



# The Trainwire



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## Superintendent's Report

### Springing Forth

Suddenly daffodils are in blossom and chutes and leaves springing forth on the trees. But where are the trains? We've entered into a new phase of the annual cycle of life where our model railroading activities play second fiddle to----yard work, putting up screens, cleaning windows, decluttering, and maybe even a little golf and Indians baseball games mixed in! But wait, there's more..... The near-weekly meets and flea markets of the past winter season also have given way to going around to the neighborhood yard sales and antiquing with our wives.

However, all is not lost for us and our intrepid brotherhood of model railroaders. Many remaining railroad sites restored depots (*including Painesville!*), freight houses, full scale displays, and other museums are waiting for our visit. This includes a trip to **EnterTrainment Junction** and the Sign Museum in Southern Ohio in August which our Division is sponsoring. And what better way to

spend a quiet afternoon on the outdoor patio or porch (*in good weather*) to construct that new model structure or detail that locomotive which seems to have eluded us successfully during the cold, dark winter months. And our friends in Division 4 will have layout open houses early in May to keep up our interests in our layouts.

May 6-7 will be a great occasion to visit Model Train Days at the *continually being restored* Painesville Depot to see the great progress there. Our Division module groups will have setups there. Hours are 10 *am* to 5 *pm* each day.

And as a reminder, you will be receiving this Trainwire **before** our May meeting, which will be **Saturday, May 13, 11:00 a.m. at the Eastminster Presbyterian Church in Erie. Directions below.** This will allow our new and prospective members in the counties we acquired to have a more 'local' meeting, and we will discuss how they can become a *separate division (#12) in the MCR.* Our



Dave Neff – Superintendent  
Division 5  
NMRA – Mid Central Region

program will be Locomotives of the Western Roads by Gary Widell

Double up, ride-share and plan to go to Erie for this meeting! *-Dave*

### Directions

Take I-90 to I-79  
Go north on I-79 to connect to Bayfront Connector  
Take that to 12<sup>th</sup> St. on East Side of Erie

OR TAKE W 12<sup>TH</sup> ST off the Connector THROUGH ERIE  
Go East on 12<sup>th</sup> St.  
Go North (Left) on Franklin  
Go East (Right) on E. Lake  
2320 E. Lake is on the left opposite GE complex

OR Google it!



## 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.

### May 13rd, 2017 (Saturday 11:00 am)

**Location:** Erie, Pennsylvania  
**Program:** Western Roads and Shortlines Motive Power  
(*Gary Widell*)  
**Bring & Brag:** Western Roads locomotives (*SP, UP, ATSF, other*)

### June 2nd, 2017 (Friday 8:00 pm)

**Location:** Farmpark - Kirtland, Ohio  
**Program:** Weathering with Oils (*Mike Hawk*)  
**Bring & Brag:** Weathered Locomotives, Rolling Stock, Structures  
(*any weather technique*)

### No Meeting in July

### August 4th, 2017

**Location:** Hambden Town Hall  
**Program:** Trainz Computer program (*Randy Hahn*)  
**Bring & Brag:** Anything electronic or explain any computer controls on your layout

### September 8th, 2017

**Location:** Bill Osborn's home  
**Program:** Railroad Movie Night. Outside with Popcorn!  
**Bring & Brag:** RR prototype artifacts  
(*signs, signals, dining car ware, timetables, etc*)

### October 13th, 2017

**Location:** Erie, Pennsylvania  
**Program:** Railroad Slide Show (subjects TBD)  
**Bring & Brag:** Anything goes

### November 3rd, 2017

**Location:** Hambden Town Hall  
**Program:** Trainz Computer program (*Randy Hahn*)  
**Bring & Brag:** Anything electronic or explain any computer controls on your layout

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

<b>Model Train Days</b>	<b>May 6 &amp; 7</b>
The Painesville Depot 475 Railroad Street Painesville, Ohio 44077	( <i>flyer on page 13</i> ) (10:00 am - 5:00 pm)
<b>Division 5 BOD Meeting</b>	<b>May 8</b>
Hambden Town Hall Hambden, Ohio	(7:30 pm)
<b>Open House</b>	<b>July 22</b>
The Painesville Depot 475 Railroad Street Painesville, Ohio 44077	(10:00 am - 5:00 pm)
<b>Division 5 Picnic</b>	<b>August 5</b>
475 Railroad Street Painesville, Ohio 44077	( <i>flyer on page 14</i> ) (1:00 pm - 5:00 pm)
<b>Railroad Memorabilia Show</b>	<b>August 27</b>
The Painesville Depot	
<b>Corn Festival Open House</b>	<b>September 9</b>
The Painesville Depot	
<b>Oktoberfest</b>	<b>October 14</b>
The Painesville Depot	
<b>Antique Toy and Diecast Show</b>	<b>October 21</b>
Lakeland College	
<b>Building a Model Railroad</b>	<b>November 4</b>
Lakeland College	
<b>2 Rail "O" Scale Train Show</b>	<b>November 4</b>
Lakeland College	
<b>NETS Model Train Show</b>	<b>November 11</b>
Highland Heights Community Center	
<b>The Handmade Market</b>	<b>November 25</b>
The Painesville Depot	
<b>Christmas Toy &amp; Train Show</b>	<b>December 10</b>

# Division 5 Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2017

Meeting was called to order by Superintendent **Dave Neff**. Guest – 2 – Alan Shupp and Andy Yedlick

**Painesville Railroad Museum** is having a fund raiser tomorrow 4/8/17 – 3:00 – 5:00 pm at the Harry Buffalo in Painesville for \$20/person – food and drinks included – proceeds go to the museum.

Train show April 9<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am – 3:30 pm at the Salem Center Plex

Train show put on by the Jefferson Historical Society on July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson Community Center – we will have a NMRA table and help is needed for manning it. The LENS group will have their reverse loop layout and the HO Group will have the Kids module

**Railfest:** Jim passed around the list of workers for the Railfest for everyone to make sure their names were on the list. We had about 4000 attendees, 350 kids. The table sales increased, the gate was up – 2-Day pass we sold 21 and 21 were turned in, there 31 promotional free passes turned in that were handed out by the radio station and other places. The Vendors were very pleased with the show this year. They enjoyed the coffee, donuts and all the help with getting their items in and out of the show. They want to thank everyone for a great show and help. We had new vendors from Detroit area, South Carolina/ Georgia area and New York. The **Saturday night dinner** was fantastic – everyone enjoyed the food and presentation. There were 44 vendors and 6 helpers attended. Tom Pappas gave a great presentation about the Euclid Railroad. Jim W is working on getting Tom Pappas to do another presentation in the future. The vendors were amazed at the progress the Depot is having with the remodeling inside. There is a very big change from last year.

**Ryan Morris** memorial service will be at the Painesville Depot on Sunday 4/9/17 from 2-5 pm – Tom Pescha's step-daughter – We wish Tom and his wife our condolences.

**Division 5 Layout Tour** – Fall – a sign up sheet was passed around for people to sign up to have their layouts open in the Fall. This sign up sheet will be passed around at each meeting for more layouts. The dates available are Oct.21-22, Oct. 28-29, Nov. 11-12, and Nov. 18-19. This will give everyone a chance to see the many layouts in our Division. You are free to have your layout open more than one day.

**Road Trip** – Cincinnati to Entertainment Junction and Signage Museum – The cost will be \$25 per person and the Division will help supplement most of the cost. We would be leaving our area about 7AM and returning around 10:30 PM. There was a vote on three different dates – 7/22, 8/12 and 8/19 – the vote concluded to be August 12<sup>th</sup>. If you were not at the meeting please contact Dave Neff no later than the May meeting to let him know if you are able to go on the trip and how many will be attending. We need to make the arrangements for travel, tickets and food.

Next **membership meeting** will be in **Erie, PA** on May 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:00 AM. Subs and Pizza will be provided. About 12:30 Gary Widell will be doing the program on Western Railroads. We are checking to see if any layouts will be open following the meeting to visit.

**New Members** – at Railfest we signed up 3 new members – Russ & Sue Bova, Scott Gubanyar, and Adria Buccilli – Welcome to the NMRA MCR Division 5

**Modeling Question of the evening** – Bruce Lutheran asked if the NMRA track gauge that works on HO Code 100 will work on HO Code 83. The answer is yes, it works on Code 100, 83 and 70.

**Name Tag drawing** – winner – Bruce Lutheran

## Bring N Brag –

Bonnie Lette  
Bob Gittinger  
Bryan Persing

Bill Berger  
Linda Kacprzak  
Gary Shaffer

Dave Neff  
Don Bittner

Dave Metzger  
Bill Osborne

## Program - Signage

By Dave Neff – it was a CD presentation based on part by Jack Ellis of Bar Mills and Dave Neff. Dave went over the different types of signage, reason, sources, how to apply, and much more. A very interesting program and Thank you Dave

**Submitted by:** **Bonnie Lette, Treasurer**



# Pictures from Railfest 2017

Photos by: Tom Pescha



# Pictures from the Railfest Dinner

Photos by: Tom Pescha



## Next Division 5 Meeting May 13, 2017



# Division 5 BOD Meeting

April 10, 2017

A **Division 5 BOD** meeting was held on April 10, 2017 at Hambden Town Hall. In attendance were Bryan Persing, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Matt Kross, Don Bittner, Bob Gittinger, and Dale Smith. May Division 5 membership meeting will be in **Erie, PA** on Saturday, May 13.

**Railfest 2017** table sales and gate count were up this year. There are still a couple of checks yet to be written to pay for various expenses once invoices are received, so it will be a little while before we have a final financial accounting and can perform the yearly audit.

Grant request by **Lake Shore Modelers** was tabled until the May meeting when the complete set of information can be provided by the Division 5 Superintendent.

Division 5 will be supporting Lake Farmpark personnel with the **Boy Scout Railroading Merit Badge** workshop during the Railroads In The Parks weekend in June. Andy Baker will be leading the workshop for Farmpark and Division 5's Bob Gittinger will be assisting. The workshop will be limited to 25 scouts. Division 5 has purchased screwdrivers, sprue cutters, and Goo from B&B Hobby Supplies to use during the railroad car kit assembly. The Division is purchasing 28 **HO 50** foot boxcar kits through Stewart's Hobbies for the workshop. The three extra kits are to have on hand during the workshop in case parts are broken or lost. Leftover kits and parts will either be sold or used as door prizes at Railfest 2018.

**Dale Smith** has talked to a member of Division 1 about putting on a clinic for us sometime in the future.

The Division all day bus trip to **EnterTrainMent Junction** is scheduled for Saturday, August 12. We need to get a count of those planning to go in order to determine the size of the bus we will need. At the moment, we only have 14 people interested.

The **Division 5 picnic** will be held on Saturday, August 5 at the Painesville Depot from 2 pm to 5 pm. We will again use IGA catering.

We have gotten one quote so far for the **defibrillator to be donated** to Hambden Township for installation in the Town Hall. Hambden Fire Department recommended a model that cost \$1200. We are trying to get some other information and recommendations from the American Heart Association. It was suggested that, once we purchase the unit, the Division 5 BOD attend a Hambden Township trustees' meeting and present it to the township.

We have **six layouts** on the list so far for our Fall 2017 layout tours.

Since we have a lot of new members, it was suggested that we put the **instructions for ordering Division 5 apparel** back in the Trainwire for a number of months.

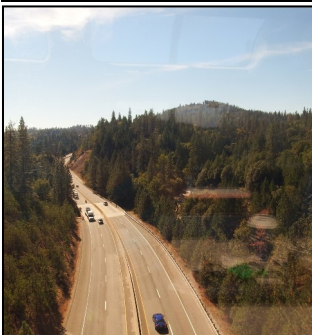
No progress has been made to date on updating our **Division 5 Regulations**. The current goal is to have any changes ready to be voted on in the Spring 2018 ballot.

The next **regular Division 5 BOD meeting** will be May 8, 2017 at 7:30pm at Hambden Town Hall.

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

# Rails Across the Nation

By: Len Kessler



## The California Zephyr

On Thursday around 9 am we boarded the California Zephyr and said good-bye to the West Coast. After the first hour, we were 7000 feet above sea level, high in the impressive Rocky Mountains of California. The climb was slow with curves tight enough

to catch many glimpses of several cars on the train in front and behind us. With bright sunny skies and a few fluffy clouds, these were the most magnificent views so far on the entire trip. Some of the most majestic parts of this spectacular country rest in the Rocky Mountains between San Francisco and Denver. It felt like we were riding on top of the world. This leg of our journey was one

beautiful and peaceful ride through the heavily wooded terrain with its numerous mile long tunnels. It was apparent that a normal camera could not capture the magnificent views that can be absorbed by the eye in the present. Once again we found interesting people who were curious about the card game we were playing and wanted to join in. As the sun slowly set in the Rocky Mountains of



Sunset in Nevada

Nevada, we returned to our roomette. We upgraded to a handicapped roomette which is as wide as the entire train car. The beds are just as small, but there was a sink and a toilet accessible in a room with a lot more space. Friday morning we awoke more than half way through Utah. The sun filled sky was bright blue without a cloud to be seen. There were

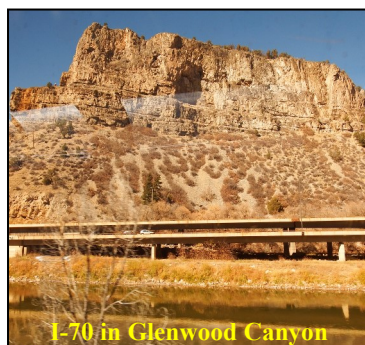
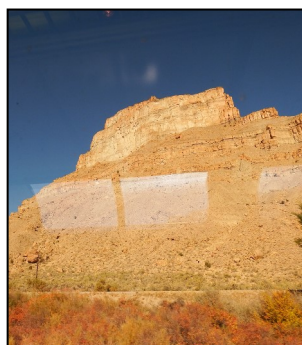
great mountains in the foreground and interesting rock formations everywhere. Greg and I had breakfast in the room followed by a trip to the lounge car to view the outstanding landscapes. Between Utah and Colorado we passed through three outstanding canyons, one more interesting than the other. Colors and shades of the sheer rock walls

changed with the movement of the train and the position of the sun. The Glenwood Canyon was the most impressive. The train travels on one side of the narrow canyon and I-70 occupies the other side of the canyon, separated by a river.

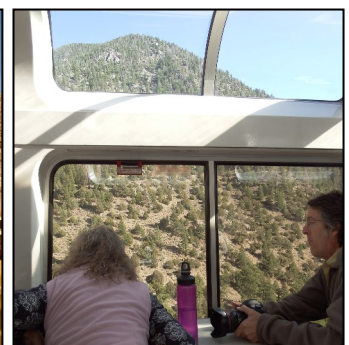
*Continued on page 7*



Sleeping Quarters in a Roomette



I-70 in Glenwood Canyon





# Rails Across the Nation cont....



*(Continued from page 6)*

The terrain on the road side of the canyon is so rugged that the majority of the roadway is suspended on two separate levels, one hell of an engineering feat. One of the last tunnels we went through was the Moffat tunnel before arriving at Denver, Colorado. The tunnel is 6.2 miles long and is 9,239 feet above sea level and takes approximately ten minutes to traverse. Shortly after passing

through the Moffat tunnel, we were able to look down on the mile high city of Denver, Colorado and beyond. I easily concluded that no ordinary camera or embellishment of words can reproduce what your eye experiences in the moment. You really have to be there to fully enjoy the encounter. The train reduced speed and took its time slowly descending down the mountain side. We made a short stop in the Denver Station but not long enough to get out and look

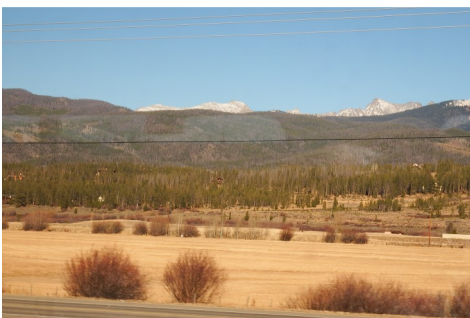
around. I hear that the station is quite ornate. Leaving the Denver station marked the beginning of the end. The country side flattens out and the scenery became blasé not to mention monotonous. Thank goodness for cards and wine. Late Friday night we called it a day in the lounge car and returned to our roomette. It would be the last night we would spend on board in the rocking and rolling bunk beds. It is a wild different way to get a night's sleep,



but manageable. Saturday was a lazy but pleasant day ending in Chicago around 3 pm after being on the train for 51 hrs. and 40 mins. After a 3 ½ hour layover in the Chicago station lounge, we boarded the 30 Capitol Limited bound for Cleveland, Ohio and home. At 1:45 am our trip across the nation by rail, officially came to an end in the Cleveland train station, where it began.

I have always wanted to travel across this beautiful nation by train but never had time during my working career. Once I became handicapped, I thought that dream was dead. Could I possibly have made this trip on my own? Maybe, but my son Gregory volunteering to go with me sealed the deal and made sure this old man's dream came true. I thoroughly enjoyed this trip, maybe not the

confusion of Washington State, but seeing a lot of this picturesque country and spending some significant time with my younger son, it was priceless. Would I ever do it again? I can be packed and ready to go in 20 minutes. - *The end, for now!*



Looking down on Denver, Colorado



# Division 1 Layout Tour Highlights

By Rich and Linda Kacprzak

Those members of Division 5 who didn't go on Division 1's layout tour missed seeing some great model railroads. We visited all five layouts open

on the April 1, 2017 tour and would like to thank Division 1 for their hospitality. We would encourage more members to attend future open house tours.



Our first stop was Mike Farrow's Norfolk & Western Pocahontas Division, a large highly-detailed N-scale layout that has been featured in Model

Railroader and was on a bus tour for the 2014 National NMRA Convention. He models Roanoke, various mountain industries and spectacular mountain scenery.



Jim DiPaola's Pittsburgh, Youngstown & Ashtabula HO layout focuses on steel mills from blast furnaces to rolling mills and includes several buildings from

Dean Freytag's Davies Steel complex. His layout is concentrated entirely on steel industry operations, with main-line interchanges.



Mike Bradley's Toledo, Hamilton & Western Railroad is a short line that serves the pulp and

paper industry and contains lots of custom and kit-bashed vehicles, which is one of his favorite aspects of modeling.



# Division 1 Layout Tour Highlights cont.....




(Continued from page 6)

Steve Zapytowski's Tillamook and Astoria Railroad Company is an HO/HOn3 layout based in western

Oregon, with real and mythical towns and locales. Interesting scenes include a seaport with an operating dry dock lift, a pickle factory and a dual gauge turntable and engine house.



Jim Peters is renovating his Little Scioto & Mingo Junction RR, which is loosely based on the Chessie System around 1969. Jim is a member of an operations

group and therefore it is the focus of his layout. He is looking for some additional operators for his morning and evening operating sessions. 

## 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
- Bova's Music & Train Shoppe

- Willoughby, Ohio
- Mentor, Ohio
- Chardon, Ohio
- Geneva, Ohio
- Westfield, New York



Please support these dealers!



# Modeler's Corner

By: Len Kessler



## Never too late

Originally this 5 X 5 table was built to add a reverse curve and a large industrial center with numerous

sidings to my layout. Well, not everything always goes as planned. When working in such a small area, installing more than 4 siding was utterly impossible. The reverse curve was the easy part, but trying to get several

sidings on the inside of the circle and make any sense, proved to be an impossibility. I was not willing to accept and live with a major misjudgment. So with the help of a friend and borderline genius, Alan Arthur, the entire



industrial center was ripped up and replaced with an enormous city. The city was able to be much larger than the table by raising it above the tracks and extending it onto another table. The point is that it's **never too**

**late** to change your mind at any point during the construction of your own personal layout. If you can't get an idea to work, you should always consider an alternative, even if it comes from another person. If you can't

come up with the correct solution to a problem on your own, ask a friend. 📺

*(note: the bottom 3 pictures were taken from the same view as the top 3)*





**Team Track****www.MCR5.org****Division 5 Officers****(Terms expire June 2018)**

Superintendent	Dave Neff	440-269-1229	<a href="mailto:Super@MCR5.org">Super@MCR5.org</a>
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Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	Tom Pescha	216-470-5780

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**Division 5 Appointed Positions:** (Terms expire June 2018)

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Bring & Brag	(Open Position)		
Layout Tours	Mike Buehner	440-428-0137	<a href="mailto:layouttour@MCR5.org">layouttour@MCR5.org</a>



## 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 5 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.



## Notice

I will be compiling the next Trainwire on the 19th of the month and any articles or reports that come in after the 19th will probably be published in the following issue. - *The Editor*

# The Trainwire Newsletter

# Electronic Version

Publication of Division 5  
12049 Sperry Road  
Chesterland, Ohio 44026



Amtrak engine parked in Emeryville Station, California

## May, 2017

Division 5 Membership  
as of April 1st, 2017



117

## The Trainwire

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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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# MODEL TRAIN DAYS

at

## THE PAINESVILLE RAILROAD MUSEUM

475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077

For info call Len at 440-417-6746

# MAY 6-7 2017

10 am to 5 pm

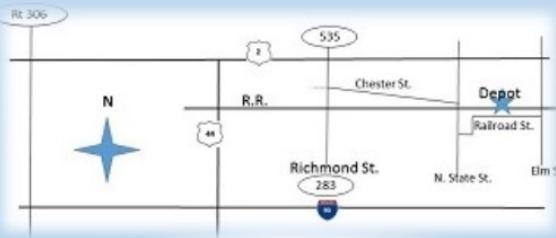
See operating Model Train Layouts in N scale,  
HO scale, S scale, O gauge and G gauge.

12 Different Layouts to see!

Model Train flea market on grounds.



Admission \$5.00 each, Family \$7.00



### **Direction to Painesville Depot**

I-90 (exit 200) to Rt. 44

North on Rt. 44 to Rt. 2

East on Rt. 2 (1.5 miles) to OH 535 / OH 283 (exit 223)

South on OH 283 for 200 feet, left turn (east onto Chester St.)

East on Chester St (0.7 miles) to North State Street

South on North State Street (under RR Bridge) to Railroad Street.

East on Railroad Street to Depot.

### **Food and Drinks available.**

**Proceeds** to help the restoration and preservation of the historic NYC Painesville Depot and bring her back to its glory days of the NYC.

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

501(c)3 non-profit



# DIV. 5 PICNIC

## Saturday, August 5, 2017

At

**The Painesville Depot**  
475 Railroad Street  
Painesville, Ohio 44077

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

**2 pm to 5 pm**

Driving directions

Exit Rt 2 at Richmond Street, South one block to Chester,  
East on Chester to N. State Street,  
South on N. State Street (under the RR bridge),  
East on Railroad Street to Depot



### Join in on good fellowship and railfanning!



**Menu:**

- Breaded Chicken
- Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Chips
- Hobo Beans,
- Desert
- Pop & water
- If you wish - Dish to pass



Food is being provide by Div. 5

Admission: **Free** to all Div. 5 members and immediate family.

**RSVP** by August 1, 2017 to Tom at:

(216) 470-5780 or send an e-mail to [Tom.Pescha@MCR5.org](mailto:Tom.Pescha@MCR5.org)

***Be sure to bring your Camera and a CHAIR!***

