



The Trainwire.



Inside this issue:

Scheduled events	2
Meeting Minutes	3
Meeting Pictures	4
BOD Minutes	5
Michigan RR Bridges	6
RR Bridges cont...	7
Officer Info	8
Last Page	9
Train Show flyer	10
Promo Day flyer	11
Railfanning flyer	12
R. R. Swap Meet	13

This Year's NMRA Convention.

Grand Rapids Michigan was the site of this year's convention, Grand Rails. The site was the Amway Grand Hotel, and nearby Devos Convention Center for the National Train Show held at the end of the week. My fellow LENS and NMRA member Richard Feldman and I travelled together and shared a room. Approximately 1100 model railroaders attended—but I believe I was the only one from Division 5 (administratively Richard is Division 4)! We certainly must have a much, much better showing at our own convention in 2014! Speaking of which, our Convention Committee manned our information booth which featured many photographs of rail and non rail activities around Cleveland, and we did sign up nearly 50 early registrations! Many others said they were definitely looking forward to attending Cleveland.

The convention featured many clinics, of course, and both bus tour and self-guided layout visits. Bruce Chubb's Sunset Valley occupies a full basement and trains run on five interconnected levels. It's truly awesome! The White Creek live steam railroad occupies 50 (?) acres and was also one of the highlights. I took a special all-day tour over to the Eastside of the State (Canton Michigan) where eight layouts were on display, all members of the Midnight Pocatello Yardmasters Club (I'll elaborate on the reason for the name at our next meeting). There are about 25 members in the club, 12 of whom are active in NMRA, and four of the layouts were hosted by Master Model Railroaders---and three others by soon-to-be MMR's, so naturally the day was spent with the dual feelings of inspiration and desperation comparing their masterworks with my own layout! But the good lesson there is that these club members have worked together, with differing skills, to create for one another their fine layouts. (*key words—working together!!*).

The National Train show featured the usual well-known model manufacturers, a variety of vendors, and several modular layouts (principally HO) and also Free-Mo. The general consensus among those I talked with suggested that the show was just 'fair'---but I suppose it depends on your past experiences and frame of reference (I've attended many). If you haven't attended a previous National Train Show, then the first one will indeed be 'Grand'. Next year is Atlanta, and it's Portland after Cleveland. Let's get ready!

Dave Neff
Assistant. Superintendent

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.

September 7th, 2012

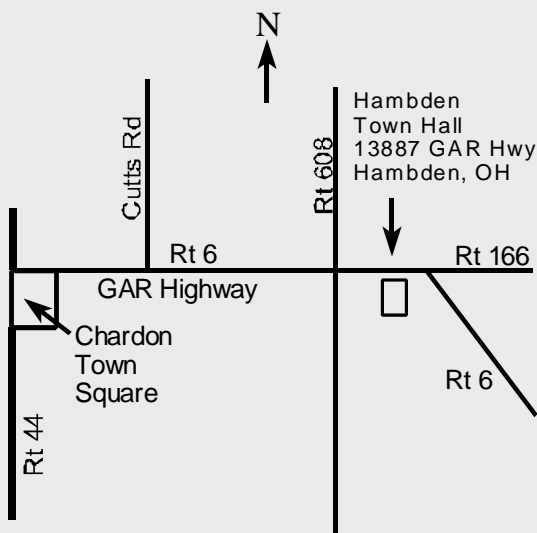
Location: Hambden Town Hall
Program: Freight car weathering (Joe Saunders)
Bring & Brag: "Structures from Northeast Ohio"

October 5th, 2012

Location: Hambden Town Hall
Program: Making Sedum Trees (Pat Flash)
Bring & Brag: "Fall Colors (scenery)"

November 2nd, 2012

Location: Hambden Town Hall
Program: Cass Railroad (Dave Neff)
Bring & Brag: "Doodlebugs/RDCs"



Map to Hambden Town Hall

SCHEDULED EVENTS

<p>L.S. Live Steamers Public Run Penitentiary Glen Reservation Kirtland, Ohio (1-3 pm)</p>	<p>September 9</p>
<p>BOD Meeting Hambden Town Hall Hambden, Ohio</p>	<p>September 17</p>
<p>L.S. Live Steamers Public Run Penitentiary Glen Reservation Kirtland, Ohio (1-3 pm)</p>	<p>September 23</p>
<p>Carnival of Trains "12" Cuyahoga Fairgrounds Berea, Ohio 44017</p>	<p>October 6</p>
<p>L.S. Live Steamers Public Run Penitentiary Glen Reservation Kirtland, Ohio (1-3 pm)</p>	<p>October 7</p>
<p>Division 5 Promo Day Lakeland Community College Kirtland, Ohio 44094</p>	<p>November 3</p>

Division 5 Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2012 7:30 pm

Meeting was called to order by Superintendent Rob Bowers at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. There were 21 members and 3 guests present.

Members were reminded that they are more than welcome to attend the Division Board of Directors meetings. They are held the third Monday of the month at Hambden Town Hall at 7:30 pm.

Information about the **Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad's "Steam In The Valley"** was presented.

Bruce Lutheran, Bill Berger, and Dave Barnes are working on creating a new **Division 5 railroad car** offering. They are looking for ideas. Ideally, they would like to do a car for a railroad in our area, past or present, or a car that "didn't exist but could have been" for a local industry. Please pass your ideas on to them.

Dick Roth listed some of the things going on with the **Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad**. To get more information, visit their website at www.octr.org.

It was reported that **Ron Biddell** is back to work after his long recovery.

Bring & Brag: Theme – Gear Driven Matt Kross Bill Berger Ken Stroebel

Program: Open discussion about what Division 5 members would like to do or have as programs. The following is a list of the ideas and comments made:

Talks on railroad related things going on in the area

Trips – RR museums, layouts, operating sessions

Blissfield, MI layout, op session, nearby shortline – all day trip – Ken Stroebel can set this up

Rochester, NY – Medina Train Museum, 4 layouts in area – Dick Roth can set this up

Horseshoe Curve and Altoona Railroaders Museum

Western Maryland Museum in Cumberland, MD

Stroudsburg, PA RR museum

Meeting Programs: more "How To" demonstrations

How to get more Division 5 and model railroading exposure:

Non-traditional venues (children's hospitals, senior centers, etc.)

Community Days

Partner with a hobbyshop (continuous demo in store or at some larger facility)

Model train "tune-up" day

Hands on demos: track laying, wiring, scenery, building kits, scratchbuilding

Question & Answer time at meetings

Visit other people's layouts and ask questions

Hold worksessions on home layouts and invite new people

Division layout tours and those in surrounding Divisions

Business Meeting:

Treasurer Bonnie Lette provided a review of the Division financial status

Nothing going on with **Railfest 2013** at this time

The **Division picnic** went well but it was quite hot. Thanks to all those that put the picnic together.

Submitted by:

Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk

Pictures from August Meeting.



Steam in the Valley.

Some of you may not have seen that the Steam In The Valley event will once again return in September on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR). The following is a general schedule of steam activities this year:

- Sept 8 -- CVSR 40th Anniversary Train (Rockside to Howe Meadow)
- Sept 9 -- Brunch Train
- Sept 15 -Total Track Tour (Brecksville ?? to Canton) and later that day is the Night Photo Shoot at Fitzwater Yard
- Sept 16 - Steam In The Valley (2 Trips from Akron Station)
- Sept 29 - Murder Aboard The Valley Express (Murder Mystery/Dinner Event)
- Sept 30 - Steam In The Valley (2 Trips from Akron Station)

Canadian Pacific 1293 will be used this year. It will be on loan from the Ohio Central Roundhouse Museum.

For more information go to the CVSR Website <<http://cvsr.com>> click on "purchase tickets" then click on "Steam In The Valley".

Division 5 BOD Minutes

August 20th, 2012 7:30 pm

A **Division 5 BOD meeting** was held on August 20, 2012 at Hambden Town Hall. In attendance were Rob Bowers, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Don Bittner, Matt Kross, Bob Frieden, Lenny Kessler, Tom Pescha, Bob Gittinger, and Dave Neff.

Discussed new **NMRA training program** being developed for all skill levels. Jim Six is the program coordinator. It is for both NMRA and non-NMRA members. It will be a formal curriculum that takes you through a progression of courses to develop your model railroading skills. It is going to take some time to develop. Some initial pieces will be presented at the 2013 national NMRA convention and much more will be ready for the Cleveland 2014 convention. Dave Neff has volunteered to be the Division 5 coordinator for this program.

We will begin having an **open question period** during our regular monthly meetings. We tried this a year ago but did not stick with it. A number of members have said this would be helpful. We will allocate 10 to 15 minutes after Bring & Brag for this.

Dave Neff reported on his experiences at the 2012 National NMRA convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan. There were good and bad things that we can learn from as we prepare for the 2014 convention in Cleveland.

The 2014 national NMRA convention in Cleveland will have a strong educational tract as part of the clinics. There will be a lot of hands-on clinics. Approximately 50 people have pre-registered for the convention so far. The Renaissance Hotel will be the convention hotel and all convention activities other than the trainshow will be held at the hotel.

Discussed **future program ideas and goals**. There is interest in more mini-demos. We need to gear our programs to attract new people.

The November program will be on **the Cass Railroad** and include the history around it as well as what it is like today.

The I-Hobby Expo is a trade show of hobby manufacturers. It will be in Cleveland this year on Oct 11-14 at the IX Center. They are looking for layouts to have on display. The BOD wondered if there is a possibility for us to have an NMRA promotional table there in conjunction with Div 1 and Div 4 like has been done with the Thomas The Tank weekend. Rob Bowers will check with Division 4 to see if they have any information.

Ken Stroebel provided information on a possible trip to Blissfield, Michigan to visit several layouts and attend an operating session on one of the layouts. The Division 5 members will be polled at the September meeting to determine if there is enough interest to set up this trip.

The Division 5 2013 budgeting process will begin at the September BOD meeting. Any Division 5 committee or person wanting funding from the Division in 2013 must submit a budget request to the BOD. The budget will be finalized at the November 2012 BOD meeting.

A suggestion was made that we consider implementing some **“make and take” programs** in 2013.

A quote from **OfficeMax** for copying and mailing the Trainwire was presented. The costs are significantly lower than what we are currently paying. The Trainwire Editor will follow-up on this.

Next Division 5 BOD meeting will be September 17, 2012 at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall.

Submitted by:

Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk

Michigan Railroad Bridges

By: Bruce Lutheran

I am always on the prowl for railroad related information while I am on Vacation. This year's vacation was no exception. I made a trip up the Michigan the end of July for my vacation and on the way back, we stopped at a

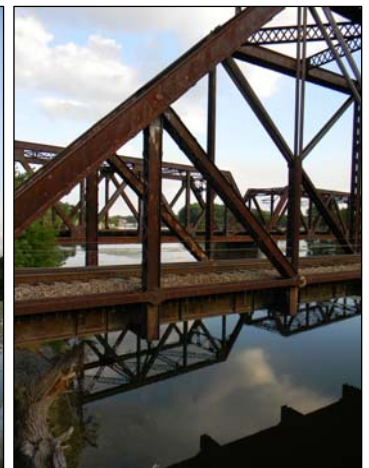
state park in Monroe County. While we were on a side trip to Cabela's, we drove past the world's most crooked river, The River Raisin, and of course where there is a river", there are bridges. In this case, Railroad bridges! I enjoy railroad bridges, as they are struc-

tural feats of engineering, something near and dear to my heart. When you couple this with bridges that are not typical, they capture my attention even more. The picture below shows 2 bridges side-by-side. The first is a single track and the second is a double track

with one line removed. The bridge was part of the GT line, see picture below, which is now run by CN. CN still uses the bridge today for coal drags.



I have included pictures to show how close the double track and the single track were and to show the triple span. You will note the calm river and the "mirror" shot I was able to get, thus showing the bridges from multiple angles:



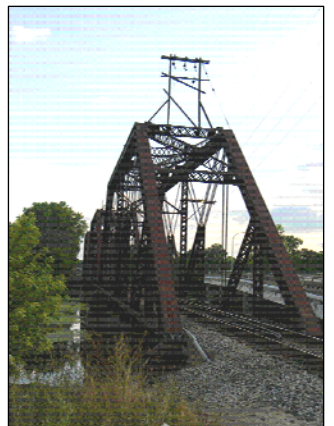
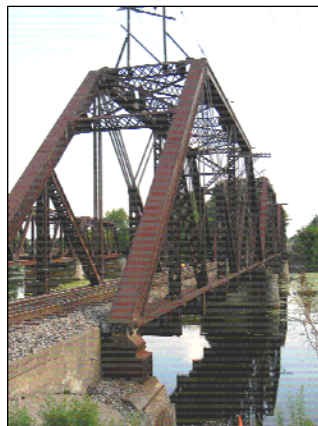
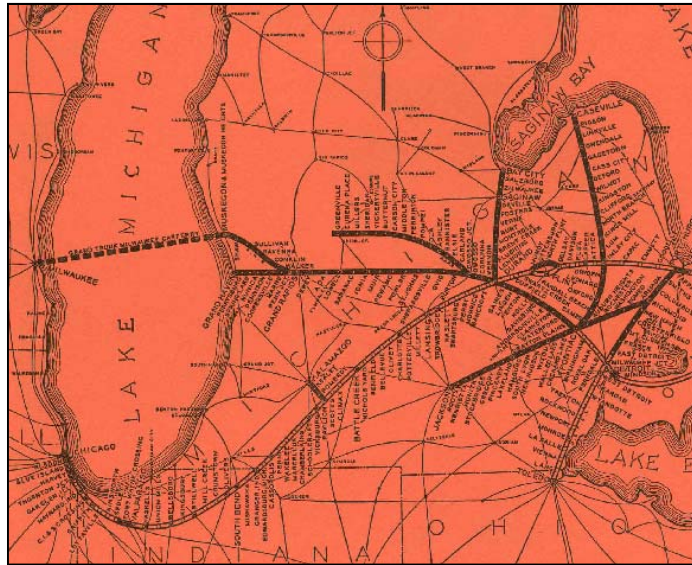
The picture's on the next page, shows the single track bridge. Note also the overhead electrical line supports, something that is different from the under-bridge supports I have seen on other bridges:

(Continued on page 7)

Michigan Railroad Bridges cont.....

(Continued from page 6)

At the right, is a map of the GT line, dated 1953, showing the route thru Monroe, I found this on Michiganrailroads.com web site.



The building next to the bridge also drew my interest, as it is an old building that shows some good weathering on it. I did not do any history on it, but, I always look for what I believe to be old railroad type buildings. I have included a couple of pictures below:



So the next time you go over the border to Michigan, take an easy side trip off I-75, get off in Monroe and catch the excellent Railroad Bridges in all their splendor! - *Bruce Lutheran*

Team Track**www.MCR5.org****Division 5 Officers** (Terms expire June 2014)

Superintendent	Rob Bowers	440-942-3039
		Super@MCR5.org
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		AstSuper@MCR5.org
Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075
		Treasurer@MCR5.org

Division 5 Trustees: (Terms expire June 2014)

Don Bittner	440-257-7555	(Open Position)
Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	(Open Position)

Division 5 Board of Directors: BOD@MCR5.org**Division 5 Appointed Positions:** (Terms expire June 2014)

Clerk	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
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Bring & Brag	(Open Position)	
Layout Tours	(Open Position)	

**NATIONAL CONVENTION**

**THE
CONVENTION
JULY 13-20, 2014**

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 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 with all of us.

**October Trainwire Deadline
September 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

September, 2012

Electronic Version

Division 5 Membership
as of August 1st, 2012



88

The Trainwire

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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



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Clerk:	Matt Kross	12049 Sperry Road Chesterland, Ohio 44026	440-729-3045	Clerk@mcr5.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

JDRF – Stop by the NEOJDRFWF table and help find a cure for Juvenile Diabetes with your donation.



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

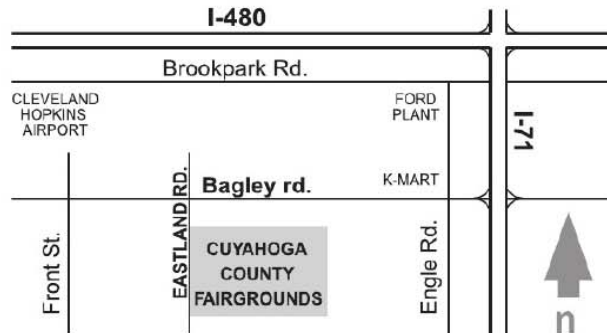
Admission \$7.00
Under 16 Free with Adult
Special 2-Day Pass \$10.00



NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION
Division 4
Mid-Central Region
www.div4.org

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**

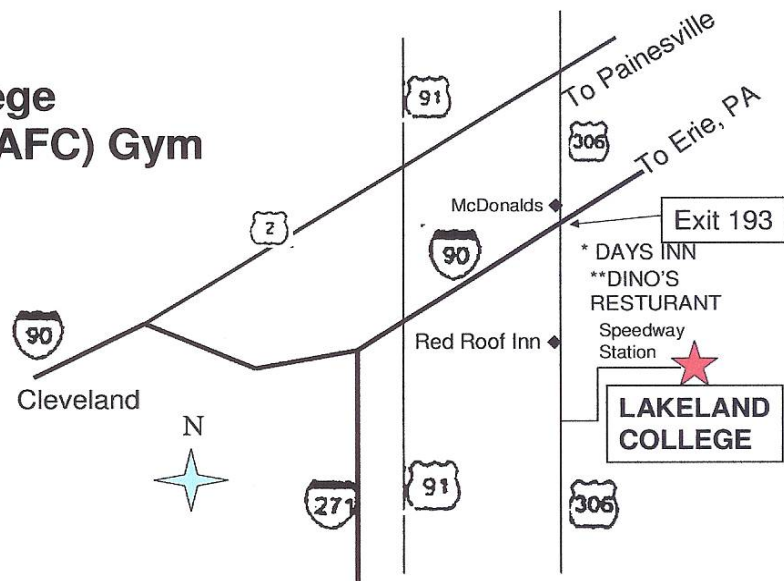


**Division 5 will be presenting classes on the following
Basics of Model Railroading:**

- 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 or email: promoday@mcr5.org

RailFanning Day



at

The Western Reserve Railroad Association

Painesville Depot

475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077

Spend a day *RailFanning* at the Painesville Depot

Visit this Historical Train Depot



The Depot opened in 1893 for the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Line

The depot is on the CSX Main Line -Mile Post 153.2-

Saturday, Oct. 13, 2012

Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013

Saturday, May 11, 2013

Saturday, July 27, 2013

Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013



10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Be sure to bring your Camera and a CHAIR!

Food and Drinks available

www.painesvilledepot.org



JDRF – Stop by the NEOJDRFWF table and help find a cure for Juvenile Diabetes with your donation.

Model Railroad Swap Meet

Sponsored By

The Conneaut Historical Railroad Museum

Sunday Nov. 18, 2012

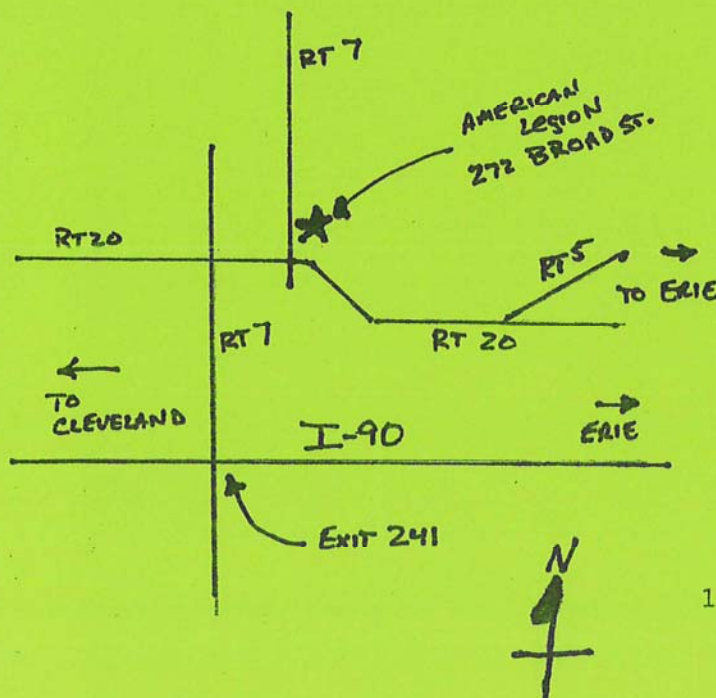
9am-3pm

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

Please Respond by Oct 1, 2012