



# SEMAPHORE



## September 2021

*Welcome back, we hope you had a great summer!*

The LIST Sept. meeting will be held on **Friday, September 17th 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

Dave Morrison will give the September digital presentation regarding his latest book on the Montauk Branch, covering the stations from Bay Shore to Montauk. Dave will discuss some of his personal experiences such as the Oakdale Station wedding and the Sunrise Wildfire at Westhampton Station.

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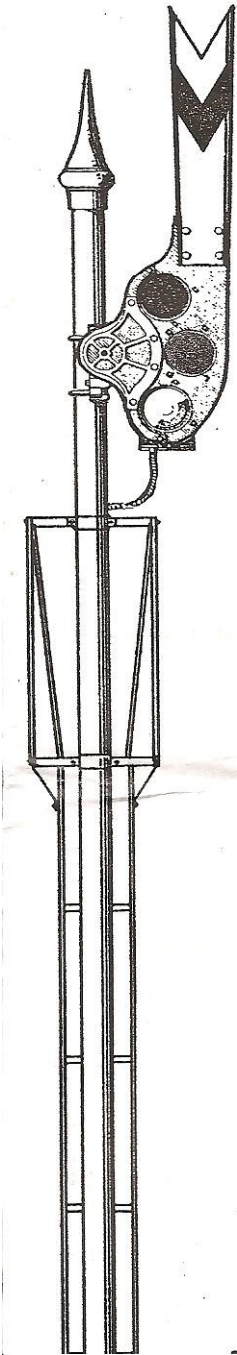
**For regular updates and other important information, visit: [www.LIST-NRHS.org](http://www.LIST-NRHS.org)**

**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 <sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>TH</sup>. 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  
 185<sup>th</sup> 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 September 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.

We hope to have in stock the 2022 copy of our LIRR calendar by the end of September. 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 are 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](mailto: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 Twin Forks Chapter of the NRHS will be hosting a 2021 Fall Conference October 7 – 9, 2021. The registration is October 7 at the Holiday Inn, Long Island which is located on North Ocean Avenue in Holtsville. There is a LIRR trip on Friday October 8<sup>th</sup> which starts in Ronkonkoma, goes to the LIRR's Hillside Support Facility and then a trip to the Oyster Bay Railroad Museum. A return trip to Ronkonkoma station completes the day. On Saturday, October 9, there is a meeting of the Advisory Council and Board of Directors followed by a Buffet Banquet with a guest speaker.

If you want additional information including fees and registration forms, please e mail [twinforksnrhs@gmail.com](mailto:twinforksnrhs@gmail.com)



## Long Island Rail Road News by Steve Quigley

Major construction is complete on the East Side Access megaproject which will link the LIRR directly with Grand Central Terminal.

I AM WORKING ON THE POSSIBILITY THAT LIST CHAPTER MEMBERS WILL BE PROVIDED A TOUR OF EAST SIDE ACCESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE! IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A TOUR, PLEASE EMAIL ME SO THAT I HAVE A ROUGH IDEA AS TO HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE INTERESETED IN ATTENDING. We were given a tour several years ago and from the pictures I have seen recently, the changes are incredible to this momentous feat of engineering.

When complete, the LIRR will have two stations in Manhattan, one on the West Side [Penn Station] and one in the East Side. [Grand Central] The project entailed eight miles of new tunnels and the construction of a nine block long station that is three stories below street level.

There will be a 350,000 sq. ft. concourse with white marble walls, archways and storefronts which will contain an estimated 25 retailers. It is possible that commuters who use the East Side Access to Grand Central may save up to 40 minutes on their daily ride if they work on the East Side of Manhattan.

Harold Interlocking, which is an incredibly busy rail junction of Amtrak and LIRR trains, underwent \$1 Billion in upgrades. The remaining work on the project entails the installation of various electrical and communication technology such as signal systems. It is planned that test trains will be running through the tunnel this summer.

LIST is in the process of publishing a commemorative book on the history of LIRR timetable/schedules. Thanks to our friends at the LIRR, we were able to obtain copies of the last timetable that the LIRR has printed. This is the big foldout Branch Line timetable which lists all of the stations on a particular branch. If you wish to obtain a set of timetables of all 11 Branches of the LIRR, please send a check for \$8 to our PO Box. THE TIMETABLES ARE FREE, the \$8 is the cost of the Priority Mail shipping via the USPS. Just include a note stating that you would like a set of timetables in the envelope with your check. If you wish just ONE particular branch, call me or send a note or email and I will send it to you for free. [More than one Branch in an envelope is over one ounce which results in a substantially higher postage cost.]

LIRR announced on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, that the last of the eight LIRR crossings between Floral Park and Hicksville have been eliminated as part of the Third Track Project. A new underpass along Willis Avenue in Mineola was opened to traffic on September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Third Track Project was begun in 2016 and as of September 3<sup>rd</sup>, there are no more train horns or crossing gates between Jamaica and Hicksville along the Main Line. New engineering techniques were initiated that resulted in the underpass structures to be prefabricated and moved into place over ONE weekend thus greatly reducing any disruption in service along the Main Line.

The Third Track Project is estimate to be completed by December 2022 in conjunction with the completion of the East Side Access.

***THE LIRR MODELER by Mike Boland*****This Month's Feature:****LIRR ALCO'S COME TO THE NAUSET MODEL RAILROAD CLUB**

Welcome back, everyone! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer—I certainly did. I didn't have as much time as I wanted for my hobby but I did spend a good amount of time on my trains in my basement. I also spent time finishing my book: it's the second volume of LIRR MU cars and hopefully, it will be out over the winter. I cover the 3500-series "Wyer" cars through today's M9's! More about that later.

What I want to write about this month is my recent visit to the Nauset Model Railroad Club (NMRC). I've been a member for several years and the club has five layouts in different scales. About three weeks ago, on a hot, sultry Friday evening in August, I grabbed a few of my HO LIRR locomotives—I've really got a lot and just about all of them have NOT been run—and headed east on the Mid-Cape Highway to operate my locos on the club layout. On a pre-Covid evening two years ago, I participated in a switching session complete with switching list and brakeman and had a great, GREAT time moving freight cars on the late John Pryke's Union Freight waterfront layout, which the club obtained after his death. It was a tremendous experience; I still have the book he wrote about his road and printed by Kalmbach-MR. I used an Atlas HO scale S2 painted in New Haven colors and it operated well.

But this night I brought my own power. It was an Atlas ALCo LIRR S2 in orange and gray and crazily, it lacked a road number. I'm in the process of renumbering it since I bought a number of decorated units but have to change their numbers since they're many are redundant. I also came with an Atlas ALCo Phase II C420 painted in the as-delivered MTA pastel blue and yellow paint scheme. And last, I brought LIRR Baldwin #450, a DS-4-4-1000 made by Stewart, also in gray and orange.

The club gave me the "Outside Loop" and a string of freight cars and I was off and running—literally! I put both ALCo's to the test and they were magnificent. Thank you, Rob Pisani (formerly of Atlas and a BIG ALCo fan!) for thinking of us LIRR fans. I ran the S2 in both directions and the loco performed flawlessly, even though it looked a little strange without a road number. It's a winner and I'm so glad I have a number of these on my roster.

Next I replaced the S2 with the C420 and assigned it the same drills in both directions and it pulled quite well. I must give credit to the NMRC layout, too! Great track! Great electronics! Great layout. After a good workout with the C420, I pulled the Baldwin out of its box, only to find that it did NOT have couplers attached to it and the couplers supplied by the kit were the old horn-hook X2f's, which were no good. Next time, I'll check so that this doesn't happen again. Right now, LIRR #450 is in the shop, awaiting new Kadees; it will return to the layout on my next trip.

All I can say is that I should have brought a caboose to make my train complete.

When I mentioned that next time I hoped to bring some LIRR passenger cars, one of the club members told me that they only had one station on the entire layout. I hope to bring passenger cars to give them a run and operate the CANNON BALL, with a string of heavyweight parlor cars, as well as other cars, including Rapido's Osgood-Bradley cars and many Con-Cor MP54's and P54's. I can't wait!

Until next time, happy modeling!

## Oyster Bay Railroad Museum Update by John Specce

This has been an extremely busy summer at the Oyster Bay Railroad Museum. Visitation is up considerably, and it's clear the people like what they're seeing!

The Station has been a flurry of activity with visitors enjoying the many interactive and educational exhibits. The O Scale model railroad is a big hit with young and old alike, and merchandise is flying off the shelves.

In the yard, word of our turntable rides is spreading, and it shows in the numbers of people who show up on Saturdays to "go for a spin"! Our volunteers have taken great pains to ensure a safe experience is provided, both for the visitors and for the turntable itself. The recent heavy rains have flooded the pit with several feet of water. While this was never really addressed by the LIRR, our volunteers responded by installing a pump, as well as a detailed maintenance program for draining the water from the center bearing and relubricating it. If you haven't taken the ride yet, stop by on your next free Saturday. The ride is included in your price of admission!



Steam Locomotive #35 continues to remain one of our primary projects with our volunteers replacing mounting studs, and repairing and restoring brackets and appliances that will eventually be reattached to the boiler. The overall objective remains putting the locomotive back together in such a way that it can be enjoyed and appreciated by our visitors, yet can be moved by rail and displayed at will. Behind the scenes, the museum is awaiting approval to send out the pilot truck and other components of the running gear for full restoration by a qualified contractor. We'll have more on this once these plans are finalized. We're most excited about the progress being made on this unquestionable centerpiece of our museum!



Meanwhile, our Ping Pong Coach is also receiving a considerable amount of love, in the form of new steel and new volunteers. A veritable army of volunteers have descended upon this project with welding equipment, grinders and needlescalters to ensure a top shelf restoration. The frame, sill and trucks are being cleaned down to bare metal, while our welding crew, supplemented by volunteers from Twin Forks NRHS, have been busy cutting out rotted steel and replacing it one patch at a time. So dedicated are they that they've purchased additional welding equipment out of pocket and are holding work sessions during weekdays!

There are many other projects continuing to move forward including the development of the museum grounds. To this end, we've continued to acquire railroad ties and other materials for the installation of display tracks. We're also expecting the delivery of our 40' boxcar within the next month which will enable us to discard storage trailers currently in the way. Details on our Facebook page!



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**This Fall...**

**Please support your local  
railroad museums!**

