



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

Volume 42 – Number 2 April – June 2012

Noblesville Show Expands

Our first Train Show of the year is now over and it looks like it went pretty well. Honestly it is kind of amazing that after a fall and winter of two Great Train Expos, and one World’s Greatest Hobby events that our local model railroaders still find their way to our Train Show. Also it follows another local Train show on Saturday the day before this show. Maybe, it is because the other local train show is on the other side of town, and because we have so many real trains running too that we still continue to bring in the model railroaders.

At 10:00 when we opened the doors we had a group of 30 or 40 people waiting to get in the door and it was a pretty steady stream of people from then on. We had 44 dealers selling their new and used trains and we added the dining room as an extra area for dealers this year. We had 10 dealers in the dining room using 21



Meet attendees shop the shows vendors for bargains and those just have to have items for there layouts. Photo: Rich Seymour

tables. We informed people at the door and made announcements through the day that there was a second room behind the hallway. We also had signs directing people back to that area. I went back there several times, and there were always people shopping in that area. It looks like we had 364 adults paying at

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Julian Garner (left) and Jim Sanders at the live steamers display work on firing up an engine. Photo: Rich Seymour

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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 \$5 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.

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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!

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Noblesville Show Expands

(Continued from Page 1)

the door. Here is my take on others in the building. We had 44 dealers in the show and most of them had a helper. I'm going to round that off at 80 people. With the 10 layouts on display I'll bet we had 30 more people there. Museum and Historical Society Type folks would be likely 5 people. The number of CID Board members and volunteers was about 10 people not counting the Board members who were there with layouts.

Thanks again for everyone's help.

Tom Cain
Noblesville Show Manager
Assistant Superintendent

Achievement Program Assessment



Steve Studley (Left) and Tom Fitzsimmons assess the various AP guidelines on a structure for points. Photo: Rich Seymour

We were pleased to have had a model presented for Achievement Program (AP) assessment at the Noblesville Meet. This was a scratchbuilt model of a filling station/car scrapyard scale house and was entered in the Structures category. The information sheet mentioned a bit of the history of this structure. As was typical of small service stations, the building started out very small and, over the years, was added onto. The additions were placed where they could be, resulting in a roofline that certainly wasn't straight, but did manage to cover all the structures under it. The meandering roofline added a great bit of interest to the structure. Exterior building materials varied, perhaps as a result of the owner using whatever he could get his hands on. The level of detail, use of various materials, and a very nicely weathered finish added to the overall effect. Perhaps you noticed this model on the CID information tables. It was next to the favorite train contest.

We'd like to see your model presented for assessment. If you have a scratchbuilt or super-detailed kit model, consider getting started in the AP. The Division AP chair is Tom Cain. Please contact Tom if you have questions about this program.

Steve Studley, Superintendent



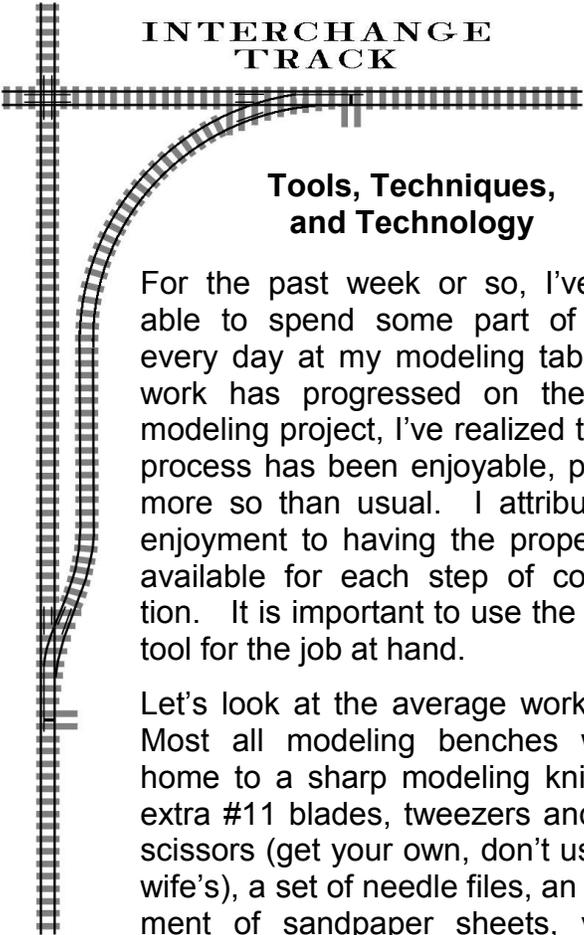
Noblesville Favorite Contests

≈ Favorite Train ≈

Hinkle/Malinowski (Winner)
Monon "Company" Train

≈ Favorite Loaded Flat Car ≈

Tom Cain (Winner)
QTTX Depressed Center Flat Car
w/Transformer



INTERCHANGE TRACK

Tools, Techniques, and Technology

For the past week or so, I've been able to spend some part of nearly every day at my modeling table. As work has progressed on the latest modeling project, I've realized that the process has been enjoyable, perhaps more so than usual. I attribute that enjoyment to having the proper tools available for each step of construction. It is important to use the correct tool for the job at hand.

Let's look at the average workbench. Most all modeling benches will be home to a sharp modeling knife with extra #11 blades, tweezers and small scissors (get your own, don't use your wife's), a set of needle files, an assortment of sandpaper sheets, various adhesives, paints and paint brushes, drill bits and a pin vise, and appropriately-sized screwdrivers and pliers. With an assortment such as this, most modelers will be able to prepare, build, and finish typical modeling projects. You can add to that list with tools that have more specialized uses.

What other tools were on hand to make my construction project more enjoyable? I have a double-strength glass plate used as a flat and smooth work surface. This is used for glue-ups - not to be used with CA glues. A self-healing cutting mat that is large enough to cover the glass allows me to cut items without worrying about dulling the modeling knife. A vacuum-base vise stuck to the glass will hold items while parts are added to an assembly. To remove those small parts from casting sprues, a flush-cutting nipper does the job. I use a flush cutter that is about half the size of rail nippers (another great specialized tool to have) for regular-sized parts and small flush-cutting tweezers for those really small parts. To hold the parts, I use needle-pointed tweezers. This

tool came in very handy when I was adding 0.010 X 0.020" styrene support bracing to ladder stock. Also, having an assortment of plastic strips at hand will allow you to continue your work rather than waiting for a trip to the hobby shop.

Not only should you have a good assortment of tools (A tool for every need, a need for every tool), but you should also build a personal library of techniques to be used with typical modeling materials. For scratchbuilding or kit-bashing models, styrene sheet in various thicknesses comes in very handy. This material is also handy for creating forms for casting parts. Among the clinics [You are attending the clinics at our meets, aren't you?] that Tom Fitzsimmons has presented are two that have provided very helpful techniques. Tom has shown the correct way to score and snap styrene sheet so you can easily and quickly produce the size material you need. I had read about this technique for years, but it was during Tom's clinic on working with styrene that I learned the how and why of score and snap. After you've made the parts, then it's time to glue stuff together. When working with styrene, there are several very good glues/solvents that will bond these plastic parts together. Remember to apply the glue sparingly so as not to mar the surface of your model. If you are trying to glue dissimilar materials together, another of Tom's clinics provided this helpful website: This to That. ThistoThat.com is a page that will help you, well, glue this to that.

Technology has produced a new tool that will be used more in the future as it becomes more readily available, i.e. the price drops, to the average modeler. The tool is a 3-D printer. You may also have seen this tool listed as a rapid prototyping tool. If you are interested in learning a bit more about this, search the web for "rapid prototyping". There is a Wikipedia page that discusses the technology. This tool has been used primarily for producing small numbers of trial products or parts. It's a perfect tool to use to produce that special depot for your Monongahela and Oahu freelance railroad.

"Clear signal at Sycamore Hollow"

Steve Studley, Superintendent



Central Indiana Division
of the
National Model Railroad Association

Presents the

Martinsville Train Show

Saturday - April 14, 2012

****CID Annual Meeting****

Martinsville National Guard Armory
1900 Hospital Drive
Martinsville, IN

10 AM to 4 PM

CID Annual Meeting at 10:30 AM



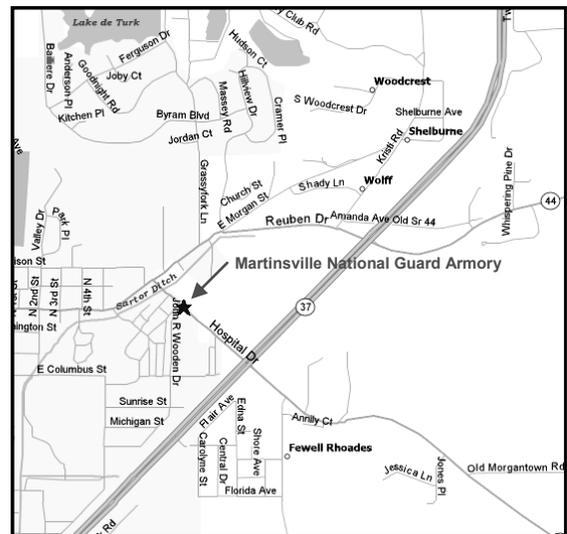
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Contact Trevor Jones at (317) 625-7626 or trevjn@comcast.net

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

The next CID event is Danville, IN , November 17, 2012

Upcoming Events

– Division Schedule –

Martinsville Meet and CID Annual Meeting – April 14, 2012 – Martinsville, IN

National Guard Armory, 1900 Hospital Drive

Dealer Show & Meet – 10am to 4pm

CID Annual Meeting at 10:30am

For more information or tables: Trevor Jones at trevjn@comcast.net

or Dan Goins at santafedangoins@comcast.net

2012 CIRROPS Operations Weekend – March 30 through April 1, 2012

A weekend devoted to running trains in a prototypical way.

See the CIRROPS website for information on participating layouts, schedule, hotel information, contact information and sign up.

For more information: www.cirrops.org

CID Modelers Meet – April 21, 2012 – Indianapolis, IN

Allisonville Christian Church, 7701 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, IN

10:00am to 3:00pm. Information on page 8 of this issue

For more information: Tom Cain at 317-475-7834 or atsf93@comcast.net

Carmel Library Train Show – November 10, 2012 – Carmel, IN

Danville Train Meet – November 17, 2012 – Danville, IN

– Extra Board –

NMRA National Convention/Grand Rails 2012 – July 29 through August 4, 2012

Devos Place Convention Center, 303 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan

National Train Show, August 3 – 5

For more information: www.gr2012.org/

Upcoming CID Board Meetings

Date: April 21, 2012

Location: Allisonville Christian Church
7701 Allisonville Road
Indianapolis, IN

Time: 3:00 PM

Date: June

Location: Fishers Library
5 Municipal Drive
Fishers, Indiana

Time: 1:30 PM

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

Rusty Spike Closing Dates

Volume 42 Issue #3 – May 6, 2012

Volume 42 Issue #4 – July 8, 2012

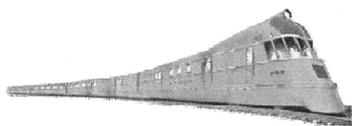
Volume 42 Issue #5 – September 16, 2012

Volume 43 Issue #1 – December 9, 2012

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.

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Contact: Keith Clark (See Page 2)



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Dan Colley	Anderson, IN
James Conrad	Indianapolis, IN
Dean Glascock	Whiteland, IN
Damon Hartley	Indianapolis, IN
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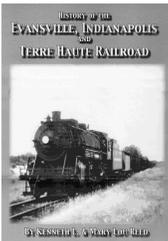
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Re "Training"

During the Noblesville meet this year I met Pat Scott, who told me about her son, Brandon's project of giving model trains to deserving kids. Brandon, age 37, once observed a family debating whether they could afford a 99-cent toy car as a Christmas present for their child. Brandon decided at that time he would take his passion of model trains and find a way to rehabilitate used trains to create a train set that local charities could give to families who might have difficulties at Christmas time.

He accepts new and used trains and cleans everything up and makes sure that it is in working order before putting together his home made train set. Each train set comes with curved and straight track, rail connectors, an engine, a caboose, freight cars, a transformer, and instructions for assembly. He also makes a box to transport and store the trains for each set. Two years ago he gave 11 train sets to a local Valparaiso charity, this year he was able to donate 42 train sets. Here in January he is already working at a pace to break that record. Brandon would be glad to receive any used trains and related train items including buildings and scenery that you are not using. You can contact Brandon at 219-983-2904 or we are pretty sure you could just go ahead and mail your trains to him at:

Brandon Scott
1009 McCord Rd #E-4
Valparaiso, IN 46383
eagletalontrader@hotmail.com

CID MODELERS MEET

We will have our second CID Modelers meet on April 21, 2012. Our first modelers meet was light in regards

to attendance, but it was strong in regards to clinic content and regarding models and projects that were shared. Our format was similar to a Railroad Prototype Modelers meet with people bringing some of their models completed, and also those in progress. For example we had some outstanding structures brought in by John Munson and some nice models that Dick McPherson had modified. Doug Howard brought in his 2' by 4' Hawaiian narrow gauge module.

This meet is designed for the serious model railroader and those who want to move up to the next level. We are putting this meet on for our NMRA members and it is one of the benefits of belonging to the NMRA. There are no dealers or trains for sale. We will meet in the Fellowship hall of Allisonville Christian Church at 7701 Allisonville Road in Indianapolis. We will hold our clinics in the same room where models will be on display, so the models will not be unsupervised during clinic presentations. One clinic that is scheduled will be "Modeling Intermodal Systems" by Richard Seymour. I have seen the clinic and it provides some great background and research on real life intermodal operations and information on how to apply that to your model railroad. So if you have modern intermodal equipment, bring it as part of what you would like to share.

Our schedule will be pretty informal other than we will have one clinic in the morning and hopefully a second clinic in the afternoon. We will break for lunch. Most everyone brought their own lunch last time, but there are plenty of restaurants nearby at 82nd and Allisonville if someone needs to step out for food. This meet will be from 10:00 to 3:00 on Saturday, April 21st. Our next CID Board meeting will also be held at this location following this meet.

For questions contact Tom Cain:
Phone 317-475-7834
atsf93@comcast.net

CID Back Shop

The Back Shop on a railroad is a shop where locomotives are repaired. The CID Back Shop is a place to get help with modeling problems or find "fixes" for situations on your model railroad. This can be help with any area of the hobby from the very beginning to advanced situations.

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

The Back Shop offers help in: planning your layout, construction ideas, wiring (both DC and DCC), building kits (both cars and buildings), various scenery techniques, weathering techniques and operating your railroad in a prototypical way.

The Back Shop works in this way: Click on this link to e-mail the supervisor (or cut and paste it into your e-mail) cid_backshop@railfan.net and the Back Shop supervisor will try to find a CID member with the experience you need. When a CID member is located, you will be contacted by the Back Shop via e-mail. The two of you will work out the means of communication. This could be via e-mail or an in-person visit. The Back Shop supervisor will check back with you to see how the help worked out.

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