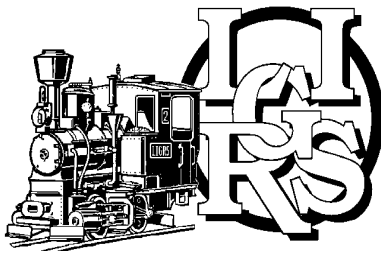


September 2011



Monthly Meeting
Sunday, September 18th
11:00-3:00
Host: Bob & Pat Russo
38 Meroke Lane, East Islip, 11730
631.277.1813

Reminder that our nominations and elections are coming up. The following terms of club positions are expiring:

Vice President, Membership Director, Treasurer, Director-at-large (2)
(See description of responsibilities for each on page 10)

Please consider who you would like to nominate for these positions. Or if you are interested in running for one of the positions, have a member in good standing nominate you.

Nominations will be taken at the September meeting.

Incumbents will not be upset or insulted if you run for the office that they currently occupy.

Pumpkinfest

October 1st & 2nd, 2011 -- 11:00 am-5:00 pm
at the Suffolk County Farm and Education Center
Yaphank, New York
Easy access from the LIE exit 67

Volunteers for set-up Friday Sept. 30th, and then for operating the LIGRS layout and kiddie patrol on the 1st & 2nd are welcome and appreciated.

Sign up at the September Monthly Meeting!

Inside this issue:

From the Cab	3
Organically Speaking	4
Thanks from Ronald McDonald House	6
Member Profiles	7
Proxy Form	8

Special points of interest:

- *Picnic Raffle Winner p 8*
- *Sn'C news p 5*





Smoke N' Cinders, the newsletter of The Long Island Garden Railway Society, Inc. is published approx. 11 times/year. The views & opinions expressed are those of the editor and columnists, and not necessarily those of LIGRS. Material published in *Smoke N' Cinders* may only be reproduced in other garden railway society newsletters and by other such non profit organizations if credit is given both to the author and *Smoke N' Cinders*, and a copy of the publication in which the material was used is mailed the editor of *Smoke N' Cinders* at P.O. Box 2002, No. Massapequa, NY 11758-2002. Otherwise, the use in whole or in part, of material published herein is prohibited and the material remains the property of LIGRS and the author.

Editor
 Louise Sewall
 (516) 541-4837
 louisesevall@verizon.net

Organically Speaking
 Bob Weschler
 (516) 785-1478
 Ebwesch1217@aol.com

Web Master
 Trish Iannacone
 (516) 455-9259
 ohmscrabtree@yahoo.com

President ('11-'12)
 Danny Saporito (631) 587 7282
 danny.saporito@verizon.net

Vice President ('10-'11)
 Bob Russo
 (631) 277-1813
 pokey21@optonline.net

Treasurer ('09-'11)
 Bob Sewall
 (516) 541-4837
 trebor11758@verizon.net

Secretary ('11-'12)
 Karl Wagner (631)-584-6619
 sgauge@optonline.net

Membership Director ('10-'11)
 Tom Rizzo (631) 470-2217
 tomjudyriz@optonline.net

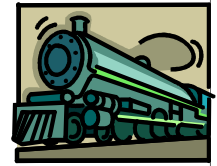
Program Director ('11-'12)
 Rich McGorty (516) 285-4710
 kegrr@verizon.net

Dir.-At-Large ('10-'11)
 Pete Conte 631-821-2975
 peter_conte@yahoo.com

Dir.-At-Large ('11-'12)
 Dave Smith (516) 942-8689
 sunnyfield@aol.com

Dir.-At-Large ('10-'11)
 Mike Kmeth (631) 757-3784
 solarelectric@verizon.net

Dir.-At-Large ('11-'12)
 Ernie DeCarolis (516) 735-6779
 calliope9@juno.com



LIGRS STAFF

Good & Welfare Eileen Wagner (631) 584-6619
Module Coordinator Tom Rizzo (631) 470-2217
Quartermaster John Sakal (631) 724-6998
Video Librarian John Pizzulli (631) 549-8435
Club Merchandise Georgiana Gaherty sgforthill@verizon.net
Coord

Club Contact:

Tom Rizzo, 32 Semon Road, Huntington, NY 11743. Phone: 631.470.2217, tomjudyriz@optnoline.net

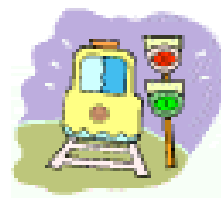
LIGRS Meeting Schedule

Date	Program/Notes	Time	Place
October 1-2, 2011 Set Up September 30th	Pumpkin Fest*	10:00 AM	Suffolk Co. Farm & Education Center, Yaphank
October 8-10, 2011	Ground display	TBA	Bayard Cutting Arboretum
October 16, 2011	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Walter Pepper
November 20, 2011	Monthly Meeting	11:00 AM	Northport Yacht Club
December 11, 2011	Christmas Party	Noon	Northport Yacht Club
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

* For those bringing equipment, the gates will open at 7AM. Deliveries can be made and cars must be moved back to the parking lot by 9:30AM.

See our distribution policy in the March newsletter or on the home page of LIGRS.org

View From the Cab



I hope everyone survived the storm with little to clean up or no damage at all. I was lucky with just a few flickers of power and some tree branches down. Irene blew the roof off the water tower, overturned a box car and deposited a fair amount of debris on the D&P Railway, nothing major. The days of preparation, with the expectation of the damage and 8 day power outage of Hurricane Gloria (1985) were worth the effort. It was a wise decision by the RailRoad Museum of Long Island to cancel Rail Fest. I'm amazed with the weather patterns we're seeing, the winter storms, that very heavy rain the day of our August meeting and Hurricane/Tropical storm Irene. I'm thrilled we had such a great weather day for our Picnic which was a delightful event enjoyed by all who attended. A special thanks to Tom Rizzo, Peter Conte and Robert Russo for a great job, and thanks to everyone who jumped in and helped to make the day a success.

The August meeting was a surprising 22 member turnout in Karl and Eileen Wagner's den. I measured eight and a half inches of rain water in a garbage can at my home that evening. The meeting was informal and information about upcoming plans and events was discussed including a 1st time ground display for LIGRS at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum Fall Festival October 8,9 & 10, Columbus Weekend. The Christmas party was also talked about because we recently found out that Sunday December 11 was an option. Several members shared their thoughts about Sunday being a better day although Saturday was better for some, I spoke with Richie McGorty and with the intention of a possible better attendance the party was moved to Sunday December 11th at noon.

Swap & Shop is planned for the November meeting following the elections. Members will be able to try to sell personal train related items for their asking price. Our Auction will be held at the March meeting, we will not have a February meeting because the Yacht Club will be closed for kitchen renovations.

Modular corner - repairs (September 17th 10am)- If you are available to help please contact Tom Rizzo.

Web page - Membership application and By-Laws are now available on our home page

Since Rail Fest was cancelled I would like to have one more Run Day September 10th at 10:30am (weather permitting) so if you're free come on out.

I hope to see everyone at Bob & Pat Russo's on Sunday September 18th. This is our nomination meeting, please try to attend or print and sign a proxy found in Sn'C and give it to a member attending the meeting. Nominations for the following positions - Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Director, (2) directors at large. Please let a member know if you would like to be nominated and you must accept the nomination in person at the meeting or in writing to the President.

If you have an idea that might benefit LIGRS, please email me. danny.saporito@verizon.net

Dan Saporito





The present part of this column is all about poops, I mean (worm castings). PURE earthworm castings are surely Mother Nature's best-kept growing secret. You only need a small amount in or around your house plants, vegetables and flowers. The miracles of the earthworm are easily seen in the beautiful growth and yields of your plants.

Worm castings are richer in many nutrients than compost produced by other composting methods. It also contains millions of microbes which help breakdown nutrients already in the soil into plant-available forms.

Unlike other compost, worm castings also contain worm mucus which keeps nutrients from washing away with the first watering and holds moisture better than plain soil. Worm castings are an Organic Gardeners aid.

Worm castings benefit the soil by:

Improving its physical structure
Enriching soil in microorganisms
Adding plant hormones such as auxin and cellulose
Attracting deep-burrowing earthworms already present in the soil
Improving water holding capacity
Enhancing germination, plant growth, and crop yield.
Improving root growth and structure.

This section of my column is from an article written by Jessica Damiano, a writer for Newsday titled, "What's in a botanical name? Bleeding Hearts will be blooming soon, but you'd better not call them *Dicentra spectabilis* any more, unless you add "formerly known as" before that moniker. That's because the plant has been officially renamed *Lamprocapnos spectabilis*. The little heart-shaped blooms that seemingly "bleed" white are springtime garden favorites and are unusual in that their foliage dies back to the ground shortly after flowering, opening up the space for summer annuals or perennials. Plus, they thrive in the shade beautifully alongside hostas, ferns, primulas and aquilegias. But why the name change? The genus *Dicentra* has been split, with several of its species moved into the newly created *Lamprocapnos* genus. Other genera have been shaken up as well, including the transfer of *Antirrhinum*, *Digitalis*, *Heber* and *Pensemon* into the plantain family, *Plantaginaceae*.

Why do we even need botanical names anyway when we have plenty of common names for plants and they're easier to pronounce? Because we have so many common names to call plants by.

In different regions of our country and in different

countries of the world different common names are applied to the same plants. Depending upon who you talk to. *Hypericum calycinum* can be called Aaron's beard or St. John's Wort. *Eupatorium colestium* might be referred to as hardy ageratum, mistflower or wild ageratum. To complicate matters, the plant called ironweed in Georgia is completely different from the plant called ironweed in the Midwest (the former is *Sida*; the latter, *Veronica*, which around here is called speedwell). Carolus Linnaeus saw this could be a problem in the 1700s. His claim to fame was breaking down genera into species and devising the modern system for naming plants and animals. He also infamous for having a dirty mind.

Linnaeus was the Swedish botanist, zoologist and physician who wrote "Systema Naturae" and *Fundamenta Botanica*, which set the rules for the classifications and naming of plants in botanical Latin.

Here's the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature system he established and how it was used. You'll find it handy when shopping from your gardening catalogs.

The genus is the first word of a name. It is always capitalized and in italics. It's a noun, naming the plant based on its structure. Often, this is the same as the common name.

Species is the second word in the botanical name. It, too, is always in italics, but lower case. The species is considered the adjective describing the plant. This is where Linnacus earned his off-color reputation. Think about plants labeled *vulgaris*. Pretty racy stuff in those days. Or *Avocado*, named for the Aztec word for testicle, pretty racy stuff even today. *Vainella*, the botanical name for vanilla, which is taken from an orchid pod, means "little vagina". Do orchids remind you of anything? TO BE CONTINUED IN MY NEXT COLUMN.

A LITTLE LANTERN CAN DO WHAT THE GREAT SUN CAN NEVER DO - IT CAN SHINE IN THE NIGHT!
AUTHOR UNKNOWN

FROM THE PLANT MAN.



Sn'C News

After last weeks torrential rains, freight operations were shut down on the "Greenbelt Railway" which runs through Holbrook. The president of GR, John Girolamo, notified the editor at Sn'C that, "At least three feet of track was undermined by cascading waters, washing away ballast and earth. Luckily no one was hurt, but clean up costs may be in the hundreds", MOW road crews had to wait two days before attempting to restore service to the damaged areas, making it safe and passable for the heavily traveled freight mainline. As of Wednesday, crews have only been able to restore a portion of the mainline, as damage was more severe than first antici-

pated. A spokesman for the rail road, VP Denise Girolamo, was quoted as saying, "It's a blessing that it didn't happen earlier. A freight consist carrying tankers loaded with soap detergents passed the area only minutes before. What a bubbly mess that would have been". The rail road should be back in operation by Sunday, with full service by Monday morning.

Submitted by John Girolamo:

Class Offered

What's worse than a passenger car with no passengers? An industry with no workers? A locomotive with no engineer? A layout with no PEOPLE!

If your garden railroad has any of these deficiencies, consider attending the Figure Painting Workshop on Sunday September 18th from 8:30 to 4 pm at the Freeport Recreation Center. Cost is \$75 per person and includes coffee, bagels and lunch. Payment is in cash on the day of the workshop. Participants must bring ALL materials including acrylic paints, brushes, etc. and a ready to paint, in primer, figure. Instruction will be hands on and the use of acrylics in layering figures for realism will be featured.

This workshop is being run by the club who paints historical and diorama types of figure displays and the workshop is designed for beginners, although advanced techniques will be covered as well. There are a limited number of seats and time is short. If you would like to attend call Dave Smith at 516-942-8689 immediately and I will give the LIGRS number of participants to the person organizing the workshop.

Submitted by Dave Smith



The Ronald McDonald House® of Long Island

A home-away-from-home for families of seriously ill children

August 10, 2011

Long Island Garden Railroad Society
Attention: Danny Saporito
104 Sheffield Avenue
West Babylon, NY 11704

Dear Mr. Saporito:

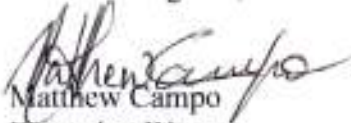
Thank you for your collection of 60 pounds of aluminum tabs in support of The Ronald McDonald House of Long Island. We are truly proud you find our organization deserving of your support.

Assistance from the community is critical to our well-being. Your thoughtful and generous contribution is greatly appreciated and will serve to bring comfort and relief to those who depend on the services that we provide.

For 25 years we have been a home-away-from-home for over 14,000 families of seriously ill children. Knowing that there is food, a warm bed and a helpful hand waiting at the end of a very long day is the best medicine for our families. Knowing their family is nearby is the best medicine for the child.

Your gift will help to reduce one more burden for these overwhelmed families. On behalf of them and their children, who benefit most from your support, thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Warmest Regards,


Matthew Campo
Executive Director

MC: mk

Please Note: No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation.

267-07 76th Avenue, New Hyde Park, NY 11040 • Tel: 718-343-5683 / 516-775-5683 Fax: 718-343-5798

The Ronald McDonald House of Long Island is a 501(c)(3) Not-For-Profit Organization

www.rmhlongisland.org



Member Profiles



Member Charles Sterlin, who has been called the "Imagineer" of the Searingtown Express railway, is so talented. Although he did not have trains as a boy he has a love of trains now.

Tom and Steve designed the basic layout 7 years ago. Charles and Rick have done the rest, for

instance they bought a lot of small plants all in one day. Many buildings are bird houses which Charles has repainted and modified. One was a church and he put in stained glass windows. He took an old wrist watch to make the clock tower. He has done all kinds of clever things. He has also used his wife's beaded jewelry and put them on the trees to simulate fruit.

And all this from a man who thought, "I don't know if I can do this I never have done anything like this before." He just keeps thinking, and trying to do his best. Sometimes he tries and is not happy with the results and so tries again. Although many times that Charles is not satisfied with the result, Rick is very satisfied. He likes to surprise Rick. He begins making things and says, "I will surprise you with it tomorrow." And what charming surprises they are! He puts signs on things and creates little vignettes. He is very artistic, very creative. Charles says it relaxes him. When he works on the layout he loses any worries and things on his mind and just relaxes (a feeling that many members can identify with). Planning about and working with trains makes them happy, "A man needs something to concentrate on and it is a wonderful hobby."

Rick says that in his will he has left the whole railroad to Charles. One of the other club members will move it into his yard when Rick is gone. Rick says, "He loves it so much who else would I give it to?" They are both such very good friends.

The 2 friends became acquainted 12 years ago when Rick lost his wife, and of their 6 kids 4 died. This was a blow to Rick who then suffered a stroke, causing him to become disabled. Yanick, Charles' wife came to assist him and Rick has called her Yanni from the beginning.

Charles and Rick were in the hobby shop one day and saw scale animals. Rick thought that maybe they ought

to do a zoo. Charles created one with cages, the animals and even a photographer. He takes everything in at the end of the season to clean it. Then brings it out again in the Spring.

They are also military history buffs and really work as a team. The layout era is the 30s, 40s and early 50s. They started talking about WWII and Charles is very knowledgeable about it. Rick bought a couple of model tanks, and Charles started laying it out and improving it every year. The vignette is perfectly accurate as far as the tactics used in the Battle of the Bulge near the key town of Bastogne. Charles very cleverly shows the German tanks trying to surround the Americans. Even going so far as to model the planes flying overhead to bring the troops their supplies.

Charles is a great photographer. On the wall in the house are hung 18X20 photos of the railway which he has taken. Rick loves them so much that he had them framed and hangs them by his collection of oil paintings. Charles is truly a very gifted man.

Charles is also very good with electronics. Rick's grand kids call him Uncle Charles and always beg him to run the trains because he runs them better than anyone. He can run all 3 at the same time. Rick says, "I just sit there and take all the credit."

Charles' current project is a tunnel. The layout has a separate line where a diesel engine pulls cattle cars across the sidewalk around the bushes and back over the sidewalk again. He built a concrete portal with actual stone and simulated stone and mortar, lights and everything for when the track returns over the sidewalk.



Rich McGorty is accepting host reservations for the 2012 season.

Picnic Raffle Winner

And the winning ticket number is...

Member Rich Bishop is the lucky winner of the Summer Picnic raffle prize, built and donated by Steve Borakowski.



What is a Proxy and why is it necessary?

In order to conduct official club business such as the nominations for 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 Statement Form — May be used for Sept Mtg Business

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 _____

Monthly Photo Contest Winner (Sine Nomine*)

Your photo could have appeared here. Unfortunately there were no entries for the month of August.

We still have one more outdoor meeting with many photo ops for our photographically talented members. Please share your new or old photos taken at member's layouts. We know you have them at home in your albums, framed on your walls and still in your cameras.

Check out the home page of our LIGRS.org website for clarification of photo contest rules. Remember, the winner receives the coveted prize of 2 free admissions to our annual picnic. This year's was wonderful!

** Latin for "without name"*

New and Used Equipment

LIGRS offers members the opportunity to buy and sell new and used equipment in several venues.

First: The LIGRS Marketplace tab on the club website. Rules for listing your train-related sale items are posted on that tab as well.

Second: Swap and Shop is will be re-instituted at this year's November meeting where members can bring in any items for sale to be displayed at the meeting. They can negotiate directly with potential buyers. There are no fees associated with Swap and Shop for all participants.

Third: LIGRS annual club auction, which will

be held next year at the March meeting instead of the February meeting as the yacht club will be undergoing renovations in February. The club has a 10% commission on all sales.

Fourth: Enter your bids for the club's Silent Auction at each meeting for various rolling stock items displayed.

LIGRS is Looking for a Few Good Members to Share Their Talents - How About You?

Following Descriptions written by Joe DiBenedetto

Office of the Treasurer

Here is an office of the club where the office holder is not up to his elbows in money but in numbers. The treasurer has the responsibility of keeping track of club dues, how and when they come in and in general how they are disbursed efficiently. The treasurer accounts for the proceeds from the sale of clothing and equipment, taking care of expenditures, and reimbursing members for authorized expenses.

Maintaining and reconciling checkbooks and bank statements: One of his duties in this "effort at herding cats" is to report to the membership as to its financial condition. Done with all that, he/she may be assigned other duties as called upon by the president.

Director At Large

The position of Director at Large is something like being a sidewalk superintendent, hopefully poking his nose in and asking, "How's it going"? This way he is able to be a valid liaison between The Board of Directors and the general membership. He is like being the ship's steering committee. Hopefully the ship has a responsive rudder. So the next time you see someone walking around quizzically asking a question or two or three, they're probably seeking membership input concerning the clubs' activities & direction.

Following Descriptions taken from the by-laws

The Vice President replaces the President if he is unable to complete term of office. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall chair monthly meetings of the LIGRS, as well as meetings of the Board of Directors.

Membership Director: The primary responsibility of the Membership Director is the continued recruitment of new members. The Membership Director is the primary contact with prospective members, to determine their interest in LIGRS and its activities, and is responsible for providing new members with membership cards, name tags and a copy of LIGRS roster and By-Laws in accordance with the LIGRS Publication Distribution Policy. The Membership Director is also responsible for issuing membership cards to dues paying mem-

bers on an annual basis. The Membership Director is responsible for all membership records, including change of information. These records are to be kept current and in good order at all times, and are to be available for review. The Membership Director is responsible for collecting all dues. The Membership Director is also responsible for: maintaining a current membership roster, the annual distribution of that roster to the membership in accordance with the LIGRS Publication Distribution Policy, maintaining and distributing sign in sheets for monthly meetings, developing and maintaining records of attendance at monthly meetings, distributing the LIGRS newsletter in accordance with the LIGRS Publication Distribution Policy, and other duties as assigned by the President.

2011 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 is \$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



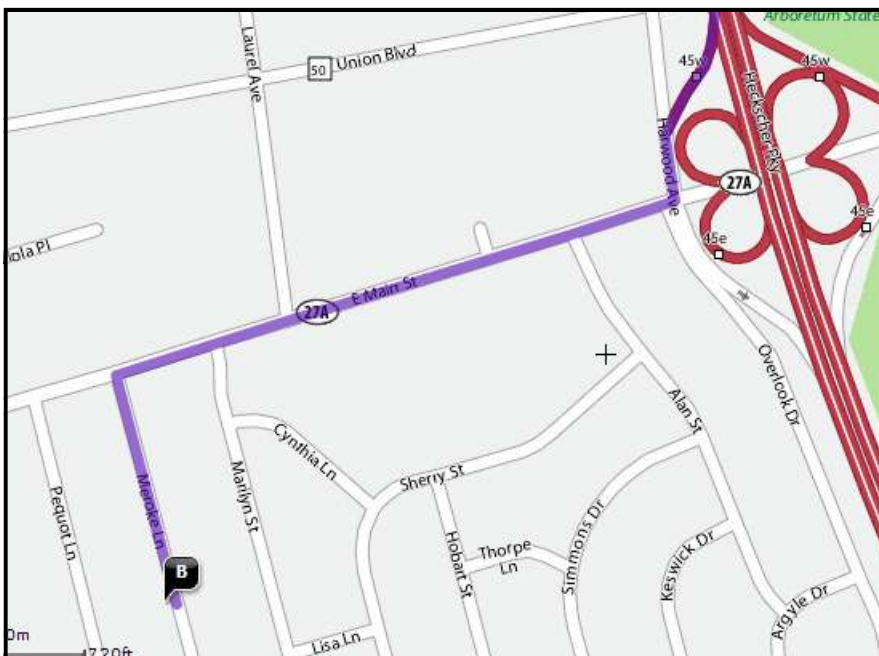
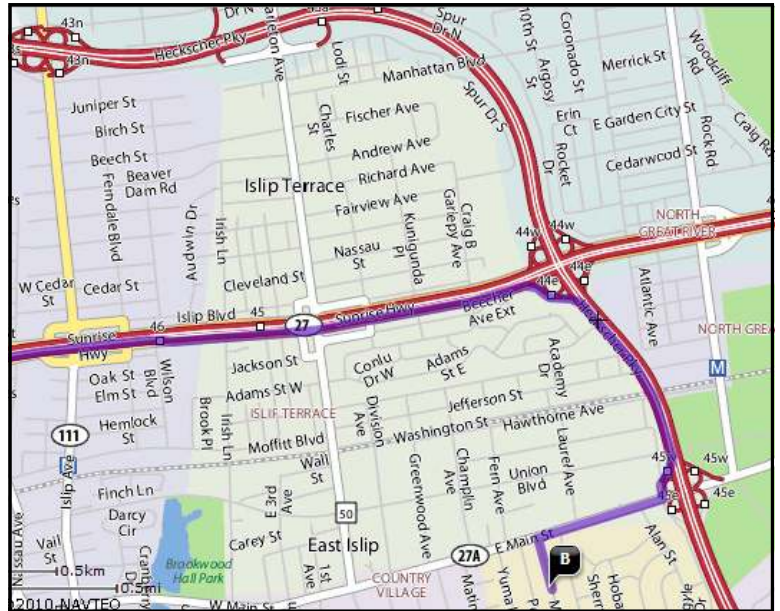
Directions to MONTHLY MEETING
Sunday, September 18th
11:00-3:00
Host: Bob & Pat Russo
38 Meroke Lane, East Islip, 11730
631.277.1813

1. From the Sunrise Hwy service road take ramp onto **HECKSCHER PKY E** toward **HECKSCHER PARKWAY SOUTH/HECKSCHER PARK** - go **0.81.2 mik**
2. Take exit **#45W/EAST ISLIP (RT-27A W)** onto **HARWOOD AVE** - go **0.10.2 mikm**
3. Turn Right on **E MAIN ST(RT-27A)** - go **0.40.7 mi**
4. Turn Left on **MEROKE LN** - go **0.20.3 mikm**

Arrive at **38 MEROKE LN, EAST ISLIP**, on the Right

From the Expressway or Northern State Parkway take Saktikos Pkwy South. Then...

From Saktikos take exit 41a Hechscher Parkway South and follow above instructions.





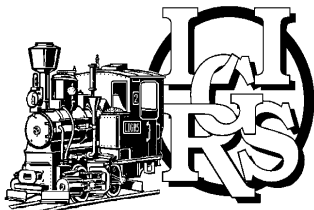
"I cannot endure to waste anything as precious as autumn sunshine by staying in the house. So I spend almost all the daylight hours in the open air."
- Nathaniel Hawthorne



**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***



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.