

COLORADO MILITARY HISTORIANS

NEWSLETTER

XVI, No. 10

OCTOBER 2015

AGINCOURT 600TH ANNIVERSARY



Last Sunday, we ran a huge Agincourt anniversary game put on by Lon Van Vorous & Bill Daniel.

Scale was 28mm and we used the Flower of Chivalry rules. We had 800+ painted figures and a 10 ft by 7 ft. table.

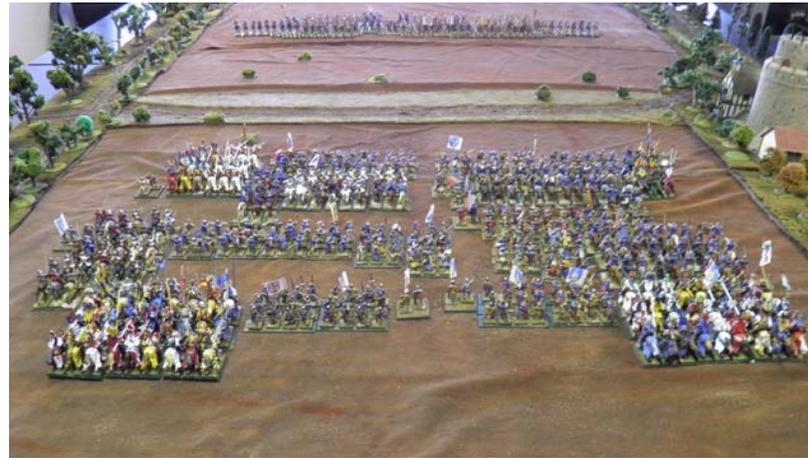
The English players were John Warrior, Doug Marston, and Nate Forte.

The French players were Les Stuart, Kevin, Kody, & Kory Dykeman, Rick Taylor, and Greg Skelly.

Its was a close game but the English won out in the end.

Thanks to all the players

Bill Daniel



OF MEN AND ARMS I SPEAK

I have been reading Prit Buttar's *Collision Of Empires* book, published by Osprey. It deals with the War on the Eastern front in 1914. It is very well written. The goal is for Buttar to write a book for each year of WWI on the Eastern front. His second book entitled *Germany Ascendant* was released this year and deals with 1915.

I was struck by Buttar's view of why the Austrian General Franz Conrad von Hotzendorf was fixated on continual offensive operations in the face of the need for a more defensive posture in Galicia in 1914. Because of his disregard for the situations his front line commanders faced a decisive victory over the Russians was denied the Austrians. Had they assumed defensive positions at critical junctures the Russian forces would have been badly damaged and forced to return to the Russian frontier with Galicia.

Buttar lays the reason for Conrad's destructive approach at the feet of 19th Century Romanticism. Below is an extensive quote from pages 279-80.

"Both he and his subordinates....continued to believe that offensive operations would bring success. To an extent, this was inevitable, given the prevalent cult of the offensive that had prospered so strongly, and had defied logic, for the previous forty years. Part of the reason behind its persistence in the face of persuasive evidence to the contrary, particularly in Germany and Austria-Hungary, may lie in the influence of Romanticism in central Europe during the 19th century. With its deliberate rejection of scientific rationale, it encouraged a mindset in which notions about the value of intangibles such as morale, national and racial superiority, and aggressive spirit came to be regarded as being at least as important as cold calculations about rates of fire and the calibre of artillery. Having grown up steeped in such imagery, it is not surprising that Conrad's generation clung to their views, even as contrasting evidence - in the form of appallingly heavy casualties - mounted all around them. Hundreds of thousands of men would continue to die in the battles that followed, as the theories about the importance of offensive operations were repeatedly put to the test."

It was a sobering thought that a romantic view of war could supersede the reality of modern technical achievements in warfare and informed the highest commands to ignore the travesty their decisions were producing for the common soldier.

General Franz Conrad von Hotzendorf



100-year-old Colorado vet reunited with plane he piloted in World War II

FROM NATE FORTE CMH V.P.

COURTESY OF FOX 31 DENVER AS POSTED 12:05PM, OCTOBER 8, 2015 BY [JON BOWMAN](#)

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. -- What are the odds that an Army Air Corps pilot, who flew combat missions in the South Pacific in a P-38 Lightning, would be reunited with the very plane he flew some 70 years ago?

A betting man might say the odds would be very small -- just as they were in "Back to the Future," when fictional 2015 headlines read "Cubs win the World Series." With the Cubs back in the playoffs this season, maybe 2015 is the year for long shots. That was certainly the case when 100-year old Frank Royal was reunited with his "White33" in Colorado Springs this summer.

"I heard about this new air museum that moved in to the Springs a couple years ago and thought it'd be neat to walk through it," said Royal, who served as Squadron Commander of the 39th Fighter unit when Lockheed delivered the what was dubbed "the plane that changed the war" to the South Pacific.

"The owner walking me through kept talking about the White 33," Royal continued. "And I said, 'Wait a minute, I used to fly that plane!'"

And with the chance encounter, Royal and White 33 were reunited.

"The whole deal is kind of crazy," said Bill Klaers, who moved his West Pac restoration business to Colorado Springs several years ago from Southern California. "To have a pilot of one of the five P-38 platforms we were able to get after they were recovered

from jungle graves in New Guinea is just short of amazing." Royal flew missions out of New Guinea in World War II. After his plane was damaged in combat, it was scrapped and buried on the island nation in the South Pacific.

Seven decades later, Royal and the aircraft he used in combat are back together again. Royal drops by the museum from time to time, watching the progress on the "Fork-Tailed Devil," as the Germans called the P-38s. It was a plane with better fire power -- four 50-caliber machine guns and twin 20mm cannons mounted in the nose -- that could climb higher at a quicker pace than both the German Messerschmitt's and the Japanese Zeros. It could also carry a bigger payload than a B-17.

The plane gained its glory when it attacked the armada that contained the Admiral who led the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor. "(The Japanese) would cringe when they saw the turbo-charged 38s coming their way," Royal said.

The repair project on the plane is currently underway and engines could fire up in a few weeks. This plane is being rebuilt from the ground up, and while the old pilot had often thought he had little left to live for, Klaers has reminded him that he needs to "complete the circle" and be on hand -- maybe even in the cockpit -- when White 33 rolls down the runway.

"They better hurry up on this thing, because I have a last ride coming for sure" Royal said. "It sure would be nice to get up there one more time."

The crew working on the restoration had this to say: "We will put him in a lift on a crane to get him in this plane one more time. You can bet on that."

<http://kdvr.com/2015/10/08/100-year-old-colo-vet-reunited-with-plane-he-piloted-in-world-war-ii/>

AN UPDATE ON THE SILENT AUCTION FOR FRANK OKOVICH'S LIBRARY

Last month we posted the entire inventory in the Frank Okovich Library that was donated to CMH for dispersal to "good homes." For the complete list refer to the CMH September 2015 Newsletter or view it at the November club meeting. The proceeds for this will be utilized for CMH programs. Below are the titles and the bids for each book. As of this printing there have been no titles with multiple bids. This auction will continue until the December 2015 CMH meeting at which time decisions will have to be made as to the disposition of the remaining books not awarded by bid.

SILENT AUCTION STANDINGS (As of 11/2/15)

Osprey Campaign Series: #69 Lutzen 1632	\$1
Osprey Warrior Series: #81 Hungarian Hussars 1756-1815	\$1
Osprey Men-At-Arms Series: #366 Colonial American Troops (1)	\$1.50
Osprey Men-At-Arms Series: #372 Colonial American Troops (2)	\$1.50
Osprey Men-At-Arms Series: #462 Imperial Troops 30Yrs War (2)	\$1
Osprey Men-At-Arms Series: #481 Spanish Tercios 1536-1704	\$1
A Battlefield Atlas of the ACW	\$5
Queen Victoria's Little Wars	\$2
Osprey Warrior Series: #12 German Stormtrooper	\$1
A History of Prussia	\$2
The End of Prussia	\$2
The Marne	\$3
Muller and SMS Emden	\$3
On War	\$1
Arms of Krupp	\$3
Janes Ships 1914	\$5
Robert Rogers Of the Rangers	\$5
Age of Reason (Duffy)	\$5
Rise of the Spanish Empire	\$2
A Few Acres of Snow	\$2
Sherman: Fighting Prophet	\$5
Winfield Scott Hancock	\$5
F&I War: Borneman	&5
TOTAL:	\$63

UNIT OF THE MONTH (Not Sponsored)

Member Name	Scale	Manufacturer	Era	Unit
Jim Raidon	15mm	Museum Miniatures	Medieval	Husite War Wagons
Jim Raidon	15mm	Legio Heroica	Medieval	Swiss & Germans
Greg Skelly	28mm	Bolt Action	WWII	SPA Unit
Eric Elder	25mm	Monday Knight	Medieval	Conquistadors



GAME OF THE MONTH

Total Escape Games Sponsor



Member Name	Scale	Era	Rules	Description
Greg Skelly*	25mm	WWII	Disposable Heroes	Breakout after D-Day
Joel Tompkins	15mm		HOTTS	Lizards vs Elves
Matt Vigil	15mm	Ancients	DBMM2	2nd Punic War

*Denotes this month's winner

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



CMH November Scheduled Events

This table shows what events are scheduled for CMH. 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
November 6	FNF	TBD	7PM
November 8	MM	Baker Rec Center	12PM
November 13	FNF	TBD	7PM
November 20	FNF	TBD	7PM
November 27	FNF	TBD	7PM

TEG - Total Escape Games

6831 W. 120th Ave.

Suite C

Broomfield CO 80020

www.totalescapegames.com

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

CMH BUSINESS NEWS:

At the October monthly meeting several proposal were discussed related to West Wars 2016 and the annual CMH-CSGA Smackdown occurring simultaneously in July. After discussion a vote was taken which set West Wars 2016 the third week of May on Saturday and Sunday of that week. The Smackdown would be on the second Saturday of July preceding the CMH monthly meeting. There was also discussion about the CMH 51st anniversary celebration in June, which will feature the Battle of Jutland.

CMH October Board meeting minutes:

The meeting began at 6:45 on October 23. Present were Nate Forte, Larry Irons, Binhan Lin, Terry Shockey, and Doug Wildfong.

Old Business:

The CMH Yahoo group defunct addresses will be culled. It was decided not to cull non-members whose addresses are still viable.

New Business:

With the negotiations with Highland Hills Recreation District for rental of Baker Recreation Center in 2016 discussion about the schedule for 2016 occurred.

The board approved schedule that will be voted on by the membership at a monthly meeting will include:

12 Sunday monthly meetings

4 Saturdays (West Wars, 51st anniversary, CMH-CSGA Smackdown, and Veterans Wars)

The CMH website cmhweb.org will be updated.

Meeting concluded at 7:30. Minutes submitted by Terry Shockey, CMH Secretary

