

May 2018



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC

Smoke n' Cinders

Monthly Meeting
Saturday, May 19, 2018
Dino & Kornelia Zilic
15 Smull PI Unit 7
Port Washington, 10050
11:00-3:00



SAVE THE DATE!



The Summer picnic will be held on August 18th at Southaven Park where we will again be the guests of the Long Island Live Steamers. Bob Russo will accept reservation forms with checks at his home address and at meetings, Adults @ \$18 pp and Children under 13 @ \$8. each. Children under 5 free.

Volunteers are needed and can contact Bob to let him know they can help.
(See reservation form on page 10. Do NOT send checks without completed reservation form)

Deadline to receive the reservations is August 11th.

We Have a Winner!

Congratulations to Trish Hiller of Levittown, LI this year's Planting Fields' Arbor Day Festival LIGRS Train Set Raffle winner. The ground display at Planting Fields and train set raffle are one of the ways that the LIGRS is reaching out to publicly introduce large scale railroading in the garden. Trish was the lucky participant whose winning entry was picked from the many raffle participants. She chose the PIKO Pennsylvania Starter Set as her prize as shown being presented by LIGRS Treasurer, Bob Sewall. She has plans to display the train set "under the Christmas Tree" as well as the possibility of other indoor occasions with the distinct possibility of a budding outdoor garden railway. We wish her well in her new found hobby and hope that she may become a future member of the LIGRS family.



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2018 LIGRS Meetings & Events Schedule

Date	Program/Notes	Time	Place
May 5, 2018	Cleanup	10:00 Am	Freeman RW, LI RR Museum of LI Riverhead
May 19, 2018 Saturday	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Dino & Kornelia Zilic
June, 2018	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	TBA
July 15, 2018	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Nick & Eileen Guarino
July 22, 2018	Table Top Display	Set up 10:00 AM	Mt. Sinai Yacht Club
August 18, 2018	Summer Picnic	11:00 AM	LI Live Steamers
August 25-26, 2018	Railfest	10:00 AM	RR Museum of LI, Riverhead
September 8, 2018	BOD	10:00 AM	Lou Cortese's
September 16, 2018	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Danny Saporito
October 21, 2018	Monthly Meeting	11:00AM	Bob & Roseann Garruba
November, 2018	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	TBA

View From The Cab



Before I get into my usual “View From the Cab” article, I and the club have a request out to all members. I was just informed that the person who was to host the June 2018 meeting is now unable to do so. Is there any member that could host the June meeting on such short notice? If so, please call our program director Nick Guarino. Thank you.

This past Easter week I was again in North Carolina visiting family. Ever since they moved there I have wanted to ride a three foot narrow gauge railroad that I heard about. Well, this trip I finally rode the train. It's the Tweetsie Railroad, which is also in an amusement park for the small fry. But that's not exactly what Mike went there for. Even though he had three of his great nieces and nephews along, 5, 7, & 12. Mike went to ride a 3ft, coal fired, narrow gauge train that runs on a three mile track around the park. I am a big fan of the narrow gauge. This is the fifth 3ft line I have ridden on. The railroad is located in the Great Smoky Mountains at 4,000 ft. elevation between the towns of Blowing Rock and Boone, NC. Besides standing next to the engine, feeling its awesome power as it leaves the station, is the whistle. The sound echoes through the mountains. To me, it was really cool to hear. The ride takes about 20 minutes. On the way they have two short skits where the train stops and there are shout-outs with the “train robbers”. The small fries loved it.



Now let's talk about the railroad. They have two engines #12, built by Baldwin in 1917. They just celebrated the hundredth anniversary of this engine. Unfortunately they were not running that engine the day we were there, which happened to be opening day for 2018. #12 was built for the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad. The railroad originally built in 1870 to haul iron ore and lumber, then later on mail, passengers and freight service. In 1919, the line was extended to Boone, NC. To the mountain

people the ET&WNC was known as Tweetsie. The line made its last run to Boone in 1940. All steam locomotives were eventually scrapped with the exception of #12, the only surviving locomotive to carry the name Tweetsie. After several changes of ownership, Tweetsie was bought by Gene Autry for use in the movies. However, after much consideration, Autry resold it to Grove Robbins of Blowing Rock, NC, with the understanding the she would be restored to operation as an educational and historical attraction. Robbins had the engine restored, acquired the site between Blowing Rock and Boone, and on July 4th 1957, opened as a one mile excursion, later evolving into a three mile loop.

As the attraction grew the need for a second steam engine became necessary. So in 1960 they purchased #190 “Yukon Queen” a 2-8-2 from the White Pass & Yukon RR in Skagway, Alaska. During WWII the US Army Transportation Corps had #190 built by Baldwin. During WWII the US Army ran the WP&Y. Two years ago I rode on the WP&Y in Skagway. There I remember seeing pictures of trains loaded with military equipment going down Main St. Back then the track did go down Main St.

Some future visit to NC you'll find Mike riding the Tweetsie again.

I want to thank all the members that came and helped setup our display on that very rainy Friday at Planting Fields. We had a good turnout. We may even have broken a set up time record. The setup was completed by 2:00pm. The rain stopped briefly to enable test runs. Surprisingly the trains ran well. Next day the sun was out and we had all 4 track operating, three ground and one elevated.

(This article was written before take down.)



For This Year's Summer Picnic Raffle

This year's raffle prize is a fully assembled watermill made by Pola-LGB with working a/c motor.

Tickets are \$5 each. See Frank Clemente to purchase them. The drawing of the winning ticket will be at our Summer Picnic.



LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY, Inc.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING APRIL 14, 2018

Meeting was held at Bruce Kropp's house.

Attendance: President Mike Kmeth, Vice President Bob Russo, Secretary Karl Wagner, Membership Director Tom Rizzo, Treasurer Bob Sewall, Program Director Nick Guarino, Directors at Large, Louis Cortese, Frank Clemente, and Bruce Kropp.

President Mike Kmeth asked that the meeting be opened @ 10:15 AM. A motion was made by Frank Clemente and seconded by Tom Rizzo.

President Mike Kmeth asked for a motion to forgo the reading and approve the minutes of the February 10th, 2018 BOD. A motion was made by Frank Clemente, seconded by Lou Cortese to approve the minutes. Minutes approved.

Treasury Report – Bob Sewall gave the following report 2nd Quarter 2017 -2018

1-1-18 thru 3-31-18 Starting balance \$5,968.03 Ending balance \$6,868.07
YTD as of 4-14-18 Starting balance \$5,118.99 Ending balance \$6,858.08 Bob also gave a full breakdown of income and expenses by category. Bob also noted that Tom Rizzo is putting the perforations in the raffle tickets.

Membership Report – Tom Rizzo gave the following report Membership is Individual 30, Family 23, Life 4, Honorary 6, Total Households 54, Junior 3, Total members 92 Tom also noted at this time the ICE list is about 75% complete. Tom still needs ICE numbers from some members who rarely show up to meetings.

By Laws are printed and on the website.

Request for Participation display Form are now printed and on Tom Rizzo PC. Nick Guarino has hard copies. Nick will send out in Oct to all Displays every 5 years and all potential new displays as they come up.

Club merchandise – Georgianna Gaherty sent Karl Wagner an email listing that she had 7 Videos, 12 Mugs, 35 Oval 25th Anniversary pins, 38 Square LIGRS pins.

Shows

COA – will try to return Nick Penza's 2 modules to him before COA

Dan Saporito told Karl Wagner he didn't think the two ½ modules are needed at this time.

Paul Giordano and Karl Wagner's 3 modules each are partially completed.

Scout Show - Mike and the BOD thought we had good trains to run and our members did a good job on our display. We had hoped for a better public turnout.

Planting Fields day Festival – Set up is April 27 at 8 AM, Show dates April 28 & 29 Times 11 AM- 4 PM Please come and help with the set up as breakfast will be served and bring trains to run on Saturday and Sunday. We will take the display down on Sunday after 4 PM. This year we will have one trestle and two ground tracks.

Clark Botanic Garden – Karl Wagner still had not heard from them. He will try again to contact them.

Riverhead Railfest – We will be doing a clean up on May 5 @ 9 AM The show dates are August 25 & 26 More info to come.

Picnic LILS – August 18th Bob & Pat Russo will not be there this year but will work with the same group to get most items ready. Just a few days before, items will need to be purchased by someone, Bob has a list.

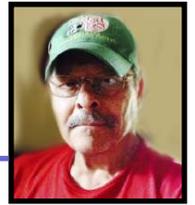
Discussion of table top displays to have a DVD play. Karl will check on a DVD player so we can show our club

Discussion of the trailers – Green trailer to looked at to make rack for holding modules.

(continued on next page.)



Tom's Cryptic Puzzle (Solution on next page)



Below is a cryptic definition for something related to Railroading.

Change the letters to find the answer in the sentence below. (In this example: (ZFONZUFROXY = RAILROADING)

The first letter "G" in the second word and all other instances of the letter "G" is correct in the sentence below.

RBJRF GFBW HO PYF JHLZBGF AFEYBLHOA PYBP XDFWBPFO PYF RBJRF MXW B
KWHRLG

EUJHLKFW, PX BJPFWLBPJFJU BKAHP OPFBA PX PYF EUJHLKFW BLK PYFL FTYBQOP HP
SYFL PYF DHOPXL'O OPWXZF HO LFBWJU EXADJFPF.

From the Secretary continued



Power Supplies for table top displays – The power supply, 3 controllers have been ordered. A box for mounting everything and terminal blocks still need to be ordered.

Request to do the Mount Sinai Table Top Display on July 22 was approved.

Museum Row – Mike waiting on call back from people at Nunley's Carousel about an outdoor display.

Modular wiring diagram Tom to check it out at COA.

Hicks – Lou has possible dates for us to do an indoor display He will get in touch with them to see about coordinating the dates.

Velcro for Modules – Karl Wagner working on this.

Club Suggestions – Tom will draw up some store fronts to be used with the table tops.

Bob Sewall gave the club laptop to Nick Guarino to use.

Next Board meeting will be September 8th @ Lou Cortese's house, 10:00 AM

Tom Rizzo made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Frank Clemente. Motion approved.

Meeting ended at 12:40 PM



Respectfully Submitted,

Karl Wagner

Secretary

New Business

A help day was suggested for Joseph Dunn to give him ideas and where to start. Nick Guarino will get in touch to see if either May 12 or May 26 will work. Nick will send out an e-mail with conformation date and time.

Solution to Cryptic puzzle



Answer:

VALVE GEAR IS THE LINKAGE MECHANISM THAT OPERATES THE VALVE FOR A DRIVING CYLINDER, TO ALTERNATELY ADMIT STEAM TO THE CYLINDER AND THEN EXHAUST IT WHEN THE PISTON'S STROKE IS NEARLY COMPLETE.

Many Thanks To Our 2018 Arbor Day Volunteers



William Arndt	Louis Cortese	Michael Kmeth	Thomas Rizzo
Andrea Backe	Matthew Crehan	Bruce Kropp	Edward Rusch
Babette Bishop	Trevor Galvez	Joseph Luginsland	Robert Russo
Richard Bishop	Nick Guarino	Kurt Paschke	Danny Saporito
Elizabeth Bonney	John Hagedorn	John Pizzulli	Ron Scotto
Paul Bonney	Fred Holzkamp	Barbara Poppe	Bob Sewall
Debbie Brutsch	Mike Iannacone	Walter Poppe	Louise Sewall
Geraldine Coney	Kathleen Kmeth	Judy Rizzo	Ray Shelton
			Karl Wagner
			Dino Zilic

Special mention to all those dedicated members who again set up in the cold and rain. We are in your debt.



Thanks to Ron Scotto for this link to some short videos of this year's Planting Fields display which he has posted online. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJnqLtaZ3wSYjLfvWHX63Uw/videos>



As a small child in Brooklyn I remember looking with amazement at my grandfather's train set running past handmade replicas of houses from our family's history. However, the strict "look but don't touch" policy, combined with the hidden location in the basement, meant my interest was short lived. I quickly moved on to Matchbox cars, Tonka trucks, and toy soldiers that I could build my own empires with.

When my son Matthew became interested in Thomas the Tank Engine books and videos, as his older brother Ethan had done years before him, my wife and I quickly (over)spent our hard earned cash on wooden trains, tracks, and simple operating accessories. Their delight in countless hours spent building and rebuilding layouts proved that we are a "hands on" family.

Traveling around multiple states we have marveled at various Garden Railroad layouts, both public and private. This shared sense of wonder in trains large and small has led us to creating "pop-up" garden railroads of our own. Our small group of friends enjoys when we combine trains train memorabilia, and mini golf in our backyard. A neighborhood favorite is our Trick or Treat train that we create in our front yard for Halloween. Naturally, we enjoy switching to indoor setups, in multiple scales, during the Christmas season.

Our hope in joining the LIGRS is to spend quality time with likeminded folks, share stories, and pick up a tip or two. What we would like to bring to the LIGRS is the youthful viewpoint that we have all possessed, that nothing beats getting one's hands dirty, for *both* operators and audience. We hope to spark some ideas on how to make the garden railroading hobby more interactive, and more accessible to fellow Long Islanders.

To that end, we are planning a small garden railroad that passing neighbors can view, called *The Strong Island Railroad*. A recent article about a young Jersey Shore man's *LBI Railroad – A Railway Built for Sharing*

in *Garden Railways Magazine*, reinforced our commitment to overcome the logistical challenges we are sure to face. We would welcome any insight LIGRS members may have for us in the endeavor.

Our ultimate goal would be to have opportunities to share our neighborly spirit through participation in Kid-friendly displays at public locations and charity events. A dream would be to have another club railroad, like the one at the LIRR Museum in Riverhead, in a Nassau County family hot spot. Although we love our Long Island backyard, we believe coming out from behind fences and engaging others can bring back a touch of the good old days, when people from Brooklyn to Montauk knew the people on their block, cul de sac, or sandy lane.

The Bonney Family,

Paul and Elizabeth, Ethan (not shown), and our young engineer Matthew!



We would like to again thank the friends of the Corteses, Emma's Garden Growers in particular Otto Kiel who donated the use of plants to enhance this year's display. Check them out in full color on our website. LIGRS.com

Chic Chat Corner In Memory of Lewis Polk



Aristo-Craft Trains, initially called Aristo-Craft Distinctive Miniatures, was founded in 1935 by Nathan and Irwin Polk. In 1988 Aristo-Craft teamed with Railway Express Agency, Inc. (REA) and created a new scale of 1:29 for trains running on

45mm 'G' gauge track. This G45 development filled a need for mass-produced American prototype trains in a market that had been dominated by European outline trains. Aristo-Craft had designed and started selling a G gauge track line which they merged into their partnership with REA. The track had the highest percentage of copper in the market and featured a patented screw-together rail joiner capability.

Prior to establishing the model train business, the Polk's were pioneers in the hobby shop business, starting in New York City in 1935. The famous five-story Polk's Hobby Shop on 5th Avenue in Manhattan operated from 1946 before it was closed down in 1991 so that the family could concentrate their efforts on the Aristo-Craft product line. Lewis M. Polk, President and son of Nat Polk, made the decision to pursue manufacturing of the Aristo-Craft G gauge trains and radio control equipment rather than continue in retailing or wholesaling hobbies.

The 1996 Aristo-Craft catalog was 66 pages long. By 1997 it had grown to 82 pages. These catalogs were of heavy card stock and glossy pages with color photographs. Credit for the catalog design goes to Jonathan Polk. One stand out item in this catalog was the newly released set of extruded aluminum streamlined passenger cars that were in development for 2 years. Each Car was polished to a stainless steel mirror finish. A coach, diner, Vista dome, and observation car were offered. All were available undecorated or in ten different road names. In

1998 Aristo-Craft obtained a licensing agreement with Sesame Street, the famous PBS show featuring the Muppets. Two limited edition G gauge Sesame Street 30th Anniversary sets were issued shortly thereafter. One set was the Old-Timer Freight Set featuring a Rogers 2-4-2 steam locomotive, a slope back sound tender, gondola and bobber caboose, all decorated with official Sesame Street colors and graphics and accompanied by Big Bird, Bert & Ernie and Cookie Monster figures. The second set was the Camp Sesame Express which included a Lil' Critter Diesel Switcher #22529, Gondola #40007, and Caboose #42229. This colorful train came with four Sesame Street characters dressed in their camping outfits ready to hop aboard the Camp Sesame Express.

A whimsical and fun item that Aristo-Craft was famous for was their Eggliner powered unit. These were Tongue-In-Cheek shorty units with a single power truck, interior lighting and operating knuckle couplers that came decorated in several themes including a Jeweled Russian Egg, Lady Bug and the Presidential 1 Oval Office Egg. The Eggliner looked like two end units from an observation car locked together.

The long time toy train railroad manufacturer, most recently based in Irvington, N.J., was forced to close its doors when like many other hobby manufacturers, they fell on hard times due to the recession. The family thanked its loyal customers as well as the numerous employees that kept Aristo-Craft relevant since 1935. "Our apologies for not being able to keep this almost 80-year-old business going," the Polk family said. "It's a heartbreaker for us all. In 2016 Lewis Polk retired at the age of 77 and moved to Port. St. Lucie, Florida after selling the business property in New Jersey. Lewis Polk passed away on April 23, 2018.

Monthly Photo Contest Winner



This month's winning photo of a town crossing was taken by Bob Sewall on the Cortese's layout.



Golden Spike Nominations?

Golden Spike awards are now being considered by our BOD. Share your nominations of club members with any of our directors or other club officers. (Their names and contact information are listed on page 2 of this month's newsletter.



Can't Make A Meeting?

To ensure that a voting quorum is reached, and an official meeting held, please send a signed proxy form to any of the club officers or the Board of Directors.

A link to a printable copy of the proxy form can be found on the home page of the LIGRS website.

See our distribution policy on the home page of LIGRS.org

Are you coming to the LIGRS ANNUAL PICNIC?

SATURDAY
August 18, 2018
11:00 am



- **Location:** Long Island Live Steamers—Southaven County Park
<http://www.longislandlivesteamers.org/find.php>
- **RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST!**
Please respond no later than August 11th
- **Cost:**
- **Adults: \$18.00** Send checks to Bob Russo
- **Children: Under 13 \$8.00. Children under 5 FREE**
- **BBQ style picnic**
- **VOLUNTEERS** requested to help with set up and cleanup

Live Steamers' location has tables and benches but...

Rain or Shine

- **CHAIRS:** You may bring your own.
- **TABLES:** You may bring a folding table if you have one.

DETACH Completed form AND MAIL WITH
CHECK TO:

No Later Than AUGUST 11

Bob Russo
38 Meroke Lane
East Islip, NY 11730
631.277.1813

NAME _____ PHONE _____

Number of Adults: _____ X \$18 = \$ _____

Number Children: _____ X \$8 = \$ _____

Check Made Payable To: Long Island Garden Railway Society, Inc.. Do not abbreviate!



Monthly Meeting Saturday, May 19, 2018 Dino & Kornelia Zilic

15 Smull Place Unit 7
Port Washington, NY 11050

Cell 202 999 9502 Dino
202 999 9505 Kornelia

11:00-3:00



Parking at the house is a problem. Better to drive a short distance further to the Stop & Shop parking lot and walk back to the house for the meeting.
(65 Shore Rd., Port Washington, 10050)

From Northern State Parkway

Take 2 right lanes to take exit 29A to merge onto 495 West (LIE)

Exit 36 north to Searingtown Road

Take Searingtown Rd and Port Washington Blvd to

Left on Sandy Hollow Rd

Right on Harbor Rd

Left on Mill Pond Rd

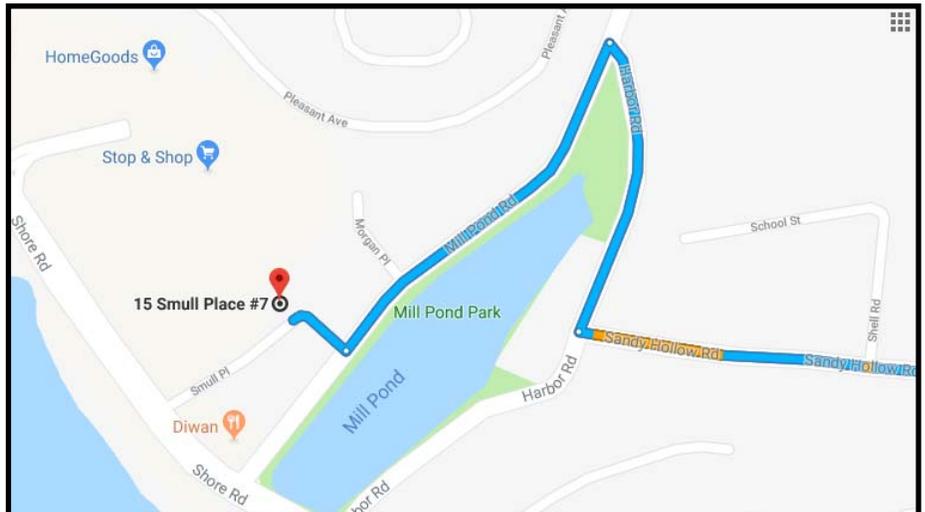
Right on Smull Pl in Port Washington

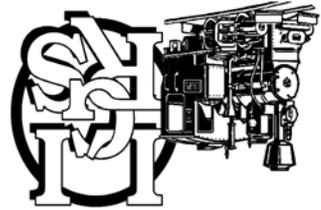
To get to parking at Stop & Shop

Continue on Smull Place

Right on Shore Rd.

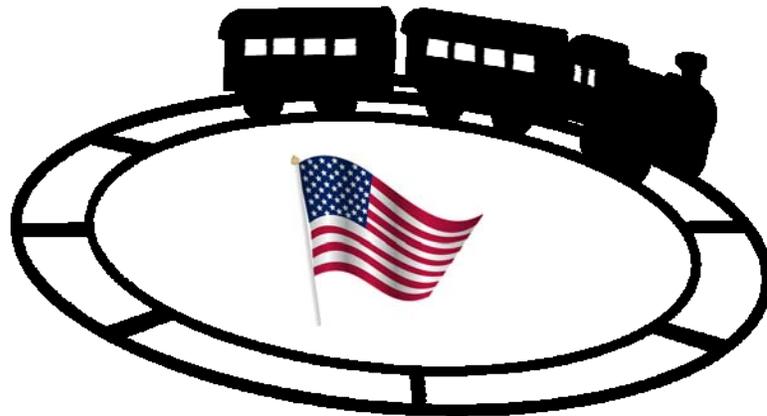
Right into Stop & Shop Parking Lot. Short walk to the house.





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

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND
GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC**
Smoke N' Cinders at P.O. Box
2002, No. Massapequa, NY 11758-
2002



The dead soldier's silence sings our national anthem..
– Aaron Kilbourn

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