



# The Trainwire.



## Off the Mainline...

by: Kirk Pohto

It's that time of year, again. The summer is winding down and the days are becoming shorter. September also means it's time to showcase the modules! Our monthly meeting is at Wiloughby City Hall to coincide with Frontier Days. The Modular Group will be setting up on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> (not on Friday as originally thought). As always, we'll need your help setting up and tearing down along with running trains. The crowds are

usually strong throughout the weekend so if you can stop in to run trains or just talk to the public, please do so. Everyone is welcome!

The week following Frontier Days is the Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum's open house. If you haven't been to the Museum lately, make it a point to check out the open house. A LOT has changed! The most noticeable progress has been made on the large-scale portion of the Museum. Two levels of the S and O gauge layout are

set up and functional. If you want to join the Museum, contact Rick Montgomery. He and the other Museum members are always looking for more help.

Don't forget about the Berea show in October. Can you help the Division by spending some time at our table that weekend? Let me know. If we can get a few people to each spend an hour or so, we'll easily have it covered. Let's help our friends in Division 4 by making a strong showing to promote the hobby! See you down the line in September! ☘



Kirk D. Pohto – Superintendent  
Division 5  
NMRA – Mid Central Region

*“The Western Reserve Division”*

### Inside this issue:

Scheduled events	2
Detroit Train Show	3
Train show cont...	4
Div. 5 Minutes	5
Meeting pictures	6
BOD minutes	7
1st Train Show	8
First cont....	9
Bulletin Board	10
Officer Info	11

## Interested in Railfanning the Wine Country?

Article by:

Ken Stroebel

If so, Division 5 will be having a day to railfan the stretch of CSXT and NS tracks from North East, PA to Lake City, PA, with a lunch stop at the Lake Shore Railway Museum. This is wine country, as the rails roll through a lot of vineyards and orchards. We'll start the day's activities near the New York and Pennsylvania boundary, at the old steel bridge at Bort Road in North East. This is a great place to catch trains, as

the CSXT and NS tracks are almost directly adjacent to one another, and photos can be taken from the bridge directly, from the roadway, or of CSXT shooting under the bridge. The plan will be to leave early and arrive by 9:00 AM to hopefully catch quite a lot of action. Around noon, we'll grab something for lunch in North East, or bring your own sandwich and eat by the museum. Lake Shore Railway Museum is adjacent to the CSX's and Norfolk Southern's Buffalo to Chicago

mainlines. We'll tour the museum and see if we can catch any trains at this location. Afterwards we'll head for home, but not before stopping near the other side of Pennsylvania in the Lake City/Girard area. This is another nice location to catch some trains with the restored depot in the background. ☘

## UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

*Division 5 monthly meetings normally start at 7:30*

### September 7

Location: Willoughby Town Hall  
 Program: Operations on HO modules  
 Bring & Brag: Anything from Pre-1900

### October 5

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program: Pillars, Portals and Walls  
 Bring & Brag: "Rags to Riches"

### November 2

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program: "Bridges to Buffalo"  
 Bring & Brag: Best models

### The "Rags-to-Riches" Theme

We have scheduled for Division 5 October (bring-n-Brag), "Rags-to-Riches". It's meant to be a super-detailing bring-n-brag theme where Division members would take a cheap, simple item (like a Tyco boxcar) and **super detail** it. From \$2 car/building to a museum piece, or something like that. *-Kirk*

### The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum

7471 Tyler Blvd. Unit "L"  
 Mentor, Ohio 44060

#### Hours

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>5:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00 AM - 5:00 PM</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10:00 AM - 5:00 PM</b>

Contact Rick @ 440-251-0350 for more information.

[www.wrmrrm.shutterfly.com](http://www.wrmrrm.shutterfly.com)

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

<b>Ho Module Setup</b>	<b>Sept 7-9</b>
Willoughby Frontier Days Willoughby City Hall, Willoughby, OH	
<b>Fall Open House</b>	<b>Sept 15</b>
WR Model RR Museum Mentor, Ohio	
<b>Ho Module Setup</b>	<b>Sept 15</b>
Collinwood Masonic Lodge Euclid, Ohio	
<b>Division 4 Carnival of Railroading</b>	<b>Oct 6-7</b>
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds Berea, Ohio	
<b>Hobo Stew Dinner</b>	<b>Oct 13</b>
With Lake Shore Live Steamers Penitentiary Glen Park, Kirtland, Ohio	
<b>NMRA Div. 5 Promotional Day</b>	<b>Nov 3</b>
WR Model RR Museum Mentor, Ohio	
<b>Christmas Party</b>	<b>Dec 7</b>
Carl's Overlook Restaurant Saybrook, Ohio	
<b>Holiday Open House</b>	<b>Dec 9</b>
WR Model RR Museum Mentor, Ohio	
<b>HO Module Setup</b>	<b>Dec</b>
Lake Farmpark, Kirtland, Ohio	
<b>LENS N-Trak Module Setup</b>	<b>Dec</b>
Lake Farmpark, Kirtland, Ohio	
<b>Railfest</b>	<b>March 15-16 2008</b>

# National Train Show Report.

Photos and Article  
By: Ken Stroebel

Cobo Hall in downtown Detroit was the site of the 2007 NMRA Convention and National Train Show. While I didn't attend the convention, I, along with Don Thomas and about 50 members of Division 4, did travel to the Train Show on the Division 4 sponsored bus. Arriving shortly after the doors to the show opened on Saturday, we had the chance to see all of the exhibits and displays that the show had to offer. Cobo Hall is a large exhibition and conference center,

and the train show occupied a large part of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor exhibit space. Based on the floor plan, approximately 300 manufacturers, vendors, model railroad layouts and others exhibited on the floor. While this certainly seems like a lot of model railroad exhibitors, with quite a lot of potential to showcase new products or services, I thought the show was on the average side. Based on comments I heard from other members of our bus entourage, the general consensus was that the show didn't come close to equaling the quality or quantity of ex-

hibits as some of the past National Train shows. Many of the major manufacturers weren't present, or didn't have very large displays of new products. One of the biggest disappointments that I found was the quality of some of the manufacturers booths, which ranged from those manned by many sales people but not showcasing much new equipment to a few booths where no company reps were even present. Of course there were many booths that had some great new products, such as Rapido Trains (offering various highly de-

tailed passenger coaches), Sylvan Scale Models (some really detailed ship kits), Kato's new engines and rolling stock (both N and HO scales), Full Steam Ahead (detailed wooden craftsmen kits), Bar Mills (wooden building kits), Woodland Scenics (nice hands-on scenery making display), Blackstone Models (steam locos), Walther's (Milwaukee Road station), Intermountain (various rolling stock and engines) and Branchline Trains (various rolling stock).



Entrance to show



Entrance to show

As far as layouts went, there were certainly some beautiful and well-constructed modular layouts, with most of the scales represented. The biggest hit with the younger members I saw attending was the Lego layout displays. I think that I counted at least 4 large Lego layouts present, which were very interesting and showcased some intricate, detailed buildings as well as engines and rolling stock all created with Lego building blocks. Of course, the kids

seemed to more impressed with the large Lego Star Wars and Harry Potter creations than they were with the trains running through these mega cities. The Dayton N-Trak group seemed to have one of the larger layouts, which just seemed to go on and on and probably close to 100 modules but not enough trains running. The Mister Dave's Golden Blackhawk & Central City N scale layout was very impressive, with a quite a bit of detailed scenery and buildings. This layout was

awarded the Best of Show for Individual Modules. The Ford Model Railroad Club had a unique layout, which was running both a large scale and HO trains on part of the layout, with both lines running in a continuous loop but coming back to the interior part of their layout and running along separate shelves before going back out to the main trackage. It gave the appearance of two separate layouts, depending on which side of the long oval you were standing on. A few of the

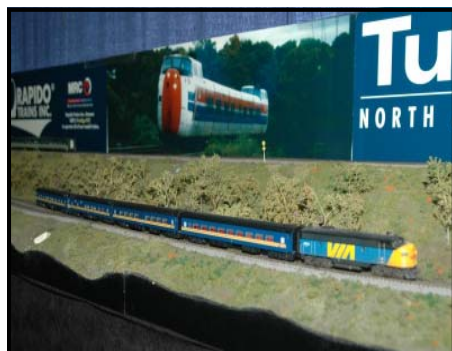
other layouts worth mentioning were the Piute Flats Branch of the D&RGW, a small western theme N scale layout that was designed to give a 360 degree view of the layout. The Sipping & Switching Society of Denver, North Carolina brought their large modular layout, which featured a number of great-modeled scenes, including an approximate 12-foot long arched bridge with lots of detail beneath the bridge. ☘

*(more pictures on page 4)*



# National Train Show cont....

*Photos and Article*  
By: Ken Stroebel



**Rapido Train's passenger coaches**



**Wisconsin & Michigan Model Railroad Club paper mill**



**Mister Dave's Golden Blackhawk & Central City N scale layout**



**Piute Flats Branch of the D&RGW layout**



**Kalamazoo Model Railroad Historical Society**



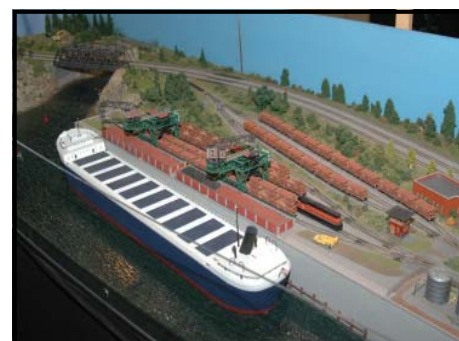
**Sipping & Switching Society**



**Walther's new station kit**



**Sylvan's new Great Lakes Lumber Boat**



**Dayton N-Trak**

# Division 5 Meeting Minutes

August 3rd, 2007

- 1.- Meeting called to order by Superintendent Kirk Pohto
2. - Trainwire - Needs to add the time of the Division meetings.
3. - N-Trak Convention - Aug. 8 - Aug. 12; Hartford, CT
4. - N-Scale Weekend Train Show - Aug. 25 - Aug. 26; Procare Sportsplex; Everett, PA (East of Bedford, PA); Mike Buehner spoke about what the event has to offer - lots of N-scale dealers, layouts, clinics
5. - Electronically receive the Trainwire for a certificate to help off set the rising cost of postage and printing - you must sign up for a full year and must be currently receiving the Trainwire via the postal mail
6. - Matt Kross & Dale Smith has proposed that Division 5 puts in for the 2011 MCR Convention
7. - Christmas Party - Dec. 7th - Carl's Overlook in Saybrook, OH - signup sheet will be at the meetings starting with the September meeting at Willoughby City Hall - Willoughby Frontier Days.
8. - National Convention in Detroit, MI was reported if they took away the layouts; Railfest would be just as big. Pittsburgh was awarded the 2013 National Convention.
9. - Company Store - orders are coming in slow. Convention company store would not accept any of our products, because of not receiving our information in advance. (It was mailed, they didn't get it)
10. - Clerk Report - balances of the accounts were read off - an audit is going to be preformed before the end of August by Matt Kross & Mike Schaab.
11. - Railfest Report - 3rd weekend in March 2008; we are all signed up with Lakeland Community College
12. - Module Report - held a meeting and worked on reviewing the plans. Built framework of 2nd prototype; design looks good. Next meeting is August 22nd. - Sept. 7th Willoughby Frontier Days - setup will be on Thursday, Sept. 6th; be at the museum at 4:30 PM to help load the modules. Anyone interested in running during that weekend please call Rick Montgomery.
12. - **Bring N Brag** - Bill Berger, Gary Shaffer, Bill Brodie, Doug Modic
14. - We celebrated Gary Shaffer becoming the 2nd Master Model Railroader for Division 5. He was presented with his certificate of achievement. We enjoyed Subway sandwiches, Fruit Salad & cake. ☘



# Pictures from the August, 2007 Meeting.

*Photos*  
**By: Ron Sieloff**



## Businesses Accepting Division 5 Certificates

*The businesses listed below are currently accepting Division 5's award certificates:*



- Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys
- Hobby Town USA
- Train Specialty Company
- Village Train Shop

- Willoughby, OH
- Mentor, OH
- Chardon, OH
- Perry, OH



*Please support these dealers!*

# Division 5 BOD Meeting Notes

August 15th, 2007

**Division 5 BOD meeting was held at Harley Smith's House**

**In attendance:** Kirk Pohto, Lenny Kessler, Matt Kross, Wayne Lette, Al Cap, Dale Smith, Harley Smith, Rob Bowers, & Bonnie Lette

Willoughby Frontier Days - setup for the modules will be on Thursday 9/6 at 4:30 at the museum

Kirk has received the AP Certificates for Gary Shaffer and Mike Buehner

We need volunteers to man the table at Division 4's Berea Show

NOARS - Al Cap gave a report of the last meeting for NOARS which was mainly discussing the MCR Convention in 2008 that Division 4 is running. Plus the NY Central Convention being the same weekend. The next NOARS meeting will be Aug. 28th at the Trolley Museum next to the USS Matthers.

Railfest - The audit will be soon. We have started to receive sign up and money for 2008. Lakeland has been rented.

Second Trainshow - It has been brought up that Lakeland would be available in June for a second train show if the Division decides to hold one. Besides the area that we currently get for Railfest in March, there would be a tent on the outside so we could expand some. It would be the weekend after graduation. Further discussion will be with the membership

Next BOD meeting - Sept. 17 at the Hambden Town Hall - 7:30 PM

Steering Committee - some questions have come up as to what the Steering Committee is for. They are to help with the research & ideas of projects and such to be presented to the BOD for a final approval.

Trainwire - discussed the information that needed corrected and discussed dates of up coming events

Bring N Brag - Oct - Rags to Riches (there will be an explanation in the trainwire to the what this would be);  
Nov. - One of your Best Models (not shown in Bring N Brag before)

Bonnie reported that with the help of Jeanne Cap; the 2006 Form 990EZ has been filed with the IRS

We have received a new State Certificate with corrected contact information.

Memberships that have not been renewed - Matt is creating a letter to be sent out to the members that have not renewed their membership. Don't forget to check your NMRA card for the expiration date.

So far we have had 2 members transfer their Trainwire to be received electronically

Scenic Express - Dale has spoke to the owner and it has been setup tentatively for May 2008 for the member ship to be able to go and learn about scenery.

Christmas Party - We need a minimum of 25 people to signup and pay or the Christmas Party may have to be canceled. Signup sheet and money collecting will begin at the September meeting. ☘



# My First National Train Show.

Article and Photos  
by: Bruce Lutheran

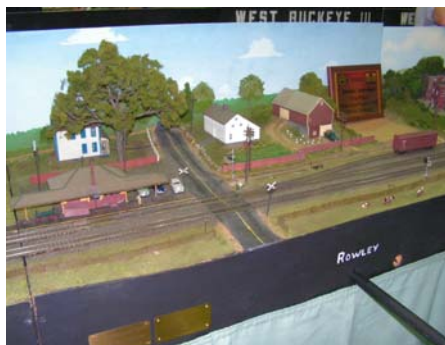
I went to the national train show on Saturday with my son. It was with much anticipation, on my part, because I talked to many members of the club prior to going. I asked a lot of questions about what I would do and see at the show. The show opened at 10:00 AM and we got our tickets. **Cobo Hall**, in Detroit, was a large facility, about the same as the **I-X Center** here. We decided to walk up and down the aisles from the right. As the guys said, most of the manufacturers had booths showing their latest products. All the

big ones were there. Several had some nice interactive displays. **The Woodland Scenics** was one and they had many displays showing the different products and a person explaining their usage. The Athearn display was very nice also, as they were giving away pins for their 60 years in business. A visit to the Model Railroader booth proved fruitful, as they were giving away several publications, including Classic trains, Toy Trains and a guide to model railroading. The kids took buttons and "how to" stuff. The pictures below show an overall "aerial view" of the show. As you can see, it was quite large.

Much of the show was actual layouts and setups. Several modules were set-up and the shots below and on the next page, show some of the impressive detail in the modeling. While at the show, I ran into several of our members. It was nice to see our club represented so well. Overall the national train show was nice, but not quite what I thought it would be. If you take out all the set-ups, there were actually less vendors than at our **Lakeland show**. I guess it just proves that our club puts on a great show and our club members put great effort into making it that way!



The picture below, and its following close-up, show a very nice scene with individual sunflowers.



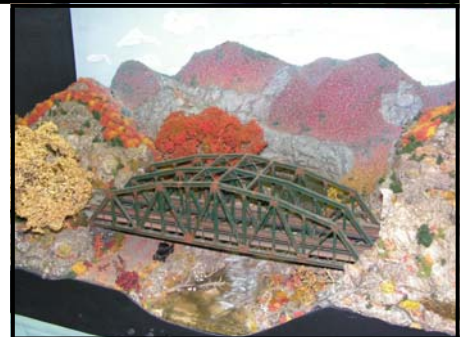
The next ones show some nice module detailing:





# First National Train Show cont....

Article and Photos  
by: Bruce Lutheran

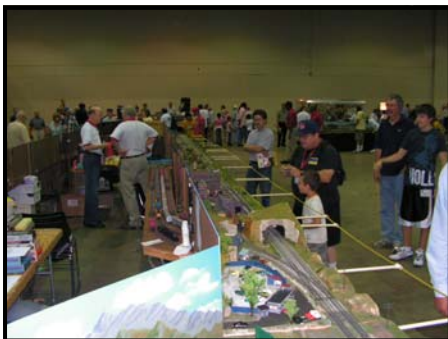


The above was from an Lionel layout, showing nice detail in the trestle.

The following are just a few of the impressive Lego displays



The following show a nice idea to use when building modules. Notice how the yard area is located just behind the module. This allows the ability to change trains, yet, not "waste" valuable viewing space for the people visiting the modules.





## Bulletin Board.

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## Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Running a Steam Special

I just saw this while searching some of my usual websites for railfanning purposes and thought members might be interested. Steam will once again rumble through the Cuyahoga Valley when the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad runs a special

train on September 20th. The former Canadian Pacific 4-6-2 will pull the train. Built in 1948, the 80-ton coal-fired antique and her crew were donated for CVSR's use by the Ohio Central Railroad System. Narrators will highlight the history of Cuyahoga Valley and various

points of interest along the route. This special excursion will depart from the Rockside Station at 5:00 p.m. and travel south through the Cuyahoga Valley National Park to the Akron North side Station. The train will then make the return trip back through the Valley to Rockside Station. Costs

for the trip are provided in the CVSR's website (<http://www.cvsr.com/pages.php?alias=steam>). Let's hope for a sunny afternoon so that railfans can get some great photos. ☘

**Team Track**[www.MCR5.org](http://www.MCR5.org)

Division 5 Officers

(Terms expire June 2008)

Superintendent	Kirk Pohto	440-352-9813
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		<a href="mailto:AstSuper@MCR5.org">AstSuper@MCR5.org</a>
Clerk / Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075
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**Division 5 Trustees:** (Terms expire June 2008)

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Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	Dale Smith	440-286-4932

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**September Division 5 Meeting**

September 7th, 2007.

Location: **Willoughby Town Hall**  
**One Public Square**  
**Willoughby, Ohio**

Willoughby City Hall is located right in the middle of Downtown Willoughby.

Program: Operations on HO Modules

Bring &amp; Brag Theme: Anything from Pre-1900.

*Reminder: Bring & Brag entries **DO NOT** have to adhere to the Bring & Brag theme for the evening. The themes are meant to add some variety to the types of model work shown and to encourage members to work on something they may not have tried otherwise. The themes are not meant to discourage you from bringing in other model work that you have completed in the last 6 months. By all means, bring it in and show it off!*

**Division 5 Company Store Items**

- O scale Sugar Houses @ \$36/each
- HO scale Sugar Houses @ \$24/each
- N scale Sugar Houses @ \$17/each
- HO scale Western Reserve RR Reefers @ \$12/each  
N scale Western Reserve RR Reefers (two numbers) @ \$12/each or two for \$22
- Division 5 Pins @ \$2/each
- Division 5 "Pentagon" Patch @ \$2/each
- Division 5 Hats @ \$10/each

**October Trainwire  
Deadline September 20th.**



# The Trainwire Newsletter

3257 Center Road  
Perry, Ohio 44081  
Publication of Division 5  
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National Model RR Association, Inc.  
*A Non-Profit Educational Organization*

## SEPTEMBER 2007

### Electronic Version

Division 5 Membership  
as of August 1, 2007



# 118

## The Trainwire

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## The Western Reserve Division 5



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

A non-profit educational organization



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**Asst. Super:** Al Cap  
**Clerk / Treasurer:** Bonnie Lette

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