



Colorado Military Historians

Newsletter

XLIX, No. 9

September 2023



Walled town at Historicon

News and Views

*Message from CMH Secretary
Eric Elder*

Thanks to Jim and John this month for their articles. Jim explains how to make an easy wet palette. John reflects on 1967 when he joined our club. Next month John continues his club history from the 1970s. Historicon photos in this newsletter have been provided by John Mumby and Larry Armin.

At our September monthly meeting Hugh will be running a Blood and Plunder game:

Scenario: Lost City of Gold, part 1

Players: Bill Daniel will be helping me with the nefarious natives, other players 6-8

Armies: 150 points, no boats, must have at least 3 units, at least 1 unit must have the "sailors" trait, characters should be bought with an eye as to who would be helpful wandering around in a strange and unexplored jungle.

Plot: Rumors are afoot of yet another Lost City of Gold in the jungles of Central America, various captains and scallywags have decided that This. Rumor. Is. True. and have launched expeditions into the interior to try and be the first to find it and all its sweet sweet gold. Assembling on the coast multiple competing bands have been detached to explore the jungle and find the Lost City, and, against all probability, they find themselves converging on a native village, surely the village headman can be convinced to tell you (and only you) where the City is?

Also in September David Manley is hosting a AWI King's Mountain game using the Sharpe Practice rules. Here are the latest details of his game:

As a note, the Loyalist forces will be Provincial Regulars formed up in groups of 8. There can be four commands of 16 figures each; offering up to 4 players. Units are best mounted as groups of four on a 40mm by 40mm base, but any mounting can do; even four bases of three figures each. The frontage of the formations will approximate 3-4". Half the Loyalist forces will be in British red uniforms, the remainder in more militia clothing.

There will be ten Patriot units in groups of six figures each. These are frontier skirmishers. There will be up to five commands for this force. They are attacking and must kill or capture the entire Loyalist force for a major victory.

At this point I have Larry Armin, Doug Wildfong, Jeff Lambert, Dave Newport, John Wharrier and Jayme Doremus as interested. Anyone else that would like to play is welcome. This is a battle of colonial Loyalists vs Patriots with one British figure in the Loyalist force; their commander Patrick Ferguson. The Loyalists are trained to fight in classic British style while the Patriots are completely frontiersman.

At the October meeting, Larry Irons is coordinating an ADLG rules recreation of the Battle of Catalaunian Plains. As of August 15, there were only two spots left in the game. Contact Larry if you are interested.

Making a Wet Palette

Article By CMH Vice-President

Jim Rairdon

As a follow up to my Army Painter Speed Painter article, I wanted to share a quick note about another “tool” that I discovered, the wet palette. I tried to make it as cheaply as possible, so I used an old lunchmeat plastic container, some sponges and parchment paper.

An old Pepperidge Farms lunchmeat plastic container (free if you eat lunchmeat) as the container for the wet sponge. I ordered some Cellulose Sponge Cloths, they came in a package of 3 for \$6.79. You can get a roll of Reynolds Kitchen Parchment Paper for \$4.99 for a 45 square foot roll. This would amount to a lifetime supply, but if you or your spouse bakes, you probably already have some in your pantry. The only other thing that you need is water, which is nearly free.

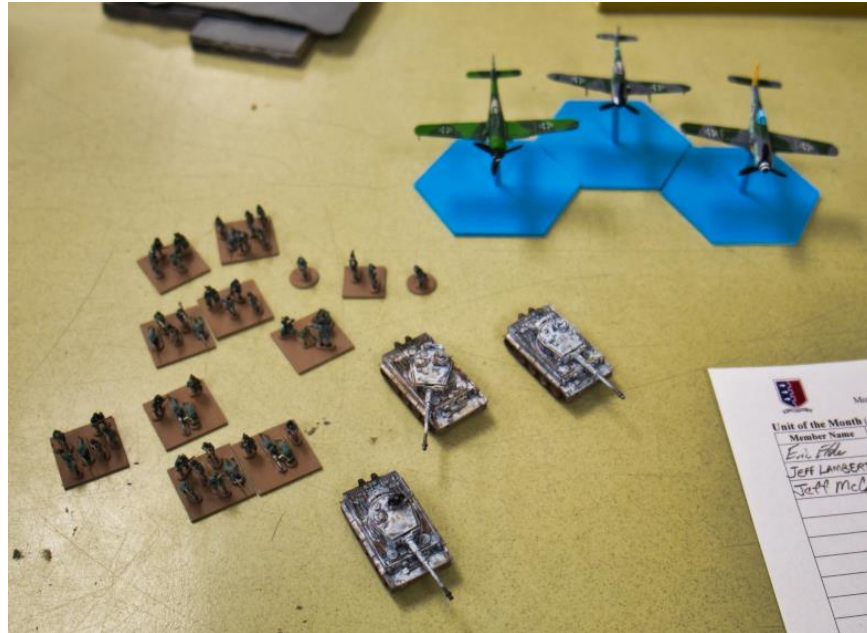
The plastic container is 5” square at the bottom, and the sponges are 7” x 8” by about 1/8” thick. If you can find some sponge that is a bit thicker, it would probably be better. I will use two layers of sponge to get a thicker sponge layer. I used a paper cutter to cut two usable sponges out of each sheet at 4” x 5”. I used the paper cutter to cut 4” x 5” pieces of parchment paper to put on top of the sponge.

All that is left is to put some water onto the sponge in the bottom of the container and then put a piece of parchment paper on top of the sponge. You can wet the paper first. You can put your paint on the parchment paper, and if you want to take a break and come back later, just put the lid on the container. It should extend the drying time of the paint by hours. When the parchment paper is filled up, you just throw it away and add a new sheet. Very simple.

Happy painting!

August Unit of the Month

Sponsored by Hobbytown Westminster



Each month, at the monthly meeting, CMH members bring their latest painted figures and models to the meeting to display their latest efforts.

| CMH Member | Scale | Manufacturer | Era | Unit |
|----------------------|-------|--------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| Eric Elder | 28mm | Etsy | 1700s | Windmill |
| Jeff Lambert | 1:144 | Platz | WWII | Bf109-G, FW-190D |
| JEFF MCCARRON | 12mm | Victrix | WWII | Ger. Tiger and Inf platoons |

Winner in **RED**



Historic Location of the Month

Sheraton Inn New Carrollton, Maryland

The first Historicon was held for three days in July 1984 at the Sheraton Inn in New Carrollton, MD. Over 900 attended with 67 events. There were 30 dealers there as well. Origins by contrast in 1984 had over 4000 attendees.



Sheraton Inn in 1973. (Bowie Blade Pic Project)



The Sheraton as seen with mural in 1981. (Charles K. Crockett/The Washington Post)



Sheraton Inn is now the Metro Points Hotel.

Gaming photos from Historicon 1984 can be found on this blog page:

<http://onemoregamingproject.blogspot.com/2010/08/photos-from-first-historicon-1984.html>



Memoirs of CMH

By John Carter

Joined 1967

In 1967 my father relocated to Denver and I started my sophomore year at Regis College. I began carpooling with wargamer Paul Jaecksch (Say Jax) and there we met CMH member Tom Herman. We were invited to a Fletcher Pratt Naval Wargame at Dick Moore's house and there met Dan Jones, both of CMH. We were invited to a meeting at the Fort restaurant and joined CMH in November,

In those days CMH was a dinner club centered around scholarly presentations on military history. There would be a gathering or cocktail hour, dinner, a brief business meeting, the presentation, and then General's Corner where any member could hold forth for five minutes on any related topic. Dan Jones might show his latest plastic model conversion. Bob Moulder might show his latest 54 mm display figure. Jim Colman, a veteran of Bataan and a raconteur, would tell some story that almost always found a way to poke fun at Mac Arthur. Bob Jones once went twenty minutes on the Zulus. And so on. The presentations were usually the result of a member's research and were of generally high quality followed by Q and A. Occasionally WWII veterans would share experiences. Wendell Fertig, who had led the Resistance on Mindanao was an outstanding example. Dick would do AWI battles like Trenton and Princeton. Vikings and the Iroquois were addressed. I went after Naval topics like the Solomon's Campaign and the Barbary Wars. I only recall two that were not that good.

Eventually, we left the Fort and used other venues set up for dinner meetings, the last being El Madero's on south Santa Fe, now an exotic toy shop.

There were several unofficial sub – groups that met privately. Dan Jones' passion for plastic models spawned a modeling group. Wargames occurred regularly at Dick Moore's house. At first Fletcher Pratt but then AWI using Charles Grant's rules. Dick kept a rather frat house atmosphere which was kinda fun. Dick believed in all things American and for whatever reason Paul, Tom, and I ended up on the British side. Eventually, we were able to win and then Dick became

interested in WWII armor games, also fun. Dan had developed a beer and pretzels set for WWII that Paul and I regularly attended in Thornton.

CMH at that time had a seven member board; the President, Vice President (In Charge of programs), the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Historian, and two Members – at – Large, one of whom was last year’s president to provide continuity. We eventually incorporated. All went along fine but in the mid- 70’s membership declined to nine members and seven board members. When a dentist who was building a Fokker D-VII WWI bi-plane came in Ulan uniform and gave a brilliant presentation and we had that small a turnout we knew we had a problem. We decided to go into a hiatus while we figured out where to go from there. Where we went is next month’s story.



Medieval town at Historicon

August Game of the Month

Sponsored by Hobbytown Westminster



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

| CMH Member | Scale | Rules | Description |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Eric Elder | 15mm | Bloody Big Battles | Spion Kop |
| LARRY ARMIN | 28mm | Fistful of Lead | Cav meeting battle |
| Greg Skelly | 15mm | FOW | North Africa |
| Greg Cornell | | Memoir '44 | WWII |
| John Brown | 15mm | ADLG(F) | 240AP Scenario |

Winner in RED



Historicon 2023 Photos

*Photos from CMH Member
John Mumby*



2023 Conventions

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Location</i> |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| September | | |
| 21-24 | Hurricon | Orlando, FL |
| October | | |
| 13-14 | Advance the Colors | Springfield, OH |
| November | | |
| 3-5 | Rock-Con | Rockford, IL |
| 3-5 | Fall-In | Lancaster, PA |
| 11-12 | Veterans Wars | Colorado |
| December | | |
| 7-10 | Midwest GameFest | online |



Mers-El-Kebir at Historicon

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. 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 serving 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 \$60.00 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: \$60.00
Half year Adult Membership: \$30.00
(For NEW members who join after June 30)
Family Membership: \$60.00 (one Adult and any number of offspring)
Student Membership: \$30.00 (16 to 22 years old)
Children: free (younger than 16 accompanied by member)

Club Links:

Web Site: <https://cmhweb.org/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/cmhgamers/>
Groups.io Group: <https://groups.io/g/cmhweb>
Discord: <https://discord.gg/DAP2Gn>

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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