



October 2020

## Recon

**MassCar 2020 – Cancelled**  
**Wings & Wheels 2020 – Cancelled**  
**Downeastcon 2020 – Cancelled**  
**Northshore Con 2020 – Cancelled**  
**IPMS Nationals 2020 – Cancelled**  
**Patcon 2020 - Cancelled**  
**Granitecon 2020 – Cancelled**  
**BAYCON 2020 – Cancelled**



Braveheart by Joe McDonald Jr.

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## 2020-2021 Dues

If you have not already done so, please renew your dues for the coming 2020-2021 membership year. Dues are still \$10. Dues due June 2020.

Please remit your dues to John Nickerson at the meeting or send it to him at 18 Stone Street, Middleboro, MA 02346 .

Don't forget to ask for the Family Membership if you have sons or daughters as members in the club as well.

## **FROM THE BRIDGE** The President's Column

Well, here we are in our 52nd membership year. You can hear my iconic cry, from six feet away, muffled by my mask, “the membership fee is still only \$10 per year and we accept advanced payment if you wish to get ahead on your membership”. There is also a family membership plan. You can catch me at a meeting, (if we ever have one), or send your payments to me by mail, checks to be made payable to Bay Colony Historical Modelers.

Doom and gloom corner... Once again there is nothing good to announce here. The October, November, and December meetings have been cancelled. The following should not be construed as a political comment. It is currently a hot button topic, but I am trying to present a statement of facts gleaned from some non-political sources, such as an investment newsletter I receive. D. Trump has said that we will have a Covid-19 vaccine early in November. I truly hope he is right. Based on that date, the forecast is that it will be mid 2022 before things resemble anything near normal, presuming that it is one of the current front runners that are in trials. Some of the major hurdles to these vaccines are transport and storage. They need to be stored frozen at -94 degrees. (Yes, that is minus 94 degrees.) It loses its viability within 24 hours if the temperature rises. Special storage facilities need to be built just to store it. Special trucks, and possibly planes need to be built / converted to transport it. Your local Dr.'s office will need special storage refrigerators, clothing, and tools to handle it. The larger storage facilities and transport are the bigger hurdles. Then it is a two part process. A series of two shots, 4 to 8 weeks apart. Then the first few million doses will go to first responders and front line workers. They will be followed by the most vulnerable, nursing home and rehab workers, and their patients. So it will be a while before John Q. can walk into the Dr.'s office and get a shot. Then you have to get some major percentage of the population to get the shot. On top of that, the vaccine will be like the flu shot, it will only be a certain percent efficient, and you may have to get a new one every year. The virus will mutate, it's what they do. They will have to adapt the vaccine to meet the new mutations. And now I hear that they have found a new super flu in China that is not affected by this seasons flu shot. Man, we can't catch a break.

Following closely on the heels of doom and gloom, if you haven't already heard, Joe McDonald Sr. passed on August 28th . Joe was one of our original members, attending the first meeting in March of 1968. There should be an obit elsewhere in this issue.

As previously announced, Baycon has been cancelled this year. The October issue is usually the last issue before Baycon, and it's where I do my big pep talk to try to get everyone out to the show and list the different roles that need to be filled for that day. It has become more difficult year over year to write something new. Funny, I think I'm up for the challenge this year.

The board met on Sept. 18th to count votes. 24 members voted for their choice for board member to fill

John Gisetto's seat. A better response than I expected. I am pleased to announce that Kevin Conlon is your new board member. I'd like to thank John for his many years of service to the club in this role. I'd also like to thank Bob Don and Kevin for stepping up and running for this office.

At that same meeting the Board discussed meetings going forward. Last year we decided to utilize the American Legion facility in Middleboro for our January and February meetings. Mostly because of the off street parking and it was free. This is not a large space. Based on the requirement that we have to ask permission to use the space, and if we could use it we could only fit about 6 people inside and social distance, we decided not to pursue the hall for this coming year. That is, of course, unless conditions drastically change.

We have tested out using virtual meetings and have found some success with it. We held the first one in Sept. and it worked. Bob sends a link by email indicating the date and time. He opens the room on Facebook at that time and by clicking on that link you can enter the room. We had it open for an hour that time. You need a device such as a smart phone, laptop, or tablet that has a camera and microphone. You do not have to be a Facebook client to enter. We saw a couple people we hadn't seen in a while. Going forward the plan is to have them on normal meeting days. You can pop in for just a few minutes just to say Hi, or you can stay for the duration. The down side is we can't all talk at once and we can't splinter off into other conversations. There should be additional information elsewhere in this issue.

Dave Schwab, Region 1 coordinator, has asked us to remind you that NoreastCon 49, which was postponed to October, has been postponed until May 21st and 22nd, 2021. So don't show up at the hotel in October because they won't be there, or most won't be.

It has come to my attention that Squadron has been sold to Sprue Bros. It's just hearsay, to me, at this point, but that explains why Jef V. is setting off on his own, and opening Jef V's Cornerstore. I'm not promoting his new enterprise, just trying to keep you up to date as to your model and supply shopping options. That said, I just watched a video of his new product, Got Metal. It's part of his Got... line. You know, Got Glue? Got Metal is a metalizer, silver in color, thick in consistency, and would appear to be very versatile. It is thinable with white spirits, and will mix with oil paints. In the video he demonstrates it as a weathering paint, and how a little goes a long way. I believe you can access the video from his website or on youtube.

Just in case you missed it, on Sept. 25th, the PDSA, awarded its gold medal, Britain's highest animal honor, to Magawa, a Tanzanian-born African giant pouched rat. It's the first time in their 77 year history of presenting the award that it has gone to a rat. In the past it has gone to dogs, horses, pigeons, and a cat. PDSA started handing out its awards during WW II, to animals in the face of conflict. Magawa was trained by the APOPO to sniff out landmines and other unexploded ordnance. Rats can search an area of 200 sq. meters in half an hour. It would take a manual deminer 4 days to complete the job. Magawa has been used in Cambodia, and in his 4 year career has found 39 land mines and 28 items of unexploded ordnance. So what has this got to do with modeling, you may ask. I haven't got a clue. Possibly someone can figure out how

to stage some sort of diorama to commemorate the event.

Scale Auto published its last issue, last month. The October issue will be its last regular issue for the foreseeable future. Reading some of the columns, I'm of the opinion that they are not entirely going away. The website will remain active and I get the feeling that we will see some special issues in the future.

Speaking of Scale Auto and Fine Scale, if you haven't checked out their web sites you should. Both sites have video reviews of some of the latest kits. Admittedly, not always the best production values, one thing they do get right is the close-up photography of the kit parts. I have made decisions on obtaining kits by watching these videos. You can see it when the detail is soft or there are an abundance of seam lines. I've also noticed when the parts are exceptionally well cast, and found interest in kits for a subject that I don't even build. Check it out.

I found a video review for two Hanes Manuals on the Scale Auto site. The Ford GT-40 Manual and the Ferrari Engines Enthusiast's Manual, 15 iconic Ferrari engines from 1947 to present. I believe both will be on my Christmas list. (It's not too soon to be thinking about it. Prime days will be here in just a moment, followed by Black Friday, etc.) The books are available from Kalmbach publishing. I also found them on Amazon but at no price advantage.

ACME Southern Nationals has announced they are joining up with Fine Scale and going virtual this year for their 25th annual show, which will be an online show and model contest. Photos of your models can be submitted from Oct. 1 to Oct. 31st. We can also vote from Nov. 1st to Nov. 7th. There are about a half dozen categories, and none for tracked vehicles or aircraft, but your wheeled vehicles definitely are eligible. I'm thinking about one particular dark yellow VW. There is a link on the Fine Scale site. Otherwise try searching for acme-25th-annual-southern or fine scale contests. (Entrants and voters are eligible for prizes. If anyone wins the Fisher Chaparral, I'm interested in a deal.)

On the Airfix front, they have announced the upcoming release of their 1/48 scale Canadair Sabre F.4 new tool. This is the 6 - .50 cal. version. You can see the 3D mock-up on line. More on that in a second. It looks nice, and it can be built with the gun covers off. The kit is engineered using 3D computer graphics, and all the 3D parts are fit together to see how they fit. The advantage here is that you can electronically test fit your parts, then design your sprue layout, before making the molds. Doing it the old school way you had to design your parts, do your sprue layouts, make your molds, and do a test shot, to test the part fit, and hope you hadn't screwed up. You can't get to this from the Airfix US website, you need to use the UK website. Not as much of a problem as it sounds. (I link in from the email I received.) If you go to [www.airfix.com](http://www.airfix.com) it will take you to the US website because of your location. Not a problem. On the header bar you will see a button that says US \$. There will be a UK £ immediately below it or there will be a pull down. Click on the UK £ and you will be on the UK site. Go to Community on the header bar, and pull it down. You will find two blogs listed. Go to the Workbench blog, and you will find the Sabre F.4 story, amongst others.

While on the Airfix UK website, check out the Aerodrome blog, under the same Community pull-down, and go to the Night-Fright restoration project. There you can find out about the project and its progress. Night-Fright is a USAAF C-47 Skytrain, (42-100521), that flew out of Membury airfield, (Station 466), in England in WW2, as part of the 79th Troop Carrier Squadron. It participated in every airborne mission in Europe, dropping paratroopers, towing gliders, evacuating wounded, and delivering supplies to the front. The Airfix Aerodrome article has some great photos of the engines and interior of the aircraft, while under restoration. This project is linked with a project to restore Membury airfield to useable conditions, in the hope that Night-Fright will become a flying memorial and operate from Membury. Beyond the Aerodrome article you can find out more at [www.night-fright.com](http://www.night-fright.com). Night -Fright is currently being restored at the Coventry Airport. To quote Dwight D. Eisenhower, "Four other pieces of equipment that most senior officers come to regard as among the most vital to our success in Africa and Europe were the bulldozer, the jeep, the 2-ton truck, and the C-47 airplane. Curiously, none of these is designed for combat."

I miss you guys!

Stay safe, my friends!

God bless America! Pray for our servicemen overseas.

Happy modeling and give kits to kids!

John J. Nickerson

*[bchmaprez@verizon.net](mailto:bchmaprez@verizon.net)*

# VIDEO MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

Due to Covid 19 and the ongoing issues with gatherings, our model club will be holding club meetings in virtual format on Facebook. Therefore, the our upcoming Club Meetings will now be virtual meetings until further notice. Do not worry that the meetings will be held through Facebook as you will not need a Facebook account to attend a virtual meeting.

Requirements for the meeting are as follows:

- 1) You will not need a Facebook account to attend the virtual meeting
- 2) You can attend the meeting on your iPad, Tablet, Laptop, Desktop or Smart Phone
- 3) You will need a device that has a camera and microphone on it

Instructions for the meeting are as follows:

- 1) you will receive an e-mail from me with a Link to the meeting room about an hour before the meeting
- 2) you can:
  - click on the link if you are reading your e-mail on your smart phone and attend the meeting on your Smart Phone
  - Log onto your laptop, iPad, Tablet or Desktop and call up your e-mail and click on the link in the e-mail to attend the meeting on the device you are using. ***Remember you need a camera and microphone on the device you are using.***
  - You can copy the link in the e-mail and paste it in your browser on your device and hit enter and go to the meeting room that way.
- 3) Log on and go to the meeting room at **1:00 PM.**
- 4) **Remember we can not all talk at once. Please be respectful.**

You can bring a completely or in-completed model to the meeting and show it to everyone. You could bring a recent kit purchase or book you have to show as well.

Unfortunately, no refreshments will be served at the meeting. You will need to provide your own.

Look forward to seeing you at the meeting. This is new for us and I am sure there may be a few bumps along the way.

## **Joseph M. McDonald Sr. #504**

February 19, 1930 – August 28, 2020

It is my sad duty to report the passing of Joseph M. McDonald Sr. of Swansea, MA. Joe was one of the original members of the Bay Colony Historical Modelers Assoc., attending the first meeting in March of 1968. Born and raised in Fall River, MA, he was a Korean War Veteran, serving from 1952 – 1954. A graduate of Providence College, he was a school teacher in the Fall River system for 36 years until forced to retire due to throat cancer in 1992. Joe was also a photographer, piano player, and an avid student of history.

In the 1980's, Joe became a part-time volunteer on the Battleship Massachusetts. He worked with a small group of volunteer Bay Colony members to refurbish and expand the model exhibit onboard. He also became involved with the PT Boat Museum at Battleship Cove. One of his duties became escorting veteran PT boaters and their families on board. (The general public is not allowed.) Joe arranged the club's annual meetings aboard the Battleship for many years, along with a guided tour for a limited number of members on the PT Boats.

As defacto leader of BCHMA for many years, he would mail monthly postcards to the membership, reminding them of the date and location of the next meeting. (Pre-email era.) He also co-wrote, with his son Joe Jr., the club newsletter for a number of years. (Typewritten.) Joe was also a member of the Fall River Model Airplane Club, and loved to regale us with stories of the hazards of flying in and around the hangers at the Fall River Airport. He was a strong promoter of IPMS, convincing many members to join, myself included, and earned his 50 year membership pin.

Joe was a prolific modeler. Primarily building aircraft and painting figures, he would build anything that caught his interest, and populating as many categories at BayCon as possible, to prevent being asked to judge. It is a fond memory of mine, seeing the grin spread across his face when he saw me enter a meeting. His hand would go to his shirt pocket and he would retrieve the list of models he had worked on that past month, and proceed to read it to me. He was a familiar face at many of the New England areas model shows, garnering hundreds of awards. A number of his models are on display on the battleship. He was one of the members of our traveling road show, putting on displays at local malls, air shows, and special events. It was at an air show at So. Weymouth NAS in 1973 that I met Joe and other members of BCHMA, and began my association with the club.

Joe is survived by his son, Joseph M. McDonald Jr., (also a Bay Colony member), his daughter-in-law Joan, granddaughters Kayleigh and Hope, and numerous nieces and nephews.

# Battlewagon

John Nickerson #6042

President

Bay Colony Historical Modelers Assoc.

(This is a copy of the obit. that was sent to IPMS for publication)



The Skoal Bandit by Mark Watters



## Up Scope

<b>Nov 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>Dec 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>
VIDEO MEETING	VIDEO MEETING

## In Range

<b>Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting</b>	<b>Oct 10<sup>h</sup> Meeting</b>
CANCELLED	VIDEO MEETING ATTENDEES Robert Magina Ray Rosario John Nickerson Kevin Conlon Norm Babcock Joe McDonald Jr. Bob Don Paul Williams Chris Libucha Paul Champagny

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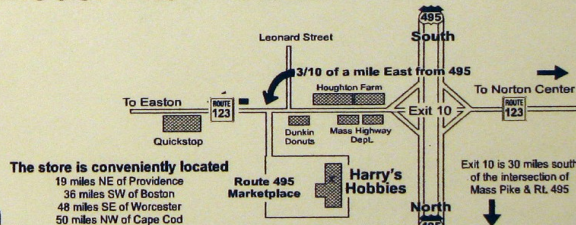
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IPMS Bay Colony Modelers meet the second Saturday of each month from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. The meetings take place at selected members houses. Look at the Battlewagon or the club website for location and directions. Guests are always welcome. Membership is \$10.00 per year. Members and guests are encouraged to bring completed models or works in progress for display and discussion.

The Battlewagon is published six times per year. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect IPMS Bay Colony or IPMS USA views. Submissions relevant to modeling are welcome, and may be published at the discretion of the editor. All material is subject to editing. There is no payment for articles.

## IPMS Bay Colony Historical Modelers

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## 2020 - 2021 Club Dues

If you have not already done so, please renew your dues for the coming 2020-2021 membership year. Dues are still \$10. Please remit your dues to John Nickerson at a meeting or send it to him at 18 Stone Street, Middleboro, MA 02346

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Signature (required by P.O.) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership  Adult, 1 Year: \$30  Adult, 2 Years: \$58  Adult, 3 Years: \$86

Junior (Under 18 Years) \$17  Family, 1 Year: \$35 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? \_\_\_\_\_

Canada & Mexico: \$35  Other / Foreign: \$38 (Surface) Checks must be drawn on a US bank or international money order

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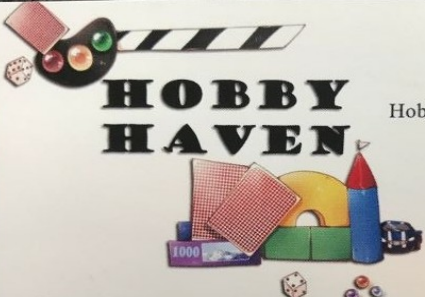
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