

The Lone Star Dispatch

April 2015



2015-2016 LSHM Officers

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The Lone Star Historical Miniatures

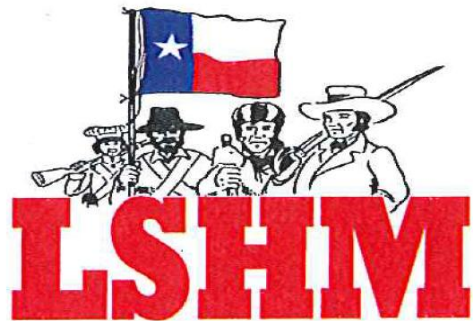
(LSHM). We promote miniatures wargaming in primarily historical periods but also fantasy/sci-fi. We are not dedicated to one rule set or scale. We promote miniatures wargaming by running events, helping local conventions, and assisting with tournaments, financial backing and run demo games. We will also run gaming classes at schools. We encourage all gamers to be a part of our group to help support our common hobby.

Please forward to all miniature gamers here in Texas and beyond.

"Officers Mess - a note from the LSHM Board"

By Joe Shaffer

Greetings. I am happy to be writing this, the first President's Line in the LSHM newsletter. LSHM has begun an exciting new year and the new board has plans to energize the historical game community in San Antonio and beyond. We recognize the importance a group like us can be to the hobby and its members and we are doing our best to give everyone a reason to be part of it. Our renewed presence on the web managed by Mark Leroux and this newsletter with Charles Torok as editor will enable us to keep you informed. Our monthly game musters will feature a variety of miniature events offering opportunities to try different genres and rules. And finally, our flagship event, Milleniumcon celebrates its 18th anniversary in November offering a splendid opportunity to dive into this hobby and its fellowship. The board will do its part to keep all of these efforts successful. We ask for your support by participating and by renewing or joining as a member of LSHM so that we can see that our efforts have meaning and value to you. There is truly power in numbers and an active, engaged membership can make LSHM a real asset to the gaming community and beyond.

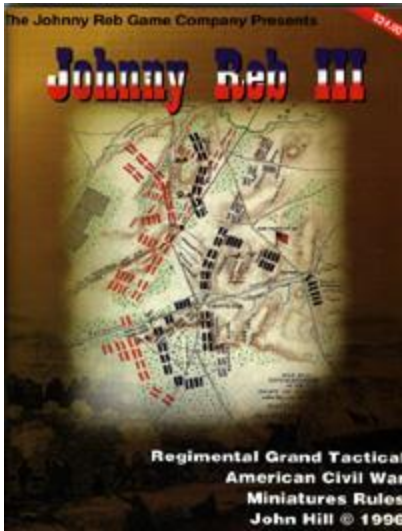


Send any articles, pictures, events to:
Charlie Torok – torokc@hotmail.com

We are always looking for input into the Newsletter. We plan to publish once a month typically NLT the 3rd of each month.

Join us for these upcoming events:

April - May 2015



Battle of Shiloh

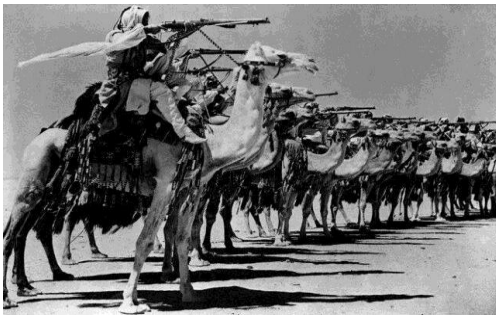
Johnny Reb III rules
fought April 6-8, 1862

When: Saturday April 4th
11am – 6pm

What: The scenario calls for at least four players and 6 might be better. The forces engaged total 52 regiments and 20 batteries.

Where: Joe Shaffer's House

Who: Any and all who want to play! All miniatures are provided and the rules will be taught. Contact Joe at:
joeshaffer9@gmail.com



Bolt Action Tournament

Official game day for the tournament is April 11th.

Dragon's Lair San Antonio

Start time 10:00 AM!

\$5.00 entry

1250 reinforced platoon

or

1500 armored platoon

One platoon builds any time line and theater lists are allowed as well. We are using the core rules.

If you do not have or choose not to run an armored platoon then still play your reinforced platoon. Basically there is going to be two tournament brackets - one for armored and one for reinforced. Games will not cross over. If you play an armored platoon then all your opponents are going to be fielding armored platoons. The same applies for reinforced platoons.

Due to the style of the event the time line for the event will be open to any period, and you can field army lists from specific battles in the back of your army book.

See: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/708364662615535/>

Contact: Will Easton at txntemplar@gmail.com



Past Events



SAGA Gaming Tournament at Great Hall Games – Austin

By Pete Attack

The Austin TX SAGA group met up on 28 March for a very fun, exciting and competitive tournament. There was a total of 10 players (Irish, Norse Gael, Anglo Dane, Anglo Saxon, Scots, Pagan Run, 4 Vikings).

First place went to the Scots played by Mark Bayne who went 3-0 (defeating Norse Gaels, Vikings, and Anglo Danes)

Second place went to Russell (Vikings) who went 2-1 (defeating Vikings and Irish, but losing to the Scots)

Third went to James Hughes (Anglo Danes)



We gave out 5 total prizes. First was a Frankish starter box; second was a Scot starter box, third was a painted warlord fig. Then we had a prize for the player who got his warlord into the most battles and we had a prize for the last place finish.



Each player played 3 matches played over 3 scenarios : Clash of Warlords, Battle at the Ford, The Escort. Points were awarded for Wins, killing enemy warlords, and scenario specific performance.

The Tri-Cities of Austin / Houston and San Antonio hold active SAGA groups – Come join one of these groups and play Dark Age miniatures.



Past Events



SAGA Gaming at Dragon's Lair SA

SAGA - Normans vs Vikings

David Beeson, Blake Radetzky, Grant Hopwood and I met up for some SAGA play yesterday at Dragon's Lair. I pitted my Normans against Blake's Vikings. Then Blake and David fought a Viking vs Viking game. Finally Grant's Crusaders fought the Vikings. Some great games and talk around the game table. SAGA is a quick play skirmish game set in the Dark Ages and Crusades. Come join us on the 3rd Friday of each month at Dragon's Lair SA (6-9pm) to try out this fun game.



Bolt Action Friday night game:

We got a great game of Bolt Action in this past month with [Joseph Wicker](#)'s British using the minefields Battleground Europe scenario!!!!

Oscar Barela's great Spanish Blue Division stomped the tea sipping pinky flippers as well as popping the muffin top on the sherman!!! another kill for the tank hunting panzerfaust team!!!! Checkout the wicked (Wicker) dice roll!!!



More Past Events



Napoleonic Naval Gaming :

Lone Star Historical Miniatures – The Battle of Trafalgar

16 of us met up at Dragon's Lair San Antonio Saturday, 7 March, for a great game of Napoleonic Naval action. Grant Hopwood presented a very fun game using his beautiful collection of Portsmouth miniature ships. We used the Bloody BroadSides rules – and they definitely lived up to their name!!

The powerful British flotilla had the wind at their back and Ken Ramsey took command as Lord Horatio Nelson. The French / Spanish fleet was already in line and awaiting the British advance. Ken ordered all British ship commanders to advance and break the French line. The game immediately got into action. These are fast play and enjoyable rules. Most of us had never played before and it didn't take long for us to master the mechanics. Grant controlled the game and kept it moving. Four hours passed by pretty fast. In the end the French + Spanish fleet lost 4 ships and the British 2, ending in a British victory.

We look forward to many more games of Bloody BroadSides. Thanks again to Grant and all the players who showed up to command a ship. If you are interested in joining us send me your e-mail address and I will add you to our contact list: torokc@hotmail.com

More Bolt Action gaming:

Bolt Action at Dragon's Lair SA:

Joe Wicker and I met up for a 1250pt game yesterday, Germans vs Italians near northern Italy 1944. We played the capture/hold the key terrain (building). The game went back and forth with great and bad dice rolls on both sides. There were two key highlights of the game. First Joe's Pz MkIV tank ruled the battlefield, destroying the lighter armed Italian M13/40 medium tank and the Italian armored car. The second highlight came on the last turn - ...two Italian squads assaulted the building, the first squad failing to take the building but the second one securing the objective for what appeared to be a certain victory. However, Joe's senior lieutenant was able to assault the building killing 5 Italians without suffering a wound. Thus the game ended with the lieutenant in command of the objective and a win for the EVIL side.



Current Events

Flames of War – Stalingrad Campaign

By Chris Lisanti

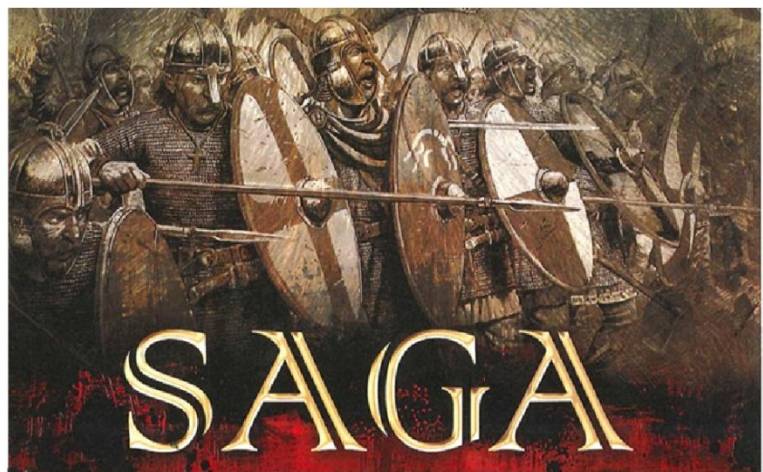
Stalingrad FOW Campaign Phase II:

Germans advance on all fronts. Phase I difficulties continued to plague the brave Soviet defenders as the Germans took two 6-1 and one 5-2 victories. 1st picture shows set up for Ian Staus' Strelkovy vs. Chris Lisanti's Pioneer Company with a very close 5-2 victory in the end with a last ditch assault by the Soviets to reclaim the objective repulsed by some phenomenal defensive fire from the pinned Pioneers. 2nd picture shows set up for Nathanael Lisanti's Strelkovy vs. Justin Baeza's Panzergrenadiers.

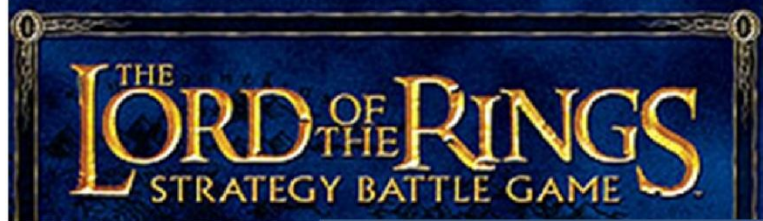
The Soviets clung tenaciously to Mother Russia, but in the end were overwhelmed by superior German numbers. 3rd picture shows set up for Michael Lisanti's Soviet Tank Battalion vs. Art Douglas' Panzers. The anti-tank guns in Pak40s and Flak 36s were the heroes taking out the T34s and the KV-1s (good hits and bad die rolls for the Soviets doomed the KVs to an early exit after only the first turn). Overall, the German forces suffered only minimal attrition and are looking strong going into Phase III, however, the Soviets get entirely new forces and the going will only get tougher for the Germans as they advance towards Stalingrad.



Future Events



WHO: San Antonio SAGA Game Group
WHEN: We play the 3rd Friday of each month (6pm-9pm)
WHERE: Dragons Lair San Antonio
All are welcome to join
POCs: Charlie Torok (torokc@hotmail.com) & Blake Radetsky (fifthussars@rocketmail.com)



WHO: San Antonio LoTR/Hobbit Game Group
WHEN: We play the 3rd Friday of each month (6pm-9pm)
WHERE: Dragons Lair San Antonio
All are welcome to join
POCs: Charlie Torok (torokc@hotmail.com)

GameExpo San Antonio

October 9-11th there is a new con in San Antonio, GamExpo. If you are interested in being a judge for either of these events email gamexposa@gmail.com. More details and signup rosters for the tournaments to come.



Waterloo 200th Anniversary Battle [18 June 1815] Napoleon at War 15mm

When: 20 June 2015
Where: Dragon's Lair San Antonio

Join us for a re-fight of the famous battle between Napoleon – Wellington and Blucher!

Contact Charlie Torok: torokc@hotmail.com

More Future Events

Early FoWSA II

May 30, 2015

The second annual EARLYWAR Flames of War San Antonio tournament will be at 10AM Saturday May 30, 2015 at Dragons Lair Comics, The tournament will accommodate 22 participants. First registered and with lists in, first served; others on standby; and we will look for a volunteer on standby to ensure an even number of players.

The Tournament will cost \$15.00, but \$10 for LSHM members.

Tournament fees are payable on the day of event at the door. Lunch is included in the entry fee. On the day of the event, registration opens at 10:00 AM and play begins at 10:30 AM. Make 1390 point lists from the Barbarossa, Blitzkrieg, Burning Empires, Hellfire and Back, or Rising Sun books; request permission for PDFs. Please email all lists to ian.straus@att.net by **5PM May 16, 2015 for approval.**

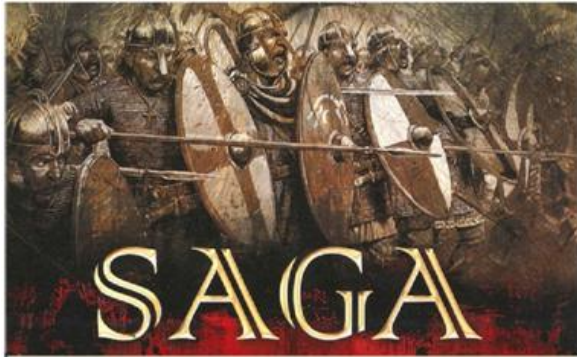


Flames of War San Antonio (FOWSA)

When: 30 May 2015

Where: Dragon's Lair San Antonio

Contact Ian Straus: ian.straus@att.net



SAGA – Houston Texas

When: 4 April 2015

Where: Fat Ogre, Houston TX

The Houston Area SAGA Players can be found on Facebook (under the same name). Currently we have a recurring SAGA tourney/event on the first Saturday of every even numbered month at Fat Ogre in The Woodlands.

Contact Russell Helms at: vorthrax@gmail.com

San Antonio MUSTER II

When: July 2015, exact date TBD.

Where: Dragon's Lair San Antonio

This will be our second Muster in San Antonio, and just like last year we will be hosting a number of historical miniature games. If you are interested in attending or running a game contact Charlie Torok: torokc@hotmail.com





MillenniumCon 18 Update

Theme: Decisive Battles in History – As we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo (18 June 1815) we will celebrate decisive battles in history at this years MillenniumCon. Battles like Zama, Agincourt, Trafalgar, Waterloo, Gettysburg, Midway, Stalingrad and Dien Bien Phu

Hello, I'm Mark Leroux and I just wanted to write a few short notes about MillenniumCon. 2014 was a great year! We had a great bunch of players attending and ran some absolutely awesome games!

Are you ready to do it again? Hope so because the date has been set. MillenniumCon 18 is coming November 6th-8th, 2015 and at the same location, the Wingate Hotel and Williamson Convention Center in Round Rock, TX.

We are in the planning stages for this year's event and we are looking for some help in running the convention. Obviously, we need GM's to run games and we will let you know when the website is ready to accept submissions. Also, we need people to help out on the convention staff. So, if you ever wanted to know what goes on behind the scenes of a gaming convention, this is your chance. If interested, send an email to me 'mleroux@gmail.com' or Charlie Torok 'torok@hotmail.com'.

The easiest way to help the convention is to talk to your friends and fellow gamers! Spread the word about MillenniumCon! Talk face to face or spread the news on social media. When uploading photos or updating your status, use the hashtag #MILCONTX. Let them know what a fun time you had last year. The more attendees we have, the more games sessions we will have, more vendors will come, more tables at the flea market, etc.

Thanks for reading and see you at the convention!

We are also looking for volunteers, Game Masters, Vendors – to help with this years convention.



We need volunteers !

Contact Charlie Torok at: torok@hotmail.com

If anyone has a trailer to transport 50+ folding tables that would be a great help.

The Workbench

Gamers sharing their projects



Joe Wicker painting some wonderful additions to his American, British, and German forces. The Warlord M18 Hellcat is one of the best models I have purchased and it is a pleasure to paint. The details on it are awesome. The M8 Greyhound is a very good model as well even though there isn't as much stowage. I'm using the Plastic Soldier "US" paint for their base coat. I have just finished my last "3d INF" British Soldier. I enjoy having the division patch on my models to add depth and story to my forces. Finally, I have completed my German Major and field medic. The Warlords officer has plenty of detail. I'll use him as an objective to capture in a future scenario and maybe add a submachine gun to him.



[Russell Pickett](#)

Working on 2 pieces of terrain for a D-DAY battle.



We need your project here!!!

Send your article and pictures to Charlie Torok: torokc@hotmail.com

Napoleonic New Project

by Ted Settlemyre

Nothing beats the thrill of starting a new project (well, maybe finishing one).

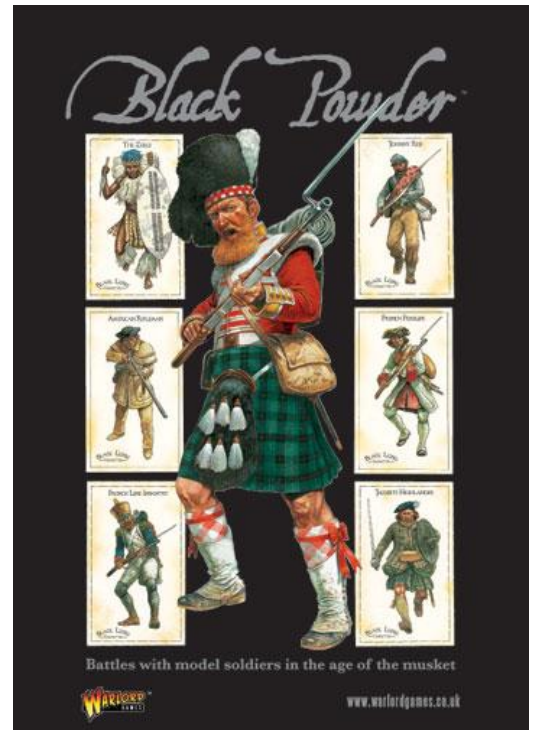
Here's the start of a Russian Napoleonic Army in 15/18mm using AB Miniatures. I decided on Warlord Games' Black Powder rules as I really enjoy the system and am already impressed by their Bolt Action and Pike & Shotte rule books.

The initial purchase: 4 units of cavalry (48 figures), 8 units of Musketeers (192 figures), 4 stands worth of cannon (some obligatory 12lbbers!), skirmishers, leaders and one limber (just to see how it looks). That's somewhere over 250 figures and will build out to three nice sized brigades.

The basic infantry unit will be 24 figures based four to a base on 25mm squares; cavalry will be 12 figures based two per base using 30mm squares. We're changing inches to centimeters based on recommendations from the Warlord Games forum. This will allow a nice sized battle to be played on a 4x6 table.

In addition I'm using Litko bases and have built enough plastic movement trays to accommodate all the units and the different configurations.

Let the cleaning, priming and painting begin!



We need your project here!!!

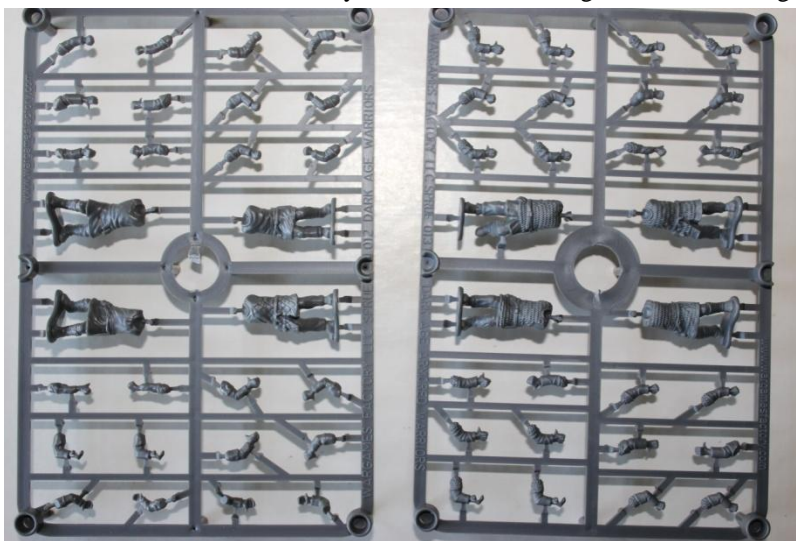
Send your article and pictures to Charlie Torok: torokc@hotmail.com

SAGA New Project

by Martin Zamarripa

For the last several months, I have thought about joining the group of gamers playing SAGA at the Dragon's Lair. Sadly, no matter where I went a copy of the basic rulebook and appropriate figures were never available. Recently, opportunity met desire at Dibble's Hobbies here in San Antonio. There on the shelf was the SAGA rulebook, several supplements and two boxes of 28mm plastic Viking figures. After five minutes of scanning the contents of each box and scrutinizing the cover art for some indication of the figure quality I was taking them home.

These Vikings are made by Wargames Factory as part of their *Hammer of the Gods: The Dark Ages* line of figures. I picked up a box of Viking Huscarls as well as a box of Viking Bondi. Each box contains enough torsos, shields and weapons to assemble thirty-two figures with plenty of kit left over. Virtually the only difference between the two sets is the chain mail armor on the torsos and upper arms of the Huscarl figures versus the shirts and padded armor of the Bondi. So unless stated otherwise comments are applicable to either box. Now, let me tell you a little about "the good", "the not so good" and "the other" things I found inside.



First, "the not so good." There are only four different torso and leg poses available to make your thirty-two figures, so a lot of imagination and planning will be needed to individualize each member of your war band. Although, the lack of diversity in torso stance can be overcome, not much can be done about the absence of animation in these figures. The poses are stiff (almost zombielike) and the folds of clothing that often can give the illusion of movement are barely visible. This stiffness of pose also extends to the arms. Weapons and arms are cast separately making it more difficult to find a proper angle to attach limbs to body. Be careful when painting so as not to hide what raised details there are on armor, helmets, shields and clothing.

Now, "the good." Arms and armor are everywhere on these sprues. Bows, axes, swords and spears are plentiful and you will have many left over. Shields are nicely detailed on both front and back and available for each figure. However, the thing that struck me most about these kits was the heads. Despite the details being slightly less defined than my painting skills would prefer, these mugs are awesome. Twelve distinctly different heads with a variety of helmets, hairstyles and beards goes a long way in helping with the individualization problem mentioned earlier. I can't decide which is my favorite: the longhaired, double braided, fully bearded berserker or maybe the balding but bearded one that reminds me of an aging hippy school teacher.

There are only a couple of "other" things I want to mention. Both are really a matter of personal preference. The torso and legs are molded with a flat piece of plastic attached to both feet allowing the figure to stand up on its own. This gives a very broad surface to attach the figure to its base but also requires the build up flocking material to hide the plastic. Good? Not so good? You decide. The last thing is the price. Perception of value is very personal and so discussion of price comes under "other." These figures should cost you about seventy cents apiece. This is a lot less than most figures of this scale but bear in mind you will have to shell out extra if you intend to mount them on bases or apply shield transfers.

Despite all that is not so good about these figs I have found them to be an excellent value. The challenge of piecing them together in realistic poses at times was frustrating but the result after painting has been satisfying. If you're ever at the San Antonio Dragon's Lair on the third Friday of the month maybe I'll show you what I have been talking about.