



### What is Division 5 – The Western Reserve Division?

Division 5 is part of the National Model Railroad Association. Our nickname is The Western Reserve Division. The NMRA is divided into geographic Regions and the Regions are divided into Divisions. Division 5 is part of the Mid Central Region. Members of the NMRA that live in the counties of Ashtabula, Geauga, and Lake in Ohio are automatically members of Division 5. You must be a member of the NMRA to be a member of Division 5, but everyone is more than welcome to attend our meetings.

### Goals

Promote the hobby of model railroading, promote fellowship among NMRA members, provide a common meeting ground for social activities, and to engage in any and all activities that will enhance the hobby of model railroading.

### Meetings

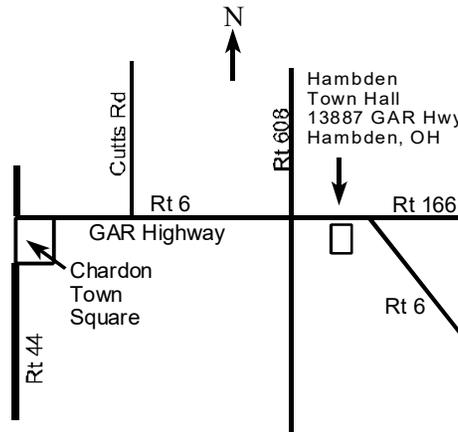
Division 5 meetings are on the first Friday of most months at 7:30 pm. The majority of our meetings are held at the Hambden Township Hall, 13887 GAR Highway (Rt. 6), Chardon, Ohio (see the map below). This facility is handicapped accessible and non-smoking. We do occasionally have a meeting at some other special location. It is best to check the website or with one of the Division officers about where the next meeting will be held. The meeting starts with announcements and general business items. We then have a Bring & Brag time where members talk about railroad related items they have brought to the meeting to show. We then break for refreshments, a raffle, and take time to look at the Bring & Brag items. The next event for the evening is a model railroading related program that may be a clinic on how to perform some modeling technique, a slide show, a guest speaker, or the viewing of a train related video. The meeting is usually over between 9:30 and 10:00 p.m.

### Newsletter

Our newsletter is called *The Trainwire*. It is published monthly. Non-members may purchase a paper subscription for \$12 a year or get it electronically for free from our website at <https://www.mcr5.org/news.php>. Contact the editor at [Trainwire@mcr5.org](mailto:Trainwire@mcr5.org).

### What is Railfest?

Railfest is Division 5's signature event for the year. Since it was started in 1982, it has grown into one of the best and largest train shows in the area. Emphasis is placed on making this a family activity. Not only are there a large number of model railroad dealers, but also there are many operating model railroad displays. Railfest is held every year in March at Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, Ohio. The date is typically the third weekend of March, but it depends on the college's schedule.



Map to Hambden Town Hall

**Model Railroading is fun!**  
**Come and join us!**  
**Visitors Always Welcome!**

### Annual Model Railroading Events

- Railfest - Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, Ohio – March ([www.railfest.org](http://www.railfest.org))
- Model railroad displays during Railroads In The Parks weekend at Lake Metroparks Farmpark, Kirtland, OH – first weekend in June (N, HO, G layouts)
- Division 4 "The Great Berea Train Show" – Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Berea, Ohio – first weekend in October
- Division 5 "How To Build A Model Railroad" Day – mid-October
- NMRA National Convention – July or August

There are train shows being held almost weekly within a couple hours drive. These shows are listed in some of the major model railroading magazines and on their websites. There are both Non-profit and For-profit organizations putting on these train shows. In order to support the hobby, Division 5 urges you to support the non-profit groups by attending their shows and club open-houses, since this is usually the one and only money-raising project they have for the year.

### Area Railfanning

We are fortunate to have several mainline railroads running through our area, Norfolk Southern and CSX. There is also the small regional railroad, the Wheeling and Lake Erie. There are quite a few public spots from which to watch the trains go by. **Remember; do not trespass on railroad property!** This is for your own safety as well as to maintain a good relationship between the railroads and the railfans.

## Area Model Railroading Hobby Dealers

### Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys

Willoughby, OH 44094  
Phone: 440-942-6632

### HobbyTown USA

Mentor, OH 44060  
Phone: 440-946-5588  
Fax: 440-974-2119

### Smith And Son Ballast

Chardon, OH 44024  
Phone: 440-286-4890

### Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters

Madison, OH 44057  
Phone: 440- 466-0696

### C W Trains

Mentor, OH 44060

## CLUB CAR

*(Area model railroad groups)*

### Lake Erie N-Scale Society (LENS)

Contact: Dennis 440-352-7081  
[Dennis.Lloyd@lensohio.org](mailto:Dennis.Lloyd@lensohio.org) [www.lensohio.org](http://www.lensohio.org)

### Lake Shore Live Steamers

Contact: Paul Emch 440-834-4819  
[webmaster@lakeshorelivesteamers.com](mailto:webmaster@lakeshorelivesteamers.com)  
[www.lakeshorelivesteamers.com](http://www.lakeshorelivesteamers.com)

### Ashtabula Area Operating Group

Contact: Gary Shaffer 440-224-1884

### Cuyahoga Valley S Gaugers

Contact: Jim Futules [jfutules@neo.rr.com](mailto:jfutules@neo.rr.com)  
[macsir@aol.com](mailto:macsir@aol.com) [www.cvsqa.com](http://www.cvsqa.com)

### Narrow Gauge Society

Contact: Ted Wiese 440-256-5212  
[ted.wiese@gmail.com](mailto:ted.wiese@gmail.com)

### Western Reserve Railroad Association / The Painesville Railroad Museum

Contact: Tom Pescha [prrm@att.net](mailto:prrm@att.net)

### Lake Erie Chapter TCA (Mod Squad of NEOH)

Contact: Bryan Persing 330-715-3519  
[bpersh@yahoo.com](mailto:bpersh@yahoo.com)

## Railroading On The Internet

There are a large number of web sites and e-mail lists that deal with model railroading and prototype railroading. Model train manufacturers, mail order hobby shops, standards organizations like the NMRA and N-Trak, clubs, historical societies, general information sites, prototype railroads, personal sites that provide information about that person's model railroad or specific interests, railfanning, you name it, there are internet web sites for it. The following are a just a few sites to get you started. These sites provide numerous links to other sites, and so will help you find what you are interested in.

### Division 5 – The Western Reserve Division

[www.mcr5.org](http://www.mcr5.org)

### National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)

[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)

### NMRA Mid Central Region (MCR)

[www.midcentral-region-nmra.org](http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org)

### Cleveland Railfan

[clevelandrails.railfan.net](http://clevelandrails.railfan.net)

### Walthers

[www.walthers.com](http://www.walthers.com)

### List of Cleveland area train shows

[www.cleveshows.com](http://www.cleveshows.com)

### Kalmbach Media

[www.kalmbach.com](http://www.kalmbach.com)

### Model Railroad Hobbyist

[model-railroad-hobbyist.com](http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com)

### The Railwire

<https://www.therailwire.net/forum/>

# Welcome to The Western Reserve Division

## Division 5 Mid Central Region National Model Railroad Association

PO Box 5081, Mentor, OH 44061

[info@mcr5.org](mailto:info@mcr5.org)  
[www.mcr5.org](http://www.mcr5.org)



We make it even more fun.  
[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)