



Depot News from Painesville



THE DEPOT DISPATCH

End of Year



Inside

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| V.P. insight | 1 |
| Upcoming Events | 2 |
| Christmas Dinner | 3 |
| Dale Porter | 4 |
| TCA Nov. Show | 4 |
| Hade Made Market | 5 |
| TCA Jan. show | 6 |
| Railfest Dinner | 7 |
| Railfest | 8 |
| Membership Renewal | 9 |

As I look back of the past year, we have much to be thankful for with all that has been accomplished.

Our Christmas Dinner is on Saturday, December 13th. A very big thank you to Paul Hack for his donation to pay for the dinner. See page 3

Membership dues are due as of January 1st, 2026. At the January 2025 , membership meeting we voted to revise our bylaws it will increase the membership dues by \$10.00.

At the January 2026 meeting we will be voting for two of our BOD members. Frances Meinke and Dan Chuppa are up for re-election.

We will be at the January 24th, 2026 TCA model train show at Berea Fairgrounds. We are looking forward to another great day there. See page 6.

Railfest Dinner is just around the corner on March 21st, 2026

and Railfest Model Train Show will be here before you know it. See page 7 & 8.

It is with a heavy heart that I have to report the passing of one of our members, Dale Porter. See page 4.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Be safe. *Jom Pescha*, V.P.



Dues are Due!

**This months Membership meeting is December 9, 2025
BOD for December is Cancelled**



Upcoming Dates and Events

Dec. 11, Membership Meeting, Depot 6 pm

Dec. 15, Christmas Dinner 4:30 pm

Dec. 20, 999 Mug Night - Cancelled

Dec. 25, BOD Meeting - Cancelled

Jan. 13, 2026 Membership Meeting, Depot 6 pm
Election of two BOD members

Jan. 24, 2026 TCA Train Show, Berea 10 am to 3 pm

Jan. 27, 2026 BOD Meeting, Depot 6 pm

Feb. 10, 2026 Membership Meeting, Depot 6 pm

Feb. 24, 2026 BOD Meeting, Depot 6 pm

March 10, 2026 Membership meeting, Depot 6 pm

March 21, 2026 Railfest Dinner Depot 5:30 pm

March 21-22 Railfest, Lakeland Community College
10 am to 4 pm

For a complete list of locations of Train and Toy Shows visit
www.cleveshows.com

Depot Dispatch

The Depot Dispatch is an official publication of The Western Reserve Railroad Association, Painesville Railroad Museum, Painesville, Ohio. It is published approximately once a month and is posted on the Depot Website free of charge. An electronic version of the newsletter will be emailed to members and a hard copy will be available at the Depot upon request.. Information regarding The Depot Dispatch, Depot activities and events may be obtained by writing to 3942 E. 364th St., Willoughby, Ohio 44094 or sending an e-mail to cleveshows@att.net. The Depot Dispatch and Depot activities and special events are funded by open houses, contributions, donations and annual fundraisers. All comments and opinions are welcome. Those views expressed in The Depot Dispatch do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the Western Reserve Railroad Association.



THE WESTERN RESERVE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

DBA

PAINESVILLE RAILROAD MUSEUM

www.painesvillerrailroadmuseum.org

501(c)3 Non-profit



| | | | |
|-----------------|--|----------------|--|
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Again this year the Christmas dinner will be catered, so we will need a head count to order the correct amount of food. Please **RSVP** Tom Pescha by email at cleveshows@att.net or call him at 216-470-5780 ***no later than Thursday November 30.***

Menu

Tossed Green Salad
Italian and Ranch
Dressing on the side
HoBo Beans
Breaded Chicken
Mixed vegetables
Au Gratin Potatoes
Rigatoni and Meat Balls
Cake for desert.



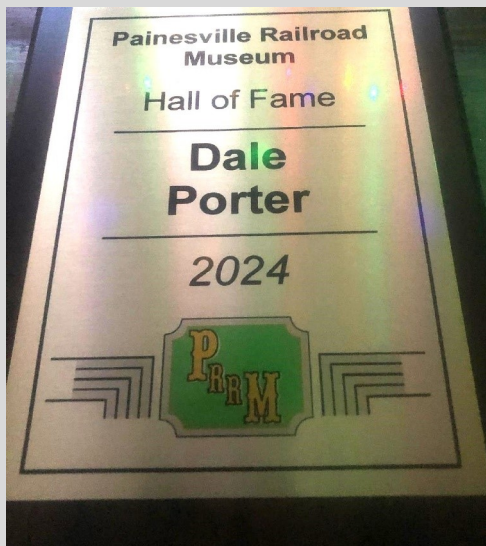
And a very big Thank You to Paul Hach for his donation to pay for our dinner.



**You are Cordially invited
to our
Christmas Dinner
at the
Painesville Railroad
Museum.
Saturday
December 13, 2025
4:30 pm**

**475 Railroad Street
Painesville, Ohio 44077**

It is with heavy heart that I have to report on the passing of Dale Porter. Dale was our lead man on doing much of the restoration of our depot. He was responsible for doing the electrical wiring of the depot. He also loved doing restoration of the windows and drywall of the main lobby. He was inducted to our Hall of Fame in 2024.



REST IN PEACE



DALE PORTER
1939 - 2025



TCA Model Train Show was held on November 24th, 2025. We had three tables at this show and sales were great. Thanks to Rob, Dan, Ed, Phil and Dave Green for helping out at the show.



Hand Made Market - Art and Craft Show

On small business Saturday, November 29th we held our Hand Made Market with 12 great vendors attending. Mother Nature blessed us with only very light snow over night and clear roads on Saturday. The Museum also held an 'O' Gauge Model Train Sale. This added a great addition for guests attending both event. Rob and Stephanie did an outstanding job.



Thank



you both!



TCA Winter Train Show

Train Collectors Association



Winter Snow Time Train Show



**Saturday
January 24, 2026
10am to 3pm**

**Join us at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
164 Eastland Road (gate 2), Berea, OH 44017**

Admission \$6.00 each, Families \$10.00, Kids 17 & Under FREE, with Adult

**2 Large Buildings Full of Trains & More Trains
Multiple Operating Layouts, Featuring the Mod Squad
And Much More!**

- **Plenty of FREE Parking**
- **Handicapped Accessible**
- **New & Old Trains**
- **Many Brands & Scales**
- **Parts, Repair Manuals, Etc.**
- **Expanded Kid's Play Area**

**Huge 14 foot Kid's Layout
Where the kids run the trains!!!**

- **\$5 Train Set Raffle**
- **Refreshments Available**
- **Test Track: check them before you buy**



FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT: JOHN AT (330)273-6404 OR WWW.GREATLAKESTCA.ORG

The TCA Winter Train Show is on Saturday, January 24, 2026. Hours of the show are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and setup is 7 a.m. We have three tables.

Railfest Dinner

Join us on March 21st, 2026. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. Eat your dinner in a 133 year old Train Station and enjoy the trains as they fly by on the CSX main line.

This dinner is not just for Railest vendors, it is open to any and every one.

See the new addition to the museum, such as the new Interactive Display in the Engine Barn.

Guest Speaker: Dan Rager will present his new book "Ohio – Gateway to America". The subject is multi-faceted and deals with Ohio's transportation, including Indian Trails, Stage Coaches, Building Canals and Railroads, just to name a few.

RAILFEST 2026 DINNER

12th Annual Railfest Dinner ☘ March 21, 2026

Will be held at Painesville Railroad Museum (aka Painesville Depot)
475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077
Eleven miles east of College.

Have Dinner in a Historic Train Station!



Time:
Saturday evening, 5:30 pm, March 21, 2026
Dinner served at 6:00 pm.

Price: \$28.00 per person

SPEAKER & SUBJECT
Dan Rager - "Ohio - Gateway to America" deals with Ohio's transportation, including Indian Trails, Stage Coaches, Building Canals and Railroads, just to name a few.

RESERVATION DEADLINE
March 15, 2026

DINNER MENU
Tossed Green Salad
Italian and Ranch Dressing on the side
Chicken
Corn Beef and Cabbage
Red Skin Potatoes - Rigatoni

Beverages Stations:
Pots of Coffee - Pots of Decaf Coffee
Soft Drinks, Coffee Condiments: Creamer, Sugar, Sweeteners

Direction to Painesville Depot
Exit College, turn right (North) onto Rt. 306
North on Rt 306 to OH Rt 2 (2 miles)
East on Rt. 2 (8 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.



This Dinner is open to any one that is interested in model railroading or trains in general.

Please retain this part for your information

Cut and Return

Cut and Return

Please mail back with Separate Check for the Buffet by March 15, 2026.
(Check will be held & deposited March 23, 2026)
Make Checks payable to: **WRRRA**

Print you name: _____ Amount Enclosed _____ Check # _____

Please list and Print all Attending

Mail to:
Tom Pescha
3942 E, 364th St.
Willoughby, Ohio 44094

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Return this part

RAILFEST 2026

Model Trains - Collectibles - Memorabilia

Saturday & Sunday

March 21 & 22, 2026

10am - 4pm

Held at Lakeland since 1987



7700 Clocktower Drive
Kirtland, OH 44094

State Rt. 306 at Interstate 90 – exit 193

**Free
Parking**

**CASH Admission
ATM Available**

**Admission
\$9.00**

| | |
|--|---------|
| Two Day Pass | \$14.00 |
| Pair (2) | \$14.00 |
| Family (max) | \$16.00 |
| <i>(2 Adults with Children under 18)</i> | |

Food Service Available
at reasonable prices



Featuring

- * Dealers *
- * New / Used *
- * 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!



At our January 2025 membership meeting, our bylaws were revised, it increased our membership dues. This is the first increase in over 10 years. **Dues are due Jan. 1st.**

The Painesville Railroad Museum

475 Railroad Street
Painesville, Ohio 44077

email: prrm@att.net

www.painesvillerrailroadmuseum.org



RE: Membership renewal

Dear Member:

It has been a pleasure having you as a member of the Painesville Railroad Museum. As the year is coming to an end, so is your membership. We wish to keep you as a member by having you re-new your membership.

Dues are due January 1, 2026.

Renewal cost is:

\$40.00 per year for single membership or

\$60.00 per year for family membership

Please provide name(s) and any of your contact information that needs to be updated, please do so by completing the form below.

Please Print

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Cell Phone _____

Email: _____

Date: _____ Check # _____ Amount _____

Make Check payable to
'WRRRA

The Western Reserve Railroad Association

Doing Business as

The Painesville Railroad Museum

A 501(c)3 Non-profit

Please Check Areas of Interest

Museum Volunteer _____

Typical Opportunities Tour Guide, Receptionist, Gift shop sales.

Museum Collections: _____

Typical Opportunities: acquisitions (additions to collections).

Building & Grounds Maintenance _____

Typical Opportunities: carpentry, painting, basic electrical, plumbing, grass cutting.

Model Train Layouts _____

Typical Opportunities: Operate and Maintain.

Food Service _____

Typical Opportunities: Baked goods, Food serving and set-up, clean up for special events.

Days Available

____ Tuesday ____ Wednesday

____ Thursday ____ Friday

____ Saturday



Revision Date: 9-25-25