



# The Trainwire



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## When Turnouts Go Bad

Of course this never happens, right? But when there **IS** a malfunction, what to do about it? Now the frogs can be 'juiced' if there is no conductance on the divergent route, but what if that isn't the problem? Often a locomotive derailment on a turnout, *especially if not detected immediately*, can result in a short and/or an electrical overload. The copper or phosphor bronze jumpers on the underside of the turnout may sometimes break, eliminating conductivity between one or more turnout rail legs. Short wheel radius locomotives and only one powered truck locomotives can stall and also exacerbate an electrical problem.

*What to do?* Here was my dilemma and what I have done ---- you may have a different experience and established another technique. I really don't run trains regularly on my layout, but I get busy in advance of my annual LENS club meeting in January and reacquaint myself with all sorts of issues.

On two of my turnouts, when running trains I experienced stalls, and subsequently when tested I had no electrical conductance on one or more rails. The turnouts are 'fixed', and glued in (*not the point rails though*), so removal without damaging the track on either side of the turnout can be tedious. One trick is to use a fine wire of sufficient length laid on the outside of the rail between the conducting rail and the dead rail, soldered to provide an electrical connection.

If that doesn't work (*which it didn't on two of the turnouts*), it's time to remove and replace the turnout with a new turnout *where all legs have been tested for conductance*. I did have one #5 LH Code 55 good turnout, but needed another #7 LH. While no vendor currently has a #7 LH in code 55 rail, fortunately I found a broken #7 in my scrap heap which could be repaired, (*rail glued back into place*) and tested positively with conductance on all rails.

I used a putty knife to extricate the bad glued turnout tie-side from the underlying foam roadbed, then slid back the joiners on the most open leg as far as possible in order to carefully 'lift' out the turnout from the main leg; then carefully 'pried' out the other main leg, which allowed the divergent leg to easily be removed. Then I carefully replaced *all* used joiners with new ones and placed the new turnout onto the two main/divergent legs. With no gaps between the turnout and the remaining main leg it was not possible to utilize rail joiners on this final connection. Therefore, I carefully used a soldering rail alignment ceramic

device to align the turnout leg rails with the adjoining track rails and soldered the outside of each rail. Then I used a Dremel to knock down the solder bead even with the rail tops, followed by a little filing and shaping in the rail webs with small manual flat, trapezoidal, and round files. The electrical/physical connection between the turnout and adjacent track rails was good to go by running a track alignment test car, and checking the electrical conductivity between all rails. Lastly, running a three wheel two-truck locomotive and a steamer was the final test to establish the new turnout in place was functioning well.

*-Dave Neff*





# 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.

### February 1st, 2019

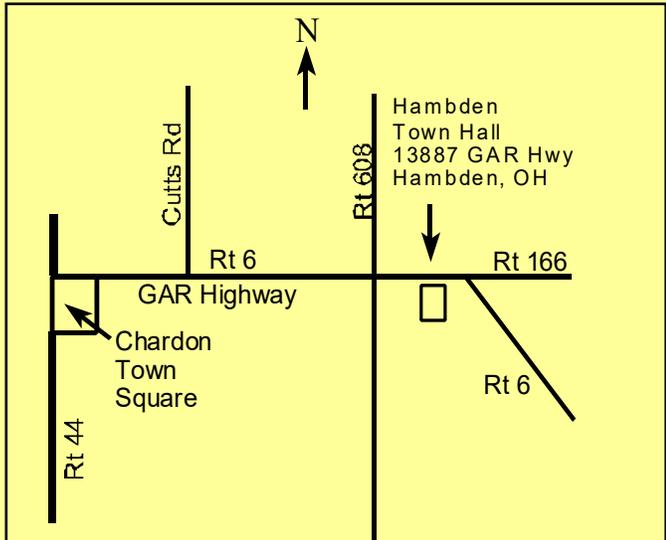
**Location:** Hambden Town Hall  
**Program:** How to Get Started with Sketch-Up – *by Scott Gubanyar*  
**Bring & Brag:** Anything Scratch Built or Modified

### March 1st, 2019

**Location:** Hambden Town Hall  
**Program:** “Its all in the Details”..from common materials. - Sam Eisele (Division 1)  
**Bring & Brag:** Scratchbuilt details (structures, locos, rolling stock, other)

### April 5th, 2019

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



Map to Hambden Town Hall

# SCHEDULED EVENTS

- Division 5 BOD Meeting** February 11  
Hambden Town Hall  
Hambden, Ohio (7:30 pm)
- Annual Railfest 2019 Dinner** March 16  
475 Railroad Street (flyer on page 5)  
Painesville, Ohio 44077 (5:30 pm)
- Railfest 2019** March 16 & 17  
Lakeland Community College  
7700 Clocktower Dr. (flyer on page 6)  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094 (10:00 am - 4:00 pm)

**RAILFEST 2019 DINNER**  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Railfest Dinner on March 16, 2019  
Will be held at Painesville Railroad Museum (aka Painesville Depot)  
475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077  
Eleven miles east of College.  
Have Dinner in a Historic Train Station!

**Time:** Saturday evening, 5:30 pm, March 16, 2019  
**Price:** \$22.50 per person  
**SPEAKER & SUBJECT** Richard Kasperzak presenting B & O Lake Line  
**RESERVATION DEADLINE** March 9, 2019  
**DINNER MENU**  
Tossed Green Salad  
Italian and Ranch Dressing on the side  
Chicken  
Roast Beef  
Corn Beef and Cabbage  
Red Skin Potatoes  
Rigatoni  
**Beverages Stations:**  
Pots of Coffee - Pots of Decaf Coffee  
Pitchers of Coke - Pitchers of Diet Coke  
Coffee Condiments: Creamer, Sugar, Sweeteners

**Direction to Painesville Depot**  
Exit College, turn right (North) onto Rt. 306  
North on Rt 306 to OH Rt 2 (2 miles)  
East on Rt. 2 (8 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.

**Map:** Shows the location of the depot relative to Lakeland College, Chester St, and Railroad St.

**Happy St. Patrick's Day**

*This Dinner is open to any one that is interested in model railroading or trains in general.*

Cut and Return

Please mail back with **Separate Check** for the Buffet by March 9, 2019.  
(Check will be held & deposited March 18, 2019)  
Make Checks payable to: **Railfest**

Print your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_  
Please list and Print all Attending

**Mail to:**  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Pescha  
3942 E. 364th St.  
Willoughby, Ohio 44094  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this part**

Please retain this part for your information

Please return this part only

**Team Track**

[www.MCR5.org](http://www.MCR5.org)

**Division 5 Officers**

(Terms expire June 2020)

Superintendent	Mike Buehner	440-479-2276	<a href="mailto:Super@MCR5.org">Super@MCR5.org</a>
Asst. Superintendent	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519	<a href="mailto:AstSuper@MCR5.org">AstSuper@MCR5.org</a>

**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](mailto:BOD@MCR5.org)

**Division 5 Appointed Positions:** (Terms expire June 2020)

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>
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Promo Day Coordinator	Bob Frieden	(440) 256-8141	<a href="mailto:PromoDay@MCR5.org">PromoDay@MCR5.org</a>
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Achievement Program	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519	<a href="mailto:AP@MCR5.org">AP@MCR5.org</a>
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Contests	(Open Position)		<a href="mailto:Contest@MCR5.org">Contest@MCR5.org</a>
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Auditors	Dennis Lloyd	440-255-2530	<a href="mailto:Audit@MCR5.org">Audit@MCR5.org</a>
	Chuck Limbert		

Trainwire Editor	Lenny Kessler	440-417-6746	<a href="mailto:Trainwire@MCR5.org">Trainwire@MCR5.org</a>
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Refreshments	Dan Chuppa	440-488-4179	<a href="mailto:Refreshments@MCR5.org">Refreshments@MCR5.org</a>
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Membership Roster	Matt Kross	440-729-3045	<a href="mailto:Membership@MCR5.org">Membership@MCR5.org</a>
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Webmaster	Wayne Lette	440-298-3075	<a href="mailto:Webmaster@MCR5.org">Webmaster@MCR5.org</a>
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Company Store	Ted Wiese	440-256-5212	<a href="mailto:CompanyStore@MCR5.org">CompanyStore@MCR5.org</a>
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Program and Bring & Brag	Dave Neff	440-269-1229	
--------------------------	-----------	--------------	--

Layout Tours	Matt Kross	440-729-3045	<a href="mailto:Membership@MCR5.org">Membership@MCR5.org</a>
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# 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



Use the Luck of the Irish and find your Pot of Gold filled with your Train Treasures.

**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

**Operating Layouts**  
N Scale Layouts (LENS)  
HO Scale layout (L.G.H.O.G.)  
S Scale & American Flyer (Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association)  
Lionel O Gauge  
LGB G Gauge  
Live Steam Display (Lake Shore Live Steam)

**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](http://www.railfest.org)  
Facebook at [www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow](http://www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow)

**Largest continuous running two day train show in OHIO!**

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



# RAILFEST 2019

## Box Lunch

UPDATED MENU

This year we will once again be offering Box Lunches. These will be delivered to the main show lobby for your pick-up.

You will have the following choices of Box Lunches:

- Italian Sub;
- Turkey & Cheese on Kaiser roll;
- Veggie Wrap or
- Special** St. Patty Day Lunch of Corn Beef Sandwich with Potato Salad, chips and Cookie for \$10.00

All Box Lunches include Potato Salad, chips and a cookie for only **\$8.00 each** or **\$10.00** for Corn Beef.

Pop and water will be available on the carts for additional cost.

Make your Checks out to **RAILFEST**  
Mail check and order form to:  
**Tom Pescha**  
3942 East 364<sup>th</sup> Street  
Willoughby, Ohio 44094  
If you have any questions, Call Tom at 216-470-5780

Your order must be received by **March 4**  
Cut and Return Cut and Return

Box Lunch Order Form		Total amount enclosed \$	
Business Name / Contact		Check #	
Cell Phone			
Return <b>ONLY</b> this part back to Tom Pescha			
<b>S A T</b>	Italian Sub \$8.00 each	Turkey & Cheese \$8.00 each	Corn Beef \$10.00 each
	Veggie Wrap \$8.00 each		
<b>S U N</b>	Italian Sub \$8.00 each	Turkey & Cheese \$8.00 each	Corn Beef \$10.00 each
	Veggie Wrap \$8.00 each		

Flyer-BL-2019 Box Lunch 12-11-18 Return **ONLY** this part back to Tom Pescha

# The Trainwire Newsletter

# Electronic Version

Publication of Division 5  
12049 Sperry Road  
Chesterland, Ohio 44026



Photo from the Internet.

## February, 2019

Division 5 Membership  
as of January 1st, 2019



74

## 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



<b>Superintendent:</b>	Mike Buehner	6350 River Rd. Madison, Ohio 44057	440-479-2276	<a href="mailto:Super@mcr5.org">Super@mcr5.org</a>
<b>Asst. Super:</b>	Bryan Persing	2860 Loreto Drive Willoughby Hills OH 44094	330-715-3519	<a href="mailto:AstSuper@mcr5.org">AstSuper@mcr5.org</a>
<b>Trainwire Editor:</b>	Lenny Kessler	3257 Center Rd. Perry, Ohio 44081	440-417-6746	<a href="mailto:Trainwire@mcr5.org">Trainwire@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>

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**Have Dinner in a Historic Train Station!**



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**Price:**

\$22.50 per person

**SPEAKER & SUBJECT**

Richard Kasperzak presenting B & O Lake Line

**RESERVATION DEADLINE**

March 9, 2019

**DINNER MENU**

- Tossed Green Salad
- Italian and Ranch Dressing on the side
- Chicken
- Roast Beef
- Corn Beef and Cabbage
- Red Skin Potatoes
- Rigatoni

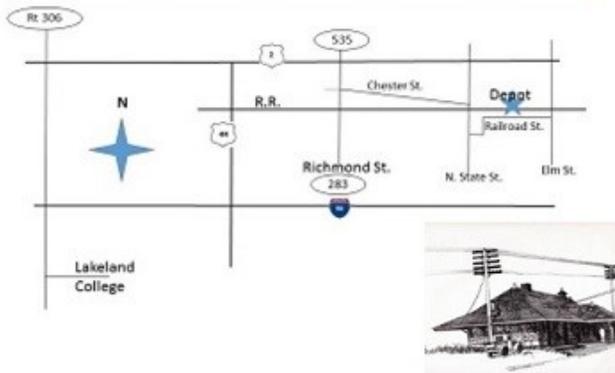
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- Coffee Condiments: Creamer, Sugar, Sweeteners



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*This Dinner is open to any one that is interested in model railroading or trains in general.*

Please retain this part for your information

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 Make Checks payable to: **Railfest**

Print your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Please list and Print all Attending

**Mail to:**

Tom Pescha  
 3942 E, 364th St.  
 Willoughby, Ohio 44094

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Return this part



Please return this part only



# RAILFEST 2019

Saturday and Sunday

## March 16 & 17, 2019

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#### 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)*

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RR Flea market

Exhibitors

Operating Layouts

Video Tapes  
Historical Displays  
Train Ride Info

Food Service Available

ATM

#### 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



## Free Parking

**Free Shuttle Bus**  
9:30am – 4:30pm

Presented by



## National Model Railroad Association

### MCR – Division 5 Event

Since 1987 at Lakeland

Visit us at [www.railfest.org](http://www.railfest.org)

Facebook at [www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow](http://www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow)



Largest continuous running two day train show in OHIO!



# Minor Changes in Box Lunch Menu

# RAILFEST 2019



## Box Lunch UPDATED MENU

This year we will once again be offering Box Lunches. These will be delivered to the main show lobby for your pick-up.

You will have the following choices of Box Lunches:

1. Italian Sub;
2. Turkey & Cheese on Kaiser roll;
3. Veggie Wrap or
4. **Special** St. Patty Day Lunch of Corn Beef Sandwich with Potato Salad, chips and Cookie for \$10.00



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 Willoughby, Ohio 44094  
 If you have any questions, Call Tom at 216-470-5780



Please retain this part for your information

Your order must be received by **March 4**

*Cut and Return*

*Cut and Return*

### Box Lunch Order Form

Business Name / Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Return **ONLY** this part back to Tom Pescha

<b>S A T</b>	Italian Sub \$8.00 each _____	Turkey & Cheese \$8.00 each _____	Veggie Wrap \$8.00 each _____	Corn Beef \$10.00 each _____
	<b>S U N</b>	Italian Sub \$8.00 each _____	Turkey & Cheese \$8.00 each _____	Veggie Wrap \$8.00 each _____

Flyer-BL-2019 Box Lunch 12-11-18

Return **ONLY** this part back to Tom Pescha

Please return this part only

**Lakeland College** has dropped the **Pasta Salad** from the Railfest Box Lunch Menu and are only offering **Potato Salad**, but they have added a **Corn Beef sandwich** for \$10.00.