



**Southern Tier Garden Railway Society**

**James Gunsalus**

1630 King Street

Vestal, NY 13850

(607) 748-7908

[jgunsalus@stny.rr.com](mailto:jgunsalus@stny.rr.com)

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**STGRS Calendar:**

**At a glance section:**

**Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>:** The Central NY Large Scale Railway Society is having a Family Train Day at Burdick Drivers Village, in Cicero, NY.

**Saturday and Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>:** The Great NYS Model Train Fair at the NY State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, NY.

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**AND NOW FOR THE BEEF:**

**Saturday and Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>:**

This is a large show in usually 2 buildings that can be a hit or miss when it comes to G- Scale. I just like to go and look around and see what bargains I can come up with. I like to look in the boxes on the floor as well as the items on the tables.

Euro-East 2009 is a train show/sale for those interested in European railways. They will be the guests of the Great New York Train Show. This sounds like an interesting display even if you have no interest in the European railways. It may spark new ideas that you can incorporate into your layout. Besides, who says you can only have one layout or even style in you garden railroad.

The event will run from 10 to 5 each day and the cost is \$8 for adults, \$12 for the 2 day pass, and \$6 for seniors and children from 3-13. There will be 100+ exhibitors and 30+ operating layouts. You can also take a train ride on the Finger Lakes Scenic Railway. For more info about this day you can go to [www.modeltrainfair.com](http://www.modeltrainfair.com)

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**Open House at the Breiner's**

Charles and Iris open house was held on Sunday, August 23. There was a light shower in the morning but then it gradually cleared. Eddie Bailey came at 10:00 AM and worked with Charlie cleaning the track and setting out the trains to be run. Our guests started to arrive at 12:30 PM. Ray and Elma Taylor were the first to arrive followed by Pat McCarty and two other gentlemen from the Hudson Valley Garden Railroad Society. They were followed by Margaret Bryant and David, Etty and Lee Geyra. Guests were presented with a souvenir book and pass to our Railroad.

We started out running a passenger train pulled by #405. We broke for luncheon in the Breiner's Beer Garten where the chef served expertly prepared London broil, corn on the cob and a variety salads and side dishes brought by the guests. After lunch a heavy freight ran behind #405 followed by a light

freight behind #253 that ran over the new branch line over the bridge by the two waterfalls. By this time it was late afternoon our guests departed for home after having enjoyed the trains, luncheon and fellowship.

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**THE GREEN SPOT:** by Gail Gunsalus

To say the least, we've had an unusual year so far. The seasons haven't been the norm, maybe they won't again. I missed summer and fall is here and gone? Where are the brilliant colors we were predicted? I'm still waiting for a warm fall day to clean up outside, it makes working more enjoyable. Maybe the cold will kill the tiny flies that are still with us. I think they put on their winter coats.

However, this year has been great for fish babies. I am finding half grown teenagers that I didn't know existed in my ponds. This year we had our first butterfly koi baby join the adults, and he has now joined his parents in the basement tank!! Our large koi is about 6+ years old and we never had youngsters before. I have close to 40 fish and need to find a home for the large koi as he is outgrowing his home. Any takers without herons that frequent their pond? A fake statue of a heron has worked for us so far.

This year I tried a new plant in my garden/railroad. It is a Repens gypsophilia or a mini, creeping babies breath. This little beauty is a small version of the 36" gypsophilia which grow well for me. Repens is a 6" high, dainty, airy plant with grey green leaves and tiny delicate pink flowers which spreads out to 24" wide. It is perfect for a small area in the railroad garden where it can be contained by trimming it back or allowing it to trail over a rock or down a rock wall.

Other varieties such as gypsophilia cerastoides come in white, pink and shades of lilac. The plant blooms from late spring to late fall and prefers a gravelly or sandy soil that is well drained. You can

easily amend the soil in a small area to suit its' growing habit in the railroad garden. The growing instructions call for full sun, but mine gets some afternoon and morning shade and do quite well. Now to see how it winters over. This tiny plant really is worth growing in your railroad garden and it will provide long lasting blooms for color.

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**Welcome!**

We are pleased to **welcome** into our club Rich and Carol Michalski who live in Walton. They have a garden layout but have not named it yet. I believe that some of you have already met you and the rest look forward to getting acquainted with you soon.

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**Golden Opportunity:**

This is only in the planning stages but we have a possible opportunity to set up a display at the NY State Fair in August. Margaret Bryant is looking into our group, the Central NY group and the Finger Lakes steam group, setting up an exhibit in the Horticulture Building. What a tie in; flowers, plants and trains!! We would receive passes and parking so that we would be able to run the exhibit. We would need volunteers to make this happen. What do you think? Please let Margaret or myself know your thoughts. I think it would be a great chance to showcase our hobby.

**End of the Line:**

This summer has truly flown by and it is getting cold fast. It is time to be sure the items that need to come in are taken care of. This is the first year that I was unable to make any open house and I am sorry about that. I hope your summer went well! The deadline for the next newsletter will be November 29<sup>th</sup>. Have a happy Thanksgiving and Gail and I hope to see you soon.