

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

Rapido expects to have a pre-production sample of its New Haven 1935-era 10-window coach ready in late January – just in time for the Amherst Railroad Hobby Show in West Springfield, Mass. This will be the initial car in Rapido's Pullman-Standard Osgood-Bradley project.

Overland Model's much anticipated HO scale Union Pacific 2-8-2 MacArthur class locomotives are expected to be available for delivery in early November. Curious about the name MacArthur? During World War II, several American railroad companies felt uncomfortable having their 2-8-2 locomotives identified as Mikado, a name linked to the Japanese emperor. Most of the roads

that still had 2-8-2s operating on their system during the war years renamed them in honor of the American war hero, General Douglas MacArthur. (photo coming)

Ken Lunders, the laid back personality behind Stevens Creek Models, acknowledges that he intends to produce an On30 Yosemite Short Line hopper, but makes no commitment on when the laser cut car kit will be ready for the market place.

After a decade of extensive research by author Joe Dale Morris, the Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society has gone to press with *SP Narrow Gauge*, a new 270-page book that is laden with previously unpublished photos,

text, and maps. Dealers can expect shipments to arrive just in time for Christmas.

While brass locomotive fans are hopeful that the recent drop in the value of Korean currency will result in lower prices on new brass models coming from that nation, others more familiar with international money matters, say any adjustments will be minor and probably won't exceed more than 8% to 10% at the retail level.



An N scale version of this HO GE 8-40 CW locomotive is scheduled for release from Atlas next year.

Atlas plans to introduce an N scale version of General Electric's 4,000 horsepower Dash 8-40 CW diesel locomotive by May 2009.

Exquisite is the word being used to describe the pre-production samples of W&R's new Northern Pacific Class

the DCC ready HO plastic model will come equipped with a Buehler can motor and SoundTraxx Tsunami digital sound decoder.

Bowser's new HO scale Executive Line Alco Century C-628 diesel locomotive.



Class Z-7 and Z-8 Northern Pacific 4-6-6-4 Challengers will be available soon from Division Point. The HO scale brass locomotives are scheduled to arrive from Korean Builder Boo Rim sometime in November.

Canon will soon announce availability of a 36-inch Cap Top Radiator Fan as used on first generation EMD diesels including GP/SD7, GP/SD9, GP 20, SD18, SD24 and F units.



New EMD radiator fan coming soon from Canon.

Kadee is quoting a January delivery date for its new ATSF "El Capitan" 40' box car # 31597 and a Rock Island #35026 50-foot box car with 10-foot door and functioning cushion underframe.

The GB&W Historical Society is offering an Accural 40-foot wood refrigerator car custom decorated for the Ahuapee & Western Railroad. Contact jfameree@gbwhs.org for ordering information.

Production work has begun on P-B-L's RGS business car Rico. All three versions

of the car's active life will be produced in Sn3 brass including the late-teens/early-twenties version with correct gold lettering fonts, and the 1930s look with white lettering on a coach green body.

The narrow gauge specialists at San Juan Car Company are hard at work preparing On3 and On30 versions of the D&RGW Jackson Sharp platform coach. Due for delivery in early 2009, the series will be SJCC's first venture with ready-to-run passenger cars.

Roundhouse Trains will deliver an upgraded version of its 34-foot Overton passenger cars decorated for UP, SP, CP and CPR in mid-February, 2009.

Atlas goes Hollywood...again! Following the appearance of Atlas equipment in the 2007 Kevin Bacon film "Rail and Ties," Atlas will once again have its model railroad products featured in a major Hollywood movie. Based on a popular Alice Sebold novel, the new film titled, "The Lovely Bones," is being directed by Peter Jackson of "Lord of the Rings" fame, and stars Mark Wahlberg, Susan Sarandon, Stanley Tucci and Michael Imperioli.

Atlas executive Steve Schaffan, who is coordinating details with the film production team, said modelers will be particularly interested in scenes filmed inside a 1970s era hobby shop. The movie is scheduled for release in October 2009.

New tooling for a 57-foot class R-70-15 mechanical refrigerator car in HO from Red Caboose is almost ready for an

initial product run. Cars from the first run will be decorated for PFE/SP and will be offered in both standard Cushion underframe as well as a Hydra-Cushion underframe versions.

Modelers who have lamented over the disappearance of the National Motor Company HO scale soft metal kits can rest easy. The complete series of 1929 Packard automobiles is now available from the new owner, Keith Wiseman. Visit www.wisemanmodelservices.com for details.

Look for Kanamodel Products, the British Columbia-based craft structure kit manufacturer, to begin delivery of a Canadian Pacific Railway Pump House in late December. The long awaited HO kit will be distributed in the US by Bolinger Edgerly Scale Trains of Belmont, New Hampshire.

The 17th annual Midwest All-Scale Narrow Gauge Show will be March 26-29, 2009, at the Christian Church in Greenford, Ohio. Operating layouts, vendors, clinics, model contest are all on the agenda. For details contact Gary Kohler at m2fq@aol.com or call 330-702-0117.

The 2009 edition of the Great Scale Model Train Show will held January 31 through February 1 at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium, MD. More details are available at www.gsmts.com.

Feature Articles

The story behind the Bear Creek & South Jackson
by Chip Engelmann
We learn the fascinating history behind award-winning model railroad photographer Charlie Comstock's current under-construction layout, the third Bear Creek & South Jackson.
HO

Modeling the steel business on your model railroad
by Ken Larson
No big-time industry seems to demand the need for railroading like the steel business. Author Ken Larson discusses the appeal of modeling the steel business as the focus of a model railroad.
G O S H O N Z

N-Scale decoder installs
by Donny Turani
Learn how to install DCC decoders in any kind of N scale loco using the techniques demonstrated in these three examples from plug-and-play to hard-wired.
N

Powerful new curve radius insights for any scale
by Joe Fugate
Learn how to conquer the bane of model railroad layout design - curves. Joe Fugate discusses the new curve radius guidelines developed by the NMRA's Layout Design Special Interest Group.
G O S H O N Z

Track Planning on computer using 3rd Plant!
by Ryan Boudreau
If you've ever wanted to learn how to draw your track plan on a computer, check out our rich media tutorial introducing how to use the popular 3rd Plant! CAD program.
G O S H O N Z

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The planet's most popular model railroading mediaZine!

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This page also will have logo buttons for all our sponsoring advertisers. By clicking on the logo, you will immediately be taken to their ad in this issue.

We'll probably dream up some more things this dashboard will do before January 2009!