

COLORADO MILITARY HISTORIANS

NEWSLETTER

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March 2017

CMH AT GENGHISCON 2017



Brief report on GenghisCon 2017

By Terry Shockey

CMH was represented at the latest installment of GenghisCon. It is the longest continuous gaming convention in Denver at 40 years. CMH members who took part included John Brown, Larry Irons, Ed Meyers, Doug Wildfong, Jeff Hunt, Jeff Lambert, Seth Iniguez, and Terry Shockey.

The convention management seems to be progressing toward a more normal event. The website still seems to be somewhat problematic for registration for game masters and gamers. But it is better than in the past. Attendance seemed to be higher this year overall. Unfortunately, there were still few historical miniatures games being presented.

A special thanks goes to Troy Greeley, from Gamer's Haven in Colorado Springs, for overseeing the miniatures room at the con. His tireless help in securing tables and assuring that we were accommodated was of great help.

Below are pictures taken at the con of CMH members.





OUR NEWEST MEMBER SETH INIGUEZ!



Our newest member to join CMH is Seth Iniguez. Joel Tompkins is the club member that introduced Seth to our group. At present he is focusing on ancients and HOTTs gaming. Seth took part in the BBDDBA tournament at GenghisCon this year. Welcome to Seth!



STRATEGIC BOMBING IN THE GREAT WAR, Part 2

By Jeff Lambert

More Gotha raids took place in June, and one raid on London resulted in the death of 18 children when their school was hit. Despite the Gothas joining the ranks of Zeppelin "Baby-Killers", the raid was successful enough for the Gotha commander, Ernst Brandenburg, to be awarded the Blue Max. He was injured in a crash returning from the ceremony in Berlin, however, and was out of action for the rest of the war.

More daylight Gotha raids took place through the summer of 1917, for which the British public was unprepared. Civilian casualties had an emphatic impact. Not only were there losses from the German bombers, but anti-aircraft shells had to land somewhere and this "friendly fire" also caused death and injury. The raids had their desired effect on British morale. Riots broke out and mobs attacked their immigrant neighbors with Germansounding names. Even the King announced that henceforth the surname of the Royal Family would be Windsor, not Saxe-Coburg-Gotha as before. Committees were established, led by the former Boer leader Jan Smuts, to address the pitiful state of air defenses, and the result was that a large number of squadrons were kept from the Western Front to defend the British homeland. But bad weather and improved British defenses forced the Gothas to turn to night bombing in the fall of 1917.

September saw several night raids, which now included the Riesenflugzeug, or Giants such as the Zeppelin Staaken. Huge aeroplanes with multiple engines and increased bombloads and numerous defenses, they had only a minor impact, with most of the damage done by Gothas. Most of the losses were Gothas as well, and a British raid on the bases in Belgium forced them to move even further from England.

Losses resulted from the challenges of night flying. Also, the Gotha was unstable when not laden with bombs and fuel. Crashes upon landing were a common occurrence, and navigation errors combined with improving British night-fighting techniques made the raids less and less effective. One raid resulted in the loss of all but one Gotha in an entire squadron when they attempted to land in a fog, after missing their target due to high winds. Nevertheless, raids continued on into 1918.

Other problems hampered the effectiveness of the Gothas. Due to the anticipated entry of America into the war, production of engines and airframes was directed toward fighter and light bomber production, with the larger "G" and "R" types given a lower priority. Also, the demands for air support from the army on the Western Front led to Gothas being used in France against more hardened targets than found in the British Isles, with higher loss rates.

Despite the Germans dropping only 300 tons of bombs on England through the whole war, the British government was eventually forced to respond to the Gotha threat. As part of recommendations of the inquiry led by General Smuts, the formation of the Royal Air Force was made on April 1, 1918, by combining the RFC and the RNAS. An Independent Bombing force was created under Hugh Trenchard, and Prime Minister David Lloyd George promised that the German raids would be "repaid with compound interest". Trenchard ordered the development of a "bloody paralyzer of an aeroplane", and the Handley-Page O series was born.

Gothas, Giants, and Zeppelins continued to raid England until the Gothas were reassigned to targets in France and Belgium for the Kiaserschlacht Offensive in the spring of 1918. The last raid by Gothas was also the biggest, when 38 Gothas and 3 Giants attacked on

May 19, 1918. Six Gothas were shot down by the RAF, and a seventh was forced to land. The last Zeppelin raid was August 5, 1918, resulting in the loss of Zeppelin L70 shot down in flames with Fuhrer der Luftschiffe Peter Strasser, the chief of the naval Zeppelin service, aboard. One final raid, involving the use of a new incendiary bomb, was planned but never carried out, perhaps because of a fear of British reprisals.

By 1918, The Independent Bombing force under Trenchard, using DeHavilland DH9 and Handley-Page bombers switched from one- or two-plane raids against Zeppelin sheds and U-boat pens, and carried out a vigorous bombing campaign against industrial targets deep in German territory, often with up to 40 planes. Plans were made for an international force including the latest design from Handley-Page, capable of reaching Berlin with a 7,500 pound bomb-load, but the war ended before it could be put in action. Still, by war's end, the British had dropped 660 tons of "compound interest" on Germany, more than twice what they had received.

The experience of strategic bombing had a dynamic effect on the planning for war between the World Wars. The capitals of every major combatant except for Rome and Washington DC had been targeted (Berlin was only leafleted, by the French, whose leaflets declared "Paris does not make war on women and children"). Hugh Trenchard, Arthur Harris, Billy Mitchell, and the leaders of many other nations' air services learned from experience that despite elaborate improvements in communication and defense networks, "the bomber will always get through", and planned accordingly. The Germans, too, applied the lessons learned from their experience in the Great War when they planned and carried out the bombing features of Blitzkrieg, first in Spain, then Poland, and then the "London Blitz". The strategic bombing campaigns of the First World War were the instruction and the inspiration behind the campaigns carried out in the Second World War and beyond, led by "Bomber" Harris and Curtis Lemay. The destruction and terror brought by Germany to the British homeland was only a foreshadow of the horrors to come.

Recommended reading:

Osprey Campaign book #227: London 1917-1918 The Bomber Blitz, by Ian Castle
Osprey Aviation: Allied Aviation of World War I and German and Austrian Aviation of World War I, both by Hugh W. Cowin



Gaming cons for 2017

Date	Name	Origination	Location
March 10-11	Twistercon	TC	Oklahoma City,OK
March 16-19	Cold Wars	HMGS	Lancaster.PA
March 23-26th	Adepticon	AC	Chicago, IL
April 2017	Conclave of Gamers	CG	Denver,Co
April 13-16th	Star Wars Experience	LF	Orlando,FL
April 22th	Salute	South London Warlords	London,UK
April 28-30th	Little Wars	HMGS Midwest	Chicago, IL
April 29th	International Tabletop game Day	Local Game stores	Local Game stores
May 4-7th	Recon	HMGS South	Kissimmee, FL
May 5-7th	Borderwars	HMGS HA	Overland park,KS
May 17-18th	Warhammer fest	GWS	Notteningham , UK
May 19-21st	Huzzah!	NEWG	South Portland, Maine
May 26-28th	Warlord Game con	Warlord	Midwest City, OK
May 26-28th	Williamsburg Muster	HRG	Williamsburg, VA
May 26-28th	Enfilade 2017	HMGSNWS	Olympia, WA

June 2-4	Nashcon	HMGS Midsouth	Nashville, TN
June 14 –18	Origins 2017	Gama	Columbus,OH
June 17th	Free RPG Day	Local Game stores	Local Game stores
June 30th-July 2nd	CO Comic Con	CIC	Denver,CO
July 12-16th	Historicon	HMGS	Fredricksberg,V A
July 14-16	Kancon	???	Overland park,KS
July 19-23rd	San diego Comic con	SCC	San Diego, CA
July 22-30th	World Board game championships	BPA	Seven Springs Resort PA
Aug 11-12th	Maneuvercon	TC	Tulsa,OK
August 17 - 20, 2017	Gencon 50	WOC	Columbus, OH
Sept 2017	Recruits	OSG	Lee's Summit , MO
Sept 2017	Fields of Honor		Des Moines, IA
Sept 28- Oct 1st	Hurricon	HMGS South	Kissimmeel. FL
Oct 2017	Southern Front	TSS	Raleigh,NC
OCT 2017 or Sept	Tacticon	DGA?	Co Springs, Co
Oct 2017	B-con	B-con	Denver,Co
Cancelled	Colonial Barricks	SGt 3	New Orleans,LA

Nov 2017	Midwest Gamefest	??/	Kansas city, KS
Nov 2017	Command Con	Bigmuddy	St. Louis, MO
NOV 2-5th	Fallin	HMGS	Lancaster,PA
Nov 15-19th	Board game geek con	BGG	Dallas,TX

CSGA-CMH HOTTs TOURNAMENT NOTICE

March 25 2017 In Colorado Springs

CSGA GAME DAY 25-Mar-17

Sponsored By:

AS OF:

2-Mar-17

1. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM				Game Description:
Game Master	1	Brian C.	7	
Brian Cummings	2	Doug R.	8	
Period / Rule Set	3	Dick F.	9	
Ancient / Medieval / Fantasy	4		10	
HoTT Rules	5		11	
Name of Game	6		12	
HoTT Tournament				

***HOTT TOURNAMENT SPONSORED
BY BRIAN CUMMINGS BETWEEN
CSGA & DENVER'S CMH.***

CMH Officer Meeting Friday March 3

Officers Present:

- Natale Forte - President
- Jim Rairdon – Vice President
- Terry Shockey – Secretary
- Larry Irons - Treasurer
- Doug Wildfong – Historian

Agenda Discussed:

- **Swag Dice-** Chessex Dice order received. Members whom have paid their dues will receive 4 dice. Officers approved through motion for sale of additional dice for a dollar a dice or 6 dice for 5 dollars. The color of black on red was approved at a previous meeting as well as the order for them.
- **New Members Paperwork** - as discussed by the officers, new members need to write up their new member paperwork form as found on the CMH Yahooi file section. Larry mentioned that this gives us the new member information such as his email and other interests and is required for all new members. Terry will distribute form to new members at next meeting to fill out if they have not.
- **Recruitment Efforts** - Officers discussed current efforts, like distribution of a brochure (Jim and Terry's idea) to various locales, hobby stores, and libraries. Brochures were passed out at Genghis Con by members attending there. Vice President Jim, mentioned that we need more brochures printed and distributed. Some of these locations are Enchanted Grounds, and at Total Escape Games. We also discussed the electronic formats that our club is using in order to draw more members, like the Facebook Group page, Meet-up, and new website as well as our Yahoo group page. Officers unanimously agreed to continue with the same efforts and the same electronic social media. The efforts are panning out with at least four new members joining
- **West Wars expenses** - Officers discussed the budget for the upcoming West Wars. No motion passed yet , but decisions made by verbal agreement to contain expenses to what was done in the past since at time of meeting we did not have exact cost of previous events.
- **Revenues/Financials** - Treasurer Larry provided the Officers with current financial status of the Club. Still pending is the second half of the lease for the Baker Center which our treasurer will be paying soon. Treasure Revenues are down, and this will

put us still in danger of having only one more year at Baker, after which we will not be able to continue operating there on a monthly basis with current revenue projections. Secretary Terry offered up a revenue idea, some members (nameless at this time) will offer up matching funds for donations given to the club. In the process of this discussion we the officers wondered how difficult it would be to change our club status to a true non-profit for tax purposes (currently members or anyone from the public who donates cannot claim this donation on their taxes because we are not a non profit in filing our taxes). Historian Doug wondered if the Officers could self educate and figure out the proper way to change our status and discuss this at a future meeting.

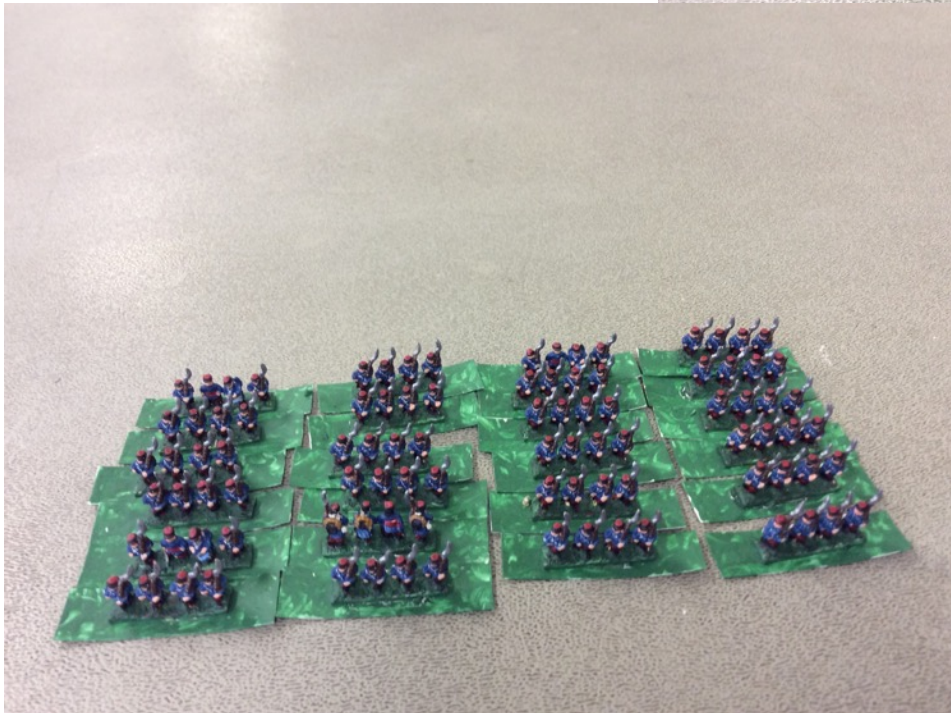
- **New Venue for next year-** In light of stated revenues and financials, the Officers are asking for ideas about what to do for next year with regards to a different or additional venue location. Discussions are ongoing, and no decision as yet have been made. Most of the locations discussed have been tried in the past with not much success for various reasons (National Guard armories, Libraries, Rotary clubs or Lions clubs, Aviation Museum...etc). The officers will still try to figure out something and discuss at next meeting.
- **FNF and additional Locations to Game -** Shep's games (former Attactix) is open on Friday's till 10 PM. Nate will discuss having a future FNF there with the owner, stay tuned for posting of a FNF game there. Hobby Town Colpar in Aurora is a great venue to play , but its only available to game on Saturday Nights. Still we should post a game demo there. Look for a posting on our various Social medias and via CMH Yahoo email. Officers are in agreement about finding more locations to game to showcase our club to folks out there who may not know about us.
- **CSGA Game Day and HOTTS tournament -** Secretary Terry asked President Nate to send him the schedule that CSGA President Andy sent so it could be posted on the newsletter. Pres. Nate will also send the Game day information to all the members via the Yahoo email. Pres. Nate asked Andy from CSGA if any CMH members are ok to host a game there besides attending their event. His response as discussed with the CMH officers is that CSGA club is open to anyone from CMH who would like to host a game there.
- **Bylaws need updating -** Secretary Terry mentioned that we need to do something about updating our bylaws. There is a current bylaw that states that no officer can hold office for more than two terms. This has been disregarded in the past as some former Officers can attest. Therefore President Nate will offer a motion at the next club meeting , to amend the CMH charter and begin the process to change the bylaw about term limit for officers.

Meeting was adjourned by President Nate.

UNIT OF THE MONTH (Not Sponsored)

Member Name	Scale	Manufacturer	Era	Unit
Eric Elder	15mm	Old Glory	18th Century	1745 Jacobites
Jeff Lambert	15mm	Battlefront	WWII	HG Division Heavy Weapon Platoon
Jeff Lambert	25mm	Scratch Built	Various	Poppy Field
David Newport	15mm	Battlefront	WWI	British Tanks
Terry Shockey	6mm	Baccus	FPW	Republican French Infantry
Greg Skelly	28mm	Company B, Brigade Miniatures, & Warlords	WWII	Japanese Company







GAME OF THE MONTH

Total Escape Games Sponsor



Member Name	Scale	Era	Rules	Description
John Brown	15mm	Ancients	BBDBA	Multiple Games
Jeff Lambert	1/144	WWI	Canvas Eagles	"Carrier Pigeons" 1st Gotha Raid May 1917
John Mumby	10mm	1866 Austro-Prussian War	Real Time Wargames	Battle of Trautenau
Doug Wildfong & Jeff Hunt*	10mm	Mechwars	Mech War Dark Age	"Looters Must Be Stopped"

*Denotes this month's winner

Each month CMH members host games at the monthly meeting. This award is for the effort put out by the host.







CMH March Scheduled Events

This table shows what events are scheduled for CMH. Next months Friday Night Fights (FNF) and the monthly meeting (MM) are listed. It is recommended to schedule your game for future meetings and will appear on this page.

Date	Meeting	Location	Start Time
March	FNF	TBD	7PM
March 10	FNF	TBD	7PM
March 12	MM@#	Baker Rec Center	12PM
March 17	FNF	TBD	7PM
March 24	FNF	TBD	7PM
March 31	FNF	TBD	7PM

TEG - Total Escape Games
6831 W. 120th Ave.
Suite C

Broomfield CO 80020 www.totalescapegames.com

FNF (TBD) may or may not occur due to a lack of a scheduled host/location.

Colorado Military Historians, Inc.

Colorado military Historians (CMH) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote historical wargaming and the study of military history. Founded in 1965, CMH meets monthly on the second Sunday of the month, except in May when it is deferred to the third Sunday. The meeting starts at noon at the Baker Recreational Center, 6751 Irving Street (just a few blocks west of Federal Blvd), Denver CO. The club also hosts gaming at least one Friday night a month, called "Friday Night Fights" (FNF) at 7 PM. FNF will be held at several various locations. See previous schedule or view the website for latest information.

CMH maintains ties with numbers local, regional and national groups to help promote the hobby. CMH is governed by member-elected officers who serve on the Board of Directors (executive board). Terms are one year, with elections held at the May meeting. New members are accepted after attending three CMH functions and a vote of the membership. Dues are \$40.00 per year, payable in January. Members wishing to receive a snail-mail newsletter subscription must pay an additional fee of \$15.00 per year. Authors retain ownership of articles and graphics published. CMH reserves the right to edit or reject submissions to the newsletter.

One year Adult Membership: \$40.00

Half year Adult Membership: \$25.00

(For NEW members who join after June 30)

Family Membership: \$40.00 (one Adult and any number of offspring)

Student Membership: \$20.00 (16 to 22 years old)



CMH Newsletter

The CMH Newsletter is a monthly newsletter published by the Colorado military Historians. Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of all CMH members.

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