



## November, 2019 VOLUME XV ISSUE 11

A PUBLICATION OF
THE WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION
DIVISION 5 — MID CENTRAL REGION — NMRA



### THIS MONTH:

Friday November 1 Membership Meeting Hambden Town Hall 7:30

Monday Nov 11 BOD Meeting Hambden Town Hall 7:30

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It is with the heaviest of hearts that I have to report the very sadness of news that Lenny Kessler

has taken his last train ride to heaven. He passed from this earth Wednesday, October 9, 2019.

Even thou in recent years, Len was not able to attend too many of our membership meetings, he was very active behind the scenes of Division 5. Many of you were aware of him being our Editor for the Trainwire, which he did for many years. Len also served on our Board of Directors and was very active behind the scenes of Railfest. Len would be in the back room counting the gate money, and preparing the cash boxes and wrist bands.

Len was also one of the founding member of North East Train Society (NETS) and was very instrumental with the NETS train show in memory of Bob Orlando.

Len was also a very active member of the Painesville Railroad Museum, serving as our secretary and Board of Director member and in the early years, he also was the Editor of our Depot Dispatch. You would see him working the gate at many of our events.

Len was also an avid modeler railroader. His scale of chose was HO trains with having a very large 24 foot x 45 foot layout, which occupied his entire basement. Of course, his layout was DCC controlled. One of his wishes was to host operating sessions. He loved building very large wooden trestles, one brace at a time.

He also loved railfanning of the 1:1 trains. Several years ago, he and his son took the Amtrak train to the west coast. He and Bob Freiden also did a trip out west and meet up with Bob Orlando, Dave Hanna, Bob DeJohn, and Larry Novak to see Union Pacific Trainfest in North Platte, Nebraska.

He is the dear father of Brian (Colleen), Laura, Gregory (Peggy); grandfather of Liam, Trevor, Ella, Molly, Logan, Isaac; brother of Judy Jerson (husband Harry, deceased), Joseph Kessler (deceased) (wife Dolores), Sandra Kessler (deceased); and uncle of many.

He will be truly missed in our railroad family.
God Speed to his soul.

~ Tom Pescha

## MIEITINGS & IEVIENTS

### **UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS**

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

13887 GAR HIGHWAY (ROUTE 6)

CHARDON, OHIO

NOVEMBER 1, 2019

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

PROGRAM: WORKING WITH FOAM

**BOB GITTINGER** 

BRING/BRAG: UNUSUAL, SCRATCH-BUILT, OR

NON-COMMERCIAL SCENERY

NOVEMBER 11, 2019

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

**BOD MEETING** 

**DECEMBER 6, 2019** 

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

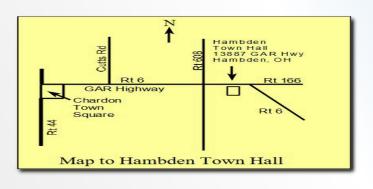
PROGRAM: LOCOMOTIVE REPAIR—VIDEO

Bring/Brag: MOW

JANUARY 11, 2020

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

EVENT: DIVISION 5 HOLIDAY PARTY



### **UPCOMING Events**

(SEE ATTACHED FLYERS IN TRAINWIRE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS FOR MOST EVENTS)

NOVEMBER 2 10-3

PROMO DAY

PAINESVILLE RAILROAD MUSEUM

NOVEMBER 3 10-4

ERIE MODEL TRAIN SHOW

WALDAMEER PARK

NOVEMBER 9 10-3

**NETS MODEL TRAIN SHOW** 

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS COMM CENTER

NOVEMBER 16,17 1-4

DAVE HANNA LAYOUT OPEN HOUSE

7669 CHILLICOTHE RD MENTOR, OH

NOVEMBER 29,30 4:45-9

DECEMBER 1,3-8,11-23 4:45-9

COUNTRY LIGHTS—LAKE FARM PARK

LENS 11/29-12/13

HO GROUP 12/14-12/23

NOVEMBER 30 10-3

TCA TRAIN SHOW

CHEVROLET BLVD—PARMA

DECEMBER 1 9-3

MEDINA TOY & TRAINS SHOW

MEDINA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

DECEMBER 15 10-3:30

CHRISTMAS TRAIN & TOY SHOW

LAKELAND COLLEGE

JANUARY 11 12-3

DIVISION 5 HOLIDAY PARTY
HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

## MINUTES

## **OCTOBER BOD MEETING**

BOD Meeting 14 October 2019

A Division 5 BOD meeting was held on October 14, 2019 at Hambden Town Hall. In attendance were Mike Buehner, Bryan Persing, Bonnie Lette, Chuck Limbert, Matt Kross, Bob Gittinger, Ray Newnes, Mike Carovac, and Ted Wiese.

Division 5 member Lenny Kessler passed away on October 9, 2019. The Division will make a donation of \$250 to the Painesville Depot in memory of Lenny.

Some Railfest 2020 information was provided via e-mail from Jim Wendorf. Lakeland Community College is restructuring their rental fees and we will have to see how that affects our Railfest costs. Dave Neff has expressed interest in assisting Jim with Railfest coordination and planning. We missed out this year on getting a grant from the Lake County Visitors Bureau due to them changing the submission dates without much notice. The Visitors Bureau has a new director and so Jim is going to talk to him about the possibility of getting some kind of grant for Railfest 2020.

The proposed 2020 Division 5 budget was reviewed and approved.

An end of the year inventory is needed for the Company Store. Ted Wiese will provide.

The new T-Trak group submitted a funding request for assistance in purchasing a power system and some display set-up items for the layout.

A new refreshments coordinator is needed starting January 2020. Dan Chupa has been handling this task for a number of years and can no longer continue due to other commitments. Please let the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent know if you are interested.

As far as we know, everything is in place for promo day 2019. This will be our first time holding it at the Painesville Depot.

It was suggested that we need to plan another Division trip. We don't currently have a Division Trip Master. It was reported that Bill Osborne may have an interest in this. He will be contacted to see if he is willing to take on the responsibility of planning Division trips. Discussed various ideas for trips. Not sure of the interest level amongst the Division members.

It was suggested that we encourage meeting program presenters to provide a handout or e-mail the information to the Trainwire for publication. The information should include material lists, reference information, web links, etc. so that members can put the presenter's ideas to use.

Reviewed some of the survey responses turned in so far. The survey form will be printed in the Trainwire. Chuck Limbert will compile and summarize the inputs.

The next scheduled Div 5 BOD meeting will be November 11, 2019 at 7:30pm at Hambden Town Hall. (Note: BOD meetings are held on even numbered months from February to October and then in November and not in December.)

Submitted by

Matt Kross - Div 5 Clerk

## MINUTES

## **OCTOBER MEETING**

**Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes** 

October 4, 2019

The October 4, 2019 membership meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Assistant Superintendent Bryan Persing at Hambden Town Hall. 20 members and no guests were present.

- Due to health issues with the Trainwire editor, Bryan Persing has taken over the editor duties. Bryan reviewed
  the current status of the Trainwire, procedure and formats for submitting information, and how things will
  be handled going forward. Bryan talked about some of the ideas he had for new regular sections of the
  Trainwire such as layout updates and member profiles. He is completely open to any suggestions the mem
  bership has for Trainwire content and format.
- Reviewed upcoming events including the Div 4 train show and Div 5 promo day.
- It was suggested that we all need to take the time to invite a Division 5 member that we haven't seen at a Division meeting or event in a long time.
- Linda Kacprzak recently received a Merit Award for one of her dioramas. Congratulations Linda!
- Interest has been expressed in having Division layout tours this November. We have two members willing to
  have their layouts open. It looks like the weekend of November 16<sup>th</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> are the ones that would work.
  Suggested times are 1pm to 4pm. Matt Kross will send an e-mail to the membership to see if there are oth
  ers that would be willing to open up their layouts.
- Don Thomas indicated that he has a large number of railroad books to liquidate from an estate. He is looking for help from a book dealer. If you have contact information for a dealer that you are familiar with, please send it to him.

Bring & Brag:

Bryan Persing Bill Berger Dave Neff Rich Kacprzak Linda Kacprzak Matt Kross

Program: "Terminating Turnout Troubles" by Dave Neff.

Submitted by Matt Kross - Div 5 Clerk

#### Interested in opening your layout in November for tours?

We are looking for layout owners that are willing to open up their layouts this November as part of National Model Railroading Month. We currently have two members willing to have their layouts open. It looks like the weekends of either November 16th or 23rd are the ones that would work. The preference would be to hold the tours on a Saturday, but we can discuss alternatives if that is a problem. Suggested times are 1pm to 4pm but that is flexible, also.

If you are willing to have your layout open, please contact Matt Kross via e-mail <u>Clerk@mcr5.org</u> or phone 440-668-9462 (cell).

Please respond by the end of October. I will generate a layout tour guide which will be available at the November meeting as well as being e-mailed out to Division 5 members and other local divisions.

# Bring Et Brog















## **BUSINESSES ACCEPTING DIVISION 5 CERTIFICATES**

Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys

Hobby Town USA

Train Specialty Company

Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters

The Painesville Railroad Museum

CW Trains, LLC

Willoughby, Ohio

Mentor, Ohio

Chardon, Ohio

Geneva, Ohio

Painesville, Ohio

Mentor, Ohio

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE DEALERS!



## Division Announcements

- After many years of faithful service Dan Chuppa is no longer able to be our refreshment coordinator starting in January 2020. This valuable position is open and if your willing to fill this position please let a board of directors member know. If your wondering what this position is; it is the person that picks up the drinks and food and brings them to the meetings. Dan can fill you in on all the particulars.
- Dave Neff made an excellent suggestion during the October meeting. Why don't we reach out to members in our division that we have not seen in awhile and invite them to the next meeting. So if you know of someone that used to attend and hasn't been seen in awhile send them an invite to our next meeting Friday, November 1.
- There is still time to submit requests for grants (up to \$500) to the board of directors for fiscal year 2019. Remember when submitting requests your proposal must include how the money will be used to promote the hobby of model railroading. Also a report of how the money was spent must be submitted before applying for future grants.
- As we go over the results of the survey one excellent suggestion has come up and we wanted to get it out quickly for future presenters. If you present on a topic and use materials or websites could you either provide handouts or email the Trainwire with those materials, sources, and website that you used. Many times we see a great presentation but then when it comes time to incorporate that into our own layouts we forget where people mentioned they bought the supplies, what website they referenced, or products used. If emailing the Trainwire I will be sure they are included in the next edition.
- Need a Division trip coordinator. Duties include planning and coordinating Division special trips. This involves contacting event venues such as museums, tourist railroads, layout owners or clubs, etc. to determine details, working with transportation companies to arrange for bus transportation if necessary, coordinating car pools, and writing up announcements for the events. Contact the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent if you are interested.
- Holiday Party is coming up Saturday January 11 @ Hambden Township Hall. Social Hour starts at Noon with lunch served at 1. After lunch approximately 2 we will have the gift exchange and loser's raffle. RSVP to Bonnie at <a href="mailto:Treasurer@mcr5.org">Treasurer@mcr5.org</a> or calling 440-298-3075. Payments (\$5 for member, \$5 for first guest, \$10 for each additional guest) can be paid at either November or December meetings. If unable to attend meeting please mail your payment to Bonnie at 17541 Thompson Road, Thompson, OH 44086. Complete guidelines for the gift exchange and loser's raffle will be in the next Trainwire. (No payments accepted at the party)

## Member Contributions

## Articles

It's amazing all the interesting adventures you can discover right in our own backyards of Northeast Ohio. This past summer Liz and I heard about a 1 day event where you can tour the abandoned trolley line underneath the Veteran's Memorial Bridge in Cleveland. We have driven on this bridge numerous times but never realized the history that was mere feet below us. The Public Works Department has allowed the public to tour the lower deck, which discontinued trolley/ streetcar service in 1954, one day a year since 1988. We were very impressed with all the time, effort, and resources the Public Works Department goes through to give visitors a great experience; and best of all it's all free. We learned all about the history of the bridge and were able to see photos

and artifacts from the era when the trolley/ streetcar line was in operation.

This very popular event (over 12,000 people this year) is highly anticipated so if you do make the journey over to Cleveland I would first read the Public Works website for tips on how to make your trip more enjoyable. I will say parking is at a premium but we found parking near the Cleveland Aquarium to be very convenient to the entrance of the tour.

Now unfortunately if you're looking to explore the bridge next year you might have to wait, because the Public Works website says tours are on hold until construction is completed under the bridge by the department of transportation.

~ Bryan Persing



















## Articles

#### Mini-Meet in Erie

MCR Division 12 hosted a one-day miniconvention at the Ambassador Center in Erie, PA on September 14<sup>th</sup>, although there were some activities on Friday, which was a practice in preparation for the Mid-Central Regional convention to be held in Erie at the same location in 2021. Brad White hosted an operating session Friday afternoon on his PRR Chautauqua Branch (Fig. 1-3), which runs from Oil City PA to Buffalo, NY in 1955. Eight layouts were open on Friday evening. We visited Mike Hauk's Susquehanna and New York (Fig. 4-6), which features many scratch-built structures in the 1930's north central PA. His use of mirrors to extend rivers and streams is ingenious. Rob Bennett's PRR/NYC themed (Fig. 7-9) layout shows free-lanced but heavy PRR scenes in the late 1950's, with very welldone layered backdrops. The Lakeshore Model Railroad Assn. (Fig 10), a club located in a church basement, includes several layouts in multiple scales, plus T-Trak.

On Saturday morning the day began with a continental breakfast/social hour for all registered

attendees before the clinics began. Twelve different clinics were presented on a variety of interesting topics, which made it hard to choose only one to attend each hour. The lunch break provided time to look at the prizes and displays, buy tickets for the Chinese raffle, and check out the white elephant sale. A T-Trak layout was set up in the common area to view and have any questions answered by the operators. At the conclusion of the final clinics of the day, hors d'oeuvres and beverages were served, the winning tickets were drawn, certificates were awarded, and the mini-meet was adjourned. Three layouts were open in the evening. On our way home, we stopped at Bill Schopf's house to see the wood block buildings in place that he showed how to construct in a clinic earlier in the day. His fantastic Baltimore & Lehigh (Fig. 11-12) 1940's eastern PA layout reminded us of George Selios' professional model railroad.

Congratulations to Division 12 for an excellent job. We're looking forward to attending the MCR convention in 2021.

~ Linda and Rich Kacprzak













## Articles













Last year my wife and I were in the Smokies and stopped at the North Carolina Transportation Museum. We were surprised at how large and well kept it was, and that it was a truly a transpiration museum. Not only did it have the roundhouse, car shop, locomotives (diesel and steam), freight and passenger cars, but also automobiles, fire trucks, aircraft, etc. We were there right after Hurricane Florence came through and they had to

cancel their fund raiser; which was several rides behind 611. The 611 was bigger and more beautiful then I expected. The real surprise for me was Little Choo Choo Hobby Shop right across the street. What a great selection of trains of all scales. If you get a chance make the stop it is more than worth a days visit.

~ Bill Berger



























## Layout Updates

As a fitting tribute to our departed friend, this month we dedicate this space to showcasing Lenny's wonderful layout.



















## Member Profile

#### Meet Ray Newnes

Ray Joined the NMRA/ LENS groups in November 2015, after attending the "Train Promo Day" at Lakeland Community Collage. He was looking for something to do with his spare time since retiring from the Avery Dennison Corporation as a pressure-sensitive adhesive project engineer.

Because of room constraints in his Mentor home, and some hand-me-down model trains, he elected to start with N-Scale modeling. His first project was building a N-Track module so he could participate in the LENS group displays.

His interest in trains go back to his early childhood where he grew up in his parents home in the Collinwood neighborhood in Cleveland. His play room was in the attic on the third floor of his parents house. The back window of the play room

overlooked the NYC yard and roundhouse. He loved to watch them turn the steam engines around on the turntable and back them into the stalls. Later. when his parents had to move from their house because of the route 2 freeway construction. They moved right across the NYC main line tracks along side the freeway near Bratenahl. Being older, he could stay up later during the summer months or on weekends during the school year, He could remember the Twentieth Century Limited headed east going by around 10:30 PM. The shinny stainless steel cars and the lit sign across the back car saying "New York City".

He started his model train collection with NYC models as they were what he knew from memory, but quickly has added just about every other major flag to his collection as he has learned more about other rail-road companies. He thinks some

are just to pretty to pass up (after all, NYC was mostly black or gray and black). Ray is currently the T-Track coordinator for Div 5, responsible for providing information to the division on T-Track developments, and keeping in touch with other MCR division T-Track members. Got a question about T-Track; see Ray.

Previous to model trains, Ray collected American and German made pocket knives and had collection of over 600 knives! But with the advent of imported cheaply made mass produced foreign knives, many of the American companies have gone out of business (only one major American pocket knife company left). The days of men's "pocket jewelry" are over. Ray is counting on model trains to last a lot longer!

"Welcome aboard" Ray.



**NMRA** 

WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION GROUP

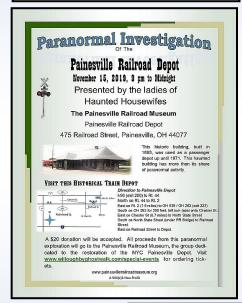
Please print out the survey and turn in your comments at the next division meeting or you may also email your responses to the division BOD at BOD@mcr5.org

NAME		
The information collected with this survey will be used to better understand what the Membership of Division 5 is looking for. This information will help improve our Division and our activities.		
What are the things that are holding you back in building your train layout?		
What would you like to see that could help you to build or add to your train layout?		
Suggestions for possible Bring & Brag topics?		
Suggestions or request for a presentation?		
What could YOU do to show how to build or add to a train layout?		
What could this Division do to bring more people into this hobby?		
Do you have any suggestions for Division fellowship activities such as trips, tours, etc.?		
Do you have any suggestions for improving our meeting format?		
Do you have any comments on the meeting day and time?		





















Division 5 Officers		(Terms expire June 2020)
Superintendent	Mike Buehner	440-479-2276 Super@mcr5.org
Asst. Superintendent	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519
		AstSuper@mcr5.org
Division 5 Directors:		(Terms expire June 2020)
Robert Gittinger Chuck Limbert Mike Carovac Ray Newnes	440-585-0237 440-357-1864 440-497-8536 216-312-2132	BOD@mcr5.org BOD@mcr5.org BOD@mcr5.org BOD@mcr5.org
Division 5 Appointed Pos	itions:	(Terms expire June 2020)
Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075 <u>Treasurer@mcr5.org</u>
Clerk	Matt Kross	440-729-3045 Clerk@mcr5.org
Railfest Chairman	Jim Wendorf	440-357-8890 Railfest@mcr5.org
Promo Day Coordinator	Bob Frieden	440-256-8141 <u>PromoDay@mcr5.org</u>
Achievement Program	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519 AP@mcr5.org
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Company Store	Ted Wiese	440-256-5212 CompanyStore@mcr5.org
Program, Bring & Brag	Dave Neff	440-269-1229
Layout Tours	Matt Kross	440-729-3045 Membership@mcr5.org

# WANTED

The Trainwire is always looking for an interesting article. If you have taken a trip lately, seen something interesting trackside, have a particular viewpoint on a railroad subject or just want to participate in the members profile; then we want to hear from you. Everyone wants to be kept current on division information, but we all enjoy an interesting article written by a member of this organization. So take your pictures and write your article and send them to the Editor by email.

# NOTICE

I will be compiling the next Trainwire on the 19th of the month. Any articles or reports received after that time will be published in the following months issue. You can always check our website www.mcr5.org for updates or changes.

### THE TRAINWIRE NEWSLETTER

PUBLICATION OF DIVISION 5 2860 LORETO DRIVE WILLOUGHBY HILLS, OHIO 44094

### **NOVEMBER, 2019 EDITION**

### **DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (74)**

## 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 2860 Loreto Drive Willoughby Hills, Ohio 44094 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.

440-729-3045



**Matt Kross** 

Clerk:

## THE WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION 5

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