



# The Trainwire.



## Off the Mainline...

by: Kirk Pohto

**H**ere's a mixed freight of topics this month. Let's see if I can get through all of this without setting off the defect detector....The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum is holding an open house on Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm. If you haven't

been to the Museum lately, you really need to check out what's been going on. Thanks to a huge S-scale donation, things are moving along rapidly in the large-scale room. Each time I stop by, something new has been added. It's really amazing to see how quickly things are progressing. Don't forget, our 2008 elections are just around the corner! So far we only have four candidates running for the three offices: Superintendent – Al Cap; Assistant Superintendent – Dale Smith; Treasurer – Bon-

nie Lette and Mike Buehner. Are you still thinking about running for a Division office this year? We're taking open nominations at the February meeting. If you want to really make a difference in what the Division does in the future, run for an office! We're trying to re-schedule the DCC program we had planned for January. Due to an error on our part, it never came to fruition. We'll try, again, in the spring. While we're talking about programs and Bring-n-Brag, do you have any ideas of what you'd like to see at a Division meeting? Let

us know. We're always looking for new ways to present ideas and showcase our Division's talents! Speaking of Bring-n-Brag themes... looking ahead to June, we're going to try something different. Our theme will be, "The Sugar Shack: Unplugged". Your challenge will be to construct the sugar shack into something besides a sugar shack. Use your imagination! Our versatile kit can be used in many applications. Let's see how many different variations we can

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come up with! (Al Cap will have some kits on hand at the meetings leading up to June if you need to buy another one, or another dozen.) Along those same lines, the Mid-Central Region now has a new building project for sale. The first in a series of kits is a laser-cut wood model of a PRR style baggage/freight house. The kit is made by Mountaineer Precision Products (the same company who made our Sugar Shack). It's available in HO, N, S, and O scales and modeled after a prototype in Lebanon, Ohio.

Check out the Region's website for more information: <http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/freight-house-2008/freight-house-2008.html>. We'll have sign-up sheets starting at the February meeting if anyone would like to sign up to buy one (or more). If we get a number of orders, we can combine the order to save on shipping.

**Railfest** is just down the tracks. Rob Bowers and Jim Wendorf have been working hard to get things set up. Let's make sure we all pitch in to help out the weekend of March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Each year we have a suc-



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

cessful show because of YOUR HELP!

Have you signed up for the Regional Convention yet? That's fast approaching as

*(Continued on page 2)*

# Off the Mainline cont...

by: Kirk Pohto

(Continued from page 1)

well (May 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>). Division 4 has been putting together a great line up of clinics and tours to keep attendees busy, but they're also trying something different.

By tying the MCR convention with other prototype historical societies' conventions, they're hoping to draw a wider range of attendees this year. Keep a close eye on this one. For as high as we set the bar back in 2005,

Division 4 is aiming to set it even higher with this convention. Pulling the prototype and model groups together is a great idea. I can hardly wait to go! If you want more info, or need a registration form, go to Division 4's web-

site: <http://www.div4.org>. Well, I think that should just about cover it; a full train of topics to get us ready for next month's meeting. See you down the line in February! ☘

## UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

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

### February 1

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program: Canadian Rockies by rail  
 Bring & Brag: Favorite Fallen Flag

### March 7

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program:  
 Bring & Brag: Green Theme

### The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum

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

#### Hours

**Tuesday** 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
**Thursday** 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
**Saturday** 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
**Sunday** Noon - 5:00 PM

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

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

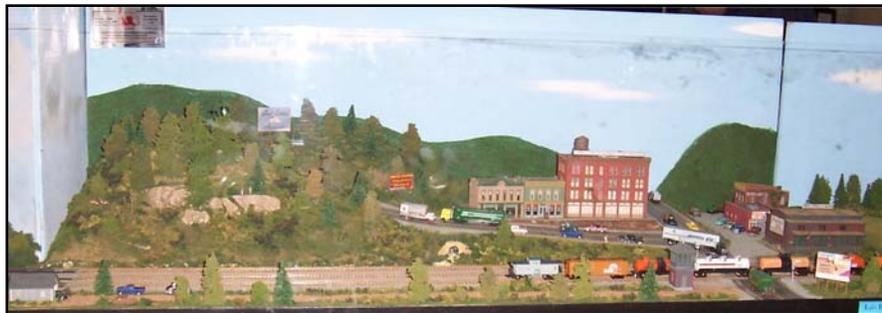
## SCHEDULED EVENTS

<b>LENS Module Setup</b>	<b>Feb 2&amp; 3</b>
Geneva State Lodge Geneva, Ohio	
<b>Winter Open House</b>	<b>Feb 16</b>
WR Model RR Museum Mentor, Ohio	
<b>Division 5 BOD Meeting</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>
Hamden Town Hall Hamden, Ohio	
<b>Railfest</b>	<b>March 15-16</b>
Lakeland Community College Kirtland, Ohio	
<b>Division 5 BOD Meeting</b>	<b>March 17</b>
Hamden Town Hall Hamden, Ohio	
<b>MCR Regional Convention</b>	<b>May 15 - 18</b>
Independence, Ohio	

# L.E.N.S. at the Lake Farm Park.

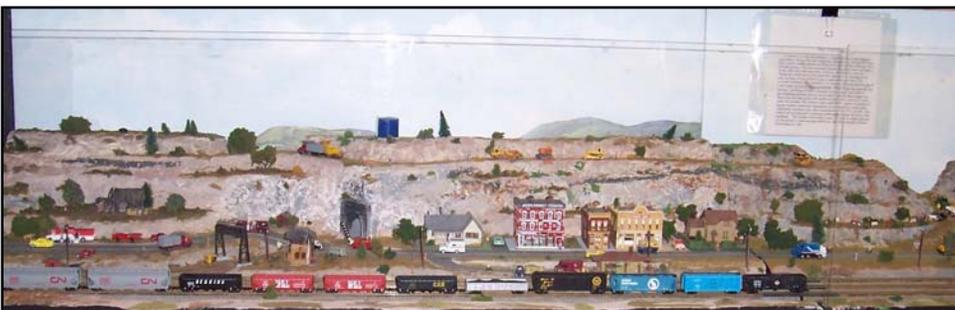
The L.E.N.S. group had their modules setup at Lake Farm Park during part of the Holiday Lights in the Country. They were there from December 15<sup>th</sup> through December 23<sup>rd</sup>. The crowds were many at times and there were a few moments that they were a little less crowded. The kids (young and old) seemed to enjoy the trains. There were many conversations of train talk going on and it wasn't just with the adults.

We setup around 1:00 pm and was up and running around 2:30 or 3:00 pm. Our first showing was at 5:00 pm Saturday until 9:00 pm. The trains ran every night during those hours. We even had a bad snow storm one of the days that kept the crowds down.



Hope you enjoy these few of the pictures that were taken at Lake Farm Park.

The L.E.N.S. group will be setting up their modules during Geneva's Winterfest to run February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at the Geneva State Park Lodge, 4888 North Broadway (State Route 534), Geneva, Ohio. Hope you will come out to enjoy the winter fun and visit the trains. While you are there you could also enjoy riding snowmobiles outside (dress for the weather), plus there will be a park ranger showing how to enjoy the outdoors during winter. ☘



This is a National Model Railroad Assn. MCR Div. 5 Event  
SINCE 1984



# RAILFEST 2008

Sat & Sun March 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>  
 10am to 4pm

## MODEL RAILROAD SHOW AND FLEA MARKET

### Operating Layouts

**N Scale Layouts**  
 (Regional NTrak)

**HO Scale Layout**  
 (NMRA)

**S Scale &  
 American Flyer**  
 (Cuyahoga Valley S Gaugers)

**Lionel O Gauge  
 LGB G Gauge**

**Live Steam Display**  
 (Lake Shore Live Steamers)

**Lakeland Community College  
 Kirtland Ohio**  
 State Rt. 306 at Interstate 90  
 (N.E. Ohio)



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 NMRA Division 5  
 PO Box 5081  
 Mentor OH 44061  
 Phone (440) 942 3039  
 or (440) 357-8890  
 mail Railfest@MCR5.Org

Admission	\$ 5.00
Two-Day Pass	\$ 8.00
Family (couples)	\$ 8.00
Family (max)	\$10.00
(Adults with Children under 18)	

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# Division 5 Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2008

Superintendent Kirk Pohto opened the meeting at 7:30 PM

**Division 4's Carnival** - will be October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> this year

**Railfest 2008** – School is ready for us, 60-65 vendors have paid, January 9<sup>th</sup> is the cut off date and then Rob & Jim will go to the waiting list to fill the remaining tables. Things are on track; there will be some more Flea Market type single tables sold.

**Achievement Program** – nothing new at this time but there is one in the works

**Nominating Committee** – Don Bittner, Chairman (Lake Co.), Gary Shaffer (Ashtabula Co.), and Don Thomas (Geauga Co.). They are going to meet and contact possible candidates for the upcoming election. They will have their list of candidates by the BOD meeting in January.

**Atlas** – has announced they are going to be increasing prices across the board 10% to 12.5% as of February 1, 2008.

**Division Flea Market Table at Railfest** – we had a show of hands of those that will have items to be sold on the table. Please let Gary Shaffer know how many items you will be bringing by the February meeting so we know how many tables will be needed.

**Gary Shaffer** brought in some magazines, catalogs, & tapes that are available for anyone for the taking.

**New Modules** – there is a basic track plan from Conneaut to Wickliffe. The City of Mentor Engineering department gave the module group some very nice pictures to use for modeling the structures and things along the track.

**Lawson Stevenson** is recovering from his last visit to the hospital and is up to receiving phone calls & cards.

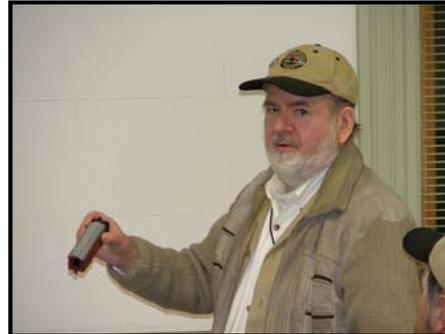
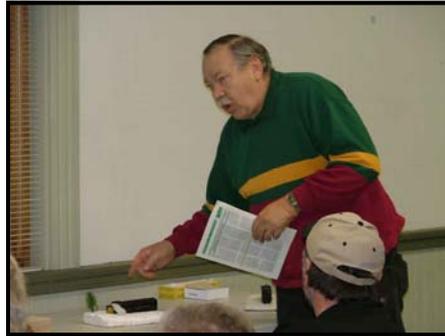
**Bring N Brag – Snow related:**

Ron Sieloff	Don Bittner
Ken Stroebel	Bill Smith
Rich Kacprzak	Kirk Pohto
Gary Shaffer	Tom Carr
Bill Brodie	

**T**here was no program and we all got to socialize ☘

# Pictures from the January Meeting.

*Photos by:  
Ron Sieloff*



Next Division 5 Meeting – February 1st, 2008.

# Division 5 BOD Meeting Notes

January 21, 2008

**Attended:** Kirk P, Al C, Rick M, Lenny K, Bruce L, Matt K, Dale S, Wayne L, Bonnie L

**Railfest 2007 audit** – Matt is still working on scheduling, Lenny has volunteered to help with audits.

**Nominating Committee** have nominated the following people for the upcoming election:

Superintendent: Al Cap; Assistant Superintendent: Dale Smith; Treasurer: Mike Buehner & Bonnie Lette

**MCR Building Project** - they have got a laser cut kit (Mountaineer) of a PRR Baggage/Freight House that they are selling. They have asked the Division to purchase some of the kits and to resale. We have decided to put an order sheet out for the members to sign up so we know where the interest is. Then to save the shipping costs we will make arrangements to pickup at the Convention in Independence.

**DCC Program** will be rescheduled, Rick M is going to contact the clinician to find out what month works best for the clinician and the division

**Programs were discussed:** DCC and the Detroit Convention (Gary Shaffer) one will be in March the other in April but it has not been finalized at this time, stay tune

**Jerry Ashley**, Current President of the Mid-Central Region is still in the hospital but is doing well

## **New hobby store to accept Division 5 Certificates**

Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters, 775 South Broadway Ave., Geneva, OH (440-466-0696); Owner: Harold Cattell. They are located in the strip mall south of Giant Eagle in Geneva. There is a variety of trains & related items. Rick motioned to accept as a new participant in the certificate program, Wayne 2<sup>nd</sup> – voted and passed.

**Suggestion/Discussed** – having someone from the division to call members who do not renew their membership to do like an exit interview to find out reason for not renewing, what the division could do to improve and so on. A questionnaire will be worked up and brought before the Board before any calls are made. Rick to work up the questionnaire when making the phone calls & Matt to work on a list of the members who have not renewed.

**Clarification** was made that the terms of all the members of the BOD and appointed coordinators will end when the current officers are out of office. It will be up to the new Superintendent to put together the new BOD and any appointed coordinators. The new BOD and appointed coordinators could be current ones as there are no term limits for these positions.

**Kingpin** - it was mentioned that Division 5 was not mentioned in the Kingpin. Kirk attended the Region's Board meeting in Columbus and submitted his notes but they were not included. We do not know why.

**Mileage Rate for Division Business only** – Dale Smith motioned to keep the mileage rate at the Current year's IRS reimbursement rate; Rick Montgomery 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion; voted and passed. 2008 IRS reimbursement rate is \$.505 per mile. ☺

## Achievement Program Awards on Division 5's Website.

Article by: Bonnie Lette

As the webmasters of our Division, we are constantly making improvements, additions, and updates to our website so our cyber readers can keep informed of the happenings in Division 5. We are in the process of creating a new section on the website for the awards that our members have received. So far we have two members that are listed on the site and they include our two NMRA Master Model Railroaders: Lawson Stevenson & Gary Shaffer. We would

like to expand on this to include all members that have received any Achievement Program Awards, from the Golden Spike all the way up to Master Model Railroader. The minimal information that will be included in this section would be your name, the award(s) received and the date it was issued. However, if you would like a photo of yourself, your award(s) or you with the award(s) to be included with your information, we can add that to the website. If you would care to write a brief article of how you accomplished the award

(s) that too could be included. Division 5 has many members that have been a part of the Achievement Program by receiving various awards. We are proud of these members and want to share with the world how Division 5 is doing. There are many ways to get this information to us: Hand deliver: At any of the meetings

### Mail to:

Wayne Lette  
17541 Thompson Road  
Thompson, OH 44086

### E-mail to:

webmaster@mcr5.org

We would like to complete this project within the next several months. So if you would like to let everyone know of your accomplishments, please do this now or sooner. ☘



Anthony J. Spena, CLU, ChFC,  
CEP  
Spenna Financial Services, LLC



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## Division 5 Fleamarket Table Item Rules.

If you want to make use of the Division fleamarket table at Railfest, you **MUST** fill out the form on the other side of this sheet. Use as many copies of the form as needed to list **ALL** the items you are selling. Each item on the table must have a sticker that contains the member's initials and a sequence number corresponding to the items on the form. Multiple items, bagged or boxed together, are only counted as one item if they are being sold as a set.

Please keep prices in even dollar increments (**\$1, \$2, \$3, etc.**) if at all possible. This makes it a lot easier for the people manning the table to make change and handle the money.

Also, you need to provide an envelope to put the money in from the sales. Mark your name clearly on the envelope. You also need to put some money in the envelope to allow the people manning the table to make change. We would like at least five **\$1 bills** in the envelope, but would prefer to have **ten \$1 bills**. Please mark on the envelope the amount of money you provided for making change.

### 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](http://www.MCR5.org)

Division 5 Officers

(Terms expire June 2008)

Superintendent	Kirk Pohto	440-352-9813
		<a href="mailto:Super@MCR5.org">Super@MCR5.org</a>
Asst. Superintendent	Al Cap	440-729-1458
		<a href="mailto:AstSuper@MCR5.org">AstSuper@MCR5.org</a>
Clerk / Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075
		<a href="mailto:Clerk@MCR5.org">Clerk@MCR5.org</a>

**Division 5 Trustees:** (Terms expire June 2008)

Rick Montgomery	440-251-0350	Bruce Lutheran	440-257-2105
Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	Dale Smith	440-286-4932

Division 5 Board of Directors: [BOD@MCR5.org](mailto:BOD@MCR5.org)**Division 5 Appointed Positions:** (Terms expire June 2008)

Railfest Chairman	Rob Bowers Jr.	440-942-3039
		<a href="mailto:Railfest@MCR5.org">Railfest@MCR5.org</a>
Promo Day Coordinator	Bruce Lutheran	440-257-2105
		<a href="mailto:PromoDay@MCR5.org">PromoDay@MCR5.org</a>
Achievement Program	Bill Brodie	218-780-0938
		<a href="mailto:AP@MCR5.org">AP@MCR5.org</a>
Contests	Bill Brodie	218-780-0938
		<a href="mailto:Contest@MCR5.org">Contest@MCR5.org</a>
VCR / TV	Al Cap	440-729-1458
Auditors	Mike Schaab	440-255-2530
	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
		<a href="mailto:Audit@MCR5.org">Audit@MCR5.org</a>
HO Module Coordinator	Rick Montgomery	440-251-0350
		<a href="mailto:ModuleCoordinator@MCR5.org">ModuleCoordinator@MCR5.org</a>
Trainwire Editor	Lenny Kessler	440-478-6661
		<a href="mailto:Trianwire@MCR5.org">Trianwire@MCR5.org</a>
Refreshments	Ron Biddell	440-352-3730
		<a href="mailto:Refreshments@MCR5.org">Refreshments@MCR5.org</a>
Membership Roster	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
		<a href="mailto:Membership@MCR5.org">Membership@MCR5.org</a>
Division Tripmaster	Ken Stroebel	440-257-8367
		<a href="mailto:Tripmaster@MCR5.org">Tripmaster@MCR5.org</a>
Programs / Clinics	(open)	
Webmaster	Wayne Lette	440-298-3075
		<a href="mailto:Webmaster@MCR5.org">Webmaster@MCR5.org</a>
Company Store	Al Cap	440-729-1458
		<a href="mailto:CompanyStore@MCR5.org">CompanyStore@MCR5.org</a>

**February Division 5 Meeting**

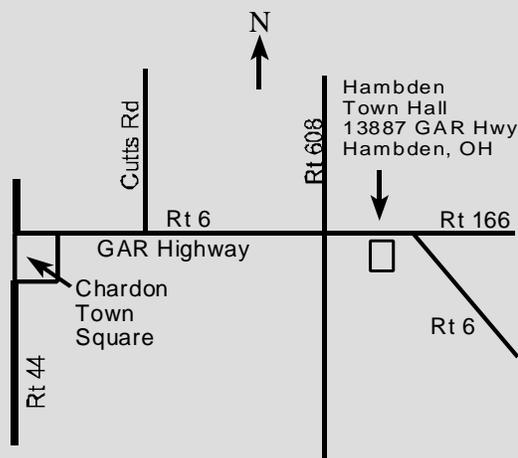
February 1, 2008

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: **Canadian Rockies by rail.**Bring & Brag Theme: **Favorite Fallen Flag**

*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

**March Trainwire**  
**Deadline February 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

## February, 2008

### Electronic Version

Division 5 Membership  
as of January 1st, 2008



# 117

## 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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