

TRAINWIRE



JUNE, 2023 VOLUME XIX ISSUE 5

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



THIS MONTH:

Friday June 9

Division Meeting
Hambden Town Hall
7:30 PM

Monday June 12

BOD Meeting
Via Zoom
7:30 PM

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Super Reflections June 2023

Railroads In The Parks Weekend

Lake Farmpark will be holding its Railroads In The Parks annual event June 3 and 4. Although Division does not play a part in this event, a number of our members do through their involvement with various modular layout groups that set up there. It is a good way to expose the general public to model railroading. We appreciate the effort that the modular layout groups do to educate and entertain the public. For those of you that live in Lake County, admission to Farmpark is free on Sunday, so take a trip out to Kirtland to view the various railroad displays.

Summer Slowdown

Model railroading efforts tend to slow down in the summertime as we emerge from our basements to bask in the sunshine, go on family vacations, and do the inevitable yard work. There are lots of other things to do during nice weather and it is hard to think about model railroading. In fact, Division 5 does not even hold a membership meeting in July. However, we

have some social activities planned. We will have our annual outdoor train movie night and our annual Division family picnic. I hope you will attend these fun events and get to know your fellow Division members and their families.

My Past Month Modeling Work

I didn't do much work on the layout this past month. One thing I did do was to attend the Ohio N-scale Weekend on June 20th. The event was in Marysville, Ohio this year. They had a lot of modular layouts on display including standard N-Trak, T-Trak, Free-mo-N, and several non-standard club designs. They didn't have as many vendors as I would have liked. However, I did find a number of out-of-production items that I have been looking for and I got them at reasonable prices, so I was quite happy I made the trip there.

Join us in-person at our June membership meeting on Friday, June 9, 2023. See you down the line.

Matt

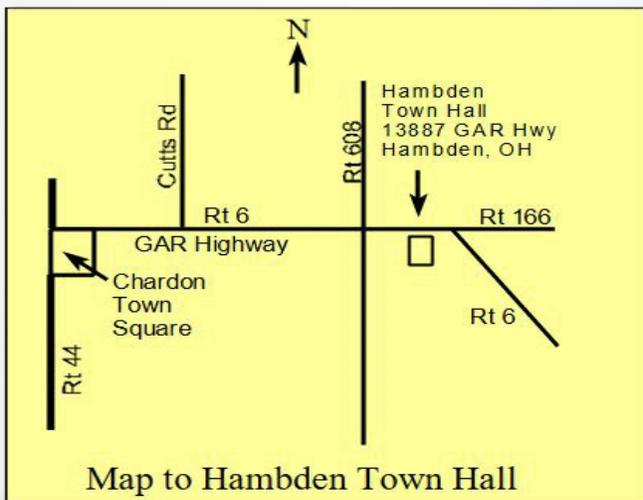
MEETINGS & EVENTS

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

JUNE 9, 2023 DIVISION MEETING
 LOCATION: HAMB DEN TOWN HALL
 13887 GAR HIGHWAY
 PROGRAM: MIKE CAROVAC
 WALLS & FENCES PART 2
 BRING & BRAG: ANYTHING GOES

JUNE 12, 2023 BOD MEETING
 VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM



Map to Hambden Town Hall

UPCOMING Events

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

June 3
 NEO National Large Scale Train Show
 Warren SCOPE (YMCA)
 375 North Park Ave., Warren, Ohio 44481
 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Adm. \$5.00

June 3 & 4
 Railroads in the Park (Lake Farm Park)
 8800 Chardon Road, Kirtland, Ohio
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

June 4
 History of Cleveland,
 Painesville and Eastern Interurban
 Painesville Railroad Museum,
 475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077
 2 pm Adm. Free,
 Donations Accepted and Appreciated

June 24
 Model Train Flea Market
 Painesville Railroad Museum
 475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077
 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Adm. \$5.00 / \$12.00
 Phone: 216-470-5780

July 29
 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

August 26
 Railroad Memorabilia Show
 Painesville Railroad Museum
 475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077
 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Adm. \$5.00 / \$12.00
 Phone: 216-470-5780

MINUTES

Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2023

The May 5, 2023, membership meeting was held at Hambden Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Matt Kross. 18 members and 1 guest were present.

Reviewed upcoming Division 5 meetings and events.

June Div 5 membership meeting pushed back a week to Friday, June 9.

We will have our annual outdoor train movie night at Bill Osborne's home but, unlike in the past, it will not be in place of our regular monthly meeting. It will probably be held on a weekend in July but Bill still needs to determine what date will work the best for him. Stay tuned for details.

We will have our annual Division 5 family picnic on Saturday, August 5, at the Painesville Depot from 10am to 3pm.

Local events reviewed. Painesville Depot's Model Train Day on May 20 and Boy Scout Day on June 3.

They will hold a workshop for the Boy Scout Railroading merit badge during that event. If any Division 5 member would like to assist with this workshop, contact the Painesville Depot. The Depot is also hosting a program on the history of the Cleveland, Painesville & Eastern interurban on June 4. They will also have a fleamarket on June 24 and their Hobo Day on July 29.

MER regional convention in Altoona will be held on Oct 19-22.

NMRA national convention is in the Dallas/Fort Worth area August 20 – 26.

Have gotten several new members in the past few months. Our Division membership is now up to 63 members.

Need meeting programs for the rest of the year starting with the August meeting. We will look into getting some program presenters from other Divisions and have them give the program using Zoom.

Encouraged members to make use of the Buy/Sell/Trade section of the Trainwire.

The Treasurer reported that the Division's 2022 taxes have been filed.

Glad to see Bill Osborne at the meeting as he is recovering from heart surgery.

Still looking for people to provide rides to other Division members that are no longer able to drive themselves.

We would like feedback from members as to what is the maximum trip length (hours) that you are willing to go on. Is it 3, 6, 9, 12, etc. hours? This affects what destinations we will look into for possible Division trips. The trip to the Western PA Model RR Museum took about a total of 7 hours round trip and those that went were happy with that trip. One comment was to keep the travel time to 3 hours or less one way.

A lengthy discussion was held about changing the monthly meeting day/time.

Reviewed results of the member survey we did on this topic.

Discussed the pros and cons of changing.

Discussed possible alternatives.

Laid out where we go from here on this topic.

A summary of the discussion will be put in the Trainwire.

MINUTES

Items for the Good Of The Order:

It is really helpful if Division members RSVP on the website if they are going to attend the monthly meeting. This helps us plan for the amount of refreshments and how to set up the meeting room.

A lot of rail is being replaced on Norfolk Southern in the Lake County area.

Modeling Question:

Why did I get different finish results (one smooth and one rough) when I spray painted two different items with the same spray can on two different days? Suggested that it may be due to differences in humidity and temperature on the two different days.

Bring & Brag: Theme – Something Scratchbuilt

Matt Kross

Bill Osborne

Dave Metzger

Program: Mike Carovac did a presentation on types of fences.

Submitted by Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk

Division 5, MCR, NMRA Presents:

Model Railroad Demonstrations and Displays

October 21, 2023

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

at the Thompson, OH Public Library

located on Rt. 528 5 miles south of I-90

Free and open to everyone!

You will see model displays of various sizes and demonstrations on scenery, electrical, kit- and scratch-building, DCC, and Track & Ballasting.



More Info at: mcr5.org

JUN 3 - 4



RAILROADS IN THE PARK

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

FARMPARK

All things trains: models, displays, and exhibits

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June Trainwire Items

Note Date Change!

June Meeting: June 9, 2023 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
Bring ‘n’ Brag: Theme: none – anything goes
Program: Mike Carovac – Part 2 of Walls and Fences

July: No Meeting In July

August Meeting: August 4, 2023 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
Bring ‘n’ Brag: Theme: TBA
Program: TBA

NOTE - June Meeting Will Be Pushed Back A Week – Mark Your Calendar

Due to Farmpark’s Railroads In The Parks weekend, our June membership meeting will be on Friday June 9 instead of June 2. A lot of our members will be involved with setting up layouts at Farmpark on Friday June 2 which would mean they would miss the meeting if we didn’t change the date.

Promo Day 2023

Promo Day 2023 will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2023 at the Thompson, OH library. Dennis Lloyd is the coordinator for the event. If you would like to help or have a demonstration you would like to put on for the event, please contact Dennis at PromoDay@mcr5.org or 440-352-7081.

Division 5 Annual Family Picnic

We will hold our annual Division 5 family picnic on Saturday, August 5, 2023 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. Hopefully we will see some trains! Please let Matt Kross know if you are coming by July 28th and indicate how many people will be in your group so we know how much food to prepare. You can e-mail Matt at Super@mcr5.org or call at 440-668-9462 or tell him at the June meeting.

- When: Saturday, August 5, 2023 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.

Division 5 Participation Incentives

This is just a reminder about some of the incentives that Division 5 offers to the members for their participation in various Division activities.

Bring & Brag

Members who bring an item to display at the monthly meeting's Bring & Brag receive a \$5 award certificate. Bring & Brag items must have been completed within the last six months. The member must have put some reasonable amount of modeling effort into the construction or finishing of the item.

Building a model railroad display for public viewing

The Division will award a \$50 certificate to a member who builds a model railroad display and shows it at an NMRA event open to the public. Division funded displays are not eligible for this. The display must be at least 4 square feet in area.

Articles, tips, or pictures for Trainwire

Members that provide items for the newsletter will receive a \$10 award certificate for a one page or longer article, \$5 award certificate for a modeling tip or collection of pictures (5 pictures minimum) covering a relevant railroading activity. The Trainwire editor has final decision over whether the material is used or not. For items to be eligible for an award certificate, the member must have played an active part in generating the information. Thus, submitting an article cut out of the newspaper or a magazine does not qualify.

Clinic or presentation

Members that put on some type of clinic or presentation at a meeting or Division 5 event will receive a \$10 award certificate. The presentation must be at least 20 minutes in length.

Do You Need A Ride To A Meeting?

If you would like to attend Division 5 meetings but need a ride, please contact Superintendent Matt Kross at 440-668-9462 or super@mcr5.org. We will see if we can find someone to pick you up. We would really like to see everybody at our monthly membership meetings.

Can You Provide A Ride To A Meeting?

If you are willing and able to provide someone a ride to our meetings, please contact Superintendent Matt Kross at 440-668-9462 or super@mcr5.org. At the moment, we have a member in Geneva and one in Mentor that are looking for rides.

Welcome New Members

Please welcome new Division 5 members: Rose Crotty – Chesterland & Bob Weinberg - Kirtland

Reminder - Please RSVP Your Monthly Meeting Attendance

Please use the meeting RSVP feature in the Division 5 members only section of our website to let us know if you will be attending the upcoming Division 5 membership meeting. This particular feature is only available between the time when the new Trainwire is posted to the website and the time of the actual meeting. All other times, the meeting RSVP feature will be hidden. Knowing the number of people that will be attending the meeting provides information regarding the amount of refreshments to bring and also how we should set up the meeting room.

Division 5 Outdoor Train Movie Night

We will once again hold our annual outdoor movie night but this year it will be held as a special Division 5 event, not a monthly meeting. It will be held again at the home of Bill Osborne in Leroy Township. The exact date is still being determined but will most likely be sometime in July. We will have refreshments (pizza and chips), view Bill's signal collection and HO layout, then start watching train videos on Bill's large outdoor screen once it gets dark enough.

Bill is going to see if he can arrange some special program or activity prior to watching the movies

Here are the details:

Date to be announced. Check the July Trainwire.

This is a Division 5 sponsored special event.

Activities tentatively start at 7:30pm – movies start after meeting once it gets dark.

Activities will be the movies as well as viewing Bill's large collection of prototype railroad signals and viewing Bill's HO model railroad. There may be some additional activities – stay tuned!

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. We would like some short videos of 20 to 30 minutes so we can get more variety in the limited amount of time.

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

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.

Member Pike Ads In The Trainwire

In the past, we tried to get members to create an ad or business card for their home railroad. These are typically referred to as Pike Ads. If you would like to create one for your railroad empire and have it printed in the Trainwire, get to work and send your completed ad to Trainwire@mcr5.org. The ad will be run in the Trainwire free of charge as space provides off and on over time at the Trainwire Editor's discretion.

The following are some examples of Pike Ads:

Brandt River Railroad



Brandt River
& Krosston RR

"The North-South Bridging Route"
Serving the Brandt River Valley

12049 Sperry Road
Chesterland, OH 44026
440-668-9462

Brandt.River.RR@roadrunner.com

Matt Kross
Superintendent



"Ollie"

Don Bittner
C.E.O. & G.M.

**Ohio
Western
Lines**

We Give A Hoot
About You

Nancy Bittner
Finance Dir.

Discussion About Changing Meeting Day/Time

At the May membership meeting, we had a discussion about changing our monthly membership meeting day and time. We went over the results of the membership survey on that topic.

Survey Results

#1 There have been informal discussions over the last few months about changing the day and time of the our monthly membership meeting. There are members that can't, or do not like to, drive at night and would like to have meetings during daylight hours. This is only a survey to determine the general membership feeling towards this topic. A formal vote will be needed once a final proposal is developed. Are you willing to consider changing the MCR Division 5 monthly meeting day/time?

Paper	Web	Total	
3	14	17	Yes
1	11	12	Don't Care
2	4	6	No

#2 What is your FIRST choice for future MCR Division 5 monthly meeting day/time?

Paper	Web	Total	
2	10	12	Friday Evening (7:30pm - 9:30pm)
___	10	10	Saturday Morning (10:00am - 12:00pm)
___	5	5	Sunday Afternoon (2:00pm -4:00pm)
2	2	4	Don't Care
2	2	4	Saturday Afternoon (2:00pm -4:00pm)

35 out of 55 members responded to the survey. A large majority indicated that they are open to considering changing the day/time of the meeting. 34% indicated their preference was to keep the meeting on Friday evenings while 54% indicated they would prefer a day other than Friday. Of the options other than Friday nights, Saturday mornings was preferred the highest.

Superintendent’s Note: During the May meeting discussion, there were some incorrect interpretations of the survey results made by members. They said that the survey shows the majority of people want to keep the meeting on Friday evenings which is not true. What the survey showed was that 12 people preferred keeping the meeting on Friday evenings while 19 people preferred having the meeting on a day/time other than Friday evenings. Yes, of the various day/time options presented, Friday was the most preferred, but this was just one option out of 4 possible. There was not a majority of the 35 survey participants that preferred Friday evenings. If members are presented with just one day/time alternative to the existing Friday evening meeting time, do they really want to change or leave things as is? That is why it has been suggested that we do a second survey with just the Friday evening and Saturday morning options.

Issues With Changing Day/Time

Meeting Location

- Hambden Town Hall may not always be available on Saturday mornings
- Libraries are open on Saturdays so would be a possible location
- May be difficult to get a constant location for the meetings

Interference with local train shows

- Many members like to attend train shows on Saturdays
- Some people say they can’t / won’t attend if we change from Friday evenings
- Work issues, other things they do on Saturdays

Don’t want meeting attendance to decrease

- Our overall intent is to increase attendance/participation

Alternatives

Provide rides to the meetings for those that have difficulty driving

Haven't had any success with this so far

Small division / limited resources

Set up a "hybrid" meeting where we have in-person meetings but also broadcast the meeting via Zoom so those that cannot physically attend can participate in the meeting online

Some of those that have driving issues do not use a computer

When we held Zoom-only membership meetings, we did not get any different people join the Zoom meeting.

Running a hybrid meeting requires a couple of people to do this during a meeting and we have limited people resources.

Have some meetings on Friday nights and some on Saturday mornings

Confusing?

Where Do We Go From Here?

The Division 5 Board of Directors will review the comments from the May meeting as well as the survey results and decide what to do next, if anything.

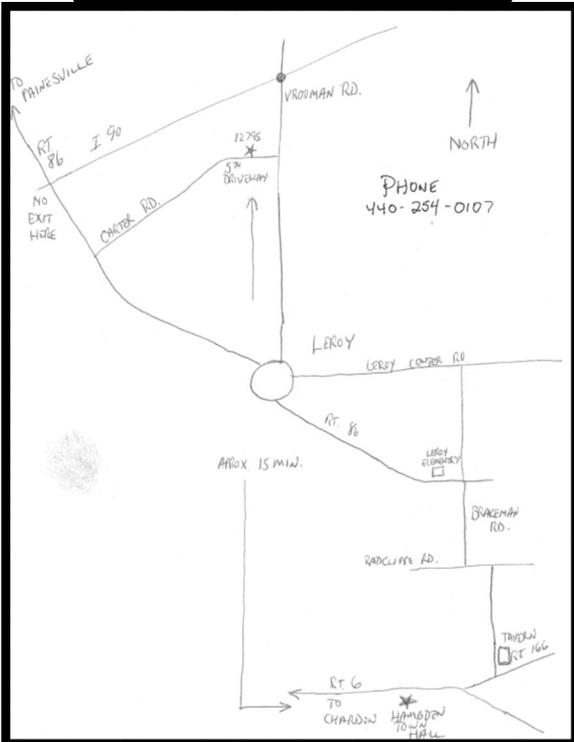
We will probably do a second survey with just the two most popular choices (Friday evenings vs. Saturday mornings)

Board of Directors will review the second survey results and any member comments to judge the overall feeling of the membership

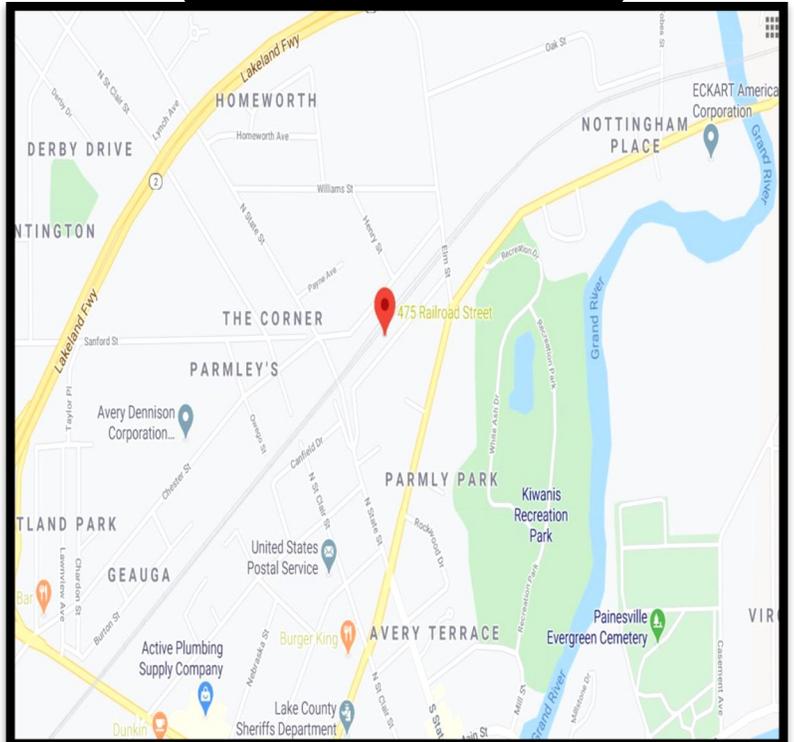
If enough members desire a change, we will put it to an official vote of the membership

Due to issues with obtaining meeting locations, any change would not happen until the beginning of next year (2024).

Bill Osborne



Painesville Depot



BRING & BRAG



ARTICLES

A Trip to Northlandz in Flemington, NJ

On a recent driving trip to New York City, I had the opportunity to stop at Northlandz (“The World’s Largest Miniature Wonderland”) in Flemington, NJ. Northlandz is basically halfway between New York City and Philadelphia.

Adult tickets are \$36, with discount admission of \$33 for kids, seniors, teachers, and military. Though not listed on the website, the same discount applies for first responders. Lastly, there is a separate ticket for the Outdoor Train Ride for \$16.

Website: <https://northlandz.com/>

The main display at Northlandz is in HO scale and is sprawling and multiple floors high. I didn’t personally count them all, but I can believe the stats listed on the website...

52,000 Square Feet Layout	250,000 Trees	400 + Bridges	200+ Tunnels
100+ Trains	35 Foot Canyons	8 Miles of Track	

The website also claims 306,600 hours were spent on the construction of the layout it appears work continues. As we all know, model railroading is never “done”!

Even though the main attraction is the train layout, the display route also includes several side displays of vintage toys, dolls, artwork, and other mini train displays of various scales.

2000 Pipe Organs	250+ Art Pieces	200+ Dolls
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The route for the train layout takes you around and sometimes through the middle of the display. You also experience the display from various levels to provide unique perspectives. At one point, you find yourself looking down at what feels like a 3-story valley. The tiny HO scale trains at the bottom of the huge valley look smaller than Z scale but you later confirm it is actually HO when you get down to lower level to see the same section from a different vantage point.

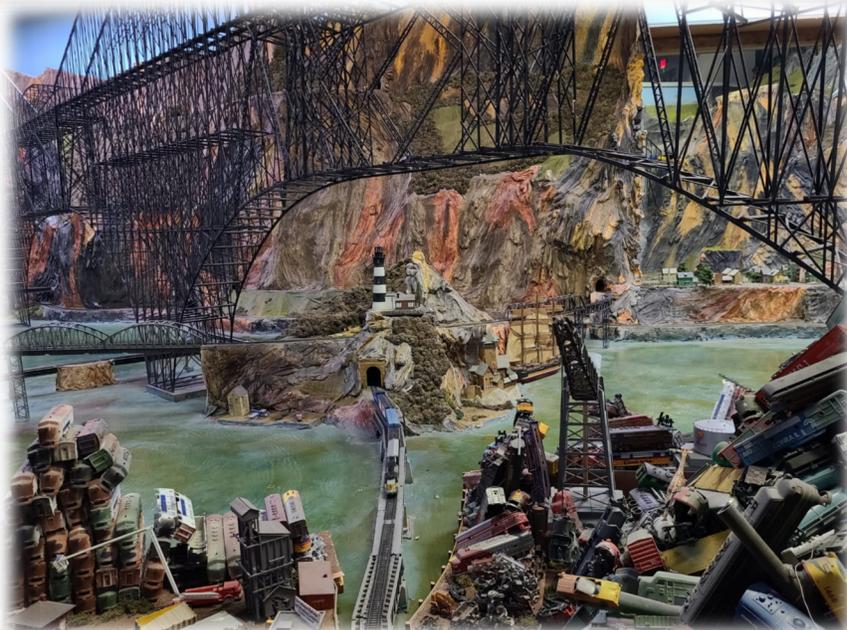
Probably my favorite part of the layout was the many bridges of various shapes, sizes, and lengths with some of them being quite large and impressive! There were a few that were the length and height are several feet with one stretching more than 20 in length!

I was there on a Friday around 3pm and I basically had the place to myself to explore! It took about 2 hours to go through the display, but the visit could easily take 3+ hours to see the many details and angles.

In the gift shop, there is a large assortment of railfan items and toys. They even have a section dedicated as somewhat of a flea market full of new and preowned model train items in various scales for sale.

If you ever find yourself near New York City or Philadelphia, I highly recommend you carve out time to make this part of your visit. You won’t be disappointed and you’ll most likely leave with new ideas and inspiration for your own layout!

~ John Ward





Div 5 Buy, Sale, Trade

Used CVP Products EasyDCC System For Sale

Asking \$250 Everything As-Is

System Includes:

- CS2 Command Station with two built-in throttles
- Four Booster3 DCC Boosters (3 Amp)
- Three PS5 power supplies for boosters (18VAC 5Amp)
- RX900 Digital Wireless Receiver (radio throttle interface)
- Four TX900 Digital Wireless Throttles (condition unknown)
- Four RF1300 Digital Wireless Throttles (only one working)
- Manuals

System was working when it was taken out but had various problems with the radio throttles (mainly some pushbuttons not working)

Contact Matt Kross for more details

440-668-9462 Brandt.River.RR@roadrunner.com

NOTE:

Division 5 members may submit an advertisement, free of charge, for any model railroad related items that they wish to buy, sell, or trade. The ad will be placed in this Swap & Shop section for three months.

Send your submissions to: Bryan Persing - Trainwire Editor



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NMRA

WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION GROUP

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!

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
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	Dennis Lloyd	440-352-7081 PromoDay@mcr5.org
Achievement Program	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519 AP@mcr5.org
Trip Master	Bill Osborne	440-254-0107 Tripmaster@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

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

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

JUNE, 2023 EDITION

DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (63)

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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