

THE LOCAL
NEWSLETTER
FOR THE
MINIATURE
WARGAMING
ENTHUSIAST

HMGS Midwest



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Membership Update 2

2006 Financial Report 3

Pictures 3

After Action Report 4

Figures For Sale! 4

Gaming Opportunities 5

HMGS-Midwest Has a New Website

As many of the membership know, HMGS-Midwest has experienced difficulties with both of the websites maintained by the organization (www.hmgsmidwest.org and www.little-wars.com).

In order to be more responsive to the membership and to provide Little Wars information in a timely way, a new website has been created at www.hmgsmidwest.com.

While the new one will look similar to the old ones at first there are two fundamental changes; (1) we have consolidated membership and Little Wars information on to one

www.hmgsmidwest.com

website; (2) we have local control and maintenance of the site through the organization's Webmaster, Curt

Murff. As we move into 2007, you will see more frequent updates on the new web page as well. The Board's goal is to provide an up-to-date website that gives members a reason to go back frequently. Do you have ideas, pictures or links for the webpage? If so, contact Curt at ffrum@aol.com.

Check out the new website today!

Annual Board Meeting Announcement and Invitation

From the President ... by Michael Cosentino

Greetings my fellow armchair generals, it has been too long since we put out a newsletter. Your BoD has been very busy trying to rebuild a web page; society business, Rodger and Anne have been focused on Little Wars. We are very confident that this year show will be fantastic. The PEL is online and should have made it to your mailbox by now. We have some excellent events lined up, make sure you get your registration form so you do not miss out on any of the action.

We have a change this year from previous years. We are going to have our annual meeting on Thursday night April 12th. The meeting will begin at 8 PM in the advisory room inside the hotel. This year one of our members in HMGS-Midwest will receive

**Annual Meeting on April
12th at 8:00 PM**

an award in honor of Charles Prosek We urge everyone to attend the meeting to con-

gratulate our honoree. Following the meeting we will have a social with hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks. We also will have an option for beer, wine and spirits on a cash basis. The cost for the social is \$10. You can pay right at the door on Thursday night. This is an exciting new way to kick off the show without missing a moment of the action. Please come and socialize with your fellow gamers before we all get too busy trying to change history. We have a new web master in

Annual Meeting... cont.

Curt Murff. Many of you may know him from his excellent terrain called Murff Turf. Curt has helped the BoD fill a role that we were lacking. The new web page has combined both the old home page and the Little Wars page. The new address is www.hmgsmidwest.com. Please go and take a look. Right now things are a work in progress. Our main concern is to get the convention information up first and fix all the other stuff later. We have also been working on the newsgroup. To date we have had some of our members volunteer to moderate the group to stop those spammers from hijacking our news. More on this will follow after the convention.

Your Board is also working on a fiscal year budget, which should be complete in time for the annual meeting. When finalized it will be placed in the next issue of the newsletter. Also if anyone takes pictures at the convention we would love to put them on the web and in the newsletter. Please forward your pictures to the BoD and we will make sure you receive the thanks you deserve.

Well, its time to return to the bunker. See you all at the convention.

HMGS-Midwest Annual Meeting
Thursday, April 12, 2007
8:00 PM
Marriott's Lincolnshire Resort
Ten Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire, IL

1. **Board Roll Call**
2. **Approval of the March 17, 2007 Board Minutes**
3. **Little Wars Report**
4. **Treasurer's Report**
5. **New Business/Questions from Membership**
6. **Presidents' Report**
 - **General Items**
 - **Newsletter Status**
 - **Recognition Award**
7. **Reception**

Membership Update..... By Anne Hermann

To the right is a breakdown of HMGS-Midwest membership by state. Illinois has the lion's share of members—265. Wisconsin is second with 62. What is surprising is membership has gone international with two members from Canada!



Florida	1
Iowa	10
Illinois	265
Indiana	20
Kansas	3
Kentucky	1
Manitoba (Canada)	2
Michigan	8
Minnesota	24
Missouri	10
North Carolina	1
North Dakota	1
New Hampshire	1
Ohio	3
Pennsylvania	1
Wisconsin	62
Unknown	1
Total	414

2006 Financial Report... By Michael Mays



As you can see with the year end financial report the organization is doing better financially than at any time in it's history. This is due to the growth of Little Wars and economies of scale (more people attending the convention help to pay for fixed convention costs).

Included in 2006 revenues is the "Other" line item. This nearly \$2,000 amount reflects the IRS reimbursement of penalty fees for 2004 taxes and interest earned on savings. Thanks to Keith Bockus for all his hard work getting the refund!

HMGS Midwest Statement of Profit and Loss

Year Ended December 31	2006	2005
Revenue		
Little Wars	\$ 26,473	\$ 18,313
Membership	\$ 3,600	\$ 4,890
Other	\$ 1,956	\$ -
Total Revenue	\$ 32,029	\$ 23,203
Expenses		
Little Wars	\$ (13,208)	\$ (18,073)
Membership	\$ (261)	\$ (856)
Newsletter	\$ (641)	\$ (319)
Web Site	\$ (124)	\$ (69)
HMGS Midwest Shirt	\$ -	\$ -
Administrative and Other	\$ (482)	\$ (1,591)
Total Expenses	\$ (14,716)	\$ (20,908)
Total Profit	\$ 17,313	\$ 2,294
Reconciliation of Cash Balance		
Balance as of January 1	\$ 29,501	\$ 27,206
Total Profit	\$ 17,313	\$ 2,294
Balance as of December 31	\$ 46,814	\$ 29,501

Gaming In Pictures....



High Seas!



Surprise!



Flying Aces

HMGS-Midwest Figures for Sale

HMGS-Midwest owns several periods of miniature figures. The purpose of ownership was to allow members to "Check out" the figures for demonstrations, games, etc. However, interest in the loan program has been minimal to non-

existent. Therefore, the Board has decided to better use the resources by selling the figures at Little Wars this year and use the money for organizational objectives. Painted figures include 25mm Zulus, 15mm WWI figs including tanks, 1:1200

scale Napoleonic era warships, a 15mm European Village and terrain.

The figures will be available for purchase on Saturday, April 14th @ 9:00 AM in the flea market area at Little Wars.

A flyer listing figures for sale can be obtained by emailing Michael Mays at mays2009@sbcglobal.net.



After Action Report -Battle of Medina de Rio Seco, 14 July, 1808.....

By Mark Pawelski

The following game was played last year using the Age of Eagle rule set.

The battle began with the long-range canonade of General Maceda's battery by LaSalle's foot battery positioned on *Paramo de Valdeouevas* opposite the Spanish Advance Guard Division. Although initially ineffective, the French gunners soon found the range and silenced this battery. General Merle's division began their assault against Cagigal's division that held the Spanish right. Merle advanced with the 86th Ligne on the left and the 119th Ligne on the right. Merle's 6-pound foot battery, initially centered between the brigades, moved to the left flank of the division.

Mouton's division debouched from its hilltop position on the French right and began marching towards the unoccupied slopes on the Spanish left flank. Although some uncharacteristically sloppy staff work initially delayed LaSalle's troopers, the dashing cavalier finally got his two cavalry brigades moving against the Spanish left-center.

Marshal Bessieres' two brigades comprised of the Garde Fusilier-Chasseurs and the 120th Ligne began their advance against the Spanish center. There was no subtlety to the Marshal's battle plan. He simply threw everything he had against the waiting Spanish enemy!

All was not idle on the Spanish side of the battlefield. The aging Generalissimo Cuesta, being unable to sit a horse, was seen kicking up dust clouds as his carriage moved throughout his command. Unable

to effectively coordinate his army's movements, the brigades under his command hesitated before finally lurching to life. They began their advance towards the open Spanish left flank and a potential head-on collision with Mouton's division.

Meanwhile the divisions of Maceda and Portargo stoically awaited the storm gathering to their front. The Spanish troops nervously shifted in the ranks but held firm. It was on the Spanish right that disaster would strike!

The impetuous General Cagigal, away from the immediate control of General Blake thought he saw an opportunity developing. His four infantry brigades and small cavalry force could possibly catch the French unawares. Seizing the initiative (or so he thought) Cagigal ordered his division forward. It was a bold but fatal decision. The serried French columns shook out into supported line just in time to receive the Spanish attack. Rolling volleys smashed into the two lead brigades. The *Regimento Hibernia* was shattered and the *Milicia Provinciales de Galicia* was thrown back in disorder. Merle's artillery greeted the *Dragones de la Reine* and shot down an entire squadron. Only the *Regimento del Rey* had some success, temporarily halting the advance of the 86th Ligne.

More volleys ripped into the *Regimento de Zaragoza* carrying away forty per cent of the brigade. Despite the slaughter, Cagigal's division stubbornly clung to their position.

In the center, LaSalle's 10th Chasseurs a cheval struck the *Regimento de Toledo* just as they formed square. The Spanish were forced back initially but rallied and the cavalry withdrew with losses to both sides littering the slopes. The Guard Chasseurs a Cheval had better suc-

cess against the neighboring *Regimento de Aragon*. They drove this brigade from its position atop the *Teson de Mondolin* but withdrew as the remnants of the infantry rallied and formed square supported by a Spanish 6-pound battery. The cavalry had served its purpose. The Spanish no longer held the high ground.

In the center, Bessieres' brigade slammed into the hapless Advance Guard under Maceda. With the supporting artillery destroyed the *Regimento Ligero Cataluna* and the *Granaderos Unidades* were hard pressed to hold their forward positions. The Catalanian Lights were overwhelmed and destroyed by the 120th Ligne in a series of firefights and close assaults. The combined grenadiers faced off against their opposite number. Despite losing a third of their strength they gave ground slowly and withdrew on the supporting brigades of Portargo's division. The Old Guard Volante battery, moving in support of LaSalle's charges, maintained a brisk but ineffective fire at these brigades.

It was now that disaster struck on the Spanish right. The Galacian Militia, disordered by its close-range musket duel and melee with the French broke and fled the field. Another squadron of the Reine Dragoons was shot away and the remnants outraced the infantry to the rear.

With three infantry brigades, a battery and his cavalry support eliminated, General Blake issued the order for the remaining elements of his army to withdraw from the battle he had hoped to avoid. General Cuesta, sweating in his carriage, noticed the rearward movement of Blake's survivors. Although his Army of Castile had hardly fired a shot in anger and was just now approaching the ridge, he could not face the French alone. The battle of Rio Seco had ended in a crushing defeat for the Spanish forces.



HMGS

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Questions?
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HMGS-MIDWEST BOARD

President **Michael Cosentino**

**Executive
Vice President** **Rodger Kruse**

**Vice President
Membership** **Anne Hermann**

Secretary **Mark Pawelski**

Treasurer **Michael Mays**

Gaming Opportunities...

HISTORICON 2007 (26-29 July) – *Historical Miniature Gaming's Biggest Summer Vacation* – is almost here! Lancaster Host Resort & Conference Center, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
POC: Bob Giglio, Convention Director; director@historicon.org

All the events you've come to enjoy at the Historical Miniature Gaming Society's "Flagship" show, some expanded ones, and a battery of new and innovative items as well, add up to four days of hobby fun. Enjoy "the world's largest hobby shop", offering a gigantic selection of miniatures, rules, books and anything else needed for the historical miniature gaming hobby. It's the one place you *have* to be for Historical Miniature Gaming each summer, so make plans now! Go to www.HISTORICON.org for information (pre-registration opens May 14th).

22ND ANNUAL SYW ASSOCIATION CONVENTION MARCH 23-24

Location: Holiday Inn Downtown
213 W. Washington Street
South Bend, Indiana 46601
Hotel Reservations Call: 1-574-232-3941
Convention hours: Friday from 8:30 a.m. to midnight
Saturday from 8:30 to midnight
www.sevencyearswarassociation.com

GAMES PLUS HISTORICAL MINIATURES NIGHT

101 W. Prospect Ave. Mt. Prospect, IL
Phone: 847-577-9656

The second Friday of each month is Historical Miniatures Night at Games Plus in Mt Prospect Illinois. The local group hosts a night for beginners and experienced folks alike to come and enjoy a miniatures game - either by learning or playing games they already know. Anyone is welcome to, and encouraged to, run games as well. Details can be found at www.games-plus.com.

LEGENDS IN THE SPRING—MARCH 24

Doors Open: 8:30AM
Gaming Hours: 9:00AM to 10:00PM
Vendor Hours: 9:00AM to 6:00PM
Admission Price: \$10.00
Children Under 12: FREE
Where: American Legion Post 911
515 S. Main St
Wauconda, IL 60084
www.legends-in-time.com