

TRAINWIRE



DECEMBER, 2022 VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 12

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



THIS MONTH:

Friday December 2
Div Meeting @ 7:30
Hamden Town Hall

Saturday December 3
Division Trip 9:30-6:00
Western Pennsylvania
Model Railroad Museum

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Super Reflections December 2022

Join Us On Our Trip To The Western PA Model RR Museum

If you haven't been to the Western Pennsylvania Model Railroad Museum you are in for a real treat if you join us for our Division 5 trip there on Saturday, December 3. Details are in the Trainwire. If you are going, please make sure you either fill out the Division 5 electronic survey that was sent out or contact Matt Kross (440-668-9462) to provide the needed information.

Happy Holidays!

I hope you and your family were able to get together for Thanksgiving. Wishing you Happy Holidays from now through New Years Day! Hopefully you are good at hinting to family members what is on your model railroading wish list. Try to spend some of your time off working on your layout or building a model. While you spend time with family during the holidays, try to show the kids what model railroading is all about. Keep working on getting the younger generation interested in trains.

My Past Month Modeling Work

I am looking at replacing my DCC system. I have been using CVP Products Easy DCC for over 15 years but I have been having numerous problems with the handheld throttles lately. Some of the buttons seem to wear out while some of the controllers have just died on me. This has started the dilemma of picking a different DCC system. I thought I was going to go with NCE but several people said Digitrax has made a lot of nice changes in the last few years and I should take a closer look. Reading opinions online, some people are saying that the new TCS DCC is going to be really nice and it would be best to wait and get that system. Decisions, decisions! So many things to consider. Feel free to send me your opinions. Everyone else does!

Join us in-person at our December 2nd meeting. See you down the line.

Matt

MEETINGS & EVENTS

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

DECEMBER 2, 2022

DIVISION MEETING

LOCATION:

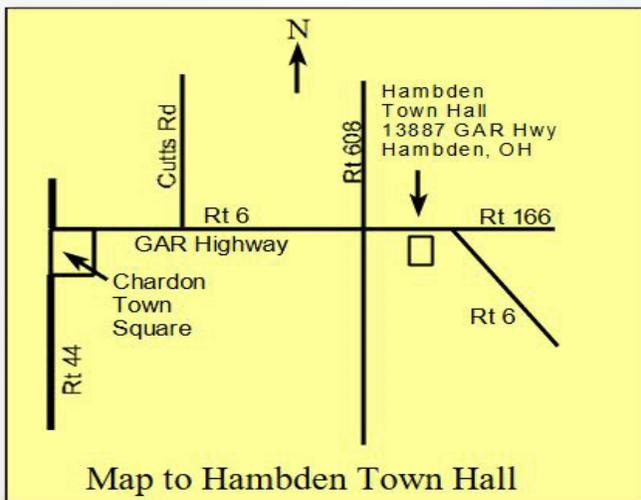
HAMB DEN TOWN HALL
13887 GAR HIGHWAY

PROGRAM:

Christmas Trains
– Mike Carovac

BRING & BRAG:

Anything Christmas



Map to Hambden Town Hall

UPCOMING Events

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

December 4

Medina Train and Toy Show
Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256
9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00
Phone: 330-948-4400

December 11

Massillon Train & Toy Show
K of C Hall, 988 Cherry Rd. NW, Massillon, Ohio
10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$5.00
Phone: 330-262-7488

January 1

Mansfield Train Show
Fairhaven Hall, Richland County Fairgrounds
750 N. Home Rd., Mansfield, Ohio 44906
10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$7.00
Phone: 419-606-7934

January 7

Snow Dogs Train Show
Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association
UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio
10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00

January 8

Youngstown Model Railroad Assn. Train Show
Salem Center Plex
1098 N. Ellsworth Ave., Salem, Ohio 44460
10 am to 3:30pm Adm. \$7.00
Phone: 330-718-1057

January 28

Train Collectors Association Show
UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd., Parma, Ohio
10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00
Phone: 330-273-6404

MINUTES

Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2022

The November 4, 2022, membership meeting was held at Hambden Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Matt Kross. 16 members and one guest were present.

October Division 5 layout tours were poorly attended by Division 5 members.

The Division is putting together a trip to visit the Western Pennsylvania Model Railroad Museum in Gibsonia, PA. An electronic survey was e-mailed to Division members to determine what dates would work the best. The plan is to carpool. We will leave around 9am and return around 6pm. Final details will be in the December Trainwire and e-mailed to members.

If you are not receiving the Division survey e-mails, contact the webmaster. Make sure your e-mail address listed on the Division 5 members only section of the website is the correct e-mail address.

There is a problem with some e-mail providers not delivering messages that they think is spam. We do not have any control over that.

We will be having a Division Holiday Party on Saturday, January 7, 2023. The location still needs to be finalized but most likely will be Hambden Town Hall. Dennis Lloyd volunteered to be the party coordinator.

Reviewed the status of Division 5 Railfest 2023 planning. Everything is still on track. Invitations to dealers will not be sent out until the end of November which is our standard schedule. Table prices were raised by \$1. The gate price will stay the same since it has already been published.

Reviewed schedule of upcoming local train shows and events.

At the December membership meeting, we will have a presentation on the 2023 MCR convention which will be held in Cranberry Township, PA, just north of Pittsburgh.

Reviewed some of the highlights of the October Division 5 BOD meeting. Minutes of the meeting were published in the November Trainwire.

We are going to do a survey of the membership to see if members want to change the day/time that we hold our monthly meetings. At this point, we are just trying to gage the members' desires. No changes are currently planned.

We have meeting programs through at least February 2023. We have a couple of potential programs but are always looking for more to fill out the year. If you have a program you can present at a monthly meeting, please contact Mike Carovac.

Submissions for the Trainwire are always needed and welcomed. You can write about a convention you went to, a layout or museum you visited, a modeling technique you tried, a new product you used, etc.

The Mod Squad 3-rail O modular layout group thanked the Division for the grant we awarded them several years ago that helped them get started. Membership in their group is really growing and they are doing a lot more setups at train shows.

Division 1 is going to implement both N and HO versions of T-Trak modules.

Items for the Good Of The Order:

November is Model Railroading Month so try to do something to promote the hobby.

MINUTES

Bring & Brag: Theme – Western Railroads or Narrow Gauge

Bill Berger

Dave Metzger

Mike Rudder

Dennis Lloyd

Linda Kacprzak

Bryan Persing

Program: Andy Yedlick showed pictures he took while railfanning during the 1970's.

Submitted by Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk

BOD Meeting 14 Nov 2022

A Division 5 BOD meeting was held on November 14, 2022. The meeting was held online using Zoom. In attendance were Matt Kross, Mike Carovac, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Linda Kacprzak, Dennis Lloyd, and Chuck Limbert.

Contract with Lakeland Community College has been signed for Railfest 2023.

We will try to have a Zoom presentation on the MCR 2023 Convention at the December meeting.

Meeting programs are in place through April 2023.

Survey results for best date to go to the Western Pennsylvania Model Railroad Museum indicated that Saturday, December 3, 2022 was best. Plan is to carpool from the Walmart parking lot in Chardon and meet at a fast-food place near the museum, have lunch, and then proceed to the museum.

Details will be in the December Trainwire.

Holiday party planning is in process. Date is set for Saturday, January 7, 2023. Still determining where it will be held. The event will be free for each Division member and one guest. Social time will start at 12:00pm, meal will start at 1:00pm, program will start around 2:00pm. We will need members to RSVP by mid-December so that we have a count for food. We are looking at some program alternatives. We will still have the Losers Raffle but will not have the Chinese Gift Exchange.

Suggested that we look into the Geauga Park District activities to see if we can somehow be included to set up a train display for one of their events. The event would need to have some relationship to trains and have enough people attending, especially kids, to make our display worthwhile. The event would have to have a facility with enough room for us to set up a layout or display.

A number of other MCR divisions were having an online discussion about the benefit of having a test track at their division table. The most successful test tracks had many different scales and control systems. Division 5 may want to consider building such a test track. This could be a Division construction project and teaching experience.

Along with the test track discussion, divisions were also discussing experiences where dealers were taking advantage of young or inexperienced model railroaders and selling them "junk". Some divisions were wondering if they should put together a guide for parents and new model railroaders with tips on what to look for when buying used trains. This discussion of a guide opened up all sorts of issues. The main overall result of the discussion was that a convenient test track at a show will help people see if the item they want to buy works or not.

MINUTES

Bonnie Lette and Linda Kacprzak talked to the Thompson, OH library manager about the possibility of holding our Division 5 Model Railroad Promotional Day there. He was very open to the idea and indicated what space in the library they could make available for us to use. Some advantages of holding Promo Day there are: it would be free to use, they would do free advertising for us through the Geauga County Library publications, nice new facility with plenty of parking, and we would draw people from a different area than our previous events. The library would still be open for normal business from 9am to 5pm so there are a few restrictions such as not blocking access to the various bookshelves but they have no problem with the noise level that would occur from all the clinics going on. There is enough space that we could have about 9 clinic stations along with various displays and a small T-Trak layout. To use their advertising, we need to have information to them by about April if we are holding our event in November. It was also mentioned that the Bainbridge, OH library was even more space and could be a possibility in the future. We will need to make a decision on this at our February BOD meeting. We may want to reconsider when we hold our Promo Day. We have typically held the event on the first Saturday in November but this is not a requirement and November is turning into a very busy month. We will tentatively target mid-October 2023 for our next Promo Day.

The Division 5 brochure needs to be updated and copies made. We need to provide copies to the LENS and Mod Squad modular groups for them to have available. We need to do a better job of keeping track of leftover Div 5 brochures and other promotional materials when tearing down after a show. We keep losing our extra copies. Need to make the membership aware of this problem.

Still need to put out a survey to the membership to see if there is a desire to change the monthly meeting day/time. We will wait until we get the feedback from the survey to see if we want to try changing when we hold our monthly membership meeting. If we have our meetings on Saturday or Sunday afternoons, there are alternative meeting locations we could use.

The next Div 5 BOD meeting will be on Monday, February 13, 2023 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



Follow us on
Facebook

NMRA

WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION GROUP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December Trainwire Items

December Meeting: December 2, 2022 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
 Bring ‘n’ Brag: Theme: Anything Christmas
 Program: Christmas Trains – Mike Carovac

January Meeting: No Membership Meeting – Division Holiday Party instead

Holiday Party: January 7, 2023 (Saturday)
 Location: Hambden Town Hall
 Time: 12:00pm – social time
 1:00pm – lunch
 2:00pm - program

February Meeting: February 3, 2023 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
 Bring ‘n’ Brag: Theme: Gondola Loads
 Program: Gondola Loads – Dennis Lloyd

Promo Day 2023 Coordinator Still Urgently 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.

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 |



PLEASE SUPPORT THESE DEALERS!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trip To Western PA Model RR Museum

We have put together a trip to the Western PA Model Railroad Museum in Gibsonia, PA, north of Pittsburgh, on Saturday, December 3, 2022. A Division 5 survey was e-mailed to members on November 22, 2022 for you to indicate if you are going, how many guests you are bringing, and whether you want to be part of the carpool. If you plan to go on the trip, you need to fill out the survey so that we have a count of people and can work on putting a carpool together.

Warning: In order to view the museum's layout, a lot of walking is involved. Also, you will need to walk up a flight of stairs to get to the upper floor where the layout is located. We might be able to drive you around the building to the upper entrance to eliminate the stairs.

Carpool meeting location: Chardon Walmart Parking Lot
223 Meadowlands Drive, Chardon, OH 44024
Meet in the rear of the parking lot around the center.
Look for a beige SUV and Matt Kross wearing a yellow vest

If you do not have e-mail or did not get the e-mail for the Div 5 survey, please call Matt Kross (440-668-9462) to provide the needed details.

Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022
Where: Western Pennsylvania Model Railroad Museum
5507 Lakeside Drive
Gibsonia, PA 15044
Times: Meet at Chardon Walmart parking lot between 9:00am and 9:30am
Leave from Chardon Walmart parking lot at 9:30am
Meet at McDonalds on PA Rt. 8 just north of the turnpike at 11:45am
(McDonalds, 200 Walmart Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044)
Arrive at museum at 1:00pm
Leave museum around 3:00pm
Arrive back in Chardon around 5:30pm
Cost: Museum fees: Adult \$10; Child \$5
Division 5 will reimburse \$5 for a member and \$5 for one guest either before or after entry to the museum.
If you are carpooling, there will be shared costs for turnpike tolls and gas.

If you do not want to be part of the carpool, either meet the rest of the group at the Gibsonia, PA McDonalds on PA Rt. 8 or meet at the museum at the time specified above.

Google Maps lists the driving time from Chardon to the Gibsonia McDonalds as 2 hours 2 minutes. The museum is only a couple minute drive from the McDonalds.

BRING & BRAG

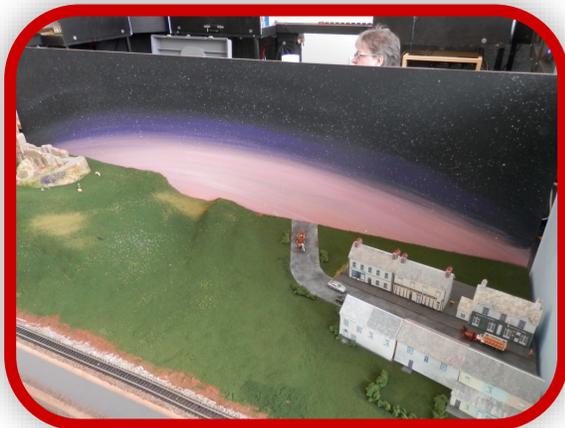


ACTIVITIES

T-Trak and N-Trak weekends at the Thompson Geauga County Library. ~ Linda Kacprzak



ACTIVITIES



Division 5 Officers (Terms expire June 2024)

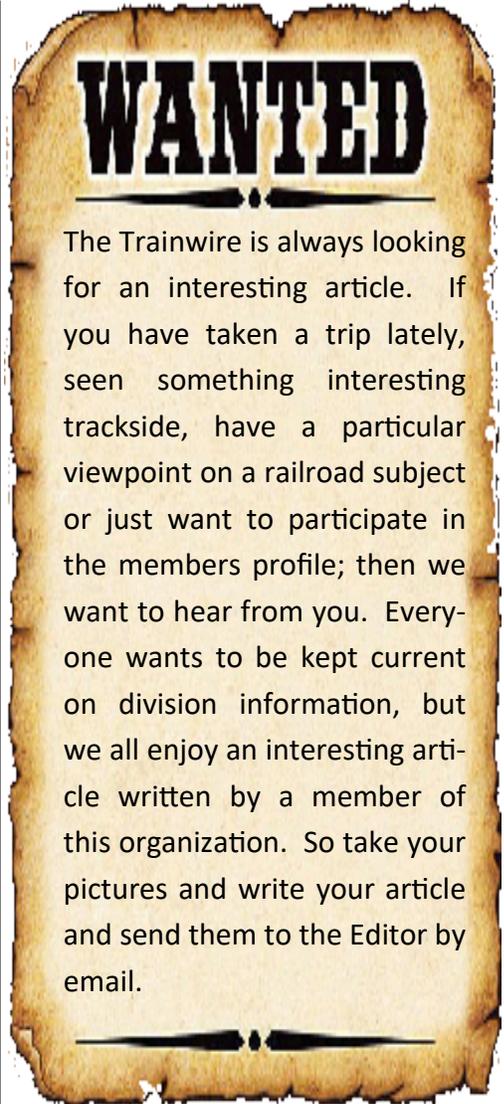
| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Superintendent | Matt Kross | 440-668-9462 Super@mcr5.org |
| Asst. Superintendent | Mike Carovac | 440-497-8536 AstSuper@mcr5.org |

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 |
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| 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 |



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

PUBLICATION OF DIVISION 5
2860 LORETO DRIVE
WILLOUGHBY HILLS, OHIO 44094

DECEMBER, 2022 EDITION

DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (54)

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.



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