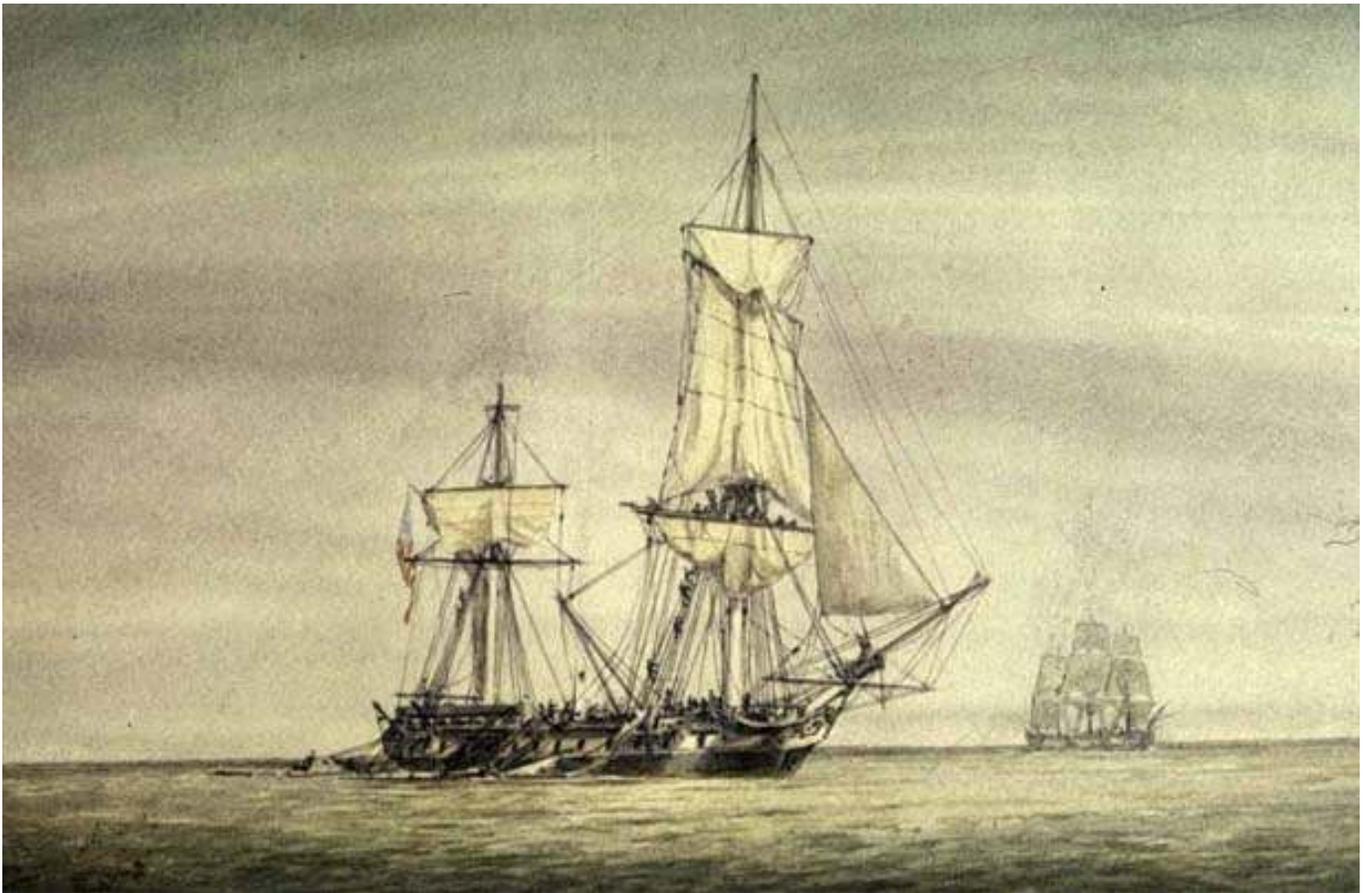


Colorado Military Historians

Newsletter

XL, No. 2

February 2014



February 1, 1800 - USS Constellation versus La Vengeance (Irwin John Bevan)

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. Local gamer Kelly Lee Phipps is fighting brain cancer, a support rally is scheduled for February 22nd. I will be hosting a mini-workshop at the monthly meeting on how to make foam explosions.

Military History of February

*By CMH Secretary
Binhan Lin*

- Feb. 1
1862, “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” was first published in “Atlantic Monthly” as an anonymous poem.
- Feb. 9
1943, During World War II in the Pacific, U.S. troops captured Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands after six months of battle, with 9,000 Japanese and 2,000 Americans killed.
- Feb. 13
1943, During World War II in Europe, British and American planes began massive bombing raids on Dresden, Germany. A four-day firestorm erupted that was visible for 200 miles and engulfed the historic old city, killing an estimated 135,000 German civilians.
- Feb. 14
1929, The St. Valentine's Day massacre occurred in Chicago as seven members of the Bugs Moran gang were gunned down by five of Al Capone's mobsters posing as police.
- Feb. 15
1898, In Havana, the U.S. Battleship *Maine* was blown up while at anchor and quickly sank with 260 crew members lost. The incident inflamed public opinion in the U.S., resulting in a declaration of war against Spain on April 25, 1898, amid cries of "Remember the Maine!"
- Feb. 27
1991, In Desert Storm, the 100-hour ground war ended as Allied troops entered Kuwait just four days after launching their offensive against Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces.

A call for Gamer Support for Kelly Lee Phipps

Kelly Lee Phipps has worked for over 5 years to build community among gamers in the Boulder/Denver area. A frequent meet-up host for boardgames of all kinds, Kelly's warm personality has brought hundreds of people to join him at the gaming table. Kelly teaches games with the same contagious passion he brings to his philosophy workshops and work as a writer, a filmmaker, a game designer, and world-renown professional astrologist.

In early October 2013, Kelly, age 42, suffered through emergency neurosurgery and now faces a difficult battle with brain cancer. We invoke gamer love by rallying around Kelly in his time of need to provide support for him and his son, age 17, through this struggle.

Please join us on Saturday, 22 February 2014 (2-8 PM) at Karliquin's Game Knight (2085 30th St, Boulder, CO 80301).

Show support for a gamer in need! Share your own survivor stories! Come support Kelly, a Friend of the Boulder/Denver Gamer Community!

You may also drop off a donation at Karliquin's Game Knight or donate directly to the Arian Brazenwood Scholarship Fund, 100% of which goes directly to Kelly's son and family.

How to make Shell Explosions

Re-printed article from CMH Secretary

Binhan Lin

Introduction

This is a basic article on how to make quick and easy shell explosions from some foam rubber sheets and a washer.

Materials

Foam rubber sheets – commonly found as packing material for delicate objects, thinner pieces (1/4" – 1/2" are preferred) and lengths of 4" or more are useful. Colors such as white, black and grey are preferred to minimize the amount of painting required.

Superglue – Cyanoacrylate glue, either liquid or gel

Scissors

1" diameter washers to use as bases

Permanent marker to draw on the foam

Ruler – to measure lines and height

Instructions

Determine what scale explosions you wish to create. For instance, for 15mm figures, 35mm high explosions are large, while the same explosion for 25mm figures would just be a small one. For the purposes of this article, I will be making 1.5" high explosions.

Draw a line with the permanent marker 1.5" tall across the foam (the longer the strip you can make, the better) (Fig. 1A). Cut the strip of foam off. If you don't have thinner (1/4" thick) foam rubber, you may need to split the strip in half to reduce the thickness. To do this, nip around the edge, splitting the foam in half. (Fig. 1B) It may take several passes to completely cut through the foam (Fig 2). After splitting the foam completely, you should have two roughly equal halves (Fig. 1C).



Figure 1. Foam sheet marked, cut and split in half.



Figure 2 – Foam sheet partially split in half

Take one of the foam pieces and cut slits, about $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart and to within $\frac{1}{4}$ " of the bottom (Figure 3A).

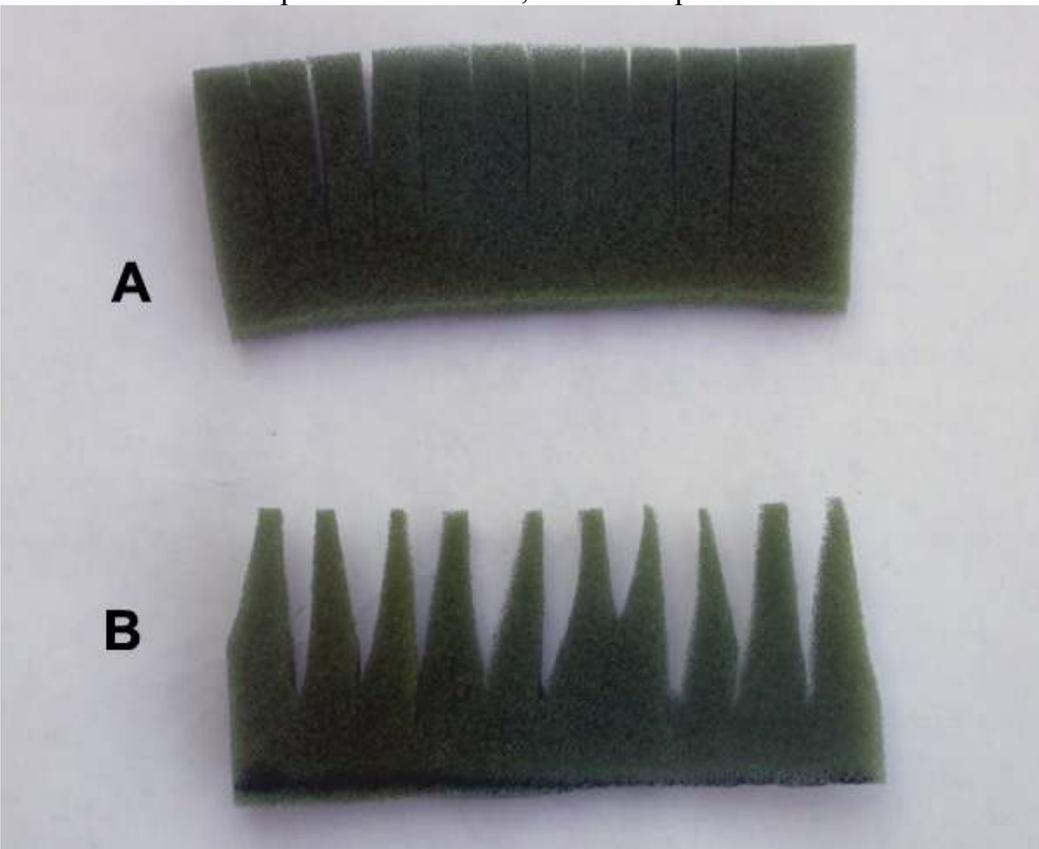


Figure 3 – Foam with slits cut and “fingers” cut into wedge shapes

After cutting the slits, trim the fingers into wedge shapes (Fig. 3B).

Repeat the trimming on the other two sides of each wedge to form tall “pyramids” (Fig. 4)

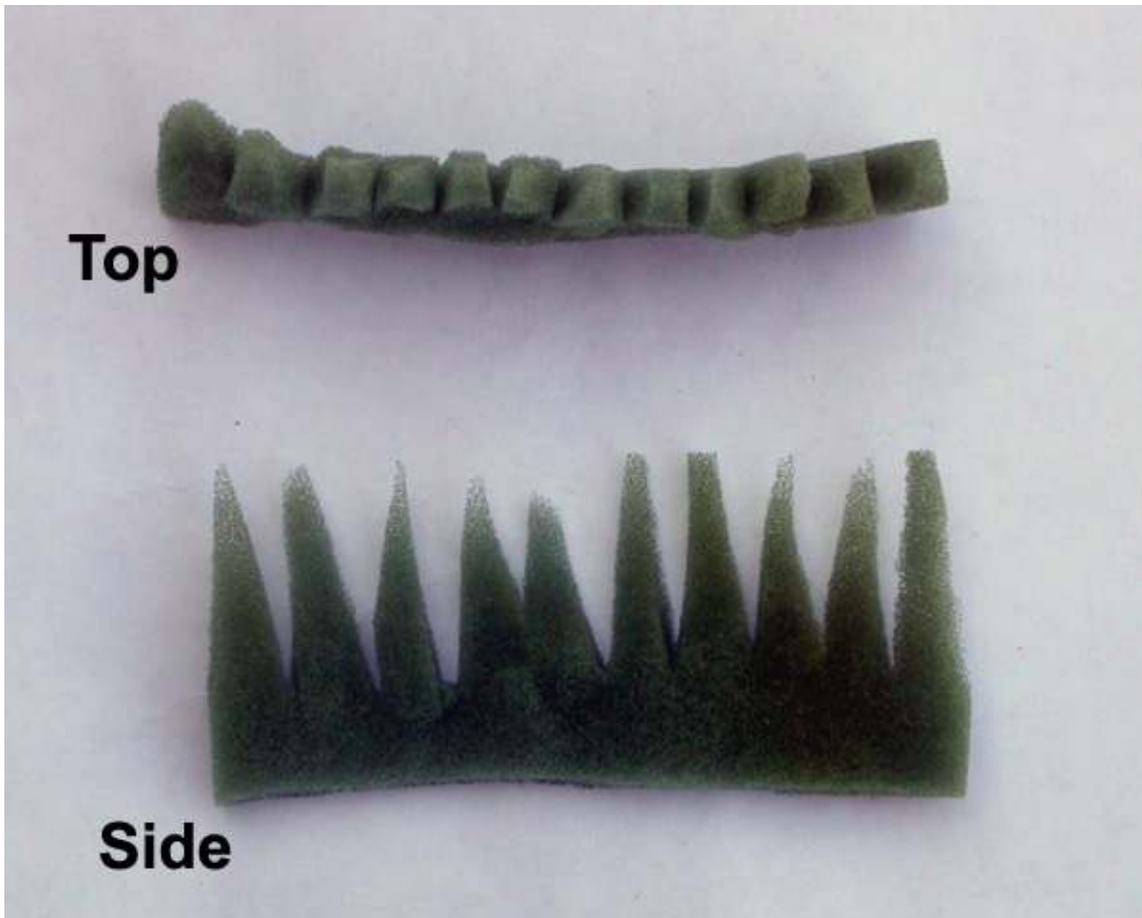


Figure 4. Foam trimmed to form “tall pyramids”.

Gently roll the foam into a cylinder, being careful not to crush the foam (Fig. 5). Glue the end of the foam using a dab of CA glue (Fig. 6) Pinch the end down firmly to get a smooth transition. Be careful not to glue your fingers together or glue them to the foam.



Figure 5 –Rolling the foam.



Figure 6. End glued down with CA glue.

By simply adding additional strips – use CA glue to attach one end -and continue rolling the cylinder, you can make larger explosions. Try to keep the base edge as level as possible. (Fig. 7)



Figure 7. Gluing an additional foam strip to extend the explosion.

After sealing the additional piece, rearrange the strands for a “fuller” looking explosion (Fig 8).



Figure 8 – Fluffed and arranged explosion

To add weight, a 1” washer is glued to the base (Fig. 9)



Figure 9. Bottom view of various explosions, some with washers attached.

Additional trimming can be done, such as splitting larger fingers into either two smaller ones, or making them less square. If split in two, often one half is trimmed a little shorter to provide more “depth” to the appearance (Fig. 10)



Figure 10. Explosion after a final round of splitting and trimming.

The explosion can be used as is, or additionally painted using reds and oranges for flame, and black, white or gray highlights for various colored smoke.

January Monthly Meeting Unit of the Month

Each month CMH members bring their latest painted figures and models to the meeting to display their latest efforts and compete for Unit of the Month.

CMH Member	Scale	Manufacturer	Era	Unit
Eric Elder	25mm	Knuckleduster	War 1812	US Artillery

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



Unit of the Month entry – War of 1812, US Artillery



Game of the Month entry – Battle of Tenaru River

January 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
Eric Elder	1/2400	WW2	Sea Wars: Fleet Actions	Operation Catapult
Dave Manley	28mm	WW2	Disposable Heroes	Guadacanal – Battle of the Tenaru River
John S. Brown	15mm	ANC	DBA	Big Battle DBA

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



Game of the Month entry – WW2 Naval – Operation Catapult



Game of the Month entry – Big Battle DBA

CMH February/March 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
February 7	FNF	TBD	TBD
February 9	MM	Baker	Noon
February 14	FNF	TBD	TBD
February 21	FNF	TBD	TBD
February 28	FNF	TBD	TBD
March 7	FNF	TBD	TBD
March 9	MM	Baker	Noon
March 14	FNF	TBD	TBD
March 21	FNF	TBD	TBD
March 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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