



SEMAPHORE



March 2024

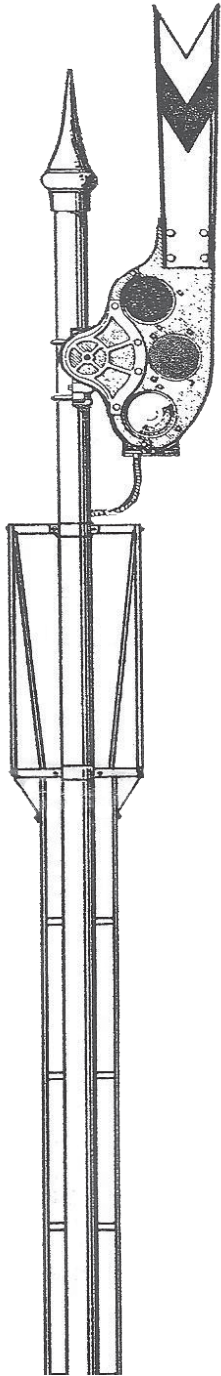
The LIST Next meeting will be held on **Friday, March 15th at 8:00 p.m.**

This 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

The March 15th presenter will be George Lightfoot.

George's presentation will consist of excellent pictures of the LIRR among other Northeast Regional railroads.



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For Regular updates and other important information, visit the LIST Chapter website at: 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



March Membership Meeting Information by Ed Koehler

Persons entering either this electronic meeting or the physical meeting room agree to not record any or all part of the presentation without the express written permission of the Long Island Sunrise Chapter NRHS, the host/producer and the presenter. Violations of this agreement could result in criminal and/or civil penalties. Thank you for your cooperation. Want to get in contact with a presenter? We will be happy to facilitate that.

Because this presentation is a traditional 35mm slide show, we will be attempting to broadcast it via the use of a fixed focus webcam located near the slide projector. While the image may not be as good as a PowerPoint® slide, it will allow you, the remote viewer, a chance to see the presentation.



**The Greenport Freight westbound through Holtsville, 1950 by John Krause,
from the George Lightfoot collection**

8:00 PM on March 15, 2024

The Van Bourgondien House

600 Albin Avenue, West Babylon, New York, 117

March 15, 2024 at 8:00 PM eastern, **7:00 PM** central: The March membership meeting of the Long Island – Sunrise Trail Chapter, National Railway Historical Society. After a short business meeting our entertainment, we will be viewing selections from the photographic collection of Long Island Rail Road locomotive engineer George Lightfoot. We have enjoyed his 35mm slides before and there is no reason to expect anything less on this return visit. Do see the note above about the broadcast.

If you wish to attend, send an email request to EdwardMKoehler@NYC.RR.COM.

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 asked 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 end up staring at a blank screen.

Do note that your normal internet or cell phone charges may apply.

If you have any questions, please email Chapter Board Member Edward Koehler at EdwardMKoehler@NYC.RR.COM but remember Email service ends at 3:00 PM on the meeting date.

LIST Happenings by Steve Quigley

Thanks to Chapter member Al Johnson, our website is totally revised. Al took on the task of managing the substantial changes to our site. The finished product of our website is available for viewing. Several substantial changes to our site have taken place. One of the changes is that we have a "Gallery" where we have and will have photos of the LIRR, past and present. If you wish to have a photo or photos added to our website, please email them to me and I will pass them along to be placed on our website. Right now, the only way we can place them on the web site is if they are digital pictures. When this changes in the future, I will let you know. Please check out our website to see all the changes. Our address is LIST-NRHS.org. We hope you like it as it is for YOU, our members as well as the public. Meeting notification and other items will be shown.

Al Johnson, THANK YOU for doing a great job!!!!

L I S T trip chairman, Bob Grant, is working on several tours and trips for Chapter members this coming spring. We have tentatively scheduled the tour of the Danbury Railway Museum on May 18th! We will be meeting at Grand Central Terminal and taking a Metro-North train to Danbury. We will stay at the Museum for several hours and then all will be taking a train back to GCT. Train times and cost will follow in the April and May editions of the Semaphore. We hope to have the group reduced fare on Metro-North.

The Danbury Museum has locomotive cab rides, passenger car rides and caboose rides around the 10 acre site. In addition, they also provide locomotive rides whereby you can be the engineer. It's a great museum as I have been there recently and I know you will enjoy the day! We will keep you informed.

Don't forget, the 190th Anniversary of the LIRR is April 24th. We/LIST will be part of the celebration. I have been told that a ceremony will take place honoring the 190th anniversary in Grand Central Madison station on the morning of April 24th. I will let you know the specific time next month. An exhibit showcasing LIRR memorabilia will be located in GCM. In addition, a rail trip to Greenport on July 27th is in the planning stages. The train will have a special drumhead with a private car or cars for the special riders/us! There will be giveaways and raffles among other things. On that day during the layover in Greenport, there will be special celebration dedicating a plaque sponsored by the Pomeroy Foundation. The plaque commemorates the 180th anniversary of the 1st train to Greenport on July 27th, 1844. The Railroad Museum of LI at Greenport will have a special celebration that day.

We [LIST] will be publishing a book similar to our 175th and 185th anniversary books with all new stories about the LIRR in time for the April 24th anniversary.

Just a reminder. The presenters of our Chapter meetings put in a substantial amount of time and effort in producing a show that we hope you like. PLEASE do not interrupt the presenter and keep comments to yourself. Hold your questions until the end of the show unless the presenter states they are open to questions. Courtesy and etiquette should be maintained during the meeting. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter!

THERE WILL NO VIDEO TAPING OR PHOTOS OF THE MEETING CONTENT WITHOUT THE EXPRESS CONSENT OF THE PRESENTER.

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.

IF YOU WISH TO HAVE THE SEMAPHORE EMAILED TO YOU, PLEASE SEND ME YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS AND I WILL EMAIL IT TO YOU MONTHLY.

ALSO, IF YOU MOVE, PLEASE SEND ME YOUR NEW ADDRESS!

LIRR News by Steve Quigley

THEN and NOW

THEN:

Continuing with the information provided in the April 1984 edition of "Along the Track," Did you know that the Long Island Rail Road's Main Line was completed as follows:

Brooklyn to Jamaica -April 26, 1836
 Jamaica to Hicksville-March 1, 1837
 To Hardscrabble [Farmingdale] October 15, 1841
 To Deer Park- March 13, 1842
 To Thompson's [Brentwood]-June 24, 1842
 To Suffolk Station [Central Islip] -July 14, 1842
 To Yaphank-June 26, 1844
 To Greenport- July 27, 1844

"What's in a Name?"

In the April 1984 edition of the "Along the Track," the following column was noted.

LIRR's present-day names are derived, or changed or altered from colorful names of the past, and today's commuter would be hard-pressed to identify 1984 stations from the names that some had at one time. For example:

Calverton- Baiting Hollow, Hulse's Turnout
 Lynbrook-Pearsallville, Pearsall, Pearsall's Corner
 Baldwin-Millburn, Foxborough, Baldwins, Baldwinsville
 Massapequa-South Oyster Bay
 Lindenhurst-Wellwood, Breslau
 Babylon-Seaside
 Bay Shore-Pentaquit
 Bellport-Bartlett's Station
 Eastport-Moriches, Robinson's Grove, Seatuck
 More to follow next month!

NOW:

The LIRR will be purchasing and adding a battery powered locomotive to its fleet that will be used to tow trains that break down in the tunnels to and from Grand Central Madison station. [Hopefully, it never needs to be used! SQ] LIRR Acting President Rob Free stated that the locomotive will not have to operate on third-rail power should it have to rescue a train in the tunnels to GCM. Since the tunnels to GCM are smaller than the tunnels to Penn Station and Atlantic Terminal and diesel powered locos are not allowed, a special smaller locomotive is needed

In addition, Mr. Free announced that a contract was put out to bid for the construction of a new station in Yaphank. The MTA referred to this new station as the "New East Yaphank Station." The proposal calls for a two car train platform, a parking lot with 50 spaces, a platform shelter shed and a Kiss and Ride loop for drop offs. The proposed station would be further east than the present station and would be east of the William Floyd Parkway and south of the LIE. It is hoped that construction would begin by the end of this year.

On April 24th of this year, the LIRR will be celebrating its 190th Anniversary. It is planned that a celebration will take place in Grand Central Madison on that day, most likely in the morning. I believe the ceremony will most likely be for the media, however, if you happen to be in GCM at that time, I believe you will be able to witness it. There will also be display cases showcasing various items of LIRR memorabilia.

If the ceremony is made available for viewing, I will try and obtain a copy or direct you to where it can be seen.

Railroad Museum of Long Island *by Don Fisher, RMLI President*

The Southampton Historical Society, partnering with the Railroad Museum of Long Island, will recognize two significant milestones in the history of Long Island. 190 years ago, on April 24, 1832, the Long Island Rail Road was granted its Charter. 180 years ago, on Saturday, July 27, 1844 the first LIRR train completed its journey across the mainline from Brooklyn to Greenport.

To celebrate these milestones the Southampton History Museum located at 17 Meetinghouse Lane, Southampton, NY will exhibit items and memorabilia from their collections and those of the Railroad Museum. March and April 2024, Wednesday-Saturday, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Admission: \$10.00 for adults 17 years and older, FREE for children through 16 years and museum members. Group rates of 6 or more guests is \$8.00 per person.

Continuing the LIRR Anniversary Celebrations, the Railroad Museum of Long Island is pleased to announce our 2024 Educational Forum, "The First Train to Greenport - July 27, 1844."

Please join us on Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 10:30 AM for a talk and slide show on the creation of the Long Island Rail Road in 1834 and its very first passenger train from Brooklyn to Greenport and the ensuing festivities held on the Great Lawn of the Peconic House Hotel on July 27, 1844.

Our location is the Riverhead Free Library, 330 Court Street, Riverhead, NY 11901. Long Island Rail Road's Riverhead Station and convenient train and Suffolk County Bus service is adjacent to the library - Take the Train to the Forum! Ample vehicle parking is available at the library and in the municipal parking lot located across the street on Osborne Avenue. Admission is FREE and everyone is welcome.

The Railroad Museum of Long Island Riverhead Restoration Site & Visitors Center opens for the 2024 Season on Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. The Greenport Museum and Saturday/Sunday openings to the public begin Memorial Day Weekend, May 25/26, 2024. Unveiling of a William G. Pomeroy Foundation Historic Transportation Marking will take place at Greenport RMLI on Saturday, July 27, 2024. Time of the unveiling will be coordinated with the arrival of the LIRR 180th Anniversary Excursion Train.



Our Thirty-fourth Year!

[www.rmli.org](http://www.rmlి.org)

The Oyster Bay Railroad Museum *by John Specce, OBRM President*

It is with a heavy heart that I note the passing of two of our beloved members. Judy Wasilchuk, Board member, passed away on December 23rd. Judy was heavily involved in the Oyster Bay community, serving on both the PTA and then as an elected member of the school board. Judy was an influential member of the Oyster Bay Rotary Club and served as a co-chairperson of the annual Oyster Fest. We depended on Judy to provide her unique gift baskets which were always a big hit at our annual Summer Solstice.

Leon Daitz, passed on on January 31st. Leon personified the very essence of being a member of the Oyster Bay Railroad Museum. His presence at the Display Yard, always "hands on" and working on many projects. Leon served on the Board and then decided to return to volunteering. He was a proud Navy veteran, a valued member of the East Rockaway Fire Department, and was well respected by all.

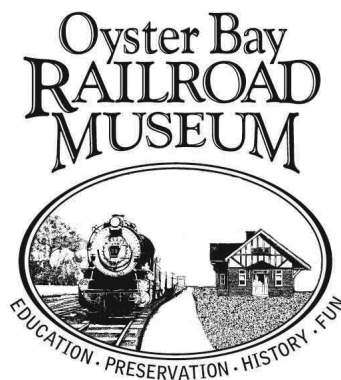
Both of them are sorely missed but their spirit lives on!

The Museum is officially closed until late April, but the activity at the Display Yard continues, despite weather conditions.

I am pleased to report that we inch closer to getting all finalized to complete the contract with OBRM, Town of Oyster Bay and Nassau County to proceed with the Loco #35 project. Dedicated volunteers have been working every Saturday on the Caboose #12 restoration project. The plan is to have it ready for paint and lettering by the end of March.

Work on the Ping Pong coach continues at a feverish pace. The north side of the coach has seen much of the rotted steel window sills and posts removed with new vertical supports welded into place. A shed is under construction to house our electrically powered air compressor and a second one for the antique stationary steam engine.

There is so much more to report, however, may I suggest that all visit our Facebook page to see first-hand what is happening at OBRM!



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

# _____	2024 LIRR Calendar	@\$8 each Total _____
# _____	The LIRR drawings of Vincent Quatroche NEW	@\$10 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Port Washington Branch D. Morrison NEW	@\$18 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	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Babylon Branch by Dave Morrison	@\$18 each Total _____
# _____	The 185th Anniversary of the LIRR book	@\$5 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Multiple Unit Cars by M. Boland Vol. 1	@\$48 each Total _____
# _____	LIRR Multiple Unit Cars 1953 - 2020 by M. Boland Vol. 2 NEW	@\$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 _____

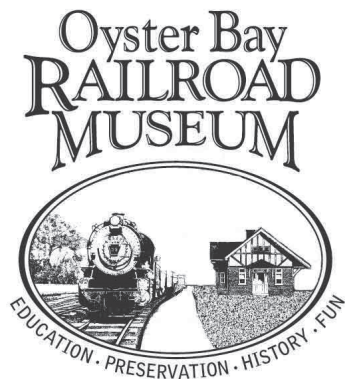
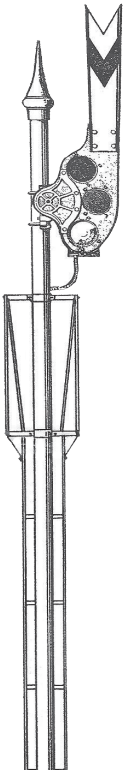
Shipping for 1 Calendar or book is \$4.00. One calendar cost is \$13.04 for New York State residents. Shipping for both Bob Sturm's books is \$10. Shipping for other extra books, please call or email Steve Quigley for the shipping cost. NY State Residents, add 8.625% tax to the total of the merchandise 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
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Please support your local railroad museums!



Our Thirty-fourth Year!

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