

ACE Game Club Newsletter

Minutes of the Meeting of December 7, 2003

Club President Enio Lopez suggested that the meeting should get started, and reminded everyone to sign the attendance roster. Only those who signed the roster will qualify for next month's drawing.

Jim Destromp conducted the locker review. Those present to pay were Tony, Jimbo, Jessie, and Frankie. Chris was not present to pay. Terry and Ray were current. Lockers are available for \$1 per month to club members. Locker fees must be paid at club meetings.

Jim conducted the membership roster review. Those members who were expired were John Michael, Bill Allen, John Voger, Brian Bray, Charlie Brown, T.J., Zane, Chris Degalla, Greg Hahn Sr. and Jr., all the Higdons, Wayne Huggins, C. Jenkins, Dan Jessup, Chris Joyner, Davis and Patrick Ketterly, Anton Kronof, Frances Lyons, Chris Marshall, Sid Martin, Becca and Rich, Matt Sakits, Andrew, Chaz Schultz, Jeremy Steadman, Archie, Brian Tarpin, Bob Underwood, Jake, Dano Whitmore, and Gus. Those who were due and paid up were Dave Saunders and Chris Degalla. Those who were nearly due were Jessie, Tony McVay, and Chavencia Johnson. Jim said he would check with Jens Knudsen for updated data. Lynn Bartch agreed to take on the task of phoning expired members once a current roster is obtained.



The Raider Mk II from the new Mechwarrior Counterassault expansion will be stomping your way on January 6.

Scot Alsop brought up the Lord of the Rings movie night on December 17. The club voted in favor of this outing in September. Jim collected \$2.50 per member and \$4.50 per guest for 14 tickets. Ray proceeded to totally confuse the locker and theatre money. Jim assured the members that THIS TIME he would not be going back to the theatre for additional tickets. Everyone reminded him that he says that every time. The cut-off for ticket money will be December 14. The club will attend the evening showing at the YRC theatre on December 17.

Jim asked the members if anyone has a contact at a photocopier cartridge refill company. The club's photocopier cartridges cost nearly \$200 a pop. Some kind person needs to investigate this.

Enio informed the members that Wizards of the Coast has announced their latest CCG product: G.I. Joe the Collectible Card Game. Jim described a Japanese CCG that he read about that uses decals to stick on the cards. Enio also mentioned that the official title for the forthcoming Batman movie is Intimidation Day. It will be a more scary movie like Batman I and feature the Scarecrow. Jim also mentioned that Upper Deck pushed back the release of its Marvel card game.

Jim asked if anyone was interested in Sports Clix, the forthcoming Major League Baseball collectible miniatures game from Wizkids. There were no takers present. Jim said that he does not plan to carry the product line. There appear to be seven different promo packages for it. Jim suggested that sports cards are dead because sports heroes are dead.

Jim proposed to run regular BattleTech Classic tournaments. The entry fee will be \$3, of which \$2 will go to the prize pool and \$1 will go to the club treasury. If there is enough interest Jim said he would run another DropShip tournament. This could happen at a possible all-nighter on January 17 (Martin Luther King weekend). Jim wants to run weekly BattleTech Classic tournaments as soon as he can find a non-EQ raid night.

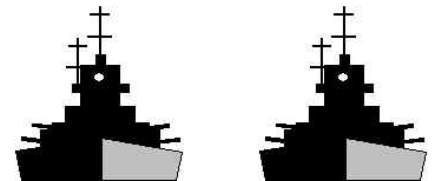
Jim said that he has lost his sense of humor with all-nighters because of the kids crawling around and acting up, especially the younger ones who don't show up at the game club meetings. At any rate there is no chance of an all-nighter with a club meeting attendance level of less than 30. Ten members were present at the November meeting and fourteen showed up in December. Jim said that we really need to have the updated member list for the next club meeting to get our levels up. Club enrollment generally hovers around 105 to 140. If we don't keep track of expirations and make phone calls to expiring members our numbers will degenerate all the way down.

Jim conducted the calendar review. Mondays are Chris Bartlett's Vampire campaign. Tuesdays are Jim's Hackmaster campaign. Wednesdays are Dave Saunders' Third Edition D&D. Thursdays are open. Fridays are Noel More's Hackmaster and Magic the Gathering CCG. Saturdays are sanctioned Mechwarrior Dark Age at 2:00 PM. Sundays are Doug's sanctioned Yu-Gi-Oh, occasional D&D, and Enio's HeroClix or Mage Knight. Tracy Johnson's board game sessions will meet in December on the 7th, 21st, and 28th at the small gaming table.

Noel More gave the Treasurer's report. He reported that the treasury is down because the club is not policing membership expirations. Several members reported that Jens sent them a reminder for the December meeting.

Dave Peterson conducted the meeting attendance drawing. You must be present to win, and the drawing is based on the previous month's attendance roster. In other words, you must be present at two consecutive meetings to qualify. Those who were present in November had especially good odds, as only a d10 was rolled to determine the winner. Enio Lopez won the gift certificate. He was wearing his ACE game club shirt, so his money was doubled to \$20.

Enio asked everyone to spread the word about the possible January 17 all-nighter and to get members to the January 4 meeting to support it. Seeing no further business, Enio adjourned the meeting.



Fifth Fleet December 2003 Summary, by Tracy Johnson

Summary for month of December 2003 for the "5th_Fleet_PBEM" yahoo group, based on Victory Games' "5th Fleet". Consim-L added. Postings have been sparse there lately. For inclusion in the ACE Game Club Newsletter (ACE represents the U.S. Forces.)

Australia vs. India:

The previously damaged air base at Car Nicobar was attacked again by Australian F-111's and takes more heavy damage. The Australian damage assessment team determines the markers are now at Damage +3, and cheer over the bright flames of the Mig-23s hit on the ground, however they are strangely puzzled by the white smoke plumes and ash!

ACE Game Club Newsletter - January 2004

Kuwait vs. Iran:

A damaged Iranian F-5 Combat Air Patrol over Bandar Khomeyni attempted intercept against incoming Kuwaiti F-18Cs attack and were destroyed by Kuwaiti Mirages in a CAP vs. CAP attack.

Kuwait vs. India:

An air attack by Kuwaiti F-18Cs (which passed the intercept above) on an Indian Corvette Task Group off Bandar Khomeyni were mightily repelled by Commander Abu and crew who had their AA guns manned and ready. (They must have noticed the downing of their allied Iranian F-5's.) Not only did they damage the incoming F-18 squadron, but to add insult to injury, all the F-18 bombs splashed.

Saudi vs. India:

Intense fighting by Commander Abu and crew! Another air attack on the same Indian Task Group of Corvettes damage a squadron of incoming Saudi Tornado-G's. However due to better training in the face of incoming fire, the remaining squadron still manages to sink a few of the Corvettes (FLOT2). (If Abu makes it home, I'm sure he is due for a medal.)

Iran vs. UAE:

Two squadrons of UAE Mirage-F's intercept and damage Iranian incoming over Larak Island headed for targets somewhere near the Strait of Hormuz. One Iranian Unit was damaged in a CAP vs. CAP attack organized over Bandar Abbas.

The Jihad Brotherhood:

The JB's failed miserably in whatever deed they attempted on an Iranian Patrol Combatant. Unfortunately for the US and allies they are never to know what it was. In a public announcement on Al-Jazerra, the Jihad Brotherhood pronounced a Fatwah on Iranian forces for cooperating with Infidel Chinese and Indian forces.

Stray Bullets, by Dave Peterson

Welcome to 2004! As you might expect, there is not much news from the world of gaming since December. There are a few releases and tidbits that you might want to keep in mind for the New Year, however.

ACE has been invaded by the new line of Monty Python and the Holy Grail action figures. You will hate yourself in 10 years for not gr

bbing them if you miss these. They are *very* nicely done. Be sure to check them out.

Wizkids' new Counterassault expansion for Mechwarrior will arrive at ACE on Tuesday, January 6. This expansion features lots of new mechs for the Laio faction, Triple-Strength Myomers, mechs with long-range capabilities, and positive heat effects to represent mechs with excellent hand-to-hand capabilities.



Snowstorm is one of the new special scenario cards for Crimson Skies.

Wizkids offered a limited edition deck of 55 promotional cards for Crimson Skies in December. These cards add optional rules and new strategies to the Crimson Skies collectible miniatures game. The deck includes cards for weather effects, pinup girls, biographies, and scenarios.

I can't tell you if it will be fun, but Fantasy Flight Games will release the Call of Cthulhu CCG in April. Players take the role of die-hard investigators pitted against the conspiracy of the elder gods and their terrible servants. The possibilities boggle the mind....



The Distortion expansion for .hack//ENEMY features some familiar faces.

Other interesting up-coming releases include the Distortion expansion for Decipher's .hack//ENEMY CCG, Star Munchkin 2: The Clown Wars from Steve Jackson Games, a new Yu-Gi-Oh CCG expansion, the d20 Gamma World Gamemaster's Guide, and the d20 Steampunk Core Rulebook. The revised Axis and Allies will be released in March. Perhaps the club will celebrate this occasion with a special double-blind all-nighter event.

Don't miss out on Marscon 2004 in Williamsburg on January 23-25. Expanded gaming rooms, LARPS, con suite food, comedy, and music will make it a great weekend. Weekend passes are a mere \$30 (that's 2,473.2 Altairian Zubats). Here is the low-down on the Friday night Con Suite party from <http://www.marscon.net/>...

This year's Friday night party theme will be "Gothier Than Thou." Dress up in your most outrageous Endless or Vampire inspired outfit and join us for an evening of angst. Special prizes for Best Depressed Mime, Palest Skin, Best D/S couple, Most Creative Use of Leather, Most Piercings, Most Unusual Piercing, Most Gratuitous Anne Rice Reference, Most Gratuitous Neil Gaiman Reference, and Most Exaggerated Cleavage.

Who needs to sleep anyway? Look for a full report in next month's newsletter!

MarsCon'04

Southeastern Virginia's Premier SF&F/Gaming Relax-a-Con

Jan. 23-25, 2004 - Clarion Historic Williamsburg VA -800-666-8888



We're back for another weekend of fun, fiesta and fanatic. As with past MarsCons, we've got gaming, a fully stocked dealers' room, the God-emperor of all Con-Suites, a fan-tastic art room, the charity auction and, new for 2004, a full schedule of programming.

to Pre-Reg - Make Checks Payable to "MarsCon" MarsCon 2004 117 Wichita Lane Wmsbg VA 23188 or pay at our website!

Room Rates \$56.00 per night (single/double) Registration \$20 thru Jan \$30 thereafter e-mail: info@marscon.net <http://www.marscon.net>

Please help fill this space! The ACE Game Club Newsletter needs your submissions. From poignant paragraphs to cryptic scribbles, all your inputs are welcome. We especially need your campaign progress reports, humorous anecdotes,

tournament results, and battle reports. Make it a New Year's resolution to contribute!