



APRIL, 2025 VOLUME XXI ISSUE 4

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



THIS MONTH:

April 4

Division Meeting
Hambden Town Hall
7:30

April 14

BOD Meeting
Zoom Meeting
7:30

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Meetings/Events	2
Minutes	3-4
Railfest Corner	5-9
Announcements	10
Bring & Brag	11-15
Articles	16-24
Shows	25-26
Officers\ Volunteers	27



Railfest 2025 is in the rear view mirror and was a huge success. The division certainly put its best foot forward. I would like to thank all the division members who worked many hours and volunteered Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to make our big weekend something to be proud of. John Ward did a great job leading Railfest. I would have liked to have spent more time at Railfest but had my grand daughters stay with us for the weekend and my wife had to work.

The changes being made at Railfest and the division is bringing us into the twenty first century. The new ticket sales table made by Doug Reidel is awesome and a great first appearance for the division. The new vests with the large logo on the back is a great change over the yellow ones; though those are still available to those who chose to wear them. The Trainwire is expanding with the elimination of the printed version more content can be added and pictures will remain for as long as back

issues are available. In the future at division meetings we will have modeling contests every three or four months, stay tuned for more details.

I would like to see more people get involved...even if it's just dropping a few lines of dialogue and a few pictures to the Trainwire describing your layout, a project your working on, or a railroad themed trip you took. It's easy and pays division gift certificates. If you were in attendance at the March meeting you got to see a very good program on the railroads of Cleveland. A very good power point presentation with lots of great photos and very informative narrative. I see a few more like that in our future.

I'm sure I speak for everyone wishing Bonnie a speedy recovery from a shoulder injury. She is a very important cog in the machinery of our club so next time you see her thank her for all she does. Thank you Aunt Bonnie...lol see ya in April.

~Bill

Just want to use this space to remind everyone about the May program. It would be great to get more participation in the virtual layout tour presentation. If you're worried about having to talk in front of the group rest assured this is not what this is. It's just a chance to let everyone see other members home layouts or even ones that they have visited and photographed.

We will steal *Planet Fitness* slogan for the night also....it will be a judgement free zone so don't worry if you think your work is not up to others; we will not be judging just appreciating. For those of you that have already contributed, thank you and just let others know is was painless.

~Bryan

MEETINGS & EVENTS

UPCOMING DIVISION 5 MEETINGS

(DIVISION 5 MEETINGS START AT 7:30)

<u>APRIL 4, 2025</u>	DIVISION MEETING
LOCATION:	HAMBDEN TOWN HALL
PROGRAM:	SCRATCHBUILDING BY MIKE CAROVAC
BRING & BRAG	SCRATCHBUILT ITEMS
<u>APRIL 14, 2025</u>	BOD MEETING
LOCATION:	VIA ZOOM
<u>MAY 2, 2025</u>	DIVISION MEETING
LOCATION:	HAMBDEN TOWN HALL
PROGRAM:	VIDEO LAYOUT TOURS BY BRYAN PERSING
BRING & BRAG	TBA



Map to Hambden Town Hall

UPCOMING Events

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

April 6
 Medina Train and Toy Show
 Medina Fairgrounds, Medina, Ohio 44256
 9 am to 3 pm Adm. \$6.00
 Phone: 330-948-4400

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

MINUTES

Division 5 Membership Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2025

The March 7, 2025 membership meeting was held at Hambden Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Superintendent Bill Osborne. There were 26 members and 6 guests present.

Railfest 2025 update was provided. Still waiting for Lakeland Community College to give us the dates for Railfest 2026. The television spot on TV8's New Day Cleveland show is all set for Friday, March 14. Railfest job sign-up sheets are available on the Division website and at the meeting. The new vests have been received. Reviewed the various setup times for each day. At the moment, there are 9 tables left but we are still receiving calls from people that would like a table so we are hopeful that they will all be sold.

We are looking into a trip to the Age of Steam Roundhouse on September 20, 2025. Overall cost would be approximately \$3,000 for tickets and a bus so we may need to charge around \$50 per person. We need to set a reservation cutoff date and it looks it will need to be the June 2025 meeting. More information as the details are worked out.

The Division will no longer be sending out paper copies of the Trainwire starting with the April 2025 issue. Only the electronic PDF version of the Trainwire will be available. This will allow more flexibility and a larger size for our newsletter. We will be able to put more and larger pictures in the Trainwire as well as provide show fliers full-size. We will not be trying to embed videos. Instead, members are encouraged to post any videos they have on our Division 5 Face Book page.

Pictures that are contained in the Trainwire will still be available separately on the Division 5 website. The pictures will now remain available for 6 months after they are posted. Pictures will also be posted to the Division Face Book page.

The plan for our May program are virtual layout tours. 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.

MINUTES

We would like to start having a modeling contest at our monthly meetings at least three times a year. We will start at the October meeting. Prizes will be awarded based on popular vote. When we decide to have a modeling contest at a meeting, it will take the place of the normal Bring 'n Brag. More details in the upcoming months.

Modeling Question:

What adhesive to use to temporarily mount figures in scenes for pictures? Clear silicon caulking is successfully used by one member.

Modeling Tips:

Bill Osborne posted a detailed description on the Division's Face Book page on how he successfully modeled mud and standing water. Check it out!

Bring & Brag: Theme: Anything Related To Cleveland Railroads

Matt Kross	Cody Cavender	Bill Berger	Nathan Bryant
Dave Metzger	Curtis Caden	Bryan Persing	Chuck Limbert
Mark Solomon			

Program: Jerry Jordak provided a detailed presentation on the history of the railroad routes in and out of Cleveland, Ohio.

Submitted by
Matt Kross – Div 5 Clerk



NMRA

WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION GROUP

BUSINESSES ACCEPTING DIVISION 5 CERTIFICATES

Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys	Willoughby, Ohio
Hobby Town USA	Mentor, Ohio
Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters	Madison, Ohio
The Painesville Railroad Museum	Painesville, Ohio



PLEASE SUPPORT THESE DEALERS!

RAILFEST CORNER

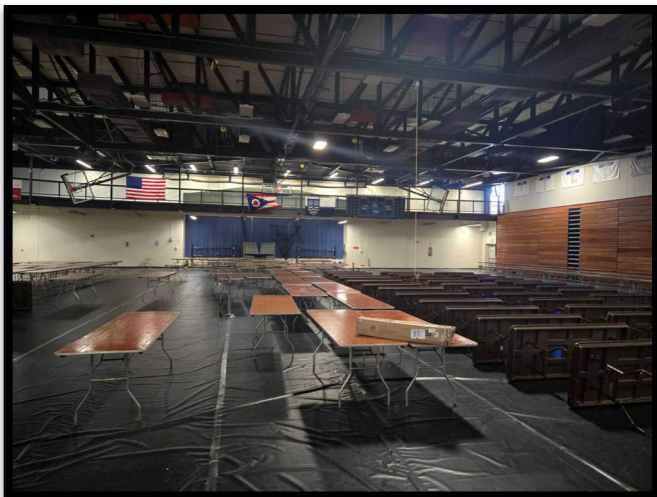


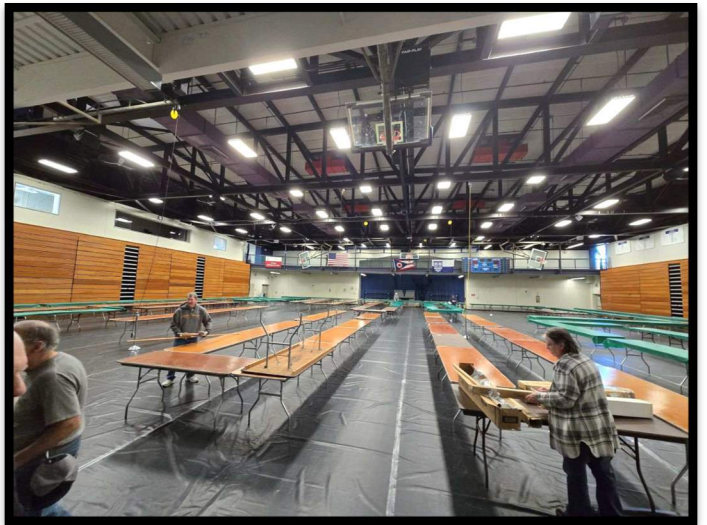
Railfest 2025 was a great event with plenty of happy attendees and vendors! The event would not have been such a success without the support of the vendors, exhibitors, attendees, Lakeland Community College and the many dedicated and tireless volunteers!

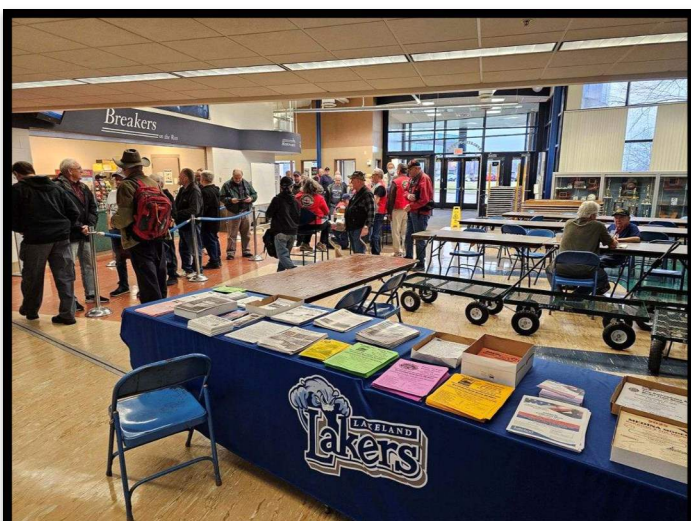
Thank you everyone and we are already looking ahead to 2026!

Let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Thanks, John











STUDIO B



KIRTLAND

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025 Trainwire Items

April Meeting: April 4, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
 Bring 'n' Brag: Scratchbuilt Items
 Program: Scratchbuilding by Mike Carovac

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

June Meeting: June 6, 2025 – 7:30pm – In-person meeting at Hambden Town Hall
 Bring 'n' Brag: ?
 Program: ?

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.

May Program

Remember to send Bryan any pictures of your layout, layouts you've visited, or your module for the May program. Please send these to him by April 28. You can give him a returnable flashdrive at the April meeting or email him pictures to bpersh@yahoo.com

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.

BRING & BRAG



BRING & BRAG



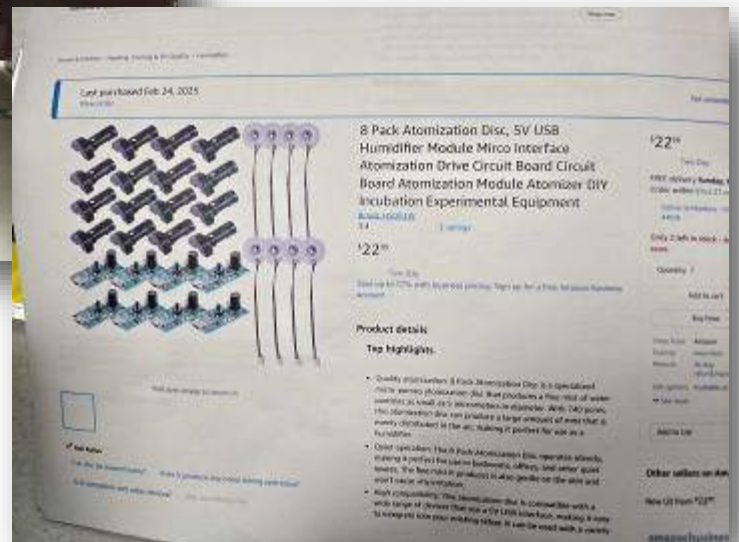
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BRING & BRAG



BRING & BRAG



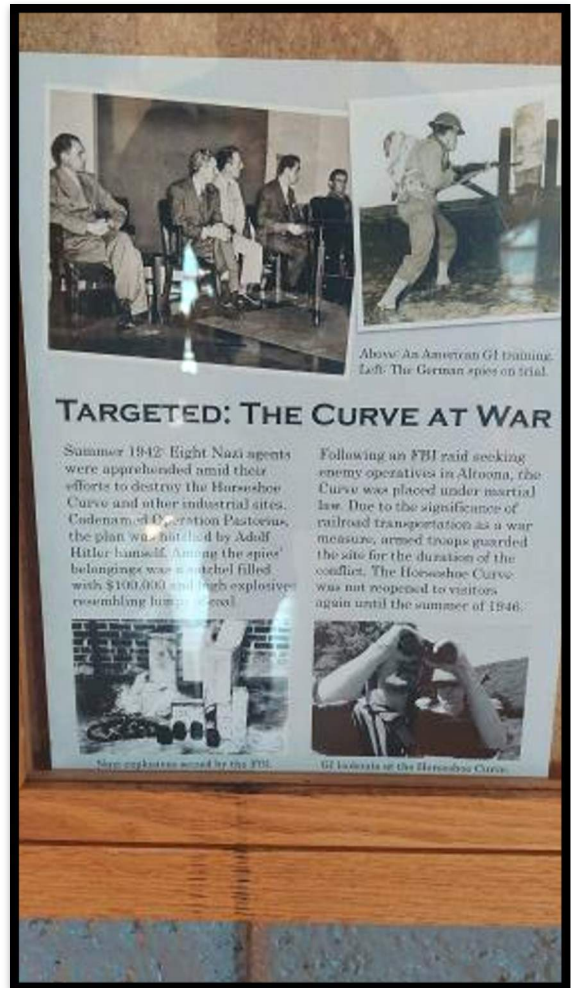
ARTICLES

After the TCA York show this past October, as I made my way back to Northeast Ohio, I took a small day side trip through Altoona to spend the day seeing the horseshoe curve. I have never been here and it was definitely on my bucket list. Also this was near peak fall foliage so the colors were just perfect. Upon arriving I first explored a small museum which was very informative; giving a history lesson on the reason and the history behind building of the curve.

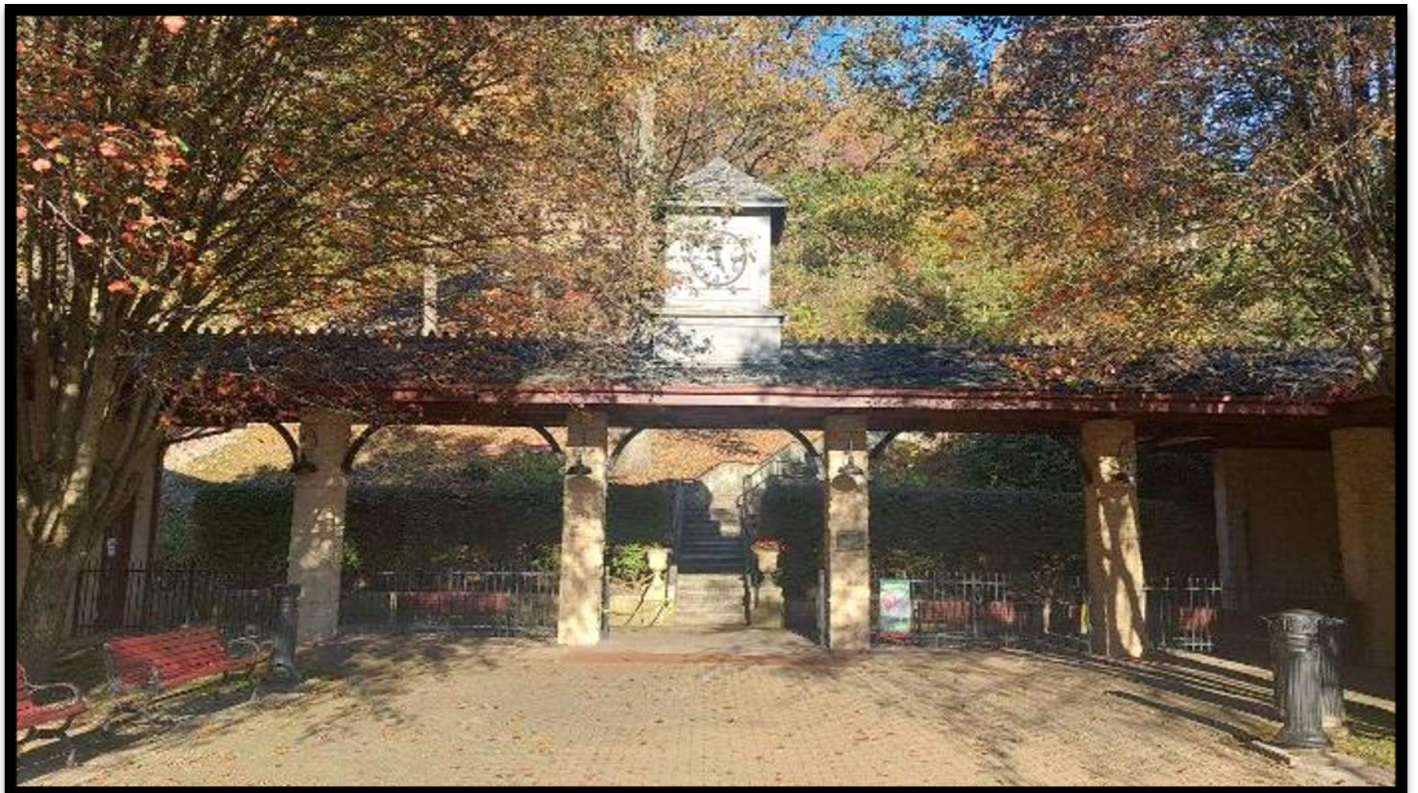
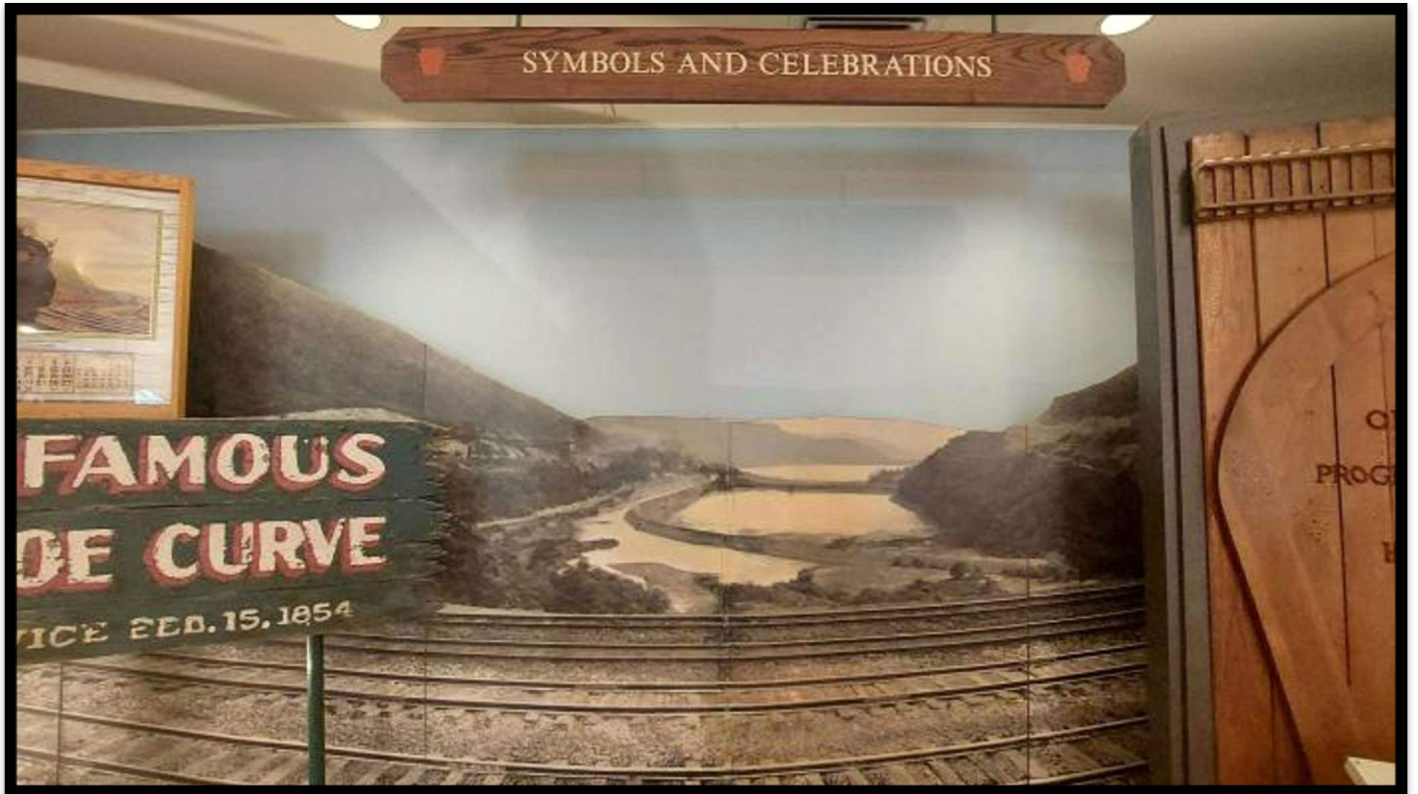
After my history lesson it was time to make my way up the long staircase (the lift was broken and inoperable that day) to get as close to the rails

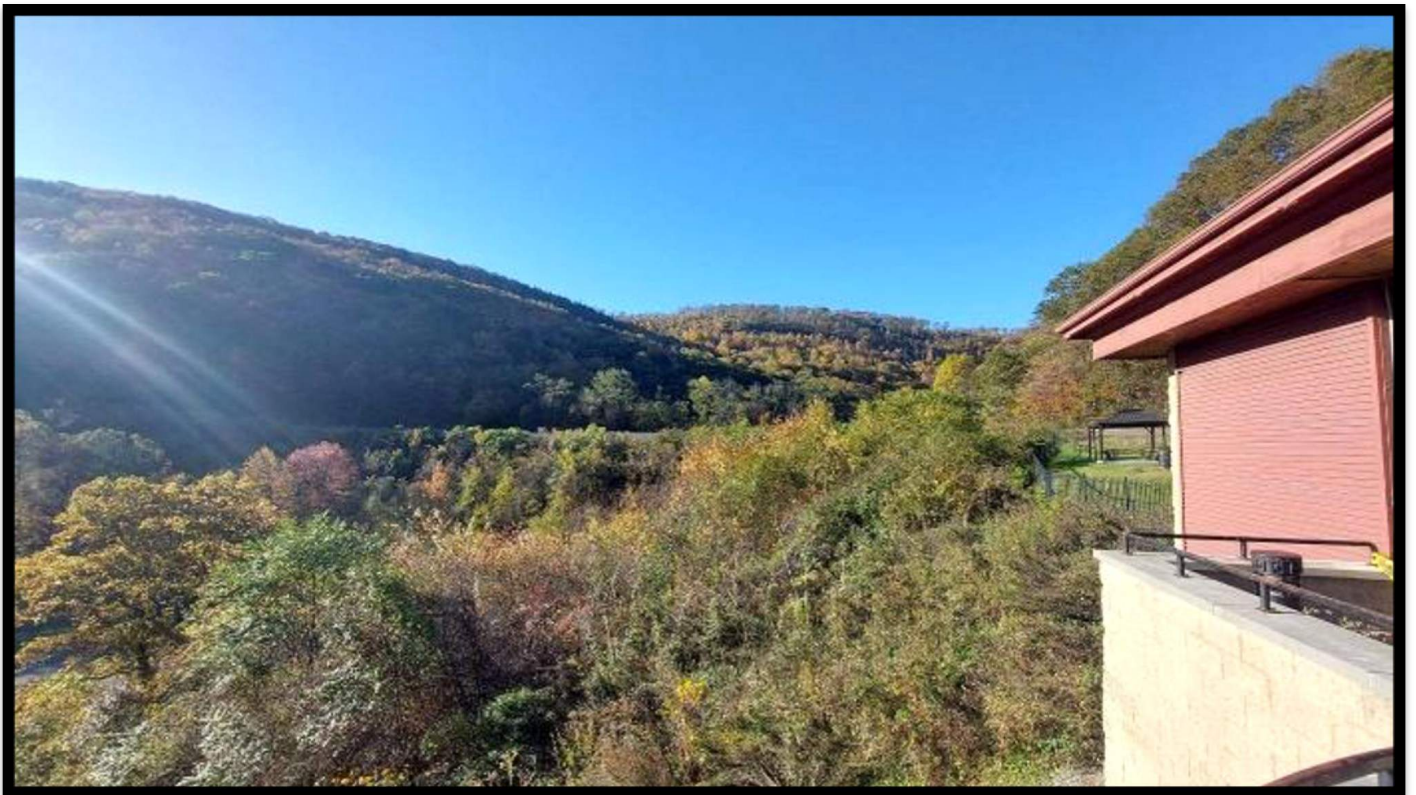
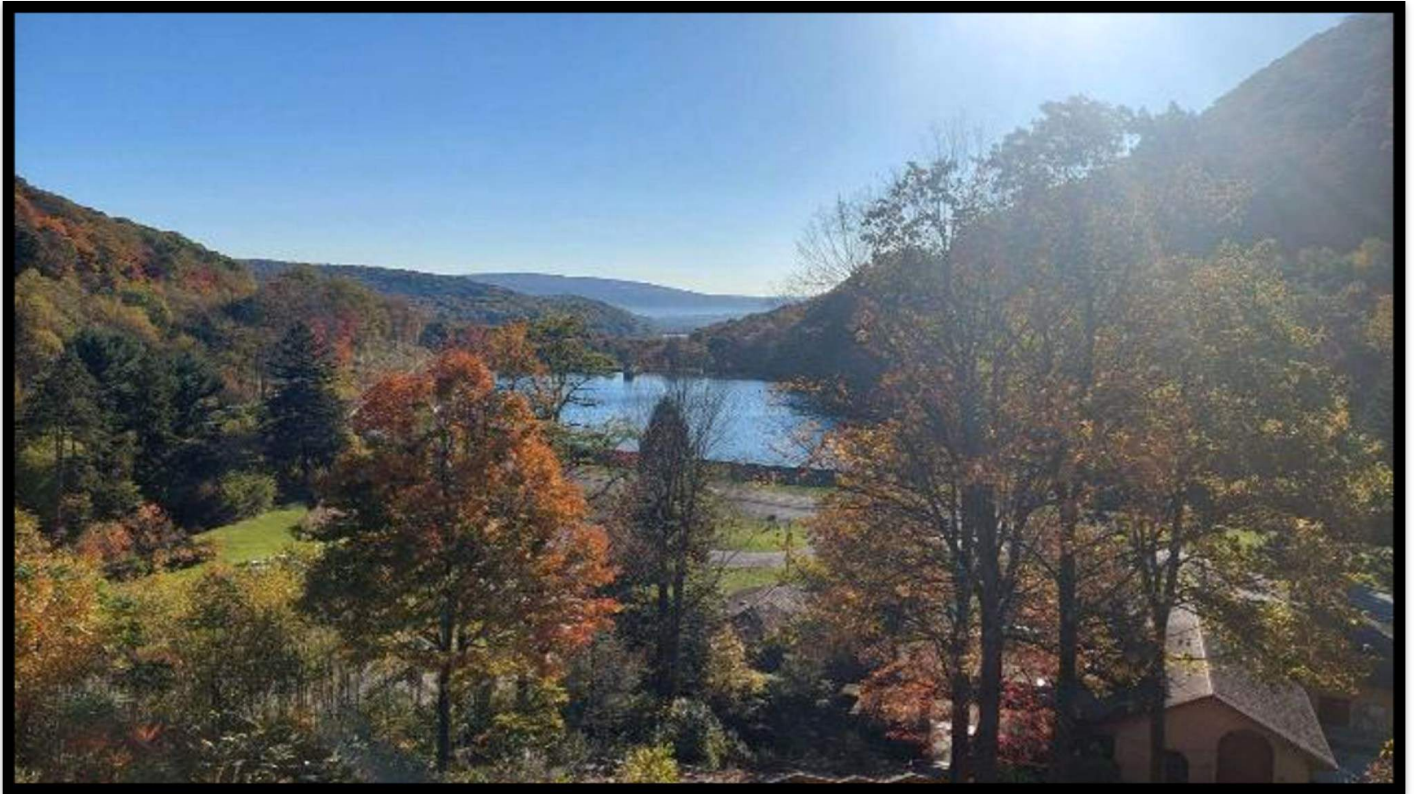
as allowed. It didn't take long before the first train passed through on this sunny Sunday morning. The first one was an Amtrak passenger train; number 86. Also seen that day, during my four hours of railfanning, were a couple of double stacks, auto carriers, a very long coal train, and even a MOW train. Spectators were even gifted twice that day by seeing both eastbound and westbound trains passing at the same time. If you are ever close to Altoona, Pennsylvania I highly recommend a stop at the curve and even more so in the fall.

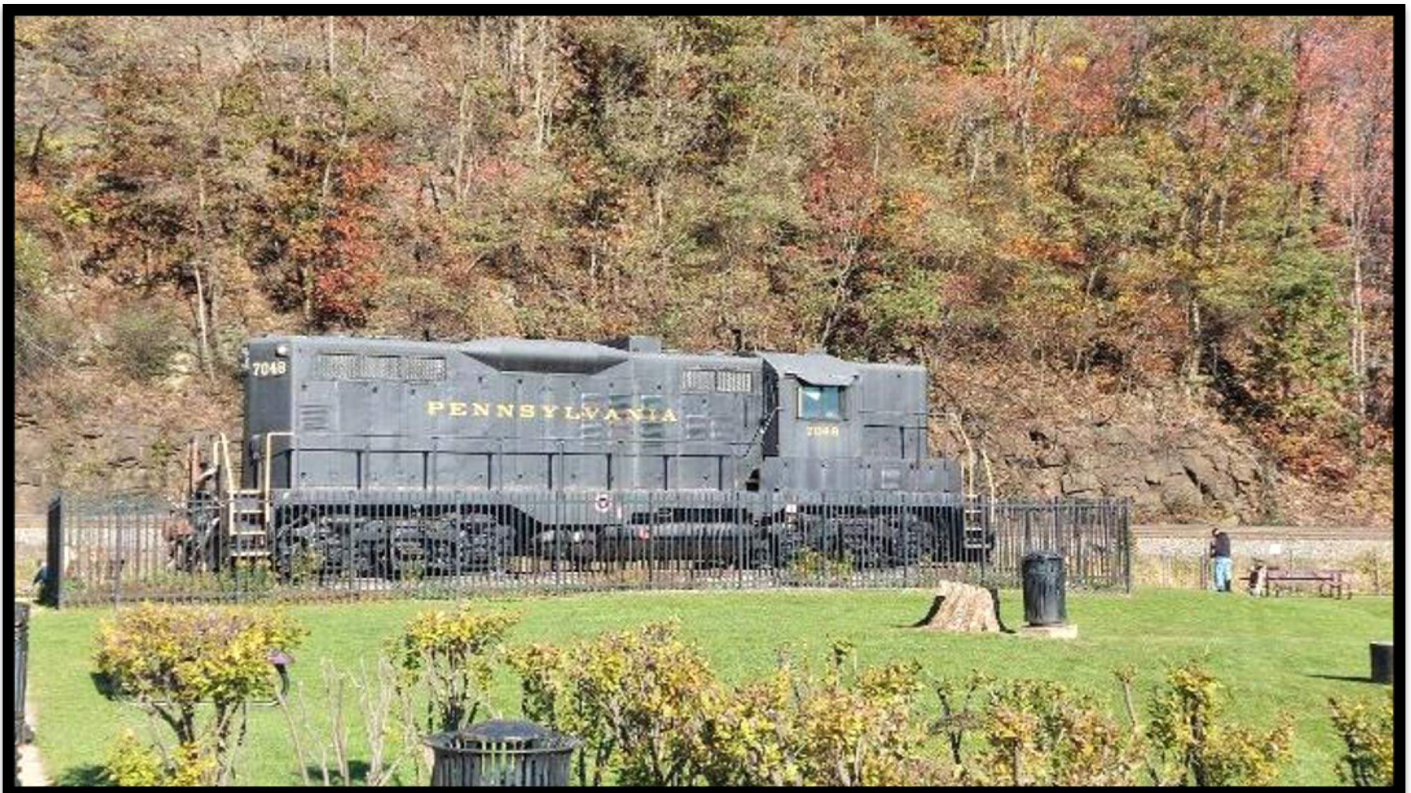
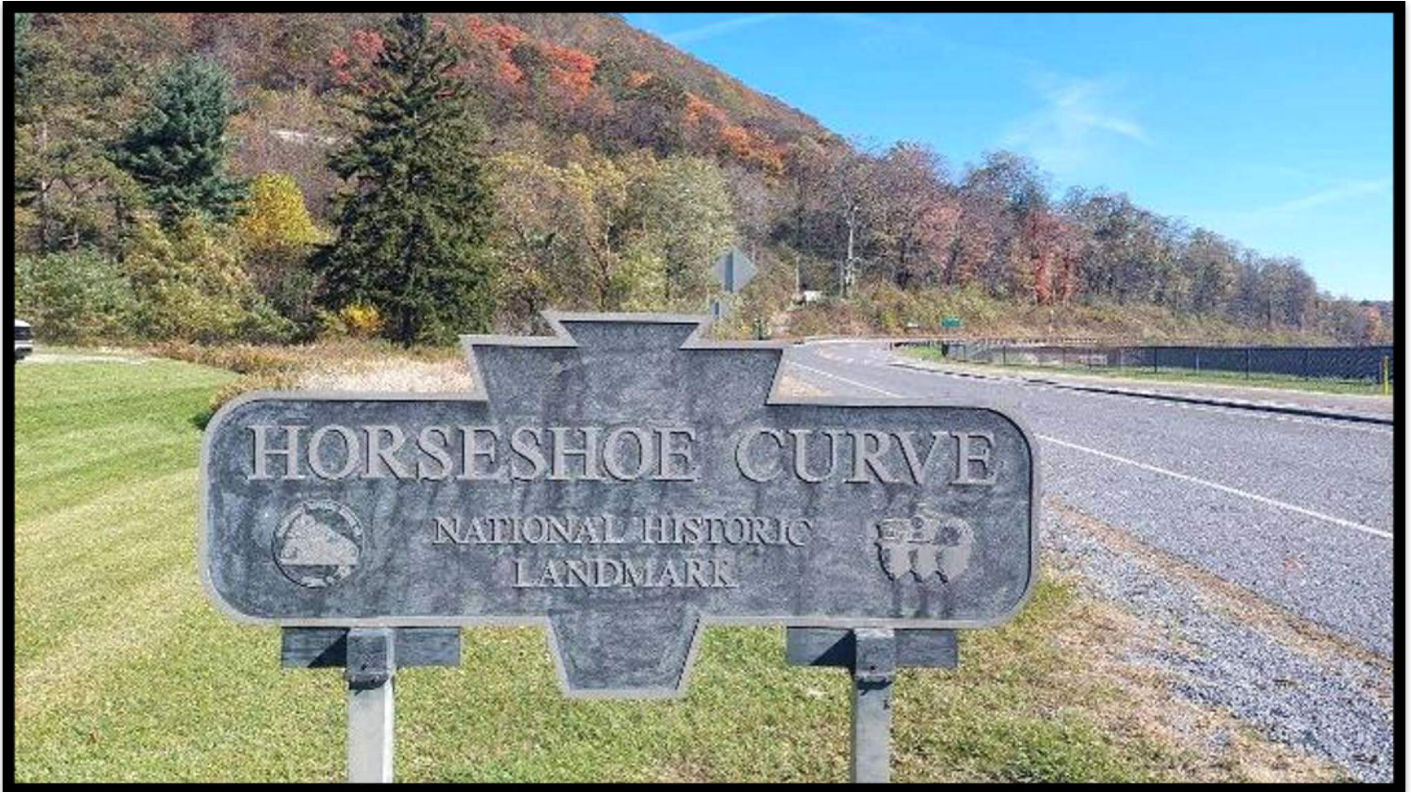
~Bryan Persing













Videos from this article can be found on the division's Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/619236138539148>

ARTICLES

Ohio and Eastern Railroad

Reposted with permission of the author originally appeared in The Micro Model Railroad Dispatch

This 12"x12" HOn30 micro-layout encompasses an area from the flat farmlands of Ohio to the mountains of Pennsylvania. The farm in the lower left corner is in far western Ohio and is represented by the chicken coop. The rest of the large farm didn't fit, of course, and is off the layout. The abandoned coal mine is in the mountains of Pennsylvania about 450 miles to the east. The center displays a coal-fired power plant in a rust-belt city, possibly Youngstown. The railroad services many places along the route, carrying livestock, produce especially Ohio tomatoes), eggs, dairy products, cheese and milk from the farms to points east, and coal to points west.

I started in the hobby building static dioramas, on which I enjoyed doing detailed scenery. About 15 years ago a friend invited us to a meeting of the Mini-Bunch, a group of Midwest narrow-gauge modelers. Some of their displays were micro-layouts, and I liked the idea of creating a small fully-detailed layout with an operating train. I was encouraged by one of the members, Russ Haigh, to try making a pizza layout in HOn30. He handed me a board with some n-scale track and I was hooked!

I started by building and painting the CONCOR Cambria Boiler House kit retrieved from a shelf in our basement, then searched flea markets and train shows for leftover parts and small structures.

The car is from a SceneMasters set. At a train show I bought the chicken coop missing the door, so I made a door and then added some chickens and the farmer from my collection of unpainted figures. Everything was first painted with inexpensive acrylic craft paints before placing on the layout. The water tower was from an n-scale layout being dismantled, which I painted, swapped the ladder with an HO ladder, and then added an HO figure and a chain. The lighted maintenance building was a leftover part of another kit to which I added an interior and many details. The abandoned mine is a carved piece of pink foam with the recessed entrance door painted black and covered with a piece of broken-down fence and a warning sign.

The scenery is a carved-foam road cut with super-tree bushes on the hillside behind the power house, and coarse dirt, ballast (also used as gravel), ground foam in several colors, coal and assorted debris elsewhere on the layout. The steam engine is a small HOn30 from MicroTrains that pulls an assortment of coal cars and an open load. I use a switch box containing a 9-volt battery for power to make it portable. This square-footer draws a lot of interest at train shows, flea markets and conventions.

~Linda Kacprzak



It's quite difficult to believe that this delightful little micro is only one square foot in area. The tiny pizza is full of so much detail.





APRIL SHOWS

2025



MEDINA MODEL RAILROAD & TOY SHOWS

735 Lafayette Road • Medina, Ohio 44256



SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 2nd
SUNDAY - APRIL 6th
SUNDAY - OCTOBER 26th

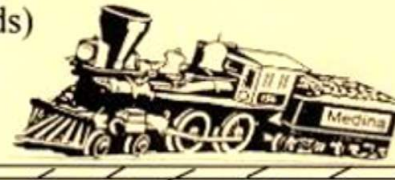


CHRISTMAS XTRAVAGANZA
SUNDAY DECEMBER 7th

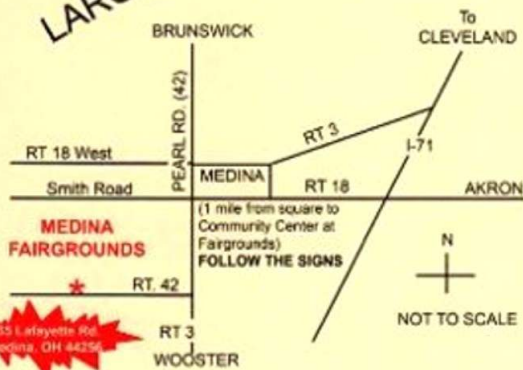
~~ 9 AM TO 3 PM ~~

MEDINA COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER
(Medina Fairgrounds)
Medina, Ohio

MEMORABILIA



LARGE PARKING AREA



735 Lafayette Rd.
Medina, OH 44256

Must Call for Table Reservations

8' TABLES \$35

\$30 if prepaid by **Wednesday** before event

SET-UP

Saturday Night Before Show **4 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Day of Show - **7 a.m. to 9 a.m.**

Door Prizes • Food & Drink • ATM on Site

ADMISSION

Adults \$8.00 • Children under 12 FREE

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.CONRADDOWDELL.COM

— Office Mailing Address Only —
Conrad & Dowdell Productions, Inc.
9047 Kennard Rd., Lodi, OH 44254
330 / 948-4400
www.conraddowdell.com

APRIL SHOWS

THE YOUNGSTOWN MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS:

Model Railroad & Toy Train

Flea Market



Sunday, January 5th, 2025

Sunday, April 6th, 2025



Best location!!! One of Ohio's Premier Flea Markets featuring all gauges of model railroad equipment, memorabilia, & railroad related items. Come check out our new location, plenty of parking, easily accessible from the freeway!

**Immaculate Heart of Mary
Parish Center
4490 Norquest Blvd
Austintown, OH 44515**

Hours: 10am-3:30pm

**Admission: Adults - \$7.00 per person
Children 11 & under free**

For info or reservations call:

**Rick Austin or Ray Wawrowski
832-622-8637 330-469-0405**

Please leave a Message

**8ft tables - \$25.00
www.ymra.org**

(Detach Here)

Flea Market Table Reservation Form

Dealer Name: _____ Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

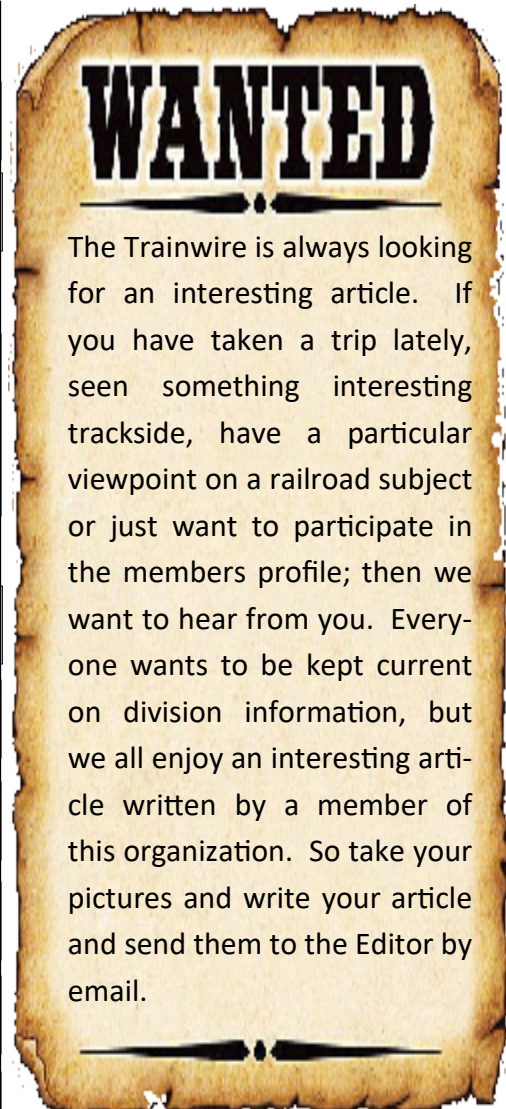
Number of Tables needed: _____ Total Due : _____ Electric Required Yes _____ No _____

Ohio Vendor License # (if applicable): _____

Make Checks Payable to: YMRA Send to: Rick Austin, 1437-A Shaw Rd. Niles, Ohio. 44446

Complete Terms and Conditions available on our website: www.ymra.org

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
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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
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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



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

APRIL, 2025 EDITION

DIVISION 5 MEMBERSHIP (67)

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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THE WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION 5



www.mcr5.org
A non-profit educational organization

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