



## Tom's Train Signals

I'm back home from the 2007 Muncie Regional Convention and I think that I need to take a nap, but first I have to report to everyone that the CID just showed the Midwest Region that we know how to run a convention. I wonder if we could translate that success to the idea of hosting a National Convention. Sure!

We had good clinics, lots of model train layouts, and lots of trains traveling by the Muncie Convention Center too. The Train Show was well attended and it gave us an opportunity to expose the Muncie community to the world of Model Trains. We had among our convention guests, Tom Brestel from Cincinnati, our National President, and David Liesse from Oswego, Illinois, our National Vice President. I am very grateful for our CID Board Members and others who are friends of the CID Board who volunteered their time to our organization. It takes a lot of people with dedication and energy to do the work that is involved in hosting a convention like this.

Summer is approaching and some people say that interest in trains slow down in the summer, but not for us. We have plenty planned. The CID has been invited to help with the Daviess County Railroad festival in Washington, Indiana on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. If you would like a trip to southern Indiana to see the railroad facilities and activities down there it should be a nice experience. This is an event that will likely grow in popularity and possibly in regards to our involvement as well. Maybe some of our Kentucky CID members can make this event. The By Air, By Rail event in Fortville, Indiana comes up in July on the weekend of 20-22. This will be our third year to help with this event.

The NMRA National Convention also starts in that same weekend and several CID Board Members and other CID members will be going to the convention and presenting our Bid to host the National Convention of the NMRA in Indianapolis for the year 2012. One of the selling points of our Bid is "talking up" the home and club layouts of the Central Indiana Division. Did you know that you could go to: <http://cid.railfan.net/layouts.html> to see nearly 60 area model railroad layouts? If you have a home layout that is not on this list yet, and you think that you would consider participating in layout tours in

2012, please let me know. We have CID Board members who would be glad to help you decide if you would be ready to participate in a layout tour and also maybe give some guidance in thinking about how to publish your layout online or maybe in a magazine. This will be a busy summer for sure and I encourage everyone to keep building on their layouts, run and enjoy those trains, and think positive about our future!

*Thomas Cain*  
*Superintendent, CID*

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## CID's Version of Instant Messaging

Reading the *Rusty Spike* is a CID member's typical means of learning about upcoming Meets, Activities, and Board Meetings. Publication of the *Spike* is specifically timed so we members receive it about a month prior to a CID event – plenty of time to add that event to our busy schedules. This works well if nothing changes at the last minute.

If an event's date or time is changed after publication of the *Spike* there is still a way for you to learn about the change. That is, if you are a member of the CIDList. Consider one of the uses of the CIDList to be the CID's means of Instant Messaging.

The CIDList is a Yahoo Groups email list set up exclusively for "sharing of model railroad, railfan or railroad information as pertains to the interests of modelers and interested persons living within the boundaries of the Central Indiana Division of the NMRA." The quote is from the description on the List's home page.

The list is there for your use and it's not only for instant messaging. It's also the place to share railroad information or to seek answers to your railroad questions. But to use it you have to sign up.

Information about joining the list is available on the CID web site: <http://cid.railfan.net> Go to the home page and scroll down till you see the section titled; "E-Mail Discussion List". It's easy.

If you have problems or questions about joining the list please let me know. My contact info is on page two of this issue.

*Steve Studley*  
*CID Chief Clerk*