

The CSD February meeting was held on February 18<sup>th</sup> and if you missed it you missed a great one. The meeting was held at the Mooresville public library in a large meeting room that was closed off from the main library area. This assured us an isolated area to communicate.

It started out with Superintendent Andrew Stitt presenting the customary latest news. He talked about the future communication channels of the NMRA (NMRA Interchange). More details of that will be in next month's Brass Pounder. He also mentioned the RMU coming up this April, and encouraged everyone to give some thought about presenting a clinic of their preference.

Andrew then did a presentation on basic wiring methods which got the members who were present involved with relating ideas and experiences that they have applied to their own layouts. Topics included everything from wire sizes for main line and feeder wiring to members choice of soldering irons, tools for stripping wire, and wire connectors. It was nice to see all of those attending participating in the conversation.

After the wiring discussion, Keith Iritsky gave a great presentation on how to do things on the "cheap" so we could all save a little money in our hobby. Handouts were given outlining some of his sources for making useful tools and organizers for our supplies that were basically very simple things that we don't normally think about using. He displayed a wire cutter for cutting foam, and a static grass applicator he made, as well as talking about techniques he used to make ground foam and other things used for making realistic scenery.

We really hope that these sort of meetings will continue and encourage members to come on the third Saturday of each month. The next meeting will be held at the Mooresville Public Library March 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.