



The Trainwire.



Off the Mainline...

by: Kirk Pohto

Even though we've been "Off the Mainline" for two years, we've gone many places and are now approaching our final destination. It's been an exciting journey, and one I hope you've enjoyed it as much as I have. I see clear blocks ahead of us and the terminal is just down the line... We've survived the great snow-storm of 2008, even though

our March meeting was cancelled. We've also gotten past the "Great Flood of Lakeland" to keep Railfest afloat. (The name *Lakeland* is kind of ironic, isn't it?) What a way to end the first quarter of 2008. And just think we have three more quarters to go! Thank you to everyone who helped with Railfest. We were given the opportunity (not by choice) to make major changes on-the-fly and we capitalized on

them in a big way. This year's show was one of our most successful! A special thank you goes out to Rob Bowers and Jim Wendorf. Who knew Division 5 has a couple of MacGyvers? They were able to take a flooded gym, some extra rooms, a lot of displaced vendors, and a great group of volunteers to make a successful Railfest. Excellent job, guys! Speaking of Railfest, I had a chance to talk to Chuck Klein and Gary Sole from Division 4

over the weekend. They're both excited about the regional convention coming up May 15-18. If you haven't registered, make sure you do. They have an unbelievable lineup for that weekend. Check out their website to get more information as well as the registration form (<http://www.div4.org>). Changing tracks... how are you progressing on your sugar shack for the June meeting?

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Have you started your kitbash for our "Sugar Shack: Unplugged" bring-n-brag? In light of our March meeting being snowed out, we'll have a combined bring-n-brag theme for April. Bring your green-themed models and your thumbs/turkeys. (Or if you have a garden railroad, bring your green thumbs.) For those of you who wanted to see Gary Shaffer's slide presentation on the 2007 Detroit NMRA National Convention, we'll get it re-scheduled. Keep an eye on the events page of the Trainwire. The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum has their Spring Open House this month. Stop by on Saturday, April 12th from 10:00 am 'til

6:00 pm to see the baseball-themed open house. Listen to the Erie Heights Brass Ensemble as you check out the baseball displays on the layouts. For more information, check out <http://www.wrmmrm.org>. As I was watching a Conrail DVD I purchased at Railfest, it reminded me that Conrail's anniversary is April 1st. Hard to believe it's been 32 years since the Federal Government merged all of those bankrupt northeast carriers to form The Consolidated Rail Corporation. Boy I sure miss seeing those blue diesels pulling trains on the Water Level Route. Get well wishes go out to Frank Russell on a speedy recovery. I hope everyone received their ballots for the 2008 election and

was able to get them mailed back to Dennis Lloyd. We had a few that were bounced back to us by the Postal Service, but it looks as though everything was straightened out. See you down the line in April! ☘



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

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

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

April 4th

Location: Hambden Town Hall
 Program: DCC
 Bring & Brag: Thumbs, Turkeys, & Fools

May 2nd

Location: Farm Park
 Program: Farm Park
 Bring & Brag: Whimsicle

June 6th

Location: Hambden Town Hall
 Program: Bull Session
 Bring & Brag: Sugar Shack Unplugged.

July

No Meeting

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Spring Open House	April 12
WRMRRM Mentor, Ohio	
Division 5 BOD Meeting	April 21
Hamden Town Hall Hamden, Ohio	
Railroads in the Park	May 3 - 4
Farm Park Penitentiary Glen Kirtland, Ohio	
MCR Regional Convention	May 15 - 18
Independence, Ohio	
NTrak National Convention	June 25 - 29
Kentucky International Convention Center Louisville, Kentucky	
NMRA National Convention	July 13 - 19
Anaheim, California	
NCR Convention	Sept. 19 - 21
Toledo, Ohio	

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

Sales Table at Monthly Meetings.

Due to a number of requests, we're going to try something new at our monthly meetings. Starting in April, we're going to have a table set aside for YOU to bring in items you want to sell. (Sort of a

mini-Railfest table.) We're going to limit each person to no more than six items and see how the response is. If we have a good turnout, we'll make it an ongoing thing at meetings. One important note, though, whatever items

you bring with you that do not sell **MUST** be taken with you when you leave at the end of the meeting. We do not want to make the meeting hall a donation center. ☘



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MCR, Division 5.

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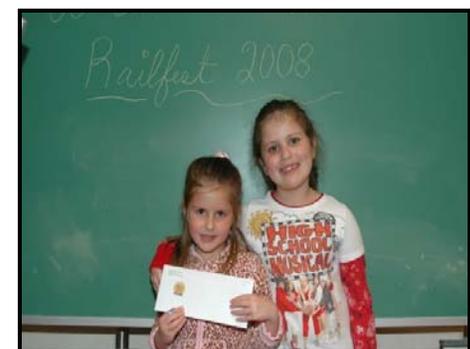
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Pictures from Railfest, 2008.

Photos by:
Ken Stroebel



Next Division 5 Meeting – April 4th, 2008.

Division 5 BOD Meeting Notes

March 17, 2008

Attendees: Kirk Pohto, Dale Smith, Al Cap, Lenny Kessler, Wayne Lette, Rob Bowers, Rick Montgomery, Bonnie Lette

Frank Russell – different ones have spoke with him and he says everything is OK from the fall at Railfest.

Bring N Brag – since March’s meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather we have decided to combine both March & April Bring N Brag together. Therefore it will be “Green Theme & Thumbs”

2011 MCR Convention – Dick Briggs is looking forward to seeing the presentation for the convention at the May’s MCR BOD meeting

Railfest 2007 Audit – has been completed and the numbers are OK

Ballots – 50 out of the 114 mailed have returned to be counted for their votes

Willoughby Railroad Train Show – Rick has been contacted to have the Division’s module group display at City Hall the weekend of 8/9/08. More information to follow

Monthly Meetings – we are going to setup tables at all monthly meetings that are at the Hambden Townhall to be available for people to bring items for sale. There will be a limit of 6 items to start with until we see how popular will become. Remember – If you bring it into the hall; You take it out of the hall and home with you.

Railfest 2008 – Best show; no major problems; even though there was an inconvenience with the large gym not being open to use, everything went great.

Railfest 2009 – There is a conflict of another show being held in Cleveland by the Great American Train Show on March 14 & 15, 2009. Rob is going to contact them.

We discussed the up coming programs and Bring N Brag along with any of the events that need to be included in the Train-wire.

Rick to talk with Ray about doing the DCC Program for the April meeting. ☘

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!

Special Mention.

Three stores in the general area deserve a special mention in the Trainwire. All three stores carry familiar brands

and cover a wide variety of hobbies, trains being the most interesting. Glen's Train Shop has a lot of N gauge rolling stock that might be of interest to hobbyist. Tom C Toys is

just an interesting store to visit and survey his inventory. Falls Hobby and Collectibles has just moved into a much larger store than they had before, and have a complete vari-

ety of supplies. I have listed the three stores below, to help you pursue your interest. ☘

Glen's Train Shop

587 grant Street
 Akron, Ohio 44311
 330-253-6527

Tom C Toys

8095 St. Rt. 305
 Garrettsville, Ohio 44231
 330-527-7601
www.tomctoys@apk.net

Falls Hobby & Collectibles

1928 Portage Trail
 Cuyahoga falls, Ohio 44223
 330-929-1112
fallshobby@sbcglobal.net

Team Trackwww.MCR5.org

Division 5 Officers

(Terms expire June 2008)

Superintendent	Kirk Pohto	440-352-9813
		Super@MCR5.org
Asst. Superintendent	Al Cap	440-729-1458
		AstSuper@MCR5.org
Clerk / Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075
		Clerk@MCR5.org

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**Division 5 Appointed Positions:** (Terms expire June 2008)

Railfest Chairman	Rob Bowers Jr.	440-942-3039
		Railfest@MCR5.org
Promo Day Coordinator	Bruce Lutheran	440-257-2105
		PromoDay@MCR5.org
Achievement Program	Bill Brodie	216-780-0938
		AP@MCR5.org
Contests	Bill Brodie	216-780-0938
		Contest@MCR5.org
VCR / TV	Al Cap	440-729-1458
Auditors	Mike Schaab	440-255-2530
	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
		Audit@MCR5.org
HO Module Coordinator	Rick Montgomery	440-251-0350
		ModuleCoordinator@MCR5.org
Trainwire Editor	Lenny Kessler	440-478-6661
		Trianwire@MCR5.org
Refreshments	Ron Biddell	440-352-3730
		Refreshments@MCR5.org
Membership Roster	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
		Membership@MCR5.org
Division Tripmaster	(open)	
		Tripmaster@MCR5.org
Programs / Clinics	(open)	
Webmaster	Wayne Lette	440-298-3075
		Webmaster@MCR5.org
Company Store	Al Cap	440-729-1458
		CompanyStore@MCR5.org

April Division 5 Meeting

April 4, 2008

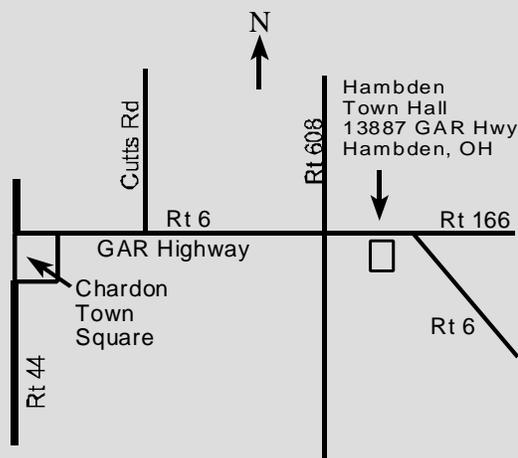
Location: **Hambden Town Hall**
13887 GAR Highway (Route 6)
Chardon, Ohio

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

Program: DCC

Bring & Brag Theme: Thumbs, Turkeys and Fools

*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

May Trainwire
Deadline April 20th.

The Trainwire Newsletter

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**Division 5 Membership
as of March 1st, 2008**



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The Trainwire

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The Western Reserve Division 5



www.mcr5.org

A non-profit educational organization



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