



# The Trainwire.



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## Mid Central Region Convention.

*By: David Neff*

**T**he Mid-Central Region convention was held this year May 16-19 in Miamisburg, OH, hosted by Division 3 (Dayton Area). Your Division 5 was represented by Dale Smith, Bob Palmer, Rich Kacprzak, Dick Naramore and myself. The theme of this year's convention was Operations, and there were eighteen layouts that were open for operations (by reservation) from Wednesday evening through Saturday afternoon. There were also 65 clinics presented, including one I gave in the new NMRA Education and Training format on Design Considerations for Locomotive

Service Terminals. Two giants of the hobby, Allen McLelland and Tony Koester, also gave presentations which of course were SRO. There was a special bus layout tour Friday evening of 5 Great Model Railroads in the Dayton-Cincinnati area featured in a magazine a couple of years ago. Unfortunately I had to give up my ticket in order to represent our Division at the Friday night Board of Directors meeting. We also had a very interesting Supt/Asst. Supt breakfast on Sunday morning. Details and ideas exchanged at that meeting will be discussed at our BOD meeting and then shared with the general membership over the next

few months. Total registrations for the convention were 205 members and 19 spouses. The usual contests, sales room and company store were well-frequented; there was no silent auction.

Because our region is hosting the National Convention next year, there will not be a regional convention. In 2015 the MCR convention will be in Lexington, and then in Louisville in 2016. Kentucky Blue Grass, bourbon, and railroading!

*Dave Neff, Asst. Supt.*

### 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!*

## 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.

**June 7th, 2013**

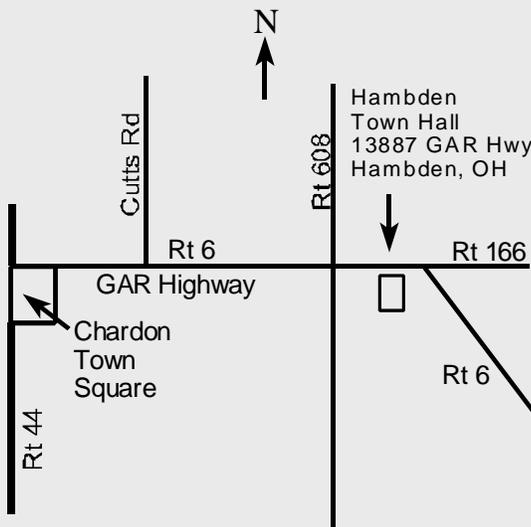
Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program: Decaling (Dennis Lloyd)  
 Bring & Brag: Structures or rolling stock that have been decaled.

**July , 2013**

Division Picnic  
 No Meeting

**August 2nd, 2013**

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
 Program: Nickel Plate (Gary Shaffer)  
 Bring & Brag: Rolling stock, especially gondolas, reefers, Unusual.



Map to Hambden Town Hall

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

**BOD Meeting** **June 10**  
 Hambden Town Hall  
 Hambden, Ohio

**Division 5 Picnic** **July ??**  
 To be announced

**BOD Meeting** **July 8**  
 Hambden Town Hall  
 Hambden, Ohio

**Railfanning Day** **July 27**  
 Painesville Depot  
 Painesville, Ohio (*See flyer*)

**Railfanning Day** **October 12**  
 Painesville Depot  
 Painesville, Ohio (*See flyer*)

# Division 5 Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2013 7:30 pm

Meeting was called to order by **Superintendent Rob Bowers** at 8:00 pm at the Lake Farmpark auditorium. There were 28 members and 6 guests present.

**Dave Neff** gave an update on the **2014 NMRA National Convention** in Cleveland. There will be plenty of space for modular layouts at the National Train Show. Local clubs will be given first choice of space. There isn't any parking specific to the convention center. You will have to use regular city parking which is plentiful in the area. It has not been decided yet whether the convention clinics will be held in the convention center or at the convention hotel. This is a decision that the national NMRA planning committee will make and is mainly based on cost. Pieces of the NMRA education program are coming together and will be presented at the convention.

Important clarification about being a volunteer at the **2014 NMRA Convention**: You **DO NOT** have to register for the convention if you are only volunteering for a day or two. However, you will not be permitted to participate in any of the convention activities other than what you are volunteering for. If you are planning to volunteer for many days, you are expected to register for the convention. The National Train Show at the end of the convention is a separate event. Layout exhibitors **DO NOT** have to register for the convention or pay to get into the train show.

You **DO NOT** have to be an **NMRA member** to have your home layout be part of the convention layout tours. Also, you **DO NOT** have to register for the convention to have your layout open. If you know of non-NMRA members that you think should be contacted about opening their layout, please let Matt Kross know.

It was announced that a portion of the Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum contents were being auctioned off on Sunday, May 5. The rest of the contents will be done at some future date.

Division 5 received a \$5,600 grant from the **Lake County Visitors Bureau** to be used for advertising next year's Railfest. There are various stipulations that come along with the grant but they are easy to fulfill.

It was noted by a member that the **children's museum in Pittsburgh** has a large room of trains that is definitely worth seeing.

**Bonnie Lette** was presented with her Golden Spike Award.

**Bring & Brag:** Theme – *Locomotives you have modified*

Tom Pescha	Don Thomas	Don Bittner
Skip Giddings	Dave Metzger	Alan Arthur
Bob Orlando	Ken Stroebel	

**Program:** HO Brass Locomotive Repair by Bram Bailey and Frank Bongiovanni

*Submitted by:*  
**Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk**

# Division 5 BOD Meeting

May 13, 2013 7:30 pm

A **Division 5 BOD meeting** was held on May 13, 2013 at Hambden Town Hall. In attendance were Rob Bowers, Dave Neff, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Matt Kross, Bob Frieden, Bob Gittinger, Tom Pescha, Don Bittner, Ted Wiese, and Tony Spena.

**Dale Smith** has set up a trip to Dave Eggleston's layout in Jamestown, NY on **Saturday August 10th** for an operating session. The op session will start at 1:00 pm. We will car pool from Harley Smith's house, leaving some time between 8 and 9 am. More details in the July Trainwire.

The deposit for the car project has been cashed by **Accurail**, indicating that the payment has been received.

**The Boy Scout Railroading Merit Badge Workshop** went well during the Railroads In The Parks weekend. The kits we purchased for the workshop went together well.

**The Railroads In The Parks** weekend went well. Overall, there was good attendance. The layouts all seemed to be operating well.

This year's taxes have been filed with the State and the Federal Government. Also, our annual fee has been paid to the **Ohio Attorney General's office**.

**Division 5 member and financial advisor**, Tony Spena, provided some safe investment options for the Division's savings. The two options presented were annuities from the Protective Life company and had guaranteed yearly returns of 1.6% and 1.85% for seven years. There was a question about how we change signatories on the policy when the Division officers change. Tony will check on this and get back to the BOD. Other investment options are also being explored by the BOD.

Reviewed requirements of grant we received from the **Lake County Visitors Bureau**. The \$5,600 we received must be used for **Railfest 2014 advertising**. We will use this to expand the markets where we advertise.

**Tom Pescha** is negotiating with Red Roof Inn for a special room rate for Railfest 2014 vendors.

**Dave Neff** will be our representative at the **MCR BOD meeting** in Dayton.

**The Division 5 Facebook page** has been in place for about two months now. Chuck Limbert, Mike Buehner, and Tom Pescha have been actively posting new content. There is a link on the page to the Division 5 website. We have 172 people checking the page on a regular basis.

A suggestion was made that we should participate in events that are held at **Great Lakes Mall**. We could get a booth and have a small train display (preferably running). This would be a good way to advertise **Promo Day and Railfest**.

It was reiterated that volunteers for the **2014 NMRA National Convention** in Cleveland **DO NOT** have to register for the convention if they are only volunteering for a day or two. However, you will not be permitted to participate in any other convention activities.

We would like to have a **Division picnic again**. Last year's picnic at the Painesville Depot was enjoyed by those that participated. Tom Pescha will check with the Depot group to see if they would be willing to host us again. Tom unable to coordinate this event this year.

**Thomas The Tank Engine** will be at the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Memorial Day weekend. We should check to see if there will be a table available for promoting the NMRA and get members to man the table.

The next **Division 5 BOD meeting** will be June 10, 2013 at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall.

*Submitted by:*

**Matt Kross** – *Division 5 Clerk*

# Railroads in the Park. *By: Bruce Lutheran*

May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> was Railroads in the Park held at Lake Farmpark in Kirtland Ohio. Division 5

participates annually in this event, and this year was no exception. We held our monthly meeting there, while the 2 Module groups

set-up for the show. Both the N Gauge club and the HO club attended with set-ups. Members from both groups participated all weekend,

which included both Saturday and Sunday. Below are a couple of pictures from both groups:



Division 5 also supports the Boy Scouts by donating both cars for assembly and supervision and assistance with the car assembly. While I went around the park I captured a couple of our famous members assisting the Boy Scouts. See Below:



Along with the above participation, Farm Parks had several other Railroad set-ups in place. These included a Private set-up by Bob Orlando, seen below:

It also had the Combo HO and N gauge display that Division % built many years ago, seen below:

The Garden Railroad was also in full operation, seen below:



The entrance to the Farm Parks was welcoming the many visitors to the park with a combo Lionel/Lego layout

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Railroads in the Park cont.....

(Continued from page 5)

which attracted everyone as seen below:



Back in the corner, near the dairy parlor, was the kid's favorite, the wooden trains, or Brio, as we know them. I caught several kids playing on both set-ups seen below:

Across from the module groups was the new interactive display, which was visited by many young future engineers, one of which is seen below:

I hope you can see the excitement on the kid's faces, both young and old.

Manning the HO module set-up and the reasons for each module. It always makes me proud to be able to explain about Model

Railroading and show off some skills of the hobby.

### Congratulations To Bonnie Lette

Bonnie Lette has earned the NMRA Golden Spike Award. She received her certificate at the May Division 5 meeting.

Bonnie satisfied the requirements of the award through work on the N-Trak switchback module that she and Wayne built together along with work on their home layout and some electrical work Matt Kross's layout.

Congratulations Bonnie! We are wondering if Bonnie is the first woman in Division 5 to earn a Golden Spike? Let us know if you are aware of anyone else.

## BSA Railroading Merit Badge.

This year's Railroads in the Park once again included teaching railroading to 19 young men who come from various Boy Scout of America Troops within Lake and Geauga counties. During the course of the day, scouts learned about many topics, including railroad engines and rolling stock, model railroads, railroad safety, how to read a timetable and jobs on the

railroad, to just name a few. I think the hi-lite of the day was getting a chance to build and run their HO scale boxcars on the modular layout, as well as putting the signaling information they learned to use as they ran a train on the Farm-parks garden railroad. For many scouts, this is the first opportunity for them to actually build a working model on their own.

My thanks to Bonnie Lette, Dennis Lloyd, Lou Dreher, Rich Kacprzak and Rob Bowers for helping the scouts build a 40-foot boxcar kit purchased by Division 5. Thanks also to Tom Carr, Sam Monturi and Bruce Lutheran for helping the scouts run their newly completed boxcars on the HO layout, as well as getting a chance to try the switching layout.

By: Ken Stroebel

Numerous people from the Lake Erie N Society also talked with scouts and showed them the N scale modular layout. Finally my thanks to Andy Baker and Christine Bollas of Farm-park for continuing to allow us to put this program on and all of their help teaching and assembling materials for the day.

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

Superintendent	Rob Bowers	440-942-3039
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Don Bittner	440-257-7555	Robert Gittinger	440-525-0237
Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	Tom Pescha	216-470-5780

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

Clerk	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
		<a href="mailto:Clerk@MCR5.org">Clerk@MCR5.org</a>
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		<a href="mailto:Railfest@MCR5.org">Railfest@MCR5.org</a>
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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.

**July Trainwire Deadline  
June 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*

**June, 2013**

**Division 5 Membership  
as of May 1st, 2013**



**88**

**Electronic Version**

## *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 Division5

## The Western Reserve Division 5



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

**A non-profit educational organization**



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# 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, 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](http://www.painesvilledepot.org)

