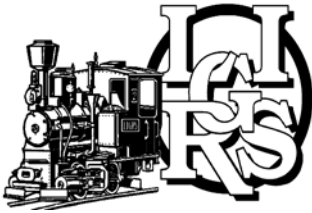


February 2021

Monthly Meeting  
Saturday, February 20, 2021  
11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
links will be emailed to members

zoom



## Annual LIGRS Auction



Our Board of Directors is currently investigating moving the auction to another month this year. Possibly a different indoor or outdoor location. Stay turned for upcoming announcements.

## PROXY FORMS



**We really need your signed proxy forms  
even for Zoom meetings**

**If we had a few more proxy forms our last meeting  
could have been an official club meeting.**

In order to conduct official club business such as the nomination & election of officers, the club needs a quorum of 35 members to conduct such business. A completed proxy enables you to participate in voting on club business without being present at the meeting, but still be included towards the required quorum by authorizing another member in good standing to vote your position. This member could be your spouse, another member, a Director at Large or other officer who is willing to cast your vote as instructed on your behalf as though you were present via a completed proxy in their physical possession. This will ensure that there is a proper representation of the membership deciding club business at the meeting. Proxy form may be downloaded from our LIGRS website

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### This Month's highlights:

- Auction notice p 1
- Proxy Reminder p 1
- Member Profile p 9



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC.

# Smoke n' Cinders

# Smoke n' Cinders Staff

# LIGRS Officers



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<p><b>Club Contact</b> Tom Rizzo 32 Semon Road Huntington, NY 11743 631.470.2217 tomjudyriz@optonline.net</p>			



Good & Welfare	Eileen Wagner	631.584.6619
Module Coordinator	Ed Assaf	516.443.2244
Quartermaster	Frank Clemente	631.838.0890
Video Librarian	Nick Guarino	631.595.2062
Club Merchandise Coordinator	Georgie Gaherty	631.549.3933
Transportation Coordinator	Bruce Kropp	631.789.4090

## 2021 LIGRS Meetings & Events Schedule

Date	Program/Notes	Time	Place
<b>Feb. 20, 2021</b> <b>SATURDAY</b>	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	<b>ZOOM</b>
<b>Mar. 13, 2021</b>	BOD Meeting	10:00 AM	<b>COA 3rd floor conference room</b> <b>Sign in as volunteer</b>
<b>Mar., 2021</b>	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Apr., 2021</b>	Monthly Meeting		<b>TBA</b>
<b>May 15, 2021</b> <b>SATURDAY*</b>	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	<b>Frank Clemente</b>
<b>Jun., 2021</b>	Monthly Meeting		<b>TBA</b>
<b>Jul. 17, 2021</b> <b>SATURDAY*</b>	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	<b>Betty Engel &amp; Jay Geyer</b>
<b>Aug., 2021</b>	<b>TBA</b>		
<b>Sep. 18, 2021</b> <b>SATURDAY*</b>	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	<b>Geri Coney &amp; Bill Arndt</b>
<b>Oct. 16, 2021</b> <b>SATURDAY*</b>	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	<b>Dorothy Mahan</b>
<b>Nov., 2021</b>	Monthly Meeting		
<b>Dec., 2021</b>	<b>TBA</b>		

**\*Saturday home-hosted meetings have a rain date the following day, Sunday**

## View From The Cab



Well January 31<sup>st</sup> 2021 has just passed. That was our cut-off date for membership renewal for 2021. Those members who did not pay by that date will be dropped from the 2021 roster. As of that date, seven members did not renew. Two I know will not be renewing. Because of the other five I am disappointed. Of course all are still welcome to renew.

By this time all should have received a letter from Ray Shelton, our club founder and first president of the LIGRS. This letter went out with full board and my approval. The club is approaching or is at that point where we need to know in what direction to go. Just to survive or to grow? What kind of events do club members want to participate in? Please read Ray's letter and send back the stamped and self-addressed response post card.

This COVID 19 makes everything difficult, including everything the club wants to do. The board is trying to keep the club together going forward but we need everyone's help and input. So if any members have any suggestions please contact a board member.

Our January monthly meeting was done using Zoom. I was a little disappointed by the small number attending. We did better in November 2020. Our February meeting will again be a Zoom meeting so if interested please try to attend. If you have any questions about how to use Zoom please contact Louise.

We are hopeful that we will have public displays in upcoming months. Tentatively we hope to be back to the Cradle Of Aviation sometime in April. With the governor starting to open things up I am hoping maybe Planting Fields will have something. Being outdoors will be fairly safe for everyone. Also we are looking into the possibility of an outdoor display at a public library in Suffolk County. This is very, very tentative at this time.



During this holiday season, while watching TV, I noticed something interesting. I found on 5 various commercials, all different product lines, they all used some form of toy trains in their advertisements. Why I ask? I spotted them. How many others did so? Some were on for a fraction of a second, others were on long enough to see the gauge and make of train.

What were these marketing people trying to convey by subliminal suggestions?

These advertisers were all major companies. What I find interesting is, our club and others are having trouble getting new members. Then I see these advertisements with trains in them. Did they really need them? There are people out there, men and women, secretly in love with trains. And by incorporating them in these advertisements they are living out their secret love of trains. Or is there something about trains in the secular part of Christmas?

Keep your trains running and break out the rotary. You will need them this winter.

God bless and keep save

Mike Kmeth



## Chic Chat Corner



Just some thoughts about one of the photos that Mike took from this year's display at the Cradle of Aviation.

It shows Ed Assaf mentoring junior member Matt Bonney on how to work the relatively new storage yard section of the display.

This really shows me how committed our members are to passing on trains to the next generation. It is so inspiring.

And it is so encouraging to see junior members joining in with the work on display days.

Keep your eyes open for any of your grandchildren that may be showing an interest in trains.

# From the Secretary January General Meeting Minutes



## LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC.

NOTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING ON ZOOM  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2021

President Mike Kmeth asked for a moment of silence for the Men and Women who are serving this country and especially for those whose lives were lost protecting our freedom. Remember our club family and our own family members, whose lives were lost this past year.

President Mike Kmeth asked that the Zoom meeting be opened @ 11:20 AM. As we only had 25 present and 3 proxies, not enough for a quorum, this will be an unofficial meeting, notes only.

**President Mike Kmeth** - I would like to congratulate Paul Bonney as our new Director at Large. The Board of Directors would like to inform the General membership that we have increased the Directors at Large from 4 to 5. Ed Assaf was asked if he would fill this position and he agreed. The term will run 2021 & 2022 Thank you to Ed Assaf. Member Bruce Kropp will be our Transportation Coordinator. Bruce and his staff will be responsible for moving the trailers to wherever they are needed.

**Treasurer's report** - Was given by Bob Sewall. Bob gave a synopsis of the report: The 1st Quarter 10/1/20 -12/31/20 Starting \$9,698.98. Ending \$9,887.46.

Bob noted the IRS site for the filing of 990-N finally was up and running. Bob filed our form with the IRS and is just awaiting confirmation.

Club insurance- Bob stated that the club insurance is going up from \$450 to \$505 for the year.

Should anyone have any questions about the club finances please contact Bob and he will be happy to answer any questions you have.

**Membership report** was given by Tom Rizzo. membership: Individuals 23, Family 15, Life 5, honorary 4, Junior 4 Tom again will be sending e-mails to the approximately 12 members that have not paid. Ralph Isaacs asked if the club could cover those members that may have a hard time due to the pandemic. The BOD will look into this.

**Program Director's report** -Nick Guarino noted no displays at this time. It is possible we may have a spring display back at the Cradle of Aviation, the date to be determined. All but the June meeting iaes booked for in person. June is still open waiting to hear back from Steve Gittelman. Dorothy Mahon asked for some assistance with wiring her layout in the spring, Nick will organize.

**Modular Coordinator** -- Ed Assaf spoke about the Cradle which was well attended by the public even with the pandemic. Our own members' attendance not so much. The trains ran fairly well as we always had something running The Bridgeworks' power supply seemed to have a problem at time with the larger engines. Ed brought it to an electronic tech repair and got an estimate of less than \$200. Mike Kmeth approved the repair.

Ed also noted a few modules need repair. Lou Cortese, Karl Wagner and Ed will work on these repairs in the spring.

**Bob Russo Memorial Fund** – No new info at this time

**Anniversary for 2021 (30years)** – No new info at this time.

**Show & Event Reviews:** There were no shows or events



**Cradle of Aviation** – Ed Assaf,

**Upcoming Shows & Events Shows:** Nothing is scheduled at this time. Now through March

**Photo Contest** - Congratulations to this month's winning photo The first winning photo of the new year by Louise Sewall whose photo "Bike Tour By The Tracks" was taken on the Bonney's layout the "Strong Island Railroad" Please remember to take pictures and send your best picture to Louise Sewall.

**Year End Photo winner** All members were asked to vote electronically for the overall 2020 contest winner. The winning photo was taken by Frank Clemente on his High-view, Overlook & Western RR Frank donated his prize back to the club. Thank you Frank

**Chic Chat Corner** – Thank you Louise Sewall for your comments about the new Newsletter GRNews Facebook page. Remember Ladies and Guys you can talk about anything. So let's get something going for next month. Just send it to Louise.

**Club Resource Library** – The list of books, videos and plans are on the clubs website. Just contact Nick Guarino and he will bring it to our next in person meeting for you to borrow.

*(continued on next page)*

# From the Secretary January Meeting Minutes cont.



**Club merchandise** – Please see Georgiana & Steve Gaherty at our next in person meeting if you wish to purchase any club items such as hats, shirts, jackets, pins and DVD's

Our next meeting is Saturday February 20 @ 11 AM. This will be a ZOOM meeting.

**Aluminum Can Tabs** – Please give them to Eileen & Karl Wagner. This helps fund the Ronald McDonald House for Children needing treatment and their families. Please check them with a magnet as only Aluminum are used NOT STEEL

Meeting ended @ 1:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karl Wagner

Secretary

## New Business:

Ray Shelton asked to talk about the future of the club. A good discussion was held.



Mike Kmeth noted we need to move the green trailer from Dan Saporito's driveway. We can store it at the Cradle of Aviation till April. After that we need a new home for it. All members please see if you have room.



Next Board meeting scheduled will be an in person meeting at the Cradle of Aviation on March 13 at 10:00 AM





# From the Secretary BOD Meeting Minutes

## LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY, Inc. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING JANUARY 9, 2021 HELD AT THE CRADLE OF AVIATION

Attendance: President Mike Kmeth, Vice President Steve Gaherty, Secretary Karl Wagner, Membership Director Tom Rizzo, Treasurer Bob Sewall, Program Director Nick Guarino, Directors at Large, Louis Cortese, Frank Clemente, Pat Russo, Paul Bonney, and Module Coordinator Ed Assaf and Past President Ray Shelton

President Mike Kmeth asked that the meeting be opened @ 10:16 AM. A motion was made by Lou Cortese and seconded by Steve Gaherty.

President Mike Kmeth asked for a motion to forgo the reading and approve the minutes of the December 5, 2020 BOD. Lou Cortese made a motion to accept as is, seconded by Frank Clemente. BOD approved.

**Ray Shelton** asked to address the BOD – Ray spoke about the future of this club as he sees it. Ray then spoke about ways to try and motivate our members by giving them a feeling of RESPECT, VALUE, NEEDED and APPRECIATED. A discussion was then held by the BOD. This will lead to regular discussions.



**President** – Mike Kmeth – Discussion was held about having in person meetings for the months of Feb and March. It was decided not to have a Feb meeting at Northport Yacht Club due to the rising Covid rates on Long Island but to have a Zoom meeting on Saturday February 20 @ 10 AM. March will be discussed at the next BOD in March.

Karl Wagner checked with Clark Botanic Garden and they have no availability until the Building is able to reopen under pandemic guide lines by the North Hempstead Town Board.

Nick Guarino checked with Bayard and they are doing only Zoom no in person meetings.

Ed Assaf had checked with Planting Fields and they are not having in person meetings.

The BOD took the question of a Fifth Director at Large. Lou Cortese made a motion that we should have a fifth Director at Large. The motion was seconded by Frank Clemente. The motion passed. At that time President Mike Kmeth appointed Ed Assaf as the new Director at Large to run the current term of 2021 and 2022.

Cross training of BOD jobs. The BOD reviewed the Club By-Laws and agreed we can have a Director at Large learn each of the positions. Cross training was decided as follows: Secretary Frank Clemente, Program Director, Pat Russo, Membership Director, Lou Cortese, Treasurer, Ed Assaf.

Mike asked the BOD for a donation to RMLI for letting us use their location for the October meeting. The BOD approved \$100 donation.

**Treasurer's Report** – was given by Bob Sewall. Bob gave a synopsis of the report: The 1st Quarter 10/1/20 - 12/31/20 Starting \$9,698.98 Ending \$9,887.46

Bob passed out copies of the 2020 Annual Report of Directors as required by NY Consolidated Laws, Not for Profit Corporation Laws NCP519. This was reviewed by the BOD. A motion was made by Nick Guarino to accept the report as written. The motion was seconded by Frank Clement and approved by the Board. It will be presented at the first possible in person General meeting of the club members.

Bob noted the IRS site for the filing of 990-N finally is up and running and will be done later this week.

Bob passed out the following: 2019-2021 Financial Activity summaries, 2020 – 2021 Financial Activities as of 1/8/21 and projections for 2021, these were reviewed by the Board. They will be reviewed again in the early fall.

Club insurance- Bob noted that the club insurance is going up from \$450 to \$505 for the year. The board felt this was reasonable and should be renewed.

**Membership Report** - Tom Rizzo – membership: Individuals 23, Family 15, Life 5, honorary 4, Junior 4. Tom again will be sending e-mails to members that have not paid.

No new update about new lap top. Tom will be looking for someone in the club first who would be willing to work with him on upgrading the current Excel and Access programs we are using.

**Program Director** – Nick Guarino: Only update is we are on the summer schedule of the LILS for our summer picnic August 21 10:30 AM to 3 PM.

**Bob Russo Memorial Fund** – No new info at this time.

**Anniversary for 2021 (30years)** – No new info at this time.

### Review of Shows and Events:

**Clark Botanic Gardens** – This was cancelled.

**COA** - Set up was Dec 21 and take down was Jan 4. Ed Assaf noted most run days we usually had about 8 people and one of the days maybe 12. We could use more help as this seems to be the same people day after day year after year. Of the members who where there they all seemed to have a good time.

(continued on next page)



# From the Secretary BOD Meeting Minutes cont.

## Upcoming Shows and Events:

**Auction** – BOD would like to move it to later in the year, maybe outdoors at RMLI.

**Bethpage** – Modular - e mail sent to Ray Muntz on Dec 8 asking if he had any insight. Ray replied not looking good at this time.

**Boy Scout** – Table top - e mail sent to Ray Muntz on Dec 8 asking if he had any insight. Ray replied not looking good at this time.

**Freeport**- Modular - No Updates.

**Planting Fields** – Outdoor - Nothing is planned.

## New Business:

Modular-Ed Assaf made a list of items that need to be worked on: Shorten yard modules (Ed, Lou, Karl to work on); fix several legs on various modules (Ed, Lou, Karl), lexan for module edges (Karl), bridge, yard entrance power (Ed), larger module for transfer yard, corner track & electrical problems, Bridge works Transformer issues with one track (Ed having a tech work on this, awaiting estimate).

Bob Sewall drafted a Surviving Spouse policy The BOD recommended that it states Spouse/Partner and to work on incorporating as part of the Financial Policy. Ed Assaf and Bob Sewall are working on the draft copy.

We need to move the Green trailer from Dan Saporito's house soon? Frank C (Riverhead Don Fischer) Ed Assaf (Cradle of Aviation).

Ray Shelton has graciously accepted to be our liaison to the new publication for our club to the new Garden Railway eNews letter. (They have no official name at this time).

## Anyone know if these clubs are still operating?

- Garden Railroaders of Northern NJ –Paramus,
- Pocono Mountain Garden Railway Society Blairstown NJ,
- South jersey Garden Railway Society Absecon,
- Central NY Large Scale Railway Society Manlius,
- Genesee G Gauge Railway Society Pittsford NY,
- Hudson Valley Large Scale Railroad Club Dover Plains NY,
- Southern Tier Garden Railway Society Vestal NY,
- Westchester Garden Railway society Tarrytown NY,
- Finger Lakes Live Steamers Society NY, .

Member Anthony Marino wrote to Karl Wagner about possible locations for a permanent meeting location and layout in Nassau County. Karl Wagner, Ray Shelton and Mike Kmeth are working with Anthony and Nassau County at this time.



Bob Sewall brought up the topic of fund raising for the club. More will be discussed at the next BOD.

Next Board meeting scheduled will be an in person at the Cradle of Aviation or will be a ZOOM meeting March 13 at 10:00 AM. Info to be sent

in an e-mail.

Lou Cortese made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Pat Russo. Motion approved.

Meeting ended at 2:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karl Wagner, Secretary



## 2021 Dues Reminder

Please remember to renew your membership to LIGRS. Individual memberships, the 1st member of a household, are \$40 per year. Family Memberships for members over 18 years old are \$15 for **EACH** additional member in the same household.

Please send a check made out to **Long Island Garden Railway Society, Inc.** (full name please as the bank frowns on "Pay to the Order of LIGRS") for the appropriate amount to:

**Tom Rizzo**

**32 Semon Road,  
Huntington, NY 11743,**



## Tom's What the Heck Puzzle (Solution on next page)



## Monthly Photo Contest Winner



This month's winning photo, "Over the Valley", was taken by Sue Cortese of their The Northern Valley RR



## Member Profiles



We met our newest member Anthony Bliss at the last Zoom, member meeting in January. He introduced himself as having had O and HO layouts as a youngster with his dad.

His wife pointed out a LIGRS brochure at their library which informed him of our activities. Our 2018-2019 holiday display at the Cradle of Aviation drew his interest in the LIGRS. He says it took him a year to join but he loves helping with the setups and the running as well as going to shows. He also loves to garden so it is a perfect fit. He is already coming up with ideas for a possible new venue for a club display. Stay tuned....

### He writes about his current experiences with G gauge.

I started out in 2018 with a simple oval of track, free floating in ballast in a small garden bed. Unfortunately my dog makes quick work of anything not tied down so I spent more time ballasting and leveling the track than running trains. The following year (2019) I regraded and fixed up a shady area of the yard which would serve as the base for my garden railroad. I don't have a big yard so I had to make do with this area as it wasn't being used for much else. The track plan is a currently a simple small dog bone with 8 & 10ft radius curves. I did leave a couple of areas where I could expand further to add the possibilities of industries and simple switching. Due to the crazy dog I mentioned earlier I took a different approach to laying my track. Instead of free floating in ballast the track sits on and is screwed into a pvc ladder which is supported by pvc pipe posts sunk into the ground every 12-18 inches. The ballast and ground cover is then brought up to track level to provide an even more stable base. I was a bit concerned at first how this would hold up to a winter season but it hasn't budged over the last year and a half so I am happy with the results. Now that I have a base to work with I plan to add buildings, details, etc. as time and budget allows.

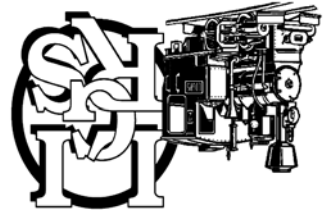
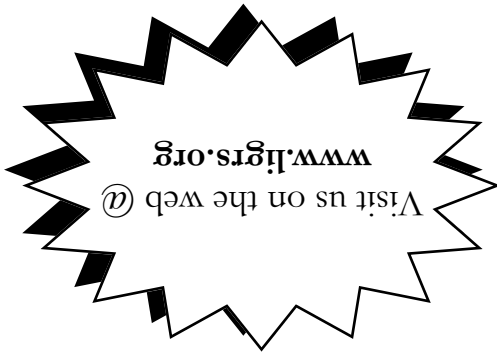
As far as rolling stock I am usually partial to New York Central transition era steam and diesel equipment, but would have no complaints with some modern stuff running on the railroad. My collection is just starting so I only have a couple of USA Trains' diesels (NW2 & GP9) and a Bachmann Climax. All of my equipment is battery powered with li-ion packs and I installed the Railpro (Ring Engineering) system in all of my locomotives. I have a small mix of freight cars but the highlight of my current rolling stock is a few new USA Trains' heavyweight passenger cars I picked up over the holidays.

I know I just joined but I am looking forward to helping out with future club events and meeting more of the membership.



## Solution to What the Heck Puzzle

Russian jet powered train

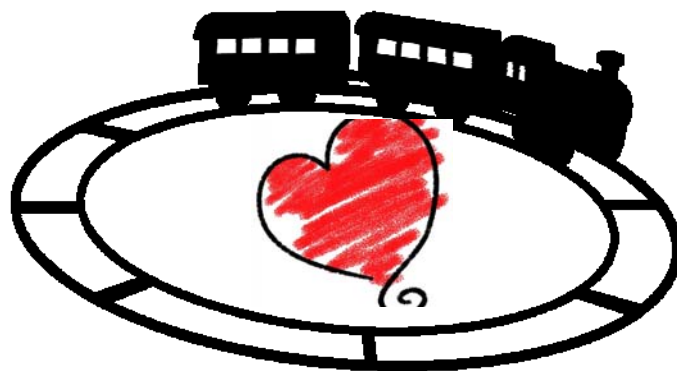


*Newsletter of the Long Island  
Garden Railway Society Inc.*

Smoke n' Cinders at  
P.O. Box 2002, No. Massapequa  
NY 11758-2002

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND  
GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC.**

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**Happy Valentines Day!**