



SEMAPHORE



October 2021

Welcome back, we hope you had a great summer!

The LIST October meeting will be held on **Friday, October 15th at 8:00pm.**

The September meeting will be an **IN PERSON** meeting at the Van Bourgondien house in West Babylon.

The address is 600 Albin Avenue in West Babylon. This will be a Zoom meeting as well.

THIS MONTH

For October, member Jeff Erlitz will take a look back at our beloved LIRR in old photographs. He will take us on a tour along the Main Line from Long Island City to Greenport. After that, most, if not every, branch will be covered, also traveling in a west-to-east direction. Most of the images have come from various libraries and other personal collections. The era covered extends from the 19th century to the 1950s, with some of the latter ones in color.

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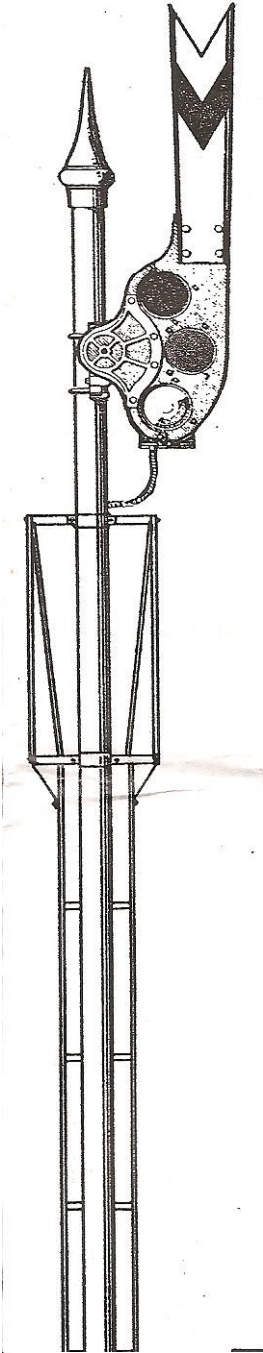
**For regular updates and other important information,
visit: www.LIST-NRHS.org**

The Chapter mailing address is:

LIST—NRHS

P O Box 507

Babylon, New York 11702-0507



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





The following price list is for LIST members only!



# _____	2022 LIRR calendar	@\$8 each Total _____
# _____	The LIRR 1949-1980 by R. Sturm NEW Vol. 2	@\$38 each Total _____
# _____	The LIRR Co. A History 1834-1965 by R. Sturm	@\$38 each Total _____
# _____	Volume 1 and 2 of Bob Sturm's books	Both for \$68 Total _____
# _____	Shortlines of Long Island by H. Fagerberg, E. Koehler	@\$27 ea.Total _____
# _____	LIRR Montauk Branch by Dave Morrison NEW	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Babylon Branch by Dave Morrison NEW	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	The 185 th Anniversary of the LIRR book	@\$12 Each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Multiple Unit Cars by M. Boland	@\$48 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Main Line East by D. Morrison	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	GCT + Penn Sta. Statuary & Sculptures by 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 _____
# _____	Jamaica Station by Dave Morrison	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	Sunnyside Yard+Hell Gate Bridge by 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 _____

Shipping for 1 of the books \$4.00. Shipping for both Bob Sturm's books is \$10.

Shipping for other 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

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

LIST Private Car Trip To Greenport by Steve Quigley

We have been planning with our friends at the LIRR to have a trip to Greenport in our own private LIRR car. THE SCHEDULED DATE FOR OUR TRIP TO GREENPORT IS OCTOBER 16TH. SPREAD THE WORD!!!! On board will be our private docent, Dave Morrison whom has written a book on the Main Line! We will have giveaways, raffles, books and the 2022 calendar for sale among other items. Admission to the RMLI in Greenport is free thanks to Don Fisher, President of RMLI. The ticket price is \$44; However, LIST members will be mailed a rebate for \$14 after the trip resulting in their cost being ONLY \$30. Tickets are presently available at all LIRR Ticket Vending Machines [TVM's] and select LIRR West End Stations. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE AN ENJOYABLE DAY!

Departure Trains

Atlantic Train #6710 7:45am change at Jamaica
Penn Train #8012 8:12am changed at Ronkonkoma
Woodside Train #8012 8:24am change at Ronkonkoma
Jamaica Train #8012 8:35am change at Ronkonkoma
Hicksville Train #8012 8:58am change at Ronkonkoma
Ronkonkoma Train #6202 9:40am Arrives Greenport 11:05am

Return Trains

Greenport Train #6253 5:03pm change at Ronkonkoma
Ronkonkoma Train #8063 6:31pm
Arrives at Hicksville 7:06pm
Arrives at Jamaica 7:29pm
Arrives at Woodside 7:40pm
Arrives at Penn 7:51pm
Atlantic change at Jamaica for train #6765 arrives at 8:07pm

Please check track assignment at the information booth. Remember to board the rear car. Tours are subject to cancellation. Please check website on the day of the tour to confirm.

Attention All Rail Fans: Greenport Rail Fan Tour An LIRR Escorted Tour - Saturday, October 16, 2021

Take a tour with guides explaining the history of the Long Island Rail Road and its original travel to Greenport. Visit the Railroad Museum of Long Island and have lunch at Greenport Village. Receive a commemorative pin, the 185th LIRR Anniversary book, and a seven-page handout presenting LIRR's first trip to Greenport — all provided by the Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society.

Package Price

Adults: \$44.50
Children (5-11): \$23.00

What's Included

Discounted round-trip rail transportation
185th anniversary book
Special commemorative pin
Seven-page handout on the first trip to Greenport
Museum admission

Buying Tickets: Tickets are available at Gray, Green, or Blue Ticket Machines (not available at Red or Daily Ticket Machines). All machines accept credit and debit cards; Gray and Green machines also accept cash.

Select "Deals & Getaways," then "Long Island Getaways" followed by the tour or package of your choice (listed in alphabetical order). Escorted tour tickets can be purchased at ticket machines up to midnight on Thursday of the week of the tour, and at open ticket offices up to the day of the tour.

Please be aware that multiple tickets/vouchers will print; LIRR rail tickets will print last. Be sure to take all items dispensed when completing your transaction.

List Happenings by Steve Quigley

IMPORTANT NOTICE! The October meeting will be in person at the Van Bourgondien House AND a zoom meeting as well. Internet access has been installed at the Van B House, thus a zoom meeting should take place. Please see this edition of the Semaphore as to how you may attend through your PC. Thank you to Chapter member Ed Koehler for handling the technical aspects of our Zoom Meetings. Our Zoom meetings are for LIST Chapter members only and invited guests, not for non-members.

BIG NEWS!!!!!!!!!!

We have been planning with our friends at the LIRR to have a trip to Greenport in our own private LIRR car. **THE SCHEDULED DATE FOR OUR TRIP TO GREENPORT IS OCTOBER 16TH. SPREAD THE WORD!!!!** On board will be our private docent, Dave Morrison whom has written a book on the Main Line! We will have giveaways, raffles, books and the 2022 calendar for sale among other items. Admission to the RMLI in Greenport is free thanks to Don Fisher, President of RMLI. The ticket price is \$44.50. However, LIST members will be mailed a rebate for \$14.50 after the trip resulting in their cost being **ONLY \$30. OR, MAIL A CHECK FOR \$30 TO OUR PO BOX AND I WILL SEND YOU A TICKET FOR THE TRIP.** If you wish to mail us a check, please do so ASAP. Tickets are presently available at all LIRR Ticket Vending Machines [TVM's] and select LIRR West End Stations. **WE ARE GOING TO HAVE AN ENJOYABLE DAY!** This trip is open to the public so bring your friends and relatives!!!

LATE NEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The train from Penn Station is now expected to be a consist of the new LIRR M-9's. They are fast, smooth and have extensive on board signage and a pleasure to ride in.

Thanks to the management of the LIRR, the eastbound locomotive from Ronkonkoma will have a specially designed **DRUMHEAD** for this trip. There should be time in Greenport to take photos of this unique drumhead!

Our 2022 LIRR calendar is in stock and ready to be shipped. This edition of our calendar has a great variety of photos about our favorite railroad, the LIRR! We have been able to keep the cost at \$8 for Chapter members which is another LIST membership benefit. Please see the order form in this edition of the Semaphore.

LIST is a distributor of the Conrail Quarterly which is a publication of the Conrail Historical Society. It is an excellent full color magazine which retails for \$12. We have several editions in stock that we will sell to Chapter members for \$7 plus \$2 shipping cost. New York State residents do not pay tax as this is a magazine.

Chapter member Bob Sturm's book on The History of the LIRR 1949 to 1980 is in stock! The **RETAIL** price is \$49.95 for non-members and \$38 for LIST Chapter members. If both Volume 1 and 2 are purchased together, the special price for members is \$68. That is 10+% off the individual prices. The shipping cost for both books together will be \$10. NY State residents must add \$6.73 tax.

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 do not mail me copies of your articles. Please email your articles as we have to retype mailed copies.

THE LIRR MODELER by Mike Boland**This Month's Feature:
A NEW BOOK BY LANCE MINDHEIM**

Lance Mindheim is a name that is very familiar to many model railroaders. Lance is a modeler and author who writes books and articles on model railroading. He also designs and builds custom layouts for those who want one and he is a frequent Presenter at Railroad Prototype Modelers' meets, although these have not really been happening in the last two years due to Covid. I've attended several of his clinics and they are entertaining and informative. He is quite a modeler and a frequent contributor to Model Railroader magazine as well as Kalmbach's Model Railroad Planning and Great Model Railroads annuals, and his work has appeared in numerous books from Kalmbach and other publishers. He also is the owner of Shelf Layouts Co., Inc., a custom layout building and design firm. Lance is a resident of Silver Spring, Maryland.

Lance's new book is in the Layout Design and Planning group of Model Railroader and is entitled "How to Design a Model Railroad." He believes that layout design is more than track planning. Developing a design for a realistic, buildable model railroad involves a lot more than the track plan itself. To design an effective track plan, a modeler needs to understand the specific goals he wants in a layout—theme, prototype, era and operations. These need to be put together with the constraints a modeler has working against him—available space, money, skills and time—to design and build a successful layout. Other items to be factored in the layout equation are room comfort, the width of aisles, and a host of other aesthetics.

In this book, recently released by Kalmbach, author Mindheim slowly takes us through the entire process of exploring our goals, likes and preferences and he walks us through the steps of planning benchwork, laying down the mainline and then filling it out with scenery and elements to create a model railroad, one that transports the modeler to a specific time and place.

The book is 143 pages and is priced at \$24.99.

It has nine chapters and they are: defining a "good" layout design; how the prototype does track planning; basic design tools; combining track elements; benchwork footprints and route types; finalizing your footprint and route; putting it all together: part 1—the science; putting it all together: part 2—the art; and case study: Frederick, Md., 1952.

There are all kinds of illustrations, with track diagrams to illustrate what Lance writes about as well as prototype and model railroad photographs.

Lance says that there are no new ideas under the sign and he may be right. He has a lot of friends who are experienced modelers who assisted him in this book, among them Paul Dolkos, Tony Koester, David Barrow, Chuck Hitchcock, Bill Darnaby and a few other expert model railroaders.

Lance's own layout is the HO scale Miami East Rail, which features a sole CSX GP38-2 that switches this fascinating layout. It's a very realistic layout and is well-known.

I waited a long time for this book and I'm using so many of his ideas and writings for my own layout. It's a must for all model railroader. Thanks, Lance—great book! Until next time, happy modeling!

The End of Nassau Tower by Dave Morrison

On Saturday, September 18, 2021, the popularly known Nassau Tower in Mineola was demolished as part of the LIRR Third Track Project.

This two-story tower replaced an 1890, brick tower that was destroyed by a derailed freight car crashing into it on December 31, 1922. The brick tower was designated as Tower 45, but the name was changed to MT Tower in 1907.

When the present tower was placed into service on April 25, 1923, it kept the MT name until September 18, 1938 when it was designated as Nassau Tower. Notice the September 18th date – the tower was demolished 83 years after the day that it received the name Nassau.

In early years, Nassau Tower controlled the switches and signals for the Hempstead and Oyster Bay branches. The Hempstead Branch from Mineola last saw passenger service in 1935 and was thereafter used for freight only. This line was abandoned in 1965.

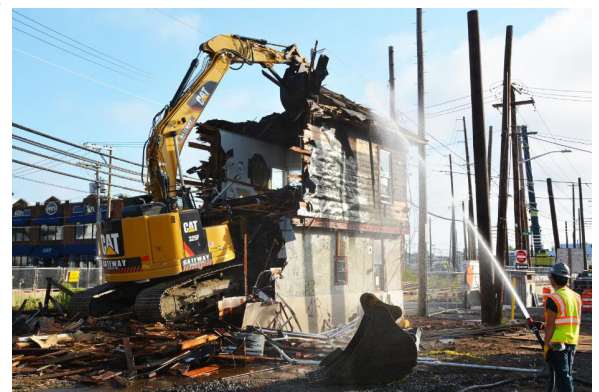
Nassau Tower worked in tandem with Locust Tower, until the later was permanently closed on November 17, 1975. The switch at Locust Valley was then controlled at Nassau Tower.

Nassau Tower was quite popular with LIRR railfans, being centrally located and in such an open location for photographers.

At 7:30am on September 18, 2021, the demolition started. A Caterpillar CAT 325F hydraulic excavator performed the task of destroying this famous structure. The CAT first took down the chimney at the Main Street side of the building. Then the CAT moved over to the west end of the building and tore into the structure. In an hour, the wooden top floor of the tower was gone. Then the work began on the reinforced concrete base. Removal of debris took place the same day. Gone was another iconic LIRR signal tower (remember PD Tower demolished on August 22, 2006).

Some items from Nassau Tower were rescued for historic preservation purposes. The original control board is at the Mineola Historical Society building at 211 Westbury Avenue. Gary Farkash, secretary of the Oyster Bay Railroad Museum, obtained the Sunrise Special logo that was painted onto the trackside interior wall of the tower. Gary mounted the logo for public viewing inside the museum's display area, which is now in the station building. The later-day control panel was obtained by the New York Transit Museum.

Along with the 1910 electric substation #8, two historic LIRR structures in Mineola are now but a memory. Let's refrain from thinking "what is next."



Oyster Bay Railroad Museum Update by John Specce

Although the season is winding down, there has been a lot of activity at the Museum.

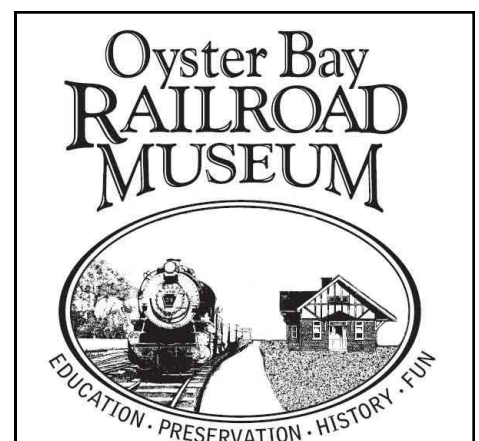
On Thursday evening, Sept 30th, the Museum hosted its biggest fundraiser of the year, the End of Summer Soiree. Guests enjoyed a beautiful late summer evening at the Sagamore Yacht Club overlooking Oyster Bay Harbor. Fine food, live music and fabulous raffle prizes all made the event memorable. A fun and financial success.

Attendance at both the Station and Display Yard continues to be brisk. A big attraction is the operating Turntable, where visitors have the opportunity to “take a spin” on the TT on Saturdays at 1 and 3 PM.

On Friday night/Saturday morning, October 8th and 9th, the LIRR performed a special equipment move of one of our historic pieces of equipment, New Haven Railroad PS-1 boxcar. The boxcar and other equipment came from Holban Yard to Oyster Bay Yard via the mainline and Oyster Bay branches. At the Yard, with the help of volunteers and professional riggers and movers, the boxcar was removed from its trucks and placed on a flatbed trailer. It was then moved to the Museum Display Yard where the trucks and boxcar were placed on temporary tracks. The boxcar will eventually be restored and repainted back into its NYNH &H paint scheme and will be used as a storage facility. Much planning, coordination and effort by many was involved in this monumental move and we owe a debt of gratitude to the LIRR and our volunteers. The boxcar will enable the Museum to begin in earnest the development of the Display Yard in its final form.

Speaking of the Display Yard, work continues on restoration of the “Ping Pong” coach, primarily metal work. Also efforts are concentrated on Loco #35 and its boiler.

We wish all our supporters and friends the very best until the next time!



Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter
National Railway Historical Society
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Babylon, New York 11702-0507

This Fall...

**Please support your local
railroad museums!**

