

HISTORICON 2011 7-10 July

The Next Level As Seen Through the Rear View Mirror



The Valley Forge Convention Center and Attached Hotels

For almost a decade we in HMGS Inc. have been hearing about “Taking HISTORICON to the Next Level.” Last year after a financially catastrophic flirtation with Baltimore Convention Center we finally returned to the original “Next Level” Nirvana-The Valley Forge Convention Center. *With last year’s spectacular show including Uncle Duke’s Farewell and the National FOW Tournaments among other things, we had arrived.* HISTORICON was poised for another period of growth in facilities with almost 30% more space, and accommodations, which if pricey, offered all the marble tiles demanded by our most discriminating gamers.

Of course, all that was before April Fool’s Day or thereabouts when the facility notified HMGS Inc. that the deal was off. Ninety days out they took a firm grip on the rug and pulled it out from under us. The Convention Center was to become a gambling casino. Lacking time to go anywhere else HMGS set out to fit the convention into the half the space which was further from being converted with slots and roulette wheels. Then, almost as quickly as the blow had fallen, it was lifted. With little over a month to go we got the whole space. Progress apparently was slower than expected. But that left little time to put things together. And next year we have to find a new venue and a new convention committee. Sometimes the “Adventure” isn’t entirely in the gaming.



Gamers Got Started As Early As Wednesday





Looks Like a Successor Army



Some Kind Of DBA Off To An Early Start



Come Thursday Around Noon The Director, Bob Giglio, and Vendor Staff Sorted Us Out



Before Long, Things Started To Pick Up



Getting Started In The Flames Of War Corner



Looks Like Early War Brits To Me



Bill Moreno's Spectacular Chattanooga Campaign Featuring His New 10mm Western Front Yankees In Greatcoats and Floppy Hats



Another Top Notch Florida GM-Bob Moon's 28mm Gettysburg



Graying Of The Hobby Not Apparent Here



The Harford Area Weekly Kriegspielers (HAWKS) And Their Amazing 40mm Half Rounds



Miniature Hobby University Students At Work



And A Basement Wally Would Have Loved



The HAWKS Second Year of August 1914-This Time In 25mm



There Is Something Wrong Here! The French Would Have Fixed Bayonets



Best GM Award-The Mediocre Wall Of China By Peter Hess And Dave Reiners



Peter Hess With GM Prize



Bill Gray's Gadebusch Using A Fire and Fury Variant



And The Austro Prussian War Of 1866 Using Another-Did Rich Hasenauer Know What He Was Getting Into?



Of Course There Were Naval Games



And Aviation Games



Colonial Games-Monday Night Adventurers Beau Geste Encore



The Museum Quality Gallipoli Epic



Even The Odd Napoleonic Game-Todd Kershner's AGE OF NAPOLEON In 1/72nd Plastic

In short, there was more to see and more to do than anyone, even myself could cover-not to mention the SCRUBY AWARD to Russ Dunaway (OLD GLORY) with the formal induction of Dr. Christopher Duffy, Matt De La Matter, Scott Mingus, and Col. John R. "Buck" Surdu into the HMGS Legion of Honor.

Oh yes, and a "WAR COLLEGE" with 23 Guest Lecturers giving presentations on military history.

The trouble is, there is so much going on that you can't do it all-not even most of what you really want to do.

Wherever HISTORICON goes next year we can expect the same, give or take a few more activities we won't be able to get to.