



# SEMAPHORE



**December 2022**

The December LIST meeting will be held at Babylon's Old Town Hall in Babylon Village on **Friday, December 16th**. We will be viewing and running "O" gauge trains on the Town of Babylon's 240 sq. ft. train layout. If you have "O" gauge trains that you would like to run, bring them. We will be viewing the layout operation on our Zoom connection so tune in for a good time. Old Town Hall is on Main Street across from the Argyle Theater and has parking in the rear.

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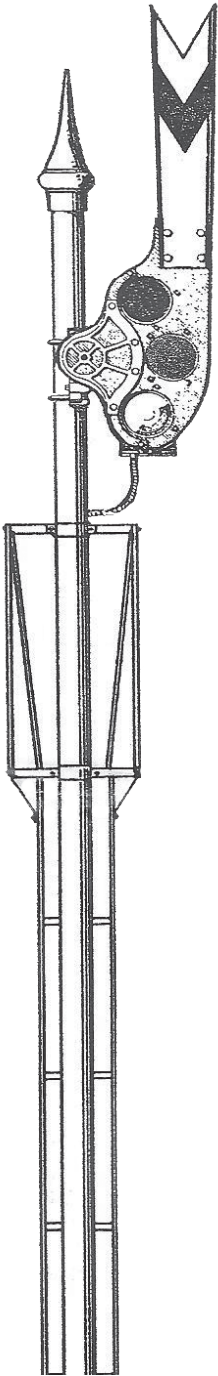
For Regular updates and other important information,  
visit the LIST Chapter website at: [LIST-NRHS.org](http://LIST-NRHS.org)

Our Chapter's mailing address is:

LIST-NRHS

PO Box 507

Babylon NY 11702-0507



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



## December Membership Meeting Information by Ed Koehler

### LOG IN INFORMATION FOR THE DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

*We are taking this meeting on the road!!!*

We again apologize for the computer failure during the November meeting. The failed hard drive will be available to view at the December meeting. In order to save our limited bandwidth, we ask all of our local members to attend in person.



This is a 2018 image of a part of the Babylon Town Hall Museum layout. Edward M. Koehler Jr. photograph.

Courtesy of the Railroad Museum of Long Island who will be loaning us their audio visual cart we will be experimenting with a hand held camera attached to a computer to give us coverage of the layout at the Babylon Town Hall Museum.

**Friday, December 16, 2022 at 8:00 PM** eastern, **7:00 PM** central: Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter NRHS meeting will be held at the old Babylon Town Hall on Montauk Highway. The meeting will consist of a tour of the seasonal 0 gauge high rail model railroad that has been built there after an absence of two years. We will be attempting to broadcast a tour of this layout via Zoom® using a portable camera and an audio visual cart (courtesy of the Railroad Museum of Long Island). These meetings have always been a lot of fun for those attending in person. If you have some 0 gauge high rail compatible rolling stock you would like to run, bring it on down!

To attend this event, click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82519012708?pwd=Q1dZNG5mU0kwd0dMd3JVVUxtZ2UvUT09>

Meeting ID: 825 1901 2708 Passcode: 150345

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,82519012708#,,,,\*150345# US

+19292056099,,82519012708#,,,,\*150345# US (New York)

Any questions or problem with Zoom® please contact Ed Koehler at EdwardMKoehler@nyc.rr.com or call him at 917-603-4276. E-Mail contact is discontinued at 5:30 PM eastern time the day of the event.

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**Do you have something to offer?** If you have a computer based presentation or want to do a lecture via a computer based camera (or a combination of both); please send an E-Mail to President Steve Quigley at [csquigley@optonline.net](mailto:csquigley@optonline.net) and we will talk.

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**LIST Happenings** by Steve Quigley

Since our 2023 LIRR sold out, we ordered additional copies from our printer and they have been received. However, our 2023 calendar sales still remain strong and we have only ½ of the calendars that we ordered remaining. If you wish to have our 2023 LIRR calendar order one NOW!

We thank all of our members who have sent in their 2023 Chapter dues which at \$20 per year is reasonably priced. I am including the dues renewal notice in this edition of the Semaphore as it is easier for us to just include it in every copy rather than to pull out the form in copies sent to the members who have paid.

Please do not think you have not paid your dues if you have mailed it in and received a dues renewal notice in this month's Semaphore. A dues renewal notice will only be sent to the members who have not paid in the January edition of the Semaphore.

We still have a few copies of the Trains magazine which published an extensive article on East Side Access last October. 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 has written a new book on the Port Washington Branch of the LIRR. Dave will be the presenter at our January meeting and will do a book signing at the meeting. As usual, Chapter members will receive a discount off the retail price of the book. Please see the order form in NEXT month's edition of the Semaphore.

In addition, Dave wrote a very informative book titled, "Grand Central Terminal and Penn Station, Statuary and Sculptures." You will find this to be an interesting book and it provides you with good insight on these magnificent stations that were built over 100 years ago. Since Penn station is presently undergoing renovation and Grand Central Terminal will have LIRR trains entering shortly, it is good time to learn more about these magnificent stations. We have copies for sale at a Chapter member discount. Please see the order form in this edition of the Semaphore.

Trip Chairman, Bob Grant, is working on setting up tours for LIST members this. 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.

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 hard copies of your articles. Please email your articles as we have to retype mailed copies.



## Mineola Station - Recently Discovered History by Dave Morrison

The Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter has produced an outstanding wall calendar for 2023. This is the Chapter's 37th calendar since this author published the first calendar in 1986. These calendars are packed with lots of Long Island Rail Road historical images. This year's calendar has been another sell-out!

The February image on the 2023 calendar has a photograph of steam locomotive No. 29 (G5s class) heading an eastbound train on a cold winter day in Mineola in 1935. The caption notes that "The 100th anniversary of the Mineola station building will be on September 22, 2023." In case you don't have the calendar, that photograph appears below:



Interestingly, this photograph shows the eastbound waiting room building, which was across the tracks from the main station building. Just as well because the building pictured here is now history. It was demolished a few years ago as part of the Third Track Project. Sadly, going a bit further east, Nassau Tower and Electric Substation No. 8 were also demolished to make way for the new third track. Lots of history has been lost in Mineola, but the station building has been saved and is currently undergoing a historic restoration. Exciting things are in the works for the Mineola Station building.

At this point, let's take a look at a bit of history of the LIRR at Mineola. Trains started running through Mineola when the LIRR started service in 1837 from Jamaica to Hicksville. At that time, the railroad was single track and wasn't double-track until 1890. In 1865, a depot was erected inside the wye, east of 2nd Avenue ( what is now Mineola Boulevard).



## Mineola Station – Recently Discovered History continued from page 4

In 1883 a board-and-batten depot was erected on the south side of the tracks, east of Mineola Boulevard. That structure lasted until the current station building opened.

The September 22, 1923 opening day event was documented in the December 3, 1923 issue of the Long Island Rail Road Information Bulletin. A photograph of the new station appeared in the article. That same photo was produced on a real-photo-postcard, seen below:



Interestingly, the last chapter of the article stated:

“The ticket office in the new station opened at 7 o'clock on Saturday morning, September 22nd and the first ticket sold there was purchased by George Eggers, 21 Creampot Heights, Glen Cove.”

With the centennial celebration approaching in 2023, I thought that it would be nice if a photograph of the person who purchased the first ticket could be obtained. The challenge – how to find a photograph of George Eggers of Glen Cove.

In the October 25, 2022 edition of Newsday, there was an article about April Lynne Earle, a cataloger at Farmingdale State College. It was written that Ms. Earle had more than 30 years of genealogical experience. I contacted Ms. Earle, asking her if she would be able to locate a descendant of George Eggers.

Much to my pleasure, Ms. Earle put me in contact with Janet McKinnon of Happy Valley, Oregon, the granddaughter of George Eggers. (Yes, there is a Happy Valley with its own zip code – 97086). Ms. McKinnon told me that her family was totally unaware of her grandfather having purchased the first ticket at the newly opened Mineola Station. She provided me with a photograph of her grandfather – see right.





## Mineola Station - Recently Discovered History continued from page 5

With the centennial of the Mineola Station building occurring on September 22, 2023, this photograph of George Eggers will enhance this historic event. Possibly a descendant of George Eggers will be able to be at the centennial celebration.

As stated above, the Mineola Station building is undergoing a historic restoration. The exterior of this Dutch-colonial style, gambrel roof station building will be restored to last for another 100 years. Enhancements will be added though. At the east end exterior of the building, a large tree will be planted. This photograph below shows the circular concrete structure for the planting of the tree.

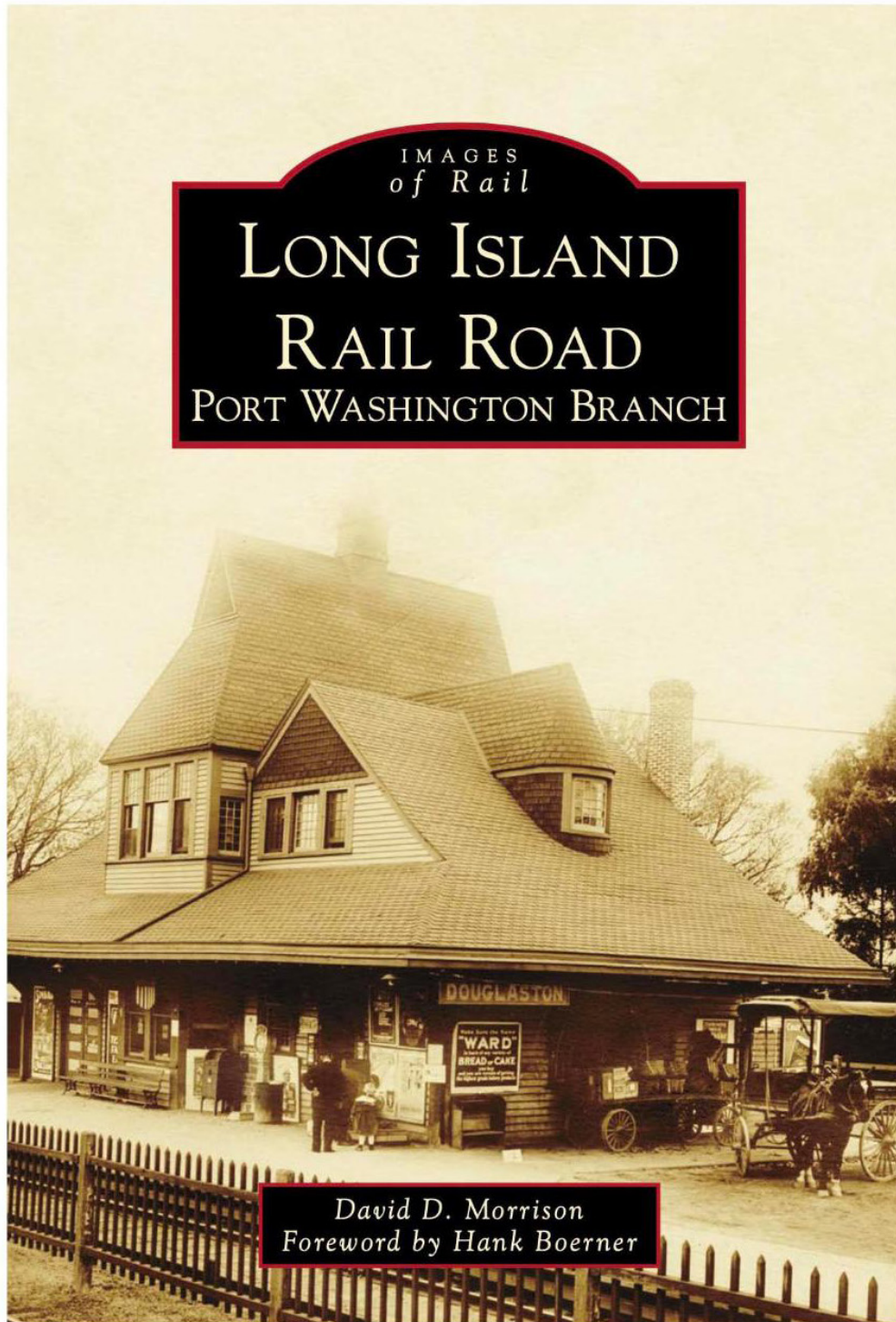


And yes, that is tubing that will provide heat to the station plaza and walkways around the station building.

Quite a surprise is in the works for the west end exterior. This will be a monumental fixture that will have important significance to the history of the Mineola area and to an important legacy in the history of the Long Island Rail Road. Stay tuned for this one!

In an upcoming issue of the Semaphore, the former Nassau Tower and Electric Substation No. 8 will be discussed.

For further reading and lots more images pertaining to the history of the railroad in Mineola, this author's book Long Island Rail Road - Oyster Bay Branch would be an excellent reference. That book may be ordered through the Chapter at a discount.



**10th *Images of Rail* book by David Morrison**

**Release date - January 23, 2023**

**May be pre-ordered on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)**

We will have this book available for LIST Chapter members at the January meeting and Dave will perform a book signing at that time.



## The LIRR Modeler by Mike Boland

### **THIS MONTH'S FEATURE: WEATHERING "WOOD" BOXCARS WITH PASTELS AND COLORED PENCILS**

Wow, where did this year go? I can't believe that it's almost the end of the year and 2023 is just around the corner. It's really been a good year now that train shows are reappearing all over the country and things seem to be getting back to normal.

Last time I wrote about having a number of wood-simulated boxcars on your freight car roster and this is something that can be done from the beginning of the Twentieth Century until the mid- to late-1960's when wooden freight cars disappeared from the scene. So, even if you model the 1960's, you should have a few of these cars on your layout.

That's what I decided to do and I purchased about half a dozen wood-simulated cars from several manufacturers, including Accurail and Walthers. They were all simple kits to put together but when assembled, it was time to weather them in order to make them appear more realistic and prototypical.

This can be done simply with colored pencils and pastels. Both of these items can be purchased at arts and crafts stores such as A. C. Moore and Michaels.

The colored pencils that I use—along with a number of railroad modelers—are made by Prismacolor and are in their "Premiere" line. Actually, I had a number of these colors already on hand and used them to enhance the brickwork on the Walthers PRR/LIRR interlocking tower that I purchased several years ago. They did a wonderful job weathering the bricks and making them look much more realistic.

The colors I used were PC 941 Light Umber, PC944 Terra Cota, PC 937 Tuscan Red (!), PC 1078 Black Cherry, PC 943 Burnt Ochre and PC 1082 Chocolate. I also recommend purchasing a few colors in gray which I didn't have at the time this was written. Prismacolor colored pencils are used by many modelers with great results.

Use your pencils and color the horizontal wood slats that make up the car to your fancy. Randomly select these slats and color them in various hues to your liking.

I also used some Pan Pastels, another item very popular with model railroaders although they are a little pricey. While I didn't have all the colors I wanted—I'll get them next time at the next train show I attend since there is always one or two dealers who sell these, many times in a package with several available in one set—I could only use some shades of gray, but they really added to the look of my wooden cars. The colors I used were 380.3 Red Iron Oxide Shade, 820.5 Neutral Grey, 820.2 Neutral Grey Extra Dark, and 800.5 Black.

I used the pads recommended to apply these colors and they looked nice after application. Don't forget to "seal the deal" when you're happy with your effort and apply Dullcote to the entire car. And don't forget the roof, especially the roofwalk! It, too, is made from wood. Use prototype photos if you need them; they're available from many sites. Wood weathers differently than steel, obviously, so keep a keen eye and go for it!

From the LIRR Modeler, Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and Happy New Year! A joyous Happy Holidays to all!

See you next year with more features about the LIRR! I hope to include the PS MP72 MU fleet, LIRR steel cabin cars (caboose), tugboat Meitowax and a few more surprises! Until then, happy modeling!



**LIRR News** by Steve Quigley

At the time of my writing this column, rumor has it that the official Grand Opening of Grand Central Madison is Monday, December 19th. When I am able to confirm the grand opening date, I will email the information to all LIST Chapter members whom have provided their email address to us.

The MTA recently received a temporary waiver from federal regulators for the required technology required designed to prevent collisions inside the tunnels leading to GCM. Even with this waiver, there are still various systems that need to be completed before the station can officially be noted as complete. The many retail shops in GCM are vacant and the MTA is hoping that high end shops occupy the spaces unlike the many delis, pizza restaurants and newsstands that were in Penn station prior to the ongoing renovations.

Earlier this month, I was fortunate to be in Grand Central Madison for reasons which will be noted at a later date. This new station is absolutely incredible! The fact that this engineering feat was constructed below Grand Central Terminal without disturbing train service into and out of the terminal AND going under Sunnyside Yard in Long Island City is amazing. The sign lettering duplicates the sign lettering of Grand Central Terminal upstairs and the walls and flooring are also very similar to upstairs. The escalators between levels are 180' long and it takes almost 2 minutes to travel on them. These are some of the longest escalators in the entire MTA system. The trip on the train from the entrance in Sunnyside Yard was smooth and the tunnel is well lit. To provide you with some perspective, the station is approximately 700,000 square feet in size and if the Empire State building was to be placed horizontally inside the station, there would be room to spare.

My neighbor works in the area by 3rd avenue and 48th street and is eagerly anticipating the opening of GCM as it will reduce her commuting time to Manhattan by roughly 20 minutes each way.

The LIRR's replacement of the Northport station platform is underway with the western portion of the platform closed and demolished. The \$10.5 million project will result in new platforms; shelter sheds, an ADA ramp, plaza area and boiler room in the station. The present station platforms date back to the 1980's when the platforms were raised in anticipation of the new trains that use only high level platforms. The new platforms will be built for 12 car trains but presently the longest trains on the Port Jefferson branch have 8 cars.

The LIRR recently removed the west switch at Southampton severing the west end of the side track which resulted in leaving the siding to end in front of the station. Approximately 5 years ago, the LIRR removed switches at sidings in Mattituck and Southold which resulted in a 21 mile segment of track on the North Fork with no passing sidings.

As I have mentioned previously, 2022 has been 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	@\$5 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





# LONG ISLAND-SUNRISE TRAIL CHAPTER

*Founded in 1966*



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**NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**2023 CHAPTER**

**MEMBERSHIP DUES NOTICE**

**(Payable by January 1, 2023)**

<b><u>CHAPTER DUES:</u></b>	Membership	<b>\$20.00</b>
	Family Membership Per Person	<b>\$1.00</b>

**Dues Total**                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Donation                \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Remitted**                \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Alan Mark, 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.

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**Alan Mark, Treasurer**

Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter  
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**Please support your local railroad museums!**

