



UPCOMING DIV	ISION 5 MEETINGS	UPCOMING Events		
(Division 5 Meetings Start At 7:30)		(GO TO WWW.CLEVESHOWS.COM FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF SHOWS)		
<u>March 7, 2025</u>	DIVISION MEETING	<u>March 2</u> Erie Model Train Show		
LOCATION:	HAMBDEN TOWN HALL	Rainbow Gardens - Waldameer Park, PA 10 am to 4 pm Adm. \$5.00 Phone: 724-992-2035		
Program:	RAIL ROUTES IN/OUT OF	March 9		
Bring & Brag	Cleveland – Jerry Jordak Anything Related To	Akron Train & Toy Show		
DINING & DINAG	CLEVELAND RAILROADS	48 East Bath Road at State Road Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223		
		9:00 am - 3 pm Adm. \$5.00		
MARCH 15 & 16	RAILFEST	Phone: 330-724-5253		
LOCATION:	Lakeland College	<u>March 15 &amp; 16</u> Div. 5 Railfest - Model Railroad Show 7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, Ohio 44094		
TIME:	10ам—4рм (Вотн Days)	10 am to 4pm Adm.\$9.00 (day) \$14 (2 day) Contact John at railfest@mcr5.org		
<u>April 4, 2025</u>	DIVISION MEETING	March 29 Train Collectors Association		
LOCATION:	HAMBDEN TOWN HALL	Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds 164 Eastland Rd., Middleburg Heights, Ohio		
Program:	SCRATCHBUILDING	10 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00		
	by Mike Carovac	Phone John Twarog at: 330-273-6404		
Bring & Brag	SCRATCHBUILT ITEMS	March 30		
		Springfield Train Show		
<u>April 14, 2025</u>	BOD MEETING	Clark County Fairgrouds 4401 South Charleston Pike (State Rt. 41)		
		10 am - 3 pm Adm. \$5.00		
LOCATION:	VIA ZOOM			
GAR High GAR High Chardon Town Square		April 6 Medina Train and Toy Show Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256 9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00 Phone: 330-948-4400		





**Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes** 

February 7, 2025

The February 7, 2025 membership meeting was held at Hambden Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Bill Osborne. There were 23 members and two guests present.

Railfest 2025 update was provided. We have 25 new vests made. Please make sure to wear your Division 5 nametag during Railfest. We don't have the dates yet from Lakeland Community College for Railfest 2026 but should be getting them very soon. This year we will use hand stamps at the gate instead of wristbands. Some new ads have been created. This year we will try giving out Railfest Bucks as door prizes that visitors can use towards purchases from vendors. Two more 4-wheel carts have been purchased to use for vehicle loading/unloading. At the moment we have 22 tables unsold. The podium for the ticket gate has been updated. The same caterer will be providing the concession stand as last year but this is going to change next year. Lots of Railfest fliers are available. Railfest job signup is available on the Division 5 website under the Members section. The program for the March Division 5 meeting will be the Rail Routes In/Out Of Cleveland by Jerry Jordak. There will once again be a Railfest Dinner at the Painesville Railroad Museum the Saturday evening of Railfest. The Painesville Railroad Museum will begin their normal summer hours on May 1, 2025. The Mid Central Region 2025 convention will be on May 15-18 in the Columbus, OH area. The NMRA 2025 national convention will be on July 14-19 in Novi, Michigan. Bill Osborne is working on putting together a trip to the Age Of Steam Roundhouse. A meeting of the new HO modular club will be held on Feb 13. Member Welfare: Chuck Limbert was back at the meeting after going through his cancer treatments. Paul Emch was back at the meeting after recovering from his bad fall. Former member Sam Monturi's wife passed away. Sam is currently in a nursing home. Modeling Question: Is there something you can use to keep rubber bands from deteriorating or drying out? Some suggestions were to try spraying with ArmorAll or switch to using O-rings. Modeling Tips: Rubbing alcohol (both 70% and 90%) removes acrylic paint Items For The Good Of The Order: Ted Wiese had a stack of .010" clear plastic sheets at the meeting for anyone who wanted them. Bring & Brag: Matt Kross Cody Cavender Bill Berger Dave Neff Curtis Caden Bill Osborne **Dennis Sauder** Dave Metzger Dave Neff provided a clinic "Sticking With Adhesives" that went over various adhesives to use for Program: model building.

Submitted by Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk



#### BOD Meeting 10 Feb 2025

A Division 5 BOD meeting was held on February 10, 2025. The meeting was held online using Zoom. In attendance were Bill Osborne, Bryan Persing, Bonnie Lette, Mike Carovac, Chuck Limbert, Matt Kross, Linda Kacprzak, Ted Wiese, Doug Riedel, and John Ward.

Reviewed how the Division 5 Holiday Party went. Everything seemed to go well and those that attended enjoyed themselves. We will try to have the same activities at next year's party.

Railfest 2025 status update. Reviewed the new vests. Trainz.com will supply some gift cards for us to use as prizes (\$100, \$50, and \$25). We will check to see if they will also supply some products for us to use as raffle or door prizes. Gary Shaffer and Rick Kacprzak will be coordinating the Division 5 sales table.

All divisions are asked to use the NMRA 90th year anniversary logo to advertise that the NMRA is celebrating 90 years in existence.

Upcoming programs:

March – Jerry Jordak - Rail Routes In/Out Of Cleveland April – Mike Carovac – Scratchbuilding May – Bryan Persing – Layout Tour Photos Bring & Brag: March – Cleveland related railroad items April – Anything Scratchbuilt May - ?

Upcoming Events: Railfest - March Trip to Age Of Steam Roundhouse – September Promo Day - ? (need a coordinator)

Trainwire ideas. Bill would like to see some improvements to the Trainwire such as maintaining an archive of pictures and adding videos. Doing things to update the technology to a more modern approach. Want to have more content. Part of our problem is that very few people submit articles for the Trainwire other than Bryan. Also, would like to get rid of sending paper copies and eliminate the 4, 8, 12, 16 page requirement. Videos can be put on the Division's FaceBook page. BOD approved eliminating sending printed copies of the Trainwire as of the April meeting. This will allow us to have more flexibility with structuring the Trainwire. A notice will be put in the March Trainwire that this will be happening.

Modeling contests at meetings. Bill would like to start having modeling contests at meetings, not every month, but probably quarterly. Various categories would be specified well in advance. Winners would be selected by popular vote. All entries would receive a \$5 Division certificate. The idea is to encourage more member participation. The contest would take the place of the normal Bring & Brag for that month. We will try our first contest at the June 2025 meeting and just have it be an open theme. The contest model still needs to be something that you worked on in the last 6 months. Bill will write up an article for the Trainwire that describes what we plan to do.





We need to remind people that Bring & Brag is just for recent model work. If someone has free items to give away, we have a separate table for that. If someone has something they just want people to see but hasn't put any work into it, we can set up a separate table for that.

We should promote the various How To videos that can be found on the NMRA website.

We should try again to promote the NMRA Achievement Program amongst the members to see if there is any renewed interest.

The next Div 5 BOD meeting will be on Monday, April 14, 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

### **Trainwire Changes**

This will be more than likely the last hard copy Trainwire published and starting next month it will be available exclusively online. The main reason for this is that there are very few members taking the Trainwire in published form and many divisions have already moved in this direction. With this change I anticipate the Trainwire becoming much larger in terms of number of pages. Now pictures can be made larger, since it won't matter if more pages are taken for members photos, and those wishing to view stand alone pictures will still be able to do so in the photo album section Wayne has created on our division's page. There has been lots of talk about incorporating videos into the Trainwire but honestly that will still not be possible. Reason is two fold: 1. Videos are quite large and almost impossible to send to me in an email. In addition, the format it is sent is not always compatible with the software I am working with. 2. The file size of the issue that can be uploaded to the division's website and still be able to load in a timely manner is limited.

We do have a solution and hopefully more members will take advantage of this. The division has a Facebook page where you are not limited in the amount of photos and videos you upload. Search for NMRA Western Reserve Division Group and join in order to participate. For those already on this page you know just how active our Superintendent Bill Osborne is on this page. What is nice is that when you select one of Bill's photos it will automatically give you a full size view of the photos where you can see many of the details. As your editor I am going to make a conscious effort to start posting all the pictures from the Trainwire also to our division's Facebook page so that you can see the photos in their uncompressed format.

Finally with this new format we are not limited to multiples of four as we are with the printed copy. If you don't know what that means the Trainwire currently must have either 4, 8, 12, 16, or 20 pages in order to go to the printer and not have blank sections of white paper. In the past this has meant some photos have had to be cut or reduced in size that it made it very difficult to really capture what the photographer was intending the reader to see.

If anyone has any questions please bring them up at the March meeting and we will try to answer them as best as we can.





#### **Attention Members**

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Calling All Volunteers for Railfest 2025!

Railfest 2025 is just around the corner, and we need your help to make it an unforgettable event!

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to fill various roles during the event. Whether you're great with people, handy behind the scenes, or just love being part of something big, there's a spot for you!



Sign up now on the division 5 members page.

Your time and support make all the difference! Let's make Railfest 2025 the best one yet.

Also see the next page if you are interested in selling items at the division 5 flea market members table. Read directions carefully as to how to participate.

This year, Railfest staff/volunteer members will be sporting new vests! These vests have been specifically designed to make our team easily identifiable. We will be communicating this change to the vendors to know who to look for as part of their event packet! We hope you are as excited as we are about our new threads!

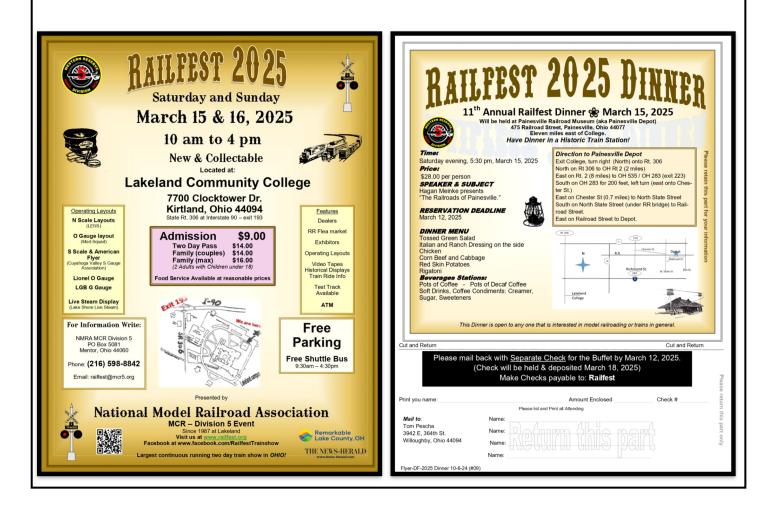
NOTE: We currently have 25 vests based on the old vests we had in our possession (re-using the patches). That should be enough for our daily volunteers, but if you happened to have an old vest in your position, please be sure to get it to John Ward so that we have more patches to make more vests to increase our stock/ availability for 2026.

# **Division 5 Fleamarket Table Item Rules**

If you want to make use of the Division fleamarket table at Railfest, you MUST fill out the form on the other side of this sheet. Use as many copies of the form as needed to list ALL the items you are selling. Each item on the table must have a sticker that contains the member's initials and a sequence number corresponding to the items on the form. Multiple items, bagged or boxed, are only counted as one item if they are being sold as a set.

Please keep prices in even dollar increments (\$1, \$2, \$3, etc.) if at all possible. This makes it a lot easier for the people manning the table to make change and handle the money.

Also, you need to provide a Business Size envelope to put the money in from the sales of your items. Mark your name clearly on the envelope. You also need to put some money in the envelope to allow the people manning the table to use for making change. We would like at least ten \$1 bills in the envelope. Please mark on the envelope the amount of money you provided for making change.



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# Division 5 Railfest <u>Fleamarket</u> Table Items

My signature on this paper hereby releases Div 5 MCR NMRA, its officers & workers from any and all liability in case of loss or damage to my property while at this show.

Member's Signature:

# Division 5 Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I will accept checks: 🛛 🗆 Yes

🗆 No

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### March 2025 Trainwire Items

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March Meeting:	March 7, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall Bring 'n' Brag: Anything Related To Cleveland Railroads Program: Rail Routes In/Out Of Cleveland – Jerry Jordak
April Meeting:	April 4, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall Bring 'n' Brag: Scratchbuilt Items Program: Scratchbuilding by Mike Carovac
May Meeting:	May 2, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall Bring 'n' Brag: ? Program: Layout Tour Photos by Bryan Persing

#### 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.

#### Member Welfare

It was great to see Chuck Limbert back at the meeting after going through his cancer treatments. It was great to see Paul Emch back at the meeting after recovering from his bad fall. Former member Sam Monturi's wife passed away recently. Sam is currently in a nursing home.

#### Need Coordinator For Division 5/NMRA Recruitment Table At Railfest

We will have a Division 5/NMRA information/recruitment table at Railfest. We need someone to be the coordinator of this table. Tasks would include determining what information to have at the table, develop signage to put up, and get people to man the table during Railfest hours. Please contact Matt Kross at 440-668-9462 or super@mcr5.org if you are willing to do this.

#### **Railfest Door Prize Donations**

We can use donations of model railroad related items for our door prize table at Railfest. While you are getting back to work in your layout room this winter, please think about anything that you would be willing to donate for a door prize. Bring your donations to the March Division 5 membership meeting or to Railfest during setup.

#### Selling Items At The Division 5 Sales Table At Railfest

Gary Shaffer and Rick Kacprzak will once again be coordinating the Division 5 sales table at Railfest. All Division 5 members are welcome to put items for sale on the Division 5 sales table. However, there are some rules to follow.

You MUST fill out the Division 5 Railfest Fleamarket Table Items form. This form is available on the Division 5 website. We will also have paper copies at the February and March meetings. A copy of the form is included in this Trainwire. Use as many copies of the form as needed to list ALL the items you are selling. Each item on the table



must have a sticker that contains the member's initials and a sequence number corresponding to the items on the form. Multiple items, bagged or boxed, are only counted as one item if they are being sold as a set.

Please keep prices in even dollar increments (\$1, \$2, \$3, etc.) if at all possible. This makes it a lot easier for the people manning the table to make change and handle the money.

Also, you need to provide a Business Size envelope to put the money in from the sales of your items. Mark your name clearly on the envelope. You also need to put some money in the envelope to allow the people manning the table to use for making change. We would like at least ten \$1 bills in the envelope. Please mark on the envelope the amount of money you provided for making change.

The full set of rules are listed on the back of the form.

#### **Discounted NMRA Memberships At Railfest**

Do you know someone that has been thinking about joining the NMRA? Have them come to Railfest and sign up. Division 5 will once again offer a subsidy for new NMRA memberships if the person signs up at Railfest and resides in our Division 5 area (Lake, Geauga, or Ashtabula counties). This year we will provide \$9.95 towards a \$19.95 Rail Pass membership and \$15 towards a full \$68 NMRA membership, but only if the person will be a member of Division 5. Note that normal Rail Pass restrictions still apply.

#### Promo Day 2025 Coordinator Needed

Promo Day 2025 coordinator needed. We would like to hold our annual Model Railroad Promotional Day in November but we don't have anyone to coordinate the event. Please contact Bill Osborne or Matt Kross if you are interested.



PLEASE SUPPORT THESE DEALERS!



RPM-East prototype modeler event in metro-Pittsburgh, PA

The 2025 RPM-East returns to the Westmoreland County Community College in Youngwood, PA, March 21 & 22! The location of our long-running railroad prototype modeler meet is just 40 miles southeast of downtown Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Make plans to rekindle your modeling efforts!

Thirty-eight modelers and historians are scheduled to speak at RPM-East. Many presentation titles have been posted to the RPM-East website. A tentative presentation schedule will be posted to the website in late February.

Early bird registration is only \$40 (until February 28th). RPM-East is sponsored by Division 2, MCR-NMRA. Registration forms, presentation details, op session layouts, and participating vendors can be reviewed at the RPM-East website:

http://hansmanns.org/rpm\_east/index.htm

There will be plenty of action over March 21 & 22.

- two days of prototype and model presentations
- a large display room to share your modeling efforts and learn new techniques
- a variety of vendors selling goods for prototype modeling
- Thursday operating sessions on local model railroads
- Sunday model railroad layouts to visit

There are several hotel options in nearby New Stanton, PA, just off of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. This Google Maps link can help you find lodging.

https://goo.gl/maps/Kf55KEzfHJSMmaEV7

Gather your models and make plans to attend the 2025 RPM-East prototype modeler event in Youngwood, PA!

Eric Hansmann RPM-East Publicity and Web Guy eric@hansmanns.org



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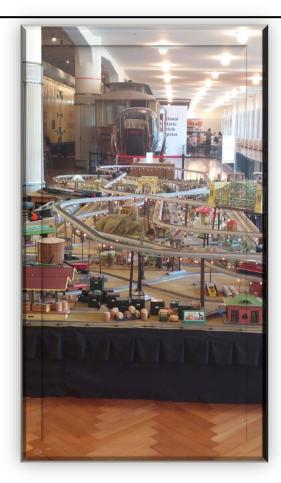


This past October my wife and I and her parents took a weekend trip to Deerborn, Michigan to visit the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Actually that was our intention but upon arrival we found out that Greenfield Village would be closed due to them getting ready for their Halloween setup. Fortunately, we purchased the annual pass so we can return and do this portion later in 2025. Honestly not seeing the village wasn't a bad issue because there is so much to see in actual museum itself. This structure is 523,000sqft and filled with so many different attractions it almost becomes overwhelming. We spent two solid days exploring all the attractions both train and non train related. Non train highlights include: George Washington's Camping Cot, Dymaxion House, Presidential Cars, Lincoln's Death Chair, Amelia Earhart Plane, and the Spirit of St. Louis.

Of course the real reason I was so enthusiastic to explore this museum was its railroad exhibit. The showstopper is definitely the 1601 C&O Allegheny. This majestic beauty is over 125 feet long and comes in weighing over 750,000 pounds. Of course this may have had just a little effect on me purchasing an MTH premier version the next week at York. Other pieces include a refrigerator car, snowplow, vintage passenger cars, the Sam Hill locomotive, and the #90 Ingersoll-Rand Diesel Electric.

~Bryan Persing





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#### **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 BOD@mcr5.org Linda Kacprzak 440-286-9690 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) 440-298-3075 Treasurer Bonnie Lette Treasurer@mcr5.org 440-668-9462 Clerk Matt Kross 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 Audit@mcr5.org Bryan Persing Trainwire Editor Bryan Persing 330-715-3519 Trainwire@mcr5.org Refreshments Cody Cavender **Kellie Cavender** Refreshments@mcr5.org Membership Roster Matt Kross 440-668-9462 Layout Tours 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.



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.

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## MARCH, 2025 EDITION

## **DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (65)**

#### 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.

