

Model Railroad Hobbyist newsletter™

November 2009

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The Old Yardmaster



News and views from up and down the line...

Accurail (www.accurail.com/accurail) will begin shipments this month of its new **HO scale** 89-foot partially-enclosed Bi-Level Auto Racks. Schemes on the initial release will include Santa Fe and data-only on both a yellow car and a mineral-red car.

Also due this month is a black PRR 55-ton USRA twin-hopper car.

Athearn's (www.athearn.com) 2010 first quarter delivery schedule includes a wide range of products including one newly-tooled **N scale** and two new **HO** cars.

February arrivals will include PS 5277 boxcars for CN, BN, CSX,

BNSF, RF&P and St. Marys; 50-foot single-door boxcars decorated for NP Share In Freedom, B&A State of Maine Products, Central of Georgia, NYV/Peoria & Eastern, L&N Share In Freedom, and Western Pacific; 40-foot double-door boxcars for ATSF, GN, B&O Sentinel, NP, CP, and Seaboard Coast Line; a 30K gallon Ethanol tank car for NATX, UTLX and TILX; PS covered hopper cars for B&O/Chessie, N&W, D&RGW, Seaboard, KCS, and TCAX Farmers Coop and finally; a 40-foot 3-inch three-bay ribside hopper car (from upgraded former MDC tooling) decorated for B&O, D&RGW, BN, N&W, BNSF, and N&W.

Standard (non-Genesis) ready-to-roll **HO scale** locomotives scheduled for delivery in March include an SD60 for Conrail, Indiana Railway, Panama Canal Railway and SOO; a SD40T-2 decorated for D&RGW, Ohio Central, R.J. Corman and Southern Pacific; and F7A-F7B and F7A-F7A sets for M&StL, KCS, ACL, NYC, and SP Daylight.

March will see the arrival of a brand new **HO scale** 65-foot 6-inch mill gondola with the initial release decorated for BN, Lehigh Valley, PRR, Rock Island, Seaboard Air Line and SLSF-Frisco.

An **N scale** version of the same gondola will also arrive in March decorated for Alaska Railroad, SL-SF Frisco, Great Northern, Missouri Pacific, Northern Pacific and Southern Pacific.

Also newly-tooled in both **HO** and **N scale** is a 34-foot 2600 Airslide car with the first release due in late March or early April. Both scales will be decorated for GATC-Multi Food, BN, N&W, C&NW, ATSF and Southern Pacific. HO modelers will also get an undec car.

The **HO scale** Genesis locomotive lineup scheduled for March arrival includes an SD70MAC decorated for Alaska Railroad, Burlington Northern, CSX and BNSF. Also various combinations of F7A and F7B units decorated in Santa Fe's Yellow Bonnet scheme. Genesis locomotives going to dealers in May will include a GP15-1 with Tsunami sound and DCC quick plug decorated for MP, C&NW, SLSF and CR and a similarly equipped GP15T for C&O



FIGURE 1: 3rd Rail Division of Sunset Models is accepting reservations for an **O scale** Challenger steam locomotive that will be decorated for Union Pacific, Rio Grande, and Clinchfield plus the contemporary look of today's restored Challenger. The handcrafted brass models will be available for two-rail operation and as a three-rail version compatible with 0-72 track. The models will feature TMCC/ Railsounds 4.0 and will be compatible with Legacy, DCS, TMCC and conventional control systems. For additional information or to reserve go to www.3rdrail.com.

and AN. Also a GP15 for C&NW, Conrail, MP, and Norfolk Southern. All Athearn products mentioned in this report come fully-assembled and ready-to-roll. See Industry News on page 7.

BLMA (www.blmamodels.com) reports that it is developing a 53-foot class RAF53C Five-unit Spine Car for delivery in the spring of 2010. The **N scale** models will replicate the prototype spine cars Trinity Rail built for TTX in 1997. The ready-to-run cars will feature a die cast frame, chemically-etched walkways, hitches that may be positioned in the collapsed or raised position, body-mounted Micro-Trains® couplers and BLMA's new 70-ton ASF Ride Control trucks.

Custom Traxx and Train Control Systems have collaborated to create a decoder for traction modelers

that simulates brake lights on trolleys and specifically Bowser's new **HO scale** PCC cars. The brake lights will not be visible unless the car is slowing down or stopped. The specialty decoders are scheduled for release in December and will initially be available only from Custom Traxx accessible at customtraxx.com.

Division Point has begun work on importing **HO scale** brass models of the famous Lima-built 4-8-4 Northern type class GS-6 and GS-4 "War Babies" delivered to the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific in the middle of WWII. The need for additional motive power to handle wartime traffic on the SP was acute, however, government restrictions allowed only existing freight or dual-purpose locomotives to be built.

FIGURE 2: Cannon and Company has introduced an accurately-detailed Plate C End for contemporary boxcars. Known primarily as a manufacturer of highly-detailed molded styrene parts for modifying HO scale diesel bodies, this is Cannon's first freight car component. Aimed at prototype modelers, the new parts are sold direct only. For additional information visit: shop.cannonandco.net



SP officials raised the boiler pressure and eliminated the streamline casing on its highly successful GS-2 class 4-8-4s resulting in the equally-successful GS-6 (numbers 4460-4469) that Lima delivered in 1943.

Six additional Northern's ordered by SP were diverted by the government to the Western Pacific, designating them as class GS-64 (numbers 480-485). WP added "elephant ear" smoke lifters to their GS-64s in 1946. Reservations are being accepted now for delivery in 2010.

ExactRail (www.exactrail.com) has introduced an **N scale** PS-2CD 4000 cu ft covered hopper car. Although newly announced, the N scale PS-2CD 4000 has been on the company's production schedule for some time.

The tooling for the N scale model was prepared by Chris Clune at the same time he tooled the HO scale version and the PS-2CD 4740, which were later sold to Tangent. The new N scale ready-to-run model will feature etched metal roof walks, McHenry couplers and thin-tread metal wheels.

Fox Valley Models (www.foxvalleymodels.com) is quoting December delivery on several **N scale** versions of SOO 7-post boxcars including SOO Line in boxcar red with dotted frame stripes, SOO Line with white ends and large letters (without color mark), CSX in blue with yellow reporting marks, Great Northern decorated in big sky blue, and BNSF with circle cross.



FIGURE 3: Since 1975 Con-Cor has produced both HO and N scale special Collector's Christmas Cars. This year the car will be the 12 Drummer Car which completes Con-Cor's 12 Days of Christmas series. Art work was incomplete at press time, however the decorating scheme will center around the festive character seen here. The limited-edition cars will be available at the end of November and may be ordered at www.con-cor.com/Xmas.html.

Scale Color Key:

Z scale news

N scale news

HO scale news

S scale news

O scale news

G scale news

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The latest **HO scale** kit from **Funaro & Camerlengo** (www.fandckits.com) is a one-piece resin body kit of a 1923 4c/4d single-sheathed wood boxcar that can be ordered for Louisville & Nashville, Georgia Railroad, or Western Railway of Alabama.

Hamm River Models (hammriver.com) has **O scale** freight car decal sets for Ohio River & Western freight cars. The decals are in white and will letter a combination of three cars including a 25-foot 4-inch boxcar, 30-foot 9-inch flat car, 24-foot flat car, 30-foot 2-inch gondola or a 22-foot 11-inch gondola.

Also available are Flatulene decals in white, red, blue or green. Although designed for the Bachmann On30 tank,

this set can be applied to any **On3, S,** or **HO scale** tank car.

Highball Graphics (www.mgdecals.com) has **HO scale** decals for Minnesota Dakota & Western Alco S-2 for green loco body with bold white stripe. Also available is a Dupont white tank over blue bottom (TILX) 20,000 gallon non-flammable compressed gas car built by Trinity.

According to rumors being passed around by friendly elves, the Christmas decoration department of some **Lowes Home Improvement Centers** have near-**HO scale** John Deere tractors at three for six bucks.

Mask Island Decals (www.maskislanddecals.com) has **HO scale** decals for Southern 40-foot Berwick rebuilt boxcars. The set includes "Gives A Green Light

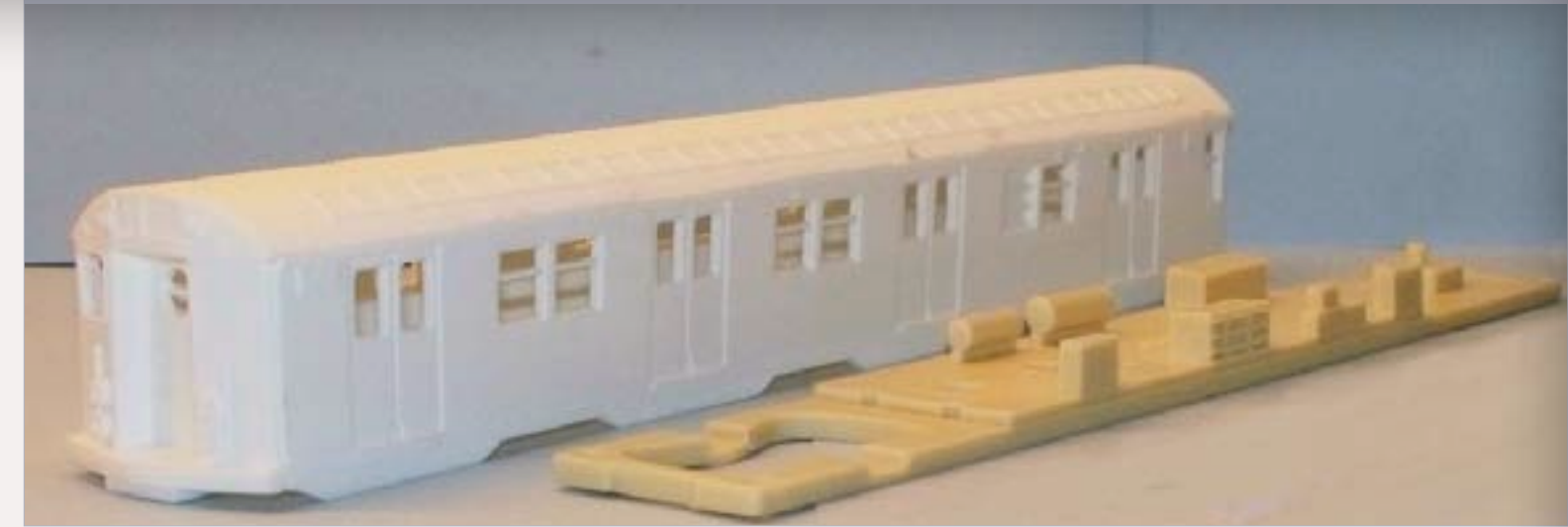


FIGURE 5: IHP (ihphobby.tripod.com) is selling this **HO scale** one-piece resin body kit for ACF-built R16 subway cars as used on New York's IND and BMT lines. The kit includes plastic truck side frames, photo etched end gates, tinted window glazing and cast metal end stirrup steps. The IHP frame has been designed to accept Bowser's new can motor power truck. Future items under development at IHP include resin body kit for a Boston Type-7 LRV using data supplied by the prototype manufacturer Kinkisharyo.

To Innovations" and "Serves the South" slogans. The "XF Food Loading Only" door panel designation is also included. Enough material is provided to letter one XF and one XML car.

Coming from **Morning Sun Books** (www.morningsunbooks.com) later this month is "Trackside to the Jersey Shore," an in-depth review by Joel Rosenbaum and Tom Gallo of the 1950s steam-to-diesel transition of the New York Long Branch line of the CNJ/PRR and other routes leading to the ocean playground along New Jersey's Atlantic shoreline. Ah yes... I well remember visiting my grandfather in Avon-By-The-Sea and walking down to the commuter depot to watch the big-wheeled Atlantics.

Mount Blue Models (www.mountbluemodelco.com) has a variety of nifty laser-cut kits for wood pilots. Cut from fine-grained

basswood, the kits are designed to replace the factory pilot on Backmann's **On30** 2-4-4T, 2-8-0 and 4-4-0 locomotives. Although patterned after ST&RL prototypes the wood pilots will add some interest to any backwoods locomotive.

Daniel Kohlberg (home.mindspring.com/~paducah) showed new decal sets at the recent Naperville meet including **HO** and **N scale** decals for GATC 2600 Airslide hopper cars for Illinois Central, Norfolk & Western appropriate for 1961 and later, Nickel Plate Road for 1954 and later, and Wabash appropriate for 1955 and later.

Each decal set includes enough material to letter three different cars in various schemes for each road. HO scale models from Athearn, Walthers, Eastern Car Works and Con Cor are suitable for this application.



FIGURE 4: This good looking HO scale Trailways bus is scheduled to arrive at dealers this month from Classic Metal Works (www.classicmetalworks.com). The cast metal HO scale model is based on the 1950s-era Trailways Luxury Liner model PD4103. Models

will be available with destination signs for Dallas, San Francisco, Washington and Denver plus a blank destination.

Daniel reminded me that volume 17 or the Railway Prototype Cyclopedia (www.geocities.com/rpcyc/home.html) has an extensive article on early Airslide cars.

Hey narrow gauge fans! The history of west coast narrow gauge model and prototype railroading has a new home at www.pacificNG.com. Plans call for the site to be developed into an accessible central location for accurate data, history, imagery, and all things relevant to Western Narrow Gauge Railroading from its inception to ending.

The second group of road names from Rapido's initial production run of HO scale Steam Generator Cars

is scheduled to be released to hobby dealers this month.

The third run of the "Oh So Steamy Car" will arrive next spring and will include appropriate passenger schemes for Algoma Central, Denver & Rio Grand Western, Milwaukee Road, New York Ontario & Western, Ontario Northern, Southern, and Western Pacific.

Rapido is urging dealers to place their order for the third run before December 1.

In other news, Bill Schneider reports that considerable progress has been made on fine-tuning the tooling for Rapido's HO Scale Osgood-Bradley lightweight passenger cars. A new sample car incorporating the various

tooling modifications and assembly changes was carefully checked, assembled and run through a series of grueling operations on a test layout.

Bill said that based on the success of the inspection and testing, the cars have been approved for production, which could begin within the next 30 days.

Among the most treasured reference books sought by dedicated modelers are the historic Car Builders and Locomotive Cyclopedias that were published every

few years throughout the 20th century. They were used by railroad personnel responsible for designing, purchasing, building, maintaining and operating their companies' rolling stock. The books served as catalogs for equipment builders and suppliers as well as a conduit for the AAR/ARA to promulgate standards on equipment subject to interchange.

The problem of finding the always-expensive tomes has been greatly relieved by RailDriver Cyclopedias



FIGURE 6: InterMountain Railway Company is taking dealer reservations for March/April delivery for its new HO scale GE ES44AC Evolution series locomotives. Six pre-2008 road name/schemes will be available including Union Pacific, Kansas City Southern, Canadian Pacific, Ferromex and BNSF, plus a GE demonstrator scheme. Both DC and DCC equipped versions will be produced.

IMRC has also announced decorating schemes for the initial release of its new closed-side version of a 1958 cubic foot two-bay hopper car. Roads for the HO scale assembled hoppers include ATSF, Chicago & Eastern Illinois, Chicago Great Western, Erie, SSW-Cotton Belt and Southern Pacific. An undecorated kit will also be included in the release. For those in need of more immediate gratification, IMRC will release an undecorated kit of its HO scale Plywood Panel boxcar this month.



FIGURE 7: Kanamodel Products expects to begin shipping its HO scale Canadian National 100-ton Coal Plant before the end of November. Laser cut walls and some 3000 scale feet of scale lumber are incorporated into the design of this craftsman kit that includes Grandt Line nut-bolt-washer castings. Windows, doors, coal chute, pulleys and other cast details are included along with comprehensive instructions. The footprint of the structure is 4 x 5-inches but a depth of at least 7 inches is required over the track. Visit www.kanamodel.com for ordering details.



FIGURE 8: Jack Burgess built this O scale model of Yosemite Valley caboose #15 using a stock kit from Mullett River Model Works (www.mulletrivermodelworks.com). Jack measured the prototype during restoration and prepared the drawings that Mullett River utilized in developing the laser-cut kit.

(www.raildriver.com/products/cyclopedias.php) a Michigan-based firm that has released copies of the books on CD.

Available now are the 1922 Car Builders Cyclopedias (tenth edition, 1192 pages with more than 2600 illustrations) and the 1922 Locomotive Cyclopedias (sixth edition, 1155 pages and 3000 plus photographs and illustrations).

Also available on CD are the 1906 Locomotive Cyclopedias, 1911 Electric Cyclopedias and the 1921 Maintenance

of Way Cyclopedias. The CDs sell for \$29.95 each.

RailMaster Hobbies is importing two sizes of miniature self-contained (sealed) bass reflex speakers designed for installation inside locomotives. A small port in the enclosure limits the amount of air at the back of the speaker, resulting in better bass response than is normally provided by most miniature speakers.

Speakers recommended for **HO** applications measure 18mm wide



FIGURE 10: Ragg's...To Riches (www.raggstoriches.biz) is now shipping its new **O scale** kit for Dolores CONOCO Bulk Oil Plant. The kit includes material to build two warehouses, an office, a garage, a large platform with a nicely detailed catwalk, and four great looking bulk oil storage tanks. All the piping and fittings are included, as well as the pipe supports and eight 55-gallon drums. A nice feature is the injection molded array of filler pipes. Assembly instructions consist of an amazing 37-page book featuring large type and 55 photos that smooth the assembly process. Also included are several assembly jigs to help in building the kit.

by 53mm long by 14.3mm high. The larger unit suggested for **S** and **O scale** models is 22mm by 58mm by 9.3mm. For complete specs and pricing visit www.railmasterhobbies.com. Dealer inquiries are welcome.

Roundhouse (www.roundhousetrains.com) is quoting March delivery on six different fully-assembled **HO scale** 40-foot wood refrigerator cars. The schemes will include ART, URTX-M&StI, BREX-Burlington, PFE-Southern Pacific, PFE-Western Pacific and WFEX-Great Northern.

Trolley decorating specialist, Shoreline Decals (www.shorelinedecals.com), has added Atlantic City and West Penn to its growing list of traction decals.

The Atlantic City set covers the Brilliner in cream and black including the Miss America slogan, front wings and destination signs. The West Penn Modified 700 set includes letter board and destination signs as well as the special Guardians of Victory side lettering. Both new sets are for **HO scale** models.



FIGURE 9: Peace Valley Scale Models (peacevalleyscalemodels.com) is now shipping this three-story brick factory building called Stover's Shoe Supply. The **HO scale** model is part of Peace Valley's Thin Structure Industries series that provides mass without excess depth. Inspiration for the freelance model came from the aging 20th-century factories found throughout New England. The model is composed of cast resin walls and water tank. Vendor-supplied components include Tichy windows and doors and Northeastern Scale Lumber. Assembly instructions, building templates and color photographs are included in the kit.

Smokey Mountain Model Works (www.smokymountainmodelworks.com) will soon introduce a kit to create seven **HO scale** Southern Railway trackside signs that include mileposts, maintenance limit signs, speed limit, yard limit, stop signs and two whistle posts.

To replicate the look of the prototype, each model sign has a core of .008-inch etched stainless steel that closely resembles the look of oxidized aluminum of the prototype. Black urethane castings included in the kit are glued to each side of the etched post. Decals to create the various signs are included.



FIGURE 11: This Pawn Shop and garage is the latest **HO scale** craftsman kit from Rusty Stump Limited (www.rustystumps.com). The finished model measures 22-feet wide by 50-feet deep by 20-feet high. That's a foot print on your layout of about 3 by 6-3/4 inches. The craftsman style kit has laminated walls of 1/32-inch plywood topped with exterior walls of laser cut Northeastern clapboard siding. Sheets of RSL's own black tarpaper (see MRH page 17 April 2009) are supplied for the roofs of both buildings. Several decals and signs are included as well as an assortment of detail resin castings for the front windows and door. A few pawned items are provided to display in the shop window.

Sylvan Scale Models (www.isp.on.ca/sylvan/default.htm) has **HO scale** kits for 1938 Plymouths including a coupe, two-door sedan and a four-door sedan – all nicely detailed in cast resin. Representation of the Detroit brand will be increased soon with the addition of a selection of 1946-48 Plymouths. Also coming soon are several versions of GMC's 1941-47 truck lineup.

TrainPlayer Software has released Version 3.3 of its line of model railroad simulation products for Windows. The new version adds scenery capability to the program, which was previously limited to operating trains on track plans constructed by the user. Scenic backdrops can now be added to track plans from a library of over 300 pre-drawn images of scenery objects – buildings, trees, industries, roads, parks, background textures – that can be dragged onto a plan and moved into position. In conjunction with this release, TrainPlayer has discontinued its Mac products and will offer Mac users a free swap for the equivalent Windows versions. A full-featured demo of the complete system is available by download for 30-day free trial. Visit the company web site at www.trainplayer.com for details.

Underground Railway Press has released its 2010 catalog of scale plans. This 35th-year edition includes plans for motive power, rolling stock and railroad structures as used on mainline, short line, narrow gauge, logging, and traction railways. To obtain the catalog send \$2 to

Underground Railway Press, P.O. Box 814MH, Brevard, NC 28712-0814.

A tip of the hat to Brian Leppart of Tahoe Model Works whose **HO scale** trucks continue to earn broad acceptance among the tough prototype police.



FIGURE 12: Schomberg Scale Models (www.schombergmodels.com) is developing this branch line water tank into an **O scale** kit to be called Garden Hill Tank. The stone structure, fancy brick front and rugged shake shingles lend themselves to some imaginative, funky weathering. I see hobos, barking dogs and lush vines fed by a leaky, water stained tank. No word yet on price or availability.

W&R Models, an importer of brass models, with a well-earned reputation for relentless pursuit of accurately replicating the prototype, has selected Tahoe's Dalman trucks for its forthcoming brass Northern Pacific 8000-8199 series 4-door auto boxcars. In making the announcement, W&R's Bill McKown said "They (Tahoe's trucks) look and roll better than any Korean truck."

Walthers is preparing several limited-edition EMD E7A and E7B Phase 1 diesels with delivery scheduled for December. The **HO scale** models will

feature road specific details such as the Trainphone antenna on the PRR units.

Various A, A-A, A-B, and A-B-A combinations with appropriate numbers will be offered for Kansas City Southern (red and yellow with bold black stripe), Chesapeake & Ohio (blue over silver with yellow stripe), Illinois Central (chocolate and orange), Pennsylvania (late 1947 scheme) and Southern Railway. See your favorite dealer for details or visit www.walthers.com.

Among the projects currently under development at **Westerfield**

(westerfield.biz) are Santa Fe Refrigerator Dispatch classes RR.Q and RR.R wood truss rod reefer cars. The **HO scale** one-piece resin kits replicate the modernized versions of the cars

with added safety appliances and other modifications subsequent to the as-built versions previously offered by Westerfield.



FIGURE 13: This is a preliminary test shot of the new B&O class M53/M53A Wagontop boxcar WrightTRAK Models (www.wrighttrak.com) introduced in late October at the Naperville RPM meet. In addition to the one-piece resin body, the **HO scale** kit includes a Duryea underframe, Tichy brake gear and trucks, and specially-prepared decals that cover several different paint schemes during the life of the distinctive M53 cars. Production of the resin castings is being handled by Jim King of Smokey Mountain Model Works.



FIGURE 14: Walthers 2000 Pennsylvania Railroad E7A .



FIGURE 15: Walthers 2000 Southern Railway E7A .

INDUSTRY NEWS

After a run that began more than 50 years ago and was for many decades the backbone of the company's business, **Athearn, Division of Horizon Hobby Inc.**, will no longer offer railroad models in kit form.

In a widely-promulgated announcement released in late October, the California-based company started by Irv Athearn in 1946, said that due to increased manufacturing and labor costs the Blue Box Line of HO scale kits would be discontinued. Some Blue Box items will apparently continue to be offered as ready-to-run models.

Although named for the familiar blue box that at one time dominated the shelves of virtually every model railroad hobby outlet in North America, the basic Athearn line of easy-to-assemble plastic kits actually came in yellow boxes when introduced in the spring of 1957.

Following the death of Irv Athearn in 1991, family members continued to operate the company until 1994 when it was sold to private interests whose notable contribution was entering the N scale field and successfully launching the upscale Genesis line. After purchasing Athearn in 2004, Horizon Hobby assumed distribution of the brand and shifted all manufacturing to Asia.

Want a career in model railroading while working at home? **Con-Cor** is expanding its phone sales staff to call on the company's established accounts. Candidates must have experience in telephone sales, a knowledge of model railroading, hi-speed internet access and be willing to devote a minimum of 20 hours per week. Interested parties should contact concor@con-cor.com for additional details. ■

Briefly noted at press time...

... **Tangent Scale Models** (tangentscalemodels.com/acf70tongondolareplicas.aspx) has just released an **HO scale** 52-foot 6-inch 70-ton welded gondola car with drop ends.

Notable features include scale-sized tie-downs, see-through brake platforms, stand-off ladders, formed-wire coupler lift bars and grab irons, road-specific handbrakes (Universal or Equipco as appropriate), air hoses, hidden weight to NMRA recommendation, Kadee® couplers and Tangent's own 70-ton ASF A-3 Ride-Control trucks.

The ready-to-run cars will initially be offered in three decorating schemes with road-specific paint and lettering fonts in multiple road numbers for a Pennsylvania class G31B in 1951 scheme, a Southern Pacific class G-70-12 in 1953 scheme, and a Wabash car in the black 1951 scheme. An undecorated kit is also being offered.

Continued on Page 9

About our news and events editor



Richard Bale writes our news column under the byline of *The Old Yardmaster*. He has been writing about the model railroad trade for various hobby publications since the 1960s.

Richard is currently introducing 3 of his grandsons to the hobby by involving them in the construction of his fifth layout. He enjoys building models, particularly structures, some of which appeared in the June 2006 issue of *Model Railroader* magazine.



FIGURE 16: Weaver Models (www.weavermodels.com) will begin delivery of this handsome Canadian National 4-6-4 class K5a locomotive late this fall. The O scale limited-edition model will be offered with RailSounds and TrainMaster Command Control in both 2-rail AC and 3-rail AC versions at \$1095. A standard 2-rail DC model is priced at about \$995.



FIGURE 17: WrightTRAK Models will soon introduce this **HO scale** Seaboard Air Line (originally Norfolk Southern and Macon Dublin & Savannah) low side gondola as a cast resin kit. Metal etchings for crossover steps and brake gear will be included along with Tichy brake gear and trucks. Decals for SAL and MD&S are ready while work on the NS decals is nearing completion. For ordering information visit www.wrighttrak.com.

Briefly noted at press time continued...

... Russell Simpson, founder of Simpson Products, passed away October 28, 2009 at the Sutter-Roseville Hospital in Roseville, California. He had been in a coma following a stroke a few days earlier. A native of Oakland and longtime resident of Placerville, Russ

Simpson's love of railroad modeling led to a career as a professional model maker whose commercial work included several major Hollywood projects including the Star Trek movie. Russ enjoyed participating in prototype narrow gauge activities and was co-founder of the annual West Side Reunion. He was 63 years old. ■



Send us your product announcements!

If you are a hobby manufacturer with a product you want to announce, just [click here](#) and submit your announcement to us!



Selected Events

November 2009

BRITISH COLUMBIA, BURNABY, November 14, Annual BC Railroad Prototype Modelers meet in association with TRAINS 2009, Cameron Centre (across from Lougheed Mall), 9523 Cameron Street. Info at www.bctrains.org.

CONNECTICUT, NORTH HAVEN, November 14, New

Haven RR Historical & Technical Association 47th Annual Reunion & Train Show, Holiday Inn, Route 5, exit 12 off I-91. Details inquire at nhrr379@att.net.

KANSAS, BENTON (Wichita), November 7-8, Mid Continent Prototype Modelers Meet, Benton Community Center, 150 S. Main Street. Details at www.midcontinentprototypemodelers.org.

MARYLAND, GAITHERSBURG, November 1, 32nd Gaithersburg Train Show, Montgomery County Fairgrounds.

MASSACHUSETTS, MANSFIELD, November 12-14, Craftsman Structure Show, Grand Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center. Details at www.css09.com.

OREGON, PORTLAND, November 14-15, Great Train Expo, Metropolitan Expo Center.

PENNSYLVANIA, MONACA, November 22, Beaver County Fall Model Train Show, Center Stage, 1495 Old Broadhead Road. Information at www.bcmrr.railfan.net.

WISCONSIN, WEST ALLIS (Milwaukee), November 1-15, Trainfest, State Fair Park. Info at www.trainfest.com.

December 2009

FLORIDA, TAMPA, December 19-20, 5th Tampa Model Railroad Show, Special Events Center, Florida State Fairgrounds.

OKLAHOMA, OKLAHOMA CITY, December 5, Annual OKC Train Show, Travel & Transportation Building, State Fairgrounds. www.OKCtrainshow.com.

Future 2010

FLORIDA, COCOA BEACH, January 7-10, Prototype Rails, prototype modelers meet chaired by Mike Brock, Hilton Hotel, 1550 N. Atlantic Ave.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA, JANUARY 1, 38th Atlanta Model Train & Railroadiana Show, North Atlanta Trade Center.

INDIANA, EDINBURGH (Columbus), April 24, Hoosier On30 Meet, Jonson County Park. Details at www.trainweb.org/carc/.

MAINE, GRAY, March 20, 2010, 3rd Annual Maine All-Scale Narrow Gauge Show.

MASSACHUSETTS, WEST SPRINGFIELD, January 30-31, Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show, Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds. Details at www.railroadhobbyshow.com.

OHIO, GREENFORD, March 26-29, All Scales Narrow Gauge Meet, Greenford Christian Church. Details at www.narrowtracks.com.

PENNSYLVANIA, VALLEY FORGE, March 2-28, Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet, Desmond Hotel, Malvern, PA. Details at www.phillynmra.org/rpm-meet.html.

TEXAS, HOUSTON, February 24-27, Sn3 Symposium, Hobby Airport Marriott Hotel. Details at www.sn3-2010.com.

WEST VIRGINIA, CHARLESTON, May 13-16, Mid Central Region NMRA Convention, Embassy Suites Hotel, 300 Court Street, Charleston, 25301. Details at www.coaldivision.org/coalfield_express.html.

NEW ZEALAND, CHRISTCHURCH, April 1-5, NZ Association of Model Railroad Clubs National Convention, St. Andrews College, Merivale. More info at www.gcmrsleeper.org/nzamrc/index.html. ■

MRH Sponsor Spotlight: Traintek LLC



Model Railroad Hobbyist magazine™

Jan/Feb 2010 issue sneak peek ...

Are you interested in some of the cool new control technology that's available now for model railroading, but not sure where to get started?

Model Railroad Hobbyist's new sponsoring advertiser, **Traintek** can help. They specialize in model railroad control systems for any and all scales. They carry DCC, DCS, Legacy / TMCC, and sound system products – and they have an assortment of other model railroad products from trains to signaling to scenery.

Traintek's staff knows their stuff and they're always willing to help.

Traintek also [has a Facebook page](#): if you want to see what they're up to at the moment or have a conversation with the staff, then go on over and [become a Traintek Facebook fan](#).

Make sure you check out the [Traintek web site](#) for your train control needs!

PAINTING A MODERN DIESEL: Using a "painted decals" technique to do a CSX SD38-2

When Kato USA first announced its production of the SD38-2 in HO scale, CSX was not among the road names they were offering. I needed to paint one myself, and here is how I did it.

I've been experimenting with an alternative method of painting using home-painted decals. The CSX YN2 Bright Future paint scheme, with its angular patterns, requires a lot of masking over rugged surfaces. Decal-based painting offers – for me at least – a much easier way to replicate this attractive livery.

– by Ken Larsen
Photos by the author except where otherwise noted



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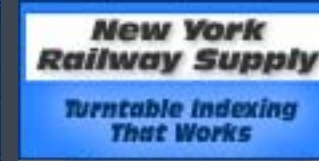
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