



February 2020

<h1>Recon</h1>	<h1>Inside</h1>																
<p>Valley Con 30 – March 29, 2020 - Knights of Columbus Hall, 460 Granby Rd, Chicopee, MA Contact - Al LaFleche at 413-306-1270 or ajlafleche@comcast.net</p> <p>Downeast Con 2020 – April 5, 2020 - Saco Middle School (NEW LOCATION), 40 Buxton Rd, Saco, ME Contact - George Bangs at 207-625-8007 or smsmdowneastcon@gmail.com</p> <p>Noreast Con 2020 – May 1-2, 2020 - Quality Inn and Suites, 8250 Park Rd, Batavia, NY Contact – David Schwab at davidsp51stang@aol.com</p> <p>Northshore Con 2020 – May 2, 2020 - Knights of Columbus Hall, 96 Main St, Peabody, MA Contact- David Reardon at 978-325-0049 or dreardon03@northshore.edu</p> <p>IPMS Nationals 2020 - Jul 29 – Aug 1, 2020 - Embassy Suites and San Marcos Conference Center, 1001 E McCarty Lane, San Marcos, TX Contact - Leonard Pilhofer at 210-792-4746 or http://www.nats2020.com/</p> <p>Classic Plastic 2020 – Oct 4, 2020 - Elks Hall 652 Andover St, Lawrence, MA Contact -</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>RECON</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>From the Bridge</td> <td>2-5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Del's Corner</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Model Book Shelf</td> <td>6-7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Challenge Question</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Up Scope</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hobby Shops</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In Range</td> <td>10</td> </tr> </table>	RECON	1	From the Bridge	2-5	Del's Corner	5	Model Book Shelf	6-7	Challenge Question	7	Up Scope	8	Hobby Shops	9	In Range	10
RECON	1																
From the Bridge	2-5																
Del's Corner	5																
Model Book Shelf	6-7																
Challenge Question	7																
Up Scope	8																
Hobby Shops	9																
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	<h2>2020-2021 Dues</h2> <p>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.</p> <p>Please remit your dues to John Nickerson at the meeting or send it to him at 18 Stone Street, Middleboro, MA 02346 .</p> <p>Don't forget to ask for the Family Membership if you have sons or daughters as members in the club as well.</p>																

FROM THE BRIDGE

The President's Column

We are now in our 51st membership year. 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 or send your payments to me by mail, checks to be made payable to Bay Colony Historical Modelers.

We renewed our charter with IPMS at the end of December. (\$30)

There was \$43.50 in the donation can for Home Base Project at the show. At the December meeting we voted to kick it up to an even \$50.

We also voted to raise the admission fee for BayCon by \$1 for walk-ins. This raises it to \$4, \$3 for seniors. This does not affect the entrant's fee for entering models. That will remain the same.

Steve Kwasny has decided to drop his annual armor challenge. Mike McNamara decided to catch it before it broke. He has taken over the Armor Challenge and has announced that it will be any tank or self-propelled gun from the North African Campaign, 1940 - 1943.

Peter has announced that the Shea Naval Air Museum Challenge subject for 2020 will be purpose built ASW aircraft. He has posted a list on the forum. I do not know if a similar list is posted on the Facebook page.

Joe Farina has informed me that the Military Collectors of New England, (MCNE), would like to sponsor a onetime memorial award for Bill Pritchard. It would be for the best 25 - 28 mm figure.

We had a great turnout at the January 11 meeting, at the Simeon L. Nickerson American Legion Post in Middleboro. 18 members turned out.

On the pretext that you don't know, Harry's has had a lighting problem. They had to replace a few fluorescent tubes, so they thought they would get ahead of the issue, and install energy saving LEDs. The old fluorescent light fixtures didn't like that, so they had small clamp on spotlights hanging from the ceiling grids and power cords running everywhere. Very dark and ineffective. Made it difficult to shop. On our latest trip, the spotlights are gone. They have been replaced with LED strip lighting, such as you might install under a kitchen cabinet. Definitely better. It might even be better than the old lights. The old fixtures are still non-functional.

We tried to schedule a board meeting before Bob Magina headed off to Florida in late January. If Bob didn't really want to go, he could have said so. He didn't have to go out and break his leg and land in the hospital just to get out of the meeting. Evidently, it was broken in two places. As John said, he'll probably never go back to those places. Currently, the board meeting is scheduled for later in February. If you have anything you would like the board to discuss, please get that information to any member of the board.

Speaking of Bob, the February issue of Fine Scale has an article he wrote. I saw the article and the M3 Scout Car in the photos, and I kept thinking I had seen the model before. It wasn't until I saw the thread on the forum that I realized why. I had never checked to see who wrote the article.

One of the subjects to be discussed at the next board meeting will be the Bill Collins Memorial Award. Membership at the January meeting felt that because Bill was such a prolific modeler, and because he modeled so many genres, aircraft, armor, figures, ships, and cars (pre 1950), that the award should be a Triathlon category. The modeler would enter 3 models, each of a different genre, such as an aircraft, a ship, and a figure, and the modeler would be judged on his work across all three. I suspect that this will be a first thru 4th category. Let me reiterate here, the models would have to come from one of the five major modeling genres, as listed above, and each would have to be from a different genre. A tank, a half-track, and an artillery piece is a no go. Same goes for showroom stock, hotrod, and dragster. The board will just be polishing up the details, single award or category, limitations, etc.

So, Airfix has announced their 2020 lineup, sort of. They sent out an email with their 2020 catalog, again, sort of. What they listed were all of their "new" items, those promised for 2020. All of them are available for "pre-order". In other words, they are not available, yet! I found no listing for what is available now. One reason I stress this is, near the end of the year, Airfix released a 1/72 scale Mig-17 'new tool'. I don't think it reached the US yet. I've not seen it listed on Squadron, KitLinx, or Sprue Bros. It's in the new catalog, but only as part of a "Dogfight Double" set with the A-4 Skyhawk available for pre-order. I've got A-4s. They also promised a US Tractor in 1/35 for the end of 2019. I believe it was released in England but hasn't reached here yet? I believe this to be a Holt tractor as used by the US military as an artillery tug and construction tool. I didn't see it in the 2020 catalog, or in the US version.

Much of the new Airfix lineup are their 'Quick Build' kits. These are simplified models, aimed at kids and are designed to adapt to the "Lego" system. Another large portion of the new releases are previously released kits, many recent new tools, with new markings and box art. What did I see of interest? Well, not that I'm a fan of British tanks, but they are listing a 1/35 Cromwell Mk. VI. In aircraft they are promising in 1/48, a Canadair Sabre F.4 'new tool' for next winter. Also promised is a 1/72 Beaufort Mk. 1 'new tool'. I think this is the first 1/72 Beaufort released since the old Frog kit. I'm looking forward to that, but I'm not sure why. They are also promising a re-release of their 1/48 Folland Gnat.

The AMK 1/48 F-14D Super Tomcat, that Terry has been promoting, has finally shown up. (Terry let us explore one at the last meeting. Very well packaged kit. Thanks Terry.) It just popped up on Kitlinx. It has an msrp of \$70. Kitlinx is offering it for \$68.99. (Yeah, I know.) You can check it out on their website, they have photos of the decals and part sprues so you can get a good idea what the kit looks like.

Peter Smey also brought the Eduard 1/48 P-51D Royal Class kit for us to peruse at the January meeting. The box includes 2 full kits, masks, PE, resin parts, and 14 decal schemes. For those unfamiliar with Eduard's madness, they produce their kits to sell as many pressings as possible. The Royal Class kits are the high end of their line. Each will contain 2 to 4 full kits and a multitude of decal schemes. The problem with this is it's tough to choose a scheme to build. They research their schemes and provide a brief history with each one. Next down the

ladder is their Profipack kits. This is one model, PE, masks, and possibly resin parts, and 3 to 6 decal schemes. Near the bottom of the list is the Weekend Editions. These kits contain the plastic parts and one set of markings with the intent that it can be built in a weekend. Eduard's secret is the Overtrees kits. These are just the plastic parts in a plain white box. Just a label on the end. No instructions, decals, masks, or PE. These are the kits that you order when you build your profipack kit and still have 2 schemes left that you want to build. You can order these direct from Eduard or from a couple outlets here in the US, such as Sprue Bros.

Ok, time for our U-Boat story. I saved this one for last. Why? Well, you'll see. While researching my U-Boat stories, I stumble on a document entitled "Effort to Raise Super-Secret Nazi U-Boat off Cape Cod". The document is in some ways vague. There is no indication of the author, or the intent of the document, but purports itself to be a preliminary brief and incomplete. It goes on to state that Trident Research & Recovery, Inc. from Framingham MA, and Sub-Sea Research, Inc. from Portland ME, have joined in an effort to raise the purported U-Boat that was located in 1993, being sunk off of Cape Cod in August of 1944. The document introduces the story of the U-Boat and K-14, off the coast of Maine, which I wrote about previously. It also cites the sinking of the U-1229, a type IXC/40 boat, by aircraft from the USS Bogue CVE-9 off the coast of Maine while inbound to drop an agent on the coast. It states that at that same time, about 20 nautical miles away, a Type XI U-Boat was also heading for the east coast of the United States. At this point an insert is placed in the document describing the Type XI. It is a cruiser design carrying heavy guns, anti-aircraft weapons, torpedoes, and an aircraft hangar. It is 377 ft. long by 31 ft. wide. It claims that 4 keels were laid, only one was completed and launched but not commissioned.

The Admiralty is drawn into the story and their messages to US Navy "COMINCH" warning of an "Unknown" U-Boat heading our way. The document then continues on and gives an outline of Germany's situation in 1944. The Allies have successfully landed in Normandy, the Russian are pushing them back in the east. It now goes into a political commentary about the internal dissent in Germany, the attempts on Hitler's life, and the German Industrialist looking to find a means of an armistice with the west so that they may be able to keep their factories and money and hit the ground running, so to speak. Allen Dulles, OSS Station Chief, Berne, Switzerland, and John Foster Dulles are brought into the story at this point and it starts to become a real spy novel. They introduce the Dutch Royal Family in Exile, and their presence on Cape Cod at the same time as the Secret Sub's approach. And their departure from the Cape within hours of the sub's destruction. Prince Consort Bernhardt was suspected of being a German spy. They go on to tell of their efforts to contact the US government and the German government for permission to dive on the wreckage and how they get no response. No one will discuss the Secret Sub. Supposedly, 1994 sonar scans show the wreckage to be larger than a type IX.

Towards the end of the document another text block is inserted. No date or author is listed. It gives some of the Type XI stats that were previously given, and then the author goes on to say... "...but no contracts were let and no Type XI U-Boats were built. A pair of wheeler-dealers in New England concocted the story that one of these U-Boats was indeed built, shot down a blimp off the US east coast, and was herself mortally wounded..." "It's all a hoax & a scam - no Type XI U-Boote were built and no US Navy blimps were shot down off the coast of New England."

My last word, I do suspect this is a scam or hoax. Trident Research & Recovery is no longer, due to a court order. As to the "no contracts", many sources indicate that 4 keels were laid down in 1939. The program was cancelled after the start of the war. You don't lay down a keel without a contract. As to no blimps shot down, I refer you to my previous K-14 story. "These arn/t the droids you want..."

God bless America! Pray for our servicemen overseas.

Happy modeling and give kits to kids!

John J. Nickerson
bchmaprez@verizon.net

Del's Corner:

A Sharp Knife Gathers No Moss...Or something like that. We've all read it, and many times over. That knife blade needs to be sharp. Your hobby knife needs to be sharp. Ok, we've got it. If you're like me... Ok, let me rephrase that. If you are like most modelers, you start to wonder is this just a pitch by the hobby knife blade manufactures to keep us replacing blades? X-Acto brought out these Z blades that seemed to stay sharper longer. They disappeared. You make a few cuts with that new / sharp blade and it's now not so sharp. Do you replace it? You can never have too many knives. I have at least three on my workbench or in the top draw. I have a small plastic storage container, with cover, that I keep next to the sofa, so I can pick that up and work during commercials, three knives there, also. One is sharp, new. Ready for that new blade cutting experience. Another is not so new. Did you ever notice that it's the tip of your No. 11 blade that loses its edge first? The rest of the blade is still like new? That's my not so new blade. I use it when I don't need the sharp point. And the last is the 'dull' knife. When the blade gets dull it gets relegated to the dull knife handle. At this juncture you may ask, what do you do with a dull knife? What I use it for mostly, is to remove flash and mold lines. I hold the knife perpendicular to the mold line, with the blade perpendicular to the surface, and drag it along the mold line. It doesn't need to be sharp, it just needs to be nick free. It will work on plastic, resin, and most white metal. I can use it to help spread putty into that seam that needs filling. And I use it to help clean up the extra putty. And if the putty won't clean off the blade, I can dispose of the already dull blade. Another thing you can do with a dull knife is sharpen it. I keep a small whetstone in my

workbench. When that dull blade is truly dull I can refresh that edge on the stone. It's never quite as sharp as the original edge but it is sharp. You can find a small stone in a sporting goods store, usually near the sporting knives. My stone is about 1" wide by 2" long, has a little plastic case so you can drop it in your pocket. If you don't know how to put an edge on a knife with a whetstone, watch a couple online videos.(I learned how in school. The advantages of public school in the city.)

Del out!

Modeler's Bookshelf:

Fine Scale Modeler – Essential Skills for Scale Modelers

By Aaron Skinner, Kalmbach Books, 2011, 96 pages, soft-bound. \$21.95 msrp.

This book was written for people new to our hobby, and those returning to it after a number of years. It explains a number of techniques that many of us would call common practice, and introduces a number of others that work for the author. It explains many of the materials available to modelers today, such as paint and glues. In ten different chapters, Skinner presents numerous different techniques in a progression starting with the basics and gradually increase in difficulty. Some chapters deal with the tools and techniques. Other chapters deal with a subject model and walk you through its construction.

Each chapter lead page offers a paragraph as to the choice of model and a list of the skills that are demonstrated in that chapter. Every chapter has numerous numbered photographs with captions so you can follow step by step. The chapter text follows right along, reiterating the step by step procedure and includes the photo numbers to orient you to the appropriate photos.

Chapter one, "Starting with the Basics", begins with construction of Trumpeter's KV-1 Russian tank. It introduces the skills of removing parts and cleanup, gluing, filling gaps, and spray painting. The last photo of the chapter shows the KV-1 in a simple diorama

with call-outs indicating what technique is used and the page number as to where that skill is discussed.

Chapter 2 is the shortest chapter and deals with tools. Chapter 3 is airbrushing. These are the only chapters that don't address building a specific model. There is only one chapter for building car models, one for ship models, and one large scale figure model chapter. There is a second tank building chapter. There is a chapter on building aircraft. He uses a Zero as his work project. There is a second aircraft chapter, but that has more to do with finishing and applying AlClad metallic finishes. There is also a chapter on dioramas where he takes the KV-1 and builds it into the diorama. The book does cover a wide area. There are small insert articles in some of the chapters that deal with somewhat unrelated topics, such as working with clear plastic in the auto chapter, paint in the basics chapter, and PE in the second armor chapter.

All of us could probably learn something from this book, but with a cover price of \$22, it makes it expensive learning. It makes more sense for those people that the book was written for, or for someone that wanted to try something in a new genre. Also on the downside is the age of the book. Even though it was written 9 years ago, a lot of new products have been introduced for our hobby since then. I rate it 3.5 thumbs up on the Del scale. I will raise it to a 4.0 if you're putting a copy of this book in a beginners hands.

Final note: Again, the book is written for beginners. It's my guess that it is not aimed at kids, although many of them could follow along. Chapter 8 builds the Monogram (Revell) 1/48 P-80 Shooting Star. It is the only reasonably priced demo kit in the book. It's also the one that uses an airbrush and AlClad metallic finishes. The others are Trumpeter, Dragon, and Polar Light kits. Not short money.

John Nickerson

Challenge Question - Q7:

What do you consider to be the most difficult model genre to build "out of the box", and produce a decent model?

Up Scope

Mar 14th Meeting

Talal Chouman
36 Roundtop Rd
Framingham, MA 01701
508-788-1960

Directions

495N to Mass pike (I-90) east to exit 12, stay right to Rt. 9 East, pass 2 sets of light, then a flashing light, after the flashing light stay right and take the exit ramp (Main street, Edgel road, Framingham state University) at light turn left Edgel Rd stay on Edgel Rd. for about 2 miles until you reach the first light (intersection of Water street & Edgel Rd.) keep going straight on Edgel Rd. take the second right (Apple'dor street), at stop sign take a left on Baldwin ave. then the first right on Janebar circle , then first left on Roundtop Rd. Number 36 on the right, cream colored house with green shutters.

Apr 8th Meeting

Gil Costa
513 Bullock Street
Fall River, MA 02720
774-451-3236

Directions

From points north: Take Rt. 24 south to "Eastern Ave./President Ave." exit; continue to rotary and take second right off same. You will now be on North Eastern Ave. Continue on through one set of lights until the next break in the roadway island, this will be Bullock St.. Take a left and continue to #513 which is on the right and is a gray stucco house with tan trim.

From points West: Take Rt. #195 east to Rt. #24 north. Take the "Eastern Ave./President Ave" exit. Continue via above directions.

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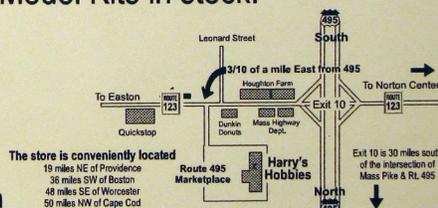
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In Range

Dec 12th Meeting – Steve Kwasny	Jan 11th Meeting – VFW Middleboro																												
1/35th IDF M151A1 Jeep – Robert Magina 1/24th Batmobile – Paul Champagny 1/32nd Alfa-Romeo 8C 1933 – Rocky O. 1/25th Rain-x Camaro – Rocky O. 1/25th – Scratch Built Peterbuilt – Rocky O. 1/72nd B-24 – Pat McColgen 1/25th Big Foot Truck – Pat McColgen	No Report																												
In Attendance: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Eric Peterson</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Chris Libucha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Steve Kwasny</td> <td>Warren April</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bob Magina</td> <td>Gian Montecalvo</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kevin Conlon</td> <td>Cliff Luzon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bob Don</td> <td>Kevin Colburn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peter Jardim</td> <td>Joe Ravino</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mike McNamara</td> <td>Paul Williams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paul Champagny</td> <td>Ted Bunn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phil LaBounty</td> <td>Rocky Oswell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pat McColgen</td> <td>Talal Chouman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Russell Thibeault</td> <td>Ray Rosario</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marty Ryan</td> <td>John Gisetto Sr.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Gisetto Jr.</td> <td>John Nickerson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Edmond Rosario</td> <td>Morton Saltzman</td> </tr> </table>	Eric Peterson	Chris Libucha	Steve Kwasny	Warren April	Bob Magina	Gian Montecalvo	Kevin Conlon	Cliff Luzon	Bob Don	Kevin Colburn	Peter Jardim	Joe Ravino	Mike McNamara	Paul Williams	Paul Champagny	Ted Bunn	Phil LaBounty	Rocky Oswell	Pat McColgen	Talal Chouman	Russell Thibeault	Ray Rosario	Marty Ryan	John Gisetto Sr.	John Gisetto Jr.	John Nickerson	Edmond Rosario	Morton Saltzman	
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Raffle: <p style="text-align: center;">Merry Christmas to all!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</p>																													

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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web: www.ipmsbaycolony.com



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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