

A PUBLICATION OF  
THE WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION  
DIVISION 5 - MID CENTRAL REGION - NATIONAL MODEL  
RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

May, 2012

Volume VI Issue 5



# The Trainwire.



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## The GRRT Railroad



*would like to extend an invitation to fellow model railroaders to join in an operating session.*

**This is to be held monthly; on the 2nd Wednesday of the month starting in April 2012.**

**The Buehner Residence**

**6350 River Rd. Madison, Ohio**

**(440) 428-0137**

[GRRTRailroad@roadrunner.com](mailto:GRRTRailroad@roadrunner.com)

**Date: May 9, 2012**

**Time: 6pm - 10pm**

If you are new to operations or are curious, this is for you. I have an up and running N scale layout with Digitrax DCC. The operations will include Mainline freight from staging, locals (turns), interchange traffic, classification yard, and a Branch line. We will be using sequential running order at first (no fast clock) using switchlists (detailed and/or short lists) and CarCards. If you have a Digitrax throttle you are encouraged to bring one. As a novice myself this will be a fun learning adventure and you get to run trains. If you do not want to operate, you are more than welcome to visit.

**Mike Buehner**



# Division 5 Meeting Minutes

April 6th, 2012 7:30 pm

Meeting was called to order by **Superintendent Mike Buehner** at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. 21 members and 3 guests were present.

We had a very successful **Railfest 2012**. Attendance was the same as last year in spite of the good weather and it being St. Patrick's Day.

Division 5 member **Ron Biddell** has had surgery on his throat cancer. He is recovering at home but can't talk well. Members are encouraged to send notes or text messages.

An **anonymous donor** at Railfest provided 10 free NMRA RailPass memberships to hand out. From this, we have five new Division 5 members. Also, of the 15 full NMRA memberships that were raffled off by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, eight of them were for Division 5. Thus, we have a total of 13 new Division 5 members as of Railfest 2012.

**Bring & Brag:** Theme – Kitbashed

Wayne Lette	Matt Kross	Harley Smith
Bill Berger	Paul Chapple	Bob Frieden
Gary Shaffer	Ken Stroebel	Bob Gittinger

**Program:**

Harley Smith provided a clinic on the "Do's And Don'ts Of Assembling Athearn And MDC HO Car Kits".

**Business Meeting:**

Mike Buehner indicated that he has tried to contact all the new members signed up at Railfest. There is an issue with some of the contact information provided.

The results of the **2012 Division 5 elections** are **Rob Bowers** as Superintendent and **Dave Neff** as Assistant Superintendent. The official ballot tallies will be reviewed at the next BOD meeting.

The May Division 5 meeting will be held at **Lake Farmpark** due to the fact that many of our members will be there setting up their modular layouts for the Railroads In Parks weekend.

**Dale Smith** needs a head count by May 4 of those going to the May operating session.

The April **Division 5 BOD meeting** will be held at Harley Smith's house.

**Submitted by:**

**Matt Kross** – Division 5 Clerk

# Division 5 BOD Minutes

April 16, 2012 7:30 pm

A **Division 5 BOD meeting** was held on April 16, 2012 at the home of Harley Smith. In attendance were Mike Buehner, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Don Bittner, Matt Kross, Bob Frieden, Lenny Kessler, Ted Wiese, Harley Smith, and Ken Stroebel

There were **13 new Division 5 members** signed up at Railfest through the JDRF NMRA membership raffle and the donation of some Rail Pass memberships. The breakdown is: 5 Rail Pass, 6 full memberships, and 2 family member memberships. We need to send new member packets to these people. There is an issue with reading the information on a couple of the membership raffle tickets. Superintendent Mike Buehner has contacted all the new members that we have valid information for. We will continue to try to obtain valid contact information for the remaining people.

The **Division 5 election Teller**, Dennis Lloyd, provided the BOD with the official tallies and the ballots received for the 2012 elections. Rob Bowers has been elected Superintendent and Dave Neff has been re-elected as Assistant Superintendent. Their terms will begin June 1, 2012.

Everything is ready for the **Boy Scout Railroading Merit Badge workshop** to be held at Farmpark during Railroads In The Parks. A motion was passed to provide each scout at the workshop a Division 5 pin along with information about joining the NMRA. Helpers are needed during the workshop when the scouts assemble a railroad car kit. A request for help will be placed in the May Trainwire.

**May meeting is at Farmpark** due to the module setup for the Railroads In The Parks weekend. The Clerk will send out a reminder e-mail to the membership.

We have used the new **USB camera** several times for clinics in an attempt to better display the details of what the clinician is doing. In general, this has worked but there are a few improvements needed. We need to get the projector further back to make the image on the wall bigger. To do this, we need a longer video cable. A motion was passed to have the Webmaster purchase a 25 foot cable. We also need to light the work area better, improve the mounting/positioning mechanism for the camera, and use a non-white work surface. Harley Smith provided a sheet of gray posterboard to use as the work surface. We will ask the membership for ideas for mounting the camera along with possible donations of material/equipment to accomplish the task.

A **Division 5 member** has offered to host a Division picnic in July. More details later as this is worked out.

**Mike Buehner** has been working on getting quotes to have a Division 5 banner made. We are looking at a banner that will be about 2 feet wide by 8 feet long. More details as pricing is received.

**The 2011 convention profits** were used to fund the NMRA memberships raffled off by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) at Railfest. Now that these memberships have been paid for, the remaining convention funds will be turned over to the Division and the convention account finally closed.

**The BOD** heard from Division 5 member Ken Stroebel about ideas for presenting timely information and more detailed articles in an electronic format on our website.

A **Division 5 financial audit** is needed in May prior to the new officers' terms.

*Submitted by:*

**Matt Kross** – Division 5 Clerk

# Bulletin Board.

## 2012 Division 5 Election Results

Superintendent: Rob Bowers

Assistant Superintendent: Dave Neff

## Get Well Wishes

Division 5 member Ron Biddell had cancer surgery on his throat and is at home recovering. He is not able to talk well, so please do not call him. However, you are encouraged to send him cards or text messages.

Division 5 member Gary Shaffer had a mild heart attack around the middle of April. As of April 16, he was in an Erie, PA hospital and scheduled to have bypass surgery.

## Welcome New Division 5 Members

Donald Webster	Mentor	Rail Pass Member
Zachary Freeman	Eastlake	Rail Pass Member
Gene Coppinger	Ashtabula	Rail Pass Member
Richard Clark	Mentor Rail	Pass Member
Gary Bailey	Mentor	Rail Pass Member
Ernie Richman	Eastlake	Full NMRA Member
Terry Mowery	Painesville	Full NMRA Member
Louise Mowery	Painesville	NMRA Family Member
Genny Pochodzay ship	Perry	Full NMRA Member-
Paulette Szuhay ship	Mentor	Full NMRA Member-
Steve Jones ship	Mentor	Full NMRA Member-
Craig Konecny ship	Newbury	Full NMRA Member-

## Help Needed For Boy Scout Workshop

On Saturday, May 5, Division 5 is working with Lake Farmpark to put on a Boy Scout Railroad-ing Merit Badge workshop in conjunction with the Railroads In The Parks weekend. Help is needed during the session where the scouts assemble an HO railroad car kit. This session will start sometime between 10:00 and 10:30 on Saturday morning in the main building. We need a number of people to provide guidance and answer questions during the kit assembly period which lasts about an hour. If you are available, please just show up. We will be in the room where we normally set up the modular layouts at Christmas time.

## Camera Mounting Ideas Needed.

We have used the new Division 5 USB camera several times for clinics over the past few months in an attempt to better display the details of what the clinician is doing. In general, this has worked but there are a few improvements needed. We are addressing getting a longer video cable so that we can move the video projector further back to get a bigger picture on the wall. We have also obtained a gray sheet of posterboard to use on the work surface. Two remaining issues are better lighting and a better way to mount the camera. Our current camera mounting must be clamped to the edge of the table and the tables

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Camera Mounting Ideas Needed Cont.....

*(Continued from page 5)*

at the town hall don't allow this to work well. Also, we are using a scissors arm from an old clamp-on desk lamp and this isn't allowing us to adjust the camera position as desired. We are looking for some ideas from the membership on how we might accomplish this and we are also looking for donations of possible parts/equipment to use for this mounting and something to use to light the work area. One thought regarding camera mounting is to use portions of one or more gooseneck desk lamps. The problem with this idea is that it needs a heavy base which would need to be carried to every meeting. Another idea is a microphone stand that sets on the floor and has a gooseneck portion that could be positioned over the table. If you have any ideas or possible donations, please contact Wayne Lette.

## Operating Session.

I have scheduled an Operating Session on May 12, 2012 from 1 PM. to 5 PM at Dave Eggleston's , 44 Summitt Street, Jamestown, NY.

I will be leaving my house at 8:45 AM, those interested in going please contact me by May 4th. so I can advise Dave of the number to expect. Also, if you are interested in

carpooling please contact me at: **Dale Smith 440-636-3453.**

Thanks,

*Dale Smith*

### Businesses Accepting Division 5 Certificates

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



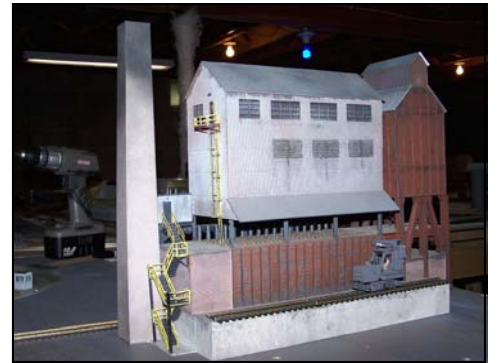
Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys  
Hobby Town USA  
Train Specialty Company  
Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters

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



*Please support these dealers!*

# The Modeler's Corner.



Every steel mill needs a coke oven to supply the fuel for its hungry blast furnaces. The oven can be placed anywhere in the mill provided it has total access to a coal supply and tracks to transport the coke to the conveyors of the blast furnace. Walthers makes an excellent model of a coke retort that is perfect for just such a setting. It is a large multi-story building with a lot of detail and equipped with several staircases, ladders, conveyors and a large smoke stack. On this particular model, I added a set of tracks on one side of the model's foundation for a scratch built push rod machine that pushes the red hot coke into a waiting car that will carry the burning coke into a

cooling tower to be quenched. After the coke has been thoroughly quenched, it is dumped into a pit for further cooling. Once this process has been completed, the coke is loaded into separate hopper cars and transported to the blast furnaces by a switcher. I was fortunate to have the scratch built cooling cars, cooling tower and push rod machine built specifically for my layout by Allen Arthur, one of the best modelers I have ever met. The three pictures above show the finished Model. The second picture shows the scratch built push rod machine. The three pictures below show where this model will be located on my layout next to a scratch built chemical plant. The rail cars that

you will usually find near this model will be special cooling cars and hopper cars. There are plenty of intricate details on this model and it was fun to build. I painted and weathered all of the components of this model before I assembled them. I can't tell you how many hours were spent on this models but that's the difference between a modeler and a time keeper. This is one of my latest projects, what are you working on? If you would like your project featured in the **Modeler's Corner** then take plenty of pictures, write down some information on your project and send it to the Trainwire editor by email. [Trainwire@mcr5.org](mailto:Trainwire@mcr5.org)



# 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

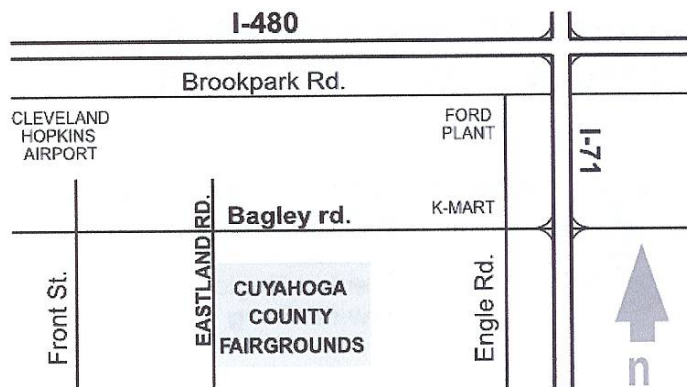
**Admission \$7.00**  
**Under 16 Free with Adult**  
**Special 2-Day Pass \$10.00**



**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!**



# 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**

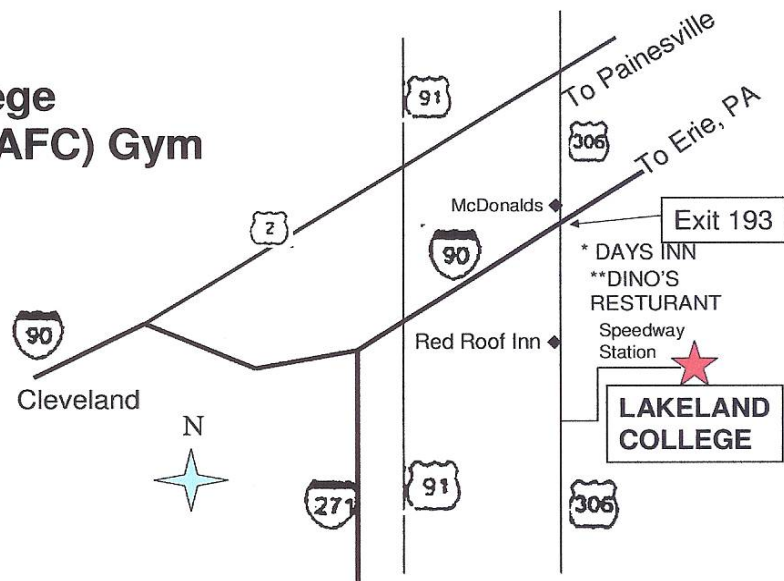


**Division 5 will be presenting classes on the following  
Basics of Model Railroading:**

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

**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	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>

**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	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	(440) 942-3039
	Bob Frieden	<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	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: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

**T**he Trainwire is always looking for an interesting article. If you have taken a trip lately, seen something interesting trackside, have a particular view point 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.

**June Trainwire Deadline  
May 20th.**

# The Trainwire Newsletter

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Chesterland, Ohio 44026  
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A Non-Profit Educational Organization

May, 2012

Electronic Version

Division 5 Membership  
as of February 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

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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