



# The Trainwire.



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## Assistant Superintendant Report.

In a recent conversation, I mentioned my hobby is model railroading. I received a typical response of, "Oh, you play with trains!" Fifteen minutes later, the person realized how much more there is to playing with trains.

I think there are few model railroaders who realize exactly how much we learn with our hobby. Each of us are walking encyclopedias of data and detail that is often focused on a specific time, place and location. These details often involve historical, geographic, geologic, industrial, social, and engineering elements. If you are now rolling your eyes, then I recommend you ask Rich about the B&O Lake Branch. Ask Ted about a certain narrow gauge in Colorado. Ask Ken about a certain stretch of a Canadian railroad. Each of us has absorbed some details that we hold close and incorporate into some square footage of our homes where a miniature is under construction.

In conjunction with this collection of detail, we have all learned other skills as we progress in the hobby. I know

I've become pretty good at basic carpentry and engineering, electrical, drafting, design, photography, writing and even some painting. Each of us owns a different set of skills learned across our hobby years. Granted skills may have been learned for an employment opportunity, but those are often folded into the hobby knowledge. These various layers of skill and knowledge are what makes a rewarding lifelong hobby. A statement like "playing with trains" can sound so flat and one dimensional, but if people would understand the acquired skills and knowledge we enjoy when we play with our trains, then maybe they would find our hobby just as interesting in their lives.

Our monthly meetings are a great place to share our experiences. In our moments describing the bring and brag models, or listening to the presentation, or in the conversations we have with friends and newcomers, we add more layers of information that add to our hobby enjoyment. I'd like to think we come out of our meetings a little better than when we entered the

doors earlier in the evening. We had forty people at the last meeting, which is more than I've seen over the last year. If you can, bring a friend along so they can see how we play with trains.

Our next meeting will be held at the Farmpark. Billboard reefers are the bring and brag topic and I'm certain we may see a banner number of display models. The HO modular layout will be up and running and I believe there will be a short presentation on the modules. I'll see you at the Farmpark on June 3rd!



Eric Hansmann – Assistant Superintendant  
 Division 5  
 NMRA – Mid Central Region

## UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

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

### June 3rd, 2011

Location: **Farmpark**  
 Program: **HO Module setup and viewing**  
 Bring & Brag: **"Billboard Reefers"**

### July

No meeting this month.

### August 5th, 2011

Location: **Hambden Town Hall**  
 Program: **(Open)**  
 Bring & Brag: **"Anything goes"**

The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum  
**7230 Justin Way**  
 Mentor, Ohio 44060

### Daily Hours

<b>Monday</b>	<b>10:00 AM - 9:00 PM</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10:00 AM - 9:00 PM</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00 AM - 6:00 PM</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10:00 AM - 6:00 PM</b>

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

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

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

<b>Railroads in the Park</b>	<b>June 4-5</b>
Lake Metro parks Modular layouts @ Lake Farmarks	
<b>L. S. Live Steamers Public Run</b>	<b>June 5</b>
Penitentiary Glen Reservation (1pm- 3pm) Kirkland, Ohio	
<b>2011 NMRA National Convention</b>	<b>June 3-9</b>
Sacramento, California <a href="http://www.x2011west.org">www.x2011west.org</a>	
<b>BOD Meeting</b>	<b>June 20</b>
Hambden Town Hall Hambden, Ohio	
<b>Last Stop Willoughby</b>	<b>August 20</b>
Downtown Willoughby Willoughby, Ohio	

## June Division 5 Meeting June 3rd, 2011

Location: **The Farmpark**  
**(Route 6)**  
**Kirtland, Ohio**

Program: **HO Module setup and viewing**

Bring & Brag Theme: **"Billboard Reefers"**

*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!*

## July Trainwire Deadline June 20th.

# Division 5 Minutes

April 1st, 2011 7:30 pm

**Superintendent Mike Buehner** was back from his state snow plowing duties and called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. There were 27 members and 5 guests present.

We have **six new members** through a combination of the Rail Pass program and previous member re-rails.

Some members shared their thoughts on the memorial service for **Bill Brodie**.

**Information** on the Ohio Prototype Modelers Meet in May was provided by Eric Hansmann.

**The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum** is experiencing some financial issues and is working to raise some cash quickly.

We are looking for a **Bring & Brag Coordinator**.

**Ted Wiese** has volunteered to be the Company Store coordinator.

**Bring & Brag:** Theme "*Trees and Shrubbery*"

Rich Kacprzak  
Bill Berger

Dave Neff  
Bill Smith

Mike Buehner

**Program:** Lou Dreher presented a clinic on making realistic pine trees using wooden skewers and furnace filter material.

**As a secondary program,** Matt Kross and Dale Smith described the various events and tours that would be occurring at the upcoming convention.

**Treasurer Bonnie Lette** provided the status of the various Division 5 accounts.

**Jim Wendorf reported** on how Railfest 2011 went. We had approximately 3500 people come through the front door. Saturday attendance was up. Sunday morning attendance was up but the afternoon was down. The dealers said they did well and loved the crowd. The entrance layout worked well.

It was noted that member **Bill Heister** is having some health problems and had been in the hospital.

It was suggested that we look into a tour of the **Age Of Steam Roundhouse** in Sugar Creek, OH. Reports are that it is very impressive, however, there is still a lot of construction going on.

Submitted by  
**Matt Kross - Division 5 Clerk**

# Pictures from the April Meeting.





# Division 5 BOD Minutes

April 18th, 2011 7:30 pm

**In attendance;** Don Bittner, Bruce Lutheran, Dale Smith; Wayne Lette, Rob Bowers, Jim Wendorf, Bob Frieden, Mike Buehner and Bonnie Lette (by tele-conference).

**50th anniversary banquet,** budgeted for \$3000.00, Bruce Lutheran has a proposal for The American Croatian Lodge that falls within budget, Bonnie Lette has a proposal for Zappatelli's in Painesville Township that also falls within budget.

**The BOD** will finalize May 16th from the two proposals.

**Mike Schaab** has resigned as Auditor for Division, stating health reasons. The BOD has possible members to approach for this position.

**Railfest** report by Jim Wendorf, says the numbers for Railfest were near identical to last years. Already has requests for next year. Jim reported to have Railfest moneys transferred and the audit to be completed when all outstanding checks clear.

**Convention update** by Dale Smith, everything is proceeding well.

**Superintendent** defers Membership Guide updating to May BOD

**Free Mo Module** for May meeting program offered by Eric Hansmanns added  
Bring and Brag themes clarified For May and June

**Rob Bowers** presented a trip for Division 5 to Sugarcreek (by Dover Ohio) to visit Jerry Jacobs collection and roundhouse. May include going to Dennison. Was asked if he would relay information on to Tripmaster.

**Division 5 meeting** for June 3rd is at Farmpark at 7:30pm.

**Ted Wiese** is now the Company stores coordinator, inventory will be conducted after convention.

**Adding Layout Tour** coordinator position for Division, this position will coordinate tours of Division 5 members layouts in the future, possibly one or two a month.

**Promo Day-** coordinators looking for a venue for November and volunteers.

Submitted by

**Mike Buehner - Division 5 Superintendent**

# Division 5 Minutes

May 6th, 2011 7:30 pm

**Superintendent Mike Buehner** called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. There were 31 members and 8 guests present.

A number of **notices and communications** were presented to those present including the following:

The tornado in Chattanooga did not affect the NMRA headquarters but did directly affect some staff members.

An N-scale weekend will be at the Franklin County fairgrounds in Columbus, OH May 14-15.

The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad is having "A Day Out With Thomas" during the last two weekends in May. An NMRA recruiting table will be set up there. We are looking for people to help staff that table along with Division 4 and Division 1 members.

Dick Roth presented the upcoming excursion schedule for the Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad.

Eric Hansmann provided information on the upcoming Central Ohio Prototype Modelers Meet.

We did not have a **May Trainwire** due to continued health issues with Lenny and Matt being tied up with putting on the convention. Lenny will attempt to do the June Trainwire.

**June meeting** will be at Lake Farmpark in conjunction with the module setup for the Railroads In The Parks weekend. We need people to help with the Boy Scout Merit Badge workshop. We believe we have enough HO car kits for this workshop, but this will exhaust our supply.

**Harley Smith** received the Russ Wenderfer Award (*sponsored by Division 7*) for his many years of promoting model railroaing.

Several **Division members** were contest winners at the Rails Of Ages 2011 MCR Convention:

**Ken Stroebel** – Best Of Show - Photographs

**Ken Stroebel** – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Black & White Prototype Print

**Ken Stroebel** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Prototype Color Print

**Dave Hanna** – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Steam Locomotives

Also, Dick Roth, regular guest of Division 5 took 1<sup>st</sup> Place Prototype Color Print. Congratulations to all of the above.

**Bring & Brag:** Theme "*Signs*"

Matt Kross, Rich Kacprzak, Ken Stroebel, Bill Berger, Bill Smith and Allan Arthur.

**Program:** Eric Hansmann and Tim Moran gave a presentation on the FreeMo modular concept. Several HO FreeMo modules were set up for the presentation. Eric talked about the standard and the overall philosophy.

As a secondary program, photos were shown of the **Rails Of Ages convention** held the previous weekend.

**Ted Wiese** will now be handling the Division 5 Company Store.

**Matt Kross and Dale Smith** provided a review of how the Rails Of Ages convention went. Overall, the convention ran well and most attendees had a good time. A big thank you goes out to all the Division members and spouses that helped. It was noted that these volunteer hours count towards your NMRA Volunteer AP Certificate.

We are looking at some **possible trips** for the Division this summer or fall. More details as these are worked out.

**Jim Wendorf** is working to close out the financial books for Railfest 2011. There are still some outstanding bills that he is waiting to receive.

We need one or two coordinators for **Division 5 Promotional Day**. We would really like to continue with the program we have developed but do not have anyone to lead it. Please contact Mike Buehner if you are interested.

We would like to create a **Division 5 Layout Tour Coordinator** as a new volunteer position. This would build on the layout tours that were put together for the Rails Of Ages convention and help us get ready for the 2014 national NMRA convention in Cleveland. If you are interested, please contact Mike Buehner.

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# Division 5 Minutes cont.....

May 6th, 2011 7:30 pm

*(Continued from page 6)*

Some of the highlights from the recent **MCR BOD** meeting were noted:

If you have issues or problems with the national NMRA office, please contact the regional president to see if he can assist you with resolving your problem.

Please keep the national NMRA office updated with your latest mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address. When mailings need to be made (such as for ballots) a lot of the mailings are coming back due to incorrect addresses. This prevents you from getting your information and wastes money.

The MCR is working on getting the clinician database updated. If you are willing to have one or more of your clinics listed, please contact Mike Buehner or Dave Neff. This list will be used to solicit clinics for future regional and national conventions as well as for other division meetings.

The MCR is also working on getting the region contact information updated.

The Achievement Program is on the upswing in our region.

Submitted by

**Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk**

## Pictures from the May Meeting.



Next Division 5 Meeting – June 3rd, 2011.

# Division 5 BOD Minutes

May 16th, 2011 7:30 pm

Those in attendance were: Mike Buehner, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Don Bittner, Matt Kross, Eric Hansmann, Dale Smith, Bruce Lutheran, Lenny Kessler, and Harley Smith.

Division 5 member Bill Heister died on Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Reviewed upcoming events for listing in the Trainwire:

Railroads In The Parks	June 4 – 5
Last Stop Willoughby	Aug 20
Day Out With Thomas	May 21 – 22, 28-30

The Division 5 Fiftieth Anniversary celebration will be held at Zappitelli's in Painesville. The Croation Lodge in East-lake will be the backup location if we cannot secure a desired date at Zappitelli's. We are trying for a Sunday afternoon/evening on either September 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, or October 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Rails Of Ages convention finances are still being finalized. Initial indications are that the convention ended up with a profit. The convention chairmen are reviewing if we can refund some amount of the registration fee to the Division 5 volunteers.

We are still in need of a coordinator for Promo Day.

It was noted that we never gave Bob Frieden any money to help defray the costs of the last Promo Day. It was voted that we give Bob the remaining \$300 left in the Promo Day budget for 2010.

We have created a new volunteer position of Division 5 Layout Tour Coordinator but do not have anyone to fill it so far.

Tony Spena has volunteered to be one of the Division 5 auditors.

The Railfest 2011 financial books are to be audited by July 1, 2011. The Rails Of Ages financial books are to be audited by August 1, 2011.

Dick Roth suggested a Division trip to a model railroad and museum in New York. We are looking into it to see if it would be a viable trip for the Division members.

It was noted that a number of our Division documents and brochures on our website need to be updated. Eric Hansmann will review them and get the recommended changes to Matt Kross.

We are considering changing the Division 5 Regulations to move the Treasurer position from an elected position to an appointed position. This would allow the Treasurer to stay in the position for longer than the 4 years max of an elected office. This would provide better continuity, reduce the problem of finding someone to fill the position, and reduce the problem of changing the signatures on the bank accounts. We need to find out if there are any 501(c)3 restrictions that would keep us from doing this. Initial indications from the region are that this is okay to do. If there are no restrictions with us making this change, then we would need to put it to a vote of the Division 5 members.

We need programs for August through November.

*(Continued on page 9)*



## Division 5 BOD Minutes cont...

(Continued from page 8)

The monthly Division 5 nametag drawing winner will receive a \$5 certificate retroactive to the April 2011 meeting.

The next Division 5 BOD meeting will be on June 20, 2011 at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall.

Submitted by,  
Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk

## Division 5 Loses Another Member.



**W**illiam P. Heister age 87, of Willowick, passed away Sunday, May 15, 2011, in Cleveland. Born Feb. 28, 1924, in Cleveland, he had been a resident of Willowick for the past 52 years. He was a U.S. Army Air Corps veteran of World War II. He was a member of the St. John's Cathedral Choir, St. Mary Magdalene Choir and Lakeland Civic Chorus. He participated with many

community theaters and was a member of the Western Reserve Division of NMRA. William was an active member at St. Mary Magdalene Church. He enjoyed air shows and followed the "Letterman" singing group concerts. Mr. Heister worked as a mail carrier for the United States Postal Service for 42 years prior to his retirement. Survivors are his beloved wife of 54 years, Dorothy (nee Krejsa); and children, Steven and Susan (Thomas)

Dick. He was also the uncle and great-uncle to many. May the Lord welcome this gentle soul into his Kingdom and watch over him for eternity. ☸

William P. Heister  
1924-2011

### Businesses Accepting Division 5 Certificates

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



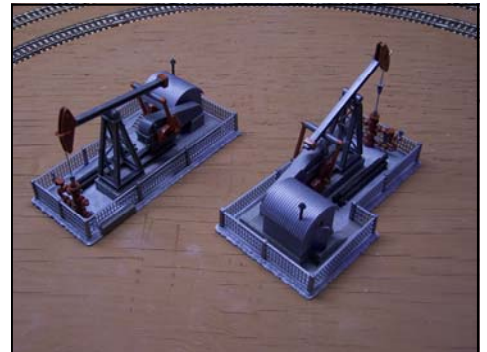
Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys  
Hobby Town USA  
Train Specialty Company  
Village Train Shop  
Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters

Willoughby, Ohio  
Mentor, Ohio  
Chardon, Ohio  
Perry, Ohio  
Geneva, Ohio



*Please support these dealers!*

## The Modeler's Corner.



If your layout features a chemical plant and/or an elaborate refinery, then what could be more appropriate than an operating horse head drilling rig. The top three pictures show two finished Models made by Faller and the lower picture shows where the two models will eventually end up on my layout. Both of these smaller size models occupy a relatively small footprint. I talked to another hobbyist who built the Walthers model oil rig and when I compared notes, I found that they are comparatively equal in price but the Walthers rig is a lot harder to build. I found the Faller model quite easy

to assemble as there is very little glue used. The only problem with the Faller model is when you order the motor which does not come with the rig. It is almost twice the cost of the model. But I did not want a static model on my layout, so after the **sticker shock**, I just grinned and paid the bill. The two models were fun to build and they will be active in my oil fields. The rail cars that you would probably find in the area of these dynamic models will be mostly single and three dome tank cars. If you are presently working on a project, take plenty of pictures, write down some information on your project and join me in the **Modeler's Corner**.



## For Your Information.

In case you did not know, **The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum** is in the midst of several estate sales. Not

everyone can afford to just take a legal tax deduction for a model railroad collection of a relative or friend. So as an alternative, the Museum has agreed to sell

their collection for a twenty per cent cost. While it looks like a typical train show, the pieces are priced less than 75% below retail on average and your pur-

chase helps to support the Museum. This is not a place for bargaining, but is a place to find quality products at a reasonable price.

*(Continued on page 11)*



**Team Track**[www.MCR5.org](http://www.MCR5.org)**Division 5 Officers**

(Terms expire June 2012)

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

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

Dale Smith	440-428-0137	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	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	(Open Position)	
		<a href="mailto:PromoDay@MCR5.org">PromoDay@MCR5.org</a>
Achievement Program	Eric Hansmann	440-543-7754
		<a href="mailto:AP@MCR5.org">AP@MCR5.org</a>
Contests	Eric Hansmann	440-543-7754
		<a href="mailto:Contest@MCR5.org">Contest@MCR5.org</a>
Auditors	Dennis Lloyd	440-255-2530
	Tony Spena	<a href="mailto:Audit@MCR5.org">Audit@MCR5.org</a>
Trainwire Editor	Lenny Kessler	440-478-6661
		<a href="mailto:Trianwire@MCR5.org">Trianwire@MCR5.org</a>
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		<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)	

**Estate Sale cont.....**

(Continued from page 10)

The sale is being held on week-ends from **11am until 4:30pm** for a short while. There are a lot of good things to be found that would fit fine on your layout or would be a good beginning if you are about to start one. This sale will be available for a limited time, so make sure you stop in soon.

*- The Editor***Congratulations Are Due!**

The following Division 5 members received awards at the **Rails Of Ages 2011 MCR Convention.**

Harley Smith received the Russ Wenderfer Award (*sponsored by Division 7*) for his many years of promoting model rail-roading.

**Contest Winners:**

- Ken Stroebel – Best Of Show - Photographs
- Ken Stroebel – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Black & White Prototype Print
- Ken Stroebel – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Prototype Color Print
- Dave Hanna – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Steam Locomotives

**Congratulations to all of the above!**



# 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

June, 2011

Electronic Version

Division 5 Membership  
as of May 1st, 2011



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## *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

Division has funds for mailing. Others wishing to receive it may do so for the annual fee of \$12.00 for a mailing or it is always available on the website (FREE). 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

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

A non-profit educational organization



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