



The Trainwire.



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Superintendent's Message.

Well it may be June, but don't go putting your trains away. We have the convention coming up and some layout tours planned for later in the year. Get behind your workbench and build something. I want to see more things at Bring and Brag and we are always looking for layouts to tour. Lakefarm Park's Railroads in the Park was a big success. The crowds around the modules were large and inquisitive. There were so many kids, future model railroaders, asking questions and looking at everything. There were also a fair number of parents doing the same. Had somebody from Texas visit. We exchanged ideas on how things are done. I was told we had 33 Boy Scouts for the merit badge program. That is the most to date. I want to thank those who helped with everything that weekend, ie: module set-up, Scouts, running trains, and module tear-down. I don't know how many people were up at 9AM to see the TV show publicizing the event, but I like to think it helped the turnout. I had my 1-1/2 minutes of fame. I was nervous, but I'm told It came off rather well. The module meeting was somewhat productive. It was decided to keep the modules, as they are our best PR tool. We are going to spruce the current ones up, build new ones, and retire the old modules. A new lightweight design is to be investigated and a better storage plan is being looked at. We had 2 persons, non members, sit in on the meeting to get an idea of what



Al Cap – Superintendent
Division 5
NMRA – Mid Central Region

the modular concept was about. While they not be members, they are potential members. There is still much work to be done. The trip to Dave Eggleston's was fun and a learning experience. I'm a newbie at operating, but I thought I'd try it. I'll do it again. ☘

Businesses Accepting Division 5 Certificates

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



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys | Willoughby, Ohio |
| Hobby Town USA | Mentor, Ohio |
| Train Specialty Company | Chardon, Ohio |
| Village Train Shop | Perry, Ohio |
| Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters | Geneva, Ohio |



Please support these dealers!

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

Division 5 monthly meetings normally start at 7:30 PM.

June

Location: Hambden Town Hall

Program: Freedom Train

Bring & Brag: Patriotic

July No Meeting this Month

August

Location: Hambden Town Hall

Program: TBA

Bring & Brag: TBA

The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum

7471 Tyler Blvd. Unit "L"

Mentor, Ohio 44060

Summer Hours

Tuesday	5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Wednesday	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Thursday	5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Friday	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday	Noon - 5:00 PM
Monday	CLOSED

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

www.wmrrm.org

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Division 5 BOD Meeting **June 15**

Hambden, Ohio @7:30 PM

Division 5 BOD Meeting **July 20**

Hambden, Ohio @7:30 PM

"Last Stop Willoughby" **August 22& 23**

Downtown Willoughby

An Email from Farmpark.

Thank you once again for all your assistance during Railroads in the Park. Thanks for setting up the LEGOs and especially for being available for the television interview. I also want to thank Division 5 for setting up the modular layout and assisting with the Boy Scout Merit badge and providing the kits for them. Please let the club know. We had our best attendance so far. If every one is amenable we will be planning on May 1 and 2 for 2010.

Good luck with the division. Maybe I will get back to modeling again myself some time.

Thanks again.

Andy Baker

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

Division 5 Meeting Minutes.

May 1, 2009

Jack Metcalf is still in Heather Hill in Wing E. He has been moved around the facility many times. Please go to see him. Jack is asking for help when he gets home. His son has built the bench work. Jack would like to work on his layout and will need help with track laying, wiring, etc.

Dale Smith is in Columbus at the MCR Convention

Matt Kross was out of town at the time the Trainwire was posted to the website and was unable to send out an email notifying that the Trainwire was on the website. Please remember that you can always go to the website about a week prior to the meeting and see if the Trainwire is there, you don't have to wait to receive an email. We have had a couple people that have requested to be added to the electronic Trainwire list.

Division 4 is chartering a bus to go to Cass, VA – Oct 16-18 – Cost is \$160.00 per person which includes bus, tickets for the bus transportation, railcar, train ticket, box lunch and supper at the Last Run Restaurant in Cass. Additional cost to be for Hotel (Econo Lodge) in Beckley, WV, food, & souvenirs. For more information go to Division 4 website – www.div4.org

NMRA is trying to reduce the cost of conventions for 2011 & 2012. They will be held in smaller cities Sacramento & Grand Rapids plus cutting the days the convention is open

National has come up with something new for the NMRA National Conventions. There will be training and certifying National Contest Judges. Plus they will be able to have a Module Display, which you can discuss with the Judges, have it judged, and open to be viewed.

October 17th – Lake Shore Live Steamers Hobo Dinner and Division 5 is invited to participate and enjoy

New Division 5 Flyers have been made up and will be available during Farm Park and other events. Plus we have finalized the New Member Packets. Both items are currently on our website

There will be a **Module Meeting** at Farm Park – Saturday, May 2nd, around 2:00 PM. This is to discuss who is interested, if we should continue displaying, get feedback so we can move forward.

Lake Farm Park and Division 5 will be helping about 32 Boy Scouts earn their Railroad Merit Badge this weekend

There will be Live TV crew at Lake Farm Park on Sunday Morning; Andy Baker has asked Al Cap to be interviewed.

Ringsway Tours are going to have a couple of Train ride trips scheduled for late summer & early fall. One is August 28-30th; about \$400; Bus trip from Ashtabula, OH to Erie, PA; Amtrak from Erie, PA to NY City, NY via the NY Central Water Level route; Amtrak from NY City, NY to Pittsburgh, PA via the Pennsy Route; bus trip from Pittsburgh, PA to Ashtabula, OH. The 2nd trip is in October 14th; \$94; going from Ashtabula, OH to Rochester, NY and through the Finger Lakes area. Go to their website for more information - <http://ringswaytours.com/>

We need to get a **Trip Coordinator**; some suggestions of trips were discussed; Strasburg, PA, Steamtown. We could open an invitation to other Divisions. Gary is going to check with Ringsway Tours to see if they would be interested in setting up a tour for any of those places for next year.

Dick Roth reported that Titusville will be open 5/12-5/14 & 5/19-5/21 for the schools to have their fieldtrips. Currently they are doing maintenance on 3 bridges and about 1200 foot of track to lay. You are welcome to come up to take pictures or to help with the MOW crew. June 1st – it will be operating Sat & Sun; July to August it will operate Tue to Sun

Railfest – all bills are in, the books are ready to close and be audited. We had more people attend than last year. The Raffle made money this year; we had more of a response and we made more money than 2008.

NOTE: Amtrak is arresting people that are taking pictures from their platforms.

Bring & Brag: Farm – Gary Shaffer, Don't Bittner, Bill Berger, Steve Kaplan, Bill Smith, Bill Brodie

We broke for refreshments and to work on the module display. ☘

Pictures from the May Meeting.



Next Division 5 Meeting – June 6th, 2008.

Division 5 BOD Meeting Notes

May 18, 2009

Present: Al Cap, Dale Smith, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Don Bittner, Mike Buehner, Matt Kross, Lenny Kessler, Bruce Lutheran, Jim Wendorf, and Rob Bowers.

Rob Bowers reviewed how Railfest 2009 went. We are ready to hold an audit. After the audit, Rob will report on what we made this year at the show. We think the wrist straps did help. Filling in the spaces vacated by a couple of large dealers with a lot of new, smaller dealers seemed to go well and made for a good show. The cost that Lakeland Community College charged us went up 10% this year. We made money on the raffle. The postcard mailings seemed to work out. We mailed 3100 postcards based on addresses we obtained the last couple of years. We got another 700 addresses this year. People using the free passes that we gave to radio stations as prizes was much higher this year. 47 passes were turned in this year compared to 10 to 12 in past years. These people brought additional people with them, so we think it is a good promotional tool. We may lose 3 to 4 long time dealers due to age/health issues and general retirement. Rob Bowers, Jim Wendorf, and Lenny Kessler are going to go over the Railfest finances in detail to look at our costs and decide whether we need to raise table prices next year.

We are looking at using one of the modular box storage services like **PODS or SOS** for storing Div 5 items such as the HO modules, Railfest supplies, and general Division items. The services will deliver the box to a designated location for an additional fee. The overall cost looks like it would be much cheaper than renting a storage locker and renting a truck to move the modules. We would probably need a unit that is 8ft x 8ft x 20ft. Rob Bowers will get pricing and additional information.

Dale Smith attended the MCR 2009 convention and came back with a number of ideas for our 2011 convention. He will go over these with the convention committee.

Dale also attended the **MCR BOD** meeting held at the convention and presented the highlights of that meeting. The status of the Kingpin was the main topic. The region is still trying to get to an electronic version. Until then, they have found a new copy house that will significantly reduce the cost of mailing paper copies. There was also discussion about what other divisions are doing to maintain or increase membership. Other divisions are doing many of the same things that Div 5 is doing. One thing that another division is doing is giving train sets to radio stations as prize items throughout the year. This gets some advertising for the cost of a few train sets.

The **2010 MCR convention** will be held in Charleston, WV.

Dale Smith was able to finally get some pricing information from Lakeland Community College for the Promo Day 2009 event. We will be using the C gym which is the newer one in the back that has the curved outside wall. It costs \$50/hour to rent. Total cost for the facility rental for the planned Promo Day event will be around \$518.

We are trying to plan a **Division picnic** for this summer. Dick Naramore has offered to host the picnic at his house in Jefferson, OH. This would be on a Saturday. We are looking at combining this with an excursion trip on the AC&J Railroad in Jefferson. It most likely will be held sometime in July. More details as they become available.

Mike Buehner is working on the Division 5 apparel order form. Orders will be placed through Mike, but members will be able to pick up the shirts, hats, etc. from the supplier when they are ready.

(Continued on page 6)

Division 5 BOD Meeting Notes cont..... May 18, 2009

(Continued from page 5)

There has been very little response to our **layout survey**. Only four surveys have been turned in so far.

The “**Last Stop Willoughby**” event will be held August 22 – 23. Three buildings in Willoughby will be used to house various railroad displays including the City Hall and the Methodist church. Division 5 is planning on setting up the HO modules.

After a recent incident with the rental truck hauling the HO modules back from Farmpark, we need to make sure anyone renting a vehicle for Division purposes always gets the collision insurance option on the rental agreement. Fortunately, that option was in place this time.

The **HO module meeting** held at Farmpark Saturday afternoon was lightly attended. This meeting was to determine what the interest level is in the modules and where we go next. Only six people showed up to express any interest. Bill Eville is working on a new module design that will be easier to store and transport. The idea of modeling the railroad from Conneaut to Wickliffe has been shelved. There just wasn't enough interest in building this.

The **Railroads In The Parks** event the first weekend in May had the highest public attendance yet for the event. However, Division 5 attendance was extremely low for the weekend. There was a large group of Boy Scouts that earned their Railroading Merit Badge with the help of a number of Division 5 members.

Next **BOD** meeting will be June 15, 2009 at Hambden Town Hall at 7:30 pm.

Submitted by **Matt Kross**, Div 5 Clerk. ☘



Member NMRA, MRC, Div 5

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Boy Scouts earn Railroading Merit Badge.

By: Ken Stroebel

On May 2, 36 scouts attended and passed their requirements to earn the Boy Scout of America's Railroading merit badge. We had scouts from troops local to Lake and Geauga counties, as well as some scouts from the Cleveland area. Rich Kacprzak's two grandsons attended this event, and wanted to make sure I knew who their grandpa was. This was a slightly larger

class than had been projected, but as always the staff at Farm Park and several volunteers from Division 5 were able to put on a quality program and instruct the boys on the finer points of building a kit, learning railroad signals, railroad safety and many more topics. Thanks especially to Division 5 members Bonnie Lette and Dennis Lloyd for assisting with the model building and Mike

Harkelroad for patiently allowing the scouts to run their boxcars on the HO modular layout. My thanks also to the Division for the continued support and donation of car kits and materials for this great weekend. I've lost track of how many scouts have taken this merit badge class over the last 8 years or so, but I think that we've introduced railroading to a little over 300 scouts. ☘



Bulletin Board.

A Belated Welcome To Some New Members

Chuck Limbert	Concord, OH
Dan Limbert	Concord, OH
Wayne Radziewitz	Mentor, OH
Dennis Walker	Ashtabula, OH
Peter Ness	Madison, OH

Congratulations To Dale Smith

Dale won Best Of Show for one of his entries in the Prototype Slide contest at the 2009 MCR convention in Columbus. Way to go Dale!

Big Steam Closeby

After years of not having a "Big Steam" fix, a total of six steam locomotives are scheduled to be in Owosso, Michigan (close to Lansing, Mi.) for "Train Festival 2009" during **July 23-26, 2009**. Big steam includes Nickel Plate Berkshire #765, Pere Marquette Berkshire # 1225, and Southern Pacific Daylight #4449. This event will feature a total of 8 operating Steam Locomotives plus some very large model railroad layouts, as well as miniature live steam rides. See more details at <http://www.trainfestival2009.com>

Getting Ready!



**2011 Mid Central Region Convention
April 28 – May 1, 2011**

“50 years of railroading in Northeast Ohio”

**Hosted by Division 5
In celebration of our 50th anniversary**

Team Trackwww.MCR5.org

Division 5 Officers

(Terms expire June 2010)

Superintendent	Al Cap	440-729-1458	Super@MCR5.org
Asst. Superintendent	Dale Smith	440-286-4932	AstSuper@MCR5.org
Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075	Treasurer@MCR5.org

Division 5 Trustees: (Terms expire June 2010)

Mike Buehner	440-428-0137	Bruce Lutheran	440-257-2105
Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	Don Bittner	440-257-7555

Division 5 Board of Directors: BOD@MCR5.org**Division 5 Appointed Positions:** (Terms expire June 2010)

Clerk	Matt Kross	440-729-3045	Clerk@MCR5.org
Railfest Chairman	Jim Wendorf	440-357-8890	Railfest@MCR5.org
Promo Day Coordinator	Bruce Lutheran	440-257-2105	PromoDay@MCR5.org
Achievement Program	Bill Brodie	216-780-0938	AP@MCR5.org
Contests	Bill Brodie	216-780-0938	Contest@MCR5.org
Auditors	Mike Schaab Matt Kross	440-255-2530	Audit@MCR5.org
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Trainwire Editor	Lenny Kessler	440-478-6661	Trianwire@MCR5.org
Refreshments	Ron Biddell	440-352-3730	Refreshments@MCR5.org
Membership Roster	Matt Kross	440-729-3045	Membership@MCR5.org
Convention Co-Chairs	Dale Smith Matt Kross	440-286-4932	Convention@MCR5.org
Webmaster	Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	Webmaster@MCR5.org
Company Store	Al Cap	440-729-1458	CompanyStore@MCR5.org

May Division 5 Meeting

May 1st, 2009.

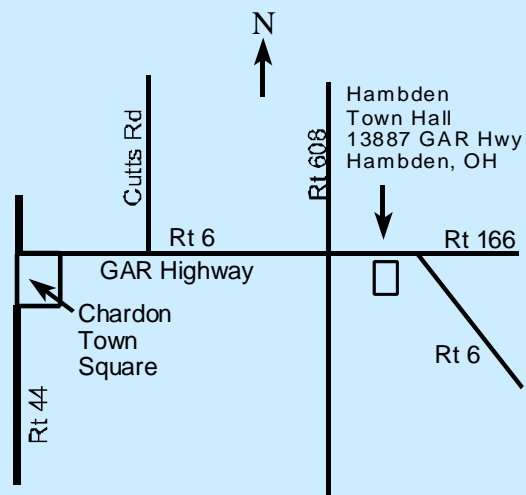
Division 5 monthly meetings normally start at 7:30 PM.

Location: Hambden Town Hall
13887 GAR Highway (Route 6)
Chardon, Ohio

Located on Rt. 6 between the intersection of Rt. 608 and Rt. 166 next to Hambden Elementary School east of Chardon.

Program: Freedom Train**Bring & Brag:** Patriotic

*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!*



Map to Hambden Town Hall

July Trainwire Deadline
June 20th.

The Trainwire Newsletter

3257 Center Road
Perry, Ohio 44081
Publication of Division 5
"The Western Reserve Division"
Mid Central Region
National Model RR Association, Inc.
A Non-Profit Educational Organization

June, 2009

Electronic Version

Division 5 Membership
as of May 1st, 2009



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The Trainwire

The Trainwire is an official publication of Division 5 "The Western Reserve Division", Mid Central Region, of the National Model Railroad Association. It is published approximately once a month and mailed to all NMRA members residing in Lake, Geauga, and Ashtabula counties (Ohio) free of charge, as long as the

Division has funds for mailing. Others wishing to receive it may do so for the annual fee of \$12.00 for a mailing or it is always available on the website (FREE). Information regarding *The Trainwire*, Division 5, or the NMRA may be obtained by writing to 3257 Center Road, Perry, Ohio 44081 or sending an e-mail to

Trainwire@MCR5.org. The Trainwire and Division 5 activities are funded by flea markets, raffles, contributions, and donations. All comments and opinions are welcome. Those views expressed in *The Trainwire* do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the NMRA, the Mid Central Region or Division 5

The Western Reserve Division 5



www.mcr5.org

A non-profit educational organization



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