

TRAINWIRE



MAY, 2025 VOLUME XXI ISSUE 5

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



THIS MONTH:

May 2

Division Meeting
Hambden Town Hall
7:30

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Okay I guess the number one qualification to be the assistant superintendent is to step up when the superintendent isn't available. Bill has not written any comments for this months Trainwire so lucky for him I am well versed at filling space with needless words and stories.

I know that Bill would want to mention the survey that went out recently asking for peoples interest in the trip he has planned out. I hope many of our members support this because quite frankly if we don't have much interest and support future trips may be in doubt. One of the things I hear from members is we need to do more activities; well here is your chance to join your fellow members for a really great time. Division 5 did this trip maybe 8 to 10 years ago and everyone who went had a blast. The Warther's Museum is something you will never forgot and for those of us that have gone you will discover something new every time you visit. You really can't appreciate the magnificence of his work from photos. You have to see it in person.

The other stop is the Age of Steam Roundhouse. Once again even if you have been there before since it's an actually operating shop it will not be the same tour you have seen be-

fore. If you haven't been to the roundhouse it's definitely a bucket list destination. I have been to many train destinations over the last few years and both of these places are right up there in terms of quality and uniqueness. Finally, the price is such a deal at only 50 dollars which besides admission it covers transportation and a great meal with friends. Hope to see many of you there.

Now to what I would have used my space for; it is that time of year again when I make my semi annual pilgrimage to York, PA for the biggest O gauge train show. As always I had a great time hanging out with friends from across the country and creating lasting memories. Of course I found some items that were on my list and what usually happens some items that were not on my list but the deals were just too good to pass up. In one case also seeing some items I have never seen before and just "had to have them". Coming back from the show I made a quick one day trip two hours north to New Jersey to take in Northlandz the World's Largest Miniature Wonderland & Model Railroad Museum. I was blown away at the sheer size of the display and of course I will do an article in an upcoming issue of the Trainwire. ~Bryan

MEETINGS & EVENTS

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

MAY 2, 2025

DIVISION MEETING

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

PROGRAM: VIDEO LAYOUT TOURS
BY BRYAN PERSING

BRING & BRAG COIL CARS

JUNE 6, 2025

DIVISION MEETING

LOCATION: HAMBDEN TOWN HALL

PROGRAM: SCRATCHBUILDING PART II
BY MIKE CAROVAC

BRING & BRAG MODEL LIGHTING

JUNE 9, 2025

BOD MEETING

LOCATION: VIA ZOOM



UPCOMING Events

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

May 10

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

May 31/June 1

Railroads in the Park
Lake Farm Parks
8800 Euclid Chardon Rd, Kirtland, OH 44094
9:00 am to 5:00 pm Adm. Park Rates
(440) 256-2122

June 28

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

July 12

Rubber City Model Train Show
Emidio's & Sons Expo Center
48 East Bath Road at State Road
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223
10:00 am - 3 pm Adm. \$8.00
Phone: 316-253-5918

July 26

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

MINUTES

Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2025

The April 4, 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 3 guests present.

Railfest 2025 review: Too soon for any specific financial numbers. Still waiting for some bills to come in. Everything went well. Got about 12 surveys back from the vendors. Vendors said they had a good weekend. General public comments were that they were glad we got rid of the wristbands. It helped to speed up the processing at the gate. The new gate booth was well received.

The details for our trip to the Age of Steam Roundhouse on Saturday, September 20, 2025, are being worked on. We are looking into transportation options. We need to get an accurate count of how many people will be going.

Looking at possibilities for the Division picnic this summer.

The plan for our May program is a virtual layout tour. We will show photos provided by members of either their own layouts or layouts they have visited. Bryan Persing will put the photo show together and needs your photo submissions by April 28, 2025 in order to prepare the presentation for the May meeting. Send your pictures to Trainwire@mcr5.org. Remember, if you submit pictures, you will receive a \$5 Division 5 Award Certificate and, if you submit a write-up along with the pictures, you will receive a \$10 certificate.

The April Trainwire was the first month where we have gone to a digital version only. No more paper copies will be mailed out or provided. This allows us to expand on the content of the Trainwire.

Upcoming programs: May will be the Virtual Layout Tour, June will be Scratchbuilding Part 2, no meeting in July, and August will be on Chasing the UP Big Boy. Looking for programs for September and October.

We had three new members sign-up at Railfest.

Former member Dale Mathews passed away in March.

Modeling Question:

The foam in the box for a brass engine is sticking the locomotive. Any ideas on how to remove the foam without damaging the paint on the locomotive? Maybe low strength alcohol or Microsol decal solution.

Modeling Tips:

Bryan Persing described how he made use of the miniature water atomizer that was shown last month during Bring 'n Brag. He used it to simulate smoke coming from a car accident on his Mod Squad module.

Bring & Brag: Theme: Anything Scratchbuilt

Matt Kross
Dave Neff

Bill Berger
Dennis Sautters

Linda Kacprzak

Program: Mike Carovac presented Part 1 of his clinic on scratchbuilding a simple building.

Submitted by
Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk

MINUTES

BOD Meeting 14 April 2025

A Division 5 BOD meeting was held on April 14, 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, Doug Riedel, and John Ward.

Reviewed how Railfest 2025 went. Still missing the Lakeland Community College bill. Looks like our profit this year will be a little less than last year. The profit will essentially be the amount of grant money we receive from the visitor's bureau. We had some higher expenses this year because of some investments that were made in new equipment such as vests and the ticket booth. We had lower table sales and lower attendance (about 100 less) than last year. We will probably eliminate the shuttle bus next year due to the lack of use. Want to do more things online next year and reduce postage costs. John was thanked for a successful first year.

Reviewed the details for the trip to the Age Of Steam Roundhouse / Warther Museum. This will be an all-day trip on Saturday, Sep 20, 2025 at a cost of \$50/person. The cost goes towards the two entrance fees (Age Of Steam Roundhouse, Warther Museum), lunch, and the transportation. Division 5 will cover any costs that the \$50/person does not cover. Members may bring as many guests as you would like at a cost of \$50/person but we need a definite count of the number of guests. The Division will provide the transportation which will either be a bus or some passenger vans, depending on the number of people that are going. We most likely will depart from somewhere in Chardon, OH. You have the option of driving yourself and we will provide directions and the itinerary. However, even if you drive yourself, the cost per person remains the same at \$50/person. We will need to know how many people will be making use of the Division transportation. The proposed itinerary will be as follows: Leave Chardon, tour the Warther Museum, have lunch, tour the Age Of Steam Roundhouse, arrive back in Chardon.

Upcoming programs:

May – Bryan Persing – Layout Tour Photos

June – Mike Carovac – Scratchbuilding Part 2

July – no meeting

August – Terry Kolenc – Chasing the Union Pacific Big Boy Steam Locomotive

Bring & Brag: Mike Carovac has generated a list for the remainder of the year and it will be published in the May Trainwire.

Upcoming Events:

Trip to Age Of Steam Roundhouse – September

Promo Day 2025 has been cancelled because we cannot get anyone to be the coordinator for the event.

We got three new Rail Pass members at Railfest. Two are a father and son. They were invited to the April meeting but did not make it.

MINUTES

Renewed our Division CD at Huntington Bank.

Discussed liability coverage of modular groups that are not a part of Division 5. Since these groups are totally separate from the NMRA and Division 5, Division 5 has no liability responsibility. The separate group would need to be a 100% NMRA club to get insurance from the NMRA. The Division decided a number of years ago that we no longer want to specifically sponsor a module group and thus show favoritism to a specific scale.

The next Div 5 BOD meeting will be on Monday, June 9, 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



Follow us on
Facebook

NMRA

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!



RAILFEST CORNER

RAILFEST 2026

Model Trains—Collectibles—Memorabilia

Saturday & Sunday

March 21 & 22, 2026

Since 1987 at :



7700 Clocktower Drive
Kirtland, OH 44094

State Rt. 306 at Interstate 90 – exit 193

Admission \$9.00

Two Day Pass \$14.00
Family (couples) \$14.00
Family (max) \$16.00
(2 Adults with Children under 18)

Food Service Available
at reasonable prices



**Free
Parking**
ATM Available

Featuring

- * Dealers *
- * Flea Market *
- * Exhibitors *
- * Operating Layouts *
- * Historical Displays *
- * Books / Magazines *
- * Apparel *
- * Collectibles *

For More Information:

www.railfest.org

Email: railfest@mcr5.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow

Railfest

PO Box 5081

Mentor, Ohio 44060

Phone: (216) 598-8842



THE NEWS-HERALD
www.News-Herald.com

Presented by

National Model Railroad Association

MCR – Division 5 Event

Largest continuous running two day train show in OHIO!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 2025 Trainwire Items

May Meeting: May 2, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
Bring 'n' Brag: Coil Cars
Program: Layout Tour Photos by Bryan Persing

June Meeting: June 6, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
Bring 'n' Brag: Model Lighting
Program: Scratch building Part 2

August Meeting: August 1, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
Bring 'n' Brag: Loads
Program: Chasing the Big Boy

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 will remain on the website for six months after they are first posted.

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.

Trainwire Changes

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division 5 NMRA - 2025 Program Schedule and Events

Meetings begin at 7:30PM Dates, programs and speakers can change

Month	Program	Speaker	Bring & Brag	Events
January				Christmas Party
February				
March				Div 5 Railfest
April	Scratch Building Part 1	Mike Carovac	Scratch Built	
May	Layouts	Bryan Persing	Coil Cars	
June	Scratch Building Part 2	Mike Carovac	Model Lighting	
July	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting	
August	Chasing the Big Boy	Terry Kolenc	Loads	
September			Boxcar Graffiti	
October			Train Stations	Div 4 Railfest
November	Making Decals	Mike Carovac	Billboards	
December			Anything Christmas	

BRING & BRAG



BRING & BRAG



BRING & BRAG



BRING & BRAG

31st Annual Narrow Gauge Show March 20-22, 2025

Diorama

Shell Oil Distribution Depot

Presented to

Linda Kacprzak



[Signature]
SIGNATURE

March 22, 2025

DATE



ARTICLES

Scale Rails of Southwest Florida

Back in November I made a trip to my Florida home to take all the hurricane protection off and get it ready for our snowbird renters. While down there I am always on the lookout for train related activities in the area and I found another hidden gem about 20 minutes from my home in Fort Myers. This hidden gem is known as Scale Rails of Southwest Florida. They are open for visitors on Tuesdays and Saturdays and my travels brought me here on a Tuesday afternoon. I was cordially greeted by a gentleman whose name now escapes me and he was my guide for all things club related. I got a general tour and history of the "depot" as they call it but once they found out I was an NMRA member that is when the real tour began. Now being an O gauger most of the technical stuff was very foreign to me but one can still appreciate all the hard work and technical expertise that went into designing the command control of the HO layout. I came away with a deep respect

for what the 40+ members have achieved on this highly detailed club layout.

The other item I found fascinating is that the "depot" is completely club owned. This is the biggest issue that most clubs fear is losing their locations or leases. Scale Rails had this happen some years ago so the club decided to find and purchase their own permanent location and building. They then worked diligently paying off the mortgage through shows, donations, and dues. They are now completely club owned and don't have to worry about moving again. I would try to describe all the great scenes but I took enough photos that you can see their quality workmanship from the picture displays.

If you ever get to southwest Florida they would love to show you around and talk trains for an hour or two. This will definitely be on my repeat list as they are continuing to work and expand scenes on the club layout. You can read more about them at www.scalerails.org/index.html

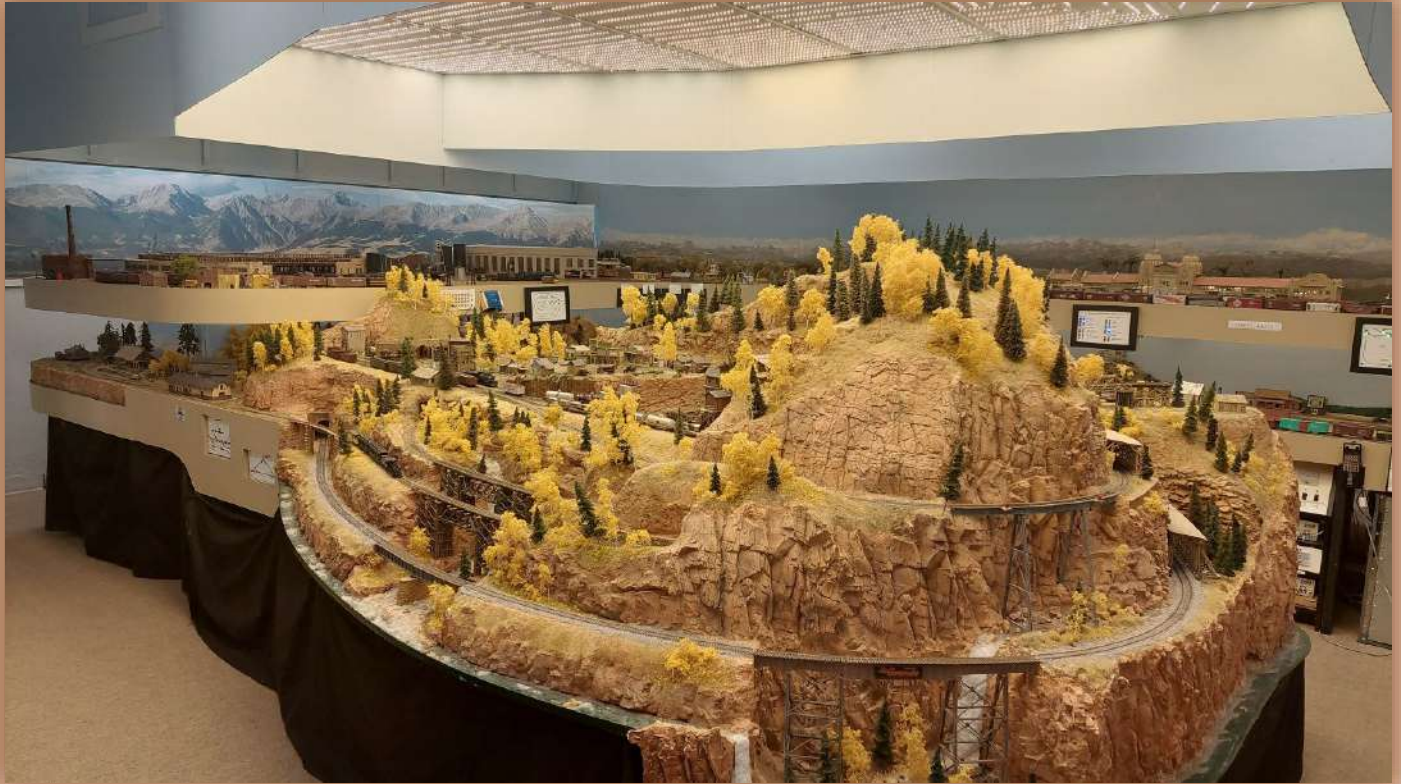
~Bryan Persing























MAY SHOWS

MODEL TRAIN DAY at THE PAINESVILLE RAILROAD MUSEUM

475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077

For info call Tom at 216-470-5780

MAY 10, 2025

10 am to 4 pm

See operating Model Train Layouts in N scale,
HO scale, S scale, O gauge and G gauge.
12 Different Layouts to see!

Model Train flea market on grounds.

Admission: \$5.00 adult, \$3.00 child (3 to 12 year old)
\$12.00 Family (max 2 adults, 3 children)



LeafFilter
GUTTER
PROTECTION



Direction to Painesville Depot

I-90 (exit 200) to Rt. 44
North on Rt. 44 to Rt. 2
East on Rt. 2 (1.5 miles) to OH 535 / OH 283 (exit 223)
South on OH 283 for 200 feet, left turn (east onto Chester St.)
East on Chester St (0.7 miles) to North State Street
South on North State Street (under RR Bridge) to Railroad Street.
East on Railroad Street to Depot.

Food and Drinks available.

www.painesvilleraillroadmuseum.org

501(c)3 non-profit

Proceeds to help the restoration and preservation of the historic NYC Painesville Depot and bring her back to its glory days of the NYC.

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

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

MAY, 2025 EDITION

DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (69)

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 digitally approximately once a month.

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A non-profit educational organization



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