



# Colorado Military Historians

Newsletter

XLVI, No. 1

January 2020

Twenty Years Ago



*Arma Virumque Cano*

**Colorado Military Historians**

*January 2000*

**Colorado Military**

*Club Newsletter*


**Volume XXVI, Issue No. 1**

 **West Wars 2000** Presented by the

**Colorado Military Historians**

**JANUARY 7, 8, 9 2000**  
(FRIDAY NIGHT THOUGH SUNDAY)  
GAMING BEGINS FRIDAY NIGHT AT 7:00PM

**LOCATION:**  
Baker Community Center  
6751 Irving Street  
Denver, Colorado



**WARGAMING  
CONVENTION**

## News and Views

*Message from CMH Secretary  
Eric Elder*

Our December monthly meeting was a busy one. John Brown was running a large playtest of the D3H2 rules. Great participation in this playtest.

Hexacon Convention is coming up in January (17-20). You will see a bunch of us running boardgames and miniature games.

Below is a look back at postings from the Secretary (Tony Fryer) and President (Jeff Lambert) in the January 2000 newsletter. Like Tony said twenty years ago, I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Years.

### **Of Men and Arms I Speak...**

*by Tony Fryer*

Hello everyone! You are all invited to West Wars...bring a freind and expand our club! I am bringing a friend!

Friday night officially kicks off at 7:00pm, and Saturday and Sunday kick off at 10:00am...that's when gaming starts...as Jeff says in his column, we'll open up earlier, so plan to be there early enough to set-up for the game you are running.

Friday night, Saturday morning and Sunday there is a limited amount of space available for some open gaming, see me to be sure you aren't running where a scheduled game is being played.

I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas, and New Year! See you very soon!

*Tony*

### **President's Report**

*by Jeff Lambert*

Welcome To WestWars 2000! The events schedule is filled up with all sorts of interesting and fun stuff, so come on and join the festivities. Last month we had a wild Wild West scenario run by our illustrious secretary Tony Fryer.

John Mumby and Terry Shockey hosted an AK47 Republic scenario, and Ray, BinHan, Reto, and a few others took the skies over Britain and the Pacific with Knight's Cross.

The New Year is here, and that means DUES are DUE. Why not take care of that while your wallet is already open at WestWars? Our stalwart treasurer Dave Minor will be happy to oblige, I'm sure. DON'T FORGET-- the games for the weekend start at 10 o'clock in the morning both Saturday and Sunday. We'll have the hall open early for socializing and setting up. See you there!

# December

## Unit of the Month

Temporarily no sponsor

Each month, at the monthly meeting, CMH members bring their latest painted figures and models to the meeting to display their latest efforts.

CMH Member	Scale	Manufacturer	Era	Unit
Terry Shockey	10mm	Pendracken	RTW	Russian Art., Cav., Inf
Doug Marston	25mm	Grenadier	Fantasy	Orc Gen. Chariot
Eric Elder	28mm	Casting Room	18 <sup>th</sup> C.	Civilian Mob
<b>SCOTT HOLDER</b>	15mm	Mix	Medieval	Hussites-hybrid DBA
Larry Irons	15mm	Essex	Ancient	Alexandrian Macedonian





## D3H2 a “Keeper”

*Playtest Report from CMH Member  
John Brown*

As advertised in previous newsletters, CMH hosted a play testing session for *D3H2* at its regular monthly meeting on 8 December. *D3H2* is a hybridization of the widely popular *De Bellis Antiquitatis* 3.0 (DBA) and *Hordes of the Things* 2.0 (HOTT) gaming systems that have brought us so much pleasure over the years. Twelve DBx enthusiasts, eight from CMH and four from CSGA, participated. The play testing took the form of a two-round tournament with 72 AP armies on each side, followed by discussion and a brief survey.



The tournament format brought out a spectacular array of armies. Most visible, near the door and with massive 28mm figures, were Doug Raines’ Minions of Sauron facing Doug Mudd’s Imperial Dwarves. In 15mm we had ten armies: Jim Rairdon’s Elegant Elves, James Pirc’s Shuffling Undead, Joel Tompkin’s Raging Lizardmen, Larry Iron’s Dragon-led Medievals, Terry Shockey’s OrcLand Raiders, Richard Kasten’s Malazan Dino-Knights, Brent Sustaita’s Greek Mythological Mix, Art Hayes Fantasy-Reinforced Late Imperial Romans, Pat Harvey’s Plussed Up Parliamentarians and John Brown’s Shamaness Synchronized Sauro-Men. The colorful collisions were breath-taking. When the dust settled the Sauro-Men, Romans and Greeks had the best results, but all involved got their licks in. Doug Raine’s Oliphants were judged the most photogenic, Richard Kasten’s Triceratops the most unlucky, and Brent Sustaita’s Heroes the most lethal.

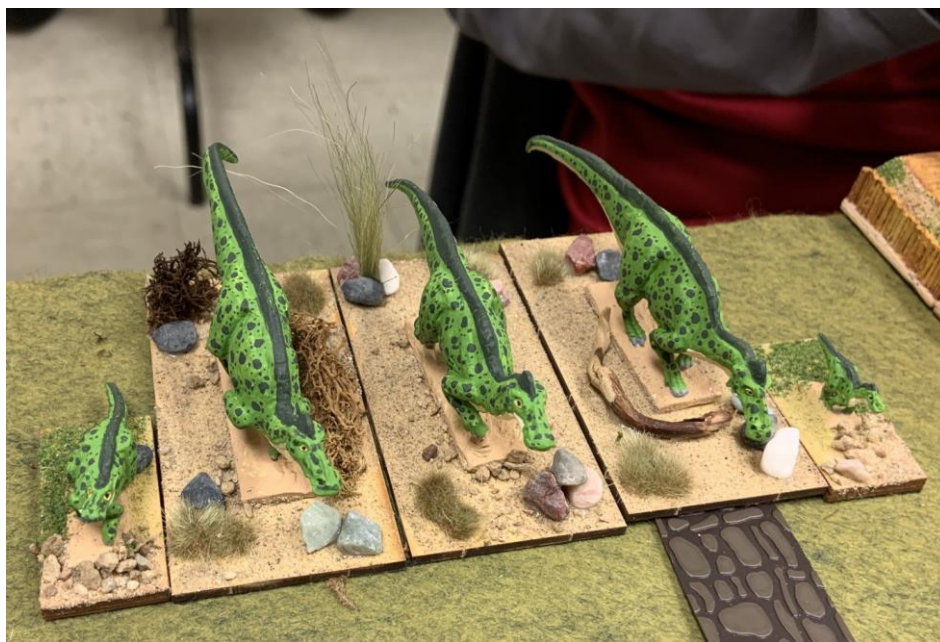


After the session play testers filled out a brief survey. The focus was on changes in *D3H2* from both DBA and HOTT. For a copy of the rules and these changes, ask John at [jsandmbbrown@msn.com](mailto:jsandmbbrown@msn.com). The survey questions are below. Questions 1 through 6 asked for a rating of 1 (worst “NO”) through 10 (best “YES”).

The average result appears in red beside the question.

1. Does the richer variety of units and capabilities improve on DBA? 7.6
2. Does the more precise definition of units improve on HOTT? 8.2
3. Does the refined point system improve on both DBA and HOTT? 7.3
4. Is terrain generation, with uncertainty, more satisfying than HOTT? 8.3
5. Are the playing mechanics an improvement over HOTT? Specifically:
  - a. Base width measurement? 9.3
  - b. PIP priorities? 6.4
  - c. Subsequent moves? 7.4
  - d. Shooting arcs and priorities? 7.9
  - e. X-Ray TZs? 5.6
  - f. Other differences players notice? No score
6. Are the conditions for victory more satisfactory than in HOTT? 6.7

In our view, a score of 8 through 10 indicated enthusiastic support, 6 through 8 robust support, and scores near or lower than 6 ambivalence. As you can see, most of the changes drew robust or enthusiastic support. Only X-Ray TZs and PIP priorities seem to bear further discussion.



Question 7 asked players if there were other comparisons players would like to make. One looked forward to an opportunity to compare D3H2 with the fantasy version of L'Art de la Guerre when it comes out. Another expressed a preference for smaller 24 AP games over the 72 AP used in the tournament, and a third applauded D3H2 but noted it was no longer as simple as earlier DBx games.

Question 8 asked if there were other types of units players would like to see added to those already in D3H2. Strong support emerged for ballistic behemoths and ents. A ballistic behemoth, for example a dinosaur or mammoth with a catapult on its back, would move and fight in close combat as a behemoth, but could fire at a distance like artillery. Ents would be particularly formidable in the woods but less capable elsewhere. With further discussion we can refine these troop types. Individual suggestions also appeared for psiloi and cavalry that shoot, impetuous troops, and dragons that can engage at a distance with fire.



Question 9 asked if there were additional rules players would like to propose. Many believe D3H2 allows too many troop types to be designated as “fast”. DBA 3.0 only allows that designation for limited numbers of foot (cavalry is fast enough already), and play testers preferred that earlier restraint. Proposals also appeared for extending the command radius of aerals, allowing column to line movements like in ADLG and DBMM2, and for standardized army lists with home terrain and aggression factors.

A final question asked if players wanted to try D3H2 again. The answer was a unanimous “YES”. Our next steps are to engage the several CMH and CSGA DBx enthusiasts who couldn’t make it to this play testing session, generally discuss the tweaks and additions play testers have proposed, come up with some interim adjustments, and host another general play testing session when we have digested all of this. Work needs to be done, but D3H2 is a “keeper”!



# December

## Game of the Month

Sponsored by Total Escape Games

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

CMH Member	Scale	Rules	Description
John Mumby	10mm	Twilight of Revolution	Maipo 1818, Libertaion of Chile
<b>GREG SKELLY</b>	-	Fire & Axe Viking Saga	Viking boardgame
John Brown	15mm	D3H2	Playtest of rules
Tim Parker	15mm	FOW	Palermo – Sicily Campaign
Craig Johnson	-	Soldier King	7YW boardgame from 1976

Winner in **RED**

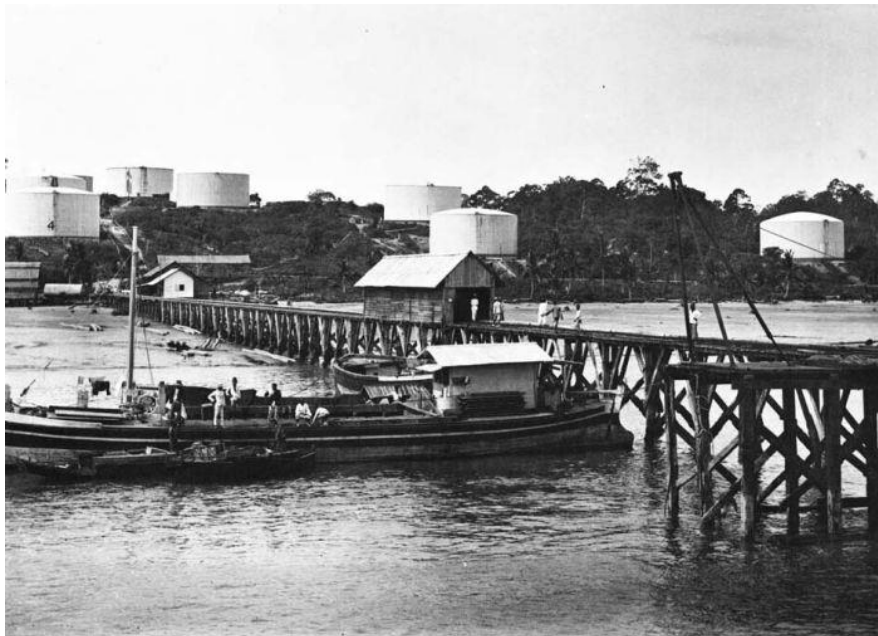


# Historic Location of the Month

## *Amal Beach, Tarakan Island, Indonesia*



January 11, 1942 Japanese troops invaded the island, landing on Amal Beach. The Dutch garrison surrendered the next day. The island would be liberated by Australians in May 1945.



Oil storage tanks and a pier at Tarakan photographed between 1905 and 1914 [Wikipedia]



## December Meeting Photos



# 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 the meeting is deferred to the third Sunday. The meeting starts at noon at the Baker Recreation Center, 6751 Irving Street (just a few blocks west of Federal Blvd), Denver, Colorado. The club also hosts gaming at least one Friday night a month, called "Friday Night Fights" (FNF) at 7:00 p.m. Friday meetings will be held at a future determined location. See website for latest information.



CMH maintains ties with numerous local, regional and national groups to help promote the hobby. CMH is governed by member-elected officers serving on the Board of Directors (executive board). Terms of office 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 \$50.00 per year, payable in January. Members wishing to receive a snail-mailed 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: \$50.00

Half year Adult Membership: \$25.00

(For NEW members who join after June 30)

Family Membership: \$50.00 (one Adult and any number of offspring)

Student Membership: \$25.00 (16 to 22 years old)

Children: free (younger than 16 accompanied by member)

## Club Links:

Web Site: <https://cmhweb.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/cmhgamers/>

Groups.io Group: <https://groups.io/g/cmhweb>

Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Colorado-Military-Historians-Meetup/>

## 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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