



Southern Tier Garden Railway Society

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STGRS Calendar:

AT AGLANCE SECTION:

Saturday, June 4th: Mike Ledley's Open House in Duanesburg, NY

Saturday, July 23rd: The Miller's Open House in Corning, NY

Sunday, August 28: Charles and Iris Breiner's Open House in Claryville, NY

AND NOW FOR THE BEEF:

Saturday, June 4th: Mike Ledley will be hosting his first of the year open house. He has quite an extensive layout and it is worth the trip if possible. The event will start at noon and run until....

There will be a potluck lunch at 1PM so please bring a dish to pass. You are also welcome to bring your trains to run but, do not bring any live steam. The rain date will be on Sunday. You can contact Mike for more info at 518-895-2926 or pmjrr@princetowncable.net

Saturday, July 23rd: Cliff and Pauline Miller will be hosting an open house at their home in Corning, NY. I do not have any other info at this time but please set the date aside for this event. You can contact Cliff at trainman2004@msn.com if you need anything before the next newsletter.

Sunday, August 28th: The Breiners will be hosting an open house in Claryville, NY on county route 19. They have an elevated railroad and feature the New York, Ontario & Western Railway, The Claryville Branch. They have done a lot of work on this layout and it is also a nice drive in the country. It will start at 12:30 and run until done. There is also a luncheon and they would like you to RSVP by Sunday, August 22nd. You can contact them at 845-985-2846 or cbreiner@aol.com

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The East Coast Large Scale Train Show

Gail and I had a good time at the show. We decided to arrive a little late so there would be no line to stand in and we could just walk in. No way! We still stood in line. The show was very nice and I only needed a couple pieces of track but ended up buying a few more things. It wasn't as busy as last year but I thought the deals were better. We missed having Yogi and his wife at the show due to illness. Gail was disappointed with only two plant vendors, but she still managed to load the car with plants. Later in the evening we met up with Charles and Iris Breiner at Ruby Tuesday's for dinner. We had a enjoyable time dining, chatting and talking about the show.

TRAINS, TRACKS AND MORE FOR SALE by Lee Spadine

A current member, Lee Spadine, is moving and has to sell his entire layout,. From looking at the prices, it looks like there are quite a few good deals. Please contact him for the items you are interested in.

Entire layout for sale, includes trains, track, buildings, etc. Trains include (many in original box):

- LGB #20252 Lake George Steam Locomotive \$175
- LGB #69206 Two Axle Motorized Coal Car \$ 75
- LGB #4090 Route of the Beavers Box Car-Pink \$65
- LGB #2001 Motorized Track Inspection Car \$ 40
- LGB #3530 Service Ladder/Platform Car \$ 35
- LGB #4050 Construction Rail Car \$ 25
- LGB #31430 Passenger Car \$ 40
- LGB #23401 Train Starter Kit \$110
- LGB #42911 Coca Cola Car \$ 45
- LGB #4065 Lake George Caboose \$ 70
- Bachmann #98173 Stock Car \$ 20
- Aristo Craft #41206 Covered Hopper Car \$ 25
- Aristo Craft #46209 Susquehanna Box Car \$ 50
- Thomas the Tank Engine – Engine and Cars \$ 65

More, More, More.....

LGB Track – Straight (Various lengths, Curves, etc.)

For more information call Lee at 607-687-4691 or e-mail to lspadine@stny.rr.com

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THE GREEN SPOT: by Gail Gunsalus

It looks like spring is early, and it's gonna be a wet one. We have a shallow, temporary lake in the back yard which is attracting all the local wild life. This morning a deer family of 6 gathered for drinks before heading into the woods. All types of birds are wandering around and through the water

hunting bugs and taking baths. My flicker pair has returned to use it also.

It is now time to think about getting the garden railroad up and running. With all this rain the mini trees are sprouting new growth which will need trimming. Mine need a good haircut. I also have some new ones from the show to plant.

Along with the rain come the weeds and the ongoing fight to eradicate them. The trick is to start weeding before the humid weather comes. Then you can do an occasional weed spray and then sit back and enjoy your railroad garden and running of the trains.

Tulips are a great addition to your layout. Wait until fall and plant them for the next and following years. The bulbs are easy to insert into small places with a minimum amount of work. Get yourself a flat head screw driver and use it to make 6 to 8" deep holes. Circle it to enlarge the width. Drop in a bulb root end down, pack down the dirt and you're all done. Bright colors will pop up all over your layout.

Tulip foliage will disappear by midsummer. Meanwhile you should leave the leaves to grow for awhile to draw in nourishment. After a time you can cut the leaves to about 4" and allow them to dry up.

Other plants can be planted with or around the bulb area to provide more foliage or interest.

Tulips come in so many colors and different heights. Some have grass like foliage. Unfortunately the bulbs may need to be divided eventually, and the blooms may become salad for the local wild life such as deer and squirrels. So far the chipmunks haven't shown any interest in tulip bulbs. However, they wait for my crocus leaves to turn brown and dig up the bulbs and either eat them or rebury them all over the property.

You can find a variety of bulbs on line or in plant catalogues. Local bulbs on sale tend to be the tall

type, but all types can be found on line or in plant catalogues. Plant and enjoy a variety in your garden layout next spring.

We Want to Know:

This is the latest compilation for all current members and one non member. I thank Ray Taylor and Joan Spadine for helping to make my job easier. They got this list started and I had a few blanks to fill in. If there is an error or you have a joining date, please pass it on to me and I will add or fix it. We currently have 32 paying members. Thanks for your support.

- 1991 Boots and John Gordon
Bill and Pat Campbell and Jan/Feb 11
Larry Turner
Joan Spadine
- 1992 Margaret Bryant Jan /Feb
Bob and Sheri Conant March/April
- 1993 Lee Spadine Jan/Feb
Mae Davis
- 1994 Joe and Dawn Van Duesen
- 1996 Mike Ledley Sept/Oct
- 1996 Ray & Elma Taylor Nov/Dec
- 1997 George and Nancy Hausser
John and Cindy Skibitzki Jan/Feb
Dick and Carolyn Webster May/June
- 1998 Wil & Laura Decker Jan/Feb
Jack Castner Nov/Dec
Jim & Gail Gunsalus Nov/Dec
- 1999 George and Gloria Allen and Mar/April 11
John & Jane Conklin Nov/Dec
- 1999 Frank & Donna Moorhead Nov/Dec
- 2000 Dave & Sandy Campbell Sept/Oct
- 2001 Mel and Teody Ogden Jan/Feb
- 2002 Al & Louis Zubal Jan/Feb
Cliff and Pauline Miller Sept/Oct
- 2003 Jack and Lynnda Hochmuth Jan/Feb
- 2004 Laura Zakrajsek Jan/Feb
- 2005 Jim and Dianne Brezney May/June
- 2006 Charles and Iris Breiner April/May
- 2008 Clifford and Beverly Hogg Jan/Feb

- Dick and Kay Moore
- Ricky Webster Sept/Oct
- 2009 Herman and Angelica Beals Jan/Feb
- 2010 Lori and Noah Henehan Jan/Feb

When I Joined by Bob Conant

I am not a dues paying member anymore but Ray Taylor sends me the electronic Loco News via email. Maybe a few members still remember my wife, Cheri, and me.

I had retired in February, 1992, but Cheri was still working. The STGRS had a booth at the April, 1992, Home and Garden Show at the Armory in Binghamton. I had been a small scale model railroader and had seen a few large scale trains in shop windows and was intrigued by their size and details. The Home Show display consisted of (I think) two loops of track and a large number of potted plants supplied by one of the local garden shops (Riverside Gardens maybe?). I stood and watched the trains for the longest time and was soon approached by Annetta Turner and John Gordon. They had a large, looseleaf notebook filled with pictures of various member's garden layouts. I think I spent an hour with Annetta and John and was so impressed by their enthusiasm that I signed up on the spot! I soon started receiving the newsletter sent out by John (I don't think it was called Loco News yet) and that summer we began going to the open houses. My memory is failing me but I remember attending Dan Long's meet in Berwick, PA, along with several others. We met at Tom and Raejean James' in Johnson City who had a layout connecting to Hall's next door. Ron Brown was a member at that time and had an open house. He hadn't yet started Steam In The Garden Magazine.

Since then, we have built 3 garden railroads, one in Endicott, NY and two here in Florida. Our current one is a "shelf" type layout alongside our driveway in Bradenton, FL. I am just starting to work on a bit of scenery and will send some pictures later on if anyone is interested.

I noted in the Loco News that the Campbells had rejoined the club. I still have one of Bill's windup Marx locos that he used to convert to G scale track for running locomotive races. Anyone remember that?

Best wishes to all our old friends in the STGRS. We miss you all. Come see us if you are in the area.

Bob and Cheri Conant
Full time in Bradenton, FL

Latest Project by Max Whipple

This is my latest car I built. A molasses car! The car was a cheap hopper car I had laying around. I changed the trucks and put metal wheels on it. I can't stand plastic wheels. I also changed the couplers to Kadee 1831's. I use Kadee 1831's on all of my rolling stock even on my live steam engine. I repainted some of the simulated wood from black to brown. The molasses keg is a plastic Metamucil can with wood molding strips cut and glued fast and a quick coat of varnish. I used rub-on letters and popsicle sticks for the "MOLASSES" sign. I had some extra ladder rungs so I mounted them on both sides. The cradle is made from scrape wood. The chain from a local hardware store, and the rest is imagination. I added the chimp to excite the kids and give them something to smile at (and some adults also). It was a small project, and maybe not to scale, but it is fun to build these kinds of cars. Here in Pennsylvania there is a lot of maple syrup made. I believe that would apply to New York state also and this car could just as well be labeled maple syrup. That would be a lot of maple syrup!

Dues:

Three of you still owe dues and I will be contacting you shortly. Please watch for an email.

Website Information:

Thanks Ray Taylor for keeping the website going.
<http://www.ray-taylor.com/stgrs/party2011.html>

End of the Line:

That's it for this edition. I will be doing the next newsletter at the end of June so get me your articles ASAP. The deadline will be June 19th. Once again, it was great to get some articles to put in this newsletter. Remember, it is your newsletter, so keep sending me info. THANKS!!!

