



# The Trainwire



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## Superintendent's Report

### Ode to Joy, HO, HO, HO

T'was the night before Christmas with David in bed

Having visions of trains running 'round in his head;

A letter to Santa had been sent by post, advising that a train was wanted the most.....

Having a Lionel would certainly be nice, but an American Flyer would also suffice...

Awakening at dawn, David began to dash..

Down the stairs in his PJ's, he flew in a flash

There 'round the tree was an oval of trackage,

And in the middle a bright red ribbon-ed package.

Tearing open the box, with his eyes open wide

He found railroad treasures were nestled inside:

A steam engine with smoke pellets would soon provide soot,

And there was a button to whistle a toot.

Cars to haul freight were in the box loose—  
---a gondola, a hopper and a short red ca-boose....

O Joy was David's on that day Christmas morn,

The day that his life long interest was born.

Now today's kids often begin with a Thomas

but keeping interest alive is a difficult promise.

Scales such as HO, O, S, N and Z beckon,

But life intervenes before hobbies can reckon.

So as Christmas unfolds, with memories so dear



Dave Neff – Superintendent  
Division 5  
NMRA – Mid Central Region

Be thankful for Trains as we close out the year.

Merry Christmas!  
Bard of Willoughby

*-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 1st, 2017

Location: Hambden Town Hall  
Program: Bill Osbone Signals  
Bring & Brag: Signals / Electronics

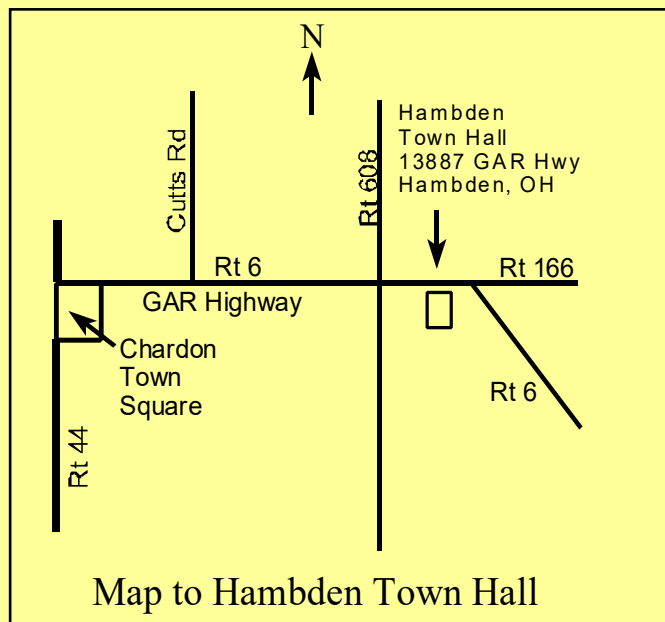
# 2018

### January 5th, 2018

No Meeting this month.

### February 2nd, 2017

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



Map to Hambden Town Hall

## SCHEDULED EVENTS

**Christmas Open House** December 2  
Eastminster Presbyterian Church  
Erie, Pennsylvania (10:00 am - 4:00 pm)

**Christmas Toy & Train Show** December 10  
Lakeland Community College (flyer on Page 9)  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094 (10:00 am - 3:30 pm)

**Country Lights** Nov. 24 to Dec. 23  
Farm-Park (5:00 pm - 9:00 pm)  
Kirtland, Ohio HO & N scale modules on display

# 2018

**Snow Dog Train Show** January 6  
UAW Hall 5616 Chevrolet Blvd.  
Parma, Ohio 44130 (10:00 am - 3:00 pm)

**Division Holiday Party** January 13  
Hambden Town Hall  
Hambden, Ohio (12:00 pm)

**TCA Winter Meet** January 27  
UAW Hall 5616 Chevrolet Blvd.  
Parma, Ohio 44130 (10:00 am - 3:00 pm)

**Medina Train and Toy Show** February 4  
Medina Fairgrounds,  
Medina, Ohio 44256 (9:00 am - 3:00 pm)

**Independence Train Show** March 3  
6001 Archwood Rd.  
Independence, Ohio 44131 (10:00 am - 3:00 pm)

**Division 5 Railfest** March 17 - 18  
Lakeland Community College  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094 (10:00 am - 4:00 pm)

# Division 5 Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2017

The November 3, 2017 membership meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Dave Neff at Hambden Township Hall. 28 members and 2 guests were present.

Long time Division 5 member **Karl Locke** died on October 28, 2017. Karl was a member of the Division since the 1960's. He died one month short of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The **Division holiday party** will be on Saturday, January 13, 2018. Social time will start at Noon with food served at 1:00 PM. Cost is \$5 per person.

Reviewed preparations for our **"How To Build A Model Railroad"** event. More money was spent on advertising this year so we need to see if attendance improves.

**Division 5 member** Dan Chuppa is in the hospital. Also, Lenny Kessler was in the hospital but is home now.

**Superintendent Neff** announced that the Mid Central Region BOD recently approved the formation of a new Division 12 pending the outcome of a vote by Division 5 members. He reviewed the history of the former Allegheny Highlands Division that was part of the Niagara Frontier Region. The following motion was made by Don Thomas and seconded by Ray Newnes: "The members of Division 5, Western Reserve Division of the NMRA, request the administrative transfer of those NMRA members in Erie, Crawford, Potter, Warren, and McKean counties in Pennsylvania, and Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegany counties in New York, formerly acquired from the Niagara Frontier Region, to a new Division 12 to be formed from members within those seven counties." The motion passed. The following members of the new Division 12 have volunteered to take on the following Division offices until formal elections can be scheduled: Superintendent – Brad White, Assistant Superintendent – Mike Hauk, Clerk/Treasurer – Dave Ellis. Division 5 will support the new division through occasional joint activities and meetings as well as provide some financial support. Division 5 Superintendent Neff will temporarily serve as an advisory member on the Division 12 BOD.

The 2019 **MCR Convention** will be hosted by Division 1 in Boardman, Ohio. The 2020 MCR convention will be hosted by Division 2.

The **December meeting program** will be on Prototype Signaling by Bill Osborne. The **Bring & Brag** theme will be "Electronics / Signaling".

**Modeling Question:** A Division member just getting back into the hobby had a number of questions – What DCC voltage to use? What to do about reverse loops? Are blocks needed? Best wire to use? Best sound decoders? Best way to keep track clean? Most popular DCC system? What to use for subroadbed? What to use for a scenery base? – The Division members present did their best to provide answers to the various questions.

**Division 5** has been invited to visit layouts that Division 4 members will have open in November for tours. Paper copies of the tour guide were available at the meeting. A PDF copy will be e-mailed to Division 5 members.

**The defibrillator** that the Division ordered for the Hambden Township Hall has finally been received. The Division 5 BOD will present the defibrillator to the township at an upcoming township trustees meeting.

**The HO modules** will be set up at Lake Farmpark for their Country Lights event from November 27 through December 8. December 7 is a special day for the handicapped. Extra help with the layout is needed that day. The N modules will be setup from December 9 through December 23.

There is a new hobby shop / museum in Middlefield, OH (Huntsburg Township) called **"Corner Field Model Railroad & Hobby"**. It is mainly geared towards 3-rail O gauge. The museum has a large O layout. Address is 16720 Pioneer Road, Middlefield, OH 44062. Phone 440636-5162. Website: [Cornerfieldmodelrailroadmuseumandhobby.com](http://Cornerfieldmodelrailroadmuseumandhobby.com)

## Division 5 Meeting Minutes cont....

### Bring & Brag:

Dave Neff

Bryan Persing

Theme – “Weathered Items”

Bill Berger

Dennis Lloyd

Don Bittner

Scott Gubanyar

Callie Mallory

**Program:** NMRA EduTrain Clinic – Basic Weathering

### Submitted by:

**Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk**

## Condolences to the Locke Family

**K**arl W. Locke was a lifelong resident of Perry Village and died peacefully at The Lantern of Madison on Oct. 28, 2017. He was born Nov. 27, 1917 in Painesville, Ohio and was just one month short of celebrating his 100th birthday.

Karl was a proud [WWII](#) veteran of the U.S. [Army](#), having been assigned to the 6th Calvary. He saw action in the European Theatre, serving under General George Patton. Karl served from 1941 to 1945. During a leave in Charleston, SC he met his future wife at a USO dance, where she was a volunteer. He married Charlotte Nolte, of Charleston, in 1947. They were married 57 years.

After his wartime service, Karl worked as a brakeman for the NY Central Railroad. This sparked his lifelong hobby of model railroading. He was then employed as a sales representative for Sears until retirement.

Karl's accomplishments and commitments to his community are exemplary. He was an officer for the American Legion Post 697, most recently acting as their Secretary/Treasurer. He was an 85 year member of Perry Christian Church, having served there in various capacities. He was a founding member of the Perry Historical Society and served as a Perry Village Councilman in the 1980's. He enjoyed being an

unofficial tank driver when the Perry Fire Dept. was still a volunteer unit. Karl obtained the rank of Captain as a member of the Auxiliary Ohio State Highway Patrol Post 28 in Chardon.

Having received many accolades and awards from various organizations and government entities for his steadfast volunteerism, he was also recognized by the Perry High School Alumni Association as a distinguished Hall of Fame Member, inducted in 2008. Survivors include his daughters, Louise (Greg) Burzanko of Mooresville, NC, Linda (Robert) Hazel of North Perry, OH, Diane (Kevin) Laymon of Friendswood, TX; grandchildren, Kate Hazel, Anne (Oliver) Hazel-Curwen, Emily (Anthony) Hazel-Walls, Robert C. (fiance Amanda) Hazel, III, Christopher (Kourtney) Hazel, Jennifer (Rob) Burzanko Medlen, Kristin (James) Laymon Enciso, Daniel Laymon, Kurt Laymon; 15 great grandchildren and extended family Joy (Tom) Brown-Latimer, Tabitha (Mike) Clark, Teagan Cummins.

Karl's family extends sincere appreciation for the compassionate care given to him by the Lantern of Madison and The Hospice of the Western Reserve.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Perry Christian Church, 3270 Call Rd., Perry OH 44081 or the Perry Foundation, PO Box 103 Perry OH 44081, of which Karl was a board member.



**Karl W. Locke**

**1917 - 2017**

Funeral service were celebrated by Pastor Paul Bomeli, @ 11 **am** Friday, November 3, 2017 at Perry Christian Church 3270 Call Rd., Perry, OH 44081.

Karl's final resting place will be Perry Cemetery.

# Lehigh/Susquehanna Operations Weekend 9

(LSOPS 9)

06-07 October 2017

**F**our of us from the Erie area (Division 5 members Dale Desser, Mike Hauk, Brad White, and non-member Jason Graves) travelled to the Allentown, PA area Friday and Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> for the ninth annual Lehigh/Susquehanna Operations Weekend.

This year's LSOPS event was run on Larry Reynolds' PRR layout and Jim Hertzog's Reading layout in the Lehigh/Allentown area; and on Steve Mallery's PRR Buffalo Line, Wayne Betty's

Lancaster & Atlantic Railroad, and Bob Bucklew's Quaker Valley Railroad for the Harrisburg/Lancaster area. Originally a third layout was scheduled for the Lehigh/Allentown portion of the weekend on Gale Smith's Lehigh Valley, but Mr. Smith withdrew due to unexpected illness.

The LSOPS event is divided into two different sections due to the geographic separation of the layouts, and applicants had to designate which geographic area they preferred. We chose the Lehigh/Allentown layouts, as Jim Hertzog's Reading was a *"must -see"* for several of us. We stayed at the Comfort Inn in Tipton, PA, which was only minutes from both Mr. Reynolds and

Mr. Hertzog's homes.

Friday evening was spent at Larry Reynolds' PRR layout. The layout is huge, and fills a 43'x27' basement. (Website here:

<http://www.pamodelrailroads.com/lreynolds/about.htm>) I was assigned as the West Altoona yard switcher, with Jason G. as Altoona yardmaster and another guest as the East Altoona yard job under the supervision of some regular operators on Larry's layout. Eight other guests were assigned various other jobs on the railroad, including road crews and pusher assignments up Horseshoe Curve. The Altoona yard team spent nearly six hours making up and breaking down



Here, Brad W. pilots a road job through Altoona, while Jason G. calls for a line-up from the dispatcher.



Here is a view of the west end of Altoona yard:



Double-headed I10's on a mineral train wait for a signal at West Altoona yard:

various trains coming into, and leaving, Altoona both westbound and eastbound; including mainline trains, locals, and loaded and empty mineral trains.

In fact, we were so busy, I did not have a chance to really see or photograph the rest of the railroad!

We then tumbled into bed at the hotel

near midnight, knowing we were to be at Jim Hertzog's bright and early the next morning at 8:30 AM for an orientation and crew brief prior to his session.

The next morning, after a quick hotel breakfast, we headed for Reading anthracite territory (in HO scale). Jim H. gave a dozen guest operators a quick orientation

to his railroad followed by an ops brief regarding railroad procedures on his version of the Reading, and we were off! (Website here:

<http://www.pamodelrailroads.com/jhertzog/>)

(Continued on page 7)



## Lehigh/Susquehanna Operations Weekend 9 cont.....

*(Continued from page 8)*

For the morning session, I was called for the Reliance Mine turn out of Shamokin east to Locust Summit and return, with an I10 for power.

First stop was Excelsior to work the station track:

Once clearance was received from the dispatcher, we proceeded upgrade to Mt.

Carmel junction. At Mt. Carmel, we worked the station track and feed mill, and pulled loaded coal off the Mt. Carmel branch. We had to clear the main for a couple of minutes at one point for a passenger train and a through freight, but after that, we were cleared on up the hill to Locust Summit. Once there, we worked the briquette factory, shoved a string of hoppers filled with mine-run coal into the prep plant, and pulled the loads of cleaned coal. We were now

ready to head back to Shamokin, but we had more work to do first.

Working down the hill, we stopped at Excelsior again to work the Reliance Coal mine. Lots of work here, pulling empties and spotting loads at the mine and the anthrafines plant.

Once we had the train together, we returned to Shamokin just in time to mark off for lunch.



The whole LSOPS gang then headed to the White Palm restaurant in nearby Topton for lunch. We ate on the outdoor patio, right next to the Norfolk Southern mainline, and the LSOPS organizers somehow managed to arrange for 3 NS trains to run by while we were there. (Just kidding on that part)

After that, it was back to Jim's for more Reading action.

This time, I marked up on a coal drag from Gordon to Shamokin and back, and the power to Shamokin was a Reading N1 Mallet!

We worked upgrade to Locust Summit, then over the hill down to Shamokin.

There, we swapped power for a Reading T1 4-8-4, got our clearance, and headed back to Gordon with coal headed to East Coast markets.

Calling the Gordon yardmaster at the yard limit board, we were quickly routed into an open yard track. After a couple of through trains passed by the yard throat, we were cleared to cross over the main tracks and headed for the engine house where we had started. Thus ended the day and the weekend!

Both Larry and Jim were gracious and accommodating hosts, and are to be commended for opening their homes and amazing layouts for us strangers to run.

The weekend was held under the auspices of the NMRA Mideastern Region, Susquehanna Division (Division 11); and the NMRA Operations Special Interest Group. Increasing numbers of these events are being held all over the country, and usually NMRA or OpSIG membership is a requirement to attend. (Another benefit of NMRA membership.) This was my first such event, but I hope to attend many more.

*Mike Hawk*

**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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Bring & Brag	(Open Position)		
Layout Tours	Matt Kross	440-729-3045	<a href="mailto:layouttour@MCR5.org">layouttour@MCR5.org</a>

**Amtrak on the way to Seattle**

## 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.

**Amtrak in the Beautiful Mountains of Washington**

## 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



A caboose in a small town in Minnesota

## December, 2017

Division 5 Membership  
as of November 1st, 2017



# 110

## 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 Division 5.

## The Western Reserve Division 5



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

A non-profit educational organization



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# Christmas Train and TOY SHOW



2017  2017  2017  2017  2017  2017

BUY - SELL - TRADE



**Sunday, December 10, 2017**  
**10:00 am to 3:30 pm**



*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.*

**(440) 256-8141**

Email: [cleveshows@att.net](mailto:cleveshows@att.net)  
[www.cleveshows.com](http://www.cleveshows.com)

**Dealer info at:**  
[www.christmastrainshow.com](http://www.christmastrainshow.com)

**Held at:**  
**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 \$15.00**  
**Children (6-12) \$3.00, Under 6 Free**  
**Active Military Personnel Free**

**Toy Collection for needy families - New in-box toys only (unwrapped).** Please no stuffed animals.  
**JDRF - Stop by the LCJDWF table and help find a cure for Juvenile Diabetes with your donation.**



Dealer Redeemable this Show  
**\$25.00 Door Prize Certificate**  
Drawings at Noon and 2 pm



**Featuring:**  
**300 + Tables \* One Floor \* Operating Train Layouts \* Free Parking**

HO Trains - Structures - Accessories - Lionel, American Flyer, G-gauge, N scale trains  
Good Food - 24 hr. Police Security



THE NEWS-HERALD

**BUY - SELL - TRADE**

