

The Black Diamond

Official Newsletter of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society

October 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

The October 2018 edition of "The Black Diamond" features full details about all Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society events during the year. The LVRRHS will be sponsoring Santa train excursions over the Finger Lakes Railway from our station museum in Shortsville on November 24th. Please send any Society news and/or historical articles about the Lehigh Valley Railroad to me by U. S. Mail at P. O. Box RR, Manchester, NY 14504 or by e-mail at kemay59@hotmail.com. Thank you for your contributions.

Ken May, Editor/Trustee

SANTA TRAIN EXCURSIONS TO RUN OVER FINGER LAKES RAILWAY BETWEEN SHORTSVILLE AND PHELPS ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2018

The Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society, in cooperation with the Finger Lakes Railway, will sponsor Santa train excursions over the former New York Central Railroad "Auburn Road" branch line between Shortsville and Phelps on Saturday, November 24, 2018. Four passenger train excursions will be operated from Shortsville to Phelps and return over the Finger Lakes Railway using two diesel locomotives and three passenger coaches. Santa Claus will be onboard the trains to visit with children.

The Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society museum in the old New York Central freight station at 8 East High Street in Shortsville will be open to passengers during the excursions. The station museum will be decorated for the holidays and will have an expanded operating N scale model train display. Operation Lifesaver will have a railroad safety exhibit. The museum gift shop will be open, accepting cash or personal checks (no credit cards).

Each train ride will last one hour and will be an 18-mile round trip. Departure times are 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. All trains will load and unload at the LVRRHS station museum. Passengers are requested to arrive at the boarding location at least 20 minutes before departure time to pick up their tickets. The freight station is located one block south of Main St. in downtown Shortsville via Sheldon St. to E. High St. Free parking is available at this location.

Fares are \$18.00 per person for adults and children age 3 and over. Children age 2 and under on lap are free. The ticket price includes the train ride and admission to the museum. Tickets can be purchased by visiting the Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society website at www.lvrrhs.org and clicking on the Excursions link. If you need assistance or more information, please call 585-289-9149 and leave a message for a return call. Seat Yourself credit card charges will appear as Theatre-Tix.com in New York on statements. If the rides are not sold out in advance, walk-up tickets will be available at the LVRRHS station museum at the time of the scheduled trip.

Snacks, beverages, and gift items will be sold at the station. The Shortsville Fire Department will operate the concession stand at the station. No smoking or alcohol is allowed. There are restrooms at the station and in the passenger coaches. Passengers are advised to dress appropriately for the weather.

See Santa Trains flyer on Page 6.

2018 STATION MUSEUM OPEN HOUSES

The Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society Station Museum was open to the public one Sunday afternoon a month from May to October this year. Open house dates were May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, and October 21. Attendance at all of the open houses was good. Thanks to the LVRRHS members who volunteered at the open houses.

LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD MEMORIAL NIGHT

The Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society hosted the 42nd annual Lehigh Valley Railroad Memorial Night at our station museum on the evening of Saturday, April 21, 2018. The free event was a celebration of the history of the Lehigh Valley Railroad with a program of slides, movies, photographs, and discussions. Around 40 people attended the event.

Some of the attendees brought Lehigh Valley Railroad memorabilia to share. We watched a DVD that a guy brought that had some rare LV footage made from some home movies. Another guy brought a few different builder's plates from different LV diesels (Alco, EMD, and Baldwin), along with photos of the engines they came off of.

Devan Lawton showed his own Super 8 movies of the last few years of the LV in and around Tifft Yard, Niagara Junction, and east to P&L Junction. They were very good, and he narrated thru, making it even more interesting. Devan has a couple more he didn't bring, but promised to bring them next year.

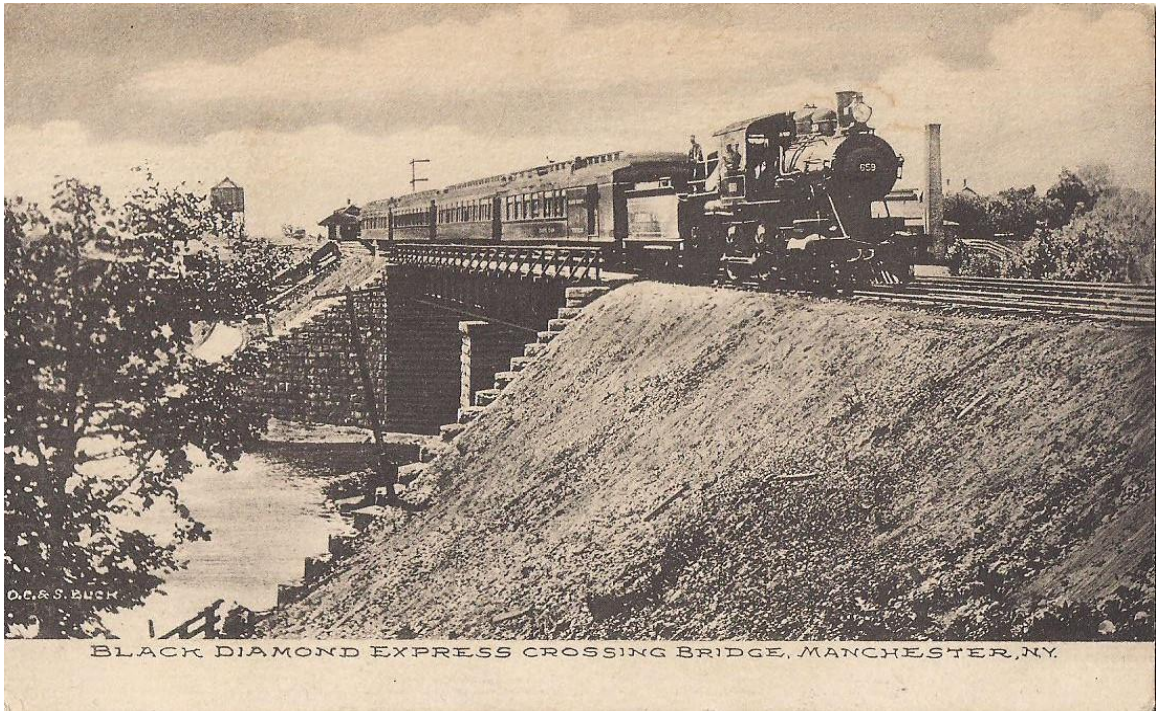
All in all, a good night, with lots of discussions going on with different people, and many stories shared of LV experiences. Plenty of food, as Dick Coffey got two big sheet pizzas from Mark's, a cake from Wegmans, two sandwich trays with wraps on them from Bliss's Market, and a cooler filled with bottled water. Gary Congdon brought a veggie tray, plus someone brought a few bags of different chips, with dips, and brownies also.

Lehigh Valley Railroad Memorial Night was hosted by Guil Mack of Phelps at his home from 1977 to 2016. The Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society was pleased to continue the tradition. Guil Mack gave tours of his HO scale model railroad layout at his home on the afternoon of Saturday, April 21. Thanks to Dave Halderman for reporting on the event details.

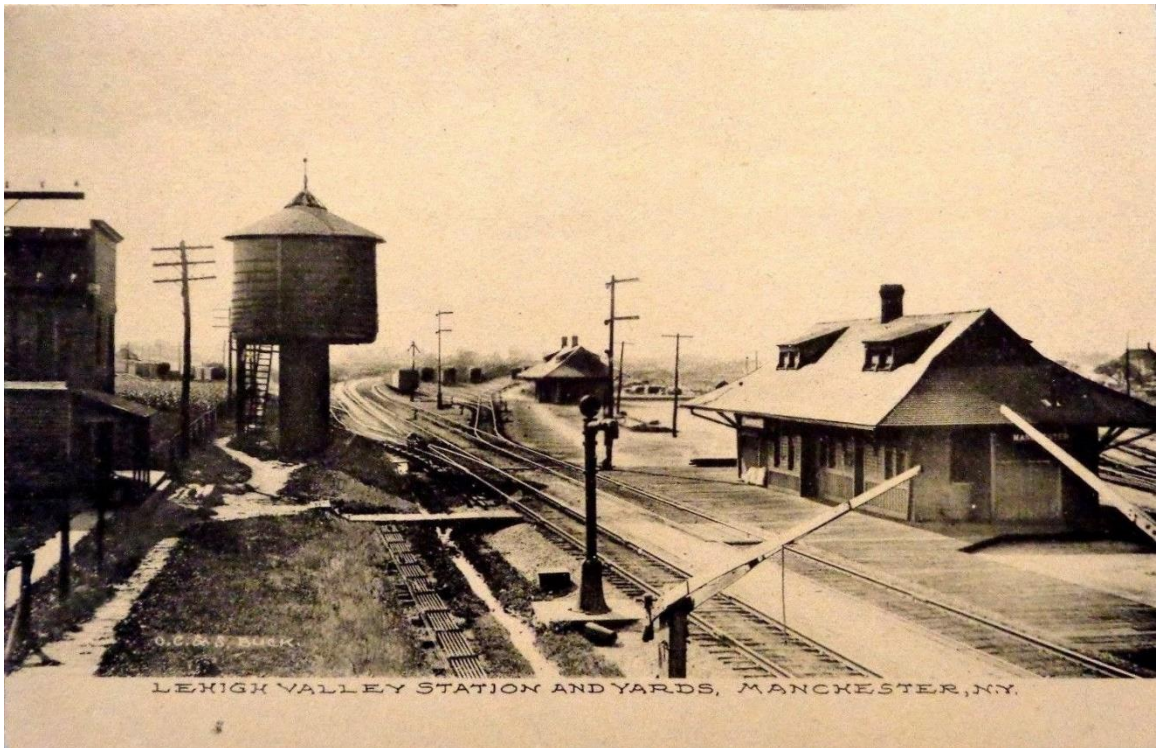
2019 LVRRHS ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The annual meeting of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society will be held on Sunday, January 20, 2019, at 2:00 p.m., at the Society's Station Museum at 8 East High Street in Shortsville, New York. Election results for officers and trustees will be announced, 2018 activities will be reviewed, and 2019 activities will be discussed at the meeting. The monthly meeting will be held after the annual meeting. All Society members are invited to attend as well as the public.

HISTORIC POSTCARDS



Eastbound Black Diamond Express crossing Canandaigua Outlet bridge in Manchester, New York, circa 1900.



Lehigh Valley Railroad Station and Yards in Manchester, New York, looking west, circa 1900.

LEHIGH VALLEY LOCOMOTIVES ON CONRAIL IN 1976



LV GP38AC #? leads an EL U-boat on a westbound Conrail freight train on the Chicago mainline at the Blue Cut between Lyons, NY, and Newark, NY. (Ken May – September 1976)



LV U23B #509 on Conrail's Corning Secondary north of Geneva, NY (Ken May – August 1976)

DONATIONS

Thanks to Joe Colasacco and his landscape business, Kingdom Proprietors, for mowing the station museum lawn during 2018.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you have not already renewed your membership for 2018, we hope that you will consider renewing for 2019. Memberships received after September 30 will be considered good through 2019. We thank all of our members for their continued support of the Society.

LVERRHS MEETINGS

Society meetings are held as needed on the third Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m. at the LVERRHS Station Museum, 8 East High Street, Shortsville, New York. All members are encouraged to attend the meetings.

Visit the Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society website at www.lverrhs.org for the latest information about Society activities.

"The Black Diamond" is published by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society, P. O. Box RR, Manchester, NY 14504-0200. Displays and archives are located at 8 E. High St., Shortsville, NY. Hours by appointment. Contact Deb Halderman, Treasurer, at 585-289-8022.

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President:	David Halderman
Vice President:	Richard Coffey
Treasurer:	Deborah Halderman
Secretary:	Joe Colasacco
Trustees:	Ross Liddiard
	Jack Tuttle
	Joseph Dickson
	Rita Gurewitch
	Beverly Halderman
	Kenneth May



Lehigh Valley Railroad
Historical Society



Ride the train with Santa!

Santa Claus Train Excursions



***** Saturday, November 24, 2018 *****

*1 hour, 18 mile round trip from Shortsville to Phelps and return over Finger Lakes
Railway*

Departure times at 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm, and 2:30 pm

Fare - \$18 per person

Children age 2 and under (lap-sitters) free

Tickets available on-line at www.lvrrhs.org

Click on the "Excursions" link!

Museum decorated for the holidays

Expanded Operating N Scale Model Train Display

Operation Lifesaver Exhibit

Gift shop open (accepting cash & personal checks)

Concessions stand provided by Shortsville Fire Dept

LVRHHS Station Museum, 8 East High St., Shortsville, NY

Sponsored by Lehigh Valley Railroad Historical Society

For more information, please call 585-289-9149 to request a return call.

Visit our website at www.lvrrhs.org

