



The Trainwire



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How to build a model Railroad



On a cool and cloudy November day, Saturday November 3, 2018, Division 5 held it's 'How to Build a Model Railroad' clinics at Lakeland Community College. With six operating layouts and 10 different clinics on topics such as basic layout framing, basics of laying track, simple wiring, basics

transformer wiring basic scenery, model building for the public to see and attend. With more than 100 guest coming from Mentor to Youngstown and Lakewood to Eire enjoyed the clinics and layouts. We wish to thank all of our members who help make this event a great success.  - *Tom Pescha*



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, 2018

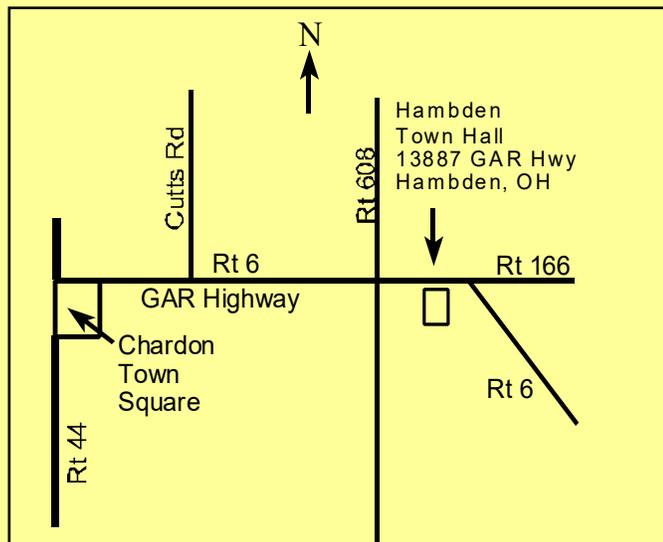
Location: Hambden Town Hall
Program: "Operations on the Chautauqua Branch PRR".
- Brad White
Bring & Brag: Anything Pennsy related

2019

No Meeting in the Month of January, 2019

February 1st, 2019

Location: Hambden Town Hall
Program: How to Get Started with Sketch-Up – *by Scott Gubanyar*
Bring & Brag: Anything Scratch Built or Modified



Map to Hambden Town Hall

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Christmas Train Show December 9
Lakeland Community College
Kirtland, Ohio (10:00 am - 3:30 pm)

2019

Snow Dogs Train Show January 5
UAW Hall
5616 Chevrolet Blvd. (flyer on page 8)
Parma, Ohio 44130 (10:00 am - 3:00 pm)

January Holiday Party January 12
Hambden Town Hall (flyer on page 8)
Hambden, Ohio (Noon - 3:00 pm)
(Dinner served at 1:00 pm)

Division 5 BOD Meeting February 11
Hambden Town Hall (flyer on page 8)
Hambden, Ohio (7:30 pm)

Railfest 2019 March 16 & 17
Lakeland Community College
7700 Clocktower Dr. (flyer on page 8)
Kirtland, Ohio 44094 (10:00 am - 4:00 pm)

Division 5 Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2018

The November 2, 2018 **membership meeting** was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Mike Buehner at Hambden Town Hall. 28 members and 3 guests were present.

It was noted that the **lights were stolen from a crossbuck** in our area that was for an active railroad crossing. Anyone having information about this should contact their local police.

Briefly reviewed the articles and events in the **recent Trainwire**.

For Division 5 **meeting or event cancelations** due to bad weather, TV channel 5 will be contacted to list them on their live display. Also, you can check newsnet5.com or check the Division 5 Facebook page or website.

Reviewed various **NMRA programs** and offers that are available.

It was noted that **Mid Central Region elections** are coming up.

Division 12 is having layout tours on November 10 and has invited Division 5 members to attend. An e-mail will be sent to Division 5 members with the tour information.

It was noted that the Division 5 BOD has received **funding requests** from several local train groups. These will be reviewed at the next BOD meeting.

We will be doing a couple of trial runs of using a **Keurig coffee brewer** at our membership meetings. If this works out, the Division will proceed with purchasing a Keurig machine to use at the meetings instead of brewing a large pot of coffee.

Traditionally, we waited until the meeting break **for people to get refreshments**. It was decided that people are permitted to get any of the refreshments at any time during the meeting. This will especially help if we switch to the Keurig coffee machine.

A question was recently raised about the requirements for awarding **the Division 5 Lifetime Achievement Award**. This award was created as part of the Division's 50th anniversary celebration in 2011 and given out to five Division members during the anniversary party. There currently are some general requirements and it is up to the BOD to determine when they think someone deserves to receive it. The BOD will review the current requirements and determine how often we want to present this award.

The Division apparel order sheet has been updated with the current styles that are available along with the current pricing. We are still using the same supplier as we have had for a long time. Individuals may place their own order directly and must pick up their order at the supplier in Wickliffe, Ohio. If there is enough interest, we could place a group order and have the items available at a Division meeting.

The Division 5 Holiday Party will be on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at Hambden Town Hall. The doors will open at noon with the food served at 1:00 pm. Cost is \$5 per member, \$5 for first guest of a member, and \$10 for each additional guest of the member. It was suggested that we do a short (15 minute) review of the Division activities over the last year.

It was noted that there will be **no Division membership meeting in January** due to the Holiday Party.

Reviewed what was going on for Division 5's **2018 Promo Day** (How To Build A Model Railroad) that will be presented the next day (Nov 3) at Lakeland Community College.

It was reported that **Division member Tom Carr** is doing okay. He currently has to have dialysis three times a week but is able to get out. He has been at the Painesville Depot recently.

Modeling Question: Trying to find a photo of the outside of a circus setup to use as the backdrop on a module that depicts the circus train unloading/loading operations. Targeting an era about 50 years ago. Have tried various internet searches without finding what is wanted. Looking for ideas on what to search for or other sources to explore.

Response: a few members provided some different search topics along with certain libraries that may have information.

(Continued from page 4)

Division 5 Meeting Minutes cont.....

(Continued from page 3)

Railroading Question: Are there any coal trains still going through the Cleveland area? Haven't seen any in a long time. **Response:** no one had any definitive information.

Bring & Brag: *Theme - 3-D Printed Models*

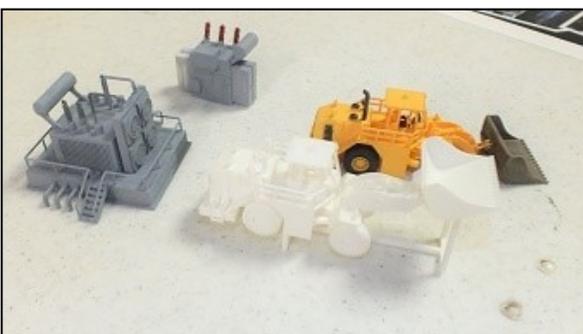
Matt Kross	Bryan Persing	Linda Kacprzak	Bill Berger	Dave Metzger
Bob Gittinger	Dave Neff	Paul Chapple	Bill Osborne	

Program: Steve Zapytowski of Division 1 provided Part 2 of a presentation on "Scratch Building in the Digital Age". In this presentation, Steve covered creating designs for 3-D printing.

Submitted by: Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk

Pictures from the November Meeting

Photos by: Tom Pescha



Division 5 BOD Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2018

Attendees: Mike Buehner, Bryan Persing, Chuck Limbert, Wayne Lette, Bonnie Lette, Ted Wiese, Ray Newnes, and Mike Carovac

The **BOD meeting** every other month except for November/December – so the schedule is the 2nd Monday at 7:30 PM in the months of February, April, June, August, October and November.

Holiday Party – To be held on 1/12/19 at noon with food serving at 1:00 PM, we will have the Loser Raffle, Chinese Gift Exchange \$15 limit, and a possible program as suggested at the last Membership Meeting.

Flash Email – Matt to send out a flash email to the membership with information to RSVP at the December membership meeting and having your money in before the party.

Food – we will have Rideout's IGA cater the food again this year. Bonnie to ask about pies being purchased and the beverages for the party.

GRANTS – *The Lake/Geauga HO Module Group* requested a grant to help with building reverse loops for Lake Farm Park Country Lights – The request was for approximately \$350-\$375. Wayne motioned to grant them \$500; Bonnie 2nd – motioned carried – a check will be mailed to the treasurer of their group on Tuesday.

The LENS group requested a grant to help with building two 3-foot modules (Tree Farm) for Lake Farm Park Country Lights – The request was for approximately \$450, Bryan motioned to grant them \$500; Wayne 2nd – motioned carried – a check will be mailed to the treasurer of their group on Tuesday.

2019 Budget was discussed, the changes that were to be made were. Wayne motioned to accept the budget as written; Bryan 2nd – motion passed.

Promo Day “How to Build a Model Railroad” – we discussed the day's event. Some are feeling that we are not accomplishing what we are wanting to. We need new ideas, possibly it is the venue, possibly what we are offering, etc. One idea was a possible mini convention – Division 12 is planning one in September 2019 (Mike to get more information). Our goal is to get people into the model railroad hobby. More discussion will be needed. If any of the members have some ideas – please get them to one of the Officers or BOD members.

Coffee/Refreshments – we discussed how the trial Keurig went at the November meeting. A lot of the members liked the variety. We are going to be asking for feedback. It was discussed that during the 2019 year that we might have some special food at one or two of the meeting – *example:* Pizza, Subs, or something else that is reasonable and suggested.

Membership Meeting Day – we will be asking at the December membership meeting if changing the meeting day would get more members to attend the meetings.

Submitted by:

Bonnie Lette, Treasurer

Working on the Railroad



Power Plant

Every city and industrial operation needs electricity. Somewhere in the area you

will find one or more power plants. The Grand River Basin is no exception. They are supplied by the Northern Lights Power Plant located in a shallow gorge in the Cheyenne territory near

Cherry Valley. The plant is an older style power plant that requires tons of coal. It is also on a lower level than the mainline so coal is dumped into a unique bunker that is capable of transfer-



ring the coal into plant hopper cars below. Every day at least one coal train is dispatched from Bailey yard to the Collinwood

yard in Cheyenne. Once there, 2 hoppers are separated and sent to the power plant. After coal has been transferred, a plant engine

moves the hoppers to the side of the building where it is delivered to underground conveyors.

(Continued on page 7)



Working on the Railroad cont.....



(Continued from page 6)

From there the coal is transported to the coal fired boilers that generate the steam that drives the turbines. Water that is turned

into steam is supplied from the nearby Cheyenne Falls. Once the turbines are in motion, electricity is delivered through high voltage lines supported by transmission

towers to step down transformers and eventually to the customer.
Let there be light! 

- Lenny Kessler

What is T-Trak?

T-Trak is a modular railroad concept which originated in N Scale in 2001, but is now applied to other scales, principally HO, as well. T-Trak can essentially be referred to as a 'modular railroad set up on a table, or any other flat surface. The modules do not need 'legs' per se, although most modules may have small leveling screws. The modules are nominally one or two foot square.

T-Trak has several advantages. It is ideal for apartment dwellers; for youngsters just getting started with model railroading, learning skills, and on a limited budget. For oldsters, the small size and light weight of modules makes for easier transporting, set-up and storage with no legs, a great alternative to standard N-Trak which makes use of the same N Scale locomotives and rolling stock!

The track work for T-Trak in N scale is standard KATO section track, with connectors and universal electrical hookups between modules. Modules can be assembled in any order with standardized track placement on the ends just like N-Trak. Pre-fab module construction kits are available off the internet.

The NMRA is on the bandwagon for this concept, with T-Trak layouts now operating at National Conventions, and our Mid-Central Region will have an operating T-Trak layout at next year's regional convention in Boardman. Division 5 is invited to participate.

The Regional Coordinator of T-Trak for the Region will make a slide show presentation at our December 7 meeting, so plan to be there!  *-Dave Neff*

Christmas Train and TOY SHOW

2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018

BUY - SELL - TRADE

Sunday, December 9, 2018
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
www.cleveshows.com

Dealer info at:
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)**

**Adm.: Adults \$6.00 Children (6-12) \$3.00, Under 6 Free
Family \$15.00 (2 adults + children under 12)
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

BUY - SELL - TRADE

Revised 7-9-18

Snow Dogs Train Show

Saturday, January 5, 2019
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:
440-833-4366
330-633-9097

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

Revised 7-27-18

HOLIDAY PARTY

JANUARY 12, 2019
SOCIAL HOUR 12 NOON,
'DINNER' AT 1 P.M.

Followed by Chinese Gift Auction
\$15 to \$20 marked scale or any
and
Loser's Raffle from 2018.

Seasons Greetings

MENU

Tossed Green Salad
Italian and Ranch Dressing on the side
Breaded Chicken
Roast Beef
Ham
Mixed vegetables and Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Rigatoni
Assorted pies for desert.

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.

Cost \$5 per member + \$5.00 one Guest,
\$10.00 for each additional Guest.

Payable at November 2 or December 1 meeting if at all possible or send a check to Bonnie. You must have **RSVP'd** by **January 6** latest to Bonnie so that we can plan for the meal.

RAILFEST 2019

Saturday and Sunday
March 16 & 17, 2019
10 am to 4 pm
Buy - Sell - Trade

Located at:
Lakeland Community College
7700 Clocktower Dr.
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)

Admission \$7.00
Two Day Pass \$12.00
Family (couples) \$12.00
Family (max) \$12.00
(Adults with Children under 18)
Food Service Available at reasonable prices

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

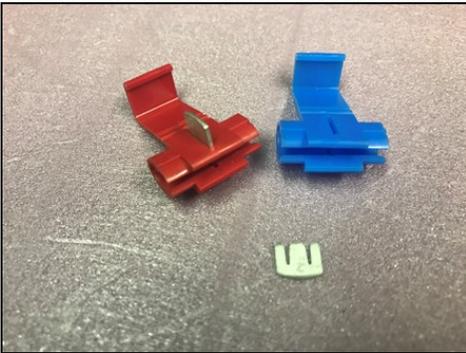
Free Parking
Free Shuttle Bus
9:30am - 4:30pm

For Information Write:
NMRA MCR Division 5
PO Box 5081
Mentor, Ohio 44060
Phone: (440) 357-8890
Phone: (440) 417-6746
Email: railfest@mcr5.org

Presented by
National Model Railroad Association
MCR - Division 5 Event
Since 1987 at Lakeland
Visit us at www.railfest.org
Facebook at www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow
Largest continuous running two day train show in OHIO!

Simple Electrical Connectors for Model Railroaders

As a model railroader, there are often many electric wire connections required to make our layouts operational. Fortunately



there are some readily available devices that can make the job much easier. One that has been around a long time is the Quick Splice Solderless or “suitcase” connector. One of its uses is to connect track blocks to the main power source. The metal stripper tab of the connector cuts through the insulation on the wire when compressed with pliers thus making

electric contact. Be sure to select the connector appropriate for your wire size. They are available in various colors to help identify polarity, etc.

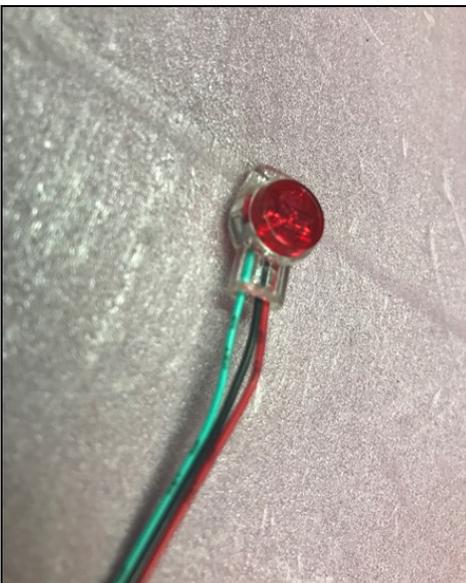


A telephone connector called a Butt Splice works in a similar fashion to the suitcase connector and

is very handy for smaller gauge wire. No insulation stripping is necessary as the butt splice uses a metal stripper similar to the “suitcase” connector.

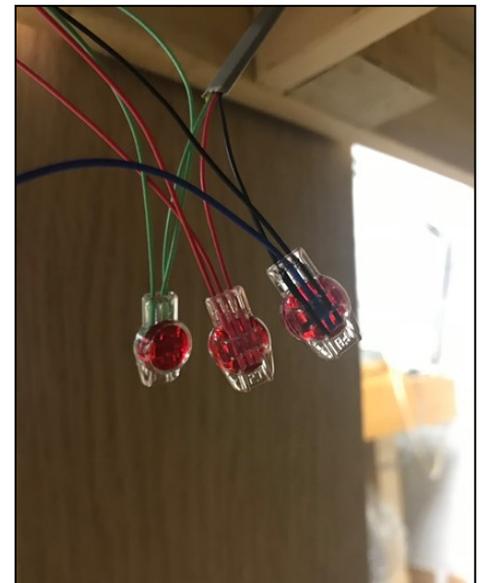


Simply insert the wires in the Butt Splice slots, compress the button on top with pliers and your connection is complete. Butt Splice connectors are available at box stores and on line. They can be purchased to accommodate two, three or four wires of various sizes from 19-26 gauge. Bulk packs of 100 are about 6 cents each. They work extremely well with typical four wire telephone cable and make a good choice for building lights, signals and accessories.



Another phone wire connector is the RJ9 commonly used to connect a phone to a wall outlet. These have four wire ports and work well with the standard four wire telephone cable. Simply remove the outer cover of the cable to expose the four wires, cut to fit the RJ9 connector and insert, no stripping necessary. Use pliers to crimp the connector. There are other similar connectors in the RJ series that have from 2-8 wire ports.

(Continued on page 10)

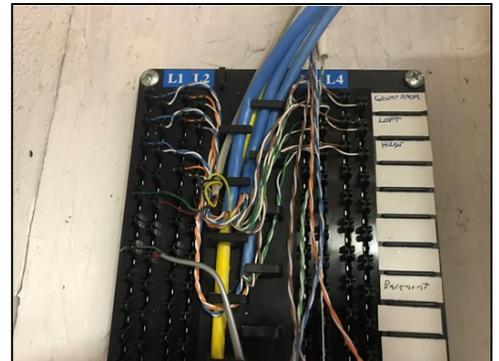
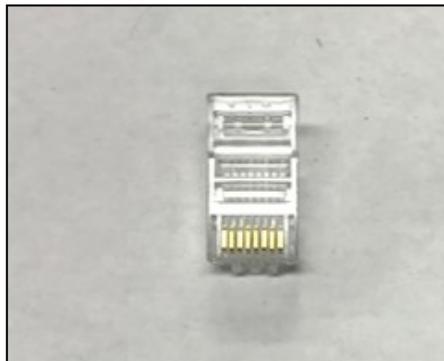
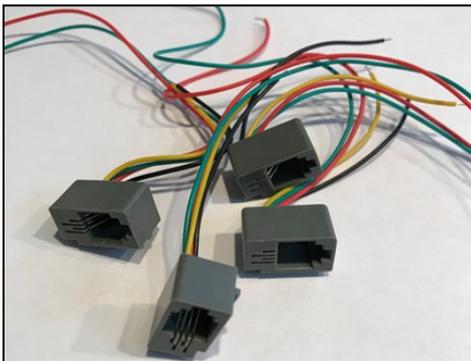
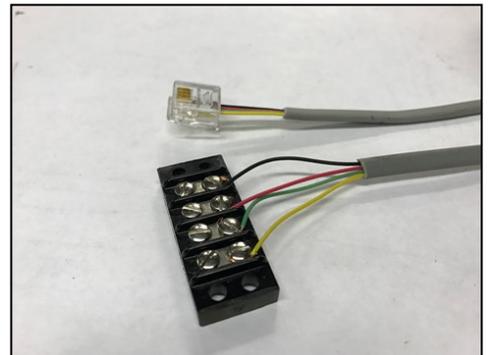


Simple Electrical Connectors *cont.....*

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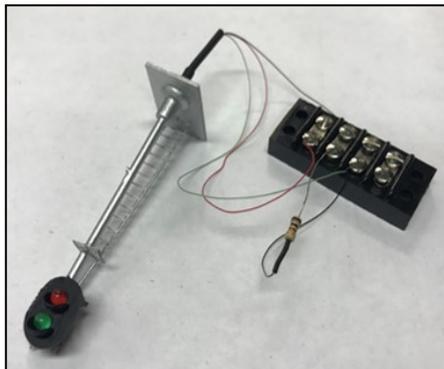
If you're planning on using a lot of RJ9s invest in a \$15 crimping tool available on line. It strips the cable cover, cuts the wires and crimps the connector. Female plugs for RJ connectors are available on line at a reasonable price. Four wire telephone cable makes a neat way to run power to switch machines, signals and many low current accessories. If you need more wire ports, the RJ45 connector has 8 wire ports and is used in Ethernet circuits.



If your concerned about fitting wires with attached connectors through the surface of your layout, for example the use of RJ9 connectors would make it necessary to drill a fairly large hole in order to pull the connector through the layout surface, you might want to consider an Ethernet/Phone punch down block. These are commonly used to connect Ethernet and

telephone wires. They seem to work best with solid core wire as stranded wire may bend while inserting it in the punch down block. They can be purchased with multiple parallel conductors and could be used for connecting a number of LEDs to a common power source to provide building lighting, streetlights etc. The blocks function like suitcase connectors.

Simply push the unstripped telephone wires through the layout surface, press them down on the terminals of the punch down block and your connection is complete. If you plan to use punch down blocks it's advisable to buy a simple tool that makes punching the wires into the connector much easier. They are usually available from the source of the blocks.



Finally there are times when your working with wires so fine they would be difficult to solder, punch down or attach to butt splice connectors. This is where screw terminals come in handy. The fine wires of block signals can easily be attached to one side of the screw terminals

then the heavier wires can be connected to the other side of the terminal strip. This also makes it easier to get the wires through the surface of your layout without bulky connectors attached. There are all kinds of terminal strips available to make your job easier. If you have an

improved way to help wire a layout consider submitting it to The Trainwire Editor Lenny Kessler.

Have a Great Holiday Season!

Wes Orloff

Team Track

www.MCR5.org

Division 5 Officers (Terms expire June 2020)

Superintendent	Mike Buehner	440-479-2276
		Super@MCR5.org
Asst. Superintendent	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519
		AstSuper@MCR5.org

Division 5 Directors: (Terms expire June 2020)

Chuck Limbert	440-357-1864	Robert Gittinger	440-585-0237
Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	Tom Pescha	216-470-5780

Division 5 Board of Directors: BOD@MCR5.org

Division 5 Appointed Positions: (Terms expire June 2020)

Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075
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Clerk	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
		Clerk@MCR5.org
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	Chuck Limbert	Audit@MCR5.org
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		Webmaster@MCR5.org
Company Store	Ted Wiese	440-256-5212
		CompanyStore@MCR5.org
Program and Bring & Brag	Dave Neff	440-269-1229
Layout Tours	Matt Kross	440-729-3045
		Membership@MCR5.org

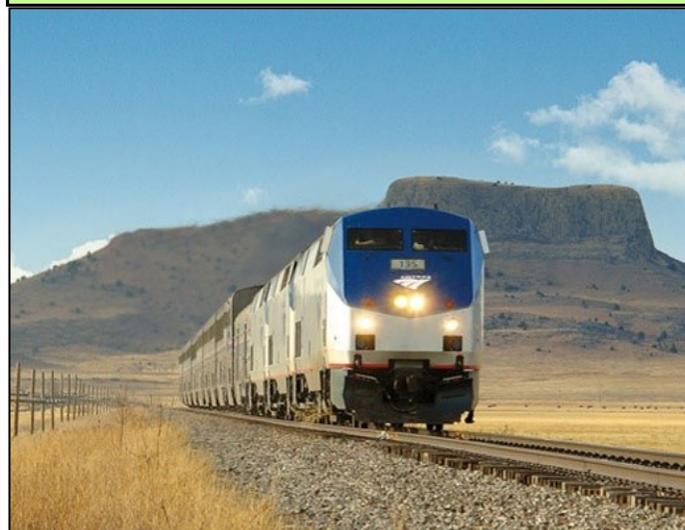


A Picture from the Internet.

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, click on the weather tab, then the closing tab to see if we are listed. "and will be posted on Division 5 web page at www.mcr5.org"



Another Picture from the Internet.

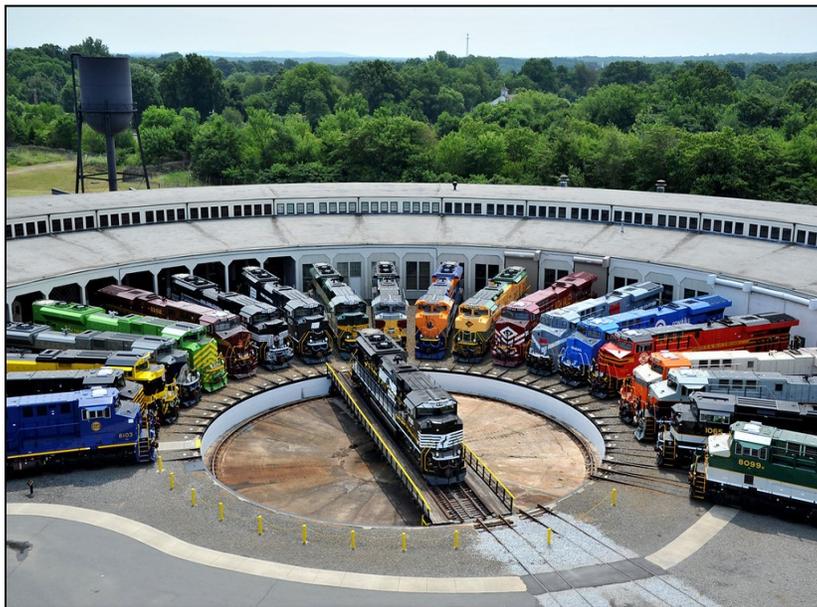
Notice

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



All of the Norfolk Southern Heritage Engines

December, 2018

Division 5 Membership
as of November 1st, 2018

71



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. 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

A non-profit educational organization



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