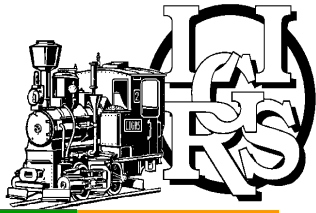


October 2011



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY INC.

# Smoke n' Cinders

## Monthly Meeting

Sunday, October 16, 2011

Hosts: Walter & Brenda Pepper  
107 North Prospect Ave.  
Patchogue, 11702



Club officers and Board of Directors members will be accepting your nominations of deserving members for our annual Golden Spike Awards & Certificates of Appreciation.

Please contact Rich McGorty at (516) 285-4710 if you are considering hosting one of next year's meetings or willing to share your talents by presenting a clinic at one of the indoor meetings at the Northport Yacht Club or even at one of our member hosted outdoor meetings.



## Save the date for the Long Island Garden Railway Society

Annual Christmas Party

Sunday, December 11, 2011

1:00 o'clock p.m.

Northport Yacht Club

11 Bluff Point Road

Northport, N.Y. 11768

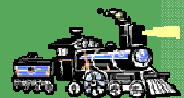


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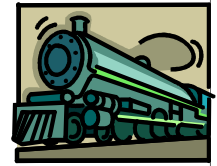
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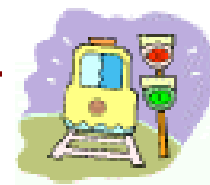
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**LIGRS Meeting Schedule**

Date	Program/Notes	Time	Place
October 8-10, 2011	Ground display	See p 3	Bayard Cutting Arboretum
October 16, 2011	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Walter Pepper
November 12, 2011	Modular Display	TBA	Northport VA
November 20, 2011	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Northport Yacht Club (Swap & Shop)
December 11, 2011	Christmas Party	Noon	Northport Yacht Club
December 19, 2011	Modular Display	Take down 1/2	Cradle of Aviation Museum
January 8, 2012	Modular Display	Take down 1/4	Freeport Recreation
January 22, 2012	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Northport Yacht Club
January 22, 2012	BOD Meeting	9:30 AM	Northport Yacht Club
February 2012	No Meeting due to construction		
March 25, 2012	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Northport Yacht Club (Annual Auction)

## View From The Cab

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October, we're setting up for Pumpkin Fest already, somehow I thought I had all this time to get to the September tasks I had planned and now I'm hoping I can still get to some of them before the temperature drops. Just a few weeks ago I was running trains and trimming the overgrowth. I stare at the railway now and realize it's time, I really need to work on making the railway easier to maintain, most of the trees looked great as seedlings but are showing me they are going to mature and I can't stop them. The work involved in removing them, trimming and repotting is just too big a job so I need to face the reality that I need to consider other plantings. If anyone is interested in these small but mature trees for your property please call me.

The September meeting at the Russo's was well attended and also a beautiful day, thank you Bob & Pat. The railway looked great and I enjoyed the choice of trains. Did anyone take pictures? If you did, send one to Louise for the photo contest. Ernie DeCarolis ran the nominations and Bob Russo, Bob Sewall, Tom Rizzo, Peter Conte and Mike Kmeth accepted the nominations for another term in their positions. I would like to thank these gentlemen for staying on and for all that they contribute to this organization.

We had a run day at Riverhead September 10th, the Freeman Railway was in good shape and ran well. Thank you Roger Bossert, Elizabeth & Eric for serving a delicious pancake

breakfast for everyone. The Railroad Museum is having a Thomas fun weekend October 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, and asked for volunteers who have Thomas Trains to come out and run them. We will also be running trains at the Bayard Arboretum Fall Festival the same weekend including Monday (Columbus Day) This will be our first ground display at this park so if you're free please come out and help make this event a success. We're setting up on Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup> at 10am, if you can volunteer any time, the Arboretum has a list of LIGRS members at the gate so announce yourself as a volunteer of The Long Island Garden Railway Society so you won't be charged the \$12.

I hope to also see everyone at our October 16th meeting at Walter & Brenda Pepper's.

If you have an idea that might benefit LIGRS, please email me. [danny.saporito@verizon.net](mailto:danny.saporito@verizon.net)

Dan Saporito





This column will be devoted to the great outdoors, in fact, not too far from home. Yes, a visit to your own backyard garden where you will find a pleasant and relaxing atmosphere, perhaps one that you have overlooked in the past. Maria Cinque writes the following in a past Newsday article, "With gardening being one of the oldest healing arts, we can while away the hours planting, pruning and potting as we beautify our surroundings. Or, we can just sit back and enjoy all of our hard work by just relaxing in our yard with the garden in full view - rich with plants and flowers we have planted over the years, or just earlier in the year. The colors, textures and designs that we chose for our landscape can transcend into lovely stress-free opportunities for serene moments in the garden.



Flowers can especially be tranquilizing. Just watching them sway in the wind or knowing that they are the source of nectar for lovely creatures like the Monarch butterfly can take you out of your stressful thoughts and into another world as you watch them."

Now let us take a tour of "Wesch's Wonderland." Step out the rear door onto the covered patio paved with beautiful blocks, and behold as you look at the top of the hill, your eyes are drawn to a waterfall that further enhances the garden with its calming effects. It creates a stream that winds down to flow under a bridge into a fishpond containing water plants that includes a gorgeous cream-white water lily and a frog spitting water. Up on the hill just to the left of the waterfall a large, rare, majestic Japanese Pine tree grows in all of its splendor.

Behind the garage "Forever Rose Bushes" dominate the scene with all their beauty and behind them a vegetable garden takes the stage, with strawberries, and tomato plants.

Now we must return to the patio and what do we see but a large 'g' scale railroad complete with miniature trees, seven handmade bridges, a farm with a handmade windmill and the town of Lackawaxen with its railroad station. The trains are stored in the basement in a train yard. By opening up a small window, the trains can be easily run out and in at will. One can walk the Nature Trail that circles around the entire railroad area including walking over a small bridge where there is a small pond and a handmade gristmill. There, stands a large greenhouse that is used nowadays to supply heat to the home when necessary. By continuing to walk further, through a large gazebo in the process, we approach a large wishing well, complete with a hanging pail. A few steps further, we can see three hand carved sea gulls resting on pieces of large utility poles.

It is my sincere hope that new members in our club can imagine how my garden looks and "old" timers can reflect on their memories of the past. Perhaps this column will inspire club members to take another look and enjoy their gardens.

The reason a dog has so many friends is that his tail wags instead of his tongue!

Happiness adds and multiplies as we divide it with others.

From the Plant Man.



## From the Secretary



### LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

President Dan Saporito asked for a moment of silence for the men and woman who are serving this country and especially for those whose lives were lost protecting our freedom.

President Dan Saporito asked that the meeting be opened @ 12:03 PM. A motion was made by Tom Rizzo, seconded by Jay Sulsenti to open meeting being held at Robert & Pat Russo's house. There were 40 members present.

Dan thanked Robert and Pat for hosting today's meeting.

President Dan Saporito asked then for a motion to forego the reading of the July meeting minutes. Rich Bishop made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Jay Sulsenti. Minutes accepted.

**Finance Report** - Bob Sewall read the Finance report. The closing bank balance as of August 31, 2011 was \$3,636.28. Bob commented that we are at the upper range above the club limit but we still have a few outstanding expenses. Should anyone have any questions please call Bob.

**Membership** Director Tom Rizzo had no new member for this month.

**Nomination of Officers** - At this time President Dan Saporito turned the meeting over to Ernie DeCarolis, Chairman of this year nominating committee for officers.

Ernie then asked for nominations from the floor for each position. Nominations are as follows:

Vice President - Bob Russo was nominated by Ed Assaf second by Ernie DeCarolis. Bob Russo accepted.

Treasure - Bob Sewall was nominated by Ed Assaf second by Bob Russo. Bob Sewall accepted

Membership Director - Tom Rizzo was nominated by Rich McGorty second by Jay Sulsenti. Tom Rizzo accepted.

Director at Large - Pete Conte was nominated by Bob Russo second by Ernie DeCarolis. Pete Conte accepted.

Director at Large - Mike Kmeth was nominated by Bob Russo second by Jay Sulsenti. Mike accepted.

Chairmen Ernie DeCarolis then closed the nominations.

**Honorary Member** - Having voted in the August 6 BOD meeting a motion was passed by the board pending approval by the membership to add Charles Ro Sr. as an Honorary member. President Dan asked for a show of hands for making Charlie Ro Sr. an Honorary club member. Unanimously approved.

#### **Up coming Events:**

Pumpkinfest is October 1 & 2. Set up Sept 30th, 10 AM at Yaphank Farms. Come out and run some trains.

Dan announced we have a new outdoor exhibit this year. Bayard Cutting Arboretum asked us to set up a display and The Board accepted the invitation. This will be an outdoor event Oct 8, 9, & 10. We will set up on Oct 6 with a rain date of the 7<sup>th</sup>. Take down will be 4 PM on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Remember to have your membership card to get in free.

Thomas Fun weekend, if you have any Thomas the Tank Engine equipment the Railroad Museum of Riverhead is asking for volunteers to run them on the Freeman Railway. The dates are Oct 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Food Drive** - Louise Sewall explained our annual food drive in memory of past member Doug Smith. Non-perishable items will be collected at the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. The donations go to the Grace United Methodist Church.

**Swap & Shop** - Something old is new again. We are going to re-try something that had been done years ago. Members can bring and sell their personal trains and related items for their asking price. This is planned for the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Come set up before the meeting look at what everyone has and buy after meeting is over.

**Annual Christmas Party** has been changed to December 11<sup>th</sup>. Starting at noon it's early enough that we should be able to enjoy a relaxing afternoon with friends. Look for more info in Smoke n' Cinders.

*(continued next page)*

## From the Secretary continued

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**Club Auction** will be held at the March meeting due to the Yacht Club having their Kitchen renovation in February.

**Club Web Page** now has the Membership application and the Club By-Laws posted.

**Club Open House** dates for next year's meetings. Please see Program Director Rich McGorty if you want to host a meeting next year. Many dates are available, Saturday or Sunday.

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee** - The Anniversary Cars are here for everyone to pick up, please see Ernie DeCarolis to get your car. Georgiana & Steve Gaherty - Pins and clothing, they have other club items also, non-anniversary clothing & DVD.

**Picnic Committee** - Tom Rizzo, Pete Conte and Bob Russo, A BIG THANK YOU for a job well done and a thank you to all the other members who just jumped in helped out where needed. A special Thank you to Walter Poppe for coordinating this event between the two clubs. The picnic was held for the second year at the Long Island Live Steamers at South Haven Park on August 20<sup>th</sup>. It looked like everyone had a wonderful time.

**Silent Auction** - Pete Conte, Ernie DeCarolis & Mike Kmeth. We have 5 items today. Good Luck.

**Raffle** - The Station built by Steve Borakowski was won by Rich Bishop at the picnic. Congratulation Rich. Let's all say Thank you and a put our hands together for Steve Borakowski for helping to generate some needed funds for our club.

**Photo contest** - No photos were submitted last month. Please send your railway photos to Louise Sewall. A link to the Photo contest rules is at the bottom of the LIGRS home page.

**Can Tabs** - A thank you from Ronald McDonald House was received by the club and posted in Smoke n' Cinders for our donation of 60 LBS of can tabs Thank you Red Morgan for your involvement. Please remember to keep collecting aluminum can tabs, not steel, for Ronald McDonald house. You can test them with a magnet.

**Modulars** - Tom Rizzo is organizing a repair crew. Please call him for date and time to repair some of the corners. Also a plastic lip will be added to help keep little hands off. Up coming Modular events are Northport VA in November, Cradle of Aviation 2 weeks in December, Freeport and Bethpage both in January. Look for more info to come in Smoke n' Cinders.

**Rail Fest @ Riverhead** was canceled for safety reasons because of the Hurricane. Looks like no new date will be set.

**Steam Town** - Pete Conte was looking into October 22 or 23 for a trip. More info to come.

**National Railway Historical Society** - This site was found by member Steve Borakowski. They were running a bus trip to see trains in the Catskills and offered it also to us non-members. Steve and Pete Conte went on the trip. Steve then spoke about the trip. We will be putting a link to their home web page on our web site and they will put ours on theirs.

**Riverhead** - A fun day was had on Sept 10<sup>th</sup>. The railway was in very good shape after the storms and the trains ran pretty well. Thank you to Roger Bossert, Elizabeth, and Eric for making a great pancake breakfast for us. 50/50 was won by member Ken Strafford. Ken received \$18.00 and the club received \$18.00

**New Business: none**

**Next meeting** - October 16<sup>th</sup>, 11 am @ Walter & Brenda Pepper's house.

Tom Rizzo made a motion to close the meeting seconded by Ernie DeCarolis. Motion approved. Meeting ended @ 12:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karl Wagner

Secretary





This month's featured member, Walter Poppe, owned a standard gauge train set as a child. When he came home from the Service, he discovered that his kind-hearted mom had given them away to the man who came to fix the water pump because "he loved trains."

After Walter married Barbara their first child, David, was born with CP. Walter says that David was non-verbal but had a wonderful disposition. They had gone to FAO Schwartz that year and discovered LGB trains. They bought an engine and a 4 wheel caboose which David loved. He used to hug the caboose while falling asleep. Walter searched for more cars, however Willis Hobbies didn't know what LGB was and the people at Trainland also didn't have a clue because LGB was so new to the US hobby market. He eventually built a layout in the basement. It has 2 tracks that go outside for the East Broadtop coal cars. His outdoor layout has an East Broadtop structure, an Aunt Millie's and 2 bridges, a Pratt Bridge and a girder bridge that both go over the pond. One morning he found himself working on the basement layout at 3am and decided, "This is an obsession! I have a daytime job to do. This is a mental illness!" Then he discovered the Garden Railways magazine and in it saw mentioned the LIGRS and Ray Shelton. He contacted Ray and was invited to an outdoor hosted meeting. He remembers it being in the Fall, and remembers telling folks that it was like an AA meeting saying, "I'm certifiable!" He ended up becoming a member during that first year of the club's existence. He and Barbara really enjoyed the club.

They since have become involved with the Long Island Live Steamers and he is also involved with the O Gauge trolley group. These involvements have proven to be a great idea as they segued into his retirement giving him much enjoyment. (For those unfamiliar with the trolley group, they run on 2 rails and use operating trolley poles.)

Barbara is an engineer at the Live Steamers as many of us discovered during our summer picnic. Walter says he is so lucky that she is supportive of his hobby. She was very involved in the gardening aspect of his outdoor layout, using her gardening skills to augment that layout.

They say it is a great family hobby.

Their second son Noah and his 3 children also love trains. In fact, for every birthday and Christmas, Walter has given him trains. He now has a complete Glacier Express set and a White Pass set. In fact Noah also owns a BOB\* train model that is very unique. Walter plans to remove his outdoor layout and install it at Noah's house. They already have a site in mind and the grandchildren will help, because, until then, they only ran trains around the Christmas tree.

Noah does own a Z gauge set which is built into a gun case. He has brought it to modular exhibits at Freeport and Bethpage. It is designed with an alpine theme and the scenery is continued on the hinged cover of the 4' case. He sets it up on a table, plugs it in, runs it and then folds it up and goes home. The Z layout has a figure 8 track plan which crosses over itself and includes a river. Neat!

Noah also threatens to build a basement layout. (In his spare time)



\* Bayerische Oberlandbahn, or BOB train

## Take A Look!

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Car, scratch built by Bob Russo, was displayed at the October meeting.



## Photo Contest Winner

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This month's winning photo was taken by Mike Kmeth on his Sun Valley Garden Railroad.

# From the Secretary



## LONG ISLAND GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING August 6, 2011

Meeting was held at Ernie DeCarolis' house.

Attendance: President Dan Saporito, Vice President Bob Russo, Recording Secretary Karl Wagner, Membership Director Tom Rizzo, Treasurer Bob Sewall, Program Director Rich McGorty, Directors at Large, Pete Conte, Dave Smith, Mike Kmeth, Ernie DeCarolis

President Dan Saporito asked that the meeting be opened @ 10:30 AM. A motion was made by Tom Rizzo and seconded by Dave Smith.

Dan asked for a motion to forgo the reading and approve the minutes of the March 5, 2010 BOD. A motion was made by Tom Rizzo, seconded by Dave Smith to approve the minutes. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer Report:** Bob Sewall gave the following reports: Third Quarter 4/1/11 thru 6/30/11 the ending balance was \$3,405.60 No action recommended. A motion to accept the report was made by Ernie DeCarolis, second by Bob Russo. Accepted

**Membership Report:** Tom Rizzo: 4 new members so far this year.

### Committee Reports:

**Picnic Committee** So far ticket sales look like 97 Adults and 26 children, 87 club Adult members, 10 Live Steamer Adults. August 20 is the date at the Long Island Live Steamers rain or shine, located at South Haven Park. A donation to the Long Island Live Steamers was discussed. A motion was made to give \$150 by Bob Sewall second by Ernie DeCarolis. Approved. Tom Rizzo will Chair the committee of Bob Russo, Ernie DeCarolis, Pete Conte and Mike Kmeth. LILS secretary John Mehrling 631-751-1814

**Raffle** for the picnic is the building made by member Steve Borakowski. Tickets sold so far about \$150.00

**Rail Fest:** August 27 & 28 the layout needs work. Spruce up date August 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Pumpkin Fest** Yaphank October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> set up September 30<sup>th</sup>. Bob Russo will coordinate.

**Cradle of Aviation** no floor display this year. Tom Rizzo

working on a center display

**Bayard Cutting Arboretum Fall Festival** October 8, 9, & 10 This is an outdoor display. Bob Russo to move trailer from Yaphank, hold at his house then move to Bayard Cutting Arboretum for event.

**Silent Auction:** So far has netted \$155.00 on the first 5 items. Track disposal we will hold off until after ground displays. Ernie DeCarolis will call Ron Gibson about new track. Rich McGorty will call Aristo and USA Trains.

**Publication Committee** - 3 members have commented they are having problems opening the news letter with their Apple computer. 18 are still being mailed. Tom will send Louise Sewall the By-Laws to post on the web page. Louise Sewall to add the club mission statement to the web site.

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary car distribution** - Ernie DeCarolis is handling this. 4 left to distribute plus 6 extras for sale. Tom still has one car from the tenth Anniversary that was paid for. Rich McGorty will hand deliver to that person.

**Module Group:** Tom will ask for volunteers for a date in September to repair the corners and add Plexiglas. Loretta Olenick is working on making new skirts. Modular shows are as follows:

Northport VA - November 19<sup>th</sup> Tom to confirm

Cradle of Aviation Christmas display - set up Dec 19 2PM take down January 2

Freeport - January 8 set up 8 AM take down 4 PM

Bethpage - No info at this time

**Elections** - Ernie DeCarolis to do nominations @ the September meeting, Richie to be Chairperson and do ballots November meeting. Nominations for:

Vice President vice Bob Russo

Treasurer vice Bob Sewall

Membership Director vice Tom Rizzo

2 Director at Large vice Pete Conte & Mike Kmeth

**Christmas party** - Northport Yacht Club Dec 10\* Price to be adjusted as needed.

*(continued on next page) \* Editor note, changed to 12/11*

## From the Secretary continued

**Club Insurance** - NYCON - New York Council of Non Profits Inc. \$60 per year to join. They can assist us in finding a company to write a new policy, a motion by Bob Sewall to join second by Ernie DeCarolis motion passed

### New Business

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** continued Discussion about different trips. Pete Conte to get information on Steam Town for a future trip.

**Thank you letters** were sent out to Essex Clipper Dinner Train for the fun night we all had, and Charlie Ro for the great job on the train cars. Copies of letters put in file.

**Honorary Membership** - A motion to make Charlie Ro an Honorary Member was made by Bob Sewall second by Pete Conte. Motion passed to bring to general membership for a vote at next meeting.

**Members passing** - As a club we do not have a policy (to give a card, gift, flowers or whatever) at this time. Discussion followed. At each passing the president will discuss with the board but as of now it will be up to the President. Further discussion is needed. Dan asked Eileen Wagner to keep receipts for cards and postage as she has been paying this out of pocket.

**Dues review.** Discussion was held. No change needed for the coming year.

Meeting dated:

Jan 22 Northport Yacht club

February 19 Auction Northport Yacht club

March 18\* Northport Yacht club

**Certificates of Appreciation/ Golden Spike Award nominations** - Discussion was held. The names are in a separate record with the secretary.

**Club interest** - suggestions - S Scherer and Sons water garden in Northport, Bob Russo to investigate for guest speaker.

**Photo Contest** - Calendar: A suggestion from Kris and Patrick to put the entire contest winning photos into a calendar. The BOD will look into pricing. Tabled.

**President Dan Saporito** needs to have a set of keys for the PO Box, Trailer and Riverhead.

The next BOD will be held at Northport Yacht Club prior to the January 22 general meeting. Start time for the BOD is 9:30 AM. Richie to check that the room is available.

Rich McGorty and John Sakal to do inventory of the club trailer before the end of the year.

Discussion was held about bring back the Swap n Shop. We will try at the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Tom Rizzo made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Dave Smith. Motion approved.

Meeting ended at 2:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karl Wagner

Secretary



\* Editor note: changed to 3/25

See our distribution policy in the March newsletter or on the home page of [LIGRS.org](http://LIGRS.org)

## Directions to the Monthly Meeting-Sunday, October 16th

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From either the LIE or Sunrise Hwy. Drive South on Nicolls Rd (CR 97). About 1/2 mile South of Sunrise Hwy. turn left on Church Street/Park Avenue.

Make a left on N Prospect Avenue to #107.



### 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 are also accepted.

### 2012 Dues Reminder

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

Individual memberships, the 1st member of a household, are \$30 per year.

Family Memberships for members over 18 years old are \$10 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,

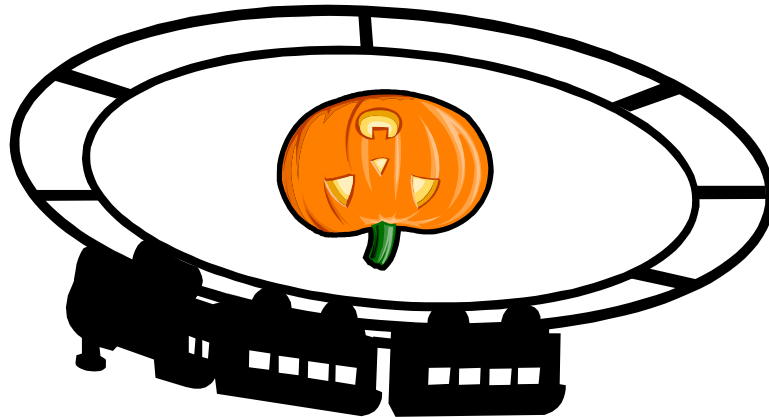


Questions? Contact Tom Rizzo at:

**(631) 470-2217**

**tomjudyriz@optonline.net**

Happy Halloween!



Carve Out Some Good Times!

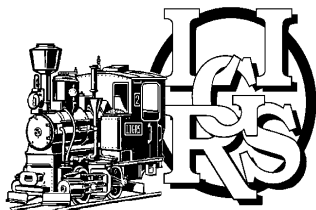
**Advertising Policy**

Advertisement shall in no way be construed as an endorsement of any product, manufacturer, product or reseller by The Long Island Garden Railway Society. 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 and basically reimburses The club Treasury for postage expense. Artwork is The responsibility of The advertiser. 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 advertisers 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.

**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*



Visit us on the web @  
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