

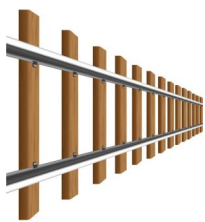


*The newsletter of the Central Indiana Division of the
Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association*

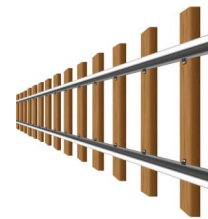


Volume 53 – Issue 3 July - September 2023

CID Member



Dan Hinel



becomes

Master Model Railroader® #700



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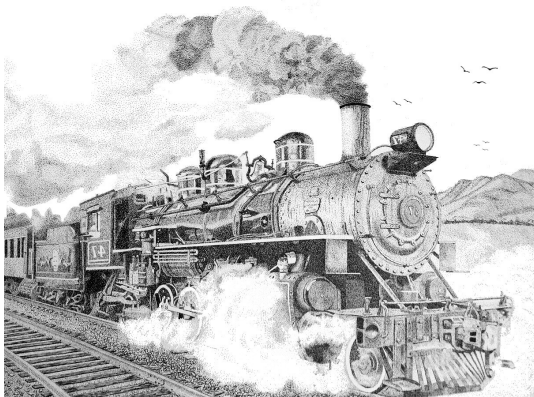
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AP Certificate Recipients

The CID congratulates the following members of the division for being awarded AP Certificates.

Master Model Railroader #730
John Coy, MMR®

Association Volunteer
Joseph Rodenberg

Master Builder Cars
Robert Perry



Need Some Help?



Back Shop

The CID has members with the experience to help solve your modeling problems and are willing to help ALL modelers, whether or not you are a member of the NMRA or not. We believe that we can help and be of service to you. If you can get your problem or problems solved, you can better enjoy the hobby of model railroading.

Contact: cidnmra@comcast.net

Attention – All notices of club open houses, or other shows & meets will be included in the **Extra Board** only if the official request form is used. This form may be printed off the CID website at: <http://www.cidnmra.org/rusty-spike-back-issues> and click on Extra Board Request Sheet. Fill out the form and send to the address listed on the form. Upcoming deadlines for each Rusty Spike are listed in the Spike or may be obtained from Keith Clark (see pg. 3). Events not sent on the request form cannot be included.

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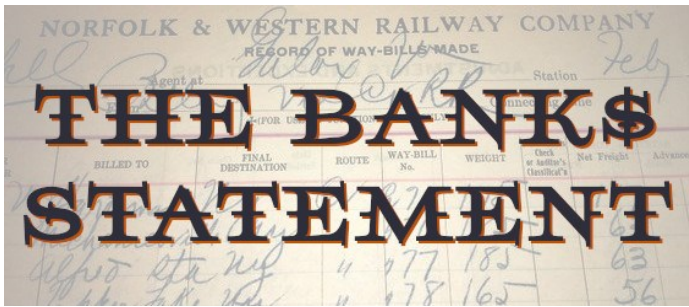
CID web site <http://cidnmra.org>

Rusty Spike Closing Dates

Volume 53 Issue #4 - September 3, 2023
Volume 54 Issue #1 - December 3, 2023
Volume 54 Issue #2 - March 3, 2024
Volume 54 Issue #3 - June 2, 2024

Dates are tentative and subject to change.

The **RUSTY SPIKE** is the official publication of the Central Indiana Division, Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association, and is published quarterly. It is located on the CID website at www.cidnmra.org/. Articles for publication are welcome for the benefit of the readers and the hobby but cannot be paid for. Articles should be approximately 800 words and no more than 4 photos. Submit articles for publication to the Editor; address changes or mailing problems to the Circulation Manager; and advertising or advertising inquiries to the Publisher.



Hello! I hope you are all enjoying the summer! As I write this it is forecast to be a hot and dry summer. I hope that is wrong, but I guess on the bright side, it means less mowing. As I sit here and think about what to write for this column, I have a couple of things I want to bring some positive attention to.

This quarter I am starting with my Superintendent hat, I'm going to switch to my Contest Manager hat, and then wrap the column up with my Super hat again. Hat change #1 By the time this is published the new CID contest season will have ended. At this time the top two places are uncatchable by anyone else. The only thing I am positive about is that Dan will be the first place and Dan will be in second place. As Dan is currently in second place, I have tried to keep up with Dan Hinel and make him work for the win. We will both enjoy catching a breath at the end of this season! This contest year has been so much fun. I hope you have all enjoyed it as well. That brings me to the survey I sent out. I am still getting a response or two trickling in and I haven't had time yet to develop next year's game plan, but I REALLY appreciate those who took the time to respond!

I would love to say I engineered the contest system, but the truth is I borrowed it from the Louisville and Cincy guys. They had the kinks worked out rather nicely. I made a few changes here or there and we rolled with it. I made a lot of assumptions along the way and even more guesses. Contest participants pushed the envelope with every contest, and I loved that! Sometimes it made me scramble to figure out how to deal with boundaries being pushed but I think it made people more creative. Sometimes thinking what you think is the right answer turns out to be very wrong. I had thought some cash prizes, with first place covering the cost of your NMRA membership for the year, would be a good incentive. The responders to the survey let me know that isn't the case at all. There was an option to pick good prize amounts or leave an 'OTHER' option. I expected that OTHER to be a differing amount than

what I listed. What it turned out to be was a strong reaction that it wasn't a good prize. What turned out to be the desired prize was a plaque or other wall hanging recognition. We hand out quite a few certificates for different things in the CID and I thought that a plaque might be just more of the same and not exciting. I was wrong! While I can't say in this column what all changes I will make to the coming year, I can say we will drop the cash prizes and develop some bragging rights worthy plaques.

I also asked about splitting the year into quarters that reset to zero points for the next quarter making 4 winning groups each year. Increased fun at modeling is my number one goal with the contest. I don't want runaway contests. What the responders told me was that they enjoyed having a clear leader to chase after. The suggestions on how to split the season were all over the place with some being ok with the contest done the way we did this year and others liking quarterly. One person responded, 'Maybe semi-annually?' I think that is the way we will likely go. I also asked about making the winners ineligible for the next season. No one was in favor of that. I think I will figure out some form of handicapping though.

One of the last sections was a freeform section to tell me anything about the contest or the CID that you think I should know. This is where I switch my hat back to the super's hat. I was pleased with the responses I got. Not because they were all patted on the back. They weren't. One person told me they didn't participate as much because they didn't know what was happening in the division because we didn't welcome them in a timely manner or give them much information. That is a shortcoming I very much want to hear but it makes me sad. I have already developed a game plan to correct that. New members won't have to deal with that, and we will have already caught up with new members. Thank you for taking the time to tell us what we aren't doing so well.

I have asked in the past for feedback but received little of it. I realized that is largely due to having to attach your name to the feedback and that makes some people uncomfortable. To remedy that and give you a chance to leave anonymous feedback I have created a google form that will stay active as long as I am superintendent. I will check every week or two and see if there are new comments. There is an option to leave me an email address if you want

(Continued on page 8)



Central Indiana Division
of the
National Model Railroad Association
presents the 2023



FRANKLIN TRAIN SHOW

Saturday, Aug. 5, 10am to 4pm

Sunday, Aug. 6, 10am to 3pm

- 4 Buildings filled with vendors and portable layouts
- 1 Building for clinics on both days



Admission: \$7 per Adult
(Kids under 16 free with Adult)
(\$5 with proof of NMRA membership with card)

Johnson County Fairgrounds

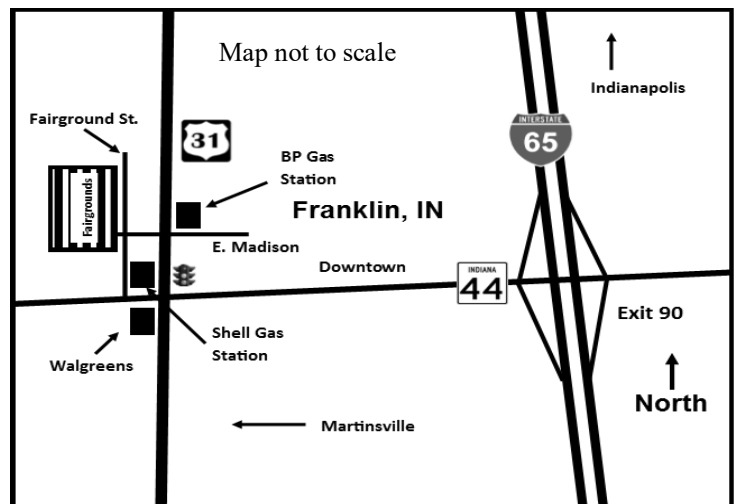
250 Fairground St., Franklin, IN ● Check in at Shooting Sports Building

Show Features:

- Operating Layouts
- Dealer Tables
- Manufacturers
- Free Parking
- Displays
- Clinics
- Door Prizes
- Food

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JUST SOUTH OF INDY

Check out our website at
<http://www.cidnmra.org>

For information contact Michael Roderick at (317) 833-3556 or franklintrainshow@hotmail.com

NOTE: The next CID train show is at Danville, IN on November 18, 2023

Upcoming Events

– Division Schedule –



Franklin Train Show - August 5 & 6, 2023 - Franklin, IN

Johnson County Fairgrounds, 250 Fairground St., Franklin, IN
Dealer Show & Meet – 10am to 4pm Saturday, 10am to 3pm Sunday
Admission: \$7:00 per Adult / Children under 16 free with Adult
\$5 for membership in NMRA with card
Operating layouts, vendors, door prizes, contests, food and free parking
Dealer Tables - \$22.00 for 8' table both days

For more information or tables: Mike Roderick at (317) 833-3556 or franklintrainshow@hotmail.com

Danville Meet - November 18, 2023 - Danville, IN

Hendricks County Fairgrounds, 1900 E. Main St., Danville, IN
Dealer Show & Meet – 10am to 3pm Admission: \$3:00 per Adult / \$5.00 per Family
Operating layouts, vendors, door prizes, contests, food and free parking
Dealer Tables - \$16.00 for 8' table - request form available at www.cidnmra.org

For more information or tables: Dave Mashino at (765) 806-1560 or danvilletrainshow@gmail.com

– Extra Board –

9th Annual Train Day - July 29, 2023 - Terra Haute, IN

Terra Haute Children's Museum, 727 Wabash Ave, Terre Haute, IN
Layouts and Displays – 10am to 3pm 2 & older \$9.00, Museum Members Free, Under 2 Free
For more information: Newman Atkinson at (812) 243-9874 or newlycon1@aol.com

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Seeking Operating
Layouts & Displays for
show set up among
museum exhibits.

9th Annual
Train Day
July 29
10 - 3

If you are wondering about upcoming train shows and events in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan? Go to the CID home page under [Train Shows / Master Listing](#) to find a listing of many events that might be of interest. It has new, regular and cancelled events to help you make plans. This list also includes NMRA events. Updated lists will be posted as received or you can also go to [train_show_list.pdf \(lmrc.org\)](#)

JOHN'S JUNCTION

by John Robert Coy, MMR®

Here is the third installment in a series of articles involving the Achievement Program (AP). (AP Author Certificate)



Your CID board is following a NMRA directive: “Whenever possible, Division events should include a short reminder about the AP...”

Author! Author! I've heard that yelled-out by an audience after a fantastic performance. It is my hope and goal that one day I will write words worth plagiarizing! LOL

That is a worthy goal. However, a realistic achievable one is most certainly within your reach. I'm writing about, of course, the Author Certificate.

Generally speaking, getting published is no easy feat. Some people try for years and never succeed. Then there are the select few who end-up on the New York Times best seller list!

However, you have an open avenue for publication. I'm closing in on five years as a Member of the NMRA. Since day one, our Publisher of the Rusty Spike, Keith Clark, has upon many occasions, asked people (YOU!) to submit articles, because seemingly it has been a challenge to fill the pages of our Rusty Spike.

The same is true with the Waybill—our newsletter—for our entire Midwest Region. On more than one occasion, in fact, very, very often, I have heard the plea for submissions. Just last night, May 27, 2023, on Facebook—the AP--Master Model Railroad site—a Region was asking for stories involving the AP.

So, there you have it! That is a brief range of publication options open to you to get an article published. And, those places are just the tip of the iceberg. The point I'm trying to make here is that it with reasonable reach to get an article published within the NMRA.

Now, the question becomes: What do I write about? The answer is: Model Railroading and or other subject matter related to model railroading. Chances are that if you are reading this article, you are a model railroader. There are a good number of you

who have been model railroading for years.

You may write about your current layout. Tell its story! How did you create it? What was your thought process? How long did you have it? Do you still have it?

How many layouts have you constructed or helped to construct? What scale(s) was the layout(s) built in? Any special features? Was it built for operation or display or both?

What is your favorite model that you ever built? How did you build it? Have you ever entered models into contests or just for display? I could sit here all day and throw out suggestions. EVERYONE has a story tell. When did you join the NMRA? Why would you encourage others to join us? That would be interesting. What is your greatest buy at a train show? What is your favorite railroad and why?

On the official NMRA AP pages under the Author category that are explanations, table, charts, etc. outlining the criteria to earn this certificate. So, I will not be redundant and post that here.

I will say that for a rule of thumb, as quote from that page, 1200 words constitutes a page. However, don't take that for an absolute. When in doubt, consult with CID AP Chair Dan Hinel. That may sound like a large number of words. It is only roughly 3 pages on a standard sheet of paper. That isn't much. And, when you include images with your article, that quickly fills space. Images do count for Author points as well.

In fact, if another person writes the article and you took the photos—the photos published will earn Author points for you.

You need forty-two points to earn your certificate. That is easily within reach and even better you help the NMRA by providing content for others to enjoy. Everyone has entertaining stories to share!

Please understand that for the exact same article you can ONLY earn points for it one time. So, if your article is used at Division level and is also used in a regional publication you may only count the points for it ONE TIME. Bear in mind, that you DOUBLE points at Regional Level versus Division level. Read the official rules please.

(Continued on page 8)

The NMRA Magazine, or a national publication, would earn even more points—and some national publications will even pay you—even better! However, paid publications are much more of a challenge to have an article accepted. It can be done!

As written earlier, there are open avenues for you to be published and I for one am always curious about what the other Members are working on. What is the latest news they have heard? What's going on in their world of model railroading? What's happening with you? You are the only one who knows.

What are you waiting for? I certainly would like to see an article from you.

Why Weather Rolling Stock

Cars Before Weathering

For example; when you buy some rolling stock it comes packaged all shiny, plastic and new.

It probably looks too perfect, unreal and out of place alongside the other cars on the track. It may need “roughing up” to make it look used, or at least to show some signs of wear and tear.

It really comes down to deciding if want to “roughup” the factory paint job on the very expensive rolling stock you’ve just purchased. But, like it or not, shiny new cars usually look out of place on an otherwise “used looking” layout.



Cars After Weathering

In reality; most cars on a railroad, show varying degrees of rust, grime (lube and oil), mud, soot, denting, scratches and some are even covered in graffiti. However, cars do vary in age and usage, so they shouldn't necessarily all look the same. And, not

me to contact you back but if you don't leave something to identify yourself then I have no way at all of knowing who left the comment. Honest feedback is important. Thanks for making the CID such a great place to serve.

Leave me a message at
<https://forms.gle/B1YEkQVmZjPstcNu7>

Thanks, and have a great summer!
Daniel Banks
CID Superintendent
Contest Manager

everything is dirty, because the contact on bare metal can keep some areas of a car clean.

So, it is a case of thinking carefully about the age and likely wear and tear that you want to mimic... and whether you are prepared to “rough-up” your rolling stock for the sake of adding realism.

Also, think about the region or era you are recreating. Is it likely to be muddy at times or would it be more dusty and arid like in a desert? For example, the rolling stock might need a sun-bleached look, which can be achieved with Dullcoat brushed over with some rubbing alcohol. This will give the model a kind of a white milky haze. If you don't like it, respray with Dullcoat. However, always test techniques on something else before you try them out on your prized models, because you may not like the effect.



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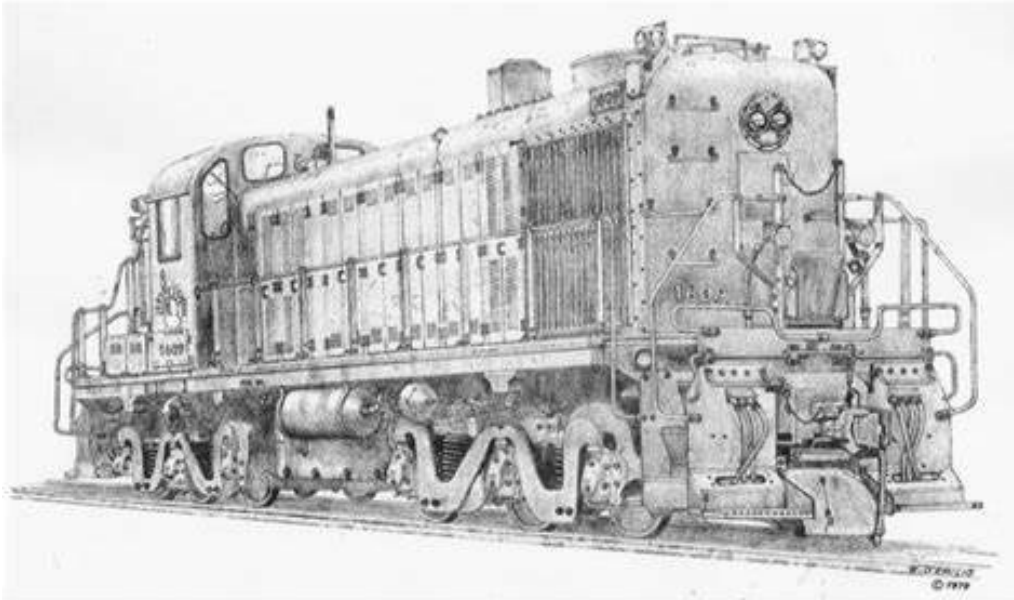
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