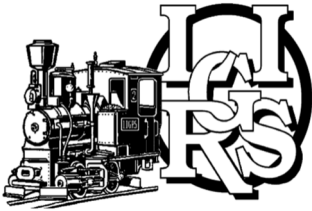


January 2023



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC

Smoke n' Cinders

Next Monthly Meeting on SATURDAY January 21, 2023
 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 First meeting of the New Year
 Location Bethpage Senior Center
 103 Grumman Rd W, Bethpage, NY 11714
Special presentation by Ed Assaf.



Annual LIGRS March Auction: Day & Location TBA

Start off the new year by coming down to the Saturday March LIGRS meeting at **11:00 am**, and join the entire auction team for another great LIGRS Annual Auction.

Consider assisting as an alternate auctioneer.

Don't have room for all of those new trains? The LIGRS Annual Auction is the perfect solution. So clean out the attic, closet, basement and/or garage and bring all those unwanted train related items to February's Annual LIGRS Auction or donate them to the club. Watch the LIGRS auction team perform its magical alchemy by transforming those ex-

cess trains into cash.

For our train challenged members, clean out that bank account and watch the auction team transform those greenbacks back into magnificent trains. The auction is a wonderful event that combines aspects of **Let's Make A Deal**, **The Price Is Right** along with a bit of **Family Feud**. Come down early and lend a hand logging in auction items, become a **"Vanna"** for a day by displaying items or help out with the auction items.

Please contact Bob Sewall at (516) 541-4837 if you can lend a helping hand at the auction.



Attention Sellers: Anyone planning to auction 12 or more items, please contact Bob Sewall to arrange to pre-register your items before the date of the auction meeting..

2022 Annual Photo Contest Winner



All members were asked to vote for their choice of the 2022 contest winner. The winning photo "Busy Workers" was taken by Louise Sewall of Lou Cortese's vignette on the modular display at the COA

This photo will also be featured on the cover of the LIGRS 2023 Roster.

Inside this issue:

View from the Cab	3
Tom's What the Heck Puzzle	4
Thoughts from Dave Smith	8
Monthly Photo Contest Winner	8

This Months highlights:

- Old Bethpage Christmas Display p 4
- COA Modular Display p 6
- Snapper Inn Photos p7





Editor
Louise Sewall
516.541.4837
louisesewall@gmail.com

Web Master
Louise Sewall
516.541.4837
louisesewall@gmail.com

Club Contact: Tom Rizzo
(631) 470.2217
32 Semon Road,
Huntington, NY 11743
tomjudyriz@optonline.net

President ('23-'24)
George Stamatides
718.786.8520
glstama1@earthlink.net

Vice President ('22-23)
Appointment pending

Treasurer ('22-23)
Ed Assaf
516.443.2244
ebassaf_ligrs@earthlink.net

Secretary ('23-'24)
Pat Russo
631.277.1813
pokey0328@gmail.com

Membership Dir. ('22-'23)
Anthony Bliss
631.413.7647
anthony.bliss87@gmail.com

Dir.-At-Large ('22-23)
Louie Cortese
516.681.0789
lvcjr54@verizon.net

Dir.-At-Large ('22-23)
Status Pending

Program Director ('23-'24)
Anthony Marino
516.474.4678
anthonymarino38@gmail.com

Dir.-At-Large ('23-'24)
Paul Bonney
516.456.4520
pbonney@schools.nyc.gov

Dir.-At-Large ('23-'24)
Frank Clemente
631.838.0890
jstlookout@outlook.com

Dir.-At-Large ('23-24)
Ray Shelton
516.681.3976
rayshelton@verizon.net

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

2023 LIGRS Meetings & Events Schedule

Date	Program/Notes	Time	Place
Jan. 14, 2023	BOD Meeting	10:00 AM	COA
Jan. 21, 2023	General Meeting	11:00 AM	Bethpage Senior Center
Feb. 11, 2023	General Meeting	11:00 AM	Bethpage Senior Center
Mar. 2023	Auction Meeting	11:00 AM	TBD
Apr. 2023	Spring Modular Display	TBA	Cradle of Aviation Museum
May 20, 2023	General Meeting	11:00 AM	Jim Wellinghoff
June 24, 2023	General Meeting	11:00 AM	Jay & Betty Geyer
July 22, 2023	General Meeting	11:00 AM	Paul & Joan Simon
August, 2023	Summer Picnic	11:00 AM	TBD
Sept. 23, 2023	General Meeting	11:00 AM	Mike & Kathleen Kmeth
Oct., 2023	General Meeting	11:00 AM	Hosts needed
Nov., 2023	General Meeting	11:00 AM	TBD

We Have Winners!

Photos and information about the winners of the starter sets raffled off at the Old Bethpage Restoration Village Holiday tabletop display and the Cradle of Aviation Museum Holiday modular display are posted on the home page of our club website www.LIGRS.org

OBV winner is Anthony Enea and COA winner is Dr. Shoshanah Kahn.

View From The Cab



Hi Members and Friends of THE LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY.

First and foremost we would like to THANK MIKE KMETH, for guiding our club these past six years, Covid19 and all. Mike has continued setting rail ties and track in a great direction for us to continue to travel and enhance this great club and hobby. "THANKS AGAIN MIKE"

And we can't forget Kathleen, THANKS!

BIG Thank You to Bob Sewall, Karl Wagner, Nick Guarino, all the officers, and board members who have served the club with distinction. [Never last or least Louise Sewall](#) . Thank you to all their family members for allowing them the time to serve the club. Retirement checks are in the mail!

First and foremost!

A HAPPY and HEALTHY NEW YEAR to all.

Going forward let's think of all the different needs of the club as boxcars, sitting in the giant Long Island Garden Railway Society railyard waiting to be loaded and placed onto the departure track behind the club's engine. Each car has a different name. Most of the well-known cars are ready to go, when called upon by the yardmaster even though there's room for improvement in each car. That's where we all must chip in to improve each car.

So, let's take a look at just a few of the cars that makes up the club's train that you have helped thru the years along the tracks of success in the past. As we name a few of these cars please think of ways that

YOU might be able to improve the cars to get ready for the club's "2023 High Ball EXPRESS" as it travels down the tracks to continue the club's success in educating, exhibiting, growing the club and hobby . Now the boxcars waiting for your help.

The "Tender" better known car as the "Finance" car, along with the cars that make up our great train, "Modular", "Table Top", "Membership", "New Membership" "Refreshment", "Club Promotion", "Community Involvement", "Program", " Board of Directors", "Budget", "Good and Welfare" and "Fund Raiser". These are just a few cars in the yard that need preparation and improvement to make 2023 a great LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY HIGH BALL EXPRESS a great ride for all of us! PLEASE take a few second to select a car that you can help build and improve.

NOTICE PLEASE; the car that will not be allowed to be attached to the Long Island Railway Society train in the 2023 High ball Express is the "Negative Pessimistic and the Fear of trying something new car". No room for them on our hook up.

Hopefully this year will bring new and exciting ideas from all of you to feed the club's engine boilers, bringing up the steam pressure to pull us to great successes down the line.

Thank you all for your trust and the honor to serve as the president of our club.

THINK BIG and BUILD

George.

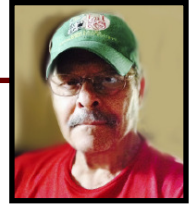


January Meeting Clinic

Ed Assaf will be presenting a clinic,

"Digital Multimeter 101", covering digital multimeter basics. Members are encouraged to bring their own digital multimeter to the meeting where you will be able to get hands on experience using various digital multimeter functions. Those members who do not own a digital multimeter or can't find theirs, are encouraged to purchase an inexpensive (\$6.99) 7 function digital multimeter from Harbor Freight stores or Harbor Freight online

Tom's What the Heck Puzzle (solution on page 6)



© Peter J. Lippert
lippert@lgrs.org
Saskatoon, SK
10/9/2007



Old Bethpage Village Restoration

Where history comes alive!



Old Bethpage Village Restoration Christmas Table Top Display Setup

Although the first week was cut short due to inclement weather the second week was very well attended. Our talented volunteers set up a wonderful Winter display. Mike Kmeth and Anthony Marino drew the crowds in with their trains' sound effects and lit rolling stock.



Similar to our modular display at the Cradle of Aviation Museum, this table top layout consisted of tracks assembled on a number of connected tables, in a rectangle, circling a separate, round table with a Christmas tree in the center and 2 circular tracks running trains around the tree.

Thanks to Ed for getting the trolley running.

See LIGRS.Org home page for video by Anthony Marino



Some thoughts from Dave Smith



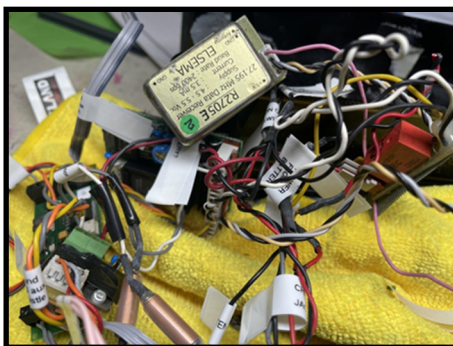
I read the mention of the NYC Botanical Garden setup. I wonder if you know some of the back-story about that? LIGRS set up a display in the old barn at Planting Fields (remember those days?). A woman approached me (and I believe Brian) and asked if the club could do a holiday display like that at the Bronx Botanical Gardens. I told her that we all worked and really couldn't take on such a commitment. However, by that time we all had attended garden railway conventions and saw many of the layouts Paul Busse built (I always remember Bob saying you know one of his layouts by the three loops and a high trestle!). I gave her his name and told her to look in Garden Railways magazine. I don't even think he was using "Applied Imagination" in those days. The rest, as they say, is history.

I have a friend who is a master modeler/builder of model cars. He fell in love with those rail inspection cars and has built several. I supply him with wheels! He retired from doing window and floor displays for a major liquor marketing company in the Northeast and now found his dream job working at Willis Avenue Hobbies on Saturdays. He is their model car expert but has learned SO MUCH about trains too. I recently change computers and put a lot of his "builds" on a separate drive which I don't have right now BUT I figured you might enjoy one of his builds and another he used as a model.



What is a Blunami?

When I first began putting battery power, sound enabled, radio control into my large scale locomotives, an installation required a radio receiver and a separate sound card as well as a separate handheld transmitter. The first photo shows an RCS system installed over twenty years ago and recently removed from a Bachmann 4-6-0 Spectrum. It consists of a half dozen separate modules and this photo doesn't include the sound card.



Along came Digital Command Control (DCC) and provided a receiver and sound all in one

"decoder". One still needed to buy a DCC throttle or a wireless transmitter and base station. Soundtraxx produced a large scale DCC sound decoder, the TSU-4400, which provided multiple whistles/horns, bells, chuffs and other sounds. This seemed like the ultimate package but still needed a separately purchased transmitter which might or might not communicate well with the installed decoder.

Along comes Blunami by Sountraxx. "Blu" for Bluetooth and "Nami" from their widely used Tsunami DCC decoders.

Using a Bluetooth enabled Iphone (Android app is being developed) one will be able to use an Iphone to send Bluetooth signals directly to a Blunami equipped locomotive and control all the bells, whistles, chuffs and locomotive sounds that existed in the DCC unit. I have enclosed a photo of the 4400 which, I'm told, is the same size as the forthcoming large scale Blunami. Expected delivery is the first quarter of 2023. There is no price on the Blunami Sound Decoder but I recently purchased the DCC 4400 for \$152. This may seem expensive until you remember that, in the "old days", one needed to buy a radio receiver, a sound card and a transmitter to do less than the

forthcoming Blunami. Unlike the decoders in the smaller scale, the large scale Blunami will have wire taps for easier installation of battery power, motor and speaker connections as well as lighting and chuff connection. Very little or perhaps no soldering of miniscule wires.

We have come from the multi component r/c systems to a Bluetooth enabled system similar in size to the TSU-4400 shown below. Size is approximately. 70mm by 36mm by 14.mm.

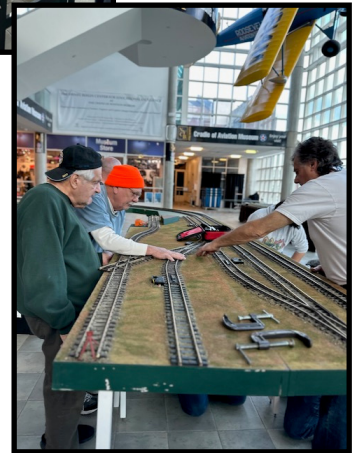
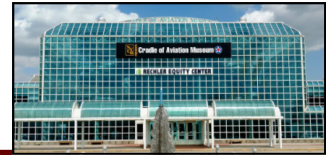


Solution to What the Heck Puzzle

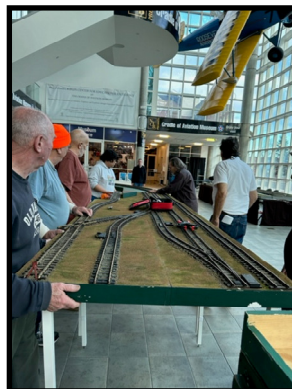
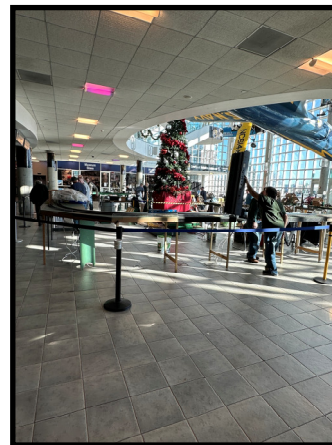


Finally managed to catch a Railgrinder in action, even though this is the 'mini' version, it's still impressive. Note the camera pointed down at the track, the fire extinguishers on the sides and the bucket on top.

Modular Display set up at the Cradle of Aviation



Photos courtesy of Betty Engel



Christmas Party at the Snapper Inn



Incoming and outgoing presidents



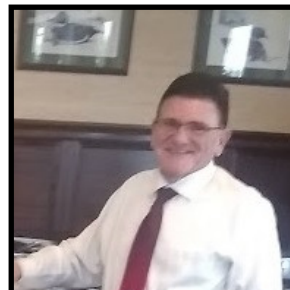
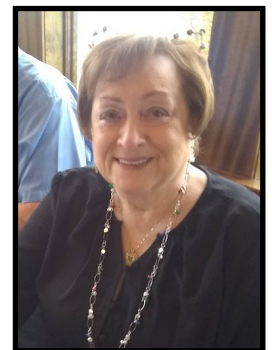
Mike receiving the traditional outgoing President's Car



Snapper Inn's famous Upsidedown Christmas Tree



Ed presenting Bob with the winning Super 50/50 check. You too could win. Look for the 2023 Super raffle to begin.



More Christmas Party Photos



Photo Contest Winner for January 2023



The first winning photo of the new year “Diesel in Town” was taken by Lou Caputzal on his layout “Pop’s Trains”

Get your photos in for next month’s contest!

See slideshow of all monthly winners for 2022 on our LIGRS website at “Member Info>Photo Contest Winners” or use the link below.

<https://ligrs.club/photo-contest-winners>

SATURDAY January 21, 2023
11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
First meeting of the New Year
Location Bethpage Senior Center
 103 Grumman Rd W, Bethpage, NY 11714
Special presentation by Ed Assaf



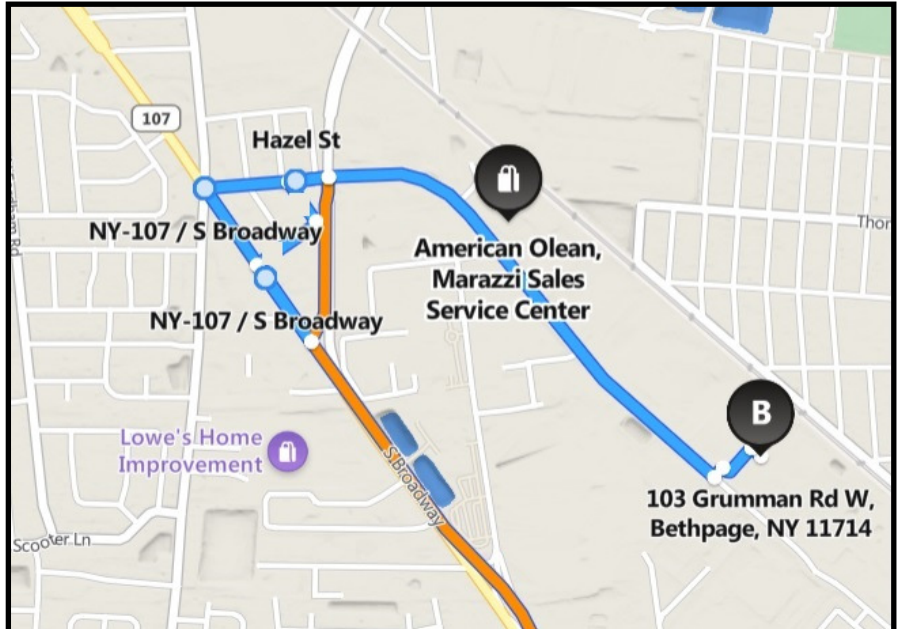
Directions:

From the LIE or Northern State Parkway

Take the exit for Rt 107 South
 Continue South until Hazel St. then turn left
 Hazel St. becomes Grumman Rd W
 Senior center is on the left, set back from the road but has a large blue sign at the driveway entrance

From Southern state or other points South

Take the exit for Rt 135 North
 Turn off at the ramp for exit 7W, West towards Hempstead
 Turn right on rt 107 Hicksville Rd.
 Continue **North to Hazel St and turn right**
 Hazel St. becomes Grumman Rd W
 Senior center is on the left, set back from the road but has a large blue sign at the driveway entrance



January Meeting Clinic

Ed Assaf will be presenting a clinic, "Digital Multimeter 101", covering digital multimeter basics. Members are encouraged to bring their own digital multimeter to the meeting where you will be able to get hands on experience using various digital multimeter functions. Those members who do not own a digital multimeter or can't find theirs, are encouraged to purchase an inexpensive (\$6.99) 7 function digital multimeter from Harbor Freight stores or Harbor Freight online



2023 Dues Reminder: Send in your 2023 dues so that it may be a "Happy Train Year."

Individual memberships, the 1st member of a household, are \$50 per year.

Family Memberships, for members over 18 years old are \$15 for **EACH** additional member in the same household.

Students, age 18-22 is \$25.

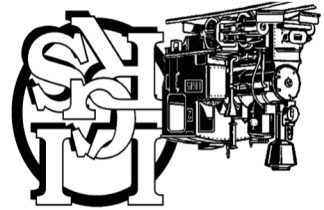
Please send a check made out to **"The Long Island Garden Railway Society, Inc."** (full name please)) for the appropriate amount to:

Questions? Contact
Anthony Bliss
631.413.7647
 anthony.bliss87@gmail.com

LIGRs, PO Box 2002, Massapequa, NY 11758

Many thanks to those members who have already renewed their dues





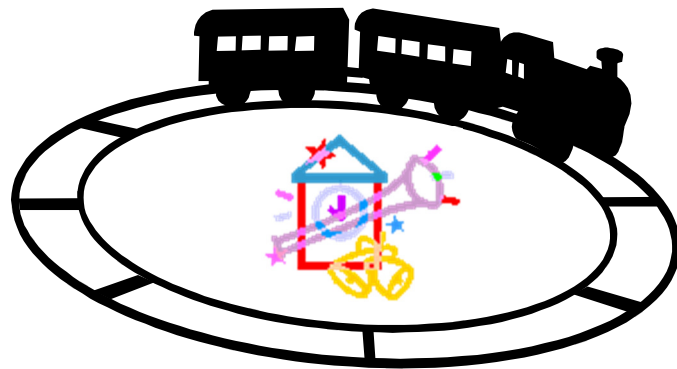
**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND
GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC**

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

*Newsletter of the Long Island
Garden Railway Society Inc*

Advertising Policy
Advertisement shall in no way be construed as an endorsement of any product, manufacturer, product or reseller by The Long Island Garden Railway Society, Inc. Commercial Ads or Ads from Non-members for large scale or garden railway products are at a rate of \$35.00/full page, or \$20.00/half page/issue. Artwork is the responsibility of the advertiser, at the discretion of the editor. Ads from Members for large scale or garden railway items are accepted at no charge and will run once. Ads may be repeated at the advertiser's request, space permitting. Ads should be submitted by e-mail to the editor. The deadline for ads will be the meeting prior to the next issue.

January marks the start of not only a new month but a new year! Cheers to new beginnings, fresh starts and 365 days of opportunity and possibility!



Happy 2023!