

TRAINWIRE



DECEMBER, 2024 VOLUME XX ISSUE 12

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



THIS MONTH:

December 6

Division Meeting
 Hamden Town Hall
 7:30

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Well December is upon us...in the midst of the holiday season. By the time you read this Thanksgiving is behind us and Christmas is on the horizon. Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving, I will give this a model railroad twist. Right now there is a lot to be thankful for in this great hobby. I don't think there has been a better time for this hobby than now. The amount of products available to take your layout to what you vision and strive to achieve is staggering. The smallest details like HO silver ware to massive steel mills and skyscrapers and EVERYTHING in between. Anyone my age (36 rough life...lol) knows what it was like back when if you wanted to really detail your layout you had to come up with most stuff on your own. So I thank all the manufacturers that take the time to research, develop, and manufacture quality prototypically accurate models and products; thank you for making this the greatest hobby. Now to Christ-

mas, I hope all division members and family have great (I'm going to say it!) CHRISTMAS. This time of year always reminds me of Christmas trees with trains running underneath. It's been decades since I had a train running under the tree. HO is too small; I always think of the large trains and I have been saying I would get Lionel or G scale for under the tree, but never do. One of my fondest memories was standing in front of Klugs Hobby Shop store window in Shoregate when I was a kid. He would put a small HO layout in the window; it was a simple figure 8 with a mountain with tunnels at each end. There was a small town where the track crossed over itself. I would watch that train come out of the tunnel go through town and back into a tunnel then out again and cross over itself for hours. So if you have trains under your tree post it on our Facebook page we would like to see your display. See you in Hamden. Bill

Well since I challenged the membership last month to go out and do something and share your activities to the group I must say you really outdid yourselves. I received at least four articles (some in this issue some in the next issue) so let me start by saying thank you for that. The Trainwire is so much more interesting when we have authentic contributions from a variety of sources and honestly that is what makes this such a great group to belong to. As for myself I spent much of the month of November at my home in Fort Myers

signing off on final repairs from the hurricane season but did have time to find some railroad related activities. One such one, that you will read about in an upcoming issue, is a group of HO modelers that got tired of being moved from place to place that they purchased their own building in North Fort Myers and have turned it into a permanent layout for the members. They welcome the public on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday's and they gave me quite the behind the scenes look once they heard I was a member of the NMRA and a newsletter editor. Bryan

MEETINGS & EVENTS

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

DECEMBER 6, 2024 DIVISION MEETING

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

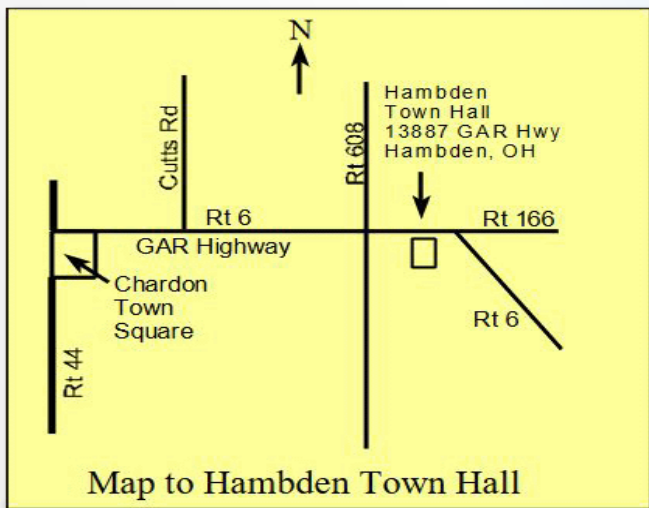
PROGRAM: JOHN WARD
 ENTERTAINMENT JUNCTION
 CINCINNATI UNION TERMINAL

BRING & BRAG ANYTHING CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 11, 2025 HOLIDAY PARTY

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

TIME: 12:30 SOCIAL TIME
 1:00 FOOD SERVED



Map to Hambden Town Hall

UPCOMING Events

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

December 8

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

December 15

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

January 4

Snow Dog Train Show
 Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association
 Emidio & Sons Expo Center, 48 East Bath Road,
 Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223
 10 am to 3 pm Adm.: \$6.00

January 25

Train Collectors Association - Winter Train Meet
 Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
 164 Eastland Rd., Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44017
 10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00
 Phone: John Twarog at : 330-273-6404

February 15

Canfield Train and Toy Show
 7265 Columbiana, Canfield, Ohio 44406
 10:00 am to 3:00pm Adm. \$7.00
 Phone: 330-651-1042

February 22

Independence Train Show - KD Trains LLC
 The Independence High School Fieldhouse
 6001 Archwood Rd.
 Independence, Oh 44131
 10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$7.00
 Phone: 216-642-0692

MINUTES

Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2024

The November 1, 2024 membership meeting was held at Hambden Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Bill Osborne. There were 19 members and two guests present.

A Division 5 trip to the Youngstown and Sebring model railroad clubs will be on Saturday, November 9, 2024. Those people wanting to carpool should meet in the Chardon Walmart's parking lot before 9:00am. The trip will essentially have the same itinerary as last year's.

We will have a Division 5 dinner on Saturday, November 9, 2024 around 6pm. This is the same day as the trip to the model railroad clubs but will be held after the group returns. You do not need to go on the trip to the model railroad clubs to go to the dinner. Just meet at the restaurant around 6pm. The dinner will be at Mary Yoder's restaurant in Middlefield, OH.

The Division 5 Holiday Party will be on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at Hambden Town Hall. Details will be in the December Trainwire.

Railfest 2025 planning continues to progress. The vendor list is set and invitations will be sent out soon. Railfest 2025 fliers are available.

The next meeting of the new HO module group will be held at the Munson fire station on Thursday November 14, 2024 at 7:30pm.

Ballots have been mailed for the membership to vote on the proposed Division 5 Regulation changes.

Items For The Good Of The Order:

Mod Squad thanked the Division again for the grant money and told us about how the new things they purchased benefitted their multi-modular group setup at the recent York, PA train show.

Modeling Tips:

HO Proto 2000 engines have a bag of generic detail parts that come in the box. The winterization hatches can be used for window fans and vents.

Bring & Brag: Theme: Coal, Ore, or Covered Hoppers

Cody Cavender

Bryan Persing

Dave Neff

Bill Berger

Bill Osborne

Dave Metzger

Program: Paul Emch showed a Power Point clinic on railroad towers.

Submitted by

Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk

BOD Meeting 11 Nov 2024

A Division 5 BOD meeting was held on November 11, 2024. The meeting was held online using Zoom. In attendance were Bill Osborne, Bryan Persing, Bonnie Lette, Mike Carovac, Chuck Limbert, Matt Kross, Linda Kacprzak, Andy Yedlick, and John Ward.

Reviewed how the recent Division trip and dinner went. Everyone felt both the trip and the dinner went well. There were 9 people that went on the trip and we had 27 people at the dinner. The BOD passed a motion to send a \$100 donation to the Sebring club for opening up their layout for our special visit.

Cody Cavender has resigned from the Railfest Planning Committee for 2025. The committee is exploring alternatives to using the wristbands because it creates a bottleneck at the gate while the wristbands are put on people.

John Ward will provide the December meeting program on his recent visits to several train-related spots in southern Ohio. For a future meeting, we may try again to have a group of mini-programs of about 10 to 15 minutes each. Another program idea is to have members take pictures or make a video of their layout and then show them.

We will have our annual Holiday Party on Saturday, January 11, 2025 and will be held at the Hambden Town Hall. We will see if we can again get the food from Mary Yoder's Restaurant in Middlefield, OH. Mike Carovac will coordinate the food for the party. For entertainment, Bryan Persing will put together a photo show of the Division's 2024 events, we will have our annual Loser's Raffle coordinated by Bonnie Lette, and we will have a special raffle for all participants coordinated by Matt Kross. We will need a headcount by the end of December.

Please send Bryan any photographs of anything division related for the photo slide show.
trainwire@mcr5.org

No new members in October.

The Clerk has mailed the ballots for the membership to vote on the proposed changes to the Division 5 Regulations. 62 ballots were sent out and 16 have been received back so far.

Matt Kross will try to have a Division tabletop publicity sign made in time for Railfest.

The BOD received a grant request from the Mod Squad modular group for 2025. The grant was approved and a check will be sent to them at the start of 2025.

The next Div 5 BOD meeting will be on Monday, February 10, 2025, 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 – Div 5 Clerk

RAILFEST CORNER



I would like to formally introduce myself as the new Chairman of Railfest, following the retirement of our esteemed former Chairman, James A. Wendorf. It is an honor to step into this role and I look forward to continuing the strong leadership and strategic direction established by Jim. With his many years of dedication, Railfest has grown into the event it is today and I am excited to build upon this legacy.

As we embark on this new chapter together, my focus will be on building on past successes while embracing the future. I am confident that with

the NMRA MCR Division 5 continued commitment to support of Railfest, we will achieve great things in the coming years. Together, we will continue driving Railfest toward new levels of success. I look forward to our journey ahead.

Thank you for your cooperation and continuing support and feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

John W. Ward, Railfest Chairman
 railfest@mcr5.org



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Facebook

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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 2024 Trainwire Items

December Meeting: December 6, 2024 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
Bring ‘n’ Brag: Anything Christmas
Program: Entertainment Junction and Cincinnati Union Terminal by John Ward

January: No Meeting! - Holiday Party instead on January 11

February Meeting: February 7, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
Bring ‘n’ Brag: Anything Goes
Program: To Be Determined

2024 Division 5 Event Pictures Wanted

We would like to have a photo show at the Division Holiday Party in January that contains pictures from Division events throughout 2024. If you have some pictures we can use, please contact Assistant Superintendent Bryan Persing. If possible, put them on a USB flash drive and bring them to the December meeting.

Trainwire Pictures Now On Website

Pictures that appear in the Trainwire are now available on the Division 5 website (<https://mcr5.org>) in higher resolution. To get to the pictures, go to the News page of the website and under the image of the current Trainwire is a place to click to see the pictures. Note: The pictures do not stay there forever. They are replaced each month with the pictures that are in the new Trainwire.

Welcome New Members!

Gretchen Bryan – Chardon, OH

Promo Day 2025 Coordinator Needed

Promo Day 2025 coordinator needed. Please contact Bill Osborne if you are interested.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division 5 Holiday Party

We will be having our annual Division 5 Holiday Party on Saturday January 11, 2025 at Hambden Town Hall. We will get the food from Mary Yoder's Restaurant in Middlefield for the event. We will need people to RSVP by Tuesday, December 31, 2024, so that we can get a count for the food. We are currently taking RSVPs for this event. An online survey has been set up on the Division website to allow you to RSVP. If you have email, you should have received the email inviting you to use the specified web link to RSVP. If you do not have online access, please contact Matt Kross to let us know if you are planning to come and how many guests you will be bringing.

Summary

What: Annual Division 5 Holiday Party

When: Saturday, January 11, 2025

Hours: 12:00pm to 12:30pm Hall Set-up
12:30pm to 1:00pm Social Time
1:00pm to 2:30pm Meal
2:30pm to 4:00pm Activities

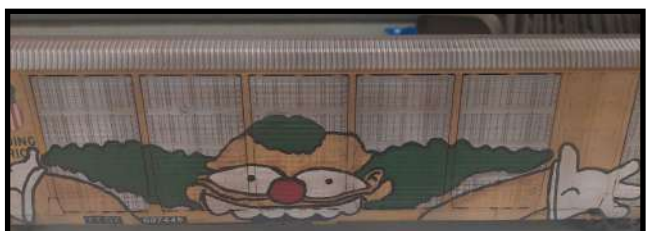
Where: Hambden Town Hall,

Costs: Free for a Division member and one guest;
\$5 for each additional guest (payment at the door)

Menu: Specifics to be determined but most likely will be our standard fare:
Roast beef, chicken, potatoes/gravy, vegetable (green beans?), tossed
salad/dressing, roll/butter, coffee, tea, water, soft drinks, pie

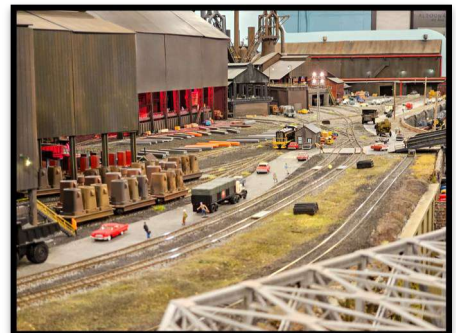
Activities: Photo show of Division 5's 2024 activities
Annual Losers Raffle
All-Attendee Chinese Raffle

Bring & Brag



ACTIVITIES

Some photos from the groups day out visiting Sebring and Youngstown Model Railroad Clubs. Also a group shot from the dinner at Mary Yoder's later that evening. Photo credits to John Ward.



ACTIVITIES



ARTICLES

Most of us have gone to Cass at one time or another. I hadn't been there in over 30 years, so it was a great treat. Things I didn't remember was the acid taste and smell of the air from the high sulfur coal. In addition, the great amount of ash (A) the Shays put out, the oiling of the engines (B), moving of the gears (C), the popping of the valves (D), and the chugging of the locomotive (E) brought back the wonders of the age of steam. Something that I hoped to do was go on a shop tour, but they haven't done it since COVID. They have now acquired the Durbin and Greenbrier Valley, but it was not running when I was there. Only Shay 5 & 11 were working that day. Other things to see in the area are the company town (F) and Green Bank Radio Telescope (G).

~Bill Berger

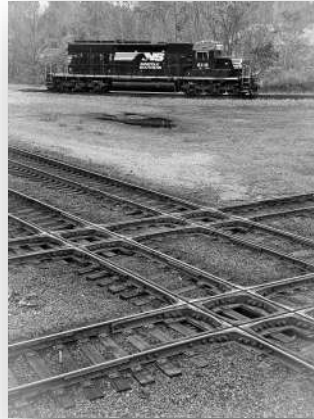


I recently had the opportunity to visit the Marion Union Station and Railroad Museum in Marion, Ohio. If you have never been there, it is well worth a visit. Marion Union Station, constructed in 1902, is a historic gem that has served as a crucial junction for major rail lines like the Erie, the Chesapeake & Ohio, and the New York Central. The Marion Union Station and Railroad Museum boasts an impressive collection of railroad artifacts, from vintage timetables and signs to uniforms, tools, and equipment used by rail workers. One of the highlights is the museum's large array of historical photos, documents, and interactive exhibits that tell the story of the railroads' impact on Marion and surrounding areas. Visitors can also explore the original ticketing booths, benches, and waiting areas,

giving them a sense of the station's early 20th-century ambiance. Marion Union Station is renowned as one of Ohio's top "railfanning" spots. Located at a unique intersection where several railroad lines converge, it's possible to see trains from various lines passing by throughout the day, making it a prime spot for train watching and photography. The station's observation areas offer great vantage points for seeing modern rail operations up close. Located at 532 W Center St in Marion, the museum is accessible by car, with ample parking available. Admission fees are modest, making it a budget-friendly outing, and donations are always appreciated to help maintain the museum and its offerings.

~John Ward



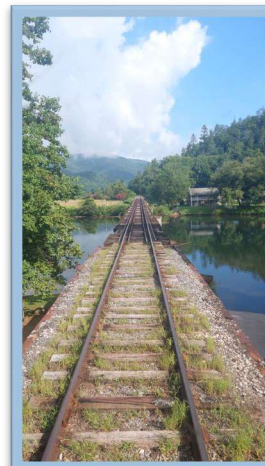
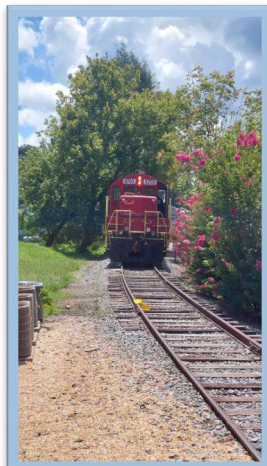
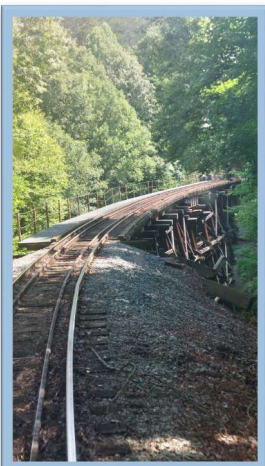


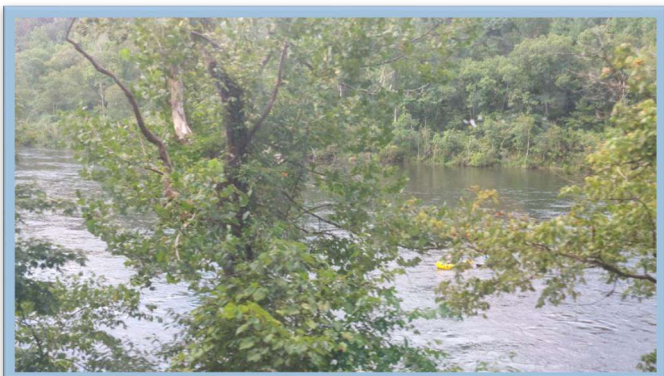
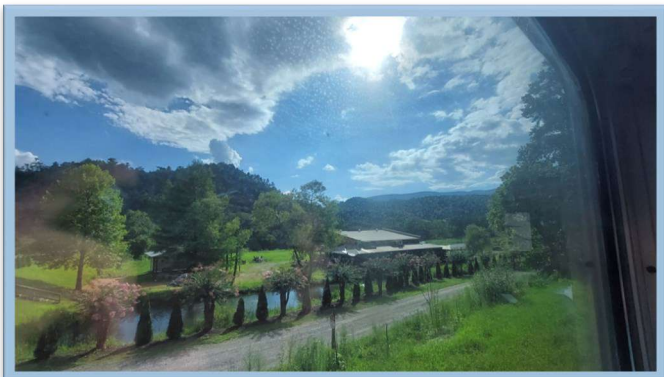
Summer Travels
Part 4—Tennessee

After all the walking the past couple of days and being out in the hot Atlanta sun I was ready for a more relaxed activity and I was lucky my next stop was the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum. Unfortunately, I did not get to visit the museum as I had booked their excursion train for the day and the passenger pick up area is not at the museum. My excursion trip was the Copperhill Special which is an 8-hour train ride through the lower Hiwassee River Gorge, over the Hiwassee Loop, and onto the joint cities of Copperhill, Tennessee, and McCaysville, GA. The total round trip is 94 miles and you get a 90-minute layover to explore the city, shop, and have lunch in town. I booked a

seat in the observation car and that was well worth the extra cost with the full window views of all the breathtaking scenery. Also another nice perk of booking the observation car is complete access to the lounge car with unlimited snacks and beverages for the duration of the trip. One amazing story from this trip was that the dam releases water on certain days and it raises the water level quite a bit and I was lucky enough to be on a trip where this occurred halfway through the trip. So on the way out in the morning you could see lots of fishermen and all the vegetation was visible but on the return trip it was filled with rafters and kayakers floating down river with some area categorized as class 2 rapids.

~Bryan





Division 5 Officers (Terms expire June 2026)

Superintendent	Bill Osborne	440-254-0107 Super@mcr5.org
Asst. Superintendent	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519 AstSuper@mcr5.org

Division 5 Directors (Terms expire June 2026)

Chuck Limbert	440-357-1864	BOD@mcr5.org
Linda Kacprzak	440-286-9690	BOD@mcr5.org
Andy Yedlick	440-298-1221	BOD@mcr5.org
Mike Carovac	440-497-8536	BOD@mcr5.org

Division 5 Appointed Positions (Terms expire June 2026)

Treasurer	Bonnie Lette	440-298-3075 Treasurer@mcr5.org
Clerk	Matt Kross	440-668-9462 Clerk@mcr5.org
Railfest Chairman	John Ward	Railfest@mcr5.org
Promo Day Coordinator		PromoDay@mcr5.org
Achievement Program	Matt Kross	440-668-9462 AP@mcr5.org
Trip Master	Bill Osborne	440-254-0107 Tripmaster@mcr5.org
Auditors	Chuck Limbert Bryan Persing	Audit@mcr5.org
Trainwire Editor	Bryan Persing	330-715-3519 Trainwire@mcr5.org
Refreshments	Cody Cavender Kellie Cavender	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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DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (65)

THE TRAINWIRE

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THE WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION 5

www.mcr5.org
A non-profit educational organization



Superintendent:

Bill Osborne

Super@mcr5.org

Asst. Super:

Bryan Persing

AstSuper@mcr5.org

Trainwire Editor:

Bryan Persing

Trainwire@mcr5.org

Treasurer:

Bonnie Lette

Treasurer@mcr5.org

Clerk:

Matt Kross

Clerk@mcr5.org