



**Southern Tier Garden Railway Society**

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**STGRS Calendar:**

**At a glance section:**

**Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>:** NYC Botanical Garden's Holiday Christmas Train Show

**Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011:** The annual STGRS After Christmas/Anniversary Party in Binghamton, NY

**AND NOW FOR THE BEEF:**

**Thursday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup>:**The NYC Botanical Gardens in NYC is holding their Holiday Christmas Train Show, which feature an exhibit where LGB trains run through the Garden. I think you can see some pictures on our website. Contact tour coordinator, Darla Race, either by phone 607-843-5965, or by email [racedj@hotmail.com](mailto:racedj@hotmail.com) Tell Darla you want the Botanical Garden Tour. The cost of the trip will be \$90. It sounds like a fun trip and a great show. Darla is still trying to see if she can get enough people to fill the bus. Please let her know right away. She is offering a great price but interest must be shown or the trip will have to be canceled.

**Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011:** The Annual STGRS After Christmas/Anniversary Party will be held at the Park Diner on Conklin Ave in Binghamton, NY. You will be ordering off the menu and be given individual checks. We plan on having a good time with some door prizes, great

conversation, running of the train and of course Elma Taylor's cake. I have not heard if she is making one yet, so plan on joining us that day to see if she does. Read the attached flyer for more info. You will want to get your reservation in to Donna Moorhead early. It will be an enjoyable time together.

**Any Event:** Keep your eyes and ears open for any event we can set our lay out up at. I checked again on the Roberson website and saw nothing about their train show. I hope we can find something so, be alert. The Christmas Train should be coming to Binghamton but, but I'm not sure when.

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**THE GREEN SPOT:** by Gail Gunsalus

The growing season is gone again, and I think I missed the fall season. Clean-up will have to be in the spring as will the pruning. I did however manage to dig up my skeleton tree and pot it to bring inside for the winter where it may survive. I found this tree at the York, Pennsylvania train show and decided it was worth the effort needed to keep it alive. A little pruning will make it a bonsai and I can put it outside in the spring.

The York show was the only one we attended this year because of work constraints for both of us.

Part time work has turned into full time for me for the time being, as we have been short handed. I did manage to rework some of my railroad plants and split some into more. I would like to rescape some of the scenery next year. I have a few tiny hostas started from seed this spring. They are still very tiny and seem to be growing really slow. I put all of them in one pot to winter over inside. In the spring I will pot them into individual pots.

I was surprised at how easy the hosta seeds sprouted. An article I read on growing them said they tend to dampen off and don't produce true to species, but they seemed to sprout very well. All of the seeds I prorogated, I harvested in the fall from my own seed pods. I have quite a few hosta plants, but chose seeds from only a few. What a great way to save \$7.00. In the catalogues they sell for double that.

The yearly fish round-up went well and just in time for the cold weather to set in. They are safe in the basement. We were so excited. This year we have our very own baby Koi (2) if they survive. Babies are tougher to survive and it took so long to have any. Our adult (must be female) is about 8 or 9 years old. We were told that Koi only produce babies after 6 years of age. We learned that a true baby Koi has whiskers like the adult. Some babies are just plain old mixed goldfish and resemble Koi. The frog herding was later because a cold frog is easier to catch. We don't want them to croak, get it? Croak!

Our repairs will have to begin in the spring unless we can bring houses inside during the winter. We can work on them one at a time until done. Now, they are safely stored which minimizes the damage. We had a bit of damage when a mini tornado? blew through the area behind our house tossing railroad houses, tearing off the back garage roof and spreading neighbor's garbage, cans and recyclables all over our yard from two streets away. We never did find owners for some bins and cans. It also rearranged the items inside our screen house, shifting them to one side of the enclosure.

We missed your open houses this year and regret seeing all of you, however I did see some of you when you dropped in at Sam's. I hope everyone will have wonderful holidays and maybe we can get to more activities next year.

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### **Dues Time:**

The dues will be \$5 again this year and please send them to me at the address on the top of the newsletter. Make the check out to me, *James Gunsalus* and not the club. The bank will not cash them if you do, and I will have to return your check. Thanks. If you get a paper newsletter you can see when your membership expires. The rest of you probably know. You can contact me or I will contact you as the end draws near.

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### **Website Information:**

Thanks Ray Taylor for keeping the website going. I know there are postings for some of the events that happened over the summer. Take a look! You can see photos from other club members, older newsletters or just look around The address is <http://www.ray-taylor.com/stgrs/>

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**End of the Line:** This year has truly flown by for me and it is time to bring in some of the train stuff for the winter. I need to do a lot of repairs and will try to get that accomplished in the up coming months. With everything that went on this year, trains were the last item on my mind. Gail did a good job with the trees and the weeding. This kept the area at least looking good. The deadline for the next newsletter will be December 19<sup>th</sup>. It is time to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**STGRS After Christmas  
Christmas / Anniversary Party  
Saturday, Feb. 5th, 2011 2-5 PM  
Eat at 2:30 PM**



**Park Dinner  
119 Conklin Ave.  
Binghamton, NY**



**NOTE : We will be ordering from the menu and be given individual checks.**

**Reservations must be in by January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**For more information, call Donna Moorhead at 607-656-8325 or Elma Taylor at 607-563-2083. In case you have to cancel your reservations, please call by 10:00 am that morning so we don't worry about you. You may also reserve by email to:**

**Donna - [Fmoorhead@stny.rr.com](mailto:Fmoorhead@stny.rr.com)**

**Elma - [emtaylor@stny.rr.com](mailto:emtaylor@stny.rr.com)**



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**Send to: Donna Moorhead - 29 Juliand St., Greene NY 13778**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Number of reservations: \_\_\_\_\_**

***Please return by January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you!***