



a publication of

## The Western Reserve Division

Division 5- Mid Central Region - National Model Railroad Association

### Rails Of Ages Convention Less Than 2 Months Away!

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

- ❖ Over 30 clinics
- ❖ 8 Industrial / Prototype Tours
- ❖ 5 Non-Rail Tours
- ❖ Over 20 layouts open
- ❖ Silent Auction
- ❖ Live Auction
- ❖ Judged NMRA Contest
- ❖ Model Display Area
- ❖ Raffle / Door Prizes
- ❖ 50 Years Of Railroading Room

More clinics, layouts, events, and tours are being worked on. Check the website regularly for updates.

You don't want to miss this convention!

**We have 21 Div 5 members (and some of their spouses) signed up to help with the convention. We still could use more help. The more people that help, the less time everybody has to spend working. Please consider helping us show off our Division.**

You must be registered to attend and work at the convention. There is a special Div 5 Volunteer Registration form on the Div 5 website and available at the monthly meetings. By registering now, you let us know who will be helping. Your \$20 registration fee defrays the cost of your convention shirt, nametag, pin, and other miscellaneous items we will be giving to you.

### March Division 5 Meeting

Date / Time: Friday, Mar 4, 2011 at 7:30 PM

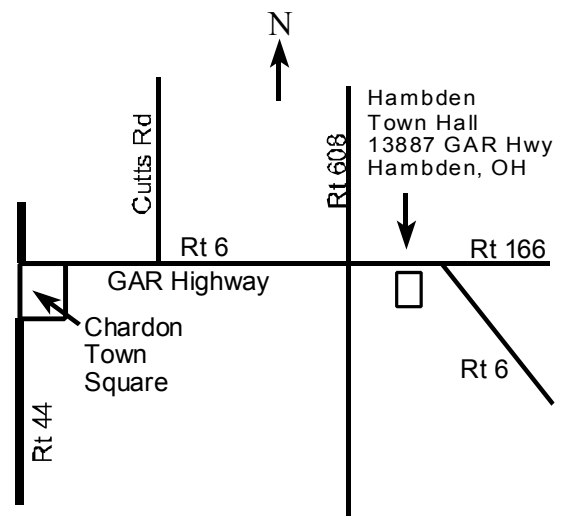
Location: Hambden Town Hall  
13887 GAR Highway (Route 6)  
Chardon, Ohio

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

Program: Big South Fork Scenic Railway in Sterns Ky.

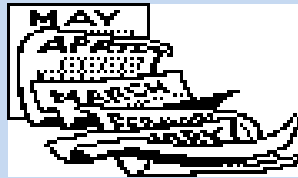
Bring & Brag Theme: Off-Line (non-railroad) Structures

**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

# UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS



## March 4

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program: Big South Fork Scenic Railway in Sterns Ky. by Bruce Lutheran  
 Bring & Brag: Off-Line (non-RR) Structures

## April 1

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program: Rails Of Ages Convention Operations  
 Bring & Brag: Trees and Shrubbery

## May 6

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program: ???  
 Bring & Brag: Signage

## June 3

Location: Lake Farmpark  
 Program: Module setup for Railroads In The Parks  
 Bring & Brag: Billboard Reefers

### The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum

7230 Justin Way  
 Mentor, Ohio 44060  
 440-251-0350 [info@wrmmrm.org](mailto:info@wrmmrm.org)

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### Fall-Winter-Spring Hours

Monday thru Thursday 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
 Friday - Closed  
 Saturdays 10 am to 5 pm  
 Sundays Noon to 5 pm

# SCHEDULES



- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Railfest Volunteer Orientation</b>   | <b>Mar 8</b>          |
| 6:45 PM at Lakeland Gym   |                       |
| <b>Div 5 Railfest 2011</b>  | <b>Mar 19-20</b>      |
| Lakeland Community College<br><a href="http://www.mcr5.org/NMRA/railfest.htm">www.mcr5.org/NMRA/railfest.htm</a>      |                       |
| <b>Div 5 BOD Meeting</b>  | <b>Mar 21</b>         |
| Hambden Town Hall – 7:30 pm   |                       |
| <b>Live Steamers Public Run</b>   | <b>Apr 17</b>         |
| Lake Metroparks - Penitentiary Glen<br>1 pm – 3 pm  |                       |
| <b>Div 5 BOD Meeting</b>  | <b>Apr 18</b>         |
| Hambden Town Hall – 7:30 pm   |                       |
| <b>Rails Of Ages Convention</b>   | <b>Apr 28 – May 1</b> |
| Geneva-on-the-Lake, OH<br><a href="http://www.RailsOfAges.org">www.RailsOfAges.org</a>                                |                       |
| <b>Ohio N-Scale Weekend</b>   | <b>May 13 – 15</b>    |
| Franklin County Fairgrounds<br>Hilliard, OH<br><a href="http://www.centralohiontrak.org">www.centralohiontrak.org</a> |                       |
| <b>Div 5 BOD Meeting</b>  | <b>May 16</b>         |
| Hambden Town Hall – 7:30 pm   |                       |
| <b>Live Steamers Public Run</b>   | <b>May 22</b>         |
| Lake Metroparks - Penitentiary Glen<br>1 pm – 3 pm  |                       |
| <b>Railroads In The Parks</b>   | <b>Jun 4-5</b>        |
| Lake Metroparks<br>Modular layouts at Lake Farmpark   |                       |
| <b>Live Steamers Public Run</b>   | <b>Jun 5</b>          |
| Lake Metroparks - Penitentiary Glen<br>1 pm – 3 pm  |                       |
| <b>2011 NMRA National Convention</b>  | <b>Jul 3-9</b>        |
| Extra 2011 West<br>Sacramento, CA<br><a href="http://www.x2011west.org">www.x2011west.org</a>                         |                       |

**April Trainwire Deadline Mar 22**

## Earl Kulgoske

We were informed that Division 5 member Earl Kulgoske passed away recently. Our condolences to his family.

## Paul Quayle

We were informed that Paul Quayle, Division 5's first Superintendent back in 1961, passed away on January 10, 2011. Our condolences to his family.

## 2011 Bring & Brag Themes

March - Off-Line (non-RR) Structures  
April - Trees and Shrubbery  
May - Signage  
June - Billboard Reefers  
July - none  
August - Anything Goes  
September - Motor Trucks and Autos  
October - Small Dioramas  
November - Steam Locos!  
December - none



### HAVE 50 MODEL RAILROADING CLINICS RIGHT IN YOUR LIVING ROOM.

Just because you can't make it to a national convention doesn't mean you have to miss out. Right now the NMRA's Kalmbach Memorial Library has over 50 DVDs of clinics presented at national conventions from 2002 to 2010. All available to NMRA members for the cost of postage.

So you can see clinics on everything from decoders to design, tools to techniques, helixes to highways, and research to resin casting.

All from the comfort of your very own couch.

Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) and go to the Kalmbach Memorial Library page for a complete listing.

Then, get that popcorn ready.



**We make it even more fun.**

[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)  
4 2 3 - 8 9 2 - 2 8 4 6

## Team Track

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

### Division 5 Officers:

Superintendent <a href="mailto:Super@MCR5.org">Super@MCR5.org</a>	Mike Buehner	440-428-0137
Asst. Superintendent <a href="mailto:AstSuper@MCR5.org">AstSuper@MCR5.org</a>	Eric Hansmann	440-543-7754
Treasurer <a href="mailto:Treasurer@MCR5.org">Treasurer@MCR5.org</a>	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075

### Division 5 Trustees: (Terms expire June 2012)

Dale Smith	440-286-4932
Bruce Lutheran	440-257-2105
Wayne Lette	440-298-3075
Don Bittner	440-257-7555

Division 5 Board of Directors: [BOD@MCR5.org](mailto:BOD@MCR5.org)

### Division 5 Appointed Positions: (Terms expire June 2012)

Clerk <a href="mailto:Clerk@MCR5.org">Clerk@MCR5.org</a>	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
Railfest Chairman <a href="mailto:Railfest@MCR5.org">Railfest@MCR5.org</a>	Jim Wendorf	440-357-8890
Promo Day Coordinator <a href="mailto:PromoDay@MCR5.org">PromoDay@MCR5.org</a>	Bruce Lutheran	440-257-2105
Achievement Program <a href="mailto:AP@MCR5.org">AP@MCR5.org</a>	Eric Hansmann	440-543-7754
Contests <a href="mailto:Contest@MCR5.org">Contest@MCR5.org</a>	Bill Brodie	216-780-0938
Auditors <a href="mailto:Audit@MCR5.org">Audit@MCR5.org</a>	Mike Schaab Dennis Lloyd	440-255-2530
Trainwire Editor <a href="mailto:Trianwire@MCR5.org">Trianwire@MCR5.org</a>	Lenny Kessler	440-478-6661
Refreshments <a href="mailto:Refreshments@MCR5.org">Refreshments@MCR5.org</a>	Doug Riedel	440-286-7341
Membership Roster <a href="mailto:Membership@MCR5.org">Membership@MCR5.org</a>	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
Convention Co-Chairs <a href="mailto:Convention@MCR5.org">Convention@MCR5.org</a>	Dale Smith Matt Kross	440-286-4932 440-729-3045
Webmaster <a href="mailto:Webmaster@MCR5.org">Webmaster@MCR5.org</a>	Wayne Lette	440-298-3075
Company Store <a href="mailto:CompanyStore@MCR5.org">CompanyStore@MCR5.org</a>	(Open Position)	

# February Meeting Pictures

Photos by  
Ron Sieloff



# Railfest 2011 Weeks Away – Help Needed!

Railfest 2011 will be here in a few weeks. We will need lots of help! We will have a volunteer sign-up sheet at the March Division 5 meeting and during Railfest setup.

## Plan To Help The Division With Its Only Major Fund Raiser

**Railfest Volunteer Meeting – Tuesday March 8, 2011** at 6:45 PM at Lakeland Community College Athletic Facility. Even if you have helped in the past, please plan to attend this meeting because some things have changed.

### Railfest Tasks

Thursday March 17 (approx. 4 pm to 9 pm - show setup only, no dealers)

- Begin putting tables in proper positions
- Deliver show materials

Friday March 18 (Official time is 6 pm but we can usually get in by 4 pm)

- Move tables to proper positions
- Cover the tables
- Put out chairs
- Attach vendor labels to the tables
- Make coffee
- Get the donuts!
- Man the doors for security and assistance while vendors set-up
- Help vendors unload vehicles
- Setup the Division flea market tables and Division display items
- Put up signs



Saturday March 19 (7 am - 10 am - dealer and display set-up; show 10 am – 4 pm)

- Man the doors for security and assistance while vendors set-up
- Man the entrance desk: collect admission fee and make change
- Run the PA system - make announcements
- Collect and count money
- Make coffee for the morning set-up
- Assist vendors and guests with questions
- Provide general overall security
- Man the Division flea market table - especially those selling items
- BUY LOT'S OF GOOD STUFF!

Sunday March 20 (9 am - 6 pm; show 10 am – 4 pm) (Must be out by 6 pm)

- Same show items as on Saturday
- Buy more good stuff!
- Remove covering from tables
- Clean up trash
- Provide security while vendors load their vehicles
- Assist vendors with carrying merchandise to their vehicles
- Take down displays and signs

## Div 5 Apparel Available From "Say It With Thread"

Division 5's shirts, hats, jackets, etc., are made by

Say It With Thread Embroidery in Wickliffe, Ohio

Karen Erickson

(440) 347-0938

[www.sayitwiththread.net](http://www.sayitwiththread.net)

You can call Karen directly and discuss what you would like to order. She can do single pieces or large lots. You can select from any items she has available in her catalogs.



## Division 5 Fleamarket Table Item Rules

If you want to make use of the Division fleamarket table at Railfest, you MUST fill out a Division 5 Railfest Fleamarket Table Items list. A copy of this form is included with this Trainwire. Copies will also be available at the February and March Division 5 meetings. The form can also be found on the Division 5 website. 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, 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 a Business Size envelope to put the money in from the sales of your items. 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 use for making change. We would like at least ten \$1 bills in the envelope. Please mark on the envelope the amount of money you provided for making change.

### Division 5 Company Store Items

- O scale Sugar Houses @ \$36/each
- HO scale Sugar Houses @ \$24/each
- N scale Sugar Houses @ \$17/each
- HO scale Western Reserve RR Reefers @ \$12/each
- N scale Western Reserve RR Reefers (two numbers) @ \$12/each or two for \$22
- Division 5 Pins @ \$2/each
- Division 5 "Pentagon" Patch @ \$2/each

**Division 5  
Membership  
as of Feb 1, 2011**

**89**

# Rails Of Ages



2011 Mid Central Region Convention  
 Hosted by Division 5 – *The Western Reserve Division*  
 Celebrating 50 Years Of Railroading  
 April 28 – May 1, 2011      [www.RailsOfAges.org](http://www.RailsOfAges.org)

We could still use at least another ten people to help us at the convention. Listed below are the convention committee members and those that have signed up so far to help.

Please consider coming to the convention and signing up to help with some aspect of the convention. A list of the various jobs were in the February 2011 Trainwire. You can help and still participate in many of the convention activities. We are only asking for a total of 8 hours of your time over three days. Many of the jobs only consist of sitting and monitoring a room. Please contact Dale Smith or Matt Kross if you are willing to help. You will need to register for the convention as a Volunteer. If your spouse or other family member is planning on attending with you, please remember to include them on your registration form.

As of this writing, we have:

- 21 Volunteer Registrations
- 93 Primary Registrations
- 46 Family Member Registrations
- 2 Guest Registrations

for a total of 162 participants. We are hoping we will hit the 250 participant mark.

Come on out and be a part of this fun weekend. There will be plenty of model railroading and prototype activities to charge your batteries!

## Making Registration Changes

**If you have already submitted your registration form and wish to add a family member and/or sign up for tours and activities, just fill out a new registration form, mark it "Already Registered", make your desired changes, and send the form, along with your payment for the additional items, to Dennis Lloyd.**

Convention Role	Name	Convention E-mail
Co-Chairman	Dale Smith	<a href="mailto:Info@RailsOfAges.org">Info@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Co-Chairman	Matt Kross	<a href="mailto:Info@RailsOfAges.org">Info@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Registrar	Dennis Lloyd	<a href="mailto:Registration@RailsOfAges.org">Registration@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@RailsOfAges.org">Treasurer@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Layout Tours	Mike Buehner	<a href="mailto:Layouts@RailsOfAges.org">Layouts@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Company Store	Don Bittner	<a href="mailto:CompanyStore@RailsOfAges.org">CompanyStore@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Company Store	Bruce Lutheran	<a href="mailto:CompanyStore@RailsOfAges.org">CompanyStore@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Raffle / Door Prizes	Matt Kross	<a href="mailto:Raffle@RailsOfAges.org">Raffle@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Publications	Ken Stroebel	<a href="mailto:Publications@RailsOfAges.org">Publications@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Contest	Eric Hansmann	<a href="mailto:Contests@RailsOfAges.org">Contests@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Banquet	Dale Smith	<a href="mailto:Banquet@RailsOfAges.org">Banquet@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Prototype/Industry Tours	Gary Shaffer	<a href="mailto:Tours@RailsOfAges.org">Tours@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Non-Rail Activities	Rosemary Shaffer	<a href="mailto:NonRailActivities@RailsOfAges.org">NonRailActivities@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Clinics	Dave Neff	<a href="mailto:Clinics@RailsOfAges.org">Clinics@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Silent Auction	Bob Palmer	<a href="mailto:SilentAuction@RailsOfAges.org">SilentAuction@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Silent Auction	Bob Callahan	<a href="mailto:SilentAuction@RailsOfAges.org">SilentAuction@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Live Auction	Matt Kross	<a href="mailto:LiveAuction@RailsOfAges.org">LiveAuction@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Website	Wayne Lette	<a href="mailto:Webmaster@RailsOfAges.org">Webmaster@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Publicity	Ken Stroebel	<a href="mailto:Publicity@RailsOfAges.org">Publicity@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Transportation	Dick Naramore	<a href="mailto:Transportation@RailsOfAges.org">Transportation@RailsOfAges.org</a>
Hospitality	LuAnn Burger	<a href="mailto:Hospitality@RailsOfAges.org">Hospitality@RailsOfAges.org</a>
<b>General Helpers</b>		
	<b>Division 5 Volunteers</b>	<b>Family Member Volunteers</b>
	Bill Berger	Nancy Naramore
	Sam Monturi	Linda Callahan
	Jim Davidson, Jr.	Deborah Smith
	Alan Arthur	Sarah Smith
	Ted Wiese	Anne Davidson
	Tony Spena	Kay Palmer
	Jim Wendorf	Barbara Kross
	Don Thomas	Alice Arthur
	Doug Riedel	
	Dennis Burger	
	Harley Smith	

## Div 5 BOD Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk

A Division 5 BOD meeting was held on February 21, 2011 at Hambden Town Hall. Those present were Eric Hansmann, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Matt Kross, Don Bittner, Dale Smith, and Jim Wendorf.

- Railfest Chairman Jim Wendorf provided an update on the Railfest 2011 planning:
  - Working on getting necessary NMRA insurance certificate listing LCC
  - Running a cable TV ad this year
  - Still haven't heard from a few dealers
  - Railfest volunteer meeting will be held on Tuesday March 8 at 6:45 pm at Lakeland
- Convention chairmen Dale Smith and Matt Kross provided a convention update:
  - A committee meeting was held on Feb 19 at the Geneva Lodge where a walk through was done of all the convention rooms to review how we will use the space.
  - We have approximately 160 people signed up for the convention so far. This includes primary registrants, family members, and volunteers. We are hoping we will have at least 250 by the time of the convention.
  - The hotel reported that 65 rooms have been reserved so far.
  - Next convention committee meeting will be April 2.
  - We are adding a tour of the Lubrizol railroad operations.
  - Additional clinics have been added.
  - Prize donation requests have been mailed to vendors. Approximately 20 vendors have donated prizes so far.
- The BOD is looking into purchasing a video projector for the Division. Wayne Lette will research available models and submit some recommendations.
- Looking into possible places to hold the Division 5 anniversary celebration. If we use the Geneva Lodge, there would be no charge for the banquet room and the meal would cost in the range of \$25 to \$30 a person. The American Croation Lodge in Eastlake looks promising. At the moment, we are looking at holding the event sometime in September.
- We have registered the Division with the Ohio Charitable Organization.
- The BOD approved a \$500 request from the HO module group to build four new corner modules.
- The BOD approved a \$600 request from the Lake Erie N-scale Society to fund the start of a program to provide modules to new LENS/N-Trak members that don't feel they are able to build a module themselves. This will be a self-sustaining program once it is started. The new members will pay for the module. The payment will be used to build additional modules for new members.

**Next Division 5 BOD Meeting**  
**March 21, 2011 - 7:30 PM**  
*(Third Monday of every month)*  
Hambden Town Hall  
Chardon, OH



## Division 5 Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2011

Assistant Superintendent Eric Hansmann called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. There were 23 members and 7 guests present.

- We had four guests present from NOARS.
- We were informed that Division 5 member Earl Kulgoske passed away recently. His wife is working with some people to sell off Earl's HO collection.
- Don Bittner is working to locate the past Superintendents of Division 5 in preparation for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We were informed that Paul Quayle, our first Superintendent, passed away on January 10, 2011.
- Bring N Brag – Theme for the night: Snow Removal

Matt Kross  
Bill Smith

Bill Brodie  
Bill Berger

Don Bittner  
Todd Liedel

Dick Roth

- Chuck Beargie gave an overview of NOARS (Northeast Ohio Association of Railroad Societies). NOARS tries to coordinate the events of all railroad groups in our area. They also work on preserving historical railroad documents and artifacts. NOARS is currently working to visit the railroad groups in our area. Their website is NOARS.org.
- Program: Erick Hansmann put on a clinic showing how he makes tarp covered loads for gondolas.
- Erick Hansmann suggested that Division members present problems that you are stuck on that are keeping you from making progress on your model building or layouts. If you make these known at the meeting, we might be able to help you solve the problem.
- Treasurer Bonnie Lette provided a financial summary of the Division. We are solvent and have a comfortable amount of savings to carry the Division through any significant issues.
- Railfest Chairman Jim Wendorf reported on Railfest 2011 planning. We are almost sold out on tables. We may use the handball courts to add dealer tables. Thursday setup will start at 2 PM. Friday setup will start at noon.
- Dale Smith and Matt Kross provided a report on the convention planning activities. All is proceeding well. The next convention committee meeting will be at the Geneva Lodge on Feb 19. Registrations are ahead of expectations.
- Trainwire Editor Lenny Kessler continues his recovery. It is not known when he will be able to resume the Editor duties. Matt Kross will continue filling in as editor.

Submitted by Matt Kross - Clerk

# Warthers Colorado Rail Tour

The Warther Museum in Dover, Ohio is a fourth generation family business which features handcarved trains made in ivory and ebony. For more info about the museum go to:

[www.warthers.com](http://www.warthers.com)

The Warther Museum travel club each year features a "Signature Tour". This year our Signature tour features the Trains of Colorado. This nine day tour is fully escorted by myself and features trains such as Durango Silverton and Cumbres Toltec. The tour also features quality places to stay such as the "Cliff House" at Pikes Peak and the "Wine Country Inn" at Grand Junction. This tour sells for \$1995 per person double plus air and can be a great fund raiser for your model RR club. For each club member that would travel with us, we will commission your club \$100.00. The following flyer will give you an idea what our museum designs each year. This year's travel dates are August 6th through the 14th and Aug 20th through the 28th, 2011. The second date is almost full, but plenty of room on the first date yet. Please let me know if this is of interest and I will send you more information about the tour itself, detailed itinerary, travel insurance, air flights etc. We can also print flyers with your train club on it.

Mark Warther, Pres.

The flyer features a steam locomotive pulling a train through a scenic landscape. At the top, a wooden signpost has four directional signs: 'LIFE', 'TRULY EXPERIENCE', 'UNFORGETTABLE', and 'DESIGNING LIFE EXPERIENCES!'. The text on the flyer reads: '2011 WARTHER SIGNATURE TOUR "Trains & Parks of Colorado"', 'ESCORTED BY MARK WARTHER', and 'DESIGNING LIFE EXPERIENCES!'. A small photo of Mark Warther is in the bottom left. The bottom of the flyer contains the address '331 Karl Avenue, Dover, Ohio 44622', phone number '(330) 343-7513', and website 'www.warthertravel.com'. A logo for 'Warther TOURS & TRAVEL' is in the top right corner.

## Businesses Accepting Division 5 Certificates

*The businesses listed below are currently accepting Division 5's award certificates:*



Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys  
HobbyTown USA  
Train Specialty Company  
Village Train Shop  
Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters

- Willoughby, OH  
- Mentor, OH  
- Chardon, OH  
- Perry, OH  
- Geneva, OH



# A Review of the Springfield Train Show

by Ken Stroebel

What do you call approximately 350,000 square feet of model railroad displays, vendors, historical displays and clinics? How about awesome, immense, overwhelming or simply what a way to spend a weekend? I recently made a trip to visit my son on the east coast, and we made a day of taking in the Springfield (Massachusetts) Train Show, which is a yearly event hosted by the Amherst Railway Society, and is by far the largest event of this kind that I have ever seen. While I have heard that the Timonium, MD show is also quite large, it's hard to believe that anything can surpass model railroading in four large buildings, each building singly taking up roughly the entire space of our Railfest spaces. For the 2011 show, the estimated attendance was 20,459 attendees, with another 450 members running the show and countless dealer reps wandering about. Generally, each of the buildings has both commercial vendors from the various model railroad companies, model layout displays, historical booths, as well as the general storefront or private, show only type dealers/sellers. And if you like craftsman structure kits, this is one show you have to see. It seemed like everywhere you turned, booths were displaying some sort of craftsman kit or modelers were including these buildings on their layouts.

The show isn't an inexpensive one to attend, with a daily entrance fee of \$10 and a parking fee of \$5. However, similar to Division 5, the proceeds from the show are used to promote interest in railroads and railroading around the area. According to their website, annual grants and donations have been made to various railroad museums, historical societies, restoration projects and scholarship funds. In addition to those costs, you can also plan to spend additional monies on various food booths, including a few alcoholic libations if you are so inclined.



New N scale offerings from Atlas

I thought I'd give a quick overview of the show, in case you're interested in checking this out further and want to consider attending the 2012 show (scheduled for January 28th/29th at the Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds). Our first stop was the Mallery Building, which housed such vendors as Atlas Trains, Rapido Trains, Model Railroad Hobbyist magazine, Scotty Mason (podcast guru), Mike Rose Hobbies (for those who remember when Mike attended Jim Six's prototypical meet at Perry years ago), and many more.

One of the best layouts we saw that day was located in this building, and consisted of the On30 scale Narragansett Bay Railway & Navigation Company. Set in New England, this modular layout narrow gauge RR depicts



Narragansett Bay Railway & Navigation Company layout

south eastern New England in the 1930's-40s, and used a combination of Bend Track and Free-MO. It was built by members of the Little Rhody Division of the NMRA. All of the power is steam, and the scenery really makes this layout come alive, from the scale coastal steamers to the re-creation of the building of a wooden boat near the rail line.



Narragansett Bay Railway & Navigation Company layout

For the younger generation, a motorized Thomas was present and given families rides around the building interior. One of the more interesting static displays were all of the vehicles that the 1/87 Scale Vehicle Club brought.

After touring the building, we attended a clinic put on by Scotty Mason and the Iwata airbrush company. For those of you not familiar with this name, Scotty puts on a free, monthly podcast ([www.scottymason.com](http://www.scottymason.com)) with several other model railroaders, including Dave Frary, Mike Rose, etc. and features a monthly guest from the modeling or manufacturing community. We had the opportunity to learn the various aspects of weathering or painting with an airbrush, and were provided with a Bachmann 40 ft boxcar to practice or improve our skills. Of course the great thing about the clinic was at the end, where we were offered the opportunity to purchase a slightly used airbrush (used that day for the single 2-hour clinic) and other equipment for a significantly reduced price. Since one of my goals was to replace an aging Badger airbrush, I took advantage of this offer and one found its way home in my luggage. After a few more stops, it was off to the Family Living Center Building, which is a

slightly larger building.

The BLC housed several large layouts, including the Amhearst Beltlines modular, the Southern New England O Scale, and the NTRAK setup. Vendors in this building included names such as the Athearn, Bachmann, Backwoods Minatures, BLMA Models, Caboose Industries, Deluxe Innovatons and the Berkshire Junction folks. As an aside, I did talk with the Berkshire Junction folks and don't expect to see them at Railfest or even Ohio anytime soon. They have limited their shows to just 8 per year, and have been having a hard time just filling orders, let alone development any new products or expand to more shows. One of the new vendors I discovered was Railroad Kits, which is apparently several small craftsman kit lines sold under this name by Jimmy Deignan, whom you may know through his appearances on several model railroad podcast shows or the Fine Scale Model Railroad Expo. If you like highly detailed craftsman kits, you should check out their website.

Our next stop was the Young building, which was marked by a nicely restored speeder setup outside the main doors by the North American Railcar Operators Association. Once inside, such familiar names as Bar Mills, Chooch Enterprises, Carstens, Branch Line Trains, Des Plaines Hobbies, Fox Valley Models, JL Innovative Design, N Scale Architect and Mountaineer Precision Products were displaying their wares, to name just a few. The building also housed some rather large layouts, including three layouts by the



Bar Mills exhibit and products

Mohegan & Pequot group, which included G scale, HO scale and N scale layouts, a layout by a group called the Tobacco Valley, and Bristol S Gaugers & Port Line. The Young Building also housed the various clinics that were being offered throughout both days of the show. Unfortunately, we didn't have the time to take in another clinic, but when we walked by, we saw that participants were learning to assemble and paint DPM structures.

Our final stop was the Stroh building, which is the smallest of the buildings. This building appeared to house some of the smaller commercial vendors, as well as many tables of single individuals selling their personal model railroad cars or rail related services, such as clothing, layout insurance, paintings, photography, etc. However, names that I was familiar with in this space included Railflyer Models Prototypes and Broken Knuckle Video.

All in all, this show turned out to be a great way to spend a cold January weekend and I left wishing I could have stayed for the second day of the show. Of course, maybe not attending a second day was OK, as I probably wouldn't have had room in the suitcase and still needed to keep some money available for Railfest 2011.



Offerings from N Scale Architect



Offerings from N Scale Architect



New HO offerings from Atlas



Steel mill on the Hub Division layout

# THE TRAINWIRE

12049 Sperry Road  
Chesterland, OH 44026-2244  
Publication of Division 5  
**"The Western Reserve Division"**  
Mid Central Region  
National Model RR Assoc. Inc.  
A Non-Profit Educational Organization

## March 2011

## First Class Mail

Railfest 2011 job list, Rails Of Ages convention update, February meeting photos, review of the Springfield, Mass train show, Warthers Colorado Rail Tour

### The Trainwire



**The Trainwire** is an official publication of Division 5 "The Western Reserve Division", Mid Central Region, 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 12049 Sperry Road, Chesterland, OH 44026 or sending an e-mail to [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 – Division 5

[www.mcr5.org](http://www.mcr5.org)

*A non-profit educational organization*



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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.



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