A PUBLICATION OF
THE WESTERN RESERVE DIVISION
DIVISION 5 - MID CENTRAL REGION - NATIONAL MODEL
RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

March, 2012

Volume VI Issue 3



## The Trainwire.



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## Division 5 Fleamarket Table Item Rules.

If you want to make use of the Division fleamarket table at Railfest, you MUST fill out a Division 5 Railfest Fleamarket Table Items list. Copies will also be available at the February and March Division 5 meetings. The form can also be found on the Division 5 website. Use as many copies of the form as needed to list ALL the items you are selling. Each item on the table must have a sticker that contains the member's initials and a sequence number corresponding to the items on the form. Multiple items, bagged or boxed, are only counted as one item if they are being sold as a set.

Please keep prices in even dollar increments (\$1, \$2, \$3, etc.) if at all possible. This makes it a lot easier for the people manning the table to make change and handle the money.

Also, you need to provide a Business Size envelope to put the money in from the sales of your items. Mark your name clearly on the envelope. You also need to put some money in the envelope to allow the people manning the table to use for making change. We would like at least ten \$1 bills in the envelope. Please mark on the envelope the amount of money you provided for making change.

#### **Businesses Accepting Division 5** Certificates

The businesses listed below are currently accepting Division 5's award certificates:



Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys
Hobby Town USA
Mentor, Ohio
Train Specialty Company
Chardon, Ohio
Toy-N-Hobby Headquarters
Geneva, Ohio



Please support these dealers!

## **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.

#### March 2nd, 2012

Location: Hambden Town Hall

Program: Alaska Railroad by Ken Stroebel

Bring & Brag: "Weathered Box Cars"

#### April 6th, 2012

Location: Hambden Town Hall

Program: HO Coupler Pockets by Harley Smith

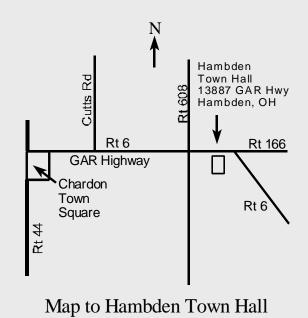
Bring & Brag: "Kitbashed"

#### May 4th, 2012

Location: Hambden Town Hall

Program: TBA

Bring & Brag: "Your Favorite Model"



### SCHEDULED EVENTS

Railfest pre-show meeting

March 6th

Lakeland College Campus

Kirtland, Ohio 6:45 pm

Train Collectors Assn. Show

March 10

UAW Hall 5615 Chevrolet Blvd.

Parma, Ohio 44130

10am-3pm Admission \$5.00

Railfest March 17 & 18

Lakeland College Campus

Kirtland, Ohio

BOD Meeting March 19

Hambden Town Hall Hambden, Ohio

Membership Meeting April 6

#### Request for April Meeting Program:

Anyone that has **Athearn** or **MDC** cars with issues with the under frames, coupler pockets or running gear; please bring them to the meeting this April.

BOD Meeting April 16

Hambden Town Hall

Hambden, Ohio

Highline to Pittsburgh April 26 - 29

NMRA Mid-Central Regional, Division 2

Pittsburgh, Pa 15239

Railroad in the Park May 4th

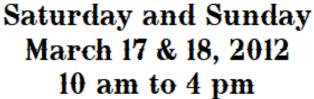
Farmpark

Kirtland, Ohio



# litest 2017





Use the Luck of the Irish and find your Pot of Gold filled with your Train Treasures, and hard to find items.

JDRF - Stop by the NEOJDRFWF table and help find a cure for Juvenile Diabetes with your donation.

#### Operating Layouts

N Scale Layouts

HO Scale layout

S Scale & American

Flyer (Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association)

> Lionel O Gauge LGB G Gauge

Live Steam Display (Lake Shore Live Steam)

#### Lakeland Community College Kirtland, Ohio 44094

State Rt. 306 at Interstate 90 - exit 193

Admission \$7.00 Two Day Pass \$12.00 Family (couples) \$12.00 Family (max) \$12.00

(Adults with Children under 18) Food Service Available with seasonal specials

#### <u>Features</u>

Dealers

Flea market

Exhibitors

Operating Layouts

Video Tapes Historical Displays Train Ride Info

> Food Service Available

Media1Group Prize Vault

The Best & Largest

2 Dav Train Show

in Ohio!

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NMRA MCR Division 5 PO Box 5081 Mentor, Ohio 44060

Phone: (440) 357-8890 Phone: (440) 478-6661



#### National Model Railroad Association MCR – Division 5 Event

Since 1984

Visit us at www.railfest.org



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Email: railfest@mcr5.org







## Railfest 2012 Is Coming Soon – Help Needed!

Railfest 2012 will be here before you know it. We will be needing lots of help! We will have a volunteer sign-up sheet at the Division 5 meetings and during Railfest setup.

#### Plan To Help The Division With Its Only Major Fund Raiser

#### **Railfest Tasks**

Thursday March 15 (approx. 4 pm to 9 pm - show setup only, no dealers)

Begin putting tables in proper positions - Deliver show materials

Friday March 16 (We can usually get in by 1 pm)

- Move tables to proper positions Cover the tables Put out chairs
- •Attach vendor labels to the tables Make coffee Get the donuts!
- Man the doors for security and assistance while vendors set-up
- ●Help vendors unload vehicles Put up signs
- •Setup the Division flea market tables and Division display items

#### Saturday March 17 (7 am - 10 am - dealer and display set-up; show 10 am - 4 pm)

- •Man the doors for security and assistance while vendors set-up
- •Man the entrance desk: collect admission fee and make change
- •Put wrist straps on show attendees as they come in the gate
- •Run the PA system make announcements Collect and count money Make coffee for the morning set-up
- Assist vendors and guests with questions Provide general overall security
- •Man the Division flea market table especially those selling items Man the Raffle table
- •BUY LOT'S OF GOOD STUFF!

## Sunday March 18 (9 am - 6 pm; show 10 am - 4 pm) (Must be out by 6 pm)

- •Same show items as on Saturday
- •Buy more good stuff!
- •Remove covering from tables
- •Clean up trash
- •Provide security while vendors load their vehicles
- •Assist vendors with carrying merchandise to their vehicles
- •Take down displays and signs



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## **Division 5 Meeting Minutes**

February 3rd, 2012 7:30 pm

**Meeting** was called to order by Superintendent Mike Buehner at 7:30 pm at Hambden Town Hall. 27 members and 5 guests were present.

**The Lakeland Community College Gym A** was flooded once again by a broken sprinkler head. This time, it should be okay by the time Railfest comes around.

**Lou Dreher** is looking for someone to repair some HO engines.

If you have any nominations for the Mid Central Region's Director's Award & the Wenderfer Award, let Mike Buehner know.

**Registration forms for the MCR 2012 convention** are online. Paper copies were available at the meeting.

The Painesville Depot has a Facebook page that has lots of videos. Check it out. They also now have a layout at the depot.

It was announced that the **founder of Bowser** has passed away.

Division 4 Superintendent Art Bumpus had a medical incident that landed him in the hospital.

A number of **upcoming events** were reviewed.

**Mike Buehner** has received his Volunteer AP certificate and **Dennis Lloyd** has received his Volunteer and Association Official AP certificates.

**Bring & Brag: Theme – Favorite Fallen Flag** 

Ken Stroebel Bob Gittinger Rich Kacprzak Matt Kross

Dave Neff Dick Roth Bruce Lutheran

Program: Bob Gittinger put on a clinic showing various techniques he uses to work with styrene.

**Business Meeting:** The Nominating Committee provided a slate of candidates to the BOD for the upcoming elections. These will be published in the March Trainwire.

**The Division 5** donated \$500 to the Western Reserve Railroad Association to be used for repairs to the HO model railroad layout that was donated to them. Division 5 has requested that they provide us with periodic progress reports.

**Railfest 2012 status:** 360 tables have been sold. The gym floor situation is looking like it won't cause us any problems. A TV commercial will be done Monday. We will have about 500 TV spots and 600 radio spots. Much of the extra publicity comes from this year's Railfest's association with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. We will be raffling off 15 NMRA memberships at Railfest. Proceeds from the raffle will go to the JDRF. We will have 1000 Atlas Cinema 2-for-1 passes given out at the gate. We need lots of help with Railfest. A sign-up sheet for the various jobs was at the February meeting. It will be at the March meeting and at Railfest. Please sign up to let us know who will be helping with what.

The 30 HO boxcars have been ordered for the Boy Scout Railroading Merit Badge workshop in May.

The Treasurer provided the Division's financial account balance.

**The USB camera** worked well for the meeting's program. We need to fine tune a few things such as providing a dedicated light source and mounting the camera so that it points over the presenter's shoulder instead of being at the front of the table.

Submitted by: Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk



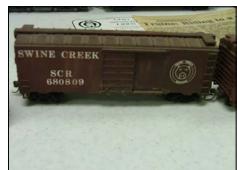
## Pictures from February Meeting.

























Next Division 5 Meeting - March 2nd, 2012.

## **Division 5 BOD Minutes**

February 20, 2012

7:30 pm

**Attendance:** Mike Buehner, Dave Neff, Bonnie Lette, Wayne Lette, Dale Smith, Don Bittner, Bruce Lutheran, Matt Kross, Rob Bowers Jr., Bob Frieden, Lenny Kessler, Tom Pescha, and Jim Wendorf

**Railfest 2012 status:** Latest update from Lakeland Community College regarding the flooded gym floor sounds very promising. It looks like we will have full use of the gym for Railfest. We will not have any clinics. Gary Shaffer will coordinate the Division 5 fleamarket table with Dick Naramore and Rich Kacprzak as backups. The Division 5 information table in the lobby will be shared with Divisions 1 and 4. We will offer a \$20 discount on new NMRA memberships.

We will be raffling off **fifteen NMRA memberships** at \$1 a chance. The cost of the memberships will be paid out of the profit from our 2011 MCR convention. All proceeds from the raffle will go to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The raffle forms and depository will be at the JDRF table. Bonnie will create the form and Tom will get them copied. We will start with 2000 copies. Posters advertising the raffle will be placed all around the various rooms and layouts.

Because we are working with JDRF for Railfest, we are able to get lots of discounted advertising.

Five hundred copies of **the Division 5 brochure** will be printed in Black & White to have available at Railfest. Mat will get the brochure updated. Tom will get copies made and folded.

Wayne will look into getting Five hundred **Division 5 business cards** made.

Mike has started getting quotes for a large Division 5 banner. We are looking for something in color and printed on Tyvek.

**The HO Module Group** has requested funds from Division 5 to replace/repair a number of pieces of their DC and DCC controllers. It was noted that the electronics they are using were actually still Division 5 property that was loaned to them. A motion was passed to officially donate all the electronics to the group and to give them \$400 towards the repairs and parts needed. As part of this donation, the Division requests that that group provide us with periodic progress reports and continue to promote the NMRA.

There is interest in doing another **Division 5 car project**. Bruce Lutheran is heading up this effort. The project is still in the research phase. The BOD has \$3,500 allocated in the 2012 budget to fund this project once it is ready.

Nominations for the Division 5 elections are as follows:

**Superintendent:** Rob Bowers, Jr.

Assistant Superintendent: Tom Carr, Dave Neff

Reviewed **upcoming events** to be included in the Trainwire.

The last convention check has finally cleared, so we can close the books. The convention ended with a \$655.60 profit.

Submitted by: Matt Kross – Division 5 Clerk

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### **Division 5 Elections For Term 2012 – 2014**

Per our newly revised Division 5 Regulations, the Division 5 elected positions are:

- Superintendent
- Assistant Superintendent

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These positions are for a two year term running from June 1, 2012 to June 1, 2014.

The nominating committee has presented the following list of candidates:

For the office of Superintendent: Rob Bowers, Jr.

For the office of Assistant Superintendent: Tom Carr

**Dave Neff** 

Ballots will be mailed in early March to all NMRA members in good standing that reside in the Division 5 area (Ashtabula, Geauga, and Lake counties). To be included on the ballot, any additional nominations must be submitted to the Division 5 Clerk by March 2, 2012.

The ballots will be due by the April 6, 2012 Division 5 meeting. Results will be announced in the May Trainwire.

Nominations for Division 5 offices may be made by a petition signed by two members and the nominee and submitted to the Nominating Committee. The signatures must be legible and the member's NMRA membership number and their membership expiration date must appear with the signature. The petition shall state for what office the candidate is seeking nomination. No candidate can be nominated for more than one office in an election.

Div 5 Nominating Committee for 2012 elections:

Dave Hanna – Lake County

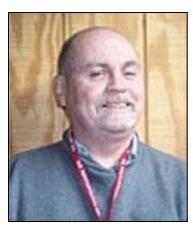
Bill Berger – Geauga County

Dick Naramore – Ashtabula County

## Candidate Biographies:



Rob Bowers, Jr. for Superintendant.



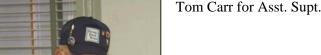
Like most others in the hobby, I received my first train set (American Flyer) as a pup, and discovered 'N' scale in 1967. A lone wolf and busy with many other tasks, including world-wide travel for my employer for many years, I became involved in N-Trak with BRNS in the early 90's and then with LENS in 1999.

While I joined the NMRA back then, I didn't really participate in Division 5 activities until nearing retirement in 2008. I agreed to serve out Eric Hansmann's term as Asst. Supt. Last year and now am running for a full term as Asst.

Supt. I believe I can bring energy, creativity, enthusiasm, and dedication to the Division based on my participation in other organizational endeavors during my professional career. I am also now serving as National Clinic Chairman for the NMRA 2014 Convention to be held in Cleveland. And as you know, I love to build structure kits in N scale!

Given our demographics, our geographics, and societal changes, it is imperative that we embrace change and look for ways to increase participation in model railroading if

the hobby is to survive. This means making our activities attractive to younger modelers as well as serving the interests of the older ones as well. Younger model railroaders doesn't mean just youthmany in their '40's where the family and career are established, the only sport they can actively participate in is golf, bowling, and maybe tennis--are 'ripe' for attracting to our hobby and to the Division. If elected you can count on me find ways to reach out to allold-timers and first-comers, and to work actively to grow the Division. - Dave Neff





## The Modeler's Corner.

## How I Spend My Winter Vacations (The saga of the transfer table.)

n 2004 I started spending part of the Winter in a small condo in Cape Coral, FL on the Gulf coast. My gracious wife agreed that I could construct an N-scale layout on a 36" by 80" door at one end of the <u>carpeted</u> living room. So far, after seven Winters, I have managed to not spill any glue, paint, or other stuff on the rug. My wife regards this as a miracle of the first class. The original door (see photo with legs being attached) has expanded to include an almost five foot ex-

tension. The extension is shown in the second photo.

My trackplan includes a transfer table under the upper level of the door part of the layout. You can see the upper level above the door in the upper left of the picture above. How to raise the upper level over the door to accommodate the transfer table? I didn't have access to a chop saw so, having the reputation of being somewhat frugal, I decided to use folded heavyweight corrugated cardboard as risers. (See photo)

These worked out remarkably well and the triangular shape provides great support for the upper level. However, the upper level is a piece of door skin rescued from a discarded closet door in the trash at a local trailer park. The area over the transfer table developed a significant sag in the door skin area since there are no risers there. Back to the local Home Depot (I was not paid for this product placement.) for a three foot aluminum angle bar. I glued the angle to the front edge of the door skin in the transfer table area and the sag went away for a while. Another trip for a longer angle piece and the problem was permanently solved since the new angle bar spanned two risers.



My original idea for the base of the transfer table, again looking for the cheap way out, was a surplus piece of Plexiglas which was supposed to slide on a piece of slippery plastic and be guided by two wood bars at the track ends. The slippery idea worked but the wood guide bars left too much play in the alignment of the Plexiglas at the ends. Back to the drawing board.

For my second attempt I went the more conventional route and used a piece of doorskin for the transfer table and drawer glides for sliding. This gave me a true forward and back movement with no wiggle. I constructed an alignment mechanism for the entering/leaving tracks and the table tracks using some brass tubing, a ballpoint spring, and model airplane control rods. It's the old pin in the hole



method and is shown in the picture that follows. So far it seems to be working reliably. I pull the pin out using model airplane control cables, manually move the table while visually aligning the appropriate track, push the pin in, and slightly move the table until the pin spring forces the pin in the socket.





I replaced the top level plywood on the risers and discovered the next set of problems. Since the transfer table was now higher than the Plexiglas sheet, the trains now hit the upper level plywood. A Popsicle stick shim on each riser cured that problem but now the trains were hitting the wiring bus glued to the bottom of the upper plywood. I had to reroute the wiring bus around the transfer table area. At last everything seems to work. Lessons learned? Many! One last lesson: I should have glued a one-half inch layer of blue foam board to the top of the upper level. This would have strengthened the plywood and made it so much easier to plant my pine and Sedum trees. The Sedum trees could provide another article on lessons learned. - Pat Flash

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## Brandt River RR Construction Crew Pushes Into WV By Matt Kross

he Brandt River Railroad construction workers have been busy this past month. They have extended the reach of the rail-

road into West Virginia to begin servicing the coal mines and saw mills in the region. This will be the new Kisim Branch of the railroad. The town of Kisim is not yet connected by tracks, but the roadbed is nearly complete, so track laying should begin soon.

(Continued on page 12)

Before:



After:



Before:



After:

Before:



After:





## Brandt River RR Construction Crew Pushes Into WV By Matt Kross cont......

(Continued from page 11)

I have been waiting a long time to begin work on the branch line area of my layout. I needed to get the helix at this end of the layout finished before I could start the branch line work. Well, thanks to the people in my work crew, the helix was completed in early January. After several concentrated weekday evenings and weekends of work and one recent group work session, I have all the spline roadbed installed, most of the

cork roadbed and track laid, backdrop material installed and painted, plywood bases for the coal mines and saw mill installed, lighting valence partially installed, and track feeders connected. There is still a lot of work left to do but I was able to run the first train through the branch and down the helix on February 19.

There will be four coal mines and a saw mill on this branch line. At Kisim, the terminus of the branch, there will be a small yard and a return loop. This track still needs to be laid. The branch is single track with a couple of passing sidings. The grade is 2%. This is the final phase of my layout trackage. I can now start concentrating on getting the scenery done and structures built.

Here are some pictures showing the various stages of construction:









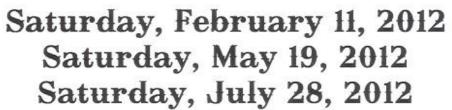
## Rail Fanning Day

at

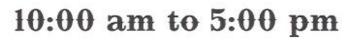
The Western Reserve Railroad Association

## Painesville Depot





Saturday, Oct. 13, 2012



Food and Drinks available



Come and spend a day Rail Fanning at the Painesville Depot.

The Depot open in 1893 for the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Line.

The NYC was formed in 1914 and consolidated the LS&M.

Be sure to bring your camera and a chair.

The depot is on the CSX waterfront Main Line Visit this Historical Train Depot



The Painesville Depot 475 Railroad Street Painesville, Ohio 44077 216-470-5780



www.painesvilledepot.org

## The January NMRA InfoNet News

Quite a bit of news came out of the Winter NMRA Board of Directors meeting last week. I'm going to split it between this edition of the InfoNet News and next month's, to make sure you get a chance to see everything.

#### News from the Board meeting:

- •Tom Draper, manager of the National Train Show, reported that the <u>number of booth sales</u> for the show at Grand Rails 2012 is currently at the same level it was at this time last year for the show in Sacramento.
- •After a necessarily short search by the NMRA Canada Nominating Committee, Clark Kooning volunteered for an appointment as <a href="MRA Canada Director">NMRA Canada Director</a> when Don Hillman stepped down from the job for health reasons. We wish Don all the best, and thank Clark for his willingness to serve at the last minute.
- •Financially, the NMRA ended 2011 in very good standing and is currently rebuilding some of its funds from which it had borrowed in the past. In addition there is currently enough money in the budget to hire an IT professional to repair, maintain, and update the NMRA website.
- •The NMRA has announced an agreement of cooperation between itself and the Hasea.com Model Railroad Association (HRMA) of China, a community of over 100,000 railfans and model railroaders. The HRMA, a relatively young organization, is interested in learning how the NMRA is organized, and will promote NMRA standards in China. Members of both organizations will be able to enjoy the many benefits of each. A press release and story will appear shortly in NMRA Magazine.

The Board is in the initial stages of studying <u>electronic balloting</u> as a way of both saving on postage and encouraging additional member participation.

More Board meeting news next month!

#### And some other news:

The Grand Rails 2012 website at www.gr2012.org now has these new features:

A page for the Layout Design Special Interest Group

The Operations Special Interest Group Sign-up sheet

PDF copies of all of the traditional Registration forms

A complete list of all of the extra fare events and tours

A schedule of days and times for most scheduled events

More Sidetracks events for the non-rails

The Silent Auction schedule

The contest room schedule

Have members who are interested in the Achievement Program? Yours truly was interviewed on <a href="The Model Railway">The Model Railway</a> Show about it. Trevor Marshall talked to me about my road to MMR, and the hurdles and joys of taking it. Episode 32 is available for listening or downloading now at <a href="https://www.themodelrailwayshow.com">www.themodelrailwayshow.com</a> or through iTunes, and will be available through The Model Railway Show's online archives after March 1.

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer.

You'll find those addresses at www.nmra.org or in NMRA Magazine. And if you're changing email addresses, please let me know at this email address: <a href="https://www.nmra.org">NMRA-infonet@earthlink.net</a>

-Gerry Leone, MMR

**NMRA** Communications Director



Team Track	www.MCR5.org					
Division 5 Officers	(Terms expire June 2012)					
Superintendent	Mike Buehner 440-428-0137					
	Super@MCR5.org					
Asst. Superintendent	Dave Neff 440-269-1229 <u>AstSuper@MCR5.org</u>					
Treasurer	Bonnie Lette 440-298-3075					
	Treasurer@MCR5.org					
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Dale Smith         440-286-4932         Bruce Lutheran         440-257-2105           Wayne Lette         440-298-3075         Don Bittner         440-257-7555						
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<b>Division 5 Appointed Positions:</b> (Terms expire June 2012)						
Clerk	Matt Kross 440-729-3045 <u>Clerk@MCR5.org</u>					
Railfest Chairman	Jim Wendorf 440-357-8890 Railfest @MCR5.org					
Promo Day Coordinator	Rob Bowers (440) 942-3039 Bob Frieden PromoDay@MCR5.org					
Achievement Program	Mike Buehner 440-428-0137 AP@MCR5.org					
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Company Store	Ted Wiese 440-256-5212 CompanyStore@MCR5.org					
Bring & Brag	(Open Position)					
Layout Tours	(Open Position)					



## THE CONVENTION JULY 13-20, 2014

www.2014cleveland.org

## Wanted

he Trainwire is always looking for an interesting article. If you have taken a trip lately, seen something interesting trackside, have a particular view point on a railroad subject or just want to participate in the Modelers Corner; 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 article and send them to the Editor by email and share them will all of us.

April Trainwire Deadline March 20th.

## 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

**March**, 2012

### Electronic Version

Division 5 Membership as of February 1st, 2012



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#### The Trainwire

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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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