



# SEMAPHORE



October 2022

The LIST Next meeting will be held on **Friday, October 21st at 8:00 p.m.**

The October meeting will be **IN PERSON** at the historic Van Bourgondien house in West Babylon as well as **by ZOOM**.  
The address of the Van B house is 600 Albin Avenue in West Babylon.

## THIS MONTH

Ed Koehler will present a two part show at the October meeting. The first part will be photos of the 2014 LIST visit to East Side Access and the second part will be our visit this month to Grand Central Madison

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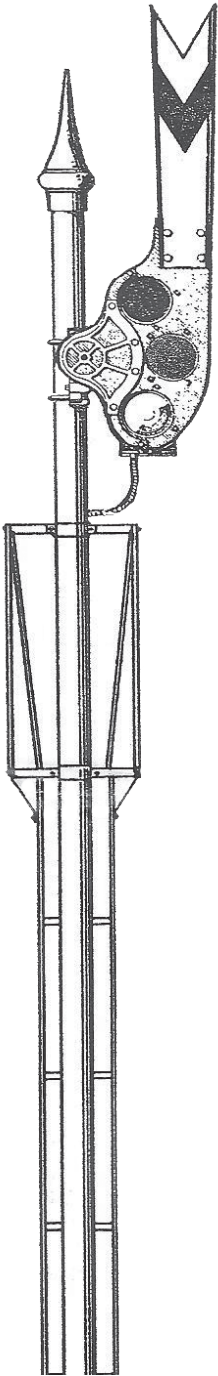
For Regular updates and other important information,  
visit the LIST Chapter website at: [LIST-NRHS.org](http://LIST-NRHS.org)

Our Chapter's mailing address is:

LIST-NRHS

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*The Publication of the*  
**Long Island - Sunrise Trail Chapter**  
*of the*  
**National Railway Historical Society**



## October Membership Meeting Information by Ed Koehler

### LOG IN INFORMATION FOR THE OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

In order to save our limited bandwidth, we ask all of our local members to attend in person.



**Friday, October 21, 2022 at 8:00 PM** eastern, **7:00 PM** central: The Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter NRHS October Membership Meeting will be held at 600 Albin Avenue in West Babylon, New York. This is an in person event that will also be broadcast on Zoom®. The entertainment is scheduled to be a review of the Chapter's recent Chapter tour of the not yet open Madison Grand Central station contrasted with images from our 2014 tour.

To attend this event, click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85190636118?pwd=VUZVRmthMjZlcnFRK3NHc1ozRzl2UT09>

Meeting ID: 851 9063 6118    Passcode: 579190

One tap mobile:

+16469313860,,85190636118#,,,,\*579190# US

+19292056099,,85190636118#,,,,\*579190# US (New York)

### UNFAMILIAR WITH ZOOM®?

About 15 minutes before the scheduled time on the date of the event you can connect to the meeting by entering the link shown under the event you wish to attend in your computer's search engine (Bing, Google, Yahoo, etc.) and hit enter. You can also enter this meeting by just 'clicking on the link' if it is displayed in underlined blue on your computer screen. 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.) Please log in with your real name or change the log in to your real name shortly after entering the presentation. Please don't try to log in earlier, it only generates a series of email messages to the series host that serve no purpose and you will end up staring at a blank screen.

## LIST Happenings by Steve Quigley

On Wednesday October 5th, we were given a fantastic tour of Grand Central Madison, the new LIRR station under Grand Central Terminal. The 1.5 hour long tour was conducted by Paige Biancamano, who is the Director, Communications and Community Outreach MTACC East Side Access. Paige was very informative and was able to answer all the questions that she was presented with. For example, the escalators are longer than 180' and take 2 minutes to go from top to bottom. We had seen a wide open tunnel when we took the tour in 2014. The wide open cavern of then has been filled in with 2 levels of platforms, track, future retail space as well as LIRR ticket windows. The lettering style of platforms and tracks on the walls is a duplicate of the lettering of upstairs Grand Central Terminal. Thanks to Paige, we all enjoyed a fantastic and informative tour of the soon to be opened Grand Central Madison.

Don't forget, Trains magazine published an extensive article on East Side Access last October. I have ordered several copies so if you would like read a very informative article send in a check for \$10 which will cover the cost of the magazine including shipping. There is no tax on magazines in New York State.

Chapter member Dave Morrison wrote a very informative book titled, "Grand Central Terminal and Penn Station, Statuary and Sculptures." You will find this to be a very informative book and it provides you with good insight on these magnificent stations that were built over 100 years ago. We have copies for sale at a Chapter member discount. Please see the order form in this edition of the Semaphore.

We have sold almost 90% of the 2023 edition of our LIRR calendar. If you wish to buy one or more copies, please send in your order ASAP as we expect the calendar to be a sellout as happened the past several years.

Trip Chairman, Bob Grant, is working on setting up tours for LIST members. A tour of the SONO Switch Tower Museum is in the works. Another possibility is the Danbury Rail Museum as well as possible trips to rail sites in Pennsylvania. If you are interested in going on a tour or if you have ideas for a tour, please email or call me with your ideas.

LIST Chapter member Dave Morrison will be giving a lecture on November 13 at 1 PM with the topic being "10 Miles of Track, Islip to Patchogue LIRR Stations." The sponsor of the lecture is the "Friends of Connetquot River State Park Preserve" and the lecture will be held at the main building known as The Clubhouse at the Connetquot River State Park just off Montauk Highway in Oakdale. The Park is widely known as an excellent fishing destination with one of the best trout fishing streams on Long Island

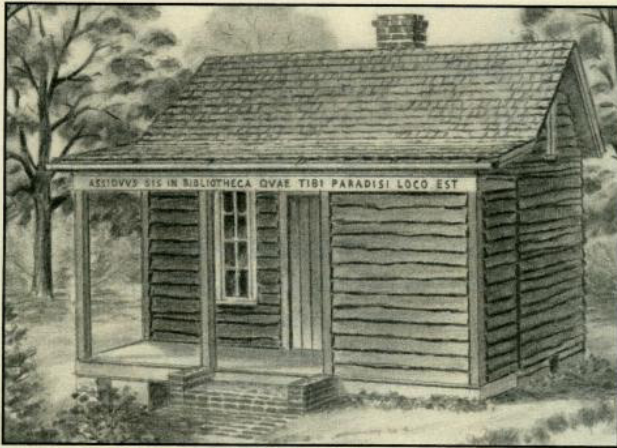
We are always looking for articles for the Semaphore, just let me know and I am sure that we will be able to print it [sooner or later]. My email address is csquigley@optonline.net and my telephone # is 631-487-4766. Please do not mail me copies of your articles. Please email your articles as we have to retype mailed copies to our PO Box.



**2014 LIST visit to East Side Access** by Ed Koehler







# THE KNOTHOLE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
THE CHRISTOPHER MORLEY  
KNOTHOLE ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2022

[www.christophermorley.org](http://www.christophermorley.org)



**RAILROAD HISTORIAN DAVID MORRISON  
SPEAKING AT THE  
CHRISTOPHER MORLEY KNOTHOLE ASSOCIATION  
MEETING  
THE BRYANT LIBRARY  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022  
6:30 P.M.**

The Christopher Morley Knothole Association is pleased to sponsor a program by David Morrison at its fall meeting, which will be held at the Bryant Library on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 6:30 P.M. Mr. Morrison, whose love of the LIRR is mirrored by Christopher Morley's, will share insights and anecdotes from his nine illustrated books about the railroad that has played such a key role in the development of Long Island. The meeting is free and open to the public, there will be a book prize raffle, and refreshments will be served. Parents and young adults are especially welcomed.

Mr. Morrison's interest in railroads began as a boy in Croton Point Park, New York, where he marveled at the steam trains in the rail yards before they were phased out. After working as a chemical engineer, David turned to a career in railroading, serving as a branch line manager for the LIRR. He has many stories to tell from his years with the company, including the time he arranged the only wedding ever to be held in a LIRR station waiting room!

Mr. Morrison is the author of nine books in Arcadia Publishing's "Images of Rail" series. He is a charter member of the Railroad Museum of Long Island, serves on the station restoration committee of the Oyster Bay Railroad Museum, and is a long-time member of the Long Island Sunrise Trail chapter of the National Railway Historical Society.

The meeting will be held in the Helen Glannon Room of the Bryant Library, 2 Paper Mill Road, Roslyn, NY, 11576. For further information, contact Christopher Morley Knothole Association President Peter Cohn at 631-271-2923, or at [apacohn@aol.com](mailto:apacohn@aol.com). For directions go to [www.bryantlibrary.org](http://www.bryantlibrary.org) or call the Bryant Library, at 516-621-2240.

*Cover illustration of The Knothole by Richard Duggan courtesy of Christopher Morley Park.*

## The LIRR Modeler by Mike Boland

### THIS MONTH'S FEATURE: ATTENDING THE 2022 NEW ENGLAND RAILROAD PROTOTYPE MODELERS MEET IN SPRINGFIELD, MA. IN JUNE

Two of the best RPM meets occur in the summer. One is the "St. Louis RPM Meet" that is held in Collinsville, IL. in July or August. The other is the "NE RPM Meet," that is, the New England/Northeast Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet, that was held on Friday, June 10 and Saturday, June 11, this year.

This year the meet had a new location, LaQuinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham on 100 Congress Street in Springfield, MA. The Inn & Suites proved to be an excellent locale for over 200 modelers who came from everywhere to participate in the two days of activities. In addition there were vendors and models, lots of models and modelers.

I volunteered to present my "All About Grade Crossings" Power Point show and Dave Owens, meet director, and his group graciously accepted my offer and I had a good crowd of people at my presentation.

I drove on Thursday afternoon to meet another modeling friend, Ray Jensen of Ft. Myers (yes, THT Ft. Myers!) who accompanied me for the two-day fest. It was not a long ride but I regreted that I had not stopped at Palmer to visit their hobby shop. Next year I'll do it for sure.

There were a number of fine presentations during the two days of activities. Among the ones I attended were two offerings on Thursday night for early arrivals. Adam Twombly offered "22 States in 2021," a fabulous offering of some heavy-duty railfanning that Adam did in Connecticut and Massachusetts, as well as Florida and other locales with CN Iron Range action to Kansas City Southern's Rich Mountain area along the Arkansas/Oklahoma border.

This was followed by Craig Zeni, who presented the photos of J. David Ingles. Ingles was a longtime contributor and on the staff of TRAINS Magazine of Kalmbach Publishing fame and he left hundreds of slides to various historical societies. Craig presented a sampling of slides donated to the Penn Central Railroad Historical Society. It was great fun to see black and white PC units as well as all kinds of patch jobs all over the place as viewers tried to guess the locations of many shots.

Both shows were very entertaining.

The next morning, Friday, off I went to the first day of two solid days of entertaining and informative presentations on a variety of subjects.

George Melvin did a good job on his "Bangor & Aroostock Freight Equipment & Operations: 1950-1980." Bill Badger did his clinic on modeling late AC Mack trucks and other vehicles as well.

After lunch, our good buddy Steve Funaro, accompanied by his son, presented a hands-on clinic. It was about the construction of a resin PRR G22 gondola kit. Steve's clinic offered reduced prices for the G22's to work on and it was limited to 25 modelers.

I even bought a few extra kits since Steve made assembling these cars so easy. I will soon have a number of PRR gondolas on my roster. Great!

I did my "Grade Crossings" show from 2:30pm to 3:30pm and I finished up with Dave Ramos' "Rise of the Lightning Stripes." This was about New York Harbor railroad operations and modeling challenges.

Then there was a break for dinner with two more shows after eating. I attended Leo Landry's very informative program about kitbashing 50-foot boxcars to achieve 40-foot cars of the 50's, 60's and 70's that are not commercially available.



**The LIRR Modeler** by Mike Boland ...continued from page 6

Another great show followed: it was done by Eric Hirsh, who covered rail marine model building with tips and tricks.

Throughout the day Ted Dilorio and Dave Ramos led a hands-on clinic on weathering. Modelers had to supply their own models.

And then that was it for Friday. Sadly, there were other clinics that I would have loved to attend but simply couldn't.

Saturday, June 11, started with another great lineup of shows. First, my friend Mike Chapman, an NBC veteran and TV news professional, and Ted Shasta presented a show on simplifying complex interlockings with NX Interlocking stands with Arduinos and some basic programming.

Next was Randy Laframboise presented a very informative show: "Moving Milk on the Rutland Mainline Subdivision: Operations, facilities and equipment for moving milk from farms in Vermont's Champlain Valley to Boston and New York City. It also had tips from Randy and Mike Sparks on how to model this iconic and picturesque industry in the 1950's.

Way to go, guys!

I was so moved by the show that I sent them a shot of a LIRR DD1 and milk train by Jamaica that Harold Fagerberg took in the 1930s from my collection! Way to go, Harold!

After lunch, it was Dave Oppedisano who covered designing and modeling the BNSF Lakeside Subdivision in HO scale with emphasis on track planning, construction methods and signal control with CMRI.

Tom Jacobs then took over and offered "Realizing the Reading Empire: Episode III. Tom went into the continuing construction of his Reading Railroad empire in HO.

A most interesting but confusing (at least to me!) was Jim Schweitzer's show, which covered Manual Block Operations on the LIRR, past and present. I learned a lot, was confused a little and came away with a better understanding of what goes on out east on the LIRR's Montauk and Greenport Branches with this quaint PRR-style operation. I'm not ready to qualify yet, but it was very informative.

After dinner, it was Brian Carlson's show on Rust Belt Boxcars. He covered common cars and where to find them; his show was a primer on Northeastern railroads and where to find data on them. Next, friend Tim Garner of the PRRTHS's "East Wind," the New England Chapter's fine quarterly magazine did a show on his PRR layout. Tim scrapped his 22 year-old proto-freelanced PRR layout to start over and model real places, discussing goals, research, compromises and lessons as well as the next steps.

I also did look at some just incredible modeling and spend some time in the Vendors' Room. I managed to purchase a foursome of PRR P70s with air-conditioning, some freight cars and three of Funaro & Camerlengo's "new" LIRR P72's, which I hope to convert to MU versions. I had told F&C to bring them here and they obliged. Thanks!

Well, that's it for now. This is just a great show and Dave Owens and his crew did a sensational job on this. Many thanks, guys! This is ONE meet that every modeler MUST ATTEND!

Until next time, happy modeling!

**LIRR News** by Steve Quigley

The LIRR's Third Track Project formally known as "Main Line Expansion," which is a nearly 10 mile long corridor through the heart of Nassau County is now open. Although some of the stations as well as landscaping have not been completed, the third track is now operational in time for the soon to be completed East Side Access project to Grand Central Madison. The grand opening of the project was met with much fanfare on 10/3. The \$2.5 Billion project was begun in 2019 and completed on time and under budget as per MTA officials.

The grand opening ceremony was held in the Westbury train station parking garage which was built in conjunction with the Third Track Project. Prior LIRR Presidents Helena Williams and Phil Eng as well as the current interim President, Catherine Rinaldi were all in attendance at the ceremony as well as MTA chairman Jano Lieber. There were dignitaries, politicians as well as LIRR employees and much media coverage [LIST Chapter member Dave Morrison and I attended the ceremony] It was mentioned that the third track between Hicksville and Floral Park will boost service to stations on the Main Line by as much as 40% and will provide flexibility in the event of service disruptions as well as now providing reverse commuters in the morning and evening rush hours many more trains. Several trains in the AM rush used to run westbound on the eastbound tracks due to high train traffic volume and this blocked eastbound service from occurring. No longer will that be necessary! The completion of the Third Track Project has resulted in upgrades to the stations along the line as well as the elimination of all grade crossings between Jamaica and Hicksville. There were Eight crossings! This is an incredible feat of engineering considering disruption in service along the corridor occurred on weekends!

The LIRR's new station at the UBS area is now open for service in both directions on days when there are events such as Islander hockey and will serve passengers round the clock by the end of this year. Westbound service to the Elmont station began October 6 in time for the first Islander pre-season game of the year. No longer will riders coming from the east have to travel to Jamaica and then reverse to Elmont. Having service in both directions was a result of the Third Track Project being completed. [The station signs still show Elmont station but it is technically Elmont-UBS 90% of the funding to build the new station came from the UBS area developers and the remaining 10% from New York State.

LIRR train crews are learning to operate trains on the new stretch of track between Sunnyside Yard and Grand Central Madison. Engineers, conductors and dispatchers are or will be undergoing training on the 8 miles of new tunnels and 40+ miles of new track. Employees undergo classroom as well as in service training on the characteristics of the new line to and from the new station. This new link to Grand Central Terminal took 15 years to build and is estimated to cost over \$11 Billion. In a departure from traditional methods, crew members must monitor a video feed from cameras mounted in the front the train which reveals the configuration of tracks, switches and electrical systems mounted on the tunnel walls. It is estimated that the grand opening of Grand Central Madison will take place this December.

As I have mentioned previously, 2022 will be an incredible year of changes and improvements to the LIRR and its employees!



**LIST Publications ORDER FORM***The following price list is for LIST members only!*

# _____	2023 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 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Montauk Branch by Dave Morrison NEW	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Babylon Branch by Dave Morrison NEW	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	The 185th 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 Calendar or book is \$4.00. Shipping for both Bob Sturm's books is \$10. Shipping for other extra books, please call or email 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

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**Please support your local railroad museums!**

