

EPGS Heroics

Newsletter of The Eastern
Pennsylvania Gaming Society

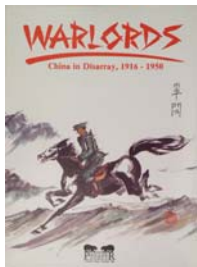
July 2005

EPGS meets from 10:00 AM to 9:30 PM this Saturday, July 16th, in Oxford Valley Mall's Community Room. Subsequent meeting dates are scheduled for the first and third Saturdays each month through the end of 2005.

Anniversary Gaming

July 16th is the anniversary of several events that have related games. The murder of the Russian royal family occurred during the Russian Civil War. Games on that conflict include *Russian Civil War* (SPI), *Reds! The Russian Civil War 1918-1921* (GMT) and the soon to be released *Triumph of Chaos: The Russian Civil War 1918-1921* (Clash of Arms).

One of the more bizarre experiences of your editor's life occurred on an intercity bus trip when the widower of the woman who claimed to have survived the execution sat next to me and began talking. At first I didn't know who he was and thought "?!@#\$. Why couldn't this nut case have sat next to somebody else so I could read my newspapers in peace?" But instead of the boring attempt at conversation I expected, it turned out to be the most fascinating bus trip I've ever had. John Manahan was a retired History professor who had married the alleged Grand-Duchess Anastasia Romanov. After two hours he reached his destination. He went to the front of the bus to exit, but then delayed everyone as he returned to my seat in the rear of the bus and pulled something out of his pocket, saying "I've something to show you that I think you'll find interesting". It was a sixteenth century Dutch gold piece, about four inches in diameter and nearly half an inch thick. I briefly examined it, thanked him for showing it to me and gave it back. He then put it back in his pocket and left the bus.



The other large communist revolution was in China. Games on that conflict include *Chinese Civil War* (3W) (illustrated in the February issue of *Heroics*) and *Warlords: China in Disarray 1916-1950* (Panther).

On this date in 1935 Oklahoma City installed the first parking meters. So much for the *Monopoly* spin-off *Free Parking* (Milton Bradley / Winning Moves).

On this date in 1969 *Apollo 11* began its journey to the Moon. Games on the competition to land the first manned mission to the Moon are *Space Race* (Fantasy Games Unlimited) and *Liftoff!* (Task Force). A game set on the Moon is *Lunar Rails* (Mayfair).

July 16th

- 1790 The District of Columbia (later Washington D.C.) established as future seat of national government
- 1863 New York City draft riots in the U.S. Civil War
- 1911 Singer/Actress Ginger Rodgers born
- 1912 Airplane launched torpedo invented
- 1918 Czar Nicholas II and his family executed by communists at Yekaterinburg
- 1935 Oklahoma City installs world's first parking meter, charging 5¢
- 1945 The first atomic bomb tested in New Mexico, code named "Trinity"
- 1949 Chinese Nationalists begin retreat to Taiwan
- 1969 *Apollo 11* blasted off; it carried first astronauts who would walk on the Moon
- 1970 Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium opened. It would host 2 World Series and 4 Super Bowl winners.



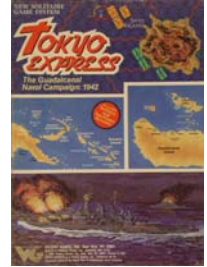
August 6th

This date's birthdays include Alfred Tennyson, whose most famous poem is *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, about an incident from the Battle of Balaclava in the Crimean War. One of the four games in *Crimean War Quadrigame* (SPI) is on that battle. Tennyson also wrote a longer poem called *The Charge of the Heavy Brigade*. Other games on the Crimean War are *Crimea* (GDW) and *The Crimean War* (Decision/S&T#193).

Games on the naval battles in the Solomon Islands are *Guadalcanal* (Avalon Hill 1992), *Tokyo Express* (Victory), and the soon to be released *Nights of Fury – Guadalcanal Naval Battles* (Naval Warfare Simulations).



Like Jim Thorpe (featured in the May issue of *Heroics*), Bob Mathias is one of seven decathletes featured in the games *Decathlon / Track Meet* (Sports Illustrated / Avalon Hill). On the box cover Toomey is second from left throwing a discus, with Thorpe leaping behind Toomey's right arm.



August 6th

- 1804 Poet Alfred Tennyson born. His works include *The Charge of the Light Brigade*.
- 1862 C.S.S. Arkansas scuttled during battle with U.S.S. Essex on Mississippi River
- 1881 Discoverer of Penicillin Alexander Fleming born
- 1890 First execution by electric chair
- 1890 Baseball star Denton True "Cy" Young pitched his first major league game
- 1911 Actress/comedienne Lucille Ball born
- 1917 Actor Robert Mitchum born
- 1926 Gertrude Ederle 1st woman to swim English Channel. Her 14hr 31min, broke men's record by 2hrs
- 1926 First film with music, *Don Juan*, first screened in New York City. Admission was \$10
- 1928 Andy Warhola, (who later changed his name to Warhol), born in Pittsburgh
- 1930 New York state Supreme Court justice Crater disappears
- 1943 German troops enter Italy
- 1943 Three Japanese destroyers sunk while transporting troops to Guadalcanal at the Battle of Vella Gulf
- 1945 Atomic bombing of Hiroshima
- 1948 Bob Mathias won Olympic decathlon in London
- 1981 Indianapolis firefighters returned from false alarm to find their own firehouse burning

Spiel des Jahres

Congratulations to *Niagara* for winning the 2005 Spiel des Jahres award!

The Games We Played

No games stood out this month as being played many times. Indeed only *Amun-Re*, *El Grande*, *Empire of the Sun*, *Exxtra* and (of course) *Puerto Rico* were played twice.

Furthermore, there were very few new games played. (Your editor likes that, as it simplifies his work!)

Thanks to Steve Cameron and Alex Bove for helping compile this information.

NEW	GAME	PUBLISHER	JUN 18	JUL 2
	<i>Advanced Civilization</i>	Avalon Hill	1	
	<i>Advanced Squad Leader</i>	Avalon Hill / Multi-Man		1
	<i>Age of Steam</i>	Warfrog	1	
	<i>Amun-Re</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande	1	1
	<i>Axis & Allies - Pacific</i>	Hasbro/Avalon	1	
	<i>Barbarossa to Berlin</i>	GMT	1	
	<i>Blokus</i>	Sekkoia	1	
G	<i>Borderlands</i>	Eon		1
	<i>Carcassonne</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande		1
	<i>Cribbage</i>	?		1
	<i>Dancing Dice</i>	DaVinci / Mayfair		1
	<i>Das Motorspiel / DTM Hockenheimring</i>	Professional Motor Sports		1
	<i>El Grande</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande	1	1
	<i>Empire of the Sun</i>	GMT	1	1
	<i>Exxtra</i>	Amigo	1	1
G	<i>Flagship</i>	GMT		1
	<i>Fortress America</i>	Milton Bradley		1
	<i>Friedrich</i>	Histograme	1	
	<i>Goa</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande		1
	<i>Hammer of the Scots</i>	Columbia		1
	<i>History of the World</i>	Ragnar / AH / Hasbro/Avalon	1	
	<i>Kremlin</i>	Fata Morgana / Avalon Hill		1
	<i>Life: Star Wars</i>	Hasbro	1	
	<i>Lord of the Rings - The Confrontation</i>	Fantasy Flight	1	
	<i>Lost Valley</i>	Kronberger	1	
	<i>Memoir '44</i>	Days of Wonder		1
G	<i>Oriente</i>	DaVinci		1
	<i>Palladium</i>	Palladium Books		1
	<i>Pirate's Cove</i>	Days of Wonder		1
	<i>Puerto Rico</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	1	1
	<i>Railway Rivals</i>	Rostherne / GW / Schmidt		1
	<i>Robo Rally</i>	Wizards of the Coast		1
	<i>Saint Petersburg</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande		1
	<i>Santiago</i>	Amigo		1
	<i>Scotland Yard</i>	Milton Bradley	1	
	<i>Short Lines</i>	Bob Stribula		1
	<i>Star Wars - The Queen's Gambit</i>	Hasbro/Avalon	1	
	<i>Star Wars CCG</i>	Wizards of the Coast	1	
	<i>Taj Mahal</i>	Alea / Rio Grande	1	
	<i>Talisman</i>	Games Workshop		1
	<i>Ticket to Ride</i>	Days of Wonder	1	
	<i>Titan</i>	Avalon Hill	1	
	<i>Tower of Babel</i>	Hans im Glück / Rio Grande	1	
G	<i>Ubongo</i>	Kosmos / University		1
	<i>Vinci</i>	Eurogames/Descartes	1	
	<i>War in the Desert</i>	Games Research/Design	1	
G	<i>Water Works</i>	Parker Brothers	1	
	<i>We the People</i>	Avalon Hill		1
	<i>Wilderness War</i>	GMT	1	
5	TOTAL	-----	26	28

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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