



# The Trainwire



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## Division 5 Christmas Party

**When:** Friday, January 10, 2014 at 6:30 pm  
Dinner served at 7:00 pm

**Where:** Hambden Town Hall (our normal monthly meeting location)  
13887 GAR Highway (Route 6)  
Chardon, 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 4<sup>th</sup>. If you did not make it to the December meeting, you can still make your reservation by calling Dale Smith at 440-286-4932 or e-mailing to [Dale.Smith@mcr5.org](mailto:Dale.Smith@mcr5.org). Payment is needed by January 4<sup>th</sup>.



## Division 5 Losers Raffle at the Christmas Party

**A**t 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.



## 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.

### January 3rd, 2014

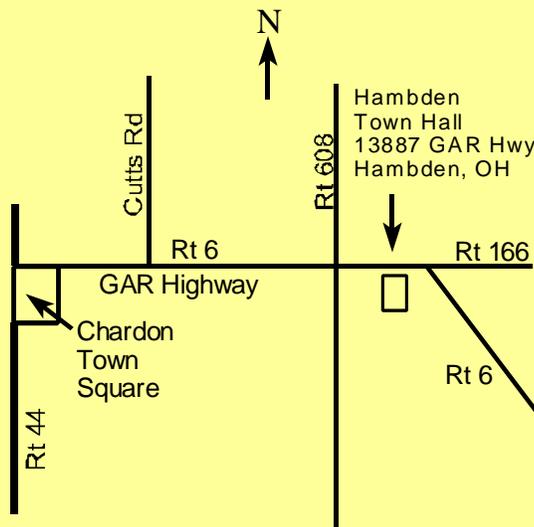
No Meeting this Month.

### February 7th, 2014

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
Program: Sweden Railroad Museum - Ken Stroebel  
Bring & Brag: TBA

### March 7th, 2013

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
Program: TBA  
Bring & Brag: TBA



Map to Hambden Town Hall

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

### 2014

- |                                   |                                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Snowshoe Train Show</b>        | <b>January 4</b>                     |
| <b>UAW Hall</b>                   | <i>(See flyer on page 17)</i>        |
| <b>Parma, Ohio (10 am - 3 pm)</b> |                                      |
| <br>                              |                                      |
| <b>Division Holiday Party</b>     | <b>January 10</b>                    |
| Hambden Town Hall                 | <i>(RSVP by Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>)</i> |
| Hambden, Ohio (6:30 pm)           |                                      |
| <br>                              |                                      |
| <b>BOD Meeting</b>                | <b>January 13</b>                    |
| Hambden Town Hall                 |                                      |
| Hambden, Ohio (7:30 pm)           |                                      |
| <br>                              |                                      |
| <b>Railfest 2014</b>              | <b>March 15 &amp; 16</b>             |
| Lakeland Community College        | <i>(See flyer on page 14)</i>        |
| Kirtland, Ohio (10 am - 4pm)      |                                      |

# Division 5 Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Superintendent Rob Bowers at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. There were 25 members and 4 guests present.

**Three people** at the meeting said they had not received their mailed paper copy of the Trainwire. It was noted that you can always go to the website and get a copy. If you don't have a computer or internet access, ask a friend to print you a copy or go to the library and use the computer there.

## Members' Questions:

It was asked why the recent MCR Kingpin did not have a report published in the minutes. The answer was because the Division 5 Superintendent did not submit a written report but instead gave a verbal report at the meeting. Only the written reports were published.

It was asked what type of **registration acknowledgement** should be expected for the 2014 convention. People had received a brief e-mail saying their registration was received but have not heard about any other details. The answer was that the convention details are still being worked on. It is believed that tour and event sign-ups will be available in January. Those that have already registered will be notified first as soon as this is available so that they get first crack at signing up.

Rob Bowers presented a few ideas about **the diorama contest** that he would like to do. The idea is anything you can do in 144 square inches. Winner would be by popular vote. This event would not replace our regular Bring & Brag. There were a number of questions and alternate ideas presented. This activity needs to be better defined and the rules published in the Trainwire. It wasn't clear whether the membership wanted to participate in this type of contest.

**A Railfest 2014 planning update** was provided. There will be a dinner Saturday evening after the show closes at Dino's Restaurant next to the college. Don Wetzel will be the speaker and talking about the NYC jet powered train experiment. Railfest will also be offering the box lunches again for the exhibitors. Some new rules by the college with regards to setup and room layout will affect us some. We will not be able to have as many exhibits in the lobby area.

Discussed the model railroad display activities at **Lake Farmpark** during the month of December for their Country Lights event. Lots of volunteer help is needed.

## Bring & Brag: no theme

Dave Neff

Matt Kross

Don Bittner

Bill Berger

Ken Stroebel

Rich Kacprzak

Linda Kacprzak

During Dave Neff's **Bring & Brag presentation**, he talked about LED lighting strips that he was using to illuminate sections of his layout's lower deck. The website for the product that Dave talked about is: <http://www.oznium.com/>

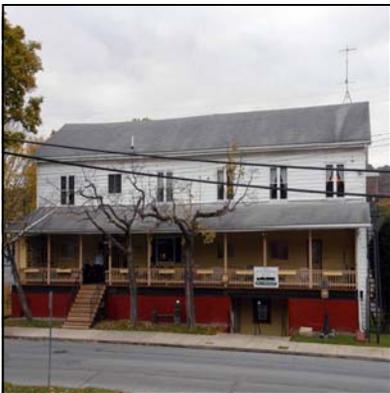
**Program:** Bob Gittinger provided a presentation of how he built the wall-mounted benchwork for his attic layout. Bob had pictures and a scale model of the benchwork components. He also showed how he used Google Sketch-Up, a free 3-D drawing software, to design his benchwork and deal with various room obstacles.

## Submitted by:

**Matt Kross - Division 5 Clerk**

# Railfanning in Cresson, Pa

By: Len Kessler



What could be better than hitting the road on a beautiful autumn day? Hitting the road with members of the NETS

group in the middle of the week and arriving at the **Station Inn** in Cresson Pennsylvania. In addition to rooms that are simple, spotless, and bright, your

breakfast is included in your room rate. Great rail fanning can be viewed from the lounge area, the large front porch and up close and personal on both sides of the mainline tracks

that are right across the street from the Inn. The opposite side of the tracks is accessible through an underpass tunnel right in front of the building. The front porch provides an



excellent wide angle view for rail fanning and it has an interesting array of automobile license plates mounted on one of the walls. The Inn is not the easiest place to get around for the handicapped, but it is doable. This area is

near Altoona and right around the corner from the famous Horseshoe Curve which is known for some serious and enjoyable rail fanning. There are numerous attractions in the area including The Horseshoe Curve,

The Altoona Railroad Memorial Museum and The Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site. There are plenty of photo opportunities in Cresson which combines the quaintness of small town Pennsylvania and

the raw power of diesel railroading. Our party of three was able to visit The Horseshoe Curve which opened February 15, 1854 and was engineered by J. Edgar Thompson. It is located at

*(Continued on page 5)*



# Cresson, Pa. cont.....



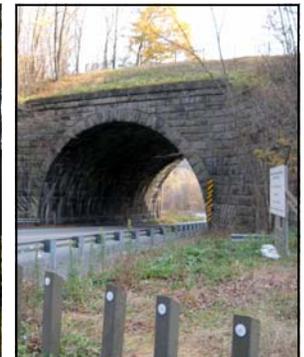
(Continued from page 4)

Kittanning Point, at the base of the Allegheny Mountains. The construction of the Curve was done by about 450 workers, many of them from Ireland. The work was done entirely by hand, and workers

were paid 25 cents per hour for a twelve hour day. We also made the trip to Altoona and saw the numerous buildings related to the railroad industry. Unfortunately the Railroad Museum was closed for the season except on weekends. The observation

area of the Horseshoe Curve was also closed for the season but we still were able to experience the magnificence of this incredible engineering achievement. On the third day of our trip, we were able to retrace most of the incline planes of the **Allegheny Port-**

**age Railroad.** It was the first railroad to circumvent the Allegheny Mountains and was the finishing piece of the Pennsylvania Mainline Canal. "*The Portage,*" opened in 1834, marking the first time that there was one direct route between Philadelphia and

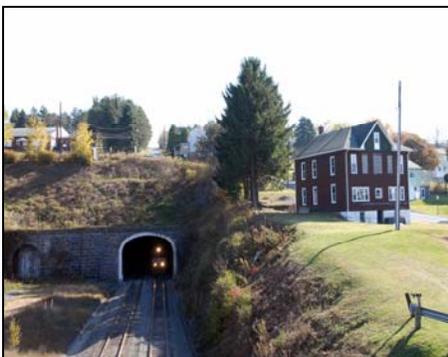
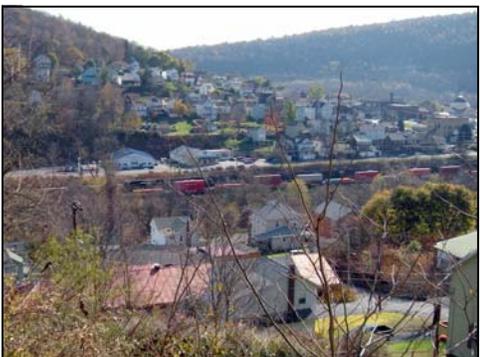


Pittsburgh. It was all things to all people; it served merchants, passengers, slaves in pursuit of freedom, and soldiers from the Mexican War. It reduced a 24 day journey by wagon down to a 4 day trip. The system only

lasted twenty years as it became unprofitable when the Pennsylvania railroad completed its all rail line from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. There is plenty to do and see but as with all sightseeing vacations, this

one was too short. There's no doubt some day I will return and hopefully it will be with more members of the NETS group. We had perfect weather on our three day excursion, but the end of October is not the best time to

visit this vibrant area of the country. The next time I travel to this region, it will be earlier in the year when the daylight hours are longer. The affordable trip was well worth the endeavor and worth repeating.



# Division 5 Election Process

*The following are excerpts from our Division 5 Regulations explaining the election process:*

**The Division Nominating Committee** shall be appointed by the Superintendent. It shall be composed of a Chairperson and two other members. Each person on the committee shall be from a different county of the Division. The current Superintendent shall not serve on the committee, nor sit with it during its deliberations. The Nominating Committee will report the nominations to the Clerk and the membership.

Members of the **Nominating Committee** may not nominate themselves for any office, including re-election for office.

The **Teller** shall report the results of the election to the officers of the Division and to all nominees prior to the May meeting. The results are to be announced by the Teller at the May meeting. Those elected shall be invited to participate in the May Board of Directors meeting. The newly elected officers will assume office June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Nominations** for Division 5 offices may be made by a petition signed by two members and the nominee and submitted to the Nominating Committee. The signatures must be legible and the member's NMRA membership number and their membership expiration date must appear with the signature. The petition shall state for what office the candidate is seeking nomination. No candidate can be nominated for more than one office in an election.

**Nominations** from the Nominating Committee shall be presented at the January meeting of the election year. Nominations of members from the floor shall be presented at the February meeting of the election year. Nominations from the floor shall be by a motion and must be seconded. Nominees cannot nominate themselves.

**No member** shall be nominated to an elective office without their approval.

Election for **Division officers** shall be conducted by mail ballot. Nominees for office and qualifications for same shall be included in the March issue of the Trainwire for elected office balloting.

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

Superintendent	Rob Bowers	440-942-3039	<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>
<b>Division 5 Directors:</b> (Terms expire June 2014)			

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)

Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@MCR5.org">Treasurer@MCR5.org</a>
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 Bob Frieden	(440) 942-3039	<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>
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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	Mike Buehner	440-428-0137	<a href="mailto:layouttour@MCR5.org">layouttour@MCR5.org</a>

**NATIONAL CONVENTION**

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

[www.2014cleveland.org](http://www.2014cleveland.org)**Bad Weather Closings**

Even though the weather is still very nice and warm, soon it will change to winter with cold and snow. In the event that it becomes necessary for us to cancel our meetings, it will be broadcast on Ch 5, WEWS.

So if the weather looks bad, and you want to know if the meeting has been cancelled, check on Ch 5 or [www.newsnet5.com](http://www.newsnet5.com), click on the weather tab, then the closing tab to see if we are listed.

**February Trainwire Deadline  
January 15th.**

# 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*

**January, 2014**

**Electronic Version**

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



**80**

## ***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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<b>Asst. Super:</b>	Dave Neff	5479 Chestnut Hill Dr. Willoughby, Ohio 44094	440-269-1229	<a href="mailto:AstSuper@mcr5.org">AstSuper@mcr5.org</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Bonnie Lette	17541 Thompson Rd. Thompson, Ohio 44086	440-298-3075	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@MCR5.org">Treasurer@MCR5.org</a>
<b>Clerk:</b>	Matt Kross	12049 Sperry Road Chesterland, Ohio 44026	440-729-3045	<a href="mailto:Clerk@mcr5.org">Clerk@mcr5.org</a>



# ***SnowShoe Train Show***

## Saturday, January 4, 2014

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  
Free Parking



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

Operating Layout of several gauges

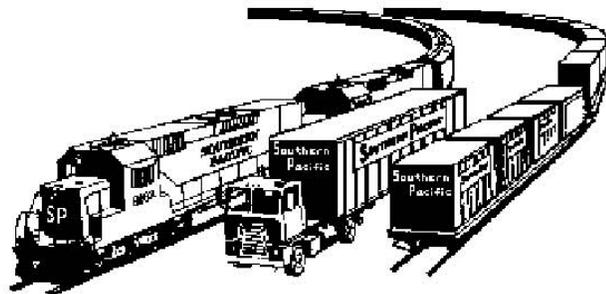
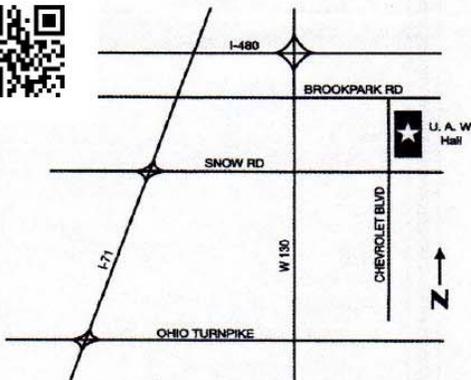
Good Food at reasonable prices

Free Parking



For Table Info call:

216-662-6928 or 440-526-9864



Show sponsored by Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association ([www.cvsqa.com](http://www.cvsqa.com))



# Railfest 2014



Saturday and Sunday  
March 15 & 16, 2014  
10 am to 4 pm  
Buy – Sell – Trade



## Lakeland Community College

Kirtland, Ohio 44094  
State Rt. 306 at Interstate 90 – exit 193

### Operating Layouts

N Scale Layouts  
(LENS)

HO Scale layout  
(LG HO G)

S Scale & American  
Flyer  
(Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge  
Association)

Lionel O Gauge  
LGB G Gauge

Live Steam Display  
(Lake Shore Live Steam)

### Features

- Dealers
- RR Flea market
- Exhibitors
- Operating Layouts
- Video Tapes
- Historical Displays
- Train Ride Info
- Food Service Available

<b>Admission</b>	<b>\$7.00</b>
<b>Two Day Pass</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>
<b>Family (couples)</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>
<b>Family (max)</b>	<b>\$12.00</b>

*(Adults with Children under 18)*

Food Service Available at reasonable prices

### For Information Write:

NMRA MCR Division 5  
PO Box 5081  
Mentor, Ohio 44060

Phone: (440) 357-8890  
Phone: (440) 478-6661

Email: railfest@mcr5.org



## Free Parking

Free Shuttle Bus  
9:30am – 4:30pm

Presented by

## National Model Railroad Association

MCR – Division 5 Event  
Celebrating 30 years at Lakeland  
Visit us at [www.railfest.org](http://www.railfest.org)

Largest continuous running train show in OHIO!

