



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

Volume 48 – Number 1 January – February 2018



# Danville Show Has Best Attendance Ever!



A total of 840 people passed through the door at the Danville meet which was an all-time attendance record. Photo: Rich Seymour

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There is lots more information to discover on our website. Go to the url below for all kinds of model railroad links.

[www.cidnmra.org](http://www.cidnmra.org)



Phillip Burnside displayed one of his structures at the Danville show. Many elements of the building were constructed from parts made on a 3-D printer. The building is lit and though hard to see in the photo the flywheel is turning.

(Photo: Rich Seymour)

### Rusty Spike Closing Dates

Volume 48 Issue #2 - February 11, 2018

Volume 48 Issue #3 - April 8, 2018

Volume 48 Issue #4 - June 3, 2018

Dates are tentative and subject to change.

**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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The **RUSTY SPIKE** is the official publication of the Central Indiana Division, Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association, and is published at least five times a year just prior to meets. It is sent FREE to all N.M.R.A. members in the C.I.D. and non-members may subscribe for \$6 per year. Articles for publication are welcome for the benefit of the readers and the hobby but cannot be paid for. Submit articles for publication to the Editor; address changes or mailing problems to the Circulation Manager; and advertising or advertising inquiries to the Publisher.



The Columbus Area Railroad Club is dedicated to serving all those interested in the preservation of railroad history through the use of modeling, photography, artifact preservation, and railfanning.

Memberships are available

We have operating layouts in O and On-30 and we are in the process of building new layouts in HO and N scales. Come and see the progress and our new home!

### Public Hours:

Third Saturday of the month except September

12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Free Admission

### Location:

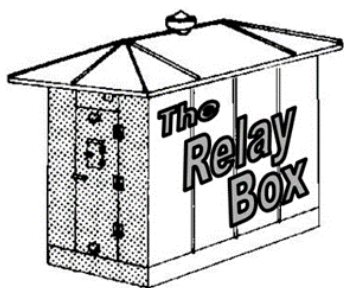
Johnson County Park  
Park Building  
2949 North Street  
Edinburgh, IN

### Questions/Info:

812-343-4800

[columbusarearailroadclub.com](http://columbusarearailroadclub.com)





**Keith Clark**  
**CID Superintendent**

To start this Relay Box, I wish you all a very happy and healthy new year. I hope that 2018

brings you the opportunity to work on model trains and enjoy the great hobby that it is. Please take some time out of your schedules and take part in the activities that your CID has planned for you in the upcoming year as I know that you will not be disappointed in them.

The first of those opportunities coming up is the Noblesville Train Show. There will be lots to see, do and buy. When I was trying to come up with the main topic for this issue of the Relay Box, which is always a tough thing for me, I decided that I needed to take some time and discuss clinics that we present at the Noblesville, Danville, and now this spring Franklin, train shows as well as at our Modelers Meets.

It is always interesting to many of us that the number of people who attend the clinics is most often quite low. Many of us on the CID board often sit and contemplate why this is so and wonder what we might do to encourage members and the general public, especially at train shows where they don't have to be CID members to attend, to take advantage of the clinics. I am going to be putting on a clinic at Noblesville and will be spending a great deal of time during the month of January preparing for it. I would like to see more than the usual 8 to 10 people attend.

I will start by telling you that the clinic will be on Free-mo. Now I know that the first thing a vast majority of you are going to say without giving it any thought is, "Oh, I'm not into or doing Free-mo so this clinic isn't relevant to me and I am not going to attend it." I don't want to sound rude here but I think you are dead wrong with that line of thinking and I will now try to explain why.

Many of us have a theory that if you walk away from a clinic with at least one idea that you can use on your own layout then it was worth while. So with that in mind, there will be things in my clinic that, even though centered around building a Free-mo module, will have applications that can be used on

all sorts of other layouts. You will see how I powered, wired, mounted and throw my tortoise switch machines. You will see how I constructed benchwork, laid cork roadbed and track. Ah, but you say you know how to do that. But maybe I do it just differently enough that you see a way that you could do it better. I'm not saying mine is the best way, mind you, but maybe one thing about it gives you a better idea for yours. Thinking about DCC? Well see how it is wired and maybe learn about how it works. I am showing something HO Scale and you work in N, doesn't matter, same ideas and techniques apply. Ask questions about this, or that. I may not have the answer but someone else attending the clinic just might. It's amazing the wealth of information that can be had in a clinic even if the topic is not something that you don't particularly have an interest in. Those same applications can apply elsewhere.

Finally, you might just learn something about Free-mo that you didn't know and decide that you would like to try and build a small module. So please think about attending a clinic with a different point of view and I will see you at Noblesville.



**Central Indiana Division**  
of the  
**National Model Railroad Association**

*Presents the*

## **Franklin Train Show**

**Saturday - April 21, 2018**

**\*\*CID Annual Meeting\*\***

**Johnson County  
National Guard Armory  
325 Minute Man Way  
Franklin, IN**

**10 AM to 3 PM**

**CID Annual Meeting at 11:00AM**

**Admission: \$3.00 per Adult or \$5.00 per Family**



### **Show Features**

- Operating Layouts
- Dealer Tables
- Clinic
- Free Parking
- Displays
- Food
- Door Prizes

**- Popular Vote Contests -**  
**Favorite Reefer Car**  
**& Favorite Train**



**Dealer Tables \$12.00 each [6 foot] Setup from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM**  
**Table reservation form at: [cidnmra.org](http://cidnmra.org)**

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

**The next CID train show is at Danville, IN on November 17, 2018**



## Sunday – January 28, 2018

**\$3 per person  
or  
\$5 for families**



## 10 AM to 3 PM

- Operating Layouts
- Dealer Tables
- Free Parking
- Food by Sheridan Christian Church
- Clinics on improving your model railroading skills
- Displays
- Model Judging
- Door Prizes

Map of the 4-H Exhibition Center area in Indianapolis, Indiana. The map shows the intersection of Conner St and Pleasant St. The 4-H Exhibition Center is marked with a red cross at the intersection. Surrounding streets include 10th St, 13th St, 18th St, Division St, Vine St, Plum St, and South St. Highway 32 (Pendleton Av) and Highway 37 are also shown. A scale bar indicates 1000 ft.

**The next CID activity is the Franklin Train Show on April 21, 2018**

# Upcoming Events

## – Division Schedule –

### Noblesville Meet – January 28, 2018 – Noblesville, IN

Hamilton County 4H Expo Center, 2003 Pleasant Street

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 - \$12.00 for 6' table

**For more information or tables:** Tom Cain at (317) 696-2818



### Spring Modelers Meet - March 17, 2018 - Zionsville, IN

Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church, 11250 N. Michigan Rd., Zionsville, IN

Hours will be our regular 10A to 3P. The presentation for the meet – *Signaling the Eastern Illinois Santa Fe* – will be given by Tom Cain.

Bring something with you that you'd like to share with others.

**For more information or tables:** Steve Studley (812) 876-9726

### Franklin Meet – April 21, 2018 – Franklin, IN

Johnson County National Guard Armory, 325 Minute Man Way

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 - \$12.00 for 6' table

**For more information or tables:** cidnmra.org

## – Extra Board –

### Great Train Show- February 3-4, 2018 – Indianapolis, IN



Indiana State Fair Grounds

Admission-Adults: \$10.00 Saturday (2day) - \$9.00 Sunday - Kids under 11: FREE

Purchase tickets on-line and get \$1.00 off with coupon code W11

On site admission is cash only

10am-4pm Saturday and Sunday

**For more information:** <http://www.greattrainshow.com>

### Naptown & White River Model RR Club – March 3, 2018– Indianapolis, IN

Train Show–Manual H.S. Gym, 2405 S. Madison Ave., Indianapolis, IN

Admission \$5.00/Children under 12 free with adult

Free admission to all Scouts in uniform w/paid adult

Saturday, 10 am to 3 pm – Vendors, Layouts, Clinics, Food, and More!

Club Layout will be open free of charge

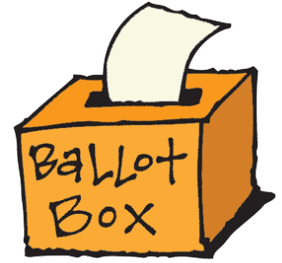
See [www.naptownrr.org](http://www.naptownrr.org) for map and directions

**For more information:** Steve Handly at (317) 786-8627 or [naptownmrr@gmail.com](mailto:naptownmrr@gmail.com)



## 2018 CID Board of Directors Election

The next CID Board election will elect the executive committee - Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Clerk, Paymaster - and three Trainmasters. The terms for the positions listed are all two years in length. Maximum term length is two consecutive terms, except for the Chief Clerk and Paymaster positions. Those two positions are not term-limited. The new term begins May 15, 2018.



To be a member of the Board, you must be a member of the Central Indiana Division, NMRA. Dues must be kept up-to-date. Duties include attending the six Board meetings held each year. These meetings take care of the business of the Division. Board members serve on committees associated with the work of the Board and help at CID activities. If you have questions about any of the positions or are interested in placing your name in nomination, please contact either Bill Schoonmaker or Steve Studley. Contact info for each of us is available on page three of this issue. We'll be asking for you to send us a bio of approximately 250-350 words. Voting will take place next March-April, so we can announce the winners at the Franklin Meet Annual Members' Meeting on April 21, 2018.

Being on the Board of Directors is a great way to serve the members of the CID. If you have some time that you would like to put to good use, consider running for a CID Board position. Let us know.

2016 Nominations and Election Committee

Bill Schoonmaker

Steve Studley

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### **Reminder - 2018 Danville Special Favorites Contest** **100 Scale Feet X 100 Scale Feet Display**

Because of the great level of participation in the paper models contest held at the 2017 Martinsville Meet, the CID Board has decided to have another special, popular-vote, Favorites Contest. The contest will be held at the Danville meet on November 17, 2018. You have a bit less than one year to complete your entry. Get busy!

The subject for this special Favorites Contest will be a 100 scale foot X 100 scale foot display in the model scale (**NO** 1:1 scale) of your choice.

The major rules are:

Maximum horizontal dimensions = 100 Scale Feet X 100 Scale Feet square or 100 Scale Feet diameter circle

No part of the model should extend past the edge of the base

Maximum vertical dimension = none, but the model must stand on its own

This is a display - no backdrop

May be electrically powered, 18 V maximum from batteries or 110V wall-wart

Schedule for the day of the contest:

10:00A – 11:00A      Model Registration

11:00A – 1:30P      Voting Open

1:30P                  Winner Announced

I'll be giving a short, informational presentation after each regularly scheduled clinic at the Noblesville and Franklin meets about this special Favorites Contest. Begin thinking about what you'd like to build. There is enough time for you to plan and produce a very fine model display.

Steve Studley



# 2018 March Modelers Meet

The CID's next Modelers Meet will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2018. We'll meet again on the northwest side of Indianapolis at the Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church, 11250 N. Michigan Rd., Zionsville, IN. Hours will be our regular 10A to 3P. The presentation for the meet – *Signaling the Eastern Illinois Santa Fe* – will be given by Tom Cain.

Bring something with you that you'd like to share with others. Remember, even though we have a subject, the item you bring does not need to be specifically about that subject. It is okay to bring any modeling item. And it doesn't need to be completed. If there is an interesting technique that you've found works well for you, come to the meet, bring an example with you, and share it with the rest of us.

In the past, we've had many modelers wonder if they should attend, the answer to that is "Yes". Regardless of the level of your skillset, come to the meet and we can almost guarantee you **will** learn some bit of information that will increase your modeling skills. Plus, we have a good time at the meet.

Attendance at Modelers Meets is free to NMRA members, but if you have a non-member buddy who would like to attend, bring him or her along. Non-members are limited to one visit, though. To attend future Modelers Meets, we do expect the modeler to join the NMRA. Attendance at this free meet is a direct benefit of your membership. Attend, increase your modeling skillset, and get acquainted with other Central Indiana modelers. You may bring your lunch with you or there are fast-food restaurants just a short drive away. There will be some of us staying in the church during lunch, so, if you bring your lunch, you'll have somebody to chat with. And we keep an eye on the models, so they will be safe.

2018 Modelers Meets are scheduled for the following dates.

Saturday, March 17, 2018      10am to 3pm

Location - Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church, 11250 N. Michigan Rd., Zionsville, IN.

Theme: *Signaling the Eastern Illinois Santa Fe*      Clinic presented by Tom Cain

Saturday, May 19, 2018      10am to 3pm

Location and Theme: TBD

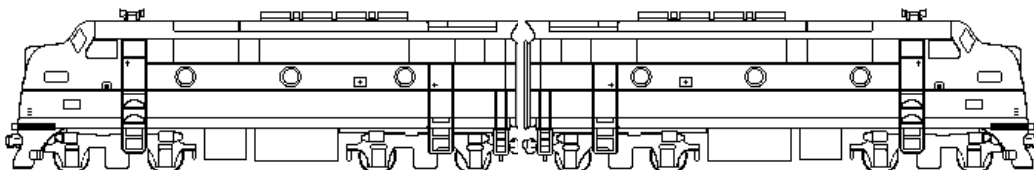
Saturday, October 13, 2018      10am to 3pm

Location (tentative) – Irvington Presbyterian Church, 55 Johnson Ave, Indianapolis, IN.

Theme: TBD

Add these dates to your calendar. As more information about the meets becomes available, it will be posted to the CID website, [cidnmra.org](http://cidnmra.org), and to the CID Yahoo list. If you aren't already a member of the CID email list, now would be a good time to sign up. Directions for joining the list are posted on the CID site at [cidnmra.org](http://cidnmra.org). Contact me with questions about joining this Yahoo list or the Modelers Meets.

Steve Studley  
[sastudley@comcast.net](mailto:sastudley@comcast.net)





# Upcoming CID Clinics

**Note:** The following list represents upcoming clinics at future CID meets. As always there is a great need for clinic presenters – Please consider providing your valued support and volunteer today to give a clinic on your favorite topic. Contact Bill Schoonmaker at [b.schoonmaker@comcast.net](mailto:b.schoonmaker@comcast.net) to have your name added to a list of future clinic presenters.

CID Noblesville Train Show – 1/28/18

**Building Free-mo Modules** – *by Keith Clark*

**Easy Beginners Model RR Projects Using Arduinos** – *by Bill Schoonmaker*

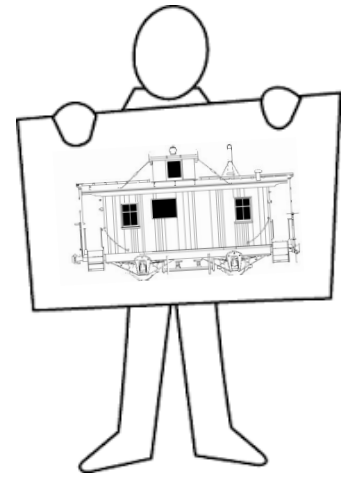
**Building Contest Displays** – *by Steve Studley*

CID March Modelers Meet – 3/17/18 (Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church, 11250 N. Michigan Rd., Zionsville, IN)

**Signaling the Eastern Illinois Santa Fe** – *by Tom Cain*

CID Franklin Train Show – 4/21/18

**Posting Videos on YouTube** – *by Newman Atkinson*



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## NOBLESVILLE SHOW PREVIEW

The Central Indiana Division of the NMRA holds 4 train shows a year. We just had a great show in Danville in November with over 800 people attending. Our Noblesville Train show on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> will be our first train show of 2018 and it is also a very popular show with 120 dealer tables and 10 to 12 portable layout displays of several scales. Doors will open at 10 AM and we will be open until 3 PM. Admission is \$3 a person or \$5 for a family. We will have two clinics, one on building a free-mo module and the other on using Arduino circuit boards for small automation or electronic functions on your layout. There will be plenty to see with the portable layouts where you will see how some very talented folks have created their own railroad empires. With 120 tables for dealers to sell model trains, new and old, there will be plenty of opportunities to discover the locomotive, caboose, or rolling stock that you've been looking for. There will be a dining car service with child dogs, sloppy joes' homemade pies and more. We will have a favorite train popular vote, and also an opportunity for people to bring their favorite diesel locomotive and have it in a popular vote review. The Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds located at 2003 Pleasant Street in Noblesville has been our location for this train show for 15 years now and it is a clean and well-maintained facility. It is wheelchair accessi-

ble and we have never been snowed out in all those years as the staff works hard at snow removal if it snows on the day of the train show. We hope to see you on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> and then later in April at the Franklin, Indiana National Guard Armory which will be a new location for us.

—Tom Cain



Visitors to the Carmel Library show watch the N-scale trains navigate the Cin-trak layout. (Photo : Rich Seymour)

# NMRA

## Model Railroad Directory

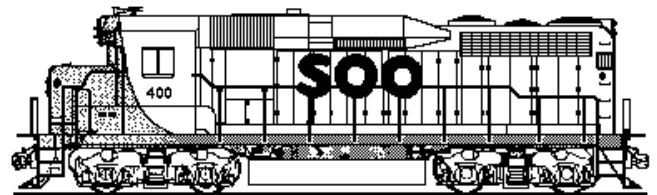
We benefit from the National Model Railroad Association in many ways. The two most important that come to mind are the development of standards for our hobby to facilitate interoperability and secondly the opportunity to meet other talented and friendly people who share our interest in model trains. I'm going to share with you another benefit in this article. The NMRA is promoting an international directory of layouts of NMRA members who would be willing to share their layout creations with other NMRA members. Years ago there was a pike registry where members could name their layout and have it listed in a pike registry/listing. It prevented people from layout name duplication and again it made it possible for layout owners to find out about each other across the country.

Since we live in the digital and World Wide Web age, it is easier than ever to share information and pictures of our layouts. I have a personal website where you can see pictures of my layout and information about its planning and construction. The website is at: [www.atsf93.com](http://www.atsf93.com) It is due for an update and I hope to make that happen in the next couple of months. But if you have a layout and would like to list it with the NMRA you can go to the NMRA.org website and after you have logged on as an NMRA member you will see an additional row of menus and one of them is titled: Model RR Directory. I just searched for layouts listed within 50 miles of my home and there are 5 of our CID layouts listed. Even though the NMRA will ask for your address it will never show on the website. Since your address won't be shown on the website people will have to contact you if they want to see your layout. You can provide your email address or phone number. For more information on how to list your layout in the directory, you can consult the NMRA Magazine, December 2017 issue for more detailed information on listing your layout.

I really enjoy sharing my layout with people both in person and through photos and YouTube videos. I hope that it is not perceived at "tooting my horn," because I believe that sharing my layout progress helps to inspire and inform others on how to get go-

ing on their layout or maybe helps them to get past a construction obstacle or roadblock that might be hindering their railroad construction. Seeing nearby layouts in person was a tremendous push for me to get my layout going many years ago. I know from my participation in the Highball to Indy 2016 National NMRA Convention that we have lots of quality layouts in our central Indiana area. In developing our Convention website, we had about 50 layouts on tours and almost all of them can still be seen on the [www.nmra2016.org](http://www.nmra2016.org) website and we are adding many of these photos to our CID website: [www.cidnmra.org](http://www.cidnmra.org) I now hope that we can get more of our CID websites added to this NMRA layout registry.

-Tom Cain



### Upcoming CID Board Meetings

Date: February 11, 2018  
Location: Indianapolis Marion County Library  
Wayne Branch Library  
198 S. Girls School Road  
Indianapolis, IN  
Time: 1:30 PM

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Date: April 8, 2018  
Location: Indianapolis Marion County Library  
Wayne Branch Library  
198 S. Girls School Road  
Indianapolis, IN  
Time: 1:30 PM

CID members are welcome and encouraged to attend.  
Board members can confirm location and date.



**Rusty Spike Vol. 48 No. 1**  
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**Midwest Region, N.M.R.A.**

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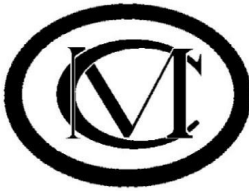
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 Contact Keith Clark for Information  
 See Page 3

**MIDWEST CENTRAL RAILROAD**  
 A bridge route linking the east with the west  
  
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 Phone (812) 876-9726  
 studley@indiana.edu  
 Route of the Midwest Meteor

  
**Keith A. Clark**  
 Superintendent  
 Bloomington, Indiana  
 Phone (812) 876-6799  
 gtwf@bluemarble.net  
 In the 1970's  
 The Flint, South Bend and Kalamazoo Subdivisions



## STREAMLINED BACKSHOP

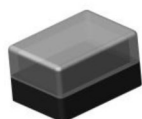
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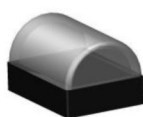


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## "Rusty Spike"

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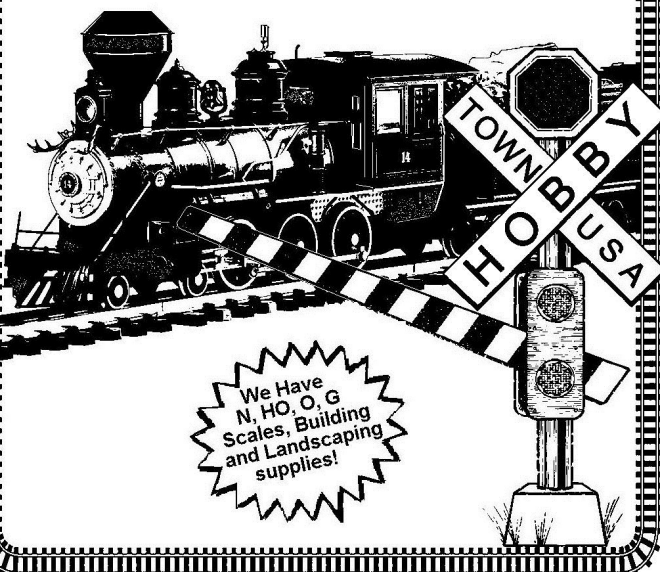
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