



JULY, 2022 VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 7

A PUBLICATION OF
THE WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION
DIVISION 5 — MID CENTRAL REGION — NMRA



THIS MONTH:

July

No Meeting in July

July

No BOD Meeting in July

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Super Reflections July 2022

No July Meeting - August Meeting At Home Of Bill Osborne

Our August Division 5 membership meeting will be held at the home of Bill Osborne in Leroy Township, OH, just a short way from the intersection of I-90 and Vrooman Road. It will be an abbreviated meeting. There won't be a Bring 'n' Brag at this meeting nor a raffle. We will have pizza, chips, cookies, and soft drinks for the refreshments. The program will consist of viewing Bill's large collection of prototype railroad signals, checking out the progress on his HO layout, and then the main attraction, outdoor movie night! We will view several prototype railroad videos on Bill's large backyard screen. Further details are in the Trainwire.

NMRA Response To Division 5 Letter About Dues Issues

We received a response from the NMRA President to our letter outlining issues we had with the April 2022 NMRA dues increases. Mike Carovac and I are still "digesting" the response. We don't feel a number of things we identified were really addressed. We also disagree with several of the conclusions/decisions that the NMRA has made. We will be putting together our response to the NMRA's response and sending that back to the NMRA President.

Railroads In The Parks Went Very Well

Even though Division 5 was not a part of

the activities or displays at Lake Metro-parks' Railroads In The Parks weekend, many of our members did participate via the various modular layout groups that they belong to. The event went very well and there were more people there than I ever remember in past years. Farmpark representatives said they had 2000 people visit over the weekend. It would have been a great time to advertise our Model Rail-roading Promotional Day but we didn't have anything prepared.

My Past Month Modeling Work

I didn't get much done this past month on my railroad. I've been spending most of my time outside working in the yard. However, I mentioned to Wayne Lette how I was planning to control my staging yard turnouts using an Arduino microprocessor and he decided to take the project on himself. He has spent the last three weeks working on the software to control my various staging yard towers (north, mid, and south) so that the turnouts can be controlled from multiple locations and wire-lessly transmit the status to the other towers. I still have to do the work of building the tower panels and wiring everything, but Wayne created the heart of the system. Its nice to have friends that jump in to help! Thanks Wayne!

Remember, no meeting in July. Have a safe and happy July 4th holiday. Join us in-person at our August meeting for outdoor movie night. See you down the line.

Matt

MEETINGS & EVENTS

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

No Division or BOD meetings in July

UPCOMING Events

(GO TO WWW.CLEVESHOWS.COM FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF SHOWS)

July 9 Model Train Flea Market

Painesville Railroad Museum
475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077
10:00 am to 3:00 pm Adm. Free
Phone: 216-470-5780
Donations Accepted and Appreciated

July 23 & 24 Van Wert Railroad Heritage Weekend Show & Swap

Van Wert County Fairgrounds
1055 S Washington St., Van Wert, OH
Sat. 10-4 & Sun. 10-3 Adm. \$6.00
Phone: 260-760-1666

BUSINESSES ACCEPTING DIVISION 5 CERTIFICATES

Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys	Willoughby, Ohio
Hobby Town USA	Mentor, Ohio
Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters	Madison, Ohio
The Painesville Railroad Museum	Painesville, Ohio



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NMRA

WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION GROUP

MINUTES

Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2022

The June 3, 2022, membership meeting was held at Lake Metroparks' Farmpark auditorium. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Matt Kross. 14 members and two guests were present.

No membership meeting in July.

The BOD will decide at its June 13th meeting whether we will have a Division picnic this year.

August meeting will be our annual outdoor movie night at the home of Bill Osborne in Leroy Township, OH. Details will be in the Trainwire.

September meeting will be at Hambden Town Hall. Program on Pennsylvania Railroad by Dave Hanna. Bring 'n' Brag theme will be anything Pennsylvania Railroad.

Indy Junction 2022 convention went well and enjoyed by attendees.

Reviewed upcoming events and shows

NMRA Gateway 2022 Convention – Aug 7 – 13

2023 MCR convention in Pittsburgh (Cranberry Township) has its online registration open. At PA Turnpike and I-79. Doubletree hotel by Hilton. \$114 a night with free parking. Division 4 is putting in a bid for the 2024 MCR convention.

Painesville Depot is still working on getting their boxcar delivered and installed. Targeting mid to late June. Also, they are ready to break ground on their new engine barn.

Reviewed a few highlights of the recent MCR BOD meeting. Some of the items that came up at the MCR BOD meeting were: V scale, which stands for Virtual scale. This includes those people who do all their model railroading using train simulators. This appears to be a growing group. Everything they do is on the computer. They never build any physical models or layouts. A group that we may need to start considering how to include them in the NMRA. MCR nominating process has started for next year's elections. If you are interested in running for a region office, get your name submitted to the MCR Nominating Committee. Division 7 will be holding a mini-meet in August. MCR annual membership meeting will be held online via Zoom on Friday, June 24, 2022.

The NMRA President sat in on the meeting. He said he would respond within two weeks to the Division 5 letter to him about issues with the recent NMRA dues increase. We received the letter from the NMRA President today and have not had a chance to really review it. A few things we did see was the reasoning for forcing everyone to get the digital version of the magazine. He said they sent out a survey and only 5% of the respondents said they didn't want the magazine. Based on this, they decided that everyone should get the magazine. He also said issues with dropping membership in our local division is our responsibility. Regarding our complaint that information about the dues increase was not well publicized, he listed several e-letters that were e-mailed to NMRA members that contained information about the dues increase. We will check these, but we believe they only talked about general percentage increases without any specifics. Regarding the cost of the NMRA digital magazine, he stated that the NMRA BOD felt the magazine had to be professionally done and that costs money. Thus the \$14 cost per member for the digital magazine.

Regarding other organizations that provide a digital publication for free, the NMRA President claims these are different types of organizations from the NMRA and therefore you can't compare them. He also said NMRA membership is growing. We don't think they will see the affects of the recent dues increase for about a year as members decide not to renew.

Still need a meeting program for December.

Taxes for last year have been filed.

Renewed our certificate of incorporation with the State of Ohio.

Items for the Good Of The Order:

Al's Trains & Hobby in Bedford, OH has closed

Good company that provides paper structure kits (info will be in Trainwire)

Lake Metroparks Tremendous Trains program at Penitentiary Glen on June 22

Bring & Brag: Theme – Weathered Box Cars and Tank Cars

Bill Berger

Dave Metzger

Mike Rudder

Rich Kacprzak

Matt Kross

Dennis Lloyd

Linda Kacprzak

Program: Mike Carovac did a presentation on various weathering materials

Submitted by

Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk

BOD Meeting 13 June 2022

A Division 5 BOD meeting was held on June 13, 2022. The meeting was held online using Zoom. In attendance were Matt Kross, Mike Carovac, Bryan Persing, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Ray Newnes, Linda Kacprzak, Dennis Lloyd, Chuck Limbert, and Paul Liberatore.

Members in Division volunteer positions have been contacted and are willing to continue for another term with the exception of one Director who would like to have someone else fill their position.

The Superintendent is actively searching for a replacement. Also, there are several Division positions remain unfilled. These are Tripmaster and Promo Day Coordinator.

Discussed whether to have a Division picnic this year. The decision was to hold a picnic, providing we can find an appropriate location. The timeframe will be in August or September. The Superintendent will contact the Painesville Depot to see if they would be willing to host the picnic again. If so, the details will be the same as they were last year.

Reviewed some of the highlights from the recent MCR BOD meeting. Indy Junction 2022 convention went very well. 2023 MCR convention in Pittsburgh has its online registration open. 2024 MCR convention will be hosted by Division 4. Possible multi-region convention in 2025.

Discussed the response of the NMRA President to our letter outlining concerns about the April 2022 NMRA dues increases. There are several issues with items in the response to us and the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will put together a letter back to the NMRA President discussing those issues.

Discussed ideas for attracting new members and retaining existing members. One suggestion was to reinstitute and modify our membership subsidies. In the past, we have subsidized a portion of a new member's dues during certain events like Railfest. It was suggested we remove the restriction of this only being available during specific events and make it available all year long. Also, it was suggested that we extend this to subsidize active member renewals with various restrictions. We would need to define what "active member" means for this policy. It would probably require some level of attendance at Division meetings/events as well as helping out at Railfest. More thought needs to be put into this and we need to check that it doesn't violate any of our Regulations. Another suggestion was to reinstitute Division modules of some sort. The Division had its highest membership when the Division HO module group was very active. It was suggested maybe the Division could support T-Trak modules in multiple scales. We would need to see if there is any interest in this with existing members since we would need them to get things started to attract new members. Again, more thought needs to be put into this.

The BOD decided to cancel Promo Day 2022 due to the following: no Promo Day Coordinator, no suitable location lined up, no advance advertising at key events like Railfest or Railroads In The Parks, and not much time before the event to pull things together. Instead, it was decided to push to get a Promo Day Coordinator soon and have them start planning for Promo Day 2023.

There will be no membership meeting in July. For the August meeting, we will again have our outdoor movie night at the home of Bill Osborne. The September meeting will be back at Hambden Town Hall. Reviewed the success of the Division trip on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. Everyone that went on the trip enjoyed it and hoped the Division would host more trips like this. Some suggestions for other trips were a ride on the Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad or a visit to the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum near Washington, PA. We need someone to volunteer to be our Division Tripmaster to coordinate these trips.

Reviewed a draft revision of the Division 5 Membership Guide document. A number of additional changes were identified. The Clerk will make the additional changes and send out a new revision for the BOD to review.

The BOD approved holding Division 5 layout tours this coming Fall. The current plan is to have the tours in November. We will start soliciting people to have their layouts open for our tours.

Briefly discussed adding another elected position that is not term-limited. Division 1 has a position like this in their Regulations. For our Division, this would probably be either the Clerk or Treasurer position. More thought needs to be put into this and will be discussed at future BOD meetings. In order to do this, we will have to amend our Division Regulations and have the membership vote on the changes.

The next Div 5 BOD meeting will be on Monday, August 8, 2022 at 7:30pm online using Zoom. *(Note: Normally, BOD meetings are held on even numbered months from February to October and then in November and not in December.)*

Submitted by

Matt Kross – Superintendent / temporary Div 5 Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July Trainwire Items

No meeting in July

August Meeting: August 5, 2022 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at home of Bill Osborne
 No Bring 'n' Brag for this meeting
 Program: Watching train videos on outdoor screen; prototype RR signals

September Meeting: September 9, 2022 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
 Bring 'n' Brag: Theme: Anything Pennsylvania Railroad
 Program: Pennsylvania Railroad – Dave Hanna

NOTE: September Meeting Moved To Sep 9th Due To Labor Day Weekend

Division 5 August Outdoor Train Movie Night

In place of our normal monthly meeting in August, we will once again have an outdoor movie night at the home of Bill Osborne in Leroy Township. We will hold a short membership meeting at the beginning, break for refreshments (pizza and chips), and then start watching train videos.

Here are the details:

This will be on our regular August meeting night of August 5, 2022.

This is a Division 5 meeting and sponsored event.

Meeting starts at 7:30pm – movies start after meeting once it gets dark.

Meeting will be brief/condensed.

Meeting program will be the movies as well as viewing Bill's large collection of prototype railroad signals and viewing Bill's HO model railroad.

Bill usually has a collection of interesting videos. If you have something you would like to show at this event, please contact Bill so he can get it set up.

No Bring & Brag at this meeting.

No Raffle at this meeting.

Bring Your Own Chair (lawn chair) (and maybe a blanket, raingear, umbrella, bug spray).

Pizza, packaged chips/cookies, soft drinks, coffee, and water – if you want something else, bring your own.

It is open to Division 5 members and anyone else that wants to come.

Bill's address: 12795 Carter Road, Painesville, OH 44077; phone: 440-254-0107.

(See Map Page 10)

Division 5 August Picnic

We will hold our Division picnic on Saturday, August 27, 2022 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the Painesville Railroad Museum. The food will be the standard museum offerings. This event is for Division 5 members and their families/guests. Please plan to join us. No RSVP is necessary. Just show up. Hopefully we will see some trains!

When: Saturday, August 27, 2022 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Where: The Painesville Railroad Museum, 475 Railroad Street, Painesville, OH 44077
Who: Division 5 members and their families/guests
Cost: Free to Division 5 members and their families/guests
Food: Normal Museum offerings: hamburgers and hot dogs, water, soft drinks. We will also have some packaged chips and cookies.

(See Map Page 10)

Miscellaneous Interesting Or Useful Items**From member Paul Emch:**

Paul says the Reading & Northern Railroad's R&N magazine is really worth the read. You can find a free online copy at:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/52545d1ce4b0183a5e0ec3b6/t/6269a65737caa619cd8a07a1/1651091036896/RBMN_2022SpringMagazine-FINAL-webspreads.pdf

Paul also mentioned that, in regards to the topic of British / UK models that came up at a previous meeting, Alister Lee has an interesting website/newsletter, a sample of which is below:

https://modelrailwaylayoutsplans.com/ho-town/?inf_contact_key=bcea3bbc7a6baf0c182609636e73833516358d5485884e2f31e6019a0d26c8b0

From former member Paul Chapple:

Please, let folks know that my favorite card kit source while it's in Australia accepts Pay Pal and credit cards for purchases from the USA. AND TWO OTHER IMPORTANT POINTS FIRST: They always have "freebies" you can download. AND SECOND remember you Can/Should adjust your printer so the size of your printout matches the scale your modeling. For example in your case the N scale version you actually download is British N scale and you will need to adjust your printer to give you the US :N" scale size. And the OO version will need to be reduced to HO size. I think you will find the website gives your guidance on this as well – very user-friendly! The owner is a great guy and was always willing to give us a "Free-One" when I asked him for something for a Division event.

Currently I think he also has 2 free kits on-line!! The web Address is: www.scalescenes.com

REMEMBER: You can print as many copies as you like of any of the models – including the FREE ones!

I strongly recommend this – give it a try!

Any Interest In Restarting Division Modules?

Division 5 had its largest number of members back when the Division's HO module group was going strong. We will be doing a survey of the Division 5 membership to see if there is interest in having some sort of Division modules again. There would definitely be changes to the type of modules and how the Division supports them. The BOD is considering having members build T-Trak modules in various scales to have for various events to attract new members to the Division. We have Division members that have built a number of N scale T-Trak modules. The T-Trak standard is not just for N scale. There are T-Trak standards for Z, HO, S, and O gauge. The advantage of T-Trak is that they are smaller modules and much lighter, making them easier to handle by older model railroaders. We will be asking you for your thoughts about doing this. Besides having an online Division 5 survey, we will probably take time to discuss this possible project during one of our meetings this Fall. So, start thinking about it. You might want to check out this Model Railroader article: <https://www.trains.com/mrr/news-reviews/news/t-trak-provides-a-great-way-to-get-started-with-model-railroading/>. Some NMRA documentation on general T-Trak modules: https://www.nmra.org/sites/default/files/t-trak_documentation-september_19_2019_final.pdf.

Fall Layout Tours – Need Layouts

We will be having Division 5 layout tours in the Fall. At this point, we are planning to have them over two weekends in November during National Model Railroading Month. We need members and friends to open up their layouts for the tours. If you would be willing to have your layout open as part of the tours, please let Matt Kross know (Super@mcr5.org or 440-668-9462). Also, if you know someone that has a layout that is not a Division 5 member, contact them to see if they would be willing to be on the tours. If so, send their contact information to Matt.

Promo Day 2022 Cancelled

The BOD decided to cancel Promo Day 2022 due to the following: no Promo Day Coordinator, no suitable location lined up, no advance advertising at key events like Railfest or Railroads In The Parks, and not much time before the event to pull things together. Instead, it was decided to push to get a Promo Day Coordinator soon and have them start planning for Promo Day 2023. We need to have all the details in place for Promo Day 2023 by January 2023 so that we can properly advertise the event.

Promo Day 2023 Coordinator Needed

The Promo Day Coordinator position is currently open. **We really need someone to step forward and take over this position.** This year's Promo Day has been cancelled but we need to start planning now for Promo Day 2023. We need to line-up a place to hold the event. We also need to revisit how the event is run. We are looking for new ideas on how to show the public various model railroading techniques. If you are interested with helping in this area, please contact Matt Kross.

PA N-scale Weekend

The 2022 N-Scale Weekend in Altoona, PA will be held on September 17 & 18 at the Blair County Convention Center in Altoona.

Register For 2023 MCR Convention In Pittsburgh

Register now for the 2023 MCR convention. You can find information about the convention by going to MCR Division 2's website. <https://www.keystonedivision.org/convention/index.html>

The Convention will be from May 4 through 7, 2022, at the Doubletree by Hilton at Cranberry, 910 Sheraton Drive, Mars, PA, 16046.

EVERYTHING YOU WANT IN A GREAT CONVENTION, AND MORE!

Clinics - Tours - Contests - Non-Rail Activities - Layout Tours - Banquet - White Elephant Tables - Door Prizes - Railfanning

The convention hotel, the Doubletree by Hilton at Cranberry is conveniently located within easy access to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate-79 just north of Pittsburgh. You can visit the city, see Station Square, ride the Duquesne or Monongahela Inclines, railfan and enjoy the area. You are just 15 minutes from Norfolk Southern Mainline and 20 minutes from CSX Mainline.

Div 7 Triple Clinic Mini Meet

Noon-4:30 pm - Sun, Aug 21, 2022

Horsepower Farm, Middleton, OH

Division 7 invites everyone to a special Triple Clinic Mini Meet on Sunday, August 21, 2022 from Noon to 4:30+ pm at Horsepower Farm at 2227 Trinity Dr., Middletown OH 45044. Special guest Rich Mahaney will present all 3 clinics, entitled "Quick Industries For Your Model Railroad", "Great Northern Railway from Skykomish, WA to Shelby, MT", "1950's Reefer Car Layout Ops on Model Railroads". See website for details: <https://cincy-div7.org/events.html>

Doors open at 11:30 am to enter the popular vote contest (open to all NMRA members) and to preview the vintage car collection. The event starts promptly at Noon. Hot dog lunch and bottled water will be served after the first clinic. We'll skip the raffle, company store and video library at this event, leaving more time for fellowship and touring the vintage cars.

Division 12 Mini-Meet

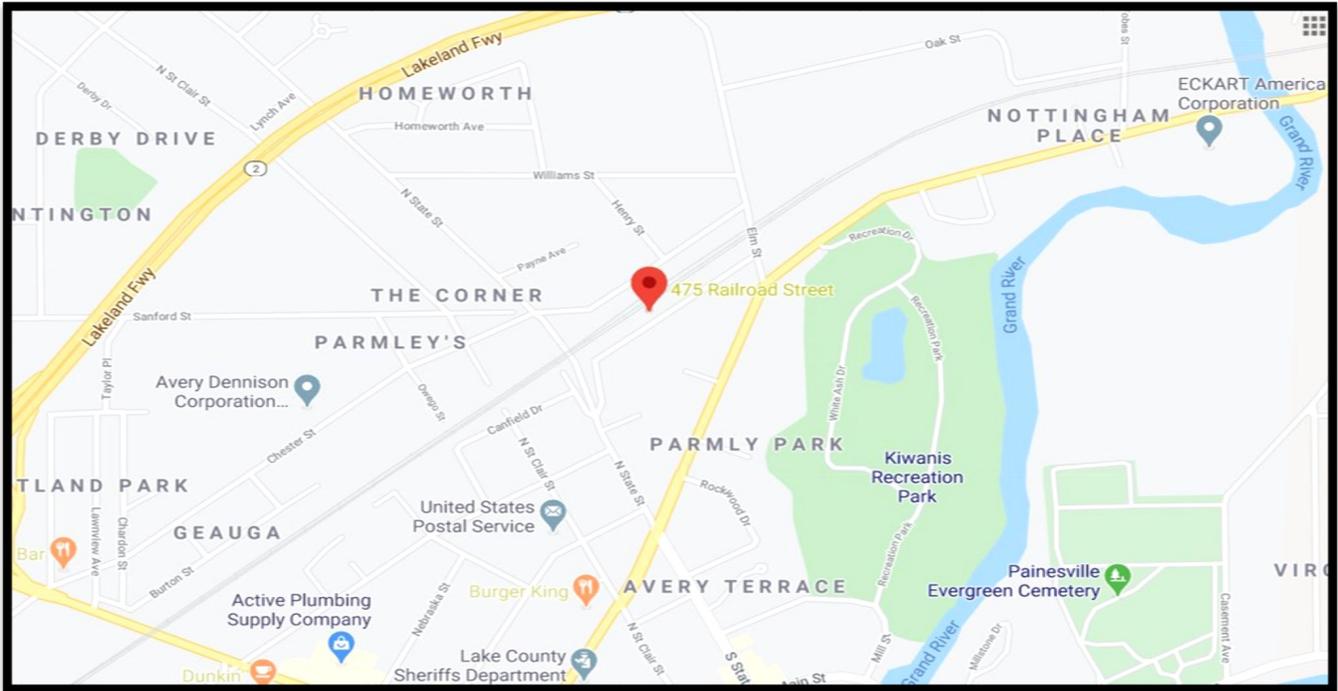
Online registration for the Division 12 2022 Mini-Meet is now live on the Division website: <https://www.div12mcr.org/mini-meet/registration/> <https://www.div12mcr.org/mini-meet/>

Request for Clinicians

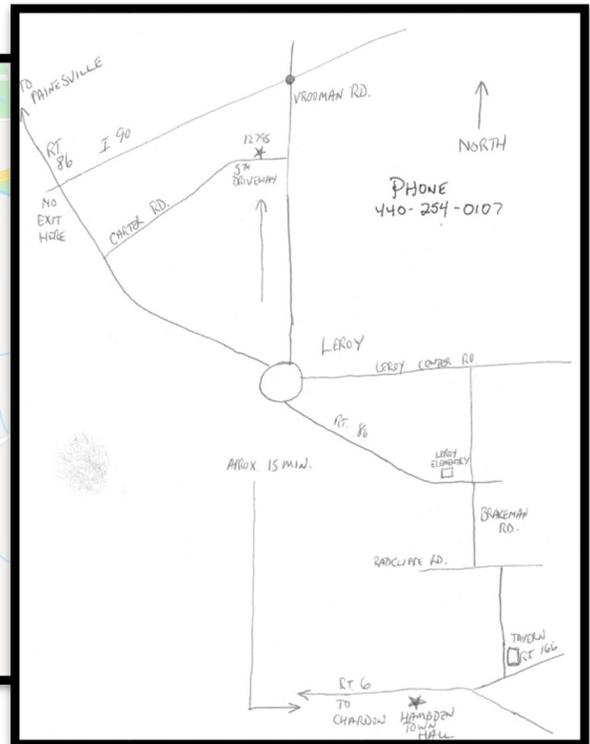
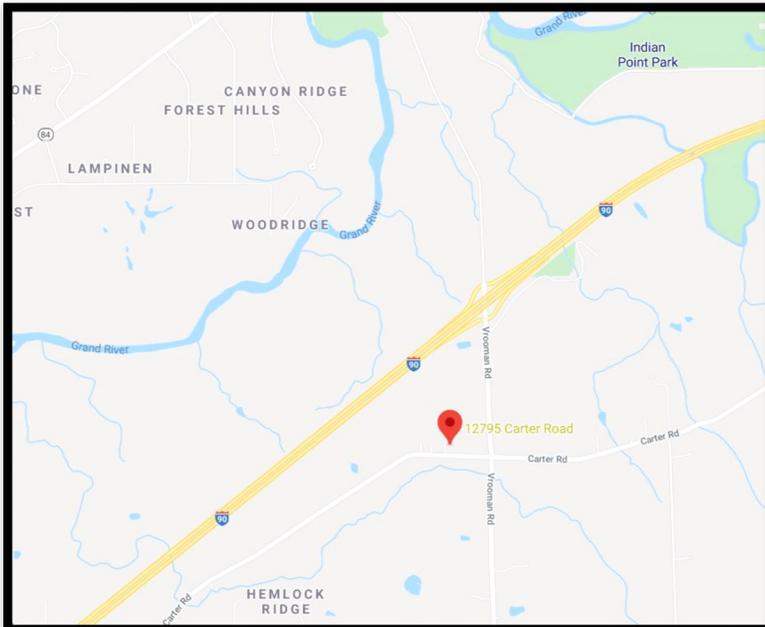
The planning committee for the 2022 Division 12, Mid Central Region Mini Meet is looking for clinicians. We are looking for a variety of topics from prototype modeling, modeling methods, empire building, electronics, and well, you name it. Submitted clinics will be selected based on subject needs, timeliness, and the number of clinic slots.

The convention is being held at the Ambassador Center in Erie, Pennsylvania September 10th, 2022. The center will feature two well-lit clinic rooms with tables for clinicians and participants alike. The Ambassador was the site of our successful Mini-Meet in 2019. Contact Doug Sandmeyer at doug.sandmeyer@gmail.com for more information and the submission form. Visit the *Division 12* website at <https://www.div12mcr.org/mini-meet/>

Painesville Depot



Bill Osborne



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division 5 NMRA - 2022 Program Schedule and Events

Meetings begin at 7:30PM Dates, programs and speakers can change

Month	Program	Speaker	Bring & Brag	Events
June	Weathering Materials	Mike Carovac	Weathered Box Cars and Tank Cars	
July		No Meeting		
August	TBA	TBA	TBA	NMRA Gateway
September	Pennsylvania Railroad	Dave Hanna	Anything Pennsylvania RR	
October	Mad River	Ray Newnes	Scenic Details or Structures	
November	Operations	Andy Yedlick	Western Railroads or Narrow Gauge	
December			Anything Christmas	

TOY-N-HOBBY

Headquarters

6588 North Ridge Road • Madison, Ohio 44057

(440) 466-0696

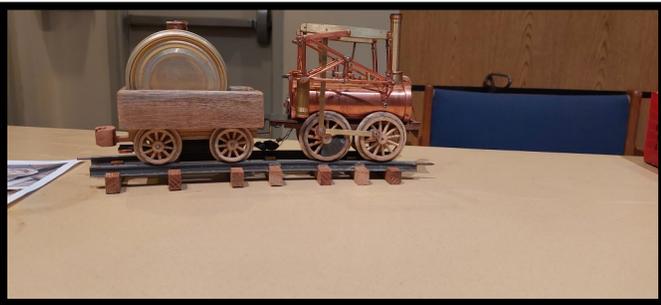
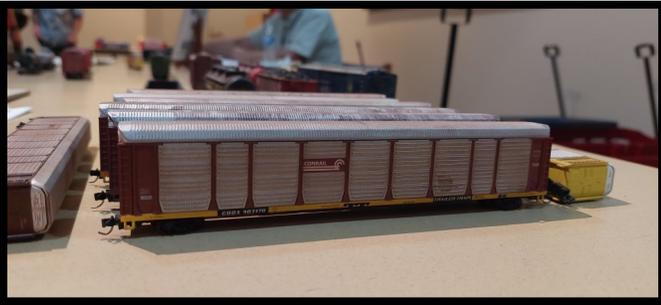
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Bring & Brag



Recent Events

Railroads in the Park



Steam in the Valley





Division 5 Officers (Terms expire June 2024)

Superintendent	Matt Kross	440-668-9462 Super@mcr5.org
Asst. Superintendent	Mike Carovac	440-497-8536 AstSuper@mcr5.org

Division 5 Directors (Terms expire June 2024)

Dennis Lloyd	440-352-7081	BOD@mcr5.org
Chuck Limbert	440-357-1864	BOD@mcr5.org
Ray Newnes	216-312-2132	BOD@mcr5.org
Linda Kacprzak	440-286-9690	BOD@mcr5.org

Division 5 Appointed Positions (Terms expire June 2024)

Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075 Treasurer@mcr5.org
Clerk	Matt Kross	440-668-9462 Clerk@mcr5.org
Railfest Chairman	Jim Wendorf	440-357-8890 Railfest@mcr5.org
Promo Day Coordinator		PromoDay@mcr5.org
Achievement Program	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519 AP@mcr5.org
Trip Master		Tripmaster@mcr5.org
Auditors	Dennis Lloyd Chuck Limbert	440-352-7081 Audit@mcr5.org
Trainwire Editor	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519 Trainwire@mcr5.org
Refreshments	Chuck Limbert Paul Emch	Refreshments@mcr5.org
Membership Roster Layout Tours	Matt Kross	440-668-9462 Membership@mcr5.org
Webmaster	Wayne Lette	440-298-3075 Webmaster@mcr5.org
Company Store	Ted Wiese	440-256-5212 CompanyStore@mcr5.org
Program, Bring & Brag	Mike Carovac	440-497-8536

WANTED

The Trainwire is always looking for an interesting article. If you have taken a trip lately, seen something interesting trackside, have a particular viewpoint on a railroad subject or just want to participate in the members profile; 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 write your article and send them to the Editor by email.

NOTICE

I work on the Trainwire throughout the month and publish it around the 20th. If you absolutely need something in the next Trainwire issue please send it as soon as possible or let me know to hold space for you. Many times space allotted for certain items may already be spoken for. However, if you send items in early I can rearrange the format. Also when items are submitted I will inform you that I received them and when to look for them in the Trainwire.

THE TRAINWIRE NEWSLETTER

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JULY, 2022 EDITION

DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (57)

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 2860 Loreto Drive Willoughby Hills, Ohio 44094 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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