↑
	7:00am Braintree T (Exit 17, Rte 3)	9:30pm ↑

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Two views of the Amherst Railroad Hobby Show January 2017

Marcia Pennington – From the MVRS table

A great combination-work and play. That's what Jeff Costello (VP MVRS), Marcia Pennington (Director MVRS) and Mary Verner (volunteer and past Director MVRS) had January 28 and 29, 2017 at the Amherst Railroad Hobby Show in Springfield, MA. From outside to inside seven acres of halls, trains teeny, tiny big and bigger were seen. Railroad enthusiasts and vendors set up and ran train layouts and sold their train merchandise. Various groups displayed train trips. MVRS delighted children and parents with boutique items, calendars and donated train related items for sale. There was something for everyone. The most fun attraction for the children was the MVRS treasure chest. Three keys for a dollar and the chance to open the treasure chest and win a prize- fun for the children and a rest period for the parents. Another delight was the MVRS model trolley that ran the length of our display table. Both boys and girls ran alongside the track and were fascinated to see the trolley come to the end of the line and return for another run and they ran with it. Next year we plan to be there again- it's fun to be a kid and see LEGOLAND trains, Thomas the train child size set-ups and ride the kids' train inside the hall.

Dirk Hertel – From the show floor

Every January the winter darkness is lightened – at least for railroad hobbyists – by the anticipation of a really big Railroad Hobby Show. Organized by the Amherst Railway Society, it runs the entire last January weekend, and fills four large buildings at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield MA. Although the main attraction is model railroads, with dealers and operating displays of all gauges and sizes, other interests are catered for too by historical societies, railroad museums, tourist railroads, and traders in railroad memorabilia, books and videos.

The show dates back to the 1960s when the Amherst Railway Society started holding their annual swap meet and exhibition at the UMass campus. In 1982 the usual campus venue was unavailable, and so the Society took the risk of renting a building at the Eastern States Exhibition. That show was so successful that the society never looked back. Today it is their largest source of funds for their Grant Program that supports railroad-related non-profit organizations. Past recipients include the Fall River and Old Colony Museum, the Boston and Maine Railroad Historical Society, the Chester Foundation Station Project, the Wiscasset Waterville and Farmington Building and Car Fund, the Flying Yankee Restoration Group, and various trolley museums around New England.

This year I attended on Saturday, January 28. The first day crowd is usually larger than Sunday's, and an early start gives eager beavers the first pick at rare goodies. Weather was no impediment this year, and so I arrived in good time. At 9AM sharp a loud steam whistle pierced the cold air. It was Edaville Railroad's locomotive No 11 that so surprised early visitors. It sat under steam on a length of track specially laid in the parking lot between the Better Living Center and the Stroh and Young buildings. Throughout the day its cab was open to visitors, and children of all ages were thrilled by pulling the cords to ring the bell and blow the whistle. Sometimes No 11 even steamed slowly back and forth along its track (see photo).



Edaville No 11 under steam

Each of the four buildings offered a balanced mix. At the Better Living Center, there were many historical societies, railroads and museums. There was the opportunity to stock up on the latest tourist railroad timetables for future planning. Museums often use the show as an opportunity to thin out their collections for fundraising, offering rare old books, timetables, engineers' manuals, photos, postcards and other memorabilia. The Stroh and Young buildings had a good selection of tables with new, old, and occasionally antique model trains, which I eagerly searched in the hope to find something 'new' for my collection of German-made antique tinplate toy trains. Not finding anything I wanted didn't diminish the fun. I'm also fascinated by model railroad layouts, especially those of small model railroads: not small in scale but small in size of operation. Short-line and narrow gauge railways have the huge advantage that one can operate trains as large as O-scale in a very limited space. There were two attractively landscaped O-scale narrow gauge layouts that each would have fitted comfortably on a kitchen table. However, the large exhibition halls, especially the Mallary Center, offer modular group layouts the opportunity to show their full potential. Repeat visits over time provide a window on how layouts develop and grow from year to year. Amongst my personal favorites are the Narragansett Bay Railway & Navigation, a modular layout in On30 narrow gauge winding through marshes and sand dunes along the shores of Narragansett Bay RI, and the Chester & Becket Railroad, a short line from a quarry to a small station in Fn3, which stands for 3ft narrow gauge in the 1:20 garden-railway scale. Many layouts have landscaping rivaling that of movie sets. Traders offer landscaping supplies, trees, and very realistic laser-cut wooden building kits to enable aspiring modelers to reach a similar level of excellence. This is supported by "Modeling Clinics," hands-on workshops that teach the fundamentals of railway modeling, painting, landscaping, electronic train control, and lighting.

The large Mallary Center was originally merely an overflow hall. Now it has developed into a popular playground not only for large modular layouts but also for children interested in model railways, for example the Youth in Model Railroading modular display, the Kids Layout area with hands-on displays, and the always fascinating layout of the New England Lego Users Group. Not only live steam enthusiasts were drawn to the Pioneer Valley Live Steamers and the Central Massachusetts Steam, Gas & Machinery Association. The Mount Washington Cog Railway, not to be outdone by Edaville, brought along its first steam engine built in 1866, the famous "Peppersass" with its mighty vertical boiler.



The MVRS train show crew (L-R Jeff Costello, Mary Verner, Marcia Pennington)

Last but not least the MVRS was present in the Mallary Center (see photo). A brand-new trolley car ran back and forth along the 50ft long track along their tables, pulling in visitors to inspect the 2017 and vintage calendars on offer, along with Waybills and an interesting selection of railway literature and train items. For those not wishing to drive to the show, the MVRS usually offers a coach from pickup stops in the Boston-area.

Riding the Rails

By Robert A. LaMay



Train 460 at the new Berlin CT commuter station



Trains meet at New London CT



Valley Steam next to Edsel



Night in the Hartford Yard



Waiting for a crew change at Hartford CT



Shore Line East train approaches Madison CT

Railroad Boutique



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

Name _____ Ship to: _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

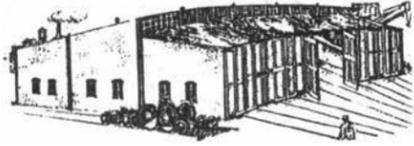
Telephone _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

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



A Connecticut Department of Transportation news release dated October 24, 2016 announced that Connecticut is installing wayside horns on the Hartford Line. The first one was installed at Meriden. Horns are mounted on a pole at a grade crossing and the locomotive horn is not used. The idea is that horn noise is aimed at the road rather than the entire neighborhood.

Railpace Magazine November issue had a major article on Horseshoe Curve. The curve is a famous railroad landmark dating back to the days of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The current railroad is Norfolk Southern. It is a fantastic place to watch freight trains. It has recently benefitted from a major brush cutting effort which has opened up views unavailable in recent years. The curve is located on the former PRR mainline west of Altoona PA. This year might be a good time to plan a visit, before the brush grows back.

Sunday, December 11, 2016 saw the opening of one of the world's engineering marvels: the Gotthard Base Tunnel under the Swiss Alps, the world's longest and deepest railway tunnel.

The 35.3-mile-long (57 km) double-track tunnel will enable pas-

sengers to speed under the Alps in some 17 minutes, bringing northern and southern Switzerland into closer connection as it reduces travel time by 30 to 40 minutes between the German-language and Italian-language parts of Switzerland. It is 7,546 feet (2,300 meters) beneath the Gotthard massif at its deepest point. The Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) has now finished exhaustive safety and technical tests. This is the culmination of a 23-year project. [Railway Age]

New York's Metropolitan Transportation Authority has a new app to collect fares. The free app allows passengers to pay for fares with Apple Pay, Masterpass digital wallet, and other mobile payment options.

The new Amtrak Station in Niagara Falls NY welcomed its first train on Tuesday December 6, 2016. Also in December, the former New Haven RR station in Berlin CT was destroyed by fire.

The Northern New England Rail Passenger Authority web site has an item about more trips to Brunswick, Maine. To add more trips a new passing siding is needed. A 4-mile construction project to add a long passing siding would extend from Field Road in Falmouth to just past Greely Road in Cumberland. This known as the Royal Junction Siding Project. All the track involved

is former Maine Central and now owned by Pan Am Railways. It will begin just east of CPF-185 (Royal Junction).

The former Women's Lounge in Chicago Union Station has been reopened as the Burlington Room. The elegant, high ceilinged room will serve as a function room. In 1925 when the station opened, the designers thought that women should have their own waiting room. The new name honors the former Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad. [Chicago Tribune]

The Amtrak owned station at Mystic CT is open again with a new gourmet café tenant, Mystic Depot Roasters. There is no ticket agent but tickets can be purchased from a machine. [Railpace]

At last it is once again possible to travel between Boston and Chicago in a sleeping car. Construction at Albany-Rensselaer is complete. It is no longer necessary to change trains here and the through sleeper is running again. [Railpace]

The new 2nd Avenue Subway extension in New York opened on New Year's Eve. It is an extension of the "Q" Line and serves an Upper East Side neighborhood known as Yorkville. The 3 new stations are deeper than most existing stations and feature an arch design which eliminates the columns found in older stations.

The MBTA is reviving weekend ski trains. The train will operate from North Station in Boston to take skiers to Wachusett Mountain Ski Area. Customers may board at North Station, disembark at the new fully-accessible Wachusett Station on the Fitchburg Line that opened in September 2016. There is a free shuttle to Wachusett Mountain. Ski trains are specially equipped with racks to transport skis and snowboards. The MBTA will evaluate snow and ski season later in the winter. [Railway Age]

The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey circus has announced that they will cease operations in May 2017. The circus has two train sets with over 160 cars. Circus trains, which have been running on American rails since the nineteenth century, will be missed. Strates Shows, a traveling carnival midway company, continues to move its equipment by rail flatcars but stopped using passenger cars to move their crews because freight railroads demanded very expensive liability insurance.

The Springfield Redevelopment Authority hopes to have a newly restored Springfield Union Station open in April 2017.



Lines from Ireland

During November Iarnród Éireann (Irish Rail) indicated that it was going to seek permission from the Irish government to formally abandon ten railroad lines to save an annual US\$3.6M in costs on maintaining bridges, fence and level (grade) crossings on these routes. Iarnród Éireann has asked the Minister for Transport to issue orders under the Transport Act, 1950, to abandon these closed lines, most of which still have tracks in place, heavily overgrown in places, some of which were suggested for possible re-opening in the future. Iarnród Éireann maintains that the abandonment of these ten lines is necessary as the semi-state company receives no government funding towards their on-going maintenance.

In a separate development, sections of other lines suggested for possible closure in a report drawn up by the National Transport Authority and Iarnród Éireann include the section between Ennis, County Clare, and Athenry, County Galway on the Western Rail Corridor, which was only re-opened in 2010 at a cost of US\$120M but has suffered from lengthy closure periods since then due to winter flooding north of Ennis; Limerick City to Ballybrophy, County Laois, via Nenagh, County Tipperary; Limerick Junction to Waterford City; and from Gorey, County Wexford to Rosslare Europort.

On November 21st, a new commuter service from Newbridge, County Kildare, and Part West, County Dublin, to Dublin Connolly and Grand Canal Dock using the Phoenix Park Tunnel was inaugurated by Iarnród Éireann. The Phoenix Park Tunnel connects Dublin Hueston with Dublin Connolly and prior to the inauguration of this service was used mainly to transfer rolling stock between these Dublin termini. The upgrading of the line between Glasnevin Junction and Islandbridge Junction was funded by the National Transport Authority at cost of about US\$16M. The new service consists of seven peak morning services to Grand Canal Dock in the morning and eight peak evening services back in the evening with a limited number of round trips services also in the peak hours.

On December 8th Dublin DART evening rush hour services were delayed by up to 30 minutes at Lansdowne Road station, Dublin, by two swans which got onto the line and had to be cleared away and brought to a place of safety by station staff before services could resume.

In mid-December Iarnród Éireann said that it is committed to continuous safety improvements after being criticized by the Commission for Railway Regulation (CRR) in its 2015 HYPERLINK "<http://www.crr.ie/publications/annual-report-2015/>" annual report. The

CRR said it was evident that Iarnród Éireann was "taking a noticeably different approach towards safety regulation" and criticized "the stance adopted at the most senior level in Iarnród Éireann management when responding to matters of safety management compliance identified by the Commission". The report added that it is "of concern that the type of sentiment expressed in correspondence with the regulator may be a reflection of a leadership attitude to safety that would be less than the Commission expects". However, it noted that "despite the issues encountered", the CRR "continued to encourage key professional staff ... in taking steps to implement improvements for the benefit of railway safety". The report added: "The vast majority of such key staff have been receptive to the Commission's recommendations." Responding to the report, Iarnród Éireann said its board and management "are committed to fulfilling" the programme of actions agreed to with the CRR, including revised reporting and governance arrangements between the two bodies. The company said it is also committed to "working with the CRR to ensure the highest standards of safety are achieved within Iarnród Éireann for customers, employees and third parties".

Moving to Northern Ireland: at the end of October Translinks NI [Northern Ireland] Railways an-

nounced that it had plans to restore the former Waterside station at Londonderry/Derry, closed since 1980, and return it to railroad use as well as it forming a new transport hub in the city. While the new platforms will be built outside the existing locomotive shed (roundhouse), new passenger facilities and a ticket office will be contained within the existing structure.

On Wednesday November 2nd, the last semaphore signals on the Northern Ireland Railways network were taken out of service following the closure of the Castlerock signal cabin. The passing loop at Castlerock had been decommissioned several days earlier. Following the removal of the semaphore signals, the line between Coleraine and Londonderry/Derry was totally closed from November 3rd to November 20th. This enabled the new signaling system operated from Coleraine to be commissioned, the old passing loop at Castlerock to be removed, and the new replacement passing loop at Bellarena to be connected to the main line. From November 21st, all trains from Coleraine to Londonderry/Derry use the new platform at Bellarena while all trains in the opposite direction use the new platform on the new passing loop.





WEEKEND DAY TRIPS

Under the Sea

Saturday May 13, 2017 Price \$68 PP

Come spend a day with penguins, fishes and more at Mystic Aquarium! Then enjoy the shops and eateries of Olde Mystick Village right next door.



FEATURES:
Round trip comfortable motor coach
Mystic Aquarium
Olde Mistick Village
Lunch on your own

TIMETABLE

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

All times are approximate and subject to change

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Mt. Washington Cog Railway

Saturday May 27, 2017 Price \$98 PP

Head to New Hampshire’s Presidential Range! After a hot buffet at the Base Station ride the world’s first mountain-climbing cog railway to the summit of Mt. Washington (three-hour round trip, no restrooms on train). The Sherman Adams Visitors Center houses an observatory, weather museum, restrooms, with snack & gift shops. There’s even a post office to get a Mt. Washington postmark. Stroll onto the Observatory Deck. Who knows whether there’ll be wild weather or panoramic views?



FEATURES:
Round Trip Comfortable Motor Coach
Base Station Hot Buffet
Cog Railway Ride to 6,288 feet above sea level

TIMETABLE

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

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Under the Sea

Saturday May 13, 2017 Price \$68 PP



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Mt. Washington Cog Railway

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Majestic Cape Ann

Saturday June 10, 2017 Price \$58 PP

Travel up the North Shore to Cape Ann and visit the Beauport McCann Sleeper House on the coast of Gloucester. We’ll have a guided tour of the mansion and its gardens. Then it’s on to Rockport where there’ll be plenty of time for shopping and exploring on Bearskin Neck to find a place for lunch on your own. And don’t forget your camera to snap a picture of Motif #1.



FEATURES:
Comfortable Motor Coach
Beauport McCann Sleeper House and Gardens
Strolling and shopping at Bearskin Neck
Lunch on your own

TIMETABLE

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

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Block Island

Saturday July 8, 2017 Price \$67 PP

Once again, we will travel to Point Judith RI to board the ferry to Block Island. Both Old Harbor (ferry dock) and New Harbor (about one mile away) have shops and galleries, with eating options for every budget. Relax on sandy State Beach by Old Harbor, or walk to the Southeast Lighthouse at Mohegan Bluffs. A taxi (reasonably priced when shared with others) could take you to the North Light and museum, but remember to arrange a pick-up time.



FEATURES:
Round trip comfortable motor coach
2½-hour ferry ride to Block Island
Time to explore the island
Lunch on your own

TIMETABLE

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

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Majestic Cape Ann

Saturday June 10, 2017 Price \$58 PP



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Block Island

Saturday July 8, 2017 Price \$67 PP



PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

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

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