

RAPIER 2010-A GREAT LITTLE CONVENTION



Normandy Paratroops launched Friday Afternoon. But there were always board, card, fantasy miniature and RPG activities in the works. 102 events were listed in the program!



Perhaps more remarkable, the Clarion was unusually user friendly during this event. Room rates were reasonable. All guests got breakfast buffet tickets for both days. The staff were all helpful and friendly. Unfortunately that is not always the case with convention venues.



As usual Bob Moon ran a spectacular "Battle of Spring Hill Tennessee. Pat Cleburne was killed as in the historical battle. But for a change the Confederates managed to cut off the Union line of retreat.

The main convention hall with most of the miniatures and dealers was in the triple ballroom again this year. And the room that once contained practically the entire convention held mainly board games (which were also numerous in the main room) and the occasional dealer tables. However, it did accommodate the massive CDIII Normandy game (see first illustration) with masses of troops and several players Friday afternoon-and some of the evening.

Some specialties, such as SEEKRIEG and a mini-DBA tournament were exiled to smallish rooms on the second or 6th floor, with epic 40K and some other events in the "Tower" on the north end of the 6th floor. All in all, the JAX Garrison made good use of the Clarion's meeting space. Yet none were so crowded that they will have to seek a larger and possibly less hospitable venue for next year.

Friday evening in addition to the epic "Spring Hill" Dwight Jones presented an epic "Western Expansion" which might be termed "Pig Wars meets the last of the Mohicans." Somehow the "native Americans seem to have taken out the Vikings-for all that they lacked armor. But the next day things heated up. Another epic Column Line and Slaughter on a big table, and 40mm French and Indian War.



Vikings Arrive in North America Friday Evening





Seekrieg-You get better rations in the Navy



But some Dreadnaught Era Naval Games have ships you can see



Lasalle Demo with 10mm Napoleonics



French and Indian War in Glorious 40mm



The Great Column Line and Slaughter Extravaganza





Saturday Evening RAPIER became a Gambling Casino



Genuine 54mm AWI-Battle of Trenton



TSATF Spectacular-Rescuing Flashman (or not.)





Sunday the WARHAMMER 40K and the end of the DBA Tournament





Cruising the Nile for Flashman-Jeff Baomal's TSATF Game

All told there were 102 scheduled events. But the new record attendance of nearly 200 gamers didn't quite provide enough for the number of games. Everyone was kept active, and all gaming genre seem to have been represented.

And a good time was had by all!