



SEMAPHORE



October 2020

The LIST October meeting will be held on **Friday, October 16th, 8:00pm.** To comply with current restrictions regarding gatherings, this meeting will be held via Zoom. Details on how you can connect may be found on page 4.

THIS MONTH:

Mike Boland will be presenting on LIRR MU Cars 1904 to today.

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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:

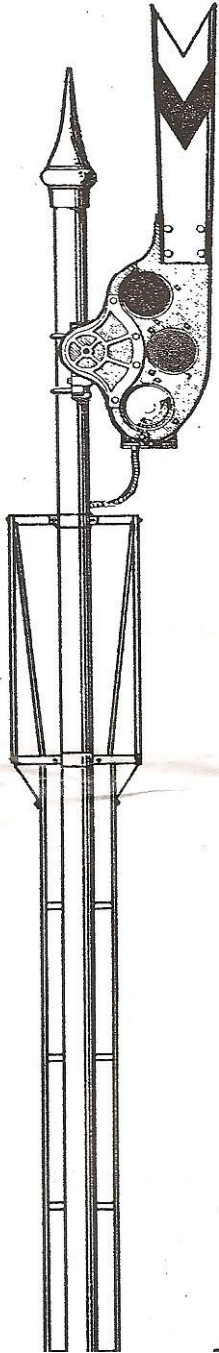
LIST—NRHS

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

First and most important, I wish all of the members of LIST and your families to stay healthy and be safe.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT ITEMS!

Regretfully, I am canceling this month's IN PERSON October LIST Chapter meeting. We are planning on resuming our in person meetings as soon as possible.

WE WILL HAVE A ZOOM MEETING THIS MONTH ON October 16th. Please see this edition of the Semaphore as to how you may attend through your PC our Zoom meeting. In the future, we plan on conducting our in person meetings as well as having a Zoom meeting at the same time. I hope we can resume in person meetings this December or January.

Last month's Zoom meeting was a success for all who participated. We had 2 Chapter members from out of NY State who participated. It was the first time in 30 years that one member from out of NY was able to attend a meeting.

Our 2021 LIRR calendar has been delivered and is available to ship to you. We are able to retain last year's price of \$8 for Chapter members and are using the same printing company in Pennsylvania that we have used for the past several years. The printer has provided us excellent quality and service thus we utilized this company for our 2021 calendar. Our calendar has been well received and we have sold more than one half of the amount we produced so far.

We were in the planning stages of having a trip to Greenport on the LIRR this year. However, due to unforeseen track work on the Main Line between Floral Park and Hicksville, we are postponing the trip to a tentative date of April 24th 2021. This date happens to be the 187th anniversary of the LIRR. We plan on including in the price of the ticket a book, a special pin and a booklet telling the story of the First Train to Greenport. We will have a docent on board who will tell us the history of the Line to Greenport and describe interesting aspects of this line. In addition, there will be raffles on board the train and other fun and interesting things.

Bob Sturm's new book is in the final stages of being written and we hope it will be printed and published this fall. Our Chapter is providing support so that this important work will be available to be read by all who appreciate the history of the LIRR. The book will cover the History of the LIRR from 1948 to 1980. Also, Dave Morrison is writing a book on the Babylon Branch. It should be available early next year.

Mike Boland will be the presenter at this month's meeting. His topic will be LIRR MU cars 1904 to today. He wrote a book on this topic that our Chapter has available to sell.

Typically you would buy the new calendar and pay dues at the same time at a meeting. Alex Mark, our Treasurer requests the following: **PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES RENEWAL DIRECTLY TO ME AND YOUR CALENDAR AND BOOK ORDERS TO OUR CHAPTER'S PO BOX. My address is: Alan Mark, 111 Greenbelt Parkway, Holbrook NY 11741.**

We are always looking for articles 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** and my telephone # is **631-487-4766**. Please email your articles.

LIRR NEWS by Steve Quigley

The LIRR is continuing its successful timely completion of eliminating crossings on the Main Line between Hicksville and Floral Park.

The fourth new bridge over a crossing was installed the weekend of October 3rd and 4th. The new bridge was installed on the School Street crossing on the border of Westbury and New Cassel. The bridge is 1,315 tons and was moved in place over a 55 hour period during the weekend. The new bridge's structure includes a 40 foot section of roadway underneath the tracks which creates a box like structure. The new bridge has 3 bays, two for the existing Main Line tracks and a third for the third track when it is built as part of the Third Track Project. Installing both the railroad bridge and the roadway segment underneath it is a novel engineering procedure which reduces construction time and cost. The School street crossing is the site of a collision between 2 trains and a car in which 3 people died. The driver of the car drove around a lowered gate and was struck by the trains. The train car had extensive damage due to it being derailed and then striking the Westbury station platform. The M-7 train car is not being repaired due to its extensive damage.

During that weekend, more than 600 workers tackled 34 construction activities along the 10 mile project corridor. This is the fourth railroad crossing that has been eliminated as part of the LIRR's Expansion Project. Railroad crossings have been eliminated at Urban Avenue, New Hyde Park Road and Covert Avenue. Crossings to be eliminated in the future are S. 12th Street in New Hyde Park, Main Street crossings in Mineola and Willis Avenue. Years ago the Herrick's Road crossing was eliminated after an accident in 1982 in which 9 teenagers were killed after a driver drove around lowered crossing gates. The elimination of the crossing was completed in 1998 and at that time space for a third track was installed and today you will see a third track already installed on the Herrick's Road bridge.

The Lynbrook LIRR station has just received an extensive makeover. Lynbrook is a 4 track elevated station and it now has two new island platforms, platform canopies, and other new amenities. Work began on renovating the station in May of 2019 and was completed 1 month ahead of schedule. The platforms were resealed, lighting was upgraded and translucent canopy roofing was installed. Two new glass platform waiting rooms were installed as well as new signage and security cameras. The station was built in 1936 and it serves the Long Beach as well as the Babylon Branch.



AS OF LAST WEEK WHEN I TRAVELED TO MINEOLA, NASSAU TOWER WAS STILL STANDING. HOWEVER, IT MAY NOT BE IN EXISTENCE FOR LONG! If you wish to see it and possibly take pictures, do it now or you may lose the opportunity to view it one last time. The Tower and its adjacent power substation are slated for demolition as part of the Third Track Project. The tower is of frame construction versus the substation being brick and the third track will probably go through right where the tower is located. [One of the two "Nassau" signs was removed from the structure apparently without LIRR permission]

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 16th, 2020

OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

To comply with current restrictions regarding gatherings, this meeting will be held via Zoom®.

Around 7:50 PM on October 16, 2020 you can connect to the meeting by entering the below link in your computer's search engine (Bing, Google, Yahoo, etc.) and hit enter. You will be brought to the opening screen of Zoom® where you will be queried for your name. After entering your name hit return again and you will be placed in the 'Waiting Room' for the host to admit you to the meeting. If you want to speed up the process, go to <https://zoom.us/freesignup> on the Internet and select 'Sign Up, It's Free' (Do not enter your work E-Mail on this page.) Do note that your normal internet charges will apply for both the meeting and the sign up.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2020 AT 8:00 PM

To attend the meeting, just click on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4656596440?pwd=bVIMNkg3WHhUa0dMREhwMkNiRVVxdz09>

Meeting ID: **465 659 6440** Passcode: **6d8aEf**

To access via your mobile phone (audio only): **+19292056099,,4656596440#,,,,,0#,,178661#**

This number is located in the United States (New York)

Meeting ID: **465 659 6440**

Passcode: **178661**

In the future we would like to be able to send you a blind E-Mail directly with the link for the meeting. If you have not already, please send your name and E-Mail address to EdwardMKoehler@nyc.rr.com as he will be compiling a group E-Mail list for the Chapter.

Any questions or problem with Zoom® please contact Ed Koehler at EdwardMKoehler@nyc.rr.com or call him at **917 603 4276**.





**LONG ISLAND-SUNRISE TRAIL
CHAPTER**

Founded in 1966



NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2021 CHAPTER

MEMBERSHIP DUES NOTICE

(Payable by January 1, 2021)

<u>CHAPTER DUES:</u>	Membership	\$15.00
	Family Membership Per Person	\$1.00

Dues Total \$ _____

Chapter Donation \$ _____

Total Remitted \$ _____

Make check or money order payable to L.I.S.T. and **send with this notice** to:

Treasurer, L.I.S.T.
111 Greenbelt Parkway, Holbrook, NY 11741-4439

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

IS YOUR ADDRESS LABEL CORRECT???? If not, please write correct address on this dues notice; also include your email and phone number.

Alan Mark, Treasurer

LIRR Expansion Project Hits Halfway Point Ahead of Schedule and Under Budget

With four of eight railroad crossings eliminated and six of seven bridges rebuilt or upgraded, among other accomplishments, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) today announced that construction of the LIRR Expansion Project has hit the halfway point, ahead of schedule and under budget. The project, one of the largest transportation infrastructure projects in North America, will introduce 10 miles of new track between Floral Park and Hicksville. It is being managed by the new MTA Construction & Development (C&D) agency created to expedite how the MTA plans and builds projects. Many projects, such as this, are working under the successful design-build model that has fostered innovation and incentivized faster work with less community disruption.

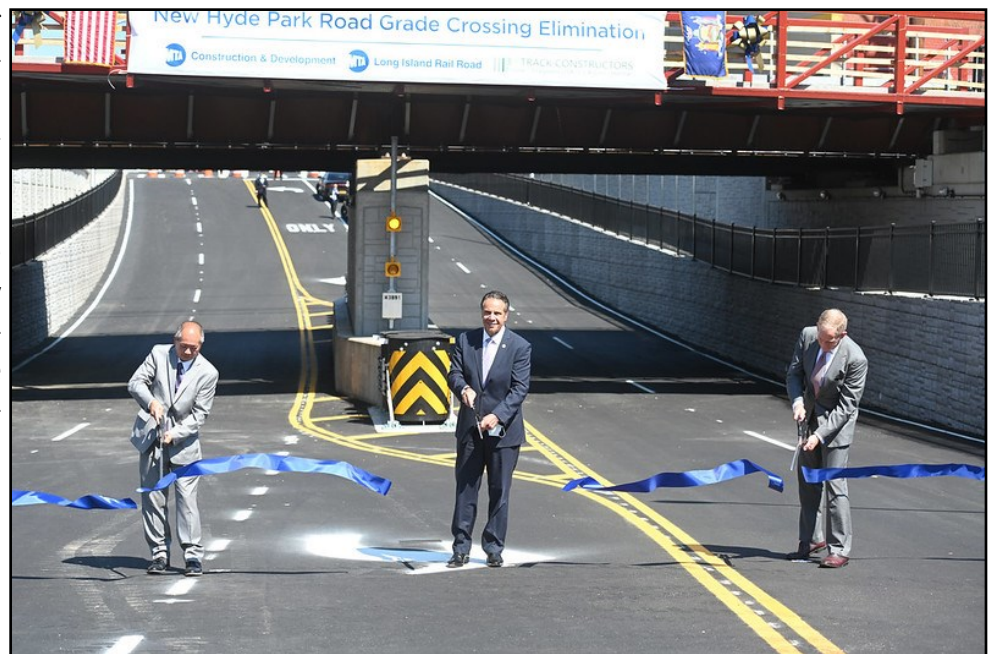
C&D is working quickly and efficiently to get a number of projects done following a successful summer of accomplishments, including the School Street undergrade crossing which is scheduled to open to traffic in November, months before originally scheduled. Final bridge installation, using the innovative box-jacking method, was completed Oct. 5. The eastern portions of the Merillon Avenue Station platforms, in Garden City, will open to commuters this month and temporary station platforms will be demolished.

"This project continues to move forward at a remarkable pace and under budget, and is a model for how the MTA can deliver large infrastructure projects better, faster and cheaper," said **Janno Lieber, President of MTA Construction & Development**. "We're especially proud of the work we are doing to maintain progress throughout the COVID pandemic – communicating and enforcing safe work practices, conducting field inspections remotely by using Go-Pro cameras, providing PPE. In many cases we've taken advantage of low ridership to actually accelerate work during the COVID crisis."

"This critical project has already delivered substantial improvements to our infrastructure that have translated into better service for our customers, and we're excited for all that's to come," said **Phil Eng, President of MTA Long Island Rail Road**. "Providing more reliable, robust, and safe service – with a stellar customer experience – is our goal every day here at the railroad, and each of these individual milestones get us closer to delivering a world-class transportation system for our customers. Projects like these help neighboring communities, foster economic growth, and will ultimately help our region rebound and rebuild during this pandemic."

The installation of elevators at the Floral Park station making it fully ADA compliant is nearing completion and the completion of Carle Place Station is expected this winter. Other work along the Main Line between Floral Park and Hicksville includes the following:

Continued on next page...



LIRR Expansion Project Hits Halfway Point Ahead of Schedule and Under Budget

- A drop off/pick-up roundabout on Stonehinge Lane at Carle Place Station
- Art glass installation on new Carle Place Station buildings
- Exterior renovations and other enhancement work continues at New Hyde Park Station
- Final work on Harrison Avenue Parking Structure in Mineola
- Early work pile driving and preparation for Willis Avenue grade crossing elimination
- Excavation and construction of foundations as part of Mineola Station enhancement and reconstruction
- Elevator installation and final work at Westbury North Parking Structure
- Sound wall construction
- Sidewalks and landscaping installation
- Foundations and utility installation at various substations
- Permanent utility installation work that includes cable relocation
- Testing and commissioning new Nassau 1 interlocking
- Installation of new switches at Nassau 3 Interlocking
- Early work preparation of Denton Ave/Tanners Pond Rd. Bridge replacement
- Regular track inspection and maintenance, rail tie replacement and grade crossing elimination preparatory work along the right-of-way

As the LIRR Expansion Project hit its halfway point, a number of important milestones were reached during the dog days of summer. Despite a national pandemic, notable construction continued with protocols developed to keep workers safe. Among the completed projects was the replacement of the Glen Cove Road bridge. Using a method successfully employed at Nassau Boulevard and Cherry Lane among other locations, the new bridge was built on site and then during a weekend double track service outage on June 29, the old two-bay bridge was removed and replaced with a new three-bay bridge to accommodate the future third track.

Just a couple of months later on August 24, the New Hyde Park Road undergrade crossing was opened ahead of schedule, less than seven months after the roadway was closed. The crossing was the third to be eliminated, following Urban Avenue and Covert Avenue. In an incredible feat of engineering, the railroad bridge and U-structure was pushed into place during a double track service outage using a series of hydraulic jacks, after being constructed on site.

As the summer came to a close, MTA C&D achieved two more milestones. The steel structure for the Meadowbrook Parkway's third bay was installed on September 18 and the first section of the third track was installed at the Merillon Avenue station.

In all, when the LIRR Expansion Project is completed, eight grade crossings will have been eliminated, seven bridges replaced or expanded, five stations completely rebuilt, 10 miles of a third track installed and infrastructure such as power substations and interlockings built.

For more information about the LIRR Expansion Project and photos, visit:

<https://www.amodernli.com/project/thirdtrack/>

THE LIRR MODELER by Mike Boland***This Month's Feature:******Modeling FGE 50 Foot Insulated Boxcars - Part 1***

Before I start my new feature, I wanted to repeat a cute little article that I read in a recent issue of Model Railroader Magazine. It's Hal Miller's "From the Editor" feature and goes like this:

From the mailbag this month comes an episode of making friends through model railroading.

James Soberman wrote of a recent commute on the Long Island R. R. I was traveling home on a particularly crowded train and pulled out the May issue of Model Railroader.

As I was reading the magazine, the man sitting across from me asked if he could take a look at it.

Soberman handed it over, and pretty soon the gentleman and four of his friends were all looking at the magazine and talking about the trains of their childhoods.

The MR borrower related to Soberman he had trains but he needed track and transformers to get them going so Soberman invited him to a swap meet.

I'm never surprised at the common interest in model railroading. It can happen anywhere, even on the Route of the Dashing Commuter. –Hal Miller

(Reproduced through the courtesy of Model Railroader Magazine and Hal Miller.)

How about that? Every time I think about this story I smile.

Now onto our feature. A recent visit to my local hobby shop and to its shelves produced an interesting piece of rolling stock that I did not have on my roster of freight cars. This was the 50-foot insulated boxcar built and leased by Fruit Growers Express of Alexandria, Virginia. The car was originally available in kit form from Walthers and over two visits, I purchase two decorated cars and two undecorated cars. One decorated car was painted in a light blue Erie-Lackawanna paint scheme with white lettering; the other car was a CSX car in CSX blue with yellow lettering.

The other two undecorated cars had their bodies molded in yellow and I assembled them in the same manner as I did my two decorated kits. The kits assemble easily and are ready-to-run in practically no time.

One item I took care of before assembling the cars was to repaint the roof.

Each car's roof was painted a very bright and shiny silver, which I thought was a little much. So I dug into my extensive paint supply and found a bottle of Floquil D&H Gray, which was still good. I mixed it and airbrushed it onto all four rooves to knock down the manufacturer's galvanized look. Since I wanted to apply some weathering on these cars, it was the right thing to do. Then I glued the roof to the body of each car.

I'll continue next time with the car and its history. Until then, happy modeling!



The following price list is for LIST members only!



# _____ 2021 LIRR calendar	@\$8 each Total _____
# _____ LIRR Multiple Unit Cars by M. Boland	@\$48 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 by D. Morrison	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____ The LIRR Co. A Hist. 1834-1965 by Bob Sturm	@\$38 each Total _____
# _____ Shortline RR's of LI by LIST	@\$27 each Total _____
# _____ Steel Road Nostalgia, Vol. 1 the Northeast	@\$32 each Total _____
# _____ Steel Road Nostalgia, Vol.2 the Northeast	@\$32 each Total _____
# _____ Jamaica Station by Dave Morrison	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____ Sunnyside Yard+Hell Gate Bridge- D. Morrison	@\$18 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 _____

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, add 8.625% tax to the total of the merchandise PLUS the shipping] *****NY RESIDENTS, THE COST OF THE MAILED CALENDAR IS \$12.49



The Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society is a non-profit 501c3 Educational Organization. The Chapter was founded in 1966 to serve the Long Island area. The SEMAPHORE is the official publication of the Chapter. Articles appearing herein do not necessarily express the attitude of the Chapter or the NRHS. Please address all correspondence and membership inquiries to: LIST-NRHS, PO Box 507, Babylon, New York 11702-0507

Stephen F. Quigley, President

Steven R. Torborg, Editor

Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter
National Railway Historical Society
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**Dave Morrison's
newest book, by
Acadia Publishing**

**Due out January,
2021**

