



APRIL, 2024 VOLUME XX ISSUE 4

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



THIS MONTH:

April 5

Division Meeting Hambden Town Hall 7:30

April 8

BOD Meeting Via Zoom 7:30

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Super Reflections April 2024

Another Railfest In The Books. Thanks Jim!

Railfest 2024 ran very well. This was Jim Wendorf's last year as Railfest Chairman. He is retiring from this position after doing it for 15 years. Many thanks to Jim for all the hard work he has done over the years and for all the great shows he has carried out. As of this writing, it is too early to know how the Division did financially with this year's show.

Thank You For All Your Help At Railfest!

Railfest 2024 ran quite well this year thanks to all the help we received from the Division 5 membership. We had plenty of people on all four days which makes things so much easier. We had a record number of people stay after the show closed on Sunday to help the vendors move their items to their vehicles. Thanks to all that came out and pitched in.

Thanks For Your Donations

We had a number of members give us donations for the Railfest door prizes. Thank You! We had lots of door prizes this year and the door prize feature of Railfest has become very popular over the years. We have all the regular show attendees trained to constantly check their wristband numbers against the list on the monitor. It has added a bit more fun to the show and your donations helped fuel that.

Still Looking For Layouts For Our Tours

The Division 5 Spring 2024 layout tours are planned for April 27 and 28. We only have a couple of layouts signed up so far. We need more layouts to be open to make it interesting for everybody. See details inside this Trainwire.

Something To Ponder

I saw an article online that stated "Any layout is better than no layout". It went on to say "Don't make excuses, just build something and have fun!". This is so Sometimes we get so bogged down with planning that we never actually do anything. Sometimes we want everything to be in place before we start but they never are. Sometimes we are discouraged because we aren't as talented as the well-known modelers and don't feel it is worth the effort. So what! The fun is in doing something and seeing the results of your efforts. It doesn't have to be a masterpiece or even be prototypical. Just do what you want and have fun doing it. Each time you try something, you learn from the experience and may be able to improve your techniques the next time you do the same task.

Join us on Friday, April 5, 2024 for our monthly membership meeting. See you down the line.

Matt

MIEITINGS & IEVIENTS

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

APRIL 5, 2024 DIVISION MEETING

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

13887 GAR HIGHWAY

PROGRAM: PAUL EMCH

BRING & BRAG FACTORY/BUILDINGS

APRIL 8, 2004 BOD MEETING

LOCATION: VIA ZOOM

MAY 3, 2024 DIVISION MEETING

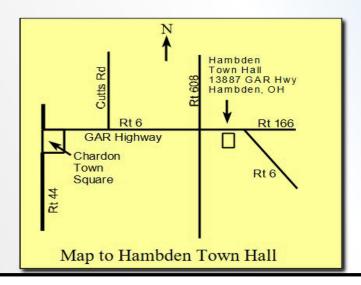
LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

13887 GAR HIGHWAY

PROGRAM: MAKING MOLDS OUT OF

LATEX RUBBER
MIKE CAROVAC

BRING & BRAG BOXCARS OR STOCKCARS



UPCOMING Events

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

April 7

Medina Train and Toy Show

Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256 9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00

Phone: 330-948-4400

April 7

Youngstown Model Railroad Assn.

Parish Center

4490 Norquest Blvd., Austintown, Ohio

10am to 3:30 Adm. \$7.00

Phone: 832-622-8637

May 3 & 4

'S' Spree

Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association

Emidio & Sons Expo Center,

48 East Bath Road, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Phone: 330-928-8735

May 18

Model Train Day & 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

June 1

June 22

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

Phone: 330-372-1023

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

MINITES

Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2024

The March 1, 2024 membership meeting was held at Hambden Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Matt Kross. There were 23 members and 1 guest present.

Reviewed upcoming Division 5 meetings and events.

Normal meetings in April and May.

Railfest 2024 will be on March 16 - 17, 2024. We will be setting up for the show on Thursday afternoon March 14 and helping vendors and exhibitors set up on Friday March 15.

Railfest 2024 status: Due to layoffs at the college, the snackbar area has been closed down. College is working with Normandy Party Center to try to provide food for Railfest. A preliminary menu has been proposed. We were able to get a portion of Gym C back this year if we want it but at this late date we don't have vendors to fill it so we won't be using it. We currently have 75 vendors but have 50 tables still to sell. We had 10 or 11 vendor cancellations this year due to retirement, health issues, or going to other shows (such as Great American Train Show at IX Center the following weekend). College will cost us a few hundred dollars more this year. Sun Rental keeps raising their table rental prices every year but, for now, we are stuck with it. Shuttle service will be the same as last year. The college has said that we have to be out of the facility by 6:00pm on Thursday and 7:00pm on Friday. Security will be the same as previous years. Division 4 HO layout not coming to show this year. We will be sending a confirmation letter to vendors in the next few days. We will include the current food situation and a copy of the current planned menu. There are still various tasks where we need people to sign-up to help.

Railfest 2025 will be on March 15-16, 2025.

Upcoming local train shows were listed in the March Trainwire.

Programs are needed for 2024 meetings starting in May.

Items for the Good Of The Order:

American Model Builders has closed.

Bring & Brag: No theme – anything goes

Bonnie Lette Mike Rudder Linda Kacprzak

Dave Metzger Paul Emch

Program: Railfest Chairman Jim Wendorf reviewed the status of Railfest 2024 and went through what it takes to put together Division 5's Railfest every year.

Showed some video clips from 1997 where we did a Railfest publicity setup for Cleveland's TV 8 morning show. They had various on-location segments throughout their several hour morning show showing a temporary N-Trak module setup and interviews with several Division members.

Submitted by Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2024 Trainwire Items

April Meeting: April 5, 2024 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall

Prince (n/ Drace Decidion / Foston)

Bring 'n' Brag: Building / Factory

Program: Paul Emch

May Meeting: May 3, 2024 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall

Bring 'n' Brag: Boxcars or Stockcars

Program: Making molds out of latex rubber – Mike Carovac

June 7, 2024 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall

Bring 'n' Brag: Bridges or Walls

Program: Making molds using silicone rubber – Mike Carovac

July: NO MEETING

Volunteer Terms End May 31

Per our Division 5 Regulations, as of the end of May in an election year, all volunteer and appointed Division position terms expire. The new Superintendent, Bill Osborne, will be checking with you to see if you wish to continue in your position and will also be asking new people to step up and serve the Division in some of these positions. So, start thinking about what you are willing to do to help out and serve the Division.

2024 Mid Central Region Convention Coming Up Soon

The 2024 MCR regional convention in Middleburg Heights, OH will be on May 16 – 19, 2024. This convention is essentially in our backyard, only an hour or less away. If you haven't been to a convention, this would be a great one to start with. Check out the convention website at: https://northcoastlimited2024.org/. Refer to the one page convention ad in this Trainwire. They have a lot of things going on to keep you busy on all four days. You can go for the entire convention or just go for one day. There are lots of clinics, tours, contests, layout tours, etc.

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.

Calling All Area Layout Owners – Spring Layout Tours

Division 5 would like to have Spring 2024 layout tours. We are selecting the weekend of April 27 - 28, 2024. This will be six weeks after Railfest and three weeks before the Mid Central Region convention. There aren't any holidays around this date. This gives you plenty of time to get your layout ready.

We would like to have a variety of layouts open for this event. Several people have already indicated that they are willing to have their layouts open. We might twist the arms of a few members that have layouts that don't normally want to have them open. It would be nice to see some different layouts for a change. Your layout doesn't have to be big or finished or even running. People like to view works-in-progress to get ideas on how to build their own layouts. Even the smallest of layouts can provide inspiration and show various modeling techniques. Every layout is worth seeing!

You can have your layout open on just one of the days or both and you can specify the times that you want to have your layout open. If the weekend of April 27 – 28 doesn't work for you but you would like to open your layout, let us know and we will see if we can add other dates for the tours. Layouts of non-Division 5 members can be included in our tours but we have to discuss with them the liability insurance issues. If you have friends with layouts, talk to them to see if they would like to open up their layouts for our tour.

If you are interested in having your layout open or have questions about what is involved in hosting an open house, please contact Matt Kross (440-668-9462 or clerk@mcr5.org). Once we have a list of layouts, we will publish a layout tour guide and send it out via e-mail (or regular mail to those without e-mail).



NMRA

Facebook | WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION GROUP

BUSINESSES ACCEPTING DIVISION 5 CERTIFICATES

Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys

Hobby Town USA

Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters

The Painesville Railroad Museum

Willoughby, Ohio

Mentor, Ohio

Madison, Ohio

Painesville, Ohio



PLEASE SUPPORT THESE DEALERS!

SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR'S RAILFEST



AILFEST 2025



Saturday and Sunday

March 15 & 16, 2025

10 am to 4 pm





Lakeland Community College

7700 Clocktower Dr. Kirtland, Ohio 44094

State Rt. 306 at Interstate 90 - exit 193

Operating Layouts **N Scale Layouts** (LENS)

O Gauge layout (Mod-Squad)

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) 668-9462

Email: railfest@mcr5.org

Admission

\$9.00 Two Day Pass

Family (couples) Family (max) \$16.00 (2 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

> Test Track Available

> > ATM

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.rai

Facebook at www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow Largest continuous running two day train show in OHIO! Remarkable Lake County, OH

THE NEWS-HERALD

The Mid-Central Regional Convention May 16-19 2024 Cleveland, Ohio



Early Registration is \$90.00 through 12/31/2023



www.northcoastlimited2024.org

North

Convention Merchandise

The North Coast Limited 2024 Convention offers two Convention Cars and a Large selection of Men & Women's apparel

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

Layout Tours, Operating Sessions, 4 Clinic Rooms (including make & take clinicsfor a small fee) Celebration of Modeling, Yard Sale, Prototype Tours, General interest Tours, Non-Rail Tours

More events are being added as the NCL moves closer to the convention date. Look for updates on the NCL site!

Many Restaurants are located within walking distance of the Crown Plaza Hotel.



Register or print out a registration form online!

Crowne Plaza Hotel

7230 Engle Rd, Middleburg Heights, OH, 44130 (855)797-6733



www.northcoastlimited2024.org

The North Coast Limited 2024 Mid-Central Regional Convention May 16 - 19, 2024



The North Coast Limited 2024 Convention will be arriving soon. If you have not already registered, you will want to make sure to register soon and book your hotel room. Your hosts, Division 4, The North Coast Division, have full array of activities you can do during your visit to Northeast Ohio. Some of the Convention highlights include:

AWARDS & RECOGNITION BANQUET

The Convention is capped off on Saturday evening with the Awards & Recognition Banquet. Our Banquet speaker will be Mr. Pete Poremba, Executive Director of the Jerry and Laura Jacobson Foundation, dba Ages of Steam Roundhouse Museum. Pete will be talking about how is interest in model trains growing up lead to an over 40-year career in railroading and to him being named Executive Director of the Foundation to carry on Jerry Jacobson's legacy for Ages of Steam Roundhouse. You do not want to miss Pete's presentation.

OPERATING SESSIONS

The schedule of Operating Sessions as been posted to the NCL 2024 website. Most operating sessions are on Thursday evening with a few more on Friday evening. Sign up for operating sessions is on a first come – first reserved basis and is done through the NCL 2024 Registration portal. We have eight different layouts hosting operating sessions with over 50 operating positions. Host layouts vary from large home and club layouts to small home layouts.

PROTOTYPE ACTIVITIES

Among the Prototype Activities happening during NCL 2024 are open houses at the Midwest Railway Preservation Society and the Northern Ohio Railway Museum. Midwest Rail is located in the former B&O roundhouse in the Flats industrial section of Cleveland. They have ongoing efforts to restore various pieces of rolling stock as part of their mission. MRPS will be hosting two tours on Saturday morning, The Northern Ohio Railway Museum is located about 30 minutes south in Seville, Ohio, an easy drive down Interstate 77. NORM has an interesting collection of trolley and interurban cars on display and being restored. NORM will be open Saturday morning from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM will rides at 11:00

VOLUNTEERS

Every convention needs volunteers to help make sure everything runs smoothly. NCL 2024 is no different. We NEED volunteers during the Convention to help with things such as registration check-in, bag check, contest room monitor, Yard Sale room monitor, clinician check and more. We are trying out a new way of signing up volunteers using the SignUp Genius website. The following link <u>Div 4 MCR NMRA: North Coast Limited 2024 (signupgenius.com)</u> will take you to the website so you can sign up for ne of the volunteer times. If you have difficulty with SignUp Genius you can always email me directly

LOOK AT THE LINEUP OF LAYOUTS TO VISIT!

The Mid-Central Regional Convention May 16-19 2024 Cleveland, Ohio





a future isses of RMC!

RIGHT. Mark Pek Conrail Toledo Sub











Bram Bailey John Witt John Puch Joe Filipiak Ron Morgan

Terry Kolenc

Layout on the web site! Mark Pekelnicky Steve Riddleba Joe Kurilec, MMR 8 Paul Novak & Sons Jim Peters Jerry Jordak Cuyahoga Valley & West Shore Model

Check the website, more layouts will be added

www.northcoastlimited2024.org

ABOVE TOP & BOTTOM, BELOW, CENTER & RIGHT,





Bill Osborne is having the first meeting of the HO modular group April 18th his house start time is 7:00 pm. Can call for further info...440-254-0107.

Bill Osborne

12795 Carter Road

Painesville (Leroy Township), Ohio 44077



Call for N-Scale T-TRAK Modules!

It's here! The call for N-Scale T-TRAK modules! It is for those N-Scale T-TRAK modelers who will be attending the North Coast Limited convention, hosted by The North Coast Division of the NMRA Mid Central Region. The convention will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Middleburg Heights, Ohio from May 16-19, 2024.

Let Us Know You're Coming!

https://forms.gle/RkKrdTWxcZetGDUr6

Useful Links

NMRA Mid Central Region, North Coast Division

https://www.div4.org/

North Coast Limited Convention

https://northcoastlimited2024.org/

T-TRAK Information

https://ntrak.org/T-TRAK-Home

T-TRAK Wiki

http://ttrak.wikidot.com/

Questions

If you have any questions, please send an email to both Ramhog Shearer <u>ramhog5@aol.com</u> and Frank Trocchi@yahoo.com.

Division 6 of the NMRA Mid-Central Region is currently offering an HO scale 41' gondola lettered for Buckeye Steel Castings.

Buckeye Steel was a large steel foundry located in Columbus, Ohio. They produced castings of numerous railroad components, including trucks, couplers and, the famous "Buckeye Truck." These gondolas moved scrap as well as finished products. Interchange partners included C&O and NYC, both railroads having trackage leading into the plant complex.

These car kits are from Accurail's 3700-series of steel gondolas with road number 23. Decals for six other road numbers are available for those ordering more than one car.

Pricing is \$27 per car. Shipping (via USPS Priority) is \$10 for one car and \$17 for two to three cars. Ohio residents, please add 7.5% sales tax on the total price of the kits and the shipping/handling fee. Customers outside the USA, please contact us for shipping arrangements and charges.



For more details or to contact us, visit our Division's Store at https://div6-mcr-nmra.org/StorePage.html

RAIDFEST

















































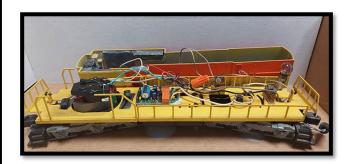


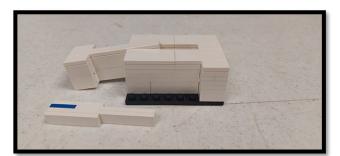






Bring & Brag



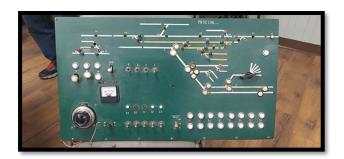












AIRTHCILIES

Product Review Plastic Razor Blades

As many of you know I use a glass plate, that I made, for gluing and scratch building items as well as painting. My biggest problem is cleaning the plate after I have used it. In the past I have tried several items but ended up using steel razor blades to scrape off the residue but, steel razor blades tend to be one of the only items that can damage glass. On one corner of my plate, I got the razor blade at an angle and scratched the glass. The other disadvantage with using a razor blade is the fact that they are very sharp and can cut you if you are not careful. Believe me, I reached for a blade one time and ended up cleaning my blood off the glass plate. So, what can clean the residue off the plate without scratching it or cutting me? The search was on.

I was over a friend's house whose wife's hobby is pottery. She told me that she uses plastic razor blades to clean her plates and she gave me one to try out. She even told me that she gets them from Micro-Mark.



I took it home and even though I was skeptical about it, I was very pleased with the results. I decided to purchase some and see what else I could use them on. Other than cleaning residue off glass the catalog states that it will clean other surfaces as well as clean paint and decals off plastic models. With this information I decided to see if what this plastic razor could do. So here is what I found.

The blade is .040 thick and is flat on one side. The two "cutting edges" are not dull but are not sharp enough to cut you. Its stiffness is an advantage as the blade does not flex when pressure is applied to it. I found it easier to hold and knowing that it would not cut me allowed me to hold it tighter and at different angles.

I then tested it on different items that I normally end up with on my glass plate. The first thing I tried was to scratch the glass surface. Even though I tried to gouge and scratch it using the corner of the blade, it did not mark or scratch the plate. It had no problem removing the residue clay that I use when making molds or holding down my jigs. Paint came off with no problem although I did not test it with paint from a spray can.

Next, I tried to remove different glues and adhesives. It had no problems removing glues like wood glue or white PVA glue. It struggled a little with epoxy, CA glues and solvent cements but, after applying a

little solvent to these to "soften" them up the blade had no problem removing them. I also found that if I used a handle, I found this handle at a hardware store, that was designed to hold razor blades that I could apply a little more downward pressure.

My next test was to see if it would remove decals and paint (like road numbers) from plastic. It does not work well on a non-treated surfaces but, if you apply a softening agent like Micro Sol to the decal or paint it removes both with little or no problem. The big advantage is that it does not scratch or gouge the plastic surface.

There are disadvantages to these blades though. The first being that they are plastic and have a limit to what they can do. The "sharp" edges do dull faster than a normal steel razor blade and are also easier to get nicks on the cutting edge. Another disadvantage is that you must buy them in lots of one hundred. So, I now a life time supply of plastic razor blades.

Overall, just the fact that they do not scratch, gouge, or cut into the surface of glass or plastic and if are used for what they were designed for, delicate surfaces, they are a good thing to have around.

Around the Layout—Bill Osborne









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		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

APRIL, 2024 EDITION

DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (64)

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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