



# The Trainwire.



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## Update on the NMRA 2014 Convention

A convention committee meeting was held on Wednesday June 13 at the I-X Center. The director of the new Medical Mart/Convention Center gave an update on the site: it's nearly ready for 'topping out', and should finish five months ahead of schedule and under budget! Target opening is May 2013, and they already have 40 events scheduled prior to our convention in July of 2014. There will be three exhibition halls, state of the art with full cellular phone and internet service, frequent electrical outlets. A full utility service corridor underpins the halls. The halls will be exhibitor friendly—no need for union hands to plug in simple electrical devices, and own power tools will be ok. There will be plenty of meeting rooms—nearly 60,000 square feet in two clustered locations in the Medmart directly connected to the exhibit halls. There will be a 90,000 sq ft ballroom which overlooks the NS tracks and the lakefront properties. Only one drawback---no direct parking--visitors will have to use the nearby 27 public parking lots (hey, Cleveland has to make some money too). A second presentation was made by Positively Cleveland, who will work with us on bus tours, non-rail events, restaurants, etc.

Many of us on the committee from Division 4, 1 and 5 will be going to this year's convention in Grand Rapids in late July, and we'll have a big exhibit booth advertising the Cleveland convention—if you're planning to attend, we can use more volunteers for the booth! Our real work and planning will begin at this event and then continue full-bore beginning September. We need to be fully ready by December 2013 so that detailed online and print media publicity can begin then.

***Our Division 5 needs to become more active in the 2014 convention.*** Matt Kross, Dale Smith, and I are on the Convention Committee, but we'll need many other volunteers during the main event to handle many aspects at the Convention Center. Even before that—we ***need modelers willing to host their layouts for tours—either bus tours or self-guided. Please contact Matt/Dale to sign up! Do you want to present a clinic? Talk to me!***

**Dave Neff 2014 Convention Clinic Chairman**

## UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

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.

July, 2012

### NO MEETING THIS MONTH

*There will be a picnic on Saturday in July 7, 2012*

August 3rd, 2012

Location: Hambden Town Hall

Program: TBA

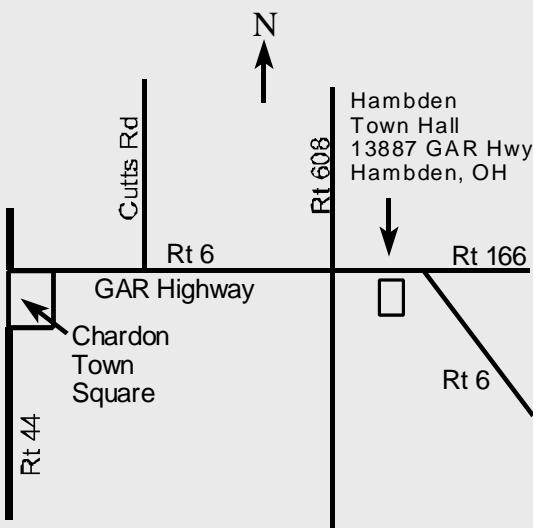
Bring & Brag: "Gear Driven"

September 7th, 2012

Location: Hambden Town Hall

Program: Freight car weathering (Joe Saunders)

Bring & Brag: "Structures from Northeast Ohio "



Map to Hambden Town Hall

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

**Division 5 Picnic** **July 7**

Painesville Depot  
Painesville, Ohio (2-6 pm)

**L.S. Live Steamers Public Run** **July 15**

Penitentiary Glen Reservation  
Kirtland, Ohio (1-3 pm)

**BOD Meeting** **July 16**

Hambden Town Hall  
Hambden, Ohio

**L.S. Live Steamers Public Run** **July 29**

Penitentiary Glen Reservation  
Kirtland, Ohio (1-3 pm)

**Last Stop Willoughby** **August 18**

Downtown Willoughby

**BOD Meeting** **August 20**

Hambden Town Hall  
Hambden, Ohio

### Division 5 Sick Leave

The following Division 5 members are on "sick leave". We wish all of them a speedy recovery. I'm sure they would all appreciate a call, an e-mail, or a card to let them know we are thinking about them. Hopefully they can spend some time model railroad-ing while they are recuperating! If you know of other members that should be listed, please let the Clerk know.

Ron Biddell - throat cancer surgery

Gary Shaffer - heart bypass surgery

Charlie Tidd - knee replacement

# Division 5 Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2012 7:30 pm

Meeting was called to order by **Superintendent Rob Bowers** at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. There were 29 members and 6 guests present.

New **Superintendent Rob Bowers** shared some of his views on what he would like to see the Division do in the next couple of years as far as promoting the hobby, getting more members involved, and attracting new members.

**Dick Roth** reported that the Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad is starting their 2012 excursion season. There will be steam on the line July 14-15. There will be extra runs on those days.

Outgoing **Superintendent Mike Buehner** thanked the BOD members and committee chairs for their work during his term.

The details of the upcoming **Division picnic** at the Painesville Depot were reviewed. At the time of the meeting we had close to 30 people signed up.

Information regarding **Norfolk Southern's** steam excursions and heritage units were presented.

## **Bring & Brag:** Theme – Diesel Locomotives

Matt Kross	Dave Neff	Skip Giddings
Bill Smith	Mike Buehner	Ed Martin

**Program:** The originally scheduled program on weathering freight cars had to be postponed until a future meeting due to medical issue with our planned presenter. Instead, Bruce Lutheran brought in a Trains video called "Showdown On Lake Erie" that we watched.

## **Business Meeting:**

The Division financial audit was completed. No problems were found.

We need to send an update to the Region regarding our **new officers**.

**Division 4 and Division 1** would like to set up a large HO modular layout sometime in the future. Possibly for the 2014 convention. They have asked that the HO Module Group join them in this effort. Someone from that group needs to contact them and determine what needs to be done for the modules to be compatible.

## **Submitted by:**

**Matt Kross** – Division 5 Clerk

# Pictures from June Meeting.



## Next Division 5 Meeting - August 3rd, 2012.

# Bulletin Board.

### Hello Division 5 Members,

As you all may have heard by now I was diagnosed with throat cancer last year. After radiation treatments at the end of 2011 proved unsuccessful, I had a cancerous cyst removed along with my vocal cords earlier this year. Now I speak with a mechanical hand-held device unit until I have the prosthetic device installed in my throat. The doctors are confident that the cancer has been 100% removed and I am cancer free!

I wish to thank, with deepest gratitude, the Division 5 Brothers and their families for your thoughts, prayers, cards and visits. It truly meant a lot to me during this difficult time. Again, thank you!

Your friend,

**Ron Biddell**

# Division 5 BOD Minutes

June 18th, 2012 7:30 pm

A **Division 5 BOD meeting** was held on June 18, 2012 at Hambden Town Hall. In attendance were Rob Bowers, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Don Bittner, Matt Kross, Bob Frieden, Lenny Kessler, Tom Pescha, and Dave Neff.

**New Superintendent Rob Bowers** indicated that he is still in the process of talking to be members about what positions they would be willing to help with.

**The board reviewed** our current methods of supporting outside groups for the benefit of our new superintendent.

**The board discussed** ways to get more members involved and to attract new members. It was suggested that we again try to hold at least one meeting a year in the Ashtabula area and one in the Mentor area. Personal phone calls inviting people to our meetings and events are one of the best ways to get people to attend.

A number of future **meeting program ideas** were discussed. Dave Neff has a couple of programs lined up for upcoming meetings but is always looking for more. We will try to do a survey of the current members to see what interests them.

**Dave Neff** attended a 2014 national convention planning meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup> and provided the board with a progress update. A representative from the Medical Mart was at the convention meeting and reported that the Medical Mart construction was 5 months ahead of schedule and under budget. It doesn't look like there will be any problems with holding the convention there.

**Webmaster Wayne Lette** provided some statistics on our website use. We are reviewing which pages are visited the most and will try to make these pages even more helpful in order to attract people to the Division.

Reviewed and finalized the **Division picnic plans**.

A **Division 5 financial audit** was conducted on May 27. No problems were found. An official audit report was turned in.

Next **Division 5 BOD meeting** will be July 16, 2012 at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall.

**Submitted by:**

**Matt Kross** – Division 5 Clerk



# Div. 5 Picnic



**Saturday, July 7, 2012  
2:00pm to 6:00pm  
At**

**The Painesville Depot  
475 Railroad Street  
Painesville, Ohio 44077**

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



## Driving directions

Exit Rt 2 at Richmond Street, South one block to Chester,  
East on Chester to N. State Street,  
South on N. State Street (under the RR bridge),  
East on Railroad Street to Depot

## Join in on good fellowship and railfanning!



### Menu:

Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Hot Dogs  
Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad, Coleslaw, Chips  
Hobo Beans,  
Donuts & Desert  
Pop & water



Food is being provided by Div. 5

Admission: **Free** to all Div 5 members and immediate family.

**RSVP** by July 1, 2012 to Bonnie at:  
(440) 298-3075 or send an e-mail to [Treasurer@MCR5.org](mailto:Treasurer@MCR5.org)



# A Message from New York.

*By: Eric Hansmann*

Greetings fellow railroad modelers and NMRA members! I thought I'd drop a note to update you on my personal and NMRA experiences over the last year. As many of you know, I stepped aside as the Division 5 Assistant Super last June because of a pending move to the mid-Hudson Valley region of New York. My wife was offered a great opportunity with a State University of New York university campus, where she has learned a great deal. It's been a wonderful experience and adventure for the both of us in a region rich in history and culture.

On the model railroading side, I've been busy participating in near-monthly operating sessions on Tony Koester's NKP 3rd Sub and Perry Squier's Shawmut. The crews that bring these model railroads to life have been welcoming and generous. I've also had throttle time on Dave Ramos' New York Harbor Railroad and Ted Pamprin's C&O. At every operating session I've come away with one or more new ideas to file away for a future layout. I was unable to start a new layout here, but have assisted with a large B&O layout and have done monthly and weekly brainstorming sessions with a friend who is designing an fabulous layout based upon the Ulster & Delaware of 1923. The combined events and experiences have added up to a personally amazing model rail year.

I wish I could say as much for my NMRA experiences. My local division covers five New York counties with a total population greater than 1.5 million people. I've been told there are about 60 people on the membership rolls here. The division meets sporadically and attracts ten people to a meeting. Due to family conflicts, I've been unable to attend the two division meetings that have been held since I arrived here. I have stepped forward and offered ideas to attract members to meetings based upon Division 5 meetings, and I have offered several presentations. I've been thanked for my suggestions and presentations but nothing has happened.

That's crazy isn't it? The experience has made me appreciate my Western Reserve activities and has aptly illustrated the phrase, "You don't know what you have until it's gone." While Division 5 covers less geography and less population than my local division, you folks are taking action nearly every month. You meet, discuss, share, and laugh together. All I have here is silence. Sure I've been fortunate to become involved with several personal layouts and op sessions, but these connections were not made through the local NMRA division. I think I've only had a chance meeting with one local NMRA member since moving here.

So look around at your next meeting and listen, participate, and become more involved. Step up and share your latest models or techniques and encourage others around you to do the same thing. It takes effort to stand up and do this, but it is more personally rewarding in the long run and it keeps your Division strong. If you do nothing, you can easily have nothing; no meetings, no newsletter, no train show, no sharing, no laughter. Nothing. Sadly, there are many NMRA divisions that are as dormant as my current division. Embrace what you have and step forward to enjoy and share it.

In a month, I will move along again on an adventurous journey. My lovely wife Cheryl has accepted a top academic administrative position at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and will begin work in her new capacity in July. We will soon load up the moving van and head to far west Texas to make our new home. Once again I will check in with the local NMRA division. I've already research some details. The local division has 60 members over a small geographical area with a total population over 1 million people. But the division has no website. No division newsletter is posted on the Rocky Mountain Region web pages, and meeting dates cannot be found. It seems to be dormant from this distance, but I hope to find more local activity once I arrive. I always expect to keep moving forward with my hobby. It would be exciting to be a part of an active NMRA division.

I hope this message encourages Division 5 members to embrace what you have before you and make the most of the opportunities.

# Rail Fanning Day

at

## The Western Reserve Railroad Association Painesville Depot



Saturday, May 19, 2012

Saturday, July 28, 2012

Saturday, Oct. 13, 2012

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Food and Drinks available

Come and spend a day Rail Fanning at the  
**Painesville Depot.**

The Depot open in 1893 for the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Line.  
The NYC was formed in 1914 and consolidated the LS&M.

Be sure to bring your camera and a chair.

**The depot is on the CSX waterfront Main Line  
Visit this Historical Train Depot**



**The Painesville Depot**  
475 Railroad Street  
Painesville, Ohio 44077  
216-470-5780



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



# Carnival of Model Trains '12



**Saturday, October 6, 2012  
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Sunday, October 7, 2012  
11 am. – 4 p.m.**

**Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds – Berea, Ohio**

164 Eastland Road, Berea, Ohio 44017



- Free Parking
- 4 Buildings
- Over 60,000 sq. ft.
- Over 300 Dealer Tables
- Operating Displays
- Great Food
- Handicap Accessible
- ATM

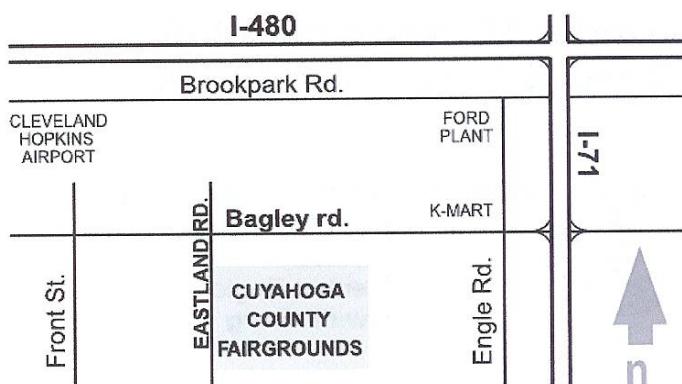
**Admission \$7.00  
Under 16 Free with Adult  
Special 2-Day Pass \$10.00**



**NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD  
ASSOCIATION**  
Division 4  
Mid-Central Region  
[www.div4.org](http://www.div4.org)

Contact: Gary Sole  
(216) 650-2192

\*Interested Dealers Must Possess  
Transient Vendor's Licence



**OUR 39TH YEAR!**

# Help Needed With N&W Lamp.

By: Matt Kross

I obtained what appears to be an old N&W Railroad kerosene lamp. It came without the glass chimney. It has N&W RY embossed on the side of the round tank. The top of the burner has ROYAL and PYA in the center. Around the outside of the burner top it has a patent date of Aug 14, 1888 and Dorset Thomaston, Conn. If this is a true railroad table lamp (not a lantern that was carried), I'm guessing it would have sat on a table in the caboose or in a tower. The wick seems much larger than normal table lamps.

## Questions:

1. Can anyone identify just what this is? Is it a table lamp or something else?
2. What did the glass chimney look like?





## National Model Railroad Association Mid-Central Region – Division 5

Presents

# Model Railroad Promotional Day

Learning

## Model Railroad Basics

Saturday, November 3, 2012

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Admission is **FREE**



**Division 5 will be presenting classes on the following  
Basics of Model Railroading:**

- Basic layout framing
- Basics of laying Track
- Simple wiring
- Basic Scenery
- Basic Plastic Model Building
- your railroad support structure (Benchwork)
  - including the roadbed
  - to run your trains
  - different construction techniques
  - add that station or factory

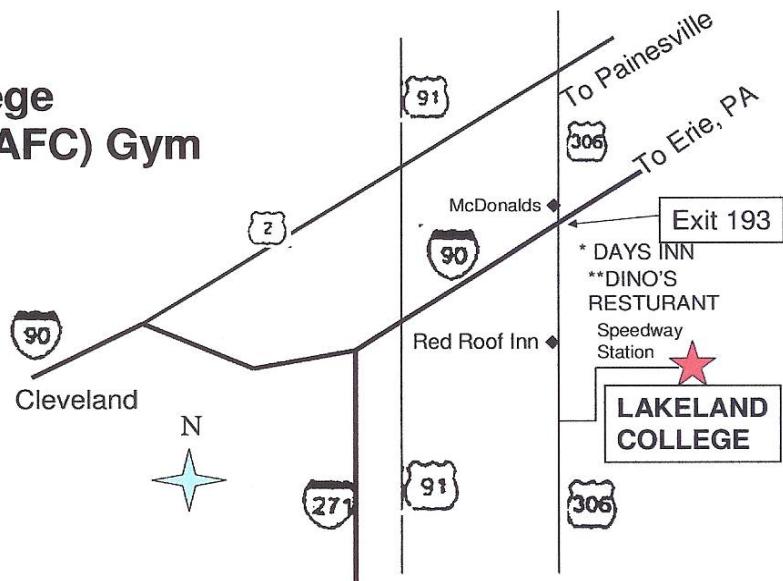
Attend one or all classes

**Lakeland Community College  
Athletic & Fitness Center (AFC) Gym  
7700 Clocktower Drive  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094**

Note: Under the age of 15, must be accompanied by an adult.

Each Class is taught by experienced model railroader.

Bring your questions, Take home a wealth of knowledge.



For latest up to date info, check [www.MCR5.org](http://www.MCR5.org) or email: [promoday@mcr5.org](mailto:promoday@mcr5.org)

# Model Railroad Swap Meet

Sponsored By  
The Conneaut Historical Railroad Museum

## Sunday Nov. 18, 2012

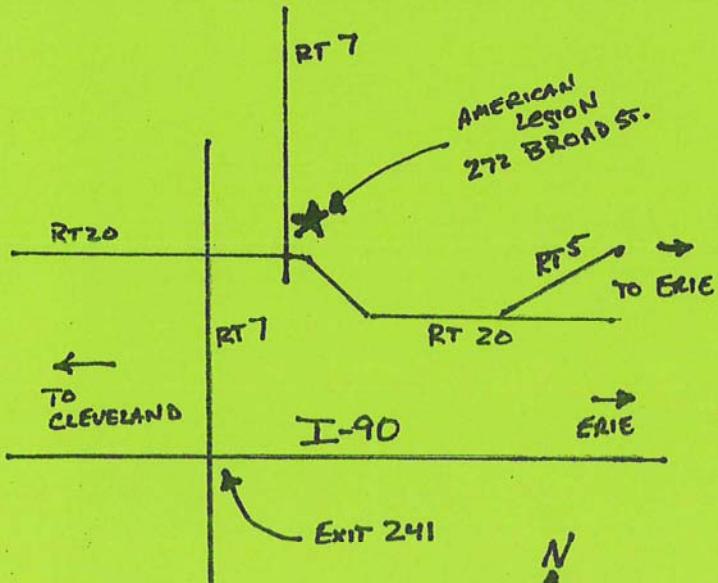
### 9am-3pm

Where: American Legion Post 151  
272 Broad st.

Conneaut, Ohio 44030

( I-90 to Exit 241 Rt 7 N to Rt 20 E to NE corner of Rt 20 and Rt 7 )

Admission: 2.00 (under 12 Free)



#### Dealer Info:

Tables: 8ft 20.00  
(# of tables limited due to room size )

Contact: Jim Kociemski  
702-592-0687  
or Email:  
[modeltrainfixer@gmail.com](mailto:modeltrainfixer@gmail.com)

Please Respond by Oct 1, 2012

<b>Team Track</b>		
<a href="http://www.MCR5.org">www.MCR5.org</a>		
Division 5 Officers		(Terms expire June 2014)
Superintendent	Rob Bowers	440-942-3039 <a href="mailto:Super@MCR5.org">Super@MCR5.org</a>
Asst. Superintendent	Dave Neff	440-269-1229 <a href="mailto:AstSuper@MCR5.org">AstSuper@MCR5.org</a>
Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075 <a href="mailto:Treasurer@MCR5.org">Treasurer@MCR5.org</a>
<u>Division 5 Trustees:</u>		(Terms expire June 2014)
Don Bittner	440-257-7555	(Open Position)
Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	(Open Position)
Division 5 Board of Directors:		<a href="mailto:BOD@MCR5.org">BOD@MCR5.org</a>
<b>Division 5 Appointed Positions:</b>		(Terms expire June 2014)
Clerk	Matt Kross	440-729-3045 <a href="mailto:Clerk@MCR5.org">Clerk@MCR5.org</a>
Railfest Chairman	Jim Wendorf	440-357-8890 <a href="mailto:Railfest@MCR5.org">Railfest@MCR5.org</a>
Promo Day Coordinator	Rob Bowers Bob Frieden	(440) 942-3039 <a href="mailto:PromoDay@MCR5.org">PromoDay@MCR5.org</a>
Achievement Program	Mike Buehner	440-428-0137 <a href="mailto:AP@MCR5.org">AP@MCR5.org</a>
Contests	(Open Position)	<a href="mailto:Contest@MCR5.org">Contest@MCR5.org</a>
Auditors	Dennis Lloyd Tony Spena	440-255-2530 <a href="mailto:Audit@MCR5.org">Audit@MCR5.org</a>
Trainwire Editor	Lenny Kessler	440-478-6661 <a href="mailto:Trainwire@MCR5.org">Trainwire@MCR5.org</a>
Refreshments	Doug Riedel	440-286-7341 <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>
Webmaster	Wayne Lette	440-298-3075 <a href="mailto:Webmaster@MCR5.org">Webmaster@MCR5.org</a>
Company Store	Ted Wiese	440-256-5212 <a href="mailto:CompanyStore@MCR5.org">CompanyStore@MCR5.org</a>
Bring & Brag	(Open Position)	
Layout Tours	(Open Position)	



**NATIONAL CONVENTION**

**THE CONVENTION**

**JULY 13-20, 2014**

[www.2014cleveland.org](http://www.2014cleveland.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 Modelers Corner; 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 article and send them to the Editor by email and share them will all of us.

**August Trainwire Deadline**  
**July 20th.**

# The Trainwire Newsletter

**12049 Sperry Road  
Chesterland, Ohio 44026**  
Publication of Division 5  
*"The Western Reserve Division"*  
Mid Central Region  
National Model RR Association, Inc.  
*A Non-Profit Educational Organization*

## July, 2012

### Electronic Version

**Division 5 Membership  
as of June 1st, 2012**



**90**

## 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

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[Trainwire@mcr5.org](mailto: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



<b>Trainwire Editor:</b> Lenny Kessler	3257 Center Rd. Perry, Ohio 44081	440-478-6661	<a href="mailto:Trainwire@mcr5.org">Trainwire@mcr5.org</a>
<b>Superintendent:</b> Rob Bowers	7257 Hayes Blvd. Mentor, Ohio 44060	440-942-3039	<a href="mailto:Super@mcr5.org">Super@mcr5.org</a>
<b>Asst. Super:</b> Dave Neff	5479 Chestnut Hill Dr. Willoughby, Ohio 44094	440-269-1229	<a href="mailto:AstSuper@mcr5.org">AstSuper@mcr5.org</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b> Bonnie Lette	17541 Thompson Rd. Thompson, Ohio 44086	440-298-3075	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@MCR5.org">Treasurer@MCR5.org</a>
<b>Clerk:</b> Matt Kross	12049 Sperry Road Chesterland, Ohio 44026	440-729-3045	<a href="mailto:Clerk@mcr5.org">Clerk@mcr5.org</a>