

EPGS Heroics

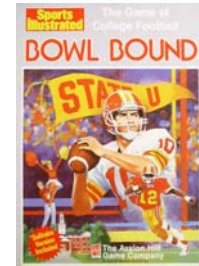
Newsletter of The Eastern
Pennsylvania Gaming Society

December 2004

Come to the EPGs meeting this SUNDAY, December 19th, in the Community Room of the Oxford Valley Mall. The meeting was changed to Sunday because the Mall needs the room for another function. Game from 10:00 AM – 11:00 PM during the Mall's extended holiday hours. (The rest of the year we close at 9:30 PM.)



And, because of the New Years holiday, the January 2005 meetings have been pushed back to the second and fourth Saturdays, January 8th and 22nd, respectively. On January 1st you should stay home watching college football bowl games and playing *Bowl Bound*, the long out of print game by Sports Illustrated and later Avalon Hill.



EPGS ordinarily meets the first and third Saturdays of each month, subject to holidays and the needs of the Mall. Note that the Mall can change our schedule at the last minute, so keep your email contact information up-to-date! We expect to return to the usual schedule in February.

News

Congratulations to *Wabbit's Weveng*, a team of EPGs members who were pacesetters at the Euro Quest team championship. Eric Freeman contributed to the team's victory by doing well in the Wild Card event, while Barb Flaxington and Chris Moffa contributed by finishing second and fourth in *Puerto Rico*, respectively.



The Reluctant Editor's Column

I'm going to refer to myself as the "Reluctant Editor" since it is not the position I originally volunteered for. Someone else was interested in the office I preferred, whereas no one else was willing to be *Heroics* editor, so here I am! Besides, EPGs has a tradition of having its officers attach adjectives to their positions; if we can have a "Totalitarian Treasurer", surely we can also have a "Reluctant Editor".

If you're reading this it means we've successfully figured out how to distribute *Heroics* through Yahoo. First I had to create a Yahoo account. Then I had to add email to the account. (If you need to contact me please send email to my fhc2@hotmail.com address, though.) Then I had to sign my new Yahoo account up at epgs_announce@yahoogroups.com. Finally, former editor Dave Bohnenberger had to give my new account group moderator privileges. If you receive this, it all works!

As most of you can see, I am distributing this as a .pdf Acrobat file attachment in addition to plaintext. This should be good for publicity since the game stores of our Quartermaster Corps have agreed to post *Heroics* on their bulletin boards; this gives them something nicer to post. If any of you can't receive the .pdf attachment let me know; otherwise I'll stop sending the plaintext version in a couple of issues.

To add a bit of color to *Heroics* I had to borrow and learn how to use a digital camera. All photos in this issue were taken by me of games that I own.

Dave emailed me his Access database of games played. Surprisingly my Hotmail account wouldn't accept it because ".mdb files are potentially unsafe". The Hotmail people ought to know, since they're the same people who make Access. Fortunately my Yahoo account didn't balk at the .mdb attachment.



I haven't yet figured out how to use Access to update Dave's games played database. For this issue I just typed the games played into a Word table. When I learn how to use Access I hope to figure out how to express the one-to-many relationship between games and their publishers, since many games have been printed by multiple publishers. If I do, we may have to ban play of *Cosmic Encounters* for its excessive number of publishers, (Eon, West End, Games Workshop, Mayfair and Hasbro Avalon).

Another database design decision is how to treat variants and combinations of variants. Does *Settlers* with both *Seafarers* and *Cities & Knights* variants deserve a fourth listing in addition to basic *Settlers*, *Settlers* with *Seafarers*, and *Settlers* with *Cities & Knights*? *Carcassone* is a similar problematic system. Now I lean toward not giving separate listings to expansion kits, though stand alone variants like *Die Siedler von Nürnberg* will get their own listing.

This brings up the subject of maintaining the games played database. I only attend EPGS about once every two months, so I usually can't record what is being played. When recruited to be *Heroics* editor it was with the understanding that my attendance wouldn't permit me to do this regularly; better, after all, to have a reluctant editor with bad attendance than no editor at all. Hence I need volunteers to help record the games. I figure people can take shifts of about four hours keeping records. Please let me know if you can help out with this. (Records of the December 4th meeting are thanks to Alex Bove and Steve Cameron, by the way.) To facilitate this I am no longer going to keep track of how many times a game is played during one meeting, as it would be too easy for two of my assistants to record the same play of a game without realizing the other had already done so.

I updated the game stores in our Quartermaster Corps section (last page), mostly updating their hours of operation. I even spelled "Compleat Strategist" correctly. Or perhaps I should I say "incorrectly". Errr... Uhhh... Let's just say I now spell/misspell it the way the store itself spells/misspells it. ☺

And, I have added a new store to the Corps: Alternate Universes! They have been in business about one year, mainly dealing in collectable card games. Recently, however, they have added a section of board games and scheduled a board game night every Monday.

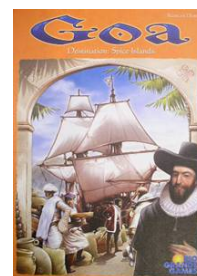
Finally, I was originally planning to distribute this newsletter as a Word document, but with the pictures it was too big. Since Acrobat files are smaller, I learned how to save this as a .pdf Acrobat file. For once learning how to do something to produce this newsletter was easy to do.

Now that I've got these tricks worked out, hopefully subsequent issues will be a lot easier to create!

The Games We Played

Although your new editor is no longer keeping track of how many times each game is played, he did notice four games of *Memoir '44* being played at the November 20th meeting, (two involving himself), and three games of *Goa*. I only saw *Puerto Rico* being played twice.

And speaking of *Memoir '44*, it has four more scenarios posted at http://www.m44platoon.com/images/stories/68/Bonus%20Scenario%20Juno_gold+.pdf



NEW	GAME	PUBLISHER	NOV. 20	DEC. 4
	<i>6 Nimmt / Category 5</i>	Amigo / US Games Systems / Pando		*
	<i>Age of Mythology</i>	Eagle	*	
	<i>Age of Steam</i>	Winsome / Warfrog	*	
	<i>Alhambra</i>	Queen / Überplay	*	
	<i>Anno 1503</i>	Kosmos / Mayfair	*	
G	<i>Austin Poker</i>	Hangman		*
	<i>Axis & Allies: Pacific</i>	Hasbro Avalon	*	
	<i>Barbarossa to Berlin</i>	GMT		*
	<i>Betrayal at House on the Hill</i>	Hasbro Avalon	*	
	<i>Blokus</i>	Educational Insights	*	*
G	<i>Buy Word</i>	Face 2 Face	*	
G	<i>Carat / Die Garten der Alhambra</i>	Queen / Überplay		*
	<i>Carcassone</i>	Hans Im Gluck / Rio Grande	*	
G	<i>Carcassone, The Count of</i>	Hans Im Gluck / Rio Grande		*
G	<i>Carcassone: The City</i>	Hans Im Gluck / Rio Grande		*
GP	<i>Categories</i>	Pando	*	
G	<i>Combat Soldiers</i>	Lost Battalion		*
	<i>Cosmic Encounter</i>	Eon / Mayfair / Hasbro Avalon /etc.	*	
G	<i>Duel Masters</i>	Wizards of the Coast	*	
	<i>El Grande</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande		*
G	<i>En Garde</i>	Abacus	*	
	<i>Fabrik der Träume</i>	Hasbro Germany	*	
	<i>Fist of Dragonstones</i>	Days of Wonder	*	
G	<i>For Whom the Bell Tolls</i>	Games Research/Design		*
	<i>Goa</i>	Hans Im Gluck / Rio Grande	*	*
G	<i>HeroScape</i>	Hasbro	*	*
	<i>Keythedral</i>	Pro Ludo / Café Games		*
GP	<i>Leapfrog</i>	Fragor	*	
	<i>Light Speed</i>	Cheapass	*	
GP	<i>Lost Valley</i>	Kronberger	*	
	<i>Mamma Mia!</i>	Abacus / Rio Grande	*	
	<i>Mare Nostrum</i>	Eurogames Descartes		*
	<i>Medici</i>	Amigo / Rio Grande	*	
	<i>Memoir '44</i>	Days of Wonder	*	*
	<i>Modern Art</i>	Hans im Gluck / Mayfair		*
	<i>Money!</i>	Goldsieber / Rio Grande	*	
GP	<i>Oltremare: Merchants of Venice</i>	Mind the Move	*	
G	<i>Pirate's Cove</i>	Days of Wonder		*
	<i>Power Grid</i>	2F Spiele / Rio Grande	*	
	<i>Princes of Florence</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	*	
	<i>Princes of the Renaissance</i>	Warfrog	*	
	<i>Puerto Rico</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	*	*
	<i>Ra</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	*	*
G	<i>Railroad Dice: Deutschland</i>	Wassertal	*	
	<i>Ricochet Robot</i>	Hans Im Gluck / Rio Grande	*	*
G	<i>Royal Turf</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	*	
GP	<i>Rush Hour</i>	Binary Arts	*	
	<i>Russian Campaign</i>	Jedko / Avalon Hill / L2 Design	*	
G	<i>Russian Rails</i>	Mayfair	*	
	<i>Samurai</i>	Hans Im Gluck / Rio Grande	*	*
	<i>San Juan</i>	Alea / Rio Grande		*
	<i>Scrabble</i>	Selchow & Richter / Hasbro / MB		*
G	<i>Siedler von Nürnberg, Die</i>	Kosmos		*
	<i>St. Petersburg</i>	Hans im Gluck / Rio Grande		*
	<i>Sword of Rome</i>	GMT	*	
	<i>Ticket to Ride</i>	Days of Wonder	*	*
	<i>Traders of Genoa</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	*	
	<i>Traumfabrik / Fabrik der Träume</i>	Hasbro Germany		*
G	<i>War of the Ring</i>	Fantasy Flight		*
GP	<i>Warehouses of Leipzig (Playtest)</i>	Café Games	*	
	<i>Wilderness War</i>	GMT	*	*
G	<i>Wings of War</i>	Fantasy Flight		*
GP	<i>Winter War, A</i>	Games Research/Design	*	
GP	<i>Ys</i>	Ystari		*
25/8	TOTAL	-----	42	30

G = New Game

GP = New Game and Publisher

Military Games are Red

Railroad games are Blue

EPGS Information

Heroics is the official publication of The Eastern Pennsylvania Gaming Society, (EPGS). Contributed articles are always welcome.

To subscribe to *Heroics* send an email to:

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Quartermaster Corps

The following suppliers of gaming merchandise have agreed to post our newsletter or an advertisement for EPGS. To show our support, we list the names of these outlets.

Abington Game & Hobby

1562 Easton Road

Roslyn PA 19001

(215) 657-9550

Sun-M: N-4, T-Th: N-6, F-Sat: 11-8

www.abingtongh.com

Allied Hobbies

243 Oxford Valley Mall

Langhorne PA 19047

(215) 757-8086

<http://www.alliedhobbies.com>

Alternate Universes

2034 Parker Avenue, (at McDade Blvd)

Holmes PA 19043

(610) 583-9960

M-Th: N-10, F: N-M, St: 11-11, Sn: N-8

<http://www.alternateu.com>

The Compleat Strategist

580 Shoemaker Road

King of Prussia PA 19406-4205

(610) 265-8562

M-Th: 11-7, F-Sat: 11-8, Sun: N-5

<http://www.compleatstrategist.com>

Days of Knights

173 East Main Street / P.O. Box 4577

Newark DE 19711

(302) 366-0963

Mon-Sat: 10-7, Sun: Noon-5

www.daysofknights.com

The Gamer's Realm

Princeton Arms Shopping Center

2025 Old Trenton Road

West Windsor NJ 08550

(609) 426-9339 (New Jersey)

(877) 658-8754 (toll free)

-and-

Rt 130 and Church Rd. (Pep Boys Plaza)

Cinnaminson NJ 08077

(856) 829-2900

M-Th: 11-8, F-Sat: 11-9, Sun: N-6

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