

# The Kingpin



A publication of the Mid-Central Region of The National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

Winter 2011

## From the President's desk...

A belated holiday greeting to all of you and your families, I hope it was a joyous time for all. Looking back on the past year the Mid-Central Region has managed to have a wonderful convention in Charleston hosted by Division 9. We have gained control of our budget and been able to use our financial resources for things other than a very costly newsletter.

It was also a sad occasion with the passing of Dean Freytag, MMR on Christmas day. There will be a memorial gathering on January 29th at Ashland College. Details are on the MCR WEB Site. (and on page 2.) Dean, a long time member of Division 6, was the resident expert on industrial modeling, particularly anything pertaining to steel. He was a captivating speaker, a modeling innovator, a magician with styrene and a great friend to all. He will be sorely missed by model railroading.

Looking forward, Division 5 is busily preparing for the convention in Geneva-On-The-Lake, Ohio in April. The majority of this issue is dedicated to

**2011 Mid-Central Convention  
Early Registration ends  
31 January**

presenting the details of that event. Consider attending this year as this will be another great gathering.

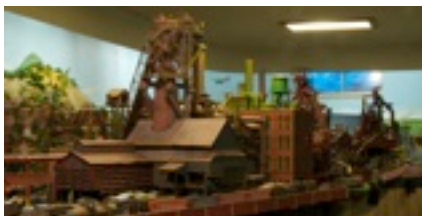
A short word on the contest for the regional convention. Again this year *Peoples Choice Awards* will be presented to the models receiving the most votes by the attendees at the convention. Models will be left in the contest room on display until after the banquet so that everyone has an opportunity to view the winning entries.

It is also election time so please fill out the enclosed ballot and mail to the Region Election Teller.

**Mid-Central Election Ballots due:  
31 March**

Also in this issue is your request for copies of *The Kingpin* by snail mail. If you want to continue to receive your copy by mail, **PLEASE** fill out the form and mail it to me. If you have moved or have changed your e-mail address please help us update your contact information. We have had several copies of the past issue returned because members have moved.

Dick Briggs, MMR,  
Mid-Central Region President



A loss to the Mid-Central Region, the NMRA, and the world of Model Railroading. Dean Freytag, the King of Styrene, passed on 25 December. See page 2.



“Dean of Styrene”  
**Dean Freytag**  
**(1924 – 2010)**

Flags are flying at half staff today over model railroads throughout Ohio and beyond, mourning the passing of model railroad legend Dean Freytag.

Freytag, 86, passed away Christmas night at the assisted living facility in Ashland, OH, where he had resided for the past 11 months. He leaves a sister Carol, a brother-in-law Jim, and a niece and nephew. He was preceded in death by wife Ann Elizabeth (Davies) in 1999.

Dean had four loves in his life. In no particular order, they were Ann, railroading, steel mills, and Ashland University. It is to the latter he left most of his estate, being honored with the grandstands in their new football stadium being named in his and Ann's honor. He was a lifetime member of the National Model Railroad Association, a Master Model Railroader, and the contest director for that organization for a number of years. Interestingly, he never attended Ashland University, never worked on a railroad, refused to ride on the trains calling them rough-riding and dusty, and never ever worked in a steel mill.

But he probably knew more about the steel-making processes than many who did work in the industry. He was a prolific modeler of all things about railroading, but especially steel mills. Indeed, it was steel that dominated the 13' x 38' main room of his HO model railroad. His models of the various components of the steel mills that dominated the landscape in what he called the *Ruhr Valley of the United States* – that section of the country between Cleveland and Pittsburgh – are the prototypes for the the Walthers series of steel-making structures used by modelers throughout the world.

Freytag was an author of at least two books used extensively in modeling, *The Cyclopedia of Industrial Modeling* and *The History, Making & Modeling of Steel*, and his “how-to” articles appeared in the modeling press frequently over the past 50 years. He was published in *Model Railroader*, the leading model railroading magazine, more than 50 times. His manuscripts were “banged out” – literally – in all caps on a manual typewriter, as were his letters, notes and even post cards.

Dean was a proponent of working with styrene – he was featured in an instructional video about styrene – and Plastruct shapes,

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**Dean Of Styrene**  
 Continued on page 3.

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Continued: **Dean Of Styrene**

and virtually everything he built was from scratch and/or kit bashed. He seldom, if ever, felt the structural “iron work” of bridge and industry models were “heavy” enough and nearly always “beefed them up” with his beloved Plastruct components. His modeling transcended craftsmanship into art. His discerning eye saw a steel mill ladle in the discarded cap from a whiskey bottle, the conveyor belt rollers in the used throw-away razor blade guards, and literally dozens of other such applications. Not always the most patient of teachers, he nevertheless was a mentor to dozens – maybe even hundreds – of modelers, and to listen to and learn from Dean was to learn from a master.

Not to think he was one or two dimensional, Dean was a avid reader of war novels – particularly World War II in which he served – and deeply interested in Civil War history, having visited the battlefields on numerous occasions He wore out two exercycles, putting thousands of miles on each of them as he watched the Cleveland Browns and Cleveland Cavaliers. He always had cats that were given railroad names, i.e., “Smokey”, “Cinders”, and “Chessie”.

He spent a lot of time on the telephone with modeling friends all over the country discussing a myriad of topics, but usually related to railroading. It was Dean Freytag who put train watching into perspective when he once said to someone questioning the time spent, “I’m with friends who share interests, we’re sitting outside in lovely weather and when there aren’t trains going by we discuss the world, the economy, football, and all sorts of things.”

The lights are dimmed on Dean Freytag’s South Ridge Lines, and fires are out at his Davies Steel complex. Model railroading has lost an icon, and I have lost a friend.

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of the author.

## *The Kingpin*

The opinions, techniques and materials recommended in *The Kingpin* are solely those of the authors as individuals. They do not reflect the approval, opinions or policies of the Mid-Central Region, NMRA, Inc. Many materials used in many model railroading projects need adequate ventilation and other safeguards. Be aware of these risks before attempting to duplicate the techniques described in these articles. The use of any or all materials and techniques is solely at the risk of the user and the Mid-Central Region has no liability for the use or misuse of any and all materials and techniques described in these articles.

Comments, concerns, compliments, and suggestions should be directed to either:

*Kingpin* Editor: Dick Briggs, MMR

or

*Kingpin* Publisher: Don Wilke

# 2011 Mid Central Region Convention

## Rails Of Ages

### 1961 to 2011

**Rails Of Ages April 28 – May 1, 2011**  
**“Celebrating 50 years of railroading in Northeast Ohio”**

The shores of Lake Erie are growing colder and the members of Division 5 are busy cleaning up their layouts and preparing to host a special edition of the classic Mid-Central Region convention.

Yes, the year 2011 will see us celebrating the 50th year that Division 5 has been in existence and we hope that you'll journey to the shores of Lake Erie and northern Ohio

to join with us. Our convention name is *Rails Of Ages*, which is in tribute to the group of 8 individuals who came together in 1961 with a common interest in model railroading to begin what we now call Division 5. We hope you'll enjoy re-living some past model railroading nostalgia these few days as well as renewing old friendships.

Our convention will be about as close to Lake Erie as we can be, as we are at The Lodge and Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake in Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio. This is a relatively new facility, having opened in 2005.

We will feature four days of prototype tours, industrial tours, clinics, contests, non-rail events, layout tours, fun and model railroad fellowship.

**The early registration rate of \$45 ends 31 January, register now.**

Register early and save a few dollars. The early registration rate of \$45 ends January 31st. After that, the normal registration rate of \$60 goes into effect. Also, note that there are a limited number of

Thursday evening operating session spots. Spaces typically go fast, so if you want to operate, you should register as soon as possible. Check the convention web site for updates to tours, clinics, layout tours, raffle offerings, and other convention news.

### **Family and Fun Activities**

There are many non-rail and family attractions in our area. We have over 17 wineries and 12 covered bridges in the area. There are a number of interesting specialty museums. We have a winery tour planned that includes wine tasting and dinner.



*The Lodge and Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake.*



There is a fairly large Amish community close by that you can visit. One of our Friday night events is an authentic Amish dinner served at an Amish home. Granted, they do have a few modern amenities since they put these meals on as a business, but it is authentic.

### The Convention Hotel

Adjacent to Geneva State Park, our hotel location features breathtaking views of Lake Erie and the kind of relaxing getaway that is all too often hard to find. 109 guest rooms are available, including kings, queens, doubles, family rooms with bunk beds, whirlpool rooms and two room suites. Have a pet?..there are pet friendly rooms also available. In addition to our convention, the lodge has endless activities (although weather dependent), including bike rentals, paved bike path along Lake Erie’s shore, massage services, volleyball, indoor and outdoor pools, lake front fitness center, full-service restaurant, wine shuttle to local wineries, wine tastings on site, a game room, fire pits and so much more! All of this is available at the special convention rate of \$95/night plus tax. Make your room reservations directly with the hotel via their online reservations



The Lodge and Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake and Lake Erie.

**The Lodge & Conference Center**  
**At Geneva**  
**866-806-8066**  
**www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com**  
**Group Reservation ID: 4G35KW**

or calling 866-806-8066. The Group Reservation ID is 4G35KW. You must give them this number to get the discounted rate. Don’t be left out, make your reservations soon!

**Note:** The hotel policy is to charge one night’s stay on your credit card at the time of the reservation. The balance will not be charged until after your stay. If you cancel your reservation, the hotel will credit your card back for the one night charged.

### Silent Auction

You are invited to bring items to sell, as well as a passion to bid, at the silent auction. This activity will have something for everyone from Z-scale to G-scale and maybe some prototype items! There will be a minimum first bid of \$1.00. Please group and package items accordingly.

Bring items that you no longer want, kits, scenery, track, switches, etc. Be sure items are worth at least a dollar. Also, please be sure to familiarize yourself with the silent auction rules before entering the room. Bidding will end at 12:00pm Saturday. Note that ten percent (10%) of the selling price shall be retained by the convention Auction Committee. If an item does not sell, there is no charge.

### Company Store

The convention will host a Company Store. The Company Store is the place to sell such items as cars or structures that the Divisions and the Region have for sale. This store will be available to the MCR and its divisions for the sale of any of their fund raising items. Note that all sales of this sort are to be done through the Company Store and that the *Rails Of Ages Convention* charges a commission of 10% on all sales. The Company Store is not intended for sales on behalf of

**Rails Of Ages April 28 – May 1, 2011**  
*“Celebrating 50 years of railroading in Northeast Ohio”*



individual members; those items should be entered in the Silent Auction.

**Raffle / Door Prizes**

We will be soliciting a large number of manufacturers and sellers of model railroad items for donations of merchandise for our raffle and door prizes. This is an opportunity to take the chance of winning a great item for a small cost. Raffle tickets will be sold all day Friday and Saturday until 4:00 pm.

In addition, we will be periodically drawing door prize winners throughout the convention, starting Thursday evening and going through Saturday evening.

**Contests**

A convention is a great time to show off some of those projects that you have been working on. We will be having the traditional model, photography, and arts and crafts contests that are a standard for an NMRA convention. The winner in each traditionally judged model, photography and arts and crafts category will receive a plaque. Additionally models scoring 87.5 points or above will receive AP certificates.

**Special Contest Award**

In honor of our 50th anniversary, Division 5 is sponsoring the *Rail of Ages Award* for the contest model which best represents railroading in northeast Ohio, past or present.

**Bring & Brag**

In addition to formal judging, convention attendees are encouraged to bring in models as part of the convention's Bring & Brag time during our Shortline clinics. Even if you don't want your model judged, share it with others. Bring those great creations and ideas that you're proud of. These models will most likely be located in the contest room, however, they will not be judged.

**Clinics**

A highlight of every convention is the many clinics that are offered, for the enjoyment and betterment of all railroad modelers, young and old, new and expert! *Rails of Ages* will host three full days of clinics, in three rooms, and in two formats:

| Clinician                  | Mainline Clinic                                    |
|----------------------------|--|
| Dave Decker                | Trees  |
| Bob Weinheimer             | Getting Started in Operations                      |
| Keith Devault              | History of Morgantown and Kingwood Railroad        |
| Scott Nixon                | Fairport, Painesville and Eastern                  |
| Keith Devault              | Railroads of 60's and 70's in W. Pa and W. Va.     |
| Frank Bonjiovanni          | Laser Kits for Klutzes                             |
| Frank Bonjiovanni          | Van Sweringens and their Railroads                 |
| Gerry Albers               | Layout Design using CAD                            |
| Gerry Albers               | DCC/DC Wiring Basics                               |
| Gerry Albers               | Signals by Spreadsheet                             |
| Larry Madson               | Soldering 101                                      |
| Larry Madson               | Building a Power Supply                            |
| Jim Dipaola                | Steel Mill modeling                                |
| Chuck Klein                | Amtrak from Cleveland to Grand Canyon              |
| Ken Stroebel               | Railroads and the Wood-treating Industry           |
| Eric Hansmann              | History of Newburgh and South Shore RR             |
| Lou Dreher                 | Trees  |
| Dave Neff                  | Design Considerations for Engine Service Terminals |
| Bob Fink                   | Small Towns and Railroads                          |
| Paul Lapointe              | Building Layout Benchwork                          |
| Gary Burdette              | Modeling Mining Complexes                          |
| Jerry Skrypzak             | Bessemer and Lake Erie RR Company 1892-Present     |
| Gary Shaffer               | Nickel Plate Railroad --1950's                     |
| Dick Flock                 | Unique Rolling Stock                               |
| Dan Kennedy                | Steel Mill modeling                                |
| Bill Sartore               | Structure Lighting W/LED's                         |
| <b>More Clinics Wanted</b> |  |

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**Rails Of Ages** – Continued on page 9.



# Rails Of Ages Registration Form



April 28th - May 1st 2011

Sponsored by

**NMRA, Mid Central Region, Division 5**

*The Western Reserve Division*

Primary registrant **MUST** be an NMRA member at time of Convention  
(see fee for joining if you are not a member)

|   |             |                    |                    |          |
|---|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------|
| <b>Primary Registrant Name</b><br>(as you want it to appear on your name tag) |             | Last               | First              |          |
| NMRA Membership No.   |             | Region (if known)  |                    | Division |
| Address   |             | City               | State/Province     | Zip      |
| Phone   |             | Email              |                    |          |
| Number of Family Attending  | Spouse Name | Minor Child 1 Name | Minor Child 2 Name |          |

| Item   | Qty | Price | Amount |
|--|-----|-------|--------|
| Early Basic Registration<br>(through Jan 31, 2011)   |     | \$45  |        |
| Basic Registration (after Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup> )   |     | \$60  |        |
| Family Members (Same Household)  |     | \$15  |        |
| One Year Full NMRA Membership<br>(only needed if you are not currently an NMRA member – includes<br>Special Discount of \$15 provided by Division 5) |     | \$43  |        |
| Extra fare items from page 2   |     |       |        |
| Total  |     |       |        |

Note: Sign-up form for special activities, tours, and extra fare items will be sent out to all early registrants at a later date.

Activity assignment will be based on the order that the registrations are received.

Make check payable to: **NMRA MCR Division 5**

Mail to: **Convention Registrar, Dennis Lloyd**

**75 Newell Street Painesville OH 44077**

Phone: **(440) 352-7081**

Email: [Registrar@RailsOfAges.org](mailto:Registrar@RailsOfAges.org)

Room reservations should be made directly with the convention hotel

**The Lodge & Conference Center at Geneva-on-the-Lake**

4888 North Broadway, Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio 44041

Phone: (866) 806-8066

[www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com](http://www.TheLodgeAtGeneva.com)

Rate is \$95 per room plus applicable taxes. Reserve under ID Number **4G35KW**



## Rails Of Ages Extra Fare Order Form

April 28th - May 1st 2011

|                                 |                     |                      |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Primary Registrant Name:</b> | <small>Last</small> | <small>First</small> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|

| Item                   | Day / Tour Name  | Qty | Price                         | Amount |
|------------------------|--|-----|-------------------------------|--------|
| PT-1                   | Friday AM: Cristal Millennium  |     | \$20                          |        |
| PT-2                   | Friday AM: AC&J Switching  |     | \$25                          |        |
| PT-3                   | Friday AM: Best Stone / Sidley's                                     |     | \$20                          |        |
| PT-4                   | Friday PM: Local RR Historical Sites                                 |     | \$20                          |        |
| PT-5                   | Equistar / Mid-West Materials  |     | \$20                          |        |
| PT-6                   | Saturday AM: Delta Rail / RR Historical Sites                        |     | \$20                          |        |
| PT-7                   | Saturday PM: AC& J Scenic Excursion                                  |     | \$15 person or<br>\$40 Family |        |
|                        |  |     |                               |        |
| NR-1                   | Thursday PM: Winery Tour / Wine Tasting / Dinner                     |     | \$30                          |        |
| NR-2                   | Friday AM & PM: Local Antique / Lunch / Museum                       |     | \$25                          |        |
| NR-3                   | Friday PM: Amish Country Tour  |     | \$20                          |        |
| NR-4                   | Friday Evening: Amish Dinner   |     | \$25                          |        |
| NR-5                   | Saturday AM: Garfield Home / Antique Mall                            |     | \$25                          |        |
|                        |  |     |                               |        |
| BQT-P                  | Saturday Evening: Awards Banquet with Pasta dinner                   |     | \$25                          |        |
| BQT-C                  | Saturday Evening: Awards Banquet with Chicken dinner                 |     | \$30                          |        |
| BQT-B                  | Saturday Evening: Awards Banquet with Beef dinner                    |     | \$35                          |        |
|                        |  |     |                               |        |
| OPS                    | Thursday Evening: Operating Sessions<br>(no cost – reservation only) |     | \$0                           | \$0    |
|                        |  |     |                               |        |
| Total Extra Fare Items |  |     |                               |        |

Make check payable to: **NMRA MCR Division 5**

Mail to: **Convention Registrar, Dennis Lloyd**  
**75 Newell Street Painesville OH 44077**  
 Phone: (440) 352-7081

***Rails Of Ages April 28 – May 1, 2011***  
*"Celebrating 50 years of railroading in Northeast Ohio"*





**Mainline Clinics** - Full hour consisting of 40 minute presentations, 10-15 minute question and answer, and 5-10 minute breaks for room change. Slide projectors will be provided, but clinicians are encouraged to bring their own computers, especially their own disks and/or travel drives.

**Shortline Clinics** - an opportunity in 10-15 minutes maximum, no computer or projector setups, to showcase articles of 'bring and brag', tricks, tips, and techniques with various tools, etc. This is an excellent means for those who can share information but cannot or do not wish to put on a full clinic.

There will be a formal schedule of all specific topics being presented for both tracks.

| Clinician      | Shortline Clinic                      |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Various        | Bring & Brag Items                    |
| Gary Burdette  | Casting Names into Tunnel Portals     |
| Steve Kaplan   | Finishing Brickwork                   |
| Bob Weinheimer | Ballast                               |
| Bob Weinheimer | Recording OP Session<br>Radio Traffic |

Space here precludes detailed information on each clinic. The following is a list of the convention Mainline Clinics [page 6] and Shortline Clinics [page 9] as of early December. Check the convention web site for changes and updates.

### Prototype Tours

We are offering the following tours that should be of interest to all attendees. All transportation will be via motor coach, small buses, or passenger vans.

**PT-1      *Cristal Millennium***  
**Friday AM**  
*Price \$20 per person*

The Ashtabula Complex business comprises two facilities—Plant 1 and Plant 2—that produce

titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>). The company is the world's second-largest producer of TiO<sub>2</sub>, a bright white powder made from titanium ore that has the ability to pigment virtually any material.

**PT-2      *AC&J Railroad Switching***  
**Friday AM**  
*Price \$25 per person*

The Ashtabula, Carson & Jefferson shortline railroad will add a caboose to their daily switching



*The Ashtabula, Carson & Jefferson Railroad.*

run and let a lucky few ride along to witness real life switching action.

**Limited to first 10 people.**

**PT-3      *Best Sand / Sidley's***  
**Friday AM**  
*Price \$20 per person*

Best Sand Corporation produces high quality sub-angular grain silica sand as well as silica gravels. Observe the process from the mining of the silica to preparation for shipment.

R.W. Sidley, Inc. was established in 1933 as a mining and manufacturing company. Since then the company has grown to be a supplier of a broad range of construction materials. Operations center around the manufacture and supply of bulk aggregates, industrial minerals, ready-mix concrete, masonry block products, structural and

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architectural precast components, and building supplies.

**PT-4 Local RR Historical Sites**  
**Friday PM**  
*Price \$20 per person.*

Northern Ohio has an extensive rail and maritime



*Conneaut Station*

history. Our tour will stop in Conneaut and Ashtabula, where we will get an overview of the Norfolk Southern Yard, Bethlehem and Lake Erie Yard, several historic structures including ex-NYC depots, and ex-PRR roundhouse, as well as the historic Ashtabula coal and iron ore handling harbors. Our tour will also include a visit to the Conneaut Railroad Museum.

**PT-5 Equistar / Mid-West Materials**  
**Friday PM**  
*Price \$20 per person.*

Equistar Chemicals is a wholly owned subsidiary of Lyondell Basell Industries and is one of the largest producers of ethylene, propylene and polyethylene in North America. Located on the Grand River, the facility receives a large number of railcars.

Mid-West Materials, Inc. founded in 1952, is a complete steel service center. They receive coiled steel, unroll it, flatten it, cut it and then ship the various sizes. Mid-West is directly connected, via

private siding, to Norfolk Southern track and their warehouse can unload 3 rail cars.

**PT-6 Delta Rail Construction**  
**Saturday AM**  
*Price \$20 per person.*

Delta Rail Construction is recognized as one of the nation’s premier railroad construction and engineering companies, with services which include new track construction, track maintenance and rehabilitation, and flash-butt rail welding. We will visit their facility and extensive yard where they store the equipment and materials used in their projects. Some of the items on hand are track maintenance equipment, such as Fairmont Tampers, and prefabricated turnouts. The tour will also pass by a number of historic structures including the PRR roundhouse and the NYC station in Ashtabula.

**PT-7 AC & J Scenic Excursion**  
**Saturday PM**  
*Price \$15 per person or \$40 per family*

Join us for a short excursion on the AC & J Scenic Railroad, which operates out of nearby Jefferson, Ohio. The train ride will last about an hour.

**Non-Rail Tours**

**NR-1 Winery Tour / Wine Tasting / Dinner**  
**Thursday PM**  
*Price \$30 per person.*  
 (Includes cost of dinner)

We will tour one of our many local wineries, sample a number of Lake Erie area wines, and enjoy a dinner together.

**NR-2 Local Antique / Lunch / Museum Tour**  
**Friday AM & PM**  
*Price \$25 per person.*  
 (Includes museum entrance fee)  
 (Does NOT include cost of lunch)

Travel with us to the Cherry Valley Furniture Barn, where we’ll see a variety of handcrafted, reproduction, hardwood furniture in a variety of

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styles including Mission, Shaker and English country. After a lunch at Kathy's, we'll continue on to the Jefferson buggy and baby / doll carriages museum, which also includes other children's things of yesteryear.

**NR-3 Amish Country Tour**  
**Friday PM**  
*Price \$20 per person.*



*Amish General Store*

Tour will include a drive through the large Amish community in the area and stops at the Commons in Mesopotamia, an old fashioned general store, a local cheese factory, Settler's Farm gift shops, and other local antique/gift shops.

**Note:** The tour bus will stop at the location of the Amish dinner Friday evening for those tour participants that have also signed up for the Amish Dinner. After dropping those people off, the bus will return to the convention hotel.

**NR-4 Amish Dinner**  
**Friday Evening**  
*Price \$25 per person.*  
 (Includes cost of dinner)

Amish family style wedding dinner at Betty Hershberger's served in her home in Mesopotamia. The main entrees will include chicken and roast beef dinners.  
 Limited to 35 people.

**NR-5 Garfield Home & Antique Co-op**  
**Saturday AM**  
*Price \$25 per person.*  
 (includes Garfield home entrance fee)

Our tour will start in Mentor, home to President James A. Garfield, and a national historic site. Garfield acquired this home in 1876 to accommodate his large family. Named Lawnfield by reporters, it was the site of the first successful front porch campaign which saw Garfield elected as 20th President of the United States in 1880. After visiting Garfield's home, the tour will stop at an antique mall in Painesville on the way back to the convention hotel.

**Layout Tours**

We will have an assortment of different layouts on hand for you to visit and hopefully come away with some new ideas to incorporate into your layout. Our layout tours will take in four counties in Ohio and several in PA, so no matter which way you're traveling home, we'll have an outstanding assortment of N-scale through live steam layouts. The following is a partial list of layouts to see. Check back to our website as we draw closer to the convention to see our offerings.



*Basemont Valley Northern Railroad*

**Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum**  
 One unique source of layouts in our area is the Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum in Mentor, Ohio. The museum moved to a new location this past year that has more than doubled

**Rails Of Ages April 28 – May 1, 2011**  
*"Celebrating 50 years of railroading in Northeast Ohio"*



the size of their facility. The Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum was founded in September of 2004 with the intent of being a fun place where families could come and learn about model railroading and the history of railroads in America. The museum has 16 different scales on display and operating layouts in: 'N', 'HO', 'On3', 'S', 'O', 'O tin plate', 'Standard', and 'G'.

### Operating Sessions

There will be several area layouts available for Operating Sessions. This will give you the

#### Current List of Operating Layouts

|                                       |                  |                             |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dave Hanna                            | HO               | Pennsylvania RR             |
| Mike Buehner                          | N                | Grand River Railroad        |
| Richard Feldman                       | N                |                             |
| Western Reserve Model Railroad Museum | Z - G R R scales |                             |
| Terry Kolenc                          | HO               | Union Pacific               |
| Ted Weise                             | On3              | San Juan Southern           |
| Charlie Tidd                          | N                | B Z & C RR                  |
| Lou Dreher                            | G                | Basemont Valley Northern RR |
| Don Thomas                            | HO               | Lake and Geauga Northern    |
| Bob Palmer                            | HO               | Palmerton Lines             |
| Lakeshore Live Steamers               | 7.5 in gauge     | 3 different layouts         |
| Terry Burr                            | F                |                             |
| Gregory Saleck                        | O gauge MTH      |                             |
| Bruce Baron                           | O                | Munson Valley RR            |
| Dick Naramore                         | HO               | West Penn. Junction         |
| Brad White                            | HO               | PRR Chautauqua Branch       |
| Anthony Spena                         | HO               |                             |
| Patrick Flash                         | HO               | Johnstown & Crystal Lake    |
| Dave Neff                             | N                | Pocohontas Roads            |
| Harley Smith                          | HO               | Ohio Northern               |
| Matt Kross                            | N                | Brandt River Railroad       |

opportunity to not only see some wonderful layouts but actually operate trains per the owner's designated operating methodology. If you are a master operator, a beginner, or trying to decide what operating method to use on your own railroad, this will give you the chance to have fun operating a layout or using an operating method that you have never had a chance to before this convention!

### Banquet

Our awards banquet will be held Saturday evening in the hotel Ballroom. We will get started with a social hour from 6 to 7 with dinner starting at 7 pm. Cash bar will be available. The banquet cost depends on your meal selection. The meal will be a plated dinner with the following entree choices:

#### Four Cheese Ravioli -

*\$25 per person*

Tossed with tomato basil cream sauce, shaved Parmesan cheese, and julienne of fresh basil.

#### Herb Seared Chicken Breast -

*\$30 per person*

Served with Idaho whipped potatoes, seasonal vegetables, and garlic chicken jus.

#### Grilled Texas Sirloin -

*\$35 per person*

8 oz. sirloin served with Idaho whipped potatoes, and seasonal vegetables.

There will be a drawing for a number of items just for banquet attendees.

### Banquet Speaker

Our featured speaker for the evening will be Rick Rowlands. In 2000, Rick founded the Tod Engine Heritage Park in Youngstown, Ohio to collect and preserve historical elements of the region's steel industry. In 2010 the organization was renamed the Youngstown Steel Heritage Foundation. Rick is president of this unique historical venture.

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The Youngstown Steel Heritage Foundation is a non-profit, tax exempt Ohio corporation dedicated to preserving the steel industry heritage of the greater Mahoning, Shenango and Ohio River valleys in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Their mission is to preserve historically significant steelmaking equipment, records and documents, and to educate the public about industrial heritage through the operation of the Tod Engine Heritage Park in Youngstown, OH and through programs offered to their membership. The YSHF is the only grassroots steel industry heritage organization in the United States engaged in the preservation of the gigantic equipment used in steelmaking.

Recently, Rick has journeyed to a Weirton, West Virginia steel mill to help document the facility for the Historic American Engineering Record and Historic American Building Survey.

Rick will share Youngstown Steel Heritage Foundation updates and tales from recent steel mill visits at our Saturday night Rails of Ages banquet. This should be a most enlightening presentation from a man who works with heavy metal.

### Area Railfanning

Northeastern Ohio offers a large amount of rail traffic, making sure that railfans have plenty to see. The CSXT Chicago line, which is double tracked, is the former Conrail and the New York Central water level route. The Chicago Line runs from Cleveland, extending eastward to Fairview, PA and then on to Buffalo, NY via the Lakeshore Subdivision. Norfolk Southern Railroad's single-

track line generally runs south of the CSXT line, although in many locations it is only a few feet away. Both lines are quite busy, with over 50 trains per day between the two lines. Trains can be well over a mile long, powered by six-axle, 4000-hp or even 6000-hp locomotives. Container or truck trailer trains tend to dominate the

landscape, although there's also a wide variety of autoracks, coal drags, and mixed freights. Amtrak's Lake Shore and Capitol Ltd. also stop in Cleveland, but both are late night trains and rarely seen during daylight hours. While the views along

both lines are fairly flat, there are several large bridges and wide open farm fields which make for some excellent photo opportunities.

Division 5 has prepared a listing of potential railfanning spots that you may want to visit, which is available on our convention website and will also be provided in your registration packets at the convention.

**E-mail: [Info@RailsOfAges.org](mailto:Info@RailsOfAges.org)**  
**Website: [www.RailsOfAges.org](http://www.RailsOfAges.org)**  
**Rails Of Ages Convention**  
**c/o Matt Kross**  
**12049 Sperry Road**  
**Chesterland, OH 44026**  
**Phone: 440-729-3045 (evenings)**

**We are working to add more tours, clinics, layouts, and events. Check our website periodically for updates.**

Welcome **New Members** of The Mid-Central Region.

**Division 1**

Karen McMillion, Kent, OH

**Division 2**

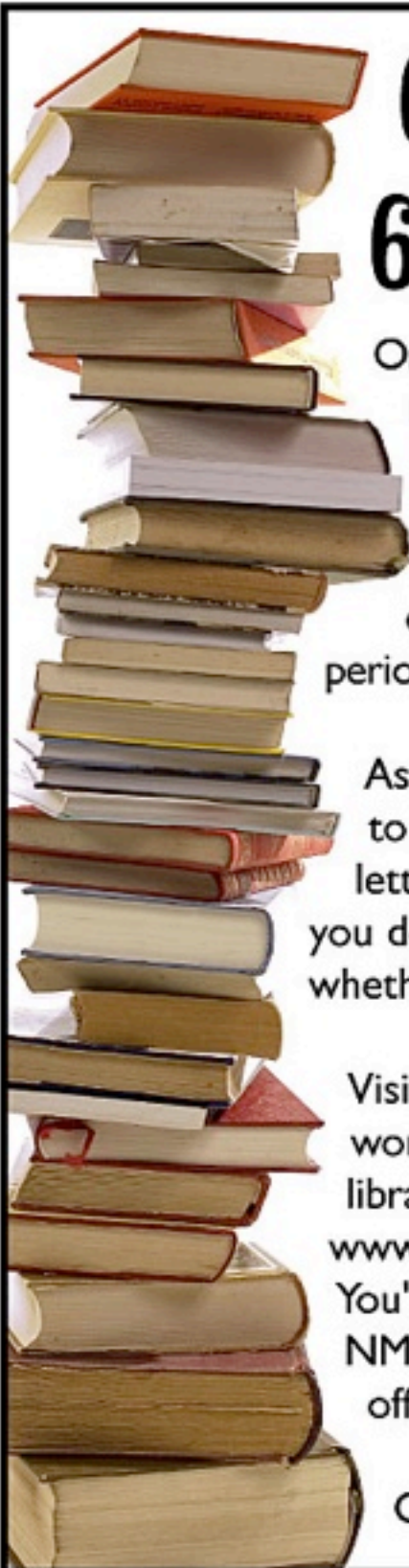
Michael New, Crescent, PA

**Division 7**

Michael L. Moeller, Lebanon, OH

**Division 8**

John C. Stoltz, Crestwood, KY



# Check out 6,000 train books.

Or 100,000 train photos. Or 50,000 train magazines. In fact, there are a lot of things you should be checking out at the National Model Railroad Association's Kalmbach Memorial Library. You'll find everything from prototype railroad periodicals to vintage model kit instructions.

As an NMRA member, you have easy access to everything – it's all just a phone call, letter, or email away. Our staff will even help you do research about virtually any train topic, whether it's model or prototype.

Visit one of the world's largest train libraries at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org).

You'll find that the NMRA has a lot to offer modelers.

Check it all out!



**We make it even more fun.**

[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)  
4 2 3 - 8 9 2 - 2 8 4 6

# Mid-Central Region 2011 Election Ballot

Mid-Central Region President:

Richard Briggs, M

Mid-Central Region Secretary:

Robert Weinheimer, MMR

Mid-Central Region Vice President:

Merlyn Jarman

Mid-Central Region Treasurer:

Paul Smith

**Void**

Please vote for one person for each office. All Officers will serve for a two year term.

Every voting member of the Mid-Central Region should receive this copy of *The Kingpin*. Some households will receive more than one copy of *The Kingpin*.

The only Official MCR Election Ballot has been printed in the MAILED copy of *The Kingpin* and MUST have your address on the reverse side.

The Officer Election Ballots must be handed to Al Doddroe by the 31st of March or postmarked by the 31st of March.  
 Mail to:  
 MCR Election Teller  
 c/o Al Doddroe  
 12827 Commercial Point Road  
 Ashville, OH, ~~43062~~ **43103** (correct Zip Code)

## Kingpin Request Form

Check the box to the left if you wish to continue to receive a paper copy of the MCR's *Kingpin*. Cut out this form and send this form to:

MCR President Dick Briggs  
 4397 Hidden Street  
 Grove City, Ohio 43123

(Please print clearly!)

Name:

Address:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Check the box to the left if you wish to receive an E-Mail notice that *The Kingpin* is available on-line. EITHER send an E-Mail to Don Wilke at [webmaster@midcentral-region-nmra.org](mailto:webmaster@midcentral-region-nmra.org)  
 Subject: Kingpin

OR mail this form to:

MCR President Dick Briggs  
 4397 Hidden Street  
 Grove City, Ohio 43123

Your E-Mail address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please print clearly)

-----  
 Please Reply by 1 March to receive the Spring *Kingpin*.

Above are the request forms for *The Kingpin* for your convenience. New members need to fill out and return the forms to insure that they will continue to receive the Mid-Central Region Newsletter - *The Kingpin* - by mail or a reminder via e-mail when it is posted on the web site. *The Kingpin* usually is posted to the MCR Archive WEB Site around 30 days after the May Mid-Central Regional Convention or after the October Board of Directors meeting.

MCR President Dick Briggs  
 4397 Hidden Street  
 Grove City, Ohio 43123



## MCR Calendar

**24–26 March 2011**

Mini-Bunch Meet – Greenford, Ohio

**28 April – 1 May 2011**

[Rails of Ages](#), MCR 2011 Convention – Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio

**30 April 2011**

Mid-Central Region BOD Meeting

**20–22 May 2011**

Cass Railfan Weekend – Cass, West Virginia

**22 May 2011**

Deadline: Spring *Kingpin*

**3 – 9 July 2011**

[Extra 2011 West](#), NMRA National Convention – Sacramento, CA

**26 – 29 April 2012**

2012 MCR Convention – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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Open House? Train Show? Contact The [MCR WEB Master](#) to add an event to *The Kingpin* and the MCR WEB Site calendar.