



February 28, 2019

## HMGS Midwest Board Elections

Dear HMGS-Midwest Member,

Here are your instructions:

- 1) Read the candidate statements
- 2) Vote for the candidate of your choice for each office - vote for only one candidate - Vote by checking the appropriate space
- 3) Fold up the ballot and place in an envelope - DO NOT send any other item in the envelope
- 4) Make sure your return address is in the upper – left hand corner on the front of the envelope.  
[This is how we will verify that you are a member in good standing and eligible to vote]
- 5) Send the envelope to  
  
Kevin Cabai  
Vice President for Membership  
HMGS - Midwest  
5551 N. Osceola Ave  
Chicago, IL 60656
- 6) All ballots must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2019 to be valid.
- 7) The VP for Membership and the Secretary will open the envelopes and count the ballots publically at Games Plus on Sunday, April 7th, 2019, at 1:00 pm.  
The Membership is invited to attend to watch the counting

## Candidate Statements:

### President - Steve Fratt – incumbent

Steve serves as Chair: History Department, Trinity College and recently retired as Colonel Commanding 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, IL Vols [reenactors]. He has written several articles on tactics for *Strategy and Tactics Magazine* and *North and South*. He also was a consultant for Paddy Griffith and noted as a Civil War tactics scholar in Earl Hess' *Civil War Infantry Tactics* [2015]. He also is the ongoing editor for the *Oxford Online Bibliography* article on "Tactics" covering 5000 years of combat history. Besides supporting the best possible Little Wars convention, Steve wants HMGS-Midwest to expand its horizons by growing the membership, have a significant presence at other gaming conventions, and fulfill its mission by holding events at colleges, educational centers, military bases, and other public venues. In January 2017 he organized a HMGS Winter War College at Trinity College with the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Midway as a double-blind game for HMGS-Midwest 40 members.



This has blossomed into several events at the National Museum of the Sailor at the Great Lakes Naval Station [Birth of the Navy, Victory in the Pacific, and, most recently, the Guadalcanal Campaign]. He has also wanted to develop a fall event – this became Autumn Wars 2018 with a pre-20<sup>th</sup> Century theme. We are looking forward to a second Autumn Wars in 2019. This year for Little Wars 2019, the Board decided to use Tabletop Events software to help manage the convention. Steve is the Events Manager this year and developed the template for the submission of games. He would be honored in serving you again for another two years.

### Treasurer - Paul Dayton – incumbent



I am a semi-retired engineering professional who enjoys the miniature gaming hobby. After participating in the hobby for a number of years I sought to give some time back to the organization that has supported my hobby enjoyment. Four years ago I successfully ran for Treasurer of HMGS-MW. During that service time I have participated in helping bring our finances from a deficit each year to a gain this past year. I have also helped the BOD add Single Day Gaming Conventions to slower periods of the year. Further I have led the effort to set up an on-line convention registration through Tabletop Events.

My goals for the next two years are to

1. Complete the task of bringing HMGS-MW into a stable financial status, including transfer of our savings to a high interest account.
2. Complete installation and debugging of the on-line convention registration & game event management system, including seeing its' use for our single day events
3. Expand the Single Day Games to other regions of the Midwest (outside of Chicago area) by offering support to gamers local to the other regions

## Secretary - Timothy Robert Fisher

The desire to once again sit on the BoD is simple. I feel that not only do I bring a historical view point to the Bod (being one of the founders of Little Wars). I have enjoyed sitting on many Boards of Directors, everything from Banks, Fortune 1000 Companies to Village Board of Trustees. I am at my point in life that I have some more time and would like to see the Hobby grow. I work closely with the Boy Scouts of America and would like to see the youth today enjoy the hobby as much as I have over the years.



## VP for Membership - Kevin Cabai – incumbent



I have served in this role for the last four years and would do so for the next two. My previous organizational and gaming experience is what got me into this position. So let me tell you why I want to stay. During my tenure both membership and candidate attendance has gone up. We also have increased the member benefits, with additional gaming venues and hobby shop discounts. We have expanded the Ambassador program from 2 to 7 at other conventions.

My secondary focus has been to enhance your Little Wars experience. To this end I have initiated programs that led to: the addition of Thursday Night, Table Top Events, Reenactors Pant N Take, Swag bags, Prize Support (over \$5k) Collectable Convention Dice, Airbrushing Seminars, the Demo Game/Treasure Hunt, television and newspaper coverage, an increase in vendors to 36 along with a 72% increase in vendor revenue, and increase in advertising revenue. There is yet more to come.....

## Board Member at Large- Tom Kuczak

Hi, I'm Tom Kuczak. Currently I am student at DePaul University but will soon be graduating in the spring with a BS in Accounting. After graduation I will be taking a position with, the Midwest based Plante Moran. As an auditor, I enjoy being able to meet and interact with people and build relationships with them. I have also been elected and serve on the Youth Commissioner for the Village of Harwood Heights, for the past 2 years and have been reappointed for a 3<sup>rd</sup> term. My role is to organize and create programs for kids of all ages. I am in the process of introducing historical miniatures to the children in my programs. I plan to branch out and expand it to the local high schools in the area.



Tabletop gaming has always been a part of my life. I started when I was about 6 with board games but soon found myself fascinated with the miniatures aspect of it. That fascination led me to getting into wargaming. Now I am actively GMing at clubs, hobby shops and conventions. I did my first Gencon last year, and I am already signed up for 2019.

I am interested in running for the HMGS board because I believe I can provide a fresh perspective to add to this great organization. I've been an active member and volunteer in the society and desire to reinforce its continued growth and success. While I may not know every member of HMGS, I hope to meet and interact with you all in this process!

### **Please note:**

It was published in the Fall Newsletter, that Tom Zwerg was running for Secretary, and Jim Roots for Board Member at Large. Since that time life events have necessitated they withdraw their candidacy. We have two other members step up, Timothy Fisher and Tom Kuczak. Their statements are noted below:

Hello membership of HMGS-Midwest,

I am Tom "Dwarf" Darga, and for the last half of a year or so have been the Acting Secretary of HMGS-Midwest. I took on the board position because I saw there was a need, that the organization had been without a Secretary, and, well, the Board asked. I am a pen & paper RPGer primarily and what makes me feel good is volunteering at conventions so other gamers, some of which may have a harder time finding regular games, can enjoy themselves and game. Since I participate in (currently) eight different games each month, most running twice monthly, I game more than enough and thus only game at conventions when "dragged kicking and screaming" so to speak from my volunteering. Therefore when President Fratt called me and stated there were a couple of people interested in joining the board I didn't even let him finish before offering to step down because if people more engaged in historical miniatures are interested in being board members then I will encourage them all the way and step back into a background role again. I look forward to seeing you all at Little Wars where I will be helping out at registration once again, and some of you at GaryCon (8+ years as a volunteer there), Nexus (many years as VIP/GM Lounge volunteer), and most recently at GameHole (1 day, but on list for next year), and likely other HMGS-Midwest events. Sorry, but even though I enthusiastically step down as Acting Secretary you can't get rid of me that easily ;)

*Jim Roots* 'It is with regret that I withdraw from consideration for board membership. The duties of my new job do not permit the time commitment required to serve the membership adequately. I will continue to run events as a member.'



HMGS-Midwest 2019-2021  
Board of Directors: Officers  
Official Ballot

Office	Candidate	Vote
President	Steve Fratt (incumbent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Write-in)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Paul Dayton (incumbent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Write-in)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary	Timothy Fisher	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Write-in)	<input type="checkbox"/>
VP Membership	Kevin Cabai (incumbent)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Write-in)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Board Member at Large	Tom Kuczak	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Write-in)	<input type="checkbox"/>

All Ballots must be postmarked no later than March 31,  
2019.

Submission Instructions:

- 1) Only one vote per office, Detach this page.
  - 2) Place in envelope [only the ballot please, nothing else].
  - 3) Make sure your name and return address are clearly written on front of envelope.  
[Please include membership number if you are able.]
- Mail to: Kevin Cabai – HMGS-MW Election 5551 N. Osceola Ave, Chicago, IL 60656