



# JANUARY, 2025 VOLUME XXI ISSUE 1

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



## THIS MONTH:

### January 11

Holiday Party  
Hambden Town Hall  
12:30

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Meetings/Events	2
Minutes	3
Railfest Corner	4
Announcements	5-6
Bring & Brag	7
Articles	8-10
Officers\	11
Volunteers	



Well I hope everyone's holidays were great (by the time you read this Christmas will be over). 2024 will be behind us and I am looking forward to 2025 because I retire this year. As I write this I am assembling an old Branchline Nickel Plate 40 foot box car kit I picked up at the Erie train show. Now 20+ years ago I assembled dozens and dozens of these and Proto, Red Caboose, Intermountain etc. kits and loved them. I would pump out 3 or 4 a night; now, I'm not enjoying this. It doesn't help that I have a pack of hot dogs for fingers and need aircraft landing lights to see what I am working on but I am on day three of the build and hope to finish by Christmas. But this got me thinking about the hobby. The two biggest influences in the hobby are time and money. Nothing impacts our hobby more than time and money. We continually trade one for the other, when you go to work your trading your time for their money. What does this have to do with the hobby? Well right now I would gladly trade some of my money for someone else's

time to finish this kit...lol. But when I was assembling those kits back then I was raising a family and money was tighter so I assembled 8 to 12 dollar kits instead of buying the 25 to 35 dollar assembled ones. I could assemble a sizable fleet of well detailed cars for much less. Back then I was willing to trade more of my time to save money. Now that I am older my bank account is larger but my time account is much smaller. I have to manage my time like I managed my money when I had family responsibilities. So I would rather pay a little more for assembled kits so I can spend my modeling time on more important stuff for the layout. I think more and more people are realizing this because kits have basically disappeared from the market. I still have a dozen or two unbuilt kits in the basement that now I don't know if they ever will get done. As far as this Nickel Plate kit I'm working on now..I'm bound and determined to finish it. So look for it in future posts. Can't make the Holiday party so see ya in Feb. Happy New Year. Bill

Welcome to 2025 and with it comes the dreaded New Years' resolutions. Now this doesn't have to be all bad you can make some resolutions that are fun about the hobby or the division. For example, you could decided this will be the year I finally bring something to bring and brag, submit an article, or even give a presentation. Notice those are all selfish resolutions that help me out but hey this is my space so sue me.

As for myself I am making the resolution to get my basement remodel completely done by the end of 2025 so I can welcome 2026 in with the building of a new layout. I have already completed 1/5 of the project so this is one resolution that may be accomplished. Looking back on last years I was able to finish organizing and cataloging my entire collection so I am hoping to keep the streak in tact.

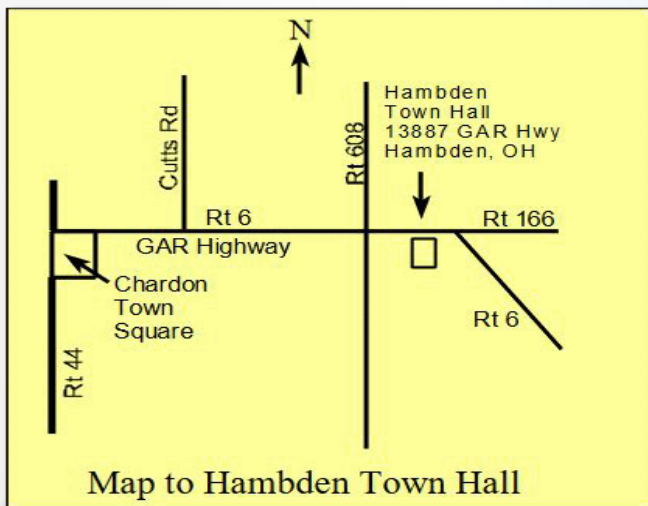
Bryan

# MEETINGS & EVENTS

## UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

<u>JANUARY 11, 2025</u>	HOLIDAY PARTY
LOCATION:	HAMBDEN TOWN HALL
TIME:	12:30 SOCIAL TIME 1:00 FOOD SERVED
<u>FEBRUARY 7, 2025</u>	DIVISION MEETING
LOCATION:	HAMBDEN TOWN HALL
PROGRAM:	BRING & BRAG
	ANYTHING GOES
<u>FEBRUARY 10, 2025</u>	BOD MEETING
LOCATION:	VIA ZOOM
TIME:	7:30



Map to Hambden Town Hall

## UPCOMING Events

(GO TO [WWW.CLEVESHOWS.COM](http://WWW.CLEVESHOWS.COM) FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF SHOWS)

### 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 5

Youngstown Model RR Toy - Train Flea Market  
Parish Center  
4490 Norquest Blvd., Austintown, Ohio 44515  
10 am to 3:30pm Adm. \$7.00  
Phone Rick Austin at: 832-622-8637

### 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 2

Medina Train and Toy Show  
Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256  
9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$8.00  
Phone: 330-948-4400

### 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

# MINUTES

## Membership Meeting – December 6, 2024

21 members attended; 2 guests – Greg Short Div. 6; Dan Sapochetti

Condolences to Matt Kross for the loss of his dear wife, Barb

Don Thomas is recovering from a fall

Talk of possibly going to the Age of Steam Roundhouse in 2025; 765 will be doing the Steam in the Valley in 2025 at Cuyahoga Valley RR.

HO Module meeting will be Wed. 12/11 at the Munson Fire Department

Trainwire – Discussed wanting to possibly have videos available online.

Different train shows in the area this weekend

### Modeling Tip:

Dull Coat – Cody Cavender tried different brands of dull coat and suggests that you stay with the Testor's brand. The other brands tried either would allow the chalks to rub off or did not work out great.

### Modeling Question:

Mike Rudder wants suggestions for cameras in the staging area. A few suggestions were given.

Railfest – Per John Ward; the tables are selling and approximately ½ have sold. John modeled a possible new vest design for the volunteers. Some feel that the yellow vest would be more visible.

Greg Short from Division 6 gave a power point presentation for the 2025 Buckeye Express - NMRA MCR Convention in Columbus area. He went over the early bird \$70 special through 1/31/25, after 2/1/25 the price will be \$80. Plus, there will be Extra Fare, Banquet, Hands on Modeling Clinics, 3 rooms of clinics. He mentioned the local attractions, train watching, Company Store, Raffle, swap sale, hobby stores and the \$20 Mill Creek Central live steam. There will be many layout tours and operating sessions.

Name Tag winner – Andy Yedlick

Bring N Brag – Bill Berger, Bryan Persing, Dave Neff, Michael Rudder, Linda Kacprzak and Dave Metzger

Program for the evening was presented by John Ward of his trip to Cincinnati – Union Station

Submitted by

Bonnie Lette – Treasurer

# RAILFEST CORNER



### Attention Vendors!

We're excited to announce that vendor forms for Railfest are now available online!

If you or someone you know are interested in showcasing products or services at this year's Railfest, head over to [www.railfest.org](http://www.railfest.org) and navigate to the Dealer information package to download registration forms.

Also, be sure to like the Railfest Facebook page for other announcements leading up to Railfest 2025!

Thanks!  
John

### Div. 5 Railfest - Model Railroad Show

Lakeland Community College  
7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, Ohio 44094  
10 am to 4 pm

Adm. \$9.00 each  
\$14.00 couples one day  
\$14.00 two day pass - one person  
\$16.00 Family (2 adults, 2 children)

Contact John at [railfest@mcr5.org](mailto:railfest@mcr5.org)



### 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

**January 2025 Trainwire Items**

\*\*\*\*\*  
 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  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Promo Day 2025 Coordinator Needed**

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

**2024 Division 5 Event Pictures Wanted**

We would like to have a photo show at the Division Holiday Party on January 11th that contains pictures from Division events throughout 2024. If you have some pictures we can use, please contact Assistant Superintendent Bryan Persing.

**Welcome New Members!**

Bob Gittinger – Wickliffe, OH (Bob decided to rejoin. Welcome back Bob!)

**Division Regulation Changes Voting Results**

Voting is now closed for the issue of the proposed changes to the Division 5 Regulations. 42 ballots have been returned. The vote was 42 in favor of the changes and 0 against the changes. The approval of the proposed changes passes.

**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. 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 on Dec 1, 2024 inviting you to use the specified web link to RSVP. If you do not have online access, please contact Matt Kross (440-668-9462 or clerk@mcr5.org) 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, 13887 GAR Highway, Chardon, OH 44024  
 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



# REMEMBRANCE

**Barbara Ann (nee Jones) (Cooper) Kross**  
**December 22, 1932 – November 24, 2024**

'I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day...'

2 Timothy 4:7-8.

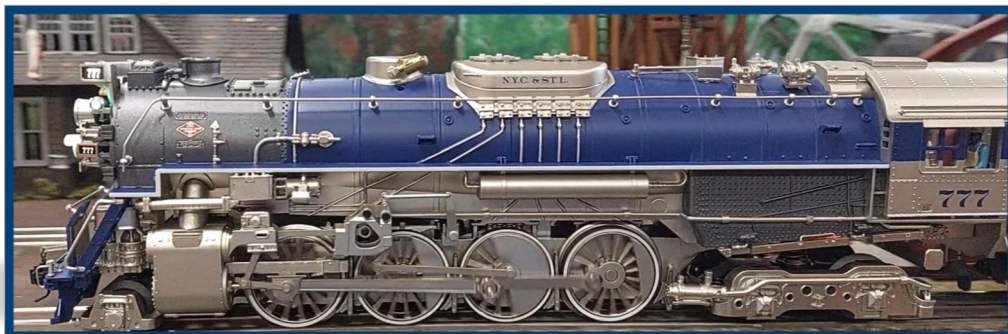
Barbara Kross, 91, of Chester Township passed away peacefully at home on November 24, 2024, after a long battle with senile dementia. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio to Norman and Lillian (Morgan) Jones. She was a 1951 graduate of John Adams High School in Cleveland where she played flute and piccolo in the marching band and orchestra. She went on to Kent State University to work on a degree in education but left college after a year to get married and start a family. She had three daughters, Debra, Karen, and Laura. Barbara worked at several different places including Bell Telephone and Motch & Merryweather before going back to college at night to finish her degree in education. She graduated from Kent State University in 1971 with a bachelors degree. She taught first grade at St. Justin Martyr for 2 years and then first and third grade at Ledgemont School District. Barbara went on to get a masters degree from Kent State in 1974 in the area of Learning Disabilities and Behavior Disorders. She started the first unit at Ledgemont elementary for children with learning disabilities and taught that class for 18 years. Barbara retired in 1992 after 25 years of teaching.

Barbara met Matthew Kross at church in 1979 and they were married in 1980. They were together for 44 years at the time of her passing. They moved from Mentor on the Lake to Chester Township in 1982. Barbara was a Born Again Christian who loved the Lord. She enjoyed studying the Bible and led several Bible studies over the years. She was an Elder in the Presbyterian Church with focus on the worship service. She taught Sunday School and helped with church youth groups. She led the Chapel Circle for many years at Christ Presbyterian Church in Chesterland. She loved listening to music, singing, cooking, traveling, and collecting Teddy Bears. She was proud of her Welsh heritage, especially their love of singing, and over the years attended many annual Welsh songfests (Gymanfa Ganu) in the U.S. and Canada with either her husband or her sister. She sang in church choirs starting at age 12 and continued until she was 87. She sang for 45 years in the Lake County Messiah Chorus. She taught herself how to play the piano and enjoyed learning new pieces and playing for herself at home. Barbara loved children and teaching. After retiring from teaching, she served on the Board of the Christ Presbyterian Church Pre-School for several years and helped teach when needed at several different pre-schools.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Matthew A. Kross, children Debra Duy, Karen (Patrick) Stewart, and Laura Quinones, eight grandchildren, and sixteen great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Betty, and brother Thomas.



# Bring & Brag





# ARTICLES

Near Kellie and I's anniversary, in September, we like to do a short trip/vacation. Last year, we went up to Niagara Falls and found a few things we would like to do in Buffalo, but didn't have the time for. In planning for this year's trip to experience those missed opportunities, I found the Buffalo Central Terminal. After informing Kellie, we decided to stop by and check it out. Sadly, the terminal is only open for special events throughout the year, which meant the best we could do is drive by and take a few pictures. On the way to the terminal, we discovered it was located in the ghetto of Buffalo. Many of the surrounding buildings were in disrepair including ones connected to the terminal tower. The main entrance is off a roundabout, but you can only drive up the ramp so far before it's blocked off. It is a very beautiful building with many art-deco

architectural elements, though difficult to do more than sneak a peek from far away for a few seconds. One of the reasons we did not stick around too long, besides it being in the ghetto, was this homeless man that was flagging down traffic and nearly causing multiple accidents. Something we did not want to be near or a part of. After snapping some pictures of the front and one of the back, we decided to hurry out of that area to safer downtown Buffalo. There is a restoration project going on for the terminal with aims to have it be in use again to support the community and as future attraction. So, one day in the future it may be a fun, safe place to visit and explore. Here's hope for the rebirth of a railroad landmark.

~Cody Cavender.





Summer Travels  
Part 5—Maryland

After leaving Tennessee the next day was spent driving 10 hours and staying just outside of Baltimore to be ready to go for my visit to the B&O Roundhouse and Museum. Upon pulling into the parking lot visitors can see they are in for a long day of railroad learning and exploring. The parking lot is filled with vintage passenger cars and rolling stock. I did some exploring out there before getting my ticket and moving into the museum. Before you enter the roundhouse there are some areas with some fascinating displays. I was particularly enamored with the HO scale Camden Yards baseball stadium on their HO scale train display. Other areas of interest are the history of the plight of the railroad worker and how railroads helped shaped

time zones across the country. After the “educational stuff” was out of the way I made it into the roundhouse and was staggered at just how magnificent the inside of that building is. I spent about 90 minutes just going around reading about all the engines that are housed inside. My favorite engine, the reason I really wanted to visit, the C&O Hudson (nicknamed the Yellowbelly) is in another building. Upon walking into that building there was that beauty right in front of me. Lucky for me the museum was not that crowded so I could take many pictures without other people in the shot. The B&O also has other areas outside and inside each car you have displays, movies, and even another HO train layout. This is one place I plan to visit again in the future.

~Bryan



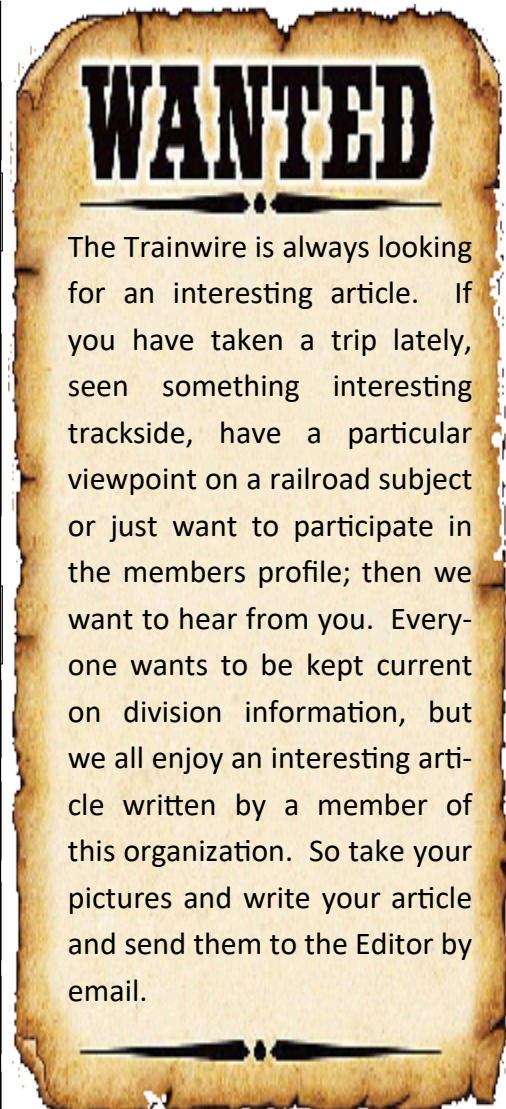




More Photos on the Website



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
John Ward	440-231-3235	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	440-231-3235 Railfest@mcr5.org
Promo Day Coordinator	(Open)	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



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

JANUARY, 2025 EDITION

DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (66)

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.mcr5.org)  
A non-profit educational organization



Superintendent:	Bill Osborne	<a href="mailto:Super@mcr5.org">Super@mcr5.org</a>
Asst. Super:	Bryan Persing	<a href="mailto:AstSuper@mcr5.org">AstSuper@mcr5.org</a>
Trainwire Editor:	Bryan Persing	<a href="mailto:Trainwire@mcr5.org">Trainwire@mcr5.org</a>
Treasurer:	Bonnie Lette	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@mcr5.org">Treasurer@mcr5.org</a>
Clerk:	Matt Kross	<a href="mailto:Clerk@mcr5.org">Clerk@mcr5.org</a>
Railfest:	John Ward	<a href="mailto:Railfest@mcr5.org">Railfest@mcr5.org</a>