

EPGS Heroics

Newsletter of The Eastern
Pennsylvania Gaming Society

July – August 2006

EPGS meets from 10:00 AM to 9:30 PM this Saturday, July 15th, in Oxford Valley Mall's Community Room. Subsequent meetings will be August 5th and 19th, and the first and third Saturdays each month thereafter.

EPGS Election

EPGS elections were held at the June 3rd meeting. The following candidates were all elected unopposed:

President: Steve Cameron
Treasurer: Randy MacInnis
Editor: Frank Cunliffe
Publicity: Keith Layton
Webmaster: Steve Fitchett

EPGS Polo Shirts

The EPGS Polo Shirts are now available in a variety of colors and sizes. Without a pocket they come in Navy, Wine and "Stone" (tan). With a pocket they only come in Royal Blue. Prices are \$15 through XL and \$20 for XXL and XXXL. See Steve Cameron at any meeting or contact him at stevegamer@verizon.net.

Tikal on SpielByWeb – Ongoing Success

By Paul Lipton

The EPGS gamers! The "*Tikal* for Grownups..." series of games that I am creating on a regular basis on www.spielbyweb.com has proven a great success. My name online is "Pickle." Many of the games are open, but there are password only *Tikal* games that need your participation and support. They usually have the keyword (EPGS) in the title as in "*Tikal* for Grownups #xx (EPGS)." The password for these is "Puss" with a capital P. Please join in for friendly *Tikal* games that can really be interesting. I can be contacted at plipton@speakeasy.net if you have any questions.

Historicon

One of the three big annual east coast miniature conventions will be held from July 20 – 23 in Lancaster PA. See <http://www.historicon.org> for more details.

World Boardgame Championships

WBC will also be held at Lancaster this summer from August 1 – 6. Many EPGS members will be there. For more information see <http://www.boardgamers.org>.

If you are interested in playing on an EPGS team, contact Steve Cameron at stevegamer@verizon.net.

May 2006 *What Were You Thinking?* Results

By Steve Fitchett

Rules: The moderator will ask a number of questions. Players will respond via private email to the moderator with five answers to each question.

Scoring: Players score nothing for an answer that no one else gives. For answers that other players also give, players score one point for everyone (including themselves) giving that answer. High score wins.

May Questions and Results



1. Name 5 colored property spaces on a *Monopoly* Board, other than Boardwalk or Park Place. Ann Schrage had a score 17 while Frank Cunliffe had 16. Top answers were Baltic with 5, Marvin Gardens and Mediterranean each had 4.

2. Name 5 spaces on a *Monopoly* Board that would be an "incorrect" answer to the previous question. Judge's note: I can't believe everyone didn't say Boardwalk and Park Place here. David Bohnenberger and Karl Kemmerer each had 17, Frank Cunliffe had 16. The top answer was Reading Railroad with 5 matches. A bunch of answers had 3 matches. [Editor's note: One of my answers was also the title of a game designed by an EPGS member: *Short Lines*.]

3. Name 5 board or card games you can buy at a typical mass-market retail store (Wal-Mart, Target, etc.), other than *Monopoly*. Ann Schrage, Donna Davis, Frank Cunliffe and Karl Kemmerer all scored 11. *Life* was the top answer with 4.



4. Name 5 "Localized", "Branded", or other special versions/editions of *Monopoly*. Donna Davis, Eric Freeman, Karl Kemmerer and Steve Cameron all had a score of 10 but Frank Cunliffe had a 14. Star Wars had 5 and Philadelphia had 4. [Editor's note: One of my answers was *Anti-Monopoly*.]

5. Name 5 boardgames that come in a larger box than *Monopoly* does. Eric Freeman had 10 while Frank Cunliffe had 9. *Battle Cry* and *Twilight Imperium* each topped the scores with 3. *Hey Pa, There's a Goat on the Roof* led Steve Cameron's score of 0 for this question.

6. Name 5 games that you can play with a standard 52-card deck of cards, and no other components. This question had the highest scoring of all the questions. Eric Freeman led the way with a big score of 20. David Bohnenberger and Karl Kemmerer each had 18. *Hearts* had a score of 5. *Poker*, *Spades* and *War* all had 4. [Editors note: *Poker* requires chips. See the article on page 4.]



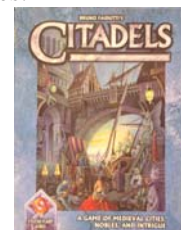
7. Name 5 board or card games designed to be played by children, other than *Candyland*. Ann Schrage, David Bohnenberger and Frank Cunliffe each scored 9. *Snakes and Ladders* AKA *Chutes and Ladders* had a score of 5 while the next best were a bunch with 2.



8. Name 5 boardgames that do not use any dice. Frank Cunliffe scored the most with 11. Both Ann Schrage and Karl Kemmerer had 10. *Puerto Rico* was the big answer with 4 matches. *Caylus*, *Carcassonne*, and *Scrabble* all had three matches.

9. Name 5 boardgames that do not use more than 2 dice. Eric Freeman had a 15 score. Frank Cunliffe had a score of 14. Donna Davis had a score of 13. *Monopoly* had a score of 6. *Settlers of Catan* had 5 matches.

10. Name 5 board or card games that can be played by more than 6 players. What were people thinking here? Only Frank Cunliffe said *What Were You Thinking?* [Editor's note: *What Were You Thinking?* is neither a board nor a card game. But Judge Fitchett says that incorrect answers are acceptable.] Even with no one matching him on that answer he led the way with a score of 8. David Bohnenberger and Eric Freeman each had 6. *Citadels* had 4 matches.



Results

Person	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Total
Frank Cunliffe	16	16	11	14	9	15	9	11	14	8	123
David Bohnenberger	13	17	9	8	6	18	9	7	8	6	101
Karl Kemmerer	13	17	11	10	7	18	2	10	11	2	101
Eric Freeman	5	9	6	10	10	20	7	7	15	6	95
Ann Schrage	17	13	11	9	0	12	9	10	6	2	89
Steve Cameron	15	11	3	10	0	16	6	3	11	4	79
Donna Davis	11	11	11	10	2	9	7	3	13	0	77

Congratulations to Frank Cunliffe!!

[Editor's note: Due to a decline in participation, this will be the last *What Were You Thinking?* contest.]

Inane *Monopoly* Trivia

By Frank Cunliffe

While answering the above *What Were You Thinking* questions I realized that the names of many *Monopoly* spaces are also game titles or parts of game titles:

Go

Mediterranean, Mediterranean Fury, Mediterranean Campaign, Serenissima (Italian for Mediterranean)

Drive to the Baltic

Take a Ride on the Reading!

Orient, Oriente

Fat Chance, Last Chance, Slim Chance

Game of the States, Scrambled States of America

Age of Steam Expansion - 1830s Pennsylvania

New York, New York Chase, Escape from New York

Free Parking

C&O / B&O

Atlantic City Jackpot, Atlantic Star, Atlantic Storm, Atlantic Wall

Water Works

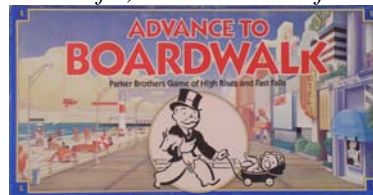
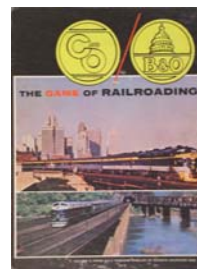
Don't Go To Jail

Pacific Typhoon, Pacific Victory, Pacific War, Union Pacific, Victory in the Pacific, War in the Pacific

Short Lines

Beyond Boardwalk and Park Place

Advance to Boardwalk



Also, while typing *M-o-n-o-p-o-l-y* so many times I noticed that it is typed using just the right hand. At eight letters long it is presumably the longest game title of which this is the case. It is not, however, the longest word typed solely using the right hand, “phylophyllin” being twelve letters long. Even longer are two words that can be typed by just the left hand: “aftercataracts” and “tesseractades”, each containing fourteen letters.

(When typewriters were first invented all the letters t-y-p-e-w-r-i-t-e-r were placed in the same row to make it easy for typewriter salesmen to find those keys to demonstrate typing that word. Other ten letter words that can be typed with just the top row of letters are: “pepperroot”, “pepperwort”, “perpetuity”, “perruquier”, “pewterwort”, “pirouetter”, “proprietor”, “protopteri” and “repertoire”; and “proprietary”, “proterotype” and “rupturewort” are even longer at eleven letters. The longest words typed by the middle row are nine letters long: “flagfalls” and “galagalas”. No words can be typed by the vowelless bottom row.)

Antique Poker Chips

By Frank Cunliffe

Fairmount Park is the largest city park in the world because in the 1800s the city of Philadelphia bought all the land along the Schuylkill and Wissahickon Rivers to combat the pollution being dumped into them. Among other attractions, the park contains seven historic houses, one of which is Sweetbriar Mansion.

Sweetbriar was built overlooking the Schuylkill in 1797 by politician Samuel Breck as a way to escape the congested city that four years earlier had suffered the yellow fever epidemic. Ironically his only child Lucy died of Typhus caught from proximity to the river. Breck was responsible for Pennsylvania's public education system.

Of interest to gamers, a display case there contains some of Breck's Poker Chips. Curiously these come in different shapes instead of the different colors of modern ones. Some things never change, though, as like most 21st century products, they were made in China. Following is a picture of the display along with its text.



Counters

Early 19th century
Mother-of-pearl

Made in China for the American market

A number of these counters bear the initials "SB" for Samuel Breck (1771-1862). Counters such as these were used as chips in popular card games.

Gift of Mrs. C.P. Beauchamp Jefferys. 1966-53-10-33;
Gift of Reverend Charles Breck Ackley and the Misses Ackley, 1939-49-7a-c

EPGS *Paydirt* League Standings

AFC Division

TEAM	COACH	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	WIN %	Games Played	Games Behind	PF	PA	DIV Wins	DIV Losses	DIV Ties	Div %
x-San Diego	Alex	9	4	0	.692	13	0	251	214	6	2	0	.750
y-Pittsburgh	Steve F.	8	5	0	.615	13	0	209	136	6	2	0	.750
Cincinnati	Chris	6	5	0	.545	11	2	247	193	5	3	0	.625
Buffalo	Keith	5	6	1	.417	12	0	187	158	2	6	0	.250
Indianapolis	Dave	2	8	0	.200	10	3	171	250	1	7	0	.125

x = Clinched Division y = Clinched Playoffs

NFC Division

TEAM	COACH	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	WIN %	Games Played	Games Behind	PF	PA	DIV Wins	DIV Losses	DIV Ties	Div %
Philadelphia	Ken	5	1	0	.833	6	7	123	92	2	0	0	1.000
Seattle	Steve C.	7	4	0	.636	11	2	223	195	5	1	0	.833
NY Giants	Jim	3	2	0	.600	5	8	92	70	1	1	0	.500
Carolina	Larry	2	6	1	.222	9	4	102	171	1	5	0	.167
Minnesota	Mike	1	7	0	.125	8	5	111	187	1	3	0	.250

The postseason is scheduled August 19th. First the top two teams in each section will play their division championship, followed by the winners playing in the EPGS Super Bowl.

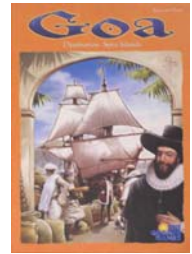
The Games We Played and the Game We Didn't Play

Most notable is that for two straight meetings we did not play *Puerto Rico*!

Newcomer *Nexus Ops* was the most played game over the last four meetings, being played nine times! Tied for second are *Age of Steam*, *Goa* and *Pusher* with five plays, followed by *Ra* with four. Tied for sixth with three plays apiece are *California*, *Geschenkt*, *Power Grid* and *War of the Ring*.

Goa and *Nexus Ops* were played at all four meetings.

Thanks to Alex Bove, Steve Cameron, John Desmond and Ken Pindar for helping compile this information.



NEW	GAME	PUBLISHER	MAY 20	JUN 3	JUN 17	JUL 1
	<i>Advanced Squad Leader</i>	Avalon Hill / Multi-Man			1	
	<i>Age of Steam</i>	Warfrog	2	2		1
G/P	<i>Age of Steam Puerto Rico</i>	Alex Bove			1	
	<i>Amun-Re</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande			1	1
G	<i>Aquädukt</i>	Schmidt	1			
	<i>Axis & Allies</i>	Milton Bradley			1	
	<i>Barbarossa to Berlin</i>	GMT		1		
G	<i>Battle for Rohan</i>	Fantasy Flight			1	
	<i>Battle Line</i>	GMT			2	
	<i>Boomtown</i>	Asmodée / Face 2 Face		1		
G	<i>Buccaneer / Seeräuber</i>	Queen			1	
G	<i>California</i>	Abacus	3			
	<i>Carcassonne</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande		1		
	<i>Category 5 / 6 Nimmt</i>	Amigo / US Games Systems				1
	<i>Caylus</i>	Ystari / Rio Grande	1	1		
	<i>Citadels / Ohne Furcht und Adel</i>	Hans im Glück / Fantasy Flight				1
G/P	<i>Clash for a Continent</i>	Worthington Games	1			
	<i>Command & Colors: Ancients</i>	GMT	1			
G/P	<i>Control Nut</i>	James M. Miller	1			
	<i>Cribbage</i>	?				1
	<i>Diamant</i>	Schmidt				1
	<i>Die Macher</i>	Hans Im Glück		1		
	<i>El Grande</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande		1	1	
G	<i>Extreme Ingenious</i>	Frank Cunliffe	2			
G	<i>Fire in the Sky</i>	Games Journal / Multi-Man	1	1		
	<i>Fortress America</i>	Milton Bradley	1			
	<i>Friedrich</i>	Histogame		1		
G/P	<i>Fussball Taktik 2006</i>	Stein-Thompson			1	
	<i>Geschenkt / No Thanks!</i>	Amigo / Z-Man	2	1		
	<i>Goa</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande	1	1	2	1
	<i>Grand Illusion: The 1914 Campaign in the West</i>	GMT		1	1	
G/P	<i>Harry Potter: Diagon Alley</i>	Mattel	1		1	
	<i>Himalaya</i>	?	1			
G	<i>Igel Ärgern</i>	Doris & Frank				2
	<i>Il Principe</i>	Z-Man	2			
	<i>Illuminati</i>	Steve Jackson	1			
G	<i>Indonesia</i>	Splotter			1	
	<i>Intrige</i>	Amigo	1			
G	<i>Knockabout</i>	Pair-of-Dice Games		1		
G/P	<i>Le Mur Di Pise</i>	Ferti			1	

	<i>Liar's Dice / Call My Bluff / Perudo / etc.</i>	ES Lowe / MB / FX Schmidt / etc.		1			
	<i>Lightning War</i>	Dave Bohnenberger		1			
	<i>Lord of the Rings - The Confrontation</i>	Fantasy Flight				1	
	<i>Martian Rails</i>	Bob Stribula	1				1
	<i>Memoir '44</i>	Days of Wonder	1				
	<i>Munchkin</i>	Steve Jackson					1
G/P	<i>Murder at Maniac Mansion</i>	Donna Davis				1	
G	<i>Mykerinos</i>	Ystari		1			
G	<i>Nexus Ops</i>	Hasbro/Avalon	1	5	2		1
	<i>Palladium</i>	Palladium Books		1			
G/P	<i>Phase 10</i>	Fundex					1
	<i>Pirate's Cove</i>	Days of Wonder					1
G/P	<i>Pizza Box Football</i>	On the Line Game Company	1				
	<i>Poison</i>	Playroom				1	
G/P	<i>Polarity</i>	Ekos / Telemotion / Temple					1
	<i>Power Grid</i>	2F-Spiele / Rio Grande	1	1	1		
	<i>Puerto Rico</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	1	1			
G/P	<i>Pusher</i>	Peri Spiele		5			
G/P	<i>Q-Jet 21xx</i>	Möbius Games	1	1			
	<i>Ra</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	2	1			1
	<i>Ricochet Robot</i>	Hans im Glück / Abacus / Rio Grande		1			1
	<i>RoboRally</i>	Wizards of the Coast		1			1
	<i>Rommel in the Desert</i>	Game Preserve / Columbia	1				
	<i>Saint Petersburg</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande					1
	<i>Samurai</i>	Hans im Glück / Abacus / Rio Grande				1	
	<i>Santiago</i>	Amigo		1			
	<i>Scotland Yard</i>	Milton Bradley		2			
	<i>Settlers of Catan</i>	Kosmos / Mayfair	1				1
	<i>Settlers of Catan Card Game</i>	Kosmos / Mayfair				1	
	<i>Soldier Kings</i>	Avalanche	1				
G	<i>Spectral Rails</i>	Café Games				1	
	<i>Star Wars Miniatures</i>	Wizards of the Coast	1	1			
	<i>StreetSoccer</i>	Cwali		2			
	<i>Sword of Rome</i>	GMT				1	
	<i>Tales of the Arabian Nights</i>	West End					1
G	<i>Tempus</i>	Café Games				1	1
	<i>Thirty Years War</i>	GMT					1
	<i>Tichu</i>	Abacus				1	
	<i>Ticket to Ride</i>	Days of Wonder				1	
	<i>Tigris & Euphrates</i>	Hans im Glück / Mayfair	1				
G	<i>Timbuktu / Tombouctou</i>	Queen		1			
	<i>Trans Europa</i>	Winsome / Winning Moves / Rio Grande		1			
	<i>Triumph of Chaos</i>	Clash of Arms				1	
	<i>Tsuro</i>	Wizkids					2
	<i>Twilight Struggle</i>	GMT					2
G	<i>Um Krone und Kragen / To Crown a King</i>	Amigo / Rio Grande	1	1			
	<i>Up Front</i>	Avalon Hill				1	
	<i>Vinci</i>	Eurogames/Descartes		1			
	<i>War of the Ring</i>	Phalanx / Fantasy Flight		1			2
	<i>Zendo</i>	Icehouse		1			
27/12	TOTAL	-----		31(38)	35(46)	28(31)	24(27)

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.

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Quartermaster Corps

The following retailers have agreed to post our newsletter or an advertisement for EPGS. To show our support, we list their names here.

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