#### A PUBLICATION OF THE WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION DIVISION 5 - MID CENTRAL REGION - NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

#### SEPTEMBER, 2008

Volume II Issue 9



# The Trainwire.



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By: Bruce Lutheran

sion 5. It will again be held at the Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum at 7471 Bldg. "L" on Tyler blvd in Mentor, just like last year. And, like last year, it depends on your help to make it a success. One of the things I need is a couple of open house layouts in the local area? Last year, I had Harley Smith hold his after the Promo day events and he had a good turn out. Maybe another layout tour at the same time? Let me know if you can help. I also will be available for questions on ways to help. Even an hour or two of your time would help.

Thank you in advance! 🔀

## **2011 Convention Tours.**

By: Matt Kross

S pring of 2011 isn't that far away. That is when Division 5 will be hosting the Mid Central Region convention again. Now is the time to start thinking about having your layout open for the convention. We will be having several Division 5 Layout Tour dates prior to the convention. The first opportunity is on Saturday evening, November 1, as part of the Div 5 Promo Day activities. Promo Day Coordinator Bruce Lutheran is looking for layouts to have open. We will probably have Promo Day layout tours in 2009 and 2010, also. We will look at having some additional tours in the springtime, also. Having your layout open for the Div 5 tours is a good way to practice for having your layout open for the

#### convention.

Here are some answers to frequently asked questions about the convention layout tours:

## What is required to have my layout part of the convention tour?

Mainly a willingness on your part to have people come to your home or club to see your layout. Your layout doesn't have to be finished to be part of the tour. People like to see how layouts are built so that they can get ideas for building their layouts. In talking with guests that come to see your layout, you may pick up some great ideas on how to solve a problem you are facing.

### What advantage is there to me to have my layout open?

It's a lot of fun! You get to show off your empire! You give people the opportunity to see new layouts and possibly give them new ideas for their own layouts. You can talk to guests that may be modeling the similar thing or going through similar problems. Many times you get new ideas or solutions to problems by talking to visitors to your layout. Also, by committing to have your layout as part of the tour, it may give you that needed push to get some things done that you have been putting off for a while! You help make Div 5 and the 2011 convention better by providing more model railroads for people to see.

### How does the layout tour work?

Generally, the Sunday of the convention is set aside for the layout tours. These are selfguided tours which means the convention attendees drive themselves to the layouts that they want to see. The convention attendees are provided with a list of the layouts that will be open, the times that



### **2011 Convention Layout Tours cont....**

#### (Continued from page 1)

they will be open, a description of the layout (provided by you), and directions on how to get to each layout. You will specify what time your layout will be open. During that time, people will drop by to view your layout. If your layout is operational, it is nice to have trains running, but it isn't required. The people coming to see your layout are fellow model railroaders, not the general public that you have to entertain. It is helpful if you can have someone else there to take care of running the trains so that you are free to talk to your visitors and answer questions. More details and helpful tips will be provided to those people opening up their layouts.

### How many visitors can I expect?

Unfortunately, it can range from 0 to a couple hundred! We try to have a lot of layouts open to provide a wide variety of things to see. Usually, there are too many layouts spread out over too big an area for everyone to go to all the layouts. Because of this, the convention attendees look over the layout descriptions and pick the ones that they want to see. Therefore, your description of your layout can affect how many visitors you get. You will want to put as much information in the description as you can. Every person wants to see different things. Their decision as to which layouts to visit may depend on scale, era, theme, size, percent complete, operations, etc. Unfortunately, many times their picks are based on the direction that they are traveling home from the convention since, after the layout tours, they will be heading home. Even if you only get a few people, it is still satisfying to show your railroad to fellow modelers.

If you have additional questions about the convention layout tours or Division 5 layout tours in general, contact Matt Kross

(convention@mcr5.org). ₩



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UPCOMING DIVISION 5	SCHEDULED
MEETINGS	EVENTS
Division 5 monthly meetings normally start at 7:30 PM	Frontier Days Sept. 4 - 7 Willoughby Town Hall
<u>September 5th</u>	Willoughby, Ohio
Location: Willoughby Town Hall	Foll Open House Sont 12
Program: Frontier Days	Fall Open HouseSept. 13WRMRRM
Bring & Brag: No Bring and Brag	Mentor, Ohio
October 3rd	BOD Meeting (Budget) Sept. 15
Location: Hambden Town Hall	Hambden, Ohio
Program: "Golden Spike"	
Bring & Brag: Orange and Black	NCR Convention Sept. 19 - 21
	Toledo, Ohio
<u>November</u>	
Location: Hambden Town Hall	Railroad Night   Sept. 20
Program: "18 Wheels of Steel"	Collinwood Masonic Lodge #582
Bring & Brag: Best of Show	Euclid, Ohio
	Carnival of Model Railroading Oct. 4&5
	Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum	Berea, Ohio
7471 Tyler Blvd. Unit " <b>L</b> "	
Mentor, Ohio 44060	Mid-Central Regional BOD Oct. 12
	Columbus, Ohio
Fall Hours	
	NMRA Promotional DayNov. 1WRMRRM
Monday thru Thursday 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Mentor, Ohio
Friday — Closed	
Saturday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM	WRMRRM Reverse Raffle Nov. 15
Sunday Noon - 5:00 PM	Patrician Party Center
	Eastlake, Ohio
Contact Rick @ 440-251-0350 for more information	
www.wrmrrm.org	Holiday Open House Dec. 6
	WRMRRM



## Last Stop Willoughby.

#### By: Kirk D. Pohto

uring the weekend of August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, Division 5 joined a group of other local railroad organizations that had displays in downtown Willoughby during Last Stop Willoughby. The entire weekend was devoted to honoring the former Cleveland, Painesville & Eastern (CP&E) interurban line that was headquartered in the city. Throughout the weekend, visitors were able to ride **Lolly the Trolley** to view displays throughout the city at Willoughby Coal and Feed, The Tech Center, and City Hall. The Division's modules were set up in City Hall along with displays from: The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum, The Ohio Toy Train Society, and The Western Reserve Rail Road Association. Overall, it was a very successful weekend as a large number of guests stopped in to view the displays and share their love of trains with everyone on hand.





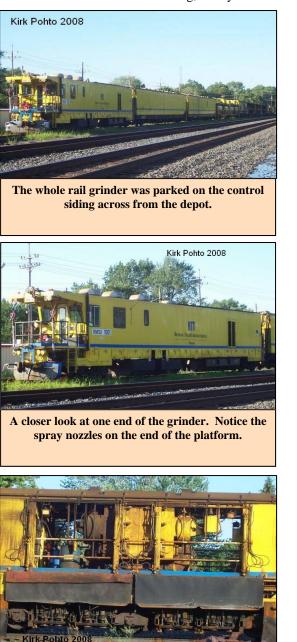


## **Pohto's Photos**

#### By: Kirk D. Pohto

Following last month's theme of maintenance of way equipment, I had the chance to catch a rail grinder as it was parked in front of the

Painesville depot. For those of you who have never watched one of the beasts work, you're really missing out. This giant yellow centipede has grinding shoes to re-shape the railhead. It's one big, noisy cloud of dust and sparks. On either end of the rail grinder you'll see water nozzles used to extinguish trackside brush fires. With the amount of sparks the grinder creates, brush fires are a common occurrence. The entire unit is self-powered with a converted locomotive sandwiched in the middle providing power.



Here are the grinding shoes themselves. Wouldn't that make a cool DCC-powered model in HO scale?



Check out those GE trucks on the locomotive. This looks like a fried DCC decoder in a conversion from the Dash 8-40B family.



One of two tank cars within the consist.



A close up of the opposite end of the rail grinder. Two more nozzles on this platform.



### **Division 5 Meeting Minutes.**

Superintendent Al Cap called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at the Hambden Town Hall. Approximately 22 members and 4 guests were present.

- The Division 5 picnic ended up being a rainy day but was great for the few that attended. We only had 18 people show up but had food for 30!
- There was a nice article in the Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup> News-Herald about the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lake Shore Live Steamers.
- Information was presented about the activities and groups that will be at the city of Willoughby's "Last Stop Willoughby" weekend in August.
- Division 5 is still in need of the following coordinators: Tripmaster, Program/Clinics Coordinator, Company Store Coordinator, and Publicity Coordinator. We need members to step forward and help us out with these tasks. Anyone interested should contact Superintendent Al Cap.
- The membership was notified that Jerry Ashley has resigned as MCR President and Dick Briggs will now assume that role.
- We are looking at holding the October meeting aboard the AC&J Scenic Railroad out of Jefferson, Ohio. More details as they get worked out. If we have it on our regular meeting night (Friday, October 3), everyone will need to be at the Jefferson station before 7:30 pm. The train will leave at 7:30 pm sharp. We will have our meeting on the train. Friends and family members are welcome.
- It was reported that a new live steam layout is being built in Geneva. More information as it becomes available.
- Treasurer Bonnie Lette reported that everything is okay with the finances for the past month.
- A notice from the NMRA main office was read indicating that NMRA membership dues will be going up for those members receiving Scale Rails due to increased costs for the magazine.
- Railfest Chairman Rob Bowers gave a status report on Railfest 2009. Fliers are now available and everyone is asked to grab a stack and hand them out or post them at work, stores, etc. We have heard rumors that the date of the IX Center trainshow has been moved so that it no longer conflicts with Railfest. Railfest badges will be required for ALL exhibitors and workers this year. We will have increased security. There will be improvements to how we use the space available to us. There will be presale of tickets to ease congestion at the door.
- The Div 5 HO modules will be set up at Willoughby City Hall for the "All Aboard Ohio" weekend in August.
- Promo Day Coordinator Bruce Lutheran gave a status report on this year's Promo Day planning. Bruce is looking for volunteers to have their layouts open in the evening after the Promo Day activities are over at the museum. Contact Bruce if you will do this. So far, Bruce only has one layout. No clinics will be offered at this year's Promo Day due to space limitations. The Promo Day fliers are not ready yet but should be done shortly and be ready for distribution.
- It was reported that the Middlefield Model Railroad Club has made tremendous progress on their N-scale layout that is located in the basement of the old B&O station in Middlefield. It is highly recommended that people go and see it. It is open most Saturdays. It is next to the red caboose at the Middlefield Historical Society, on Rt 608 just south of Rt 87.
- Information was presented about railroad speeder rides on August 9<sup>th</sup> leaving from Titusville, PA at the Perry Street Station.
- The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum is conducting several fund raising activities. The will hold a reverse raffle in November. They have also set up a program called the Golden Spike for people that make annual donations.
- Bill Eville is looking for some blue Limberg trucks. He is also looking for someone to respring the Limberg trucks that he has. If you can help, contact Bill.
- Bring & Brag participants: Matt Kross, Bill Berger, Bill Smith, Al Cap, Don Bittner and Bill Brodie

Program: Dick Roth showed several collections of pictures that included the Buffalo & Lake Erie traction line, an O-scale home tration layout, street running in Erie, and a number of other miscellaneous topics. **#** 



## Pictures from August Meeting.























Next Division 5 Meeting – September 5th, 2008.



August 18th, 2008

### **Division 5 BOD Meeting Notes**

Attended: Al C, Lenny K, Bruce L, Dale S, Don B, Mike B, Wayne L, Bonnie L

The train ride meeting on the AC & J will be postponed till June 5, 2009

Budgets – all committees that will need money in 2009 will have to turn in their proposed budget to the BOD for the September 15<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting. You are requested to attend the BOD meeting to present your budget and answer any questions the BOD may have to ask of you.

Discussed the Program plus Bring & Brag for October – Bruce L will be doing the program, Bring & Brag will be "Orange & Black" theme in honor of Halloween.

Frontier Days in Willoughby will held this year and the Division modules have been asked to display in the basement of City Hall. Our membership meeting will be held at the basement of City Hall on September  $5^{th}$  – There will be no program or Bring N Brag for that evening.

Al sent Blane of NOARS an email stating that the AC & J train ride meeting was delayed till June

It is official – GATS <u>is</u> going to hold their train show at the IX-Center the same weekend as our Railfest in 2009. GATS nor the IX-Center could change their schedule to miss our weekend. This means that we all must go out and promote our Railfest.

It has been announced that Pittsburgh will not be hosting the NMRA National Convention in 2013 because of labor & parking problems

Convention – Dale has setup a meeting for Matt & him to go out to discuss what the Geneva State Lodge can offer the Division for the 2011 MCR Convention.

Reviewed the upcoming schedule to be put in the Trainwire

Promo Day – Bruce has made changes to the flyer and Bonnie will get them printed.

Reviewed the mileage reimbursement for Division business and was decided to keep at \$.505 per mile. This will be reviewed once a year at budget time to decide if there is a need to adjust for the up coming year.

Bonnie to email the 2008 Budget to the board before the September BOD meeting.

2011 MCR Convention is being held on the  $50^{\text{th}}$  Anniversary of the creation of Division 5. Remember there is a naming contest for the best catch phase for the convention – keep in mind that we would like to have something to do with the 50 years we have been around.

AC & J will have a Steam Loco over Labor Day Weekend. #



## New On-Line Railroad Publication

any in this hobby have seen new magazines come and go from their hobby store shelves over the years. While some of these magazines have been geared toward a general audience, others have had a very specific content that was geared towards a limited readership. Case in point, the recent demise of the Rail Model Journal, Well, there's a new on-line magazine or ezine that has come to my attention recently with the National Train Show. Created by the likes of Joe Fugate, who is well known on the internet for his HO Siski-

you Line layout, Joe's efforts are assisted by Charlie Comstock (Bear Creek and South Jackson layout), Dan Wilson and Sam Karactore and Les Halmos. Model Railroad Hob*byist* is a completely free ezine, and is touted as being completely funded by advertising. The intent of the ezine is that it will always be completely free to download and read. It is produced using the rich media format, which simply means the ezine is created as a interactive PDF file, which has the ability to have video clips, audio clips, and 3D virtual reality images. Web address http:// model-railroad-hobbyist.com/ faq Issues will be published quarterly, with the first issue due out in January 2009. However, the web site is currently offering a 10-page introduction of the ezine, which costs you only the time required to download it. For anyone with a computer, the ezine does require you to upgrade to version 9 of Adobe Reader (free). The premier issues contents are listed as being: The story behind the Bear Creek & South Jackson. Modeling the steel business on your model railroad. N-scale decoder installations. How sharp is too sharp? Powerful new curve radius insights that work for any scale Part 1: Track planning on computer using **3rd Planit** 

One of the interesting features on the website currently is a

#### By: Kenneth Stroebel

series of movie files (MRH Theatre option) that were shot during the recent Anaheim National Train Show, which showcase the many new products introduced. Definitely something you'll want to see if you didn't make the convention or train show. The website also currently has a series of model railroad blogs and discussion forum, which cover a variety of topics. I encourage you to try out the new ezine and subscribe if you like it. After all, it costs you nothing. **#** 



## Price of "Scale Rails" going up.

he 2008 National convention is over, and several important decisions came out of the Board meeting there. You'll be hearing about most of those decisions in "S c a l e R a i l s ." However, one decision that may directly impact you is the new decision to raise the annual subscription

rate of "Scale Rails." If you're currently running an NMRA subscription or renewal form in your newsletter, as of October 1, 2008 you'll have to adjust the rates for memberships that include the magzine. Here's the official word from the Board: "In order to keep up with rapidly escalating costs for printing and distribution, the Board approved a new rate of \$19 (US members) per annual subscription of 'Scale Rails." Remember, this is still quite a value, considering "Scale Rails" is typically 72 pages and full-color. In fact, a subscription comes to less than \$2 per month. So, bottom line: after October 1, the new annual NMRA dues rate <u>with</u> a "Scale Rails" subscription will be \$55. Please adjust your subscription or renewal form! Thanks,

- Gerry Leone, MMR Deputy Chair
- Jan Wescott Department Manager Membership Services & Promotion Department

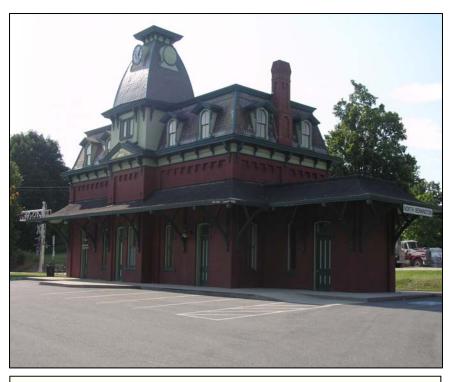
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## **Railroading in Vermont**

*by:* Bruce Lutheran

hile on a recent trip to Vermont, I got the chance to view some Vermont railway history. Back in the late 1800's, the Bennington and Rutland Railroad was key to commerce in southern Vermont. It later became part of the Rutland railroad. The Rutland railroad ran from Burlington to Bennington Vermont. Located in North Bennington is the Old Depot, (shown below) which dates back to 1880. The following 3 pictures give a good vantage of it and the plaque and its history.

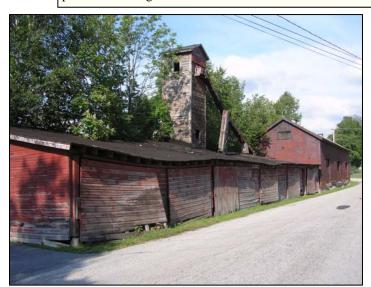


Right in back of the depot, is an old mill storehouse. I have attached several pictures showing detail of its current condition – a weathering project at best!



RAILROAD STATION

The North Bennington Railroad Station was constructed in 1880, replacing an earlier wood frame station located on the same site. For over half a century, the depot served as the gateway to the village. Beginning in the 1930's, with the gradual decline in the Rutland Railroad's passenger service, the structure fell into disrepair. In 1971, Ethel (Babe) Scott M°Cullough and her husband, William R. Scott sponsored restoration of the building. It has been in use since that time as the Village seat of government. In 1996, the village obtained an enhancement grant from the Department of Transportation to again restore the building to Mr. & Mr.s.







### Railroading in Vermont cont.....

Just down the road was the Pond and waterfall. The site of the old Grist Mill, which is off the Old Mill

Grist mill has been replaced by a fire station,

but the history is fascinating. The pictures shown below are of the pond and

waterfall and the following is a factory on the river. 🔀





The pictures below are from a grain storage facility near the Depot The facility is rather large and there were several box and covered hoppers on site.



The Picture below is from a closed station and freight house located about 10 miles down the





This last picture is from an oil storage facility. The weathering on this is great for detailing.



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The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum Reverse Raffle

Cost of ticket \$80.00/two dinners \$50.00/one dinner

Saturday November 15th, 2008 The Patrician Party Center - Eastlake, Ohio 33150 Lakeland Boulevard Eastlake, Ohio 44095

### Doors Open at 5:30 PM

Side board and 50-50 tickets available for sale There will be three side boards (\$5.00, \$3.00 and \$2.00) to start More if necessary

### Open Bar opens at 6:00 PM

### Dinner at 7:30 PM Menu

Mixed garden salad Moist baked chicken Top round of beef with gravy Seasoned red skin potatoes Mixed vegetables or green beans Rolls and butter Coffee, Tea and dessert

D J will provide music during dinner with music and dancing after drawing

### Drawing will start after dinner

Main and all side board numbers are drawn at the same time

1<sup>st</sup> number drawn is worth a \$50.00 gasoline gift certificate
 Numbers 40, 80, 120 and 160 are all worth a \$25.00 gasoline gift certificate
 195<sup>th</sup> number drawn is worth \$50.00 gasoline gift certificate
 Last number is worth \$1500.00 (last 5 numbers may split)

The Patrician Party Center Closes at 11:30 PM

All decisions by the Raffle Committee will be final.

For more information, contact Lenny @ 440-478-6661.

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### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual

NMRA - MCR - Division 5 National Model Railroad Month Promotional Day

> Saturday, Nov 1st 2008 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM "Free Admission"

Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum 7471 Tyler Boulevard, Units L ½ mile east of Rt.306 on north side of street





Mentor Ohio

Activities (subject to changes)

- Home layout operating session
- LEGO layout
- Self guided layout tours

- Company store
- Videos
- Operating trains in several scales



Coffee, Pop, Donuts and Snacks Through Out the Day!

For Information email: PromoDay@MCR5.Org or phone 440-257-2105



## **Bulletin Board.**

## Introducing the best deal in model railroading.

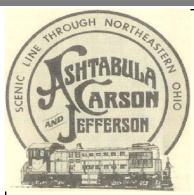
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"Return to Yester-Year" August 30 & 31, 2008. Stream whistles have not been heard for over 55 years on this line. Ride in 1925 & 1933 vintage coaches behind a small 1925-yard steam engine. Full hour round trips from Jefferson to Carson Yard and return. Starting at 10:30 AM on

one and a half hour intervals until 5:30PM.

### Fare: \$15 adult, \$10 children (3 to 12).

## **Division** 4

Carnival of Model Railroading

### October 4 & 5, 2008

Time: Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm Sunday 11:00am to 4:00pm Place: The Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds Admission: \$6 Adults, \$9 / 2 day pass. *Children under 15 free with an adult.* 

### **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 Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters Willoughby, Ohio Mentor, Ohio Chardon, Ohio Perry, Ohio Geneva, Ohio



Please support these dealers!



Team Track	www	.MCR5.org	September Divis
Division 5 Officers	(Terms expir	re June 2010)	September 5
Superintendent	Al Cap <u>Su</u>	440-729-1458 per@MCR5.org	Location: Willoughby One Public Sq
Asst. Superintendent	Dale Smith	440-286-4932 uper@MCR5.org	Willoughby, O
Treasurer	Bonnie Lette Trea	440-298-3075 surer@MCR5.org	Willoughby City Hall is loca of Downtown W
Division 5 Trustees:	(Terms e	xpire June 2010)	
Mike Buehner 440-428 Wayne Lette 440-298		n 440-257-2105 440-257-7555	Program: Operations of
Division 5 Board of Directo	rs: <u>B</u>	OD@MCR5.org	Bring & Brag Theme: No Br
Division 5 Appointed Posit	tions: (Terms e	expire June 2010)	
Clerk	Matt Kross	440-729-3045 Slerk@MCR5.org	
Railfest Chairman	Rob Bowers Jr. <u>Railt</u>	440-942-3039 fest @MCR5.org	
Promo Day Coordinator	Bruce Lutheran Promol	440-257-2105 Day@MCR5.org	
Achievement Program	Bill Brodie	216-780-0938 AP@MCR5.org	<b>Division 5 Compa</b>
Contests	Bill Brodie <u>Con</u>	216-780-0938 ttest@MCR5.org	Items
Auditors	Mike Schaab Matt Kross	440-255-2530 Audit@MCR5.org	• O scale Sugar Houses @ \$36
HO Module Coordinator	Rick Montgomery ModuleCoordin	440-251-0350 atior@MCR5.org	<ul> <li>HO scale Sugar Houses @ \$2</li> <li>N scale Sugar Houses @ \$17/</li> </ul>
Trainwire Editor	Lenny Kessler <u>Trian</u>	440-478-6661 wire@MCR5.org	HO scale Western Reserve R N scale Western Reserve RI
Refreshments	Ron Biddell <u>Refreshn</u>	440-352-3730 ments@MCR5.org	@\$12/each or two for \$22
Membership Roster	Matt Kross <u>Membe</u>	440-729-3045 rship@MCR5.org	<ul><li>Division 5 Pins @ \$2/each</li><li>Division 5 "Pentagon" Patch</li></ul>
Convention Co-Chairs	Dale Smith Matt Kross <u>Conve</u>	440-286-4932 ntion@MCR5.org	• Division 5 Hats @ \$10/each
Webmaster	Wayne Lette <u>Webm</u>	440-298-3075 master@MCR5.org	October T
Company Store	Al Cap <u>Company</u> !	440-729-1458 Store@MCR5.org	Deadline Sept
	company	CLOIC CHICKS.ULE	

### ision 5 Meeting 5th, 2008.

**Town Hall** quare

Ohio

cated right in the middle Willoughby.

on HO Modules

ring and Brag this month.

## oany Store

- 6/each
- S24/each
- 7/each
- RR Reefers @ \$12/each RR Reefers (two numbers)
- @ \$2/each

### **Trainwire** tember 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

### September, 2008

### **Electronic Version**



### <u>The Trainwire</u>

*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. 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 <u>Trainwire@MCR5.org</u>. 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 Division5

