



# SEMAPHORE



## October 2019

The LIST September meeting will be held on **Friday, October 18th, 8:00pm** at the **Historic Van Bourgondien House in West Babylon**. This house is located at 600 Albin Avenue in West Babylon.

### THIS MONTH:

This month, **Joe Costa** will provide a video presentation on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Titled, "The Standard Railroad of the World – 125 years of the Pennsylvania Railroad", this video has scenes featuring steam and diesel era trains around the system.

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For regular updates and other important information, visit the Chapter website at: **LIST-NRHS.org**

Email: **lisunrisetrail@yahoo.com**

The Chapter mailing address is:

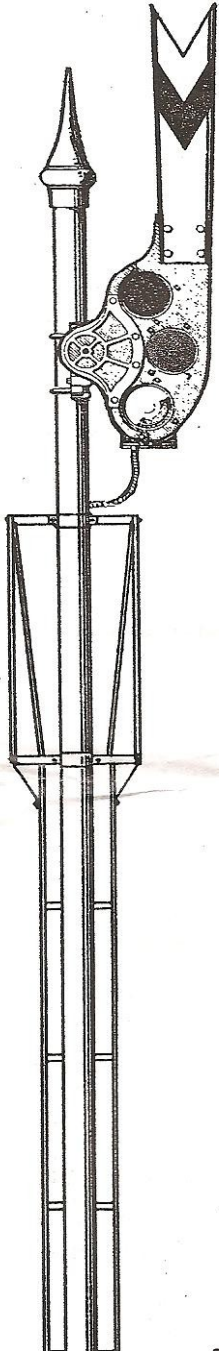
**LIST—NRHS**

**P O Box 507**

**Babylon, New York 11702-0507**

ALSO, BE SURE TO "LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK AT:

**Long-Island-Sunrise-Trail-Chapter-of-the-NRHS**



THE PUBLICATION OF THE  
LONG ISLAND-SUNRISE TRAIL CHAPTER  
OF THE  
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



## List Happenings by Steve Quigley

Chapter member Dave Morrison has written a new book titled "Grand Central Terminal and Penn Station, Statuary and Sculptures." It is a 128 page book filled with Black and Whites pictures published by Arcadia Publishing. Dave has written another book continuing his excellent series of books on the LIRR and associated trains and buildings.

The Chapter member price is \$18 which is discounted from the retail price. We have purchased autographed copies which are currently in stock and available for Chapter members.

By the time you read this, our 2020 LIRR calendar should be available for purchase. We are using the same printing company as last year which provided us an excellent quality product. Almost all of the pictures are color with a couple of black and white photos due to their being very old shots. We have been able to keep the same price as last year so see the order form in this edition for information.

DUE TO N Y STATE COLLECTING TAX, THE PRICE FOR MAILING THE CALENDAR TO NY MEMBERS IS \$12.49 WHICH INCLUDES TAX AND SHIPPING. The price for members out of NY State is \$11.50. There is no limit on the amount of calendars you wish to purchase. Several members have purchased multiple copies which they give as gifts to their friends.

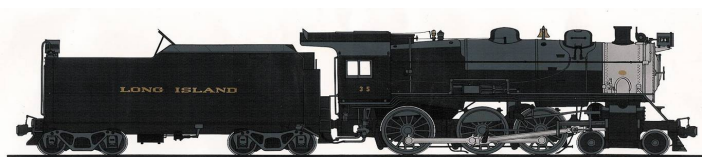
The Port Jefferson Village Center in downtown Port Jefferson adjacent to the Harbor has an exhibit titled "Railroads, Tracking the History on Long Island." The exhibit runs from September 5<sup>th</sup> to October 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. Our Chapter is participating in the exhibit by providing assistance to the Village Historian through LIRR photos and memorabilia. The Village Center hours are 9AM to PM every day. The exhibit is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

The Village Center is located just east of Danfords Inn along the harbor waterfront.

Our Chapters new book, titled "The 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Long Island Rail Road" is available and selling well. The book is 72 pages and consists of 8 articles concerning the people, places and things of the LIRR. The articles are different from but will complement our Chapters 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book that we published 10 years ago. Our members' price is \$12.00 plus \$3.50 shipping. [New York members pay sales tax of \$1.34; the total is \$16.84 for people living in N Y State] I believe you have never seen the topics of the articles in print before so I know you will enjoy the information presented.

If you would like to receive an electronic version of the Semaphore, please email me with your email address and I will send you the electronic version which will have color pictures when we publish pictures. For the time being, I am sending a paper copy of the Semaphore as well as an electronic version if you have requested an electronic version.

If you wish to write an article for the Semaphore, just let me know and I am sure that we will be able to print it [sooner or later]. My e mail address is [csquigley@optonline.net](mailto:csquigley@optonline.net) and my telephone # is **631-487-4766**. Please email your articles.



**LIRR NEWS** by Steve Quigley

The new LIRR M-9 cars are in service and operating in regular runs on the LIRR. The first eight car train departed Huntington at 6:50 AM on Wednesday 9/11 and then went to Hempstead and later in the evening from Penn to Babylon.

I rode the 10:35PM express to Babylon that day and found the cars to be smoother, quieter, brighter and more comfortable. The middle seat of the 3 seat row has been widened to provide extra room for the middle seat rider. The braking ability of the train has been enhanced as well. No longer will riders possibly rip their pants pockets as the seat armrest is a closed



loop. In addition, no longer will you have to struggle to open the doors between cars. The doors are electrically operated pocket doors. The rider presses a pad to open the door much like Amtrak's doors. Extra insulation has been added to make the car to make the ride quieter for the passengers. Additional signage exists with TV screens at the end of the cars to provide information. The voice announcing the station stops and other information is a female voice which is another difference from prior train announcements. Cars have been added to this train so as I write this, it now contains 12 cars. This train will not be limited to a particular line, it be on various lines for all to see as well as to ride.

The MTA plans to spend \$51.5 billion on various projects during the next 5 years to improve and expand its infrastructure. The LIRR is expected to receive \$5.7 billion of that total to modernize switch and signal systems and to purchase an additional 160 train cars among other items. The LIRR plans to purchase 20 new diesel pulled coaches as well as 10 diesel locomotives to power them. Handicap access will be improved and added at stations that presently do not have it. Tracks and switches at Jamaica will be upgraded as well as reconfigured. The funding includes money to complete two on the ongoing megaprojects, East Side Access and the Third Track Project between Floral Park and Hicksville.

As part of the Third Track Project, the LIRR is expecting to demolish three of its older building in Mineola but the Village Historical Society is trying to save the buildings. Nassau Tower, which was built in 1923, the Mineola Electrical Substation which was built in 1910 and the South Station House building which was built in 1923 are all planned to be demolished so that the third track may go through the area. The Mineola Historical Society stated that they wish to have the buildings moved rather than being demolished. Nassau Tower is directly in the path of the third track while the Electrical Substation is slated to be a drop off space for commuters. The South Station Building is in close proximity to the present tracks and would be too close to the third track to remain in its present location.

Stay tuned to see if any of the buildings can or will be saved.

## ***THE LIRR MODELER by Mike Boland***

### ***This Month's Feature:***

## **1959 AND PRR PULLMAN HEAVYWEIGHT PARLOR CARS ON THE LONG ISLAND RAIL ROAD, PART 1**

Let's roll back the clock to early August of 1959...that 60 years ago! There's no "Blue-Ribbon Fleet" and no Weekend Chief; no Alco Century diesels, no orange stripes and no "Zip cars." Just a few years before the LIRR would purchase its fleet of heavyweight Pullman parlor cars from the Long Island's owner, the great Pennsylvania Railroad, the LIRR's parlor service had a distinctive PRR look to it. After all, the PRR parlors in Tuscan Red with black roof and gold lettering were the only parlor cars on the railroad, in addition to the two ex-Lackawanna parlor cars in maroon and gray with black roof and yellow trim, Julia Ward Howe and Virginia Dare. They were acquired in 1957 and originally ran in Lackawanna colors with LACKAWANNA on their letterboards. These two cars had their original roadname eventually painted over in a light gray with standard white condensed gothic LONG ISLAND lettering centered above the windows. Dashing Dan would be added later, too.

This was parlor service to Montauk and Greenport in 1959; I thought I would take a look back at how it appeared the weekend of August 7 that year, thanks to a memo issued by R. D. Spore, Superintendent of Transportation at the time. Over a half century later, this one-page piece of paper is pure gold, telling us a lot about the railroad's parlor car operation at that time. I want to pass it along to LIRR modelers since there is much information for modelers to use here.

While it does not provide any information about motive power, I can state that east-end parlor car trains were pulled by single C-Liners, probably the 2400-horsepower model, the CPA24-5, although there probably CPA20-5 locomotives used as well. Both models could not MU but there were other diesel locomotives that did MU and were used on parlor trains. These were the Fairbanks-Morse H16-44's diesel road switchers as well as the Alco RS-3's. It's possible that RS-1's saw service to the east end also. Remember, too, that there were NO all parlor car trains at this time; all trains that had parlor cars had coaches, too. These were most likely P72s or 2900-series coaches.

As for the trains, they looked like these: On Friday, August 7, 1959, Train #16 to Montauk operated with four (4) parlor cars: John Hancock (east), Tristram Dalton, Glade, Glen Osborn and Thomas Jefferson, a parlor-lounge car. Train #24 to Montauk operated with seven (7) parlor cars: Dora (east), Curtis Bay, Caleb Strong, Elbridge Jerry, R. R. Livingston, Virginia Dare and Elks Club, a parlor-lounge car. One other train, #28, to Montauk ran with four (4) parlor cars: Elizabeth Cad Stanton (east), Ames, Fenns and Lions Club, a parlor-lounge car.

One train to Greenport, #214, had two (2) parlor cars: Hazel Dell (east) and Julia Ward Howe. One additional parlor car, Lucretia Mott, was serviced and kept on standby as a replacement car. This car was NOT used through the following Monday unless it replaced a parlor car that was "crippled" by a car inspector.

I'll have more about this fascinating 1959 PRR parlor car operation next time. It was a time of Tuscan Red PRR parlors and dark gray LIRR coaches. Until then, happy modeling!





## The following price list is for LIST members only!



# _____	GCT and Penn Sta. Statuary + Sculptures	<b>NEW</b>	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	2020 LIRR calendar	<b>NEW</b>	@\$8 each Total _____
# _____	The 185 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the LIRR	<b>NEW</b>	@\$12 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Main Line East by D. Morrison		@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Trackside with Matt Herson by M. Boland		@48 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Oyster Bay Branch		@18 each Total _____
# _____	The LIRR Co. A Hist. 1834-1965 by Bob Sturm		@\$38 each Total _____
# _____	From a Nickel to a Token by A. Sparberg		@ \$25 each Total _____
# _____	Shortline RR's of LI by LIST		@\$27 each Total _____
# _____	Steel Road Nostalgia, Vol. 1 the Northeast		@\$25 each Total _____
# _____	Steel Road Nostalgia, Vol.2 the Northeast		@\$25 each Total _____
# _____	Jamaica Station by Dave Morrison		@ \$18 each Total _____
# _____	Sunnyside Yard+Hell Gate Bridge- D. Morrison		@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR 175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 60 page book		@\$2 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Stations by Dave Morrison		@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Port Jefferson Branch by D. Morrison		@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	The Long Island Rail Road, in color Vol. 1		@\$48 each Total _____
# _____	The Long Island Rail Road, In Color Vol. 2		@\$48 each Total _____
# _____	The Long Island Rail Road, In Color Vol. 3		@\$48 each Total _____
# _____	The Long Island Rail Road, In Color Vol. 4		@\$48 each Total _____
# _____	The Long Island Rail Road, In Color Vol. 5		@48 each Total _____
# _____	The LIRR, In Color Power 1952-2015		@\$48 each Total _____
# _____	The LIRR Part Seven by V. Seyfried		@\$25 each Total _____
# _____	Victorian Stations of the LIRR by Ron Ziel		@\$25 each Total _____

Shipping for 1 of the books or calendar, \$3.50.

Shipping for extra books, please call or e mail Steve Quigley for the shipping cost.

NY State Residents, please add 8.625% tax to the total of the merchandise PLUS the shipping]

\*\*\*\*\*NY RESIDENTS, THE COST OF THE CALENDAR IS \$9.23\*\*\*\*\*



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**HAPPY HALLOWEEN**  
**FROM ALL OF**  
**OUR FAMILY**  
**TO YOURS!**

