

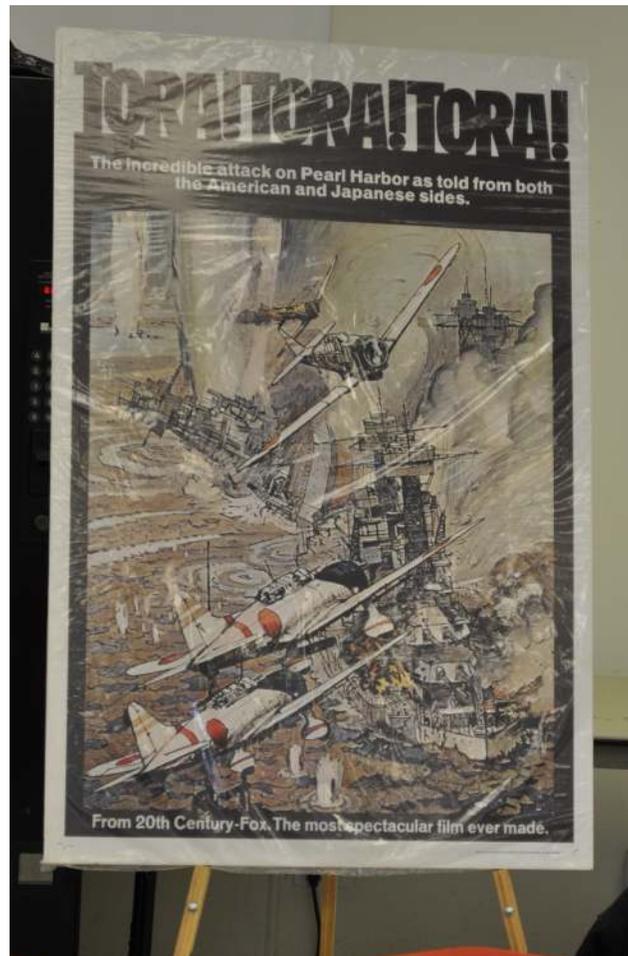
Colorado Military Historians

Newsletter

XL, No. 1

January 2014

CMH Newsletter Celebrates 40 years!



Tora Tora Tora! Movie Poster

2014 Membership Dues, New CMH gaming schedule, Schwag

*Message from CMH Secretary
Binhan Lin*

2014 Membership dues are due and can be paid at the monthly meeting. Rates remain unchanged from last year - \$35.00 for adult full year memberships with reduced rates for students, children and families. Schwag this year will be remainder CMH dice from previous years, which will be available at the monthly meeting. Due to decreasing income, the Board has decided to reduce the number of FNF's hosted at Baker to just 2 nights – for West Wars and Veteran Wars. All other FNF's will be TBD for locations and times. I will be stepping down as Secretary at the May elections. If you are interested in becoming Secretary or know someone who is, please contact me. Eric Elder will be running a hypothetical WW2 Naval game at the monthly meeting – a battle between the French and British Mediterranean fleets.

Military History of January

*By CMH Secretary
Binhan Lin*

The month of January was a slow month for military events.

Jan. 8

1815, Battle of New Orleans, two weeks after the Treaty of Ghent, ending the War of 1812.

Jan. 12

1879, The Zulu War begins in Southern Africa.

Jan. 15

1559, Elizabeth Tudor is crowned Elizabeth I of England.

Jan. 16

1547, Ivan the Terrible is officially crowned Czar of Russia.

Jan. 27

1943, First all-American bombing raid on Germany by the 8th Air Force on Wilhelmshaven.

Jan. 30

1968, North Vietnam starts the Tet Offensive against South Vietnamese and U.S. military targets.

Jan.31

1943, German troops surrender at Stalingrad, marking the end of the Battle of Stalingrad with over 2 million casualties from both sides.

Gunboat! - Building the Gunboat "Cairo"

*By CMH Member
Dan Gurule*

First of all, Happy New Year! It went by fast but we seem to always say that don't we? I think 2014 is going to be my year, not sure why but something nice is coming my way. Well at least that is my little prayer to myself. So what have I been up to?

Behind the scenes I have started a Colonial Project about 3 months ago. I missed Colonial Barracks, The Sword and the Flame convention in New Orleans again this year. Not in 2014! I plan on being there next November with Gunboats blasting, Dervish swarming, Gatlings jamming, oh the fun! Can't wait!

The first of my projects has been my Gunboat which I have named the Cairo. Yes, it is a fictional name and it is going to be an integral part in the river campaign that will start in a month or so.

So I started researching Nile and Yangtse Gunboats to get an idea of design. I wanted to build a large one first and then work on smaller craft later. So I built this 24" x 6" Gunboat which amounts to roughly 120' Length with a 30' beam for my 28mm colonials. I wanted it to have enough deck space to put on sandbags, foot guns and infantry. I separated the ships guns from the main deck by putting them on their own upper gun deck. I still put mounts on the main deck so I could move the guns based on the scenario or the Captains discretion.

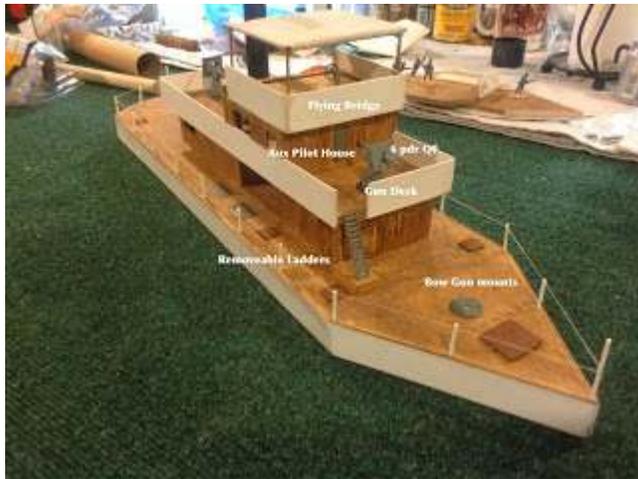
I looked at so many pictures, checked out manufacturers, and decided on making my own. I mean there are some pretty sweet models out there but the prices are pretty high. I figured with all the materials, extra ship fittings, etc, I rang up between 100 to 150 USD. And it did take some time, man did it take some time but it was worth the effort. I went back and forth on how to mount the decks, overall design and ended up with a nice first time prototype. I have a lot of lessons learned, one is to get the right tools which I am starting to look at now. This first boat was built with an old mini drill, table saw, mitre saws, xacto blades, paint, brushes, sander, magnets, washers, bass and balsa wood, fittings and guns from Reversco and Houston Ships.

I wasn't sure how it was going to come out but there was never a moment when I thought it wasn't going to work out. This has only given me more incentive to build more boats. I love doing this and my technique is only going to get better. With the addition in the upcoming months of better tools from MicroLux, Minicraft and Dremel I should be able to knock these out a little quicker. My plans are to build smaller craft for the Nile Campaign and later start on Chinese, US and British Yangtse River exploits ala Sand Pebbles. It's going to be exciting.

You will see ideas and shades of gunboats like the Safieh, Melik, San Pablo and Abbas in the design. Besides a few pieces that I will add on like: Bollards, sandbags, Flags, a couple of window hatch covers I am pretty much done.

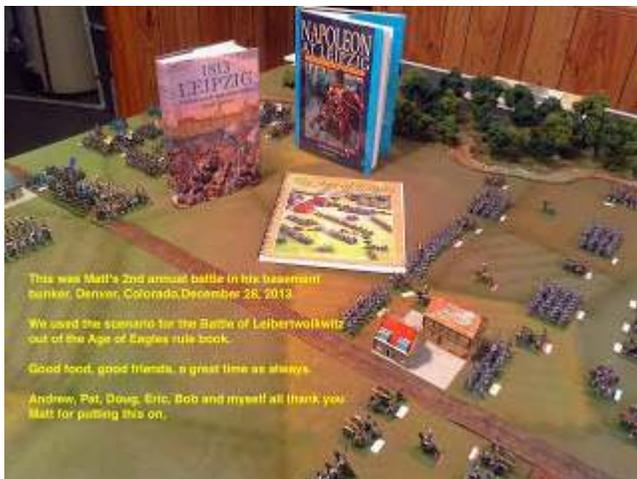
My next boat will be a small side-wheeler based on the Safieh. First I have to paint up some figures.

<http://laststanddan.blogspot.com/2014/01/gunboat-building-gunboat-cairo.html>



The Battle of Liebertwolkwitz, 16 October, 1813 - An Age of Eagles Scenario

*By CMH Member
Dan Gurule*



We return once again to Matt's Basement Bunker to play his 2nd battle of the year. Matt hosts at least two major battles at his home in Denver and this was the last for 2013.

This battle was a major engagement that was part of the Battle of Leipzig. The battle lasted about 4 hours and was scheduled for 8 full turns. To save time I went to Matt's and as the CinC of the Allies made our initial move onto the table to save time. This was done a few days before the big event.

We were joined by the French Command of: Andrew (CinC/Center Command), Bob (Polish Commander), Doug (French Right Flank Command) and our Host Matt (French Left Flank). The Russian/Prussian Command was: Dan (Myself as the CinC and Russian Right Flank Command), Pat

(Russian Center Command) and Eric (Prussian and our right flank command).

All of us have played a version of Fire and Fury so the game went very smoothly as far as game play was concerned. The actual battle fought was probably pretty close to the historical outcome. There were no major breakthroughs just back and forth actions but I have to hand it to the French today, they really pushed hard and starting bending the allied lines by the end of the battle. We went 7 turns when the Allies finally called it off and it ended with a French victory. You will see in some of the pictures how much of the battlefield the French controlled when Turn 7 rolled around.

As the Allies the major problem we had at each initiative phase was that we were rolling with a -2 and won the initiative maybe once? That had us on our back foot for most of the battle. Hat's off to everyone that commanded because everyone seemed to carry out their missions but me. I was on the Allied right flank with an easy target town objective in front of me. I just couldn't get there quick enough because the French moved their reserves over to the center and their left pretty quickly. So there I was trying to pry Matt's forces out of the Town but too late with too little to dig him out. Well played Frenchies.

Other parts of the field had Pat and Andre duking it out with their large cavalry clashes in the center which was joined by Bob's Polish coming on fast to help press the Russian center. Doug and Eric had a good fight on their side of the battle too. Eric's Prussians took up defensive positions when Doug broke out into an immediate attack the second the battle started. It was getting pretty interesting for the Prussians during this fight.

So it was another great time and another great battle. Thanks Matt.

<http://laststanddan.blogspot.com/2013/12/the-battle-of-liebertwolkwitz-16.html>





Game of the Month entry – Tora Tora Tora!



Unit of the Month entries

December Monthly Meeting Game of the Month

Each month CMH members host games at the monthly meeting. This award is for the effort put out by the host.

CMH Member	Scale	Era	Rules	Description
Bill Daniel	1/2400	WW2	Homegrown	Tora Tora Tora! – Attack on Pearl Harbor
Dave Manley	28mmmm	WW2	Bolt Action	Guadacanal – Battle of the Tenaru River

Game of the Month Winner is highlighted in **RED**.



Game of the Month entry – WW2 Bolt Action

CMH January/February Scheduled Events

This table shows what scheduled CMH events are coming up. Next months Friday Night Fights (FNF) and the monthly meeting (MM) are listed. It is recommended to schedule your game for future meetings and will appear on this page.

Date	Meeting	Location	Start Time
January 3	FNF	TEG	7PM
January 10	FNF	TBD	TBD
January 12	MM	Baker	Noon
Operation Catapult (WW2 Baval) By Eric Elder			
January 17	FNF	TBD	TBD
January 24	FNF	TBD	TBD
January 31	FNF	TBD	TBD
February 7	FNF	TBD	TBD
February 14	FNF	TBD	TBD
February 16	MM	Baker	Noon
February 21	FNF	TBD	TBD
February 28	FNF	TBD	TBD

TEG – Total Escape Games
 6831 W 120th Ave
 Suite C
 Broomfield, CO 80020
www.totalescapegames.com

FNF (TBD) may or may not occur these months due to a lack of a scheduled host.



Colorado Military Historians, Inc.

Colorado Military Historians (CMH) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote historical wargaming and the study of military history. Founded in 1965, CMH meets monthly on the second Sunday of the month, except in May when the meeting is deferred to the third Sunday. The meeting starts at noon at the Baker Recreation Center, 6751 Irving Street (just a few blocks west of Federal Blvd), Denver, Colorado. The club also hosts gaming at least one Friday night a month, called “Friday Night Fights” (FNF) at 7:00 p.m. One Friday of the month will be held at the Baker Community Center. The other Friday meetings will be held at a future determined location. See website for latest information.

CMH maintains ties with numerous local, regional and national groups to help promote the hobby. CMH is governed by member-elected officers who serve on the Board of Directors (executive board). Terms of office are one year, with elections held at the May meeting. New members are accepted after attending three CMH functions and a vote of the membership. Dues are \$35.00 per year, payable in January. Members wishing to receive a snail-mailed newsletter subscription must pay an additional fee of \$15.00 per year. Authors retain ownership of articles and graphics published. CMH reserves the right to edit or reject submissions to the newsletter.

One year Adult Membership: \$35.00

Half year Adult Membership: \$25.00

(For NEW members who join after June 30)

Family Membership: \$35.00 (one Adult and any number of offspring)

Student Membership: \$20.00 (16 to 22 years old)

Children: free (younger than 16 accompanied by member)

CMH Newsletter

The CMH Newsletter is a monthly newsletter published by the Colorado Military Historians. Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of all CMH members.

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