



The newsletter of
the Central Indiana
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the Midwest Re-
gion, National
Model Railroad
Association

Volume 45 – Number 5 October – December 2015

Portland Daylight Express (PDX) 2015

The PDX2015 website lists the following: *Fifteen hundred of you visited from 47 States, including 305 from California, a large contingent of 153 from Canada, several each from Australia 39, United Kingdom 31, New Zealand 18, and from France, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Brazil, Argentina.*

There were 300+ slots available for clinics. The Special Interest Groups room was quite busy. We know that because it was next to the CID *Highball to Indy, 2016* booth. There were quite a few models in the contest/display, and RPM, rooms exhibiting some very fine modeling. Penny and I were able to get out and visit two layouts and I attended two clinics during our stay. At the end of the convention, 276 people attended the awards banquet. Transportation from the convention hotel to the National Train Show was via the TRIMET MAX light-rail line. There were good-sized crowds at the Train Show during my visits on Friday and Saturday.

As with other conventions we've attended, it's always enjoyable to meet and make new friends, spend time with old friends, and share in the fellowship that is model railroading. Be sure you don't miss a great convention next year. Send in your registration now and be assured of a chance to experience a week's worth of model railroading in downtown Indianapolis.

I'd like to thank the following CID members for their help in staffing the 2016 booth: Larry Boswell, Ron Burkhardt, Tom Cain, and Jack Simpson. Thanks also to Region President Paul Mangano for his help.

NMRA adopting standards for Layout Command Control

The National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) Board of Directors has agreed to adopt standards for Layout Commands Control (LCC), formerly known as NMRANet. LCC is an operating system protocol, which will work hand-in-hand with Digital Command Control (DCC), handling all non-motive power related functions on a model railroad layout, such as signaling, telephone, and automation. In essence, LCC is DCC for the rest of your layout. LCC was developed over the past several years by the Open LCB Group – a large group of volunteers with expertise in electronics, networking, programming, and model railroading similar to the group that developed Java Model Railroad Interface (JMRI). The final draft of the LCC protocols and the specification documents have been published for comment on the NMRA's website. Look for an article describing all of the benefits of LCC in a future issue of the *NMRA Magazine*.

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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.

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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:

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2949 North Street
Edinburgh, IN

Questions/Info:

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columbusarearailroadclub.com



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Midwest Region Vice-President

James Hodson Wilhite

Feb. 8, 1939 - Sept. 10, 2015



ANDERSON — James Hodson Wilhite, 76, Anderson, died Sept. 10, 2015, at St. Vincent Anderson Regional Hospital.

He was born Feb. 8, 1939, in Crawfordsville, the son of Charles and Lois (Hodson) Wilhite.

He graduated from Anderson High School and Purdue University as a mechanical engineer.

He served three years in the United States Army. He worked at Guide Lamp for 28 years. Upon retirement, he purchased LaBelle Woodworking Model RR kit business with two other men and ran it for six years, sold the kit business, retaining the decal making business Valley Car Shops and ran it for 15 years. He also painted models for other model railroaders around the world. He held positions at local, regional and national levels of National Model RR Association.

He married and is survived by his high school sweetheart, Luana (Kennedy) Wilhite in 1961.

He is survived by his sisters-in-law, Connie Powers, Ronnie (Bob) Parshley and Mary Harless; several nieces and nephews, Dan and Stephanie Parshley, Lisa and Jim Weingart, Gayle and Doug Elrod, Stan and Valerie Powers, Laura Harless, Kay and Mark St. Clair, Pastor William Clark (Raechelle) Harless, John (Cinda) Wilhite and their large family and several great and great-great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Services were held at noon on Monday, September 14, 2015 with burial in Anderson Memorial Park Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be given to Christian Center Rescue Ministries, 625 Main Street, Anderson, IN 46016



Model railroaders across the nation, and countless friends throughout central Indiana, are mourning the loss of James H. Wilhite.

Jim became a life member of the National Model Railroad Association in 1970. Jim has provided leadership over the past 45 years to the Central Indiana Division as well as the Midwest Region. He have served in various Division positions from Trainmaster through Superintendent in that time and also served on the MWR board in committee positions and served two terms as MWR vice president. He was also an active modeler and was completing his third layout of the "Buttercup Valley and Denver" HO railroad. His presence on the CID's board of directors has been guiding force.

We here in the Central Indiana Division will surely miss Jim and thank him for the many years of service that he dedicated to our division. Our best to Luana and family.



**Keith Clark
CID, Superintendent**

I would like to start my column by expressing my personal condolences to Lu-

ana and the Wilhite Family at the loss of Jim this month. Jim and Luana were always an inseparable part of our CID family since I can remember. Weather taking tickets at meets or serving on the CID board, they were always there since I became involved on the CID board some ten or more years ago. I will miss you Jim.

With the CID suffering a huge loss with the passing of Jim, I would like to take this opportunity to talk about what this hobby of model railroading can be about for a lot of us. First and foremost of course is the building of a model railroad. We build them for a variety of reasons that are unique to each of us just as our choices of automobiles, food and clothing are. Some of us like to just see trains run, some choose to do prototypical operation, some model prototypes, some freelance and so on. Don't forget those who don't have space for a railroad but "armchair model" and build engines, cars, structures and so on for gratification and maybe then enter them in AP Contests and work toward an MMR.

But for many that is just a part, although a large one, of the hobby for us. I would like to talk about the part of the hobby that is import to many of us for many reasons. That part is about comradery. Now while I now that there are some you that prefer to work by yourselves, I would like to point out here what I get out of the hobby by having friends to help with my layout as well as my helping them with their layouts.

With help from fellow modeler's, I can progress further on my layout in a shorter amount of time, which is something that really goes without saying as it is a "no brainer". It in turn works the other way for friend who helped me when I

go and help them on their layouts. And lets face it, there are a lot of times when you need more hands then you have to get some thing built, to get a switch machine installed so it works correctly, or just get a second or third opinion on how to do something that may be much better than the way you had originally planned it. Plus we all have different talents and can draw on each other for our skills so that our layouts can be the best that they can be. Some of us are good carpenters, some have better electrical skills, have great artistic abilities, lend themselves to be just excellent helping hands. They may surprise themselves and everyone else when they find that they can learn to do something that they never thought possible before. When the last one happens we can take it home and apply it to our own railroad.

Now with our group in Bloomington we have grown over the past several years from 8 members to sometimes almost 18 on a given week. Now let me clarify members in that while we are a club, "Hoosier Lines" we do not have memberships as we just meet as a group at various peoples homes once a week. Some of us have been together for over 40 years now so let that say something about comradery right there. The group consistently learns from each other and we have members at all levels of experience. They have come and taken notes, photographed models, observed scenery techniques and asked a myriad of questions on all aspects of model railroading at our gatherings.

Currently we have branched off into smaller groups in order to help prepare our Bloomington area layouts for tours and operating sessions in conjunction with the NMRA National Convention in Indianapolis next summer. If you haven't signed up for the convention yet I urge you to do so prior to February 1st when a rate hike goes into effect. You can find information at nmra2016.org and hotel info should be there soon. There is my plug for your convention next year.

Lastly and maybe the most important thing about having all these friend that I have in this

(Continued on Page 6)



Central Indiana Division
of the
National Model Railroad Association

Presents the

Danville Train Show

Saturday - November 21, 2015

Admission
\$3.00 per person
\$5.00 per family



Hendricks County Fair Grounds

ON OLD US 36 – 4.9 MILES WEST OF AVON – NORTH SIDE OF OLD US 36 AND
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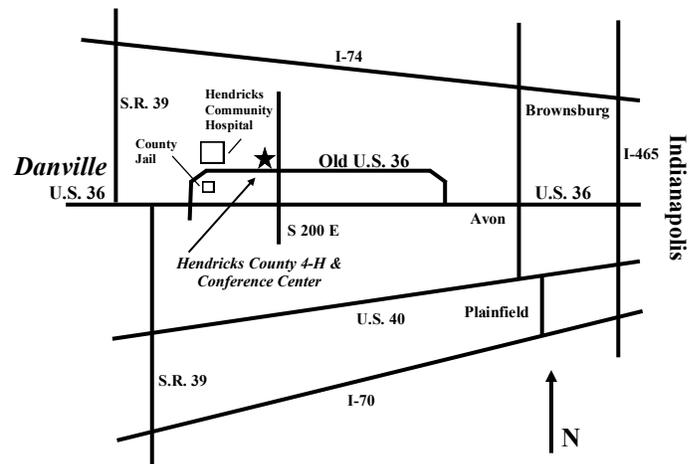
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- Free Parking

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Favorite Open Load
& Favorite Train

*Map to Hendricks County
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1900 E. Main St., Danville, Indiana 46122-0007*



Dealer Tables \$16.00 each [8 foot] Setup from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM
Contact Keith Clark at (812) 876-6799 or gtwfan@bluemarble.net

Check out our website at <http://cid.railfan.net/>

Mark your calendars for the Noblesville Train Show on January 31, 2016. Also look for the CID booth at the Worlds Greatest Hobby Show January 9-10, 2016.

Martinsville Train Show will be in April 2016.

In 2016 the CID will host the National Convention for the NMRA in Indianapolis.



Upcoming Events

– Division Schedule –



Fall Modeler's Meet – October 10, 2015 – Ellettsville, IN

Ellettsville 1st United Methodist Church, 803 W. Temperance St., Ellettsville, IN
10am-3pm Admission Free
Bring current modeling projects for show and tell

For more information: Steve Studley at studley@indiana.edu

Carmel Library Train Show – November 7, 2015 – Carmel, IN

Carmel Clay Public Library, 55 4th Ave S.E., Carmel, IN 46032
10am-3pm Admission Free
Operating layout displays

For more information: Trevor Jones at trevjn@sbcglobal.net

Danville Train Meet – November 21, 2015 – Danville, IN

Hendricks County Fair Grounds, Danville, Indiana
Dealer Show & Meet – 10am to 3pm - \$3.00 per person/\$5.00 per family
Operating layouts, vendors, door prizes, contests, food and free parking
Dealer tables \$16.00 each (8' table)

For more information: Keith Clark at (812) 876-6799 or gtwfan@bluemarble.net

– Extra Board –

World's Greatest Hobby on Tour - January 9-10, 2016 – Indianapolis, IN

Indiana State Fair Grounds Blue Ribbon Pavilion
Admission-Adults: ? at this time, Kids under 16: FREE
10am-6pm Saturday/10am-5pm Sunday

For more information: <http://www.wghshow.com/index.html>



Highball to Indy – NMRA National Convention – July 3-10, 2016 – Indianapolis, IN

Westin Hotel & Indianapolis Convention Center
50 S. Capital Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46204
National Train Show July 9-11, 2016, Indianapolis Convention Center

For more information: <http://www.nmra2016.org>



(Continued from Page 4)

great hobby of model railroading. We have a good time with each other. We joke, we talk, we share information and we create model railroads TOGETHER! If someone who did not know us came and watched us one evening would probably think we were crazy. That some of us hated each other because we kid around with each other but we have real bond that I

can't think of having with any other group of individuals. I feel so privileged to be able to have these gentleman as friends, be included in their hobby and in their lives. In some cases that even goes beyond just model railroading and sometimes even includes our wives in our activities. This for me is by far the

“World's Greatest Hobby”

Hi, My Name is Trevor and I'm an Isopropyl Alcoholic

I can't get through a work session on my layout without Isopropyl Alcohol! When I'm running, my first train is pushing a Centerline track cleaner with the pad soaked in Iso. If my loco is stalling I clean its wheels and electrical pick up contacts and even the commutator surfaces with Iso. Add a drop of lube and off we go. If I'm laying ballast it's Iso from a dropper, then diluted Matte Medium drizzled, then a mist of Iso and every grain gets nestled in between those cross ties. When it's all nice and dry I clean the track with--what else? Isopropyl Alcohol. 70% is my habit. They even sell it with a sprayer. Every drug store and grocery has it. It's so CHEAP. Like they want us to get HOOKED! I like the 90% hard stuff for special jobs like switch contact cleaning, and cut the 70% in half with water for the sprayer. Trees and shrubs, grassy hillsides and gravel parking lots get a soaking of Iso so that the glue wicks up to hold everything in place but beware! Don't spray around a building that has been finished with Dullcote you will cause fogging on the surface and incur the wrath of the builder--sorry Marty.

An example of why I can't survive without my Iso: Picture this: the throat of Lodgemore goods yard. A Peco switch, over 35 years old, soldered to three adjoining switch-

es, deeply ballasted, surrounded by landscaping and structures, and oh yes, in the center of the layout where I can hardly reach it. The old plastic in the tie bar cracks, and now the point rails are waving in the breeze. Three tracks of a five track yard are now out of action. How to get it out without tearing up the surrounding track work? First step was to remove all structures on the layout edge so that my belly would not do a Godzilla on them. Then I soaked the area around the offending switch with 90% Isopropyl. All that ancient ballast, probably glued down with Elmer's, softened up and could easily be scooped and brushed away. That done I could get to the track work to cut up the broken switch, and unsolder the rails using hemostats as heat sinks on the adjoining track to avoid tie melting. Lots of cleaning, plenty of flux and a very hot iron quickly applied were involved here. Then relevel the site and insert a new switch which has had feed wires attached so that it does not depend on good electrical connection with the existing track. And the yard is back in operation thanks to my liquid helper.

One more use for Isopropyl alcohol. It's an anti-septic so when you jab your finger with a rail joiner or an x-acto #11 just spray on a little and keep on railroading. Just don't try drinking the stuff, you can't spare the grey cells. Back to the basement.

Trevor Jones

Upcoming CID Board Meetings

Date: October 4, 2015

Location: Indianapolis Marion County Library
Wayne Branch Library
198 S. Girls School Road
Indianapolis, IN

Time: 1:30 PM

Date: December 6, 2015

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 Closing Dates

Volume 45 Issue #5 - September 6, 2015

Volume 46 Issue #1 - December 6, 2015

Volume 46 Issue #2 - February 7, 2016

Volume 46 Issue #3 - May , 2016

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://cid.railfan.net/Extra_Board_Request_Sheet.pdf

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. 2). Events not sent on the request form cannot be included.



Call for 2016 Convention Layouts

If you have a layout and have not been contacted by a member of the CID and you would like to participate in the "Highball to Indy 2016" National Convention please contact Dennis Rahn at:

denrahn@hotmail.com or call 317-449-1137.

Call for 2016 Convention Clinics

We are also looking for individuals to present clinics on model railroading or prototype subjects. If interested contact Dan Goins at: santafedangoins@comcast.net or call 765-342-7069

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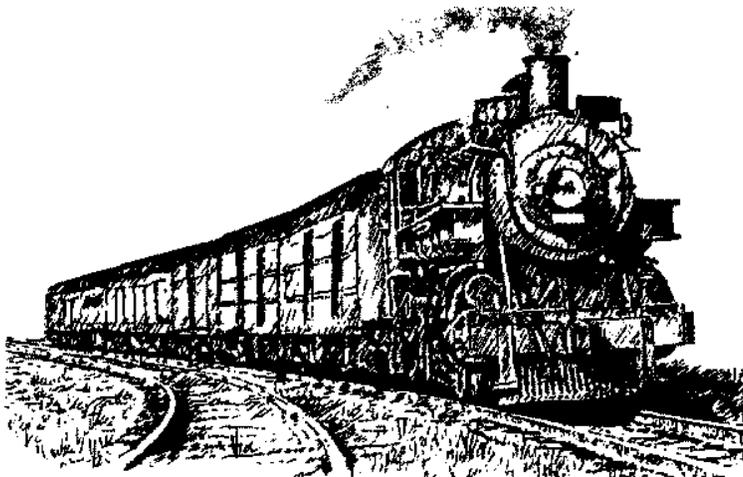
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Highball To Indy '16

2016 NMRA National Convention

July 3-10, 2016 Indianapolis, IN



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Rusty Spike Vol. 45 No. 5

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