



The Trainwire



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HOLIDAYS AND TRAINS

Here we are again in the midst of the yearend holiday season. Turkey, shopping, caroling, Christmas and **TRAINS!** For most of us with graybeards and thinning pates, as lads (*and even a few lassies*), Christmas meant just one thing to us---**TRAINS!** We eagerly visited the department store front windows the day after Thanksgiving to see the latest Lionel or American Flyer setup, dreamed and begged our parents (*and Santa!*) to deliver us a train for Christmas morning. And our wish was usually granted.

My how times have changed. Today's youngsters dream of wies, x-boxes, ipads, cell-phones, RC toys, and other electronic things. And yet---when we attend almost any public holiday event, what captures the eye and imagination of old and young alike? Did I mention **TRAINS?** Yes, for some of us the

fascination is nostalgia and the wistfulness of remembering a simpler time of our innocence. Modern era youngsters, however, are fascinated with things that *move* and catch the eye. Fortunately, our model railroad hobby now includes much electronic gadgetry. We've replaced steam engine smoke with digital decoder bells and whistles, a full complement of realistic steam and diesel engine sounds, signal systems, and CTC on sophisticated operating layouts.

But the fun we have as senior adults still comes from the same activities we had playing with our trains as children. Running our own railroad (even if just around a simple loop). Enjoying visiting our friends and *their* train (because almost all of us had one!) Building structures out of Plasticville (or cardboard and cereal boxes); using what we could find outside for scenery, etc. Mainly-----using our *imagination* to build and control our little empire.



Dave Neff – Superintendent
 Division 5
 NMRA – Mid Central Region

Has anything *really changed* in 50 plus years? Yes we now have a plethora of commercial products, already built and ready to run, our **railroad empires** are much more sophisticated, but underpinning it all is the same simple enjoyment of *doing and sharing*.

In each holiday season it is very likely that most of us return to our roots as a railroad enthusiast. Enjoy the ride back down the track in time!

Dave



UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

Division 5 monthly meetings normally start at 7:30 PM.

Location: Hambden Town Hall
13887 GAR Highway (Route 6)
Chardon, Ohio

Located on Rt. 6 between the intersection of Rt. 608 and Rt. 166 next to Hambden Elementary School east of Chardon.

December 5th, 2014

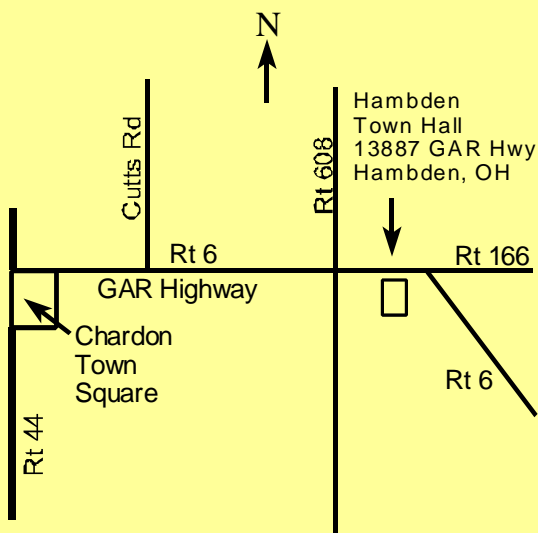
Location: Hambden Town Hall
Program: Building Cardstock Structures (*Paul Chapple*)
Bring & Brag: "Soft Structures" no plastic or wood

January 2nd, 2015

No Meeting This Month.

February 6th, 2014

Location: Hambden Town Hall
Program: Building a Trestle Bridge (*Len Kessler*)
Bring & Brag: Bridges



Map to Hambden Town Hall

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Scenic Express trip (*see Page 11*) **December 6**
(Leave Hambden 7:30 am Arrive Pa. 10:30 am)

2015

Snow Dog Train Show **January 3**

UAW Hall,
5615 Chevrolet Blvd.,
Parma, Ohio 44130 (*10 am to 3 pm.*)
Admission: \$6.00 each, children under 12 free and parking is FREE.

Division 5 Holiday Party **January 9**

Hambden Town Hall
Hambden, Ohio (**Doors open 6 pm Dinner at 6:30 pm**)
Admission: \$5.00 per person - RSVP required

Antique & Collectible Toy Show **January 10**

Lakeland Community College
7700 Clocktower Dr. (*flyer on Page 10*)
Kirtland, Ohio 44094 (*9:00 am to 2:00 pm*)
Admission: Adults \$6.00 each, Children \$2.00 (6-12)

Division 5 BOD Meeting **January 12**

Hambden Town Hall
Hambden, Ohio (**7:30 pm**)

Winter Train Meet **January 17**

UAW Hall,
5615 Chevrolet Blvd., (*flyer on Page 10*)
Parma, Ohio 44130 (*10 am to 3 pm.*)
Admission: \$6.00 each, \$8.00, children under 12 free and parking is FREE.

Painesville Depot **January 19**

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser
Stadium Bar and Grill,
8330 Tyler Blvd.,
Mentor, Ohio 44060 (*flyer on Page 10*)

Division 5 Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2014

Meeting was called to order by **Superintendent Dave Neff** at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. 28 members and 3 guests were present.

Division 5 condolences to Division 5 member Randy Hahn on the loss of his wife.

Get well wishes to Dick Roth and Tony Spena.

Alan Arthur is handling the disposition of an HO collection. The equipment is about 20 years old.

The Division 5 **Holiday Party** will be on Friday, January 9, 2015.

Reviewed **upcoming programs**. The May and June programs will be swapped due to a scheduling conflict.

The Scenic Express trip is on for Saturday, December 6. Those interested in going on this trip should contact Dale Smith (e-mail: dale.smith@mcr5.org).

Discussed some ideas for **future trips**:

Ages Of Steam Roundhouse

Op session on Jerry Albers layout near Cincinnati – maybe later in 2015

B&O museum in Baltimore, MD

Mad River NKP museum in Bellevue, OH

Trolley museum near Washington, PA

We are in need of a **Tripmaster** for the Division. This is someone that handles setting up various Division trips. If you are interested, contact Dave Neff or Dale Smith.

HO modular group report: All the straight modules have been rebuilt. They are working on rebuilding the corners to be lighter. They did get some people interested in joining the group during **Promo Day 2014**.

N group report: Nothing major to report. They are setting up at the Toy and Train Show on November 23. They will be set up at **Farmpark Country Lights**.

Promo Day 2014 review: there was good help from Division 5 members. All the demos seemed to go well. We had good attendance by the public. We could have used a few more presenters.

Bring & Brag:

Bill Berger

Tom Pescha

Ted Wiese

Bob Gittinger

Paul Chapple

Ken Stroebel

Linda Kacprzak

Bryan Persing

Bill Osborne

Program: Several mini-clinics were presented along with some short video clips. **Matt Kross** showed some flickering red LEDs he recently purchased that can be used to simulate fires. **Linda Kacprzak** demonstrated how she paints HO figures. **Tom Pescha** showed video clips of he took of several local home layouts.

Submitted by

Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk

Condolences to the Hahn Family.

Division 5 wishes to express their condolences to member Randy Hahn on the death of his wife, Mary Katherine on October 28th. They had been married for 40 years.

Pictures from the November Meeting

Photos by: Tom Pescha



Next Division 5 Meeting December 5, 2014.

Division 5 BOD Meeting

November 10, 2014

A **Division 5 BOD meeting** was held on November 10, 2014 at Hambden Town Hall. In attendance were Dave Neff, Dale Smith, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Matt Kross, Bob Gittinger, Don Bittner, Lenny Kessler, Bob Frieden, and Tom Pescha.

The Division 5 budget for 2015 was reviewed, finalized, and approved.

The certificate of compliance was submitted to the region that all Division 5 BOD members are current NMRA members.

The BOD reviewed how **Promo Day 2014** went. We need to let people know when to be there for set up and recruit people ahead of time to help with set up. It would be helpful to have signs at each station indicating what is being taught. It would be helpful to have Div 5 brochures and NMRA applications at every station. Approved giving \$50 to each group that brought a layout for display. We need to encourage each presenter to have a handout that highlights the key points being presented. It would also be helpful if each presenter created an outline of their presentation to pass onto someone else in case they can't do the presentation in the future. Each presenter should generate a list of the questions they were asked and try to write out answers to each for future reference. The college is now taping the gym floor where we hold Promo Day and we will have to now pay for them to do this. **Promo Day 2015** will be on Saturday October 31 at Lakeland.

The Division 5 Holiday Party will be held on Friday, January 9, 2015 at Hambden Town Hall. The doors will open at 6:00 pm with dinner served at 6:30 pm. We will have the usual set of events: buffet dinner, Loser's Raffle, and Chinese Gift Exchange. The event usually goes to about 9:00 pm. Price will be \$5 per person. There aren't any limitations on the number of people you bring. The price will be the same for each person. We need your reservation and payment by the December 5, 2014 meeting.

The May and June programs listed previously will be swapped

The May meeting will be at Lake Farmpark and will start a half hour later at 8:00 pm. We need to be out of Farmpark by 9:30 pm.

The Scenic Express trip is on for December 6. Dale needs someone to be his backup for this trip in case he is stuck plowing snow. Details for the trip will be in the December Trainwire.

A trip to **the Ages Of Steam roundhouse** is being put together for Division 4 and Division 5 will be invited. There may be two different days available for the trip. More details when they become available.

The BOD decided to continue to hold our BOD meetings at Hambden Town Hall for 2015.

Invitations are being sent out to vendors and exhibitors for **Railfest 2015**. We will once again have a Saturday evening dinner and presentation. Next year's dinner will be held at the **Pine Ridge Country Club in Willoughby**. The speaker will talk about the **Nickel Plate Railroad**.

The BOD will not meet in December. The next **Division 5 BOD meeting** will be January 12, 2015 at 7:30pm at Hambden Town Hall.

Submitted by:

Matt Kross - Division 5 Clerk

Pictures from Division 5 Promo Day

November 1st, 2014

Photos by: Rich Kasperzak



Next Division 5 Meeting December 5, 2014.

Paranormal Night at the Depot



Saturday November 15th, 2014 was a cold and dark evening at the Painesville Depot Museum on 475 Railroad St, Painesville, Ohio. The grounds were covered with a foot of snow recently deposited from an extreme case of lake effect and the temperature was hovering in the low thirties. All in all, it was a great night to try to connect with spirits from another world. A group led by two ladies, Cathi Weber a psychic and Theresa Argie from the Haunted Housewives, started showing up around nine *pm*. Several Depot volunteers were on hand out in the back of the building gathered around a fire barrel or in a tent where hot coffee, hot chocolate and cookies were available. On the inside, Tom Pescha narrated the history of the Depot to an interested group of fifteen paranormal investigators. After the history lesson, the lights were turned off and the

group related stories of personal experiences while trying to contact any spirits that may have been present. No stone was left unturned as the group moved about the building including a tour of the basement, who knows what you could find down there. Was the event successful? More than one person noted that the battery on their electronic device was completely drained, coincidence? According to the ladies, many people experience the presents of and/or observe apparitions that they often dismiss as a dream or a mind trick played on them by their subconscious. I was

unable to stay till the end, but I am sure that **Casper** did not appear; *now that would have caught my attention!* The Painesville Railroad Museum Staff thanked this group for holding their event at the Depot and for their donation to the Museum. Hopefully this event will be repeated in the warmer weather next year and maybe you can join the entourage. The Haunted Housewives can be contacted at:

www.hauntedhousewives.com.

By: [Len Kessler](#)



Riding the Rails on the RTA



As 2014 slowly grinds toward its inevitable end and the weather turns to a chill, the NETS group found time for probably their last road trip of the year on Thursday October 23rd. This time the travelers

focused on the RTA Rapid Transit system. Six of our group of eight, arrived at the Green Rd. west station and boarded the eleven *am* train to downtown Cleveland. Meanwhile, two of our party was still waiting for the rendezvous at the Green Rd. east

station. Arriving at Tower City, our tour guide Larry Novak easily guided us through the seemingly complicated transition from the Shaker red line to the RTA west bound train. *Red line, blue line, green line, eastbound, westbound*, hell I just followed Larry.

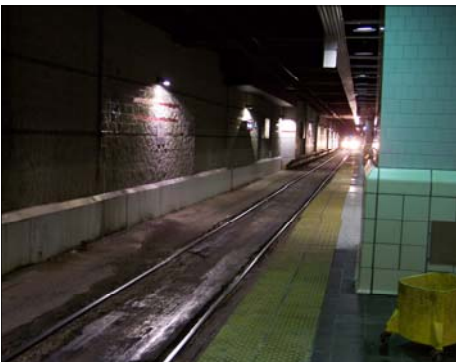


It was at this time I realized that we had two lost sheep from our entourage. We finally hooked up with them by phone and agreed to meet at the Brookpark station, the last westbound stop before the train ends its run at the airport. *Your fault, my fault*, who

cares, it was a beautiful day and a great road trip. The west leg of the transit parallels the Norfolk/Southern mainline and there was plenty of action that day. The Brookpark platform, drenched in bright sunshine with a slight breeze and a temperature around sixty degrees was

a perfect place for some serious rail-fanning. The core group enjoyed at least six or seven trains making our wait for our lost companions, inconsequential. Upon their arrival and after a little friendly harassing

(Continued on page 9)



Rails of the RTA cont....

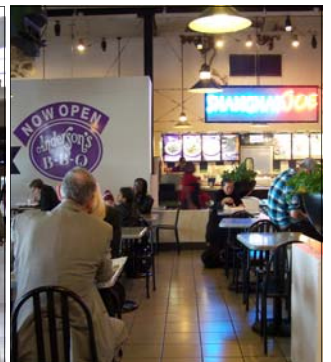


(Continued from page 8)

accompanied with a whole lot of laughing, we boarded the next train back to Tower City for lunch. There was plenty of graffiti in both directions on the rapid, but you had to look at the

bridge abutments and concrete retaining walls instead of rolling stock on the tracks. Tower City has a large food court and a wide variety of vendors offering an interesting diversity of delightful delicacies to tickle the palate. Although lunch was self-serve, the view

was spectacular overlooking a large portion of the flats and the winding Cuyahoga River. After lunch we took a ride on the blue line down though the flats passing the Browns stadium, the Convention Center and ending at the east end of the Municipal parking lot

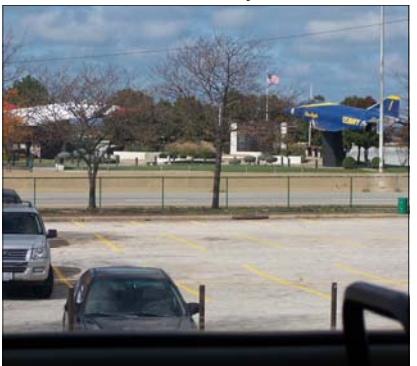
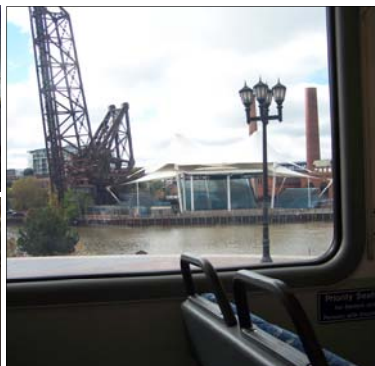


opposite Burke Lakefront Airport. After a short pause, we returned to Tower City and transferred to the Shaker line for the completion of our round trip ending at Green Rd. It took about five hours to complete this trip down memory lane, a trip I have not taken for 55 years. In addition to

numerous changes to the system, I was amazed to notice that a majority of riders were what I called "*walking zombies*" with their earphones plugged into some kind of electronic device and totally oblivious and unaware of their surroundings. Once again we had perfect weather for a field trip and the

cost of this expedition was surprisingly only \$2.50 for a senior all day trip ticket. It was an impressive and interesting trip with a well informed tour guide and a delightful group of friends with a common interest, *anything on rails!*

By: [Len Kessler](#)



Jon Ulbright presents the 16th



Massillon Train & Toy Show

sponsored by CJ Trains
www.cjtrains.com

Featuring:

- All Gauges & Parts
- Die-cast Models
- 148 Dealer Tables
- Running Layouts
- Books & Videos
- Free Parking
- Farm & Vintage Toys
- NASCAR Items
- Good Food & Drink

Sunday, December 14, 2014

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM • Admission: Adults \$5.00 • Children 12 and under FREE

Massillon Knights of Columbus Hall
988 Cherry Road NW
Massillon, Ohio 44647

No "pack-up" before 3 p.m.

Rules for Dealers:

1. Dealers will set up between 6:00 AM and 9:45 AM.
2. Dealers will accept full responsibility for any injuries or loss to them or their property while attending the show(s). Dealers expressly release the promoters (CJ Trains) and Massillon Knights of Columbus from any liability and agree to hold promoters harmless therefore.
3. All monies will be refunded for each show that a dealer is unable to attend because of illness or vehicular problems, if unable to attend because of any other reason(s), the dealer must let CJ Trains know one week prior to the show in writing.
4. There is to be nothing attached to the walls.
5. If for any reason the show is cancelled, all sums will be refunded.
6. All boxes and storage material must be placed directly under the tables. No loose material is to be left in the aisles or unattended. Electricity is available if ordered in advance (3-pronged outlet) at no additional cost.
7. All loading and unloading of material, exhibits, and etc. are to be done at the designated entrance.
8. No "pack-up" before 3 p.m.



Next Show: December 13, 2015

Please Print

Dealers - \$20 per 8' table in advance. — Buy 5 tables, get 1 FREE! — Two free admissions per exhibitor.

I would like _____ tables at \$20.00 each = \$ _____
Free coffee for Dealers till 10:00 AM, courtesy of CJ Trains.

All table orders must be paid for by December 7, 2014. Table orders NOT paid for by this date will be released to those dealers on the waiting list.

Make checks payable to:
CJ Trains
c/o Jon Ulbright
941 Buchholz
Wooster, Ohio 44691
www.cjtrains.com

Call after 6:00 PM
Jon Ulbright
(330) 262-7488
e-mail: cathijon@assnet.com
Massillon - Winter 2014

Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email _____

Z, N & HO O&S TOYS MISC. ELECTRICITY

Antique & Collectible Toy Show

Lakeland College

BUY - SELL - TRADE
Saturday, January 10, 2015
9:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

LAKELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
7700 CLOCKTOWER DR.
Athletic & Fitness Center (AFC) Auxiliary Gym
Interstate 90 and Rt. 306 (S.E. Corner)



Admission: Adults \$6.00
Children (6-12) \$2.00
Active Military Personal FREE

Hot Wheels • Pressed Steel • Japanese Tin • Diecast
Dinky • Matchbox • Planes • Tootsie Toy • Mechanical Toys •
Erector & Mechanical Robots • And Much Much More

JDRF - Stop by the LCJDWF table and help find a cure for Juvenile Diabetes with your donation
INFO: (216) 470-5780 Fax: (440) 951-1644 Email: cleveshows@att.net Web: www.cleveshows.com

TOY II Jan. 10, 2015 The Lakeland Toy Show 2 - No "Pack Up" before 2 P.M.

6' X 30' Tables
Table \$22.00
Load in Fri. 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Sat. 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Make Checks Payable To:
Jim Wendorf
Mail To:
Tom Pascha
3942 East 364th Street
Willoughby, Ohio 44094
Phone (216) 470-5780
www.cleveshows.com
Please send payment with table order by Dec. 24, 2014

PLEASE PRINT
Name _____
Phone: (____) _____
Address _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____
Permit# _____ Amt. Enclosed \$ _____ No of Tables _____
Electrical NO LOCATIONS REQUESTS WILL BE HONORED - but we will try to accommodate you
ALL SHOWS ARE ADVERTISED IN THE Plain Dealer Antique Section

Revised 10-14-14

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser


Monday, January 19, 2015

5 pm - 8 pm

Stadium Grill
8330 Tyler Blvd.
Mentor, Ohio 44060

Menu:
Rigatoni and Meat Sauce
Garlic Toast and Salad (assorted dressings)
Drinks available from cash bar (not included)
Assorted Desserts
Sorry no take-outs

Price:
Adults: \$10.00 each, pre-sale \$9.00
Children under 14 \$3.00, under 5 Free




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

For more information contact: **Lenny Kessler at 440-478-6661**
Sponsor by: Painesville Railroad Museum, Western Reserve Railroad Association
A 501(c)3 non-profit
www.painesvillerrailroadmuseum.org
Email prmm@att.net

Door Prizes
Train Movies

Save Our Station





the great lakes division
TRAIN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION


TRAIN MEET

Saturday January 17, 2015

U. A. W. Hall
5615 Chevrolet Blvd.
Parma, Ohio



- FREE PARKING
- GROUND-LEVEL ENTRANCE
- GOOD LIGHTING
- WIDE AISLES
- ALL SCALES
- NEW AND OLD TRAINS
- PARTS, REPAIR MANUALS, PRICE GUIDES, BOOKS, ETC.
- TRAIN VIDEOS
- MODEL BUILDING SUPPLIES AND KITS
- LIONEL, AMERICAN FLYER, MIKES, WILLIAMS, WEAVER
- HO, N&Z, LARGE SCALE
- REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE



All TCA National Division Chapter Rules will be enforced.

ADMISSION \$6.00 Each \$8.00 Family Children Free
Open to the public 10 am - 3 pm

For Meet Information Call **Ed Mularz (440) 665-0882**

Team Trackwww.MCR5.org**Division 5 Officers**

(Terms expire June 2016)

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Don Bittner 440-257-7555 Robert Gittinger 440-525-0237
 Wayne Lette 440-298-3075 Tom Pescha 216-470-5780

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Bring & Brag (Open Position)

Layout Tours Mike Buehner 440-428-0137
layouttour@MCR5.org



Road Trip to Scenic Express

On December 6, 2014

We have planned a trip to Scenic Express a supplier of scenery materials for all gauges of model railroads. The Owner, Jim Elster will demonstrate some of his products and then let us try our hands using them. The clinic will be held at his business so after the hands on portion you will be able to purchase anything from his inventory. We need to arrive there at 10:30 AM. If you want to carpool we can meet at Dale Smith's house no later than 7:30 AM. I will be leaving at that time. The clinic will probably last about 3 hours. Jim will have some munchies for us to snack on to curb our hunger pains.

If you choose to drive yourself his address is;

Scenic Express

175 Sheffield Drive Ste. 100

Delmont, Pa. 15626

Phone 724-468-3106

**Please contact Dale by December 4th if you are going so
I can advise Jim how many to expect.**

The Painesville Railroad Museum will be holding a **Pasta Dinner fundraiser** at the **Stadium Grill** on Monday **January 19th, 2105** from 5 pm to 8 pm. Give Mom a break and bring her and the kids and have a good pasta dinner and help the Association restore and refurbish the landmark Painesville Railroad Depot. Railfanning listing will be posted in next month's Trainwire.

The Trainwire Newsletter

12049 Sperry Road

Chesterland, Ohio 44026

Publication of Division 5

“The Western Reserve Division”

Mid Central Region

National Model RR Association, Inc.

A Non-Profit Educational Organization

December, 2014

Electronic Version

**Division 5 Membership
as of November 1st, 2014**



100

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 3257 Center Road, Perry, Ohio 44081 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 Division5

The Western Reserve Division 5



www.mcr5.org

A non-profit educational organization



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