



## Southern Tier Garden Railway Society

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### STGRS Calendar:

#### **At a glance section:**

**Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>:** Garden tour including Mike Ledley's layout in Duaneburg, NY.

**Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>:** National Model RR Convention from Hartford, Conn. at Mike Ledley's home in Duaneburg, NY.

**Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>:** Open house at Ray and Elma Taylors in Bainbridge, NY.

**Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Open house at the Breiners in Claryville, NY.

**Friday and Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>:**  
The second ECLSTS in York, PA.

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#### **AND NOW FOR THE BEEF:**

**Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>:** Mike's layout will be part of a garden tour in his area that will be a fund raiser for the Soropimist's, a women betterment organization. This is a multi garden tour that runs from 10AM til 4PM (rain or shine) but, his is the only garden railroad. There is a cost of \$12 for tickets for the tour. Mike's layout has had pictures and articles written about it in newspapers and magazines. It is a great layout to visit! For more info you can contact Mike at 518-895-2926 or [PMJRR@princetowncable.com](mailto:PMJRR@princetowncable.com)

**Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>:** This open house at Mike Ledley's will be part of a drive yourself tour by the National Model RR Convention of Hartford, Conn. There is no cost to visit this event and the hours are from 10AM to 4PM and also rain or shine. Let's hope for the shine part. There will be no food at either event.

**Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>:** The Taylors will be hosting an open house at their home in Bainbridge, NY. They feature the "East Guilford Railway" which sits under a tree in the back yard. The open house will run from Noon till ????. A rain date has been set for Sunday, the 26<sup>th</sup>. They will supply meat, drinks and table service. You can bring trains to run, a dish to pass, and your lawn chairs. Ray and Elma will have been to the National GRC and will have lots of info to tell us. Please RSVP by calling 607-563-2083 or [retaylor@stny.rr.com](mailto:retaylor@stny.rr.com).

**Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Charles and Iris Breiner will be hosting an open house in Claryville, NY starting at 12:30 PM. Please bring a dish to pass, a train to run and lawn chairs. Please RSVP by August 17<sup>th</sup> at 845-985-2846 or [cbreiner@aol.com](mailto:cbreiner@aol.com). They will give you directions if needed and inform you of anything else you may need to bring. They will have returned home from the National GRC and will also have a lot to share about this trip. They will be taking the cog railroad up Pike's peak and then the train through Royal Gorge, riding the Georgetown

Loop Railroad, taking a mine tour and a ride through the Rocky Mountains and the Moffett Tunnel.

The Taylors and the Breiners will be visiting the garden railroads in the Rockies and knowing Ray and Iris, there will be lots of pictures to be viewed at these open houses. We may even get some stories for the newsletter?!

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**THE GREEN SPOT:** by Gail Gunsalus

Bright splashes of pink and purple catch my eye as I glance around my flower beds. Nestled under a tree, beside the ponds, and gracing many corners of my flower gardens are a variety of geraniums known as the cranesbills. These are not the annual geranium many people are familiar with but a perennial which can range from 6 inches to 5 feet. I only grow the smaller varieties which fit nicely into a railroad garden in the many nooks and crannies available. These little mounding beauties have a variety of green, hairy, lobe shaped leaves. Some of these leaves will turn bronze as the season progresses. The delicate blooms of pink, purple, blue, white, violet, and a pink-white are five petaled. My flower blooms are as tiny as a 1/8” across, and the largest flowers I have are 1” across. Some of the petals have darker veining, very striking, and many have centers a darker or lighter sunburst shape color.

The cranesbills that I have tend to grow in a mounding shape, even the larger ones. The cranesbills tend to seed readily. These seedlings are easy to remove or transplant. Plants should be trimmed back after blooming. I cut them back about 1/2 and enjoy the greenery. The cranesbill will grow in sun to semi-shade, but some of mine grow in a deeper shade and do very well. My plant book also says these plants like a rich humus soil, but mine tend to pop up in every soil available. They bloom in late spring or summer.

I wondered why the plants are called cranesbill and researched this in my plant book. It said they are so named for the fruits, or seed pods, which resemble a crane’s beak. Now I will have to look at the seed pods and check this out.

These little beauties will come back year after year and grow in any pockets, corners, or open spaces of your railroad. The cranesbill will provide bright splashes of color and interest. These are one of my favorite plants.

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**Publications For Sale:**

The Ontario & Western Railway Historical Society is a non-profit educational corporation devoted to preserving the heritage of the NYO&W Railway and other area railroads. The NYO&W’s history is preserved in the Archives Center in Middletown, NY. They maintain thousands of drawings, maps, diagrams, photos and many more documents from the earliest days in the 1860’s through and after its abandonment in 1957.

A new series of auto tour guides by Society members Charles Breiner(a club member) and William E. Scott cover each station in detail with many maps and photos. The Southern Division of Cornwall to Liberty(98 pgs), the Monticello, Port Jervis & Kingston Division(90 pgs)and the Liberty to Sidney and the Delhi Branch(134 pgs) are available for \$15.00 each.

The Scranton Division(136pgs) and the Northern Division, Sidney to Munnsville New Berlin & Pecksport Loop are available for \$20.00 each.

They have a lot of other publications and memorabilia for purchase at very reasonable prices. You can contact Charles Breiner. Please see open house section for info. Also, O&WR Historical Society , P.O. Box 713, Middletown, NY 10940.

**Items For Sale:**

Two new USA trains, "PA'S" - \$180 each, new, test run only...Erie Lackawanna & Leigh Valley. Buyer to pay postage, not included. Please contact Mike Ledley at [pmjrr@princetowncable.com](mailto:pmjrr@princetowncable.com) or call 518-895-2926. Trainworld has them at \$219 + tax. I am not sure if these are still available. Contact Mike if interested.

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**The Loyalsock Rock and Grain Gailroad:**  
submitted Ray Taylor

Ground was broken for the Loyalsock Rock and Grain Railroad (LR&G ) on June 19, 1999. Max Whipple is the engineer and Louise Whipple (wife) is the conductor and you know who is in charge of the train! We both take an active part in the LR&G. On December 22, 2000, we were one of eight model railroads in North Eastern Pennsylvania featured on WVIA-TV (PBS out of Scranton/Wilkes Barre). Since Louise takes an active part in our railroad, she was the only lady to be included on the show. The track is approximately 300 feet including sidings, just big enough to have fun with and not be burdensome. It is fully wired so that when electric and live steam. I have converted some of my engines to run on battery or track power. I make a lot of our people out of clay, bake them and paint them. We do not like to see empty railroad cars, so most our cars are loaded. Railroads do not make money when they pull empty cars. We are not collectors so we weather most of our cars and engines to make them look like working rolling stock. We run our trains anytime expect in the rain and on real hot humid days. The engineer gets a little cranky on hot humid days, been thinking about pulling up stakes and moving to Watertown, NY. Ha! We did live in the Syracuse area from 1963 to 1967.

Our railroad is named the Loyalsock Rock & Grain because we live in Loyalsock Township, we both like rocks, and we at one time loaded our hoppers with grain (birdseed). We did that until the

squirrels thought that was a very good thing when we broke for lunch. They then also had lunch out of the hoppers.



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More pictures will be online for your viewing.

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**The end of the line:** Summer is almost here and that leaves lots of time for gatherings. As mentioned before, you can have an open house with or without a layout. Fall is also an ideal time for an open house. Look at your calendar, pick a date and let me know the specifics, and I will get it in the newsletter.

You can also sell, ask questions, desire to buy something Gscale related or whatever. This is your newsletter.

Have you visited our website lately? Ray Taylor does a great job with this. It is located at: [www.geocities.com/stgrs](http://www.geocities.com/stgrs)

The deadline for the next newsletter will be July 31<sup>st</sup>. Have a great summer and hope to see you soon.