

November 2023



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC.

# Smoke n' Cinders

## Monthly Meeting & Elections SATURDAY

November 18th  
Bethpage Senior Center  
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



## Elections



Elections will be held at this November's meeting. If you can not attend, please fill out the proxy form and give to a BOD member in order to ensure that we have a quorum and are able to have an official meeting.

Thanks to the candidates for accepting their nominations. All are running unopposed.

The slate will appear thus:

1. Vice President: Ray Shelton uncontested.
2. Treasurer: Ed Assaf (1/2 term) uncontested
3. Membership Director: Anthony Bliss uncontested
4. Directors at Large: Tom Rizzo uncontested  
Fred Bossert uncontested



## Last Chance

Just remember, along with the important club election that will be held on Saturday, November 18th the drawing for our Big Boy Raffle Super 50/50 raffle prize will also be held. Last year's winner, Bob Sewall was out of town that day and still received the phone call to let him know his good luck. (It was also his birthday).

This year, not only will the winner receive the 50-50 prize but the agent who sold the winning ticket will also be a very happy person, taking home their \$500.00 prize.



### Food Donations Needed

As in past years we are gathering donations of non-perishable food items for the Grace United Methodist Church food pantry in memory of deceased member Doug Smith. Donations should be brought to the **November meeting**. Cash donations will also be accepted. Please mail checks to Ed Assaf if you will not be at the meeting.

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**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 L. Stamataides  
718.786.8520  
glstama1@earthlink.net

**Vice President ('22-23)**  
VACANT

**Treasurer ('22-23)**  
Ed Assaf  
516.443.2244  
ebassaf\_ligrs@earthlink.net

**Secretary ('23-'24)**  
Pat Russo  
631.332.0679  
pokey0328@gmail.com

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

**Dir.-At-Large ('22-23)**  
Tom Rizzo  
631.470.2217  
tomjudyriz@optonline.net

**Dir.-At-Large ('22-23)**  
VACANT

**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)**  
Ray Shelton  
516.681.3976  
rayshelton@verizon.net

**Dir.-At-Large ('23-24)**  
Vacant

|                              |                 |              |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Good & Welfare               | Eileen Wagner   | 631.584.6619 |
| Module Coordinator           | Ed Assaf        | 516.443.2244 |
| Quartermaster                | TBD             | 631.838.0890 |
| Club Merchandise Coordinator | Georgie Gaherty | 631.549.3933 |
| Transportation Coordinator   | Bruce Kropp     | 631.789.4090 |

## 2023-2024 LIGRS Meetings & Events Schedule

| Date           | Program/Notes   | Time     | Place                  |
|----------------|-----------------|----------|------------------------|
| Jan., 2024     | Christmas Party | TBA      | TBD                    |
| Jan. 20, 2024  | General Meeting | 11:00 AM | Bethpage Senior Center |
| Feb. 10, 2024  | Annual Auction  | 11:00 AM | Bethpage Senior Center |
| Mar. 9, 2024   | General Meeting | 11:00 AM | Bethpage Senior Center |
| September 2024 | General Meeting | 11:00 AM | Ed Assaf               |

## A Salute To Those Who Served Our Country



On the occasion of Veteran's Day, on behalf of Uncle LIGRS we would like to thank all club members who have proudly served in the United States armed forces.

| NAME             | SERVICE      | YEARS                      |
|------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Bill Arndt       | Air Force    | 63-67                      |
| Richie Bishop    | Navy         | 66-69                      |
| Ernie DeCarolis  | Navy         | 61-63                      |
| Joe DiBenedetto  | Army         | 58-60                      |
| Steve Gaherty    | Air Force    | 67-94                      |
| Jay Geyer        | Army         | 68-75                      |
| Everett Phillips | Army         | 55-57 active to 61 reserve |
| Gary Reynolds    | Army         | 66-69                      |
| Bob Sewall       | Air Force    | 62-66                      |
| Paul Simon       | Navy SeaBees | 62-66                      |
| John Sulsenti    | Navy         | 77-81                      |



If it weren't for the  
United States military,  
There'd be NO  
United States of America .

### THE FINAL INSPECTION

The Soldier stood and faced God,  
Which must always come to pass.  
He hoped his shoes were shining,  
Just as brightly as his brass.  
'Step forward now, Soldier,  
How shall I deal with you?  
Have you always turned the other cheek?  
To My Church have you been true?'  
The soldier squared his shoulders and said,  
'no, Lord, I guess I ain't.  
Because those of us who carry guns,  
Can't always be a saint.  
I've had to work most Sundays,  
And at times my talk was tough.  
And sometimes I've been violent,  
Because the world is awfully rough.  
But, I never took a penny,  
That wasn't mine to keep.  
Though I worked a lot of overtime,  
When the bills just got too steep.  
And I never passed a cry for help,  
Though at times I shook with fear.  
And sometimes, God, forgive me,  
I've wept unmanly tears.  
I know I don't deserve a place,  
Among the people here.  
They never wanted me around,  
Except to calm their fears  
If you've a place for me here, Lord,  
It needn't be so grand.  
I never expected or had too much,  
But if you don't, I'll understand.  
There was a silence all around the throne,  
Where the saints had often trod  
As the Soldier waited quietly,  
For the judgment of his God.  
'Step forward now, you Soldier,  
You've borne your burdens well.  
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,  
You've done your time in Hell.'  
~Author Unknown~



We talk trains every month, this month it's time to honor and say thank you to those that made and make it possible to talk trains among other nice things we're blessed.

## 2024 Convention



There will be no national convention in 2024. GR News has encouraged regional meetings/show/gatherings. The East Coast Large Scale Show and N. E. Large Scale Show are just a couple that are already established. The newest one will be in Atlanta next August. Ted Yarborough, Regional Representative for GR News



## 2024 G-Scale Southern Regional Get-Together

**Friday – August 23rd – Layout Tours**  
**Saturday – August 24th – Vendor Hall**  
**The 65th Atlanta Model Train Show • Duluth, GA**  
**Sunday – August 25th – Layout Tours**

**To be a vendor or exhibitor for the 1-day 65th Atlanta Model Train Show  
contact Charlie Miller at [rrshows@aol.com](mailto:rrshows@aol.com) or 703-536-2954**

**Additional info coming soon to:  
[GGRS.info](http://GGRS.info)**



## LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC.

### MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2023

Treasurer Ed Assaf asked for a motion to open the meeting. Motion by Joe DiBenedetto, seconded by Mike Kmeth. He then called the meeting to order at 12:09pm and led the membership in a moment of silence in memory and in honor of those who served and are serving in our armed services, those massacred in Israel, all innocents killed and in honor of Kris Bosworth's dad who has passed away.

Ed welcomed us all to our meeting and thanked our hosts John and Denise Girolamo.

We have 20 members present + 2 proxy forms. We have a quorum.

Ed then asked for a motion to read the July, meeting minutes, offer corrections or forego the reading and accept them as written. At the September meeting Bob Sewall had noted that no 50/50 information was included. Ed has supplied the info. At this time, they have been updated and approval will be asked for. Nick Guarino made the motion to approve seconded by Tom Rizzo.

#### Reports:

##### **Treasurer's Report**

Ed gave the following report and if anyone has questions please contact him. YTD fiscal year 2022-2023 as of 10/23/2023. Starting balance \$9,968.81, ending balance \$9,874.75.

**Membership Report** – Chairman was not in attendance. No report given.

**Program Director** – Chairman was not in attendance. No report given.

#### Review of Shows & Events:

##### **Club anniversary trip to Essex dinner train.**

Ed reported that it was a lovely day, great views from the train and wonderful service.

##### **Proposed tabletop display at the Sayville Historical Society.**

Ed and Nick asked for 7 volunteers to aid with the Tuesday, 11/21 set up at 9am, 2 or 3 people to attend on behalf of the LIGRS during the run days (through Saturday, November 25, 11:25-8pm) and take down on Monday, 11/27 (again 7 needed). The people stepping up for the set up were: Paul S, Anthony E, Nick, Ray S, and the Geyers. Ed will call Karl to see if he plans to come. Discussion followed regarding the equipment needed and

their current locations. The Geyers will leave a train set on set up day as well as a tool chest. Ray volunteered an extra transformer. Please contact Nick by text to 516.808.0238 if you will help and have not already volunteered. Sayville Historical Society, 39 Edwards St., Sayville, 11782.

**Photo Contest** – Congratulations to Bob Sewall for the October winning photo "Down Town Station" taken at Dan Saporito's layout. A link to the rules is on the LIGRS home page. Please remember to take pictures and send your best to Louise Sewall. The annual winner receives a \$25 check, and the photo will be featured on the cover of the 2024 season copy of the LIGRS roster.

**Good and Welfare** – If you know of someone in the club who is sick or has a baby or wedding, please let Eileen Wagner know so she can send a card from the club.

#### **Old Business:**

Paul Simon and Tom Rizzo met with Bob and Louise Sewall to go over the running of our annual auction. They will be getting together again. Is there anyone who can give them a laptop for use at the club's auctions? It must be up to date and able to run Microsoft Excel in a recent version. Bob is donating a printer to the club which will be used at the auction, etc.. Paul, Tom and the Sewall's will be meeting periodically to test equipment and review/practice procedures. Contact Bob at [trebor11758@gmail.com](mailto:trebor11758@gmail.com) or 631.486.2579.

#### **New Business:**

**Veterans** -In order to recognize and honor LIGRS members who have served during any time or are currently serving, please contact Louise Sewall at 631.486.2579 or email your info to [louisesevall@gmail.com](mailto:louisesevall@gmail.com) with your branch of service and years served. Please check out last year's November issue on page 7 to ensure we have your correct information.

Paul Simon noted that an error in last month's newsletter be corrected as our Christmas party will be held in January, very early in the year. More to follow from Anthony Marino.

Ed reopened club nominations and nominated Ray Shelton for the position of Vice President. Ray accepted; Jay Geyer seconded. Ray's name will be added to November's election slate.

**Super 50/50** – Please send your stubs and money ASAP to LIGRS, PO Box 2002, Massapequa, NY, 11758 as well as any unsold tickets.

This year's BIGBOY SUPER RAFFLE, if all the tickets are sold, will be \$5,000. The tickets are \$10 per ticket AND The Long Island Railway Society Ticket Agent (Seller) will be awarded \$500 for selling the winning ticket. The seller's prize will come out of the club's profit. The drawing will be at the November meeting.

**Food Donation** – Ed Assaf - As in past years we are gathering donations of nonperishable food items for the Grace United Methodist Church food pantry in memory of deceased member Doug Smith. Donations should be brought to the November meeting. Cash donations are also accepted at that time.

Bob Sewall reminded members that we have a new club email address which is [LIGRSWME@gmail.com](mailto:LIGRSWME@gmail.com). In the future most club notifications will be sent from that address. Please check your spam folder if you have not seen these notifications as it has already been used for the last few months. (Depending on your provider the notifications may also read as from Long Island Garden Railway Society)

Ed reported the following dates for the holiday modular display at the Cradle of Aviation. Set up will be Friday, 12/22 at 9:30am or Saturday if the Cradle is not ready at that time. Run dates will be Saturday, 12/23 through January 1<sup>st</sup>. Take down will be on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Old Bethpage Restoration Village, Candlelight evening dates are advertised on their website as 12/21-23 and 12/26-29 and LIGRS participation with a tabletop display depends on the necessary number of volunteers to set up, run and take down. This event, combined with the annual Candlelight Evenings is always attended by large crowds, is a fun event for us as well as informative to them. In the past, we have gained new members from this exposure.

50/50 was won by Nick Guarino who donated his winnings to the club which received in total \$17. Thank you Nick.

Next General meeting will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Bethpage Senior Center.

Tom made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Bruce. Motion approved. The meeting ended @ 12:42pm.

Respectfully submitted, in the absence of the secretary,

Louise Sewall

## Chic Chat Corner



### See what you missed!

Celebrating our club's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary (2 years late), the club decided to have a celebration on the Essex Dinner Steam Train, Essex, Connecticut.

To make it a little more of a celebration Kathleen and I decided to leave the day before and stay overnight. Not wanting to drive around and take the New England thruway with all that traffic we decided to take the ferry at Orient Point. The drive out to the ferry was beautiful. Going through all the little New England style towns on the North fork was very relaxing. After having an uneventful ferry ride, we arrived in Conn. and checked in to our hotel and then proceeded to check out the Essex Steam Train. Just as we approached the station area the RR gate crossing came down. Lo and behold a train went by. The Essex train pulled by a steam engine. What a way to start the Celebration. As we pulled into the parking lot we met another club member, who had the same idea, to come up early and stay overnight.

Kathleen and I had our hearts set on a seafood dinner down by the L.I. Sound. We found a very nice restaurant overlooking the Sound and proceeded to have a very lovely dinner.

The next morning we proceeded to the train station 10 minutes from the hotel. Club members started to gather outside the station while waiting for our train to depart. Time passed quickly due to the fact that there were a lot of people watching as they were boarding other trains. Once at our table we observed a beautiful table setup, white table cloth, and cloth napkins, flowers, cheese and salami assortment plate on the table, very classy. Once the train got underway a beautiful salad was served, followed by dinner of choice. At our table some had the chicken and others had prime rib. Both were excellent. Desserts followed, choice of cheesecake or a rich chocolate cake. All those who I talked with had a wonderful day.

A little about our train. First it was pulled by a vintage Diesel, built sometime between 1940 and 1953. They were built for the military. All meals we had were prepared in the kitchen

car built by St. Louis Car Company in 1953 for the U.S. Army. They were used on large troop movement's trains to serve hot meals to our troops. Dining cars were again built by Pullman between 1924 and 1927.

On our return to the station it started to rain. Once we departed the train, we once again decided to take the ferry back to Long Island instead of experiencing the heavy traffic on a rainy day on the new England Thruway. We did not have reservations for the ferry, so we decided to go standby. As we pulled into the ferry terminal, we could see our ferry was loaded and ready to depart. The check in attendant called ahead to the ferry, "We have another car," We quickly ran in to the ticket office and got our tickets. We were the last car on.

We had a beautiful weekend.

Mike Kmeth

*(Editor's note; photos from Mike and Anthony on page 7)*

## Photo Contest Winner



This month's winning photo "Beautiful Night" was taken by Lou Caputzal of his layout "Pop's Trains".

# October Meeting at the home of John & Denise Girolamo



Our rainy day meeting was moved indoors by our hosts. We spread out from the kitchen, dining room, livingroom and even to the basement where we viewed John's 2 Lionel layouts. One is on a table and the other runs under the table.



2 shots of John's outdoor layout.



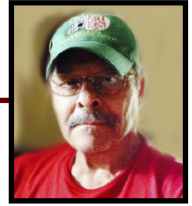
# Photos from our Club Anniversary trip to Essex



Photos courtesy of Anthony Marino and Mike Kmeth. (View this on our website or as pdf file to enlarge and see them better.)



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



## Proxy Form for November Elections

### PROXY --- LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY

I \_\_\_\_\_, a member of the Long Island Garden Railway Society, hereby nominate and appoint \_\_\_\_\_, my true and lawful attorney with power of substitution, for me in my name, to vote as my proxy, at the Business Meeting of Members of said LIGRS to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, upon any and all matters which may be presented, considered and voted upon at said meeting, as fully and with like effect as I might or would have done if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said attorney may do in my name, place and stead. I hereby revoke any proxy or proxies, heretofore given by me to any other person or persons whatsoever.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 2024 Dues Reminder

Why not renew your membership to LIGRS before the busy holiday season?

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.

Student age 18-22 is \$25.

Please send a check made out to **"The 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:

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

LIGRS  
P.O. Box 2002, Massapequa, NY 11758





**Directions to the November Meeting at the  
Bethpage Senior Center  
November 18, 2023 11:00-2:00  
103 Grumman Rd W, Bethpage, NY 11714**



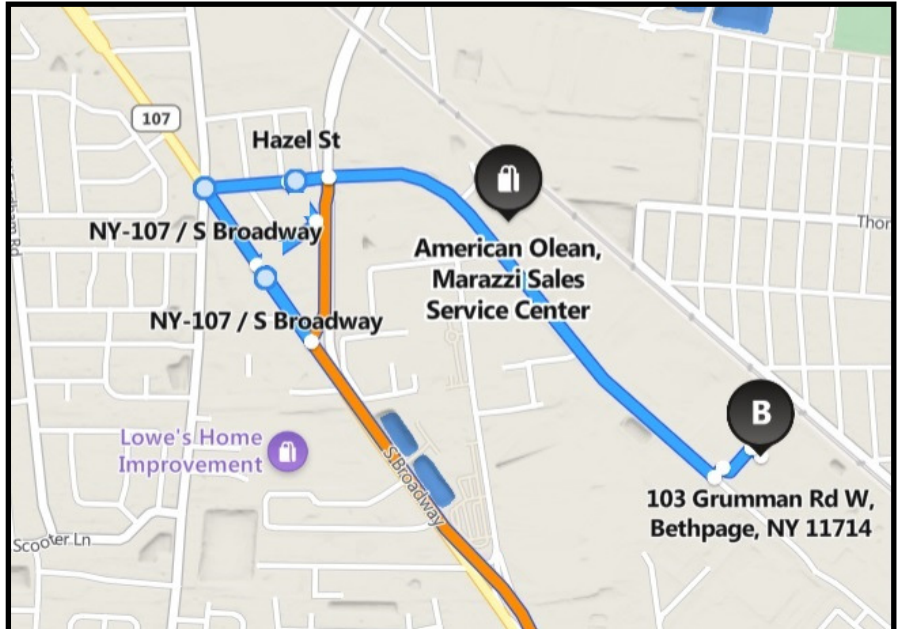
**Directions:**

**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 to-  
wards 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 en-  
trance

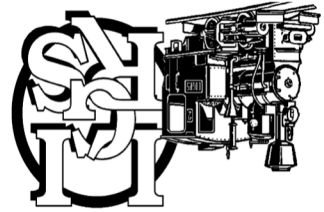


**What the Heck Puzzle Solution**



Kershaw Yard Cleaner cleaning up a yard on the KCS in Jackson MS





**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY**  
Smoke N' Cinders at P.O. Box  
2002, No. Massapequa, NY 11758-  
2002  
*Newsletter of the Long Island  
Garden Railway Society*

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“When the trees their summer splendor change to raiment red and gold. When the summer moon turns mellow, and the nights are getting cold. When the squirrels hide their acorns, the woodchucks disappear. Then we know that it is autumn, the loveliest season of the year.”  
– Carol L. Riser

