



The Trainwire.



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Steel Mills and Modeling.

One of the most fascinating—and complex—industries to model in model railroading is the steel industry. The many components required for steel making provide modelers with a wide variety of structures for a layout, and establishing railroad operations/track plans—which are incredibly complex for the prototypes—require much ‘selective compression’ for our modules or a single-purpose layout. While modern steelmaking includes basic oxygen furnaces, electric furnaces, continuous casters and multiple rolling mills, the older historical steel making facilities which many modelers prefer include blast furnaces, coke ovens, sinter plants, chemical by-products plants, open hearth furnaces, hot metal and slag cars, ingot molds and ingot buggies, all of which add variety and represent the steel industry of the 40’s through the 70’s.

For those of you unfamiliar with steelmaking, iron ore is smelted/reduced in a blast furnace together with flux (limestone) and burning coke (which provides the fuel). The charge is pre-heated by air supplied by a blower and heated in ‘stoves’, which provide heat-source ‘ignition’ for the burning coke to take over, ultimately reaching near 3000 degrees Fahrenheit. The molten iron is then delivered to the open hearth (or now the BOF) in hot-metal ‘torpedo’ ladle cars where it is further ‘blown’ to reduce the carbon content, often with oxygen enrichment, and alloys are added. The molten steel alloy (iron, carbon, and other elements) is then cast (today into a continuous caster, yesteryear in ingot molds). The now solid product is then shaped into bars, slabs, sheets or coils, structural shapes, wire, etc. In yesteryear’s steelmaking, the ingots were heated in a ‘soaking’ pit connected to the ‘blooming’ mill prior to further

fabrication into various shapes in different size rolling mills. With today’s continuous casting, the molten metal solidifies in the ‘caster’ and moves directly into the shaping hot mill without cooling, and subsequently into various cold rolling mills.

Many commercial structures, rolling stock and details exist in both HO and N scales to populate a model steel making facility, and the late Dean Freytag was the quintessential modeling expert in scratch-building of many structures—the “dean of styrene”. The plethora of structures common to steel making include coke ovens and blast furnaces, melt shops, rolling mills, coke chemical by-products plants, power plants, and a variety of sheds and warehouses for various raw materials including scrap, oxygen supplies, oils and lubricants, refractories, mill machinery and replacement parts, etc. And of course there are the usual structures associated with railroad operations, including engine sheds, maintenance and servicing facilities. Dedicated and mill-owned railroads conduct the complex movements of all materials within the mill by rail.

There are tremendous railroading operational possibilities within a steelmaking model complex. Raw material such as iron ore, coal, limestone, refractories, oxygen tanks, ferro-alloys, mill machinery, scrap, etc can be delivered by rail, and outbound product—coils and slabs for rolling elsewhere, tubes and other shapes will go both by rail and truck. Within the complex, coke from the coke ovens, iron ore and limestone must move to the skip-hoist on the blast furnace, hot metal ‘bottle’ cars move molten iron from the blast furnace to the open hearth or BOF melt shop, slag-pot cars move slag from the blast furnace and dust and debris from the dust collector to the dump or sinter plant. Scrap must be delivered and transported into the electric furnace, and some scrap may also find its way even into the open heart/BOF to supplement the hot metal main charge. Cast ingot cars/buggies must be moved to the stripper shed/blooming mill, and ‘blooms’ and slabs moved to the finishing mills. Finished products move to the interline railroad for transport to customers. Such movements provide a wide range of engine switching moves within the modeler’s track plan.

(Continued on page 2)

Steel Mills and Modeling cont.....

(Continued from page 1)

There is a national special interest group (SIG) devoted to steel modeling who meets annually, and they will meet next year in Kent! All with an interest in steel mill modeling are welcome, and our December program clinician, Jim DiPaola of Division 1 is the host/coordinator of this meet.

For our December meeting, all who can are asked to share something steel-mill related in Bring and Brag. Could be a special structure model, piece of rolling stock or engine, or detail associated with steel modeling. So join in, participate!

See you on December 7!

Dave

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

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

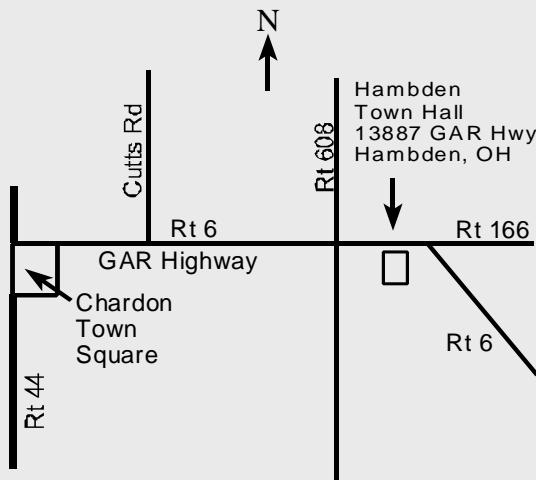
Location: Hambden Town Hall
 13887 GAR Highway (Route 6)
 Chardon, Ohio

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

December 7th, 2012

Location: Hambden Town Hall
Program: Steel Mill Modeling
Bring & Brag: "On-line Structures"

No January Meeting



Map to Hambden Town Hall

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Country Lights Nov. 30 - Dec. 2
 Farmpark December. 4 -23
 Kirtland, Ohio 44094

BOD Meeting December 17
 Hambden Town Hall
 Hambden, Ohio

2013

Holiday Party January 11
 Hambden Town Hall
 Hambden, Ohio

BOD Meeting January 21
 Hambden Town Hall
 Hambden, Ohio

The Youngstown Model Railroad Association 2012 Open House

When: December 8th and 9th

For more information please check out our web site@

www.ymra.org

Division 5 Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2012 7:30 pm

Meeting was called to order by Superintendent Rob Bowers at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. There were 23 members and 1 guest present.

It was good to see Division 5 member **Tom Carr** back after his illness and hospital stay.

The December meeting program will be on **Steel Mill Modeling** by Jim DiPaola of Ravenna. Members are encouraged to bring steel mill related items they have built as part of the meeting's Bring & Brag.

Upcoming programs and events were reviewed. It was noted that the Sebring and Youngstown model railroad clubs were having open houses in November. It was also noted that the Route 30 Express layout tours were going on in November.

Reviewed the preparations for Division 5's **Promo Day 2012**.

Railfest 2013 preparations are under way. Invitations have been sent to dealers. The Railfest committee talked with the Division 4 Carnival personnel to see how their show went.

Division 5 members that attended the **I-Hobby show** in Cleveland provided their impressions of the show.

The HO Module Group reported on their activities. They met with other divisions to discuss the possibility of a joint layout for the 2014 convention.

The modular layouts will again be at Farmpark this year for their Country Lights program. We will be in the same room but this year the whole room will train displays. However, the modular layout will still be limited to half of the room.

Bring & Brag:

Matt Kross	Charlie Tidd	Ken Stroebel	Dennis Lloyd
Bill Berger	Tom Carr	Dave Neff	

Program: "Cass: Yesterday and Today" Dave Neff and Lou Dreher provided a presentation on their visit this past year to Cass and some of the history behind Cass. They showed a number of photographs and video clips from the Cass railfan weekend.

Business Meeting:

There were no items presented at the business meeting.

Submitted by:

Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk

Division 5 BOD Minutes

November 19, 2012 7:30 pm

A **Division 5 BOD meeting** was held on November 19, 2012 at Hambden Town Hall. In attendance were Rob Bowers, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Don Bittner, Matt Kross, Bob Frieden, Tom Pescha, Bob Gittinger, Ted Wiese, Lenny Kessler, Dale Smith, and Jim Wendorf.

The BOD agreed to continue to use the Hambden Town Hall for our monthly membership and BOD meetings in 2013. Dale Smith will submit the building use agreements to the township.

A caterer was selected for the **Division 5 Holiday Party** on January 11, 2013. The costs to Division members and guests will be the same as last year. Div 5 member: \$8. First guest of a member: \$8. Additional guests of a member: \$10. The party will be at Hambden Town Hall.

Division 5 **Assistant Superintendent Dave Neff** had triple bypass heart surgery on November 19th. Everything went well and Dave was hoping to be back home for Thanksgiving.

Reviewed **upcoming events and programs**.

Railfest 2013 preparations are proceeding on schedule. Invitations were sent out to vendors and exhibitors. Waiting for their responses. We have 44 tables sold already. The committee will be meeting with the Lakeland food service coordinator in the next couple of weeks.

Reviewed the results of **Promo Day 2012** and discussed what we could do to make it better. We had about 45 people come through the door. Some were disappointed that we didn't have a general demo on how to build a layout, especially the benchwork and wiring. It was suggested that we build some mini displays that show various types of benchwork. The BOD agreed that we want to have Promo Day again in 2013. There was a comment that we need to do a better job of communicating the event to the general public. Some other comments about the event itself included: clearly identifying the different stations and what was being shown at each one; better signage that grabs people's attention; simpler demos that just cover the basics; have some other general, fun things to attract kids/families like such as a popcorn machine.

The 2013 Division 5 budget was finalized and approved. Copies will be available from the Treasurer at the next couple of Division 5 meetings for members that would like to review it.

It was suggested that we get rid of the **Division 5 TV/VCR unit** that has been in the Division 5 storage locker for years. It has not been used for a long time. We can use the video projector connected to either a laptop or VCR player to show DVDs and VHS tapes.

There will not be a BOD meeting in December. The next **Division 5 BOD meeting** will be January 21, 2013 at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall.

Submitted by

Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk

Division 5 2012 Christmas Party.

When: Friday, January 11, 2013 at 6:30 pm
Dinner served at 7:00 pm

Where: Hambden Town Hall (our normal monthly meeting location)
13887 GAR Highway (Route 6)
hardon, OH 44024

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

Entertainment: Catered Buffet Dinner
Chinese Gift Exchange
Lucky Loser's Raffle Drawing
Program

This year's costs are as follows: \$8 for Division 5 member
\$8 for one guest of a Division 5 member
\$10 for each additional guest or non-Div 5 member

Advance sign-up and payment is required. Cut-off date is January 5th. There will be a sign-up sheet at the December 7th Div 5 meeting. Bonnie Lette will be collecting the money for this event at the meeting. If you can't make it to the meeting, make your reservation by calling Dale Smith at 440-286-4932 or e-mailing to Dale.Smith@mcr5.org. Payment is needed by January 5th.

Chinese Gift Exchange Rules for the Christmas Party

For those people wishing to participate in the Chinese Gift Exchange, bring a **new or unused model railroad related gift** costing approximately \$15 to the party. Mark on the gift what scale it is such as "HO", "N", "Any", etc.

Note: Only those bringing a gift may participate!

All those participating will draw a number out of a hat. The person with #1 picks a gift from the table, opens it, and shows it to everyone. The person with #2 can then either pick a gift from the table or take the gift from #1. If he takes the one from #1, then #1 gets to pick another gift from the table. The person with #3 can then either pick a gift from the table or take the gift from either #1 or #2. If someone has their gift taken, they get to pick a new one from the table or take one of the gifts from someone else. They cannot take back the gift that was just taken from them! This continues with each person having the choice of either picking a gift from the table or taking a gift from one of the other participants until everyone has a gift. At the end, the person with #1 then gets to trade their gift with any of the other people. If you want, you can bring more than one gift so that you can get additional picks. It is a lot of fun and everyone is encouraged to participate!

Division 5 Losers Raffle at the Christmas Party

At the end of each year, we take all the losing raffle tickets from our Division meetings since the beginning of the year, dump them all together, and then draw 18 tickets. The prizes are Division Award Certificates in various dollar amounts, depending on the order your name is drawn. Thus, you have a second chance of winning something with your losing raffle tickets! Only one prize per member, though. Once your name has been drawn, you are not eligible for another prize. You do not have to be present to win. Only Division 5 members are eligible.

Pictures from Promo Day.



Next Division 5 Meeting - December 7th, 2012.

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

Superintendent	Rob Bowers	440-942-3039
		Super@MCR5.org
Asst. Superintendent	Dave Neff	440-269-1229
		AstSuper@MCR5.org
Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075
		Treasurer@MCR5.org

Division 5 Directors: (Terms expire June 2014)

Don Bittner	440-257-7555	Robert Gittinger	440-525-0237
Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	Tom Peche	216-470-5780

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

Clerk	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
		Clerk@MCR5.org
Railfest Chairman	Jim Wendorf	440-357-8890
		Railfest@MCR5.org
Promo Day Coordinator	Rob Bowers	(440) 942-3039
	Bob Frieden	PromoDay@MCR5.org
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		AP@MCR5.org
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	Tony Spena	Audit@MCR5.org
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		Refreshments@MCR5.org
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		Membership@MCR5.org
Webmaster	Wayne Lette	440-298-3075
		Webmaster@MCR5.org
Company Store	Ted Wiese	440-256-5212
		CompanyStore@MCR5.org
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 will all of us.

**January Trainwire Deadline
December 20th.**

The Trainwire Newsletter

December, 2012

Electronic Version

Division 5 Membership
as of November 1st, 2012



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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

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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 Division5

The Western Reserve Division 5



www.mcr5.org

A non-profit educational organization



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Treasurer:	Bonnie Lette	17541 Thompson Rd. Thompson, Ohio 44086	440-298-3075	Treasurer@MCR5.org
Clerk:	Matt Kross	12049 Sperry Road Chesterland, Ohio 44026	440-729-3045	Clerk@mcr5.org



Christmas Train and TOY SHOW LAKELAND COLLEGE

2012  2012  2012  2012  2012  2012



BUY - SELL - TRADE



Sunday, December 9, 2012

10:00 am to 3:30 pm

Info: (440) 256-8141 www.cleveshows.com Fax (440) 256-1749
Email: cleveshows@att.net

LAKELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ATHLETIC & FITNESS CENTER (AFC) Main Gym
7700 CLOCKTOWER DR.
KIRTLAND, OHIO 44094
Interstate 90 and Rt. 306 (S.E. Corner)



Admission: Adults \$6.00
Family \$12.00 (children under 18)
Active Military Personal Free

Santa Claus will be at the show from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. If you wish to take your child's picture with Santa, we ask that you make a \$5.00 donation to JDRF.

Toys for Tots Collection - New in box toys only (unwrapped). Please no stuffed animals.

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



Dealer Redeemable this Show
\$25.00 Door Prize Certificate
Drawings at 11am, 1 pm, 3 pm



Featuring:

- HO Trains - Structures - Accessories
- 250 + Tables - One Floor
- Lionel, American Flyer, G-gauge, N scale trains
- Operating Train Layouts and Dioramas
- 2 Rail O Scale - Weaver - Atlas - MTH - K-Line
- Good Food - 24 hr Police Security



BUY - SELL - TRADE





SnowShoe Train Show

Saturday, January 5, 2013

Wind, nor Rain, nor Snow will kept a train fan from a good train show!

UAW Hall, 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio 44130



10:00 am to 3:00 pm



Admission: \$6.00, Kids under twelve Free

This is an ALL Gauge Show with over 150 tables of trains and toys.

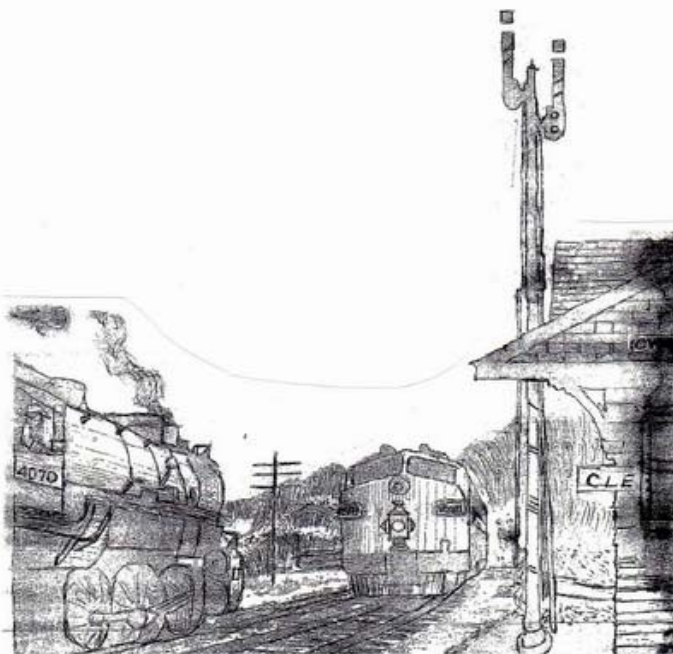
Operating Layout of several gauges

Good Food

Free Parking

For Table Info call:

216-662-6928 or 440-526-9864



Show sponsored by Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association (www.cvsqa.com)