

ACE Game Club Newsletter

December 1997

Minutes of the November 2 Meeting

Mike Clancy welcomed the club members to his first meeting as President with great excitement and enthusiasm. He asked that anyone who did not receive a meeting notification card in the mail get with him after the meeting to clear up address problems. Mike said that Jim Destrompe is looking for club members who need T-Shirts to get their discounts. When James Rosensteel arrived, Mike made a point of asking him when he would be running more Necromunda games. James begged off for a few weeks on account of football season. Mike also reminded everyone that, at long last, Sci Con is next weekend. Admission is \$30 at the door.

Jim Destromp explained why the club did not participate in or promote Marscon last year (Marscon will be Jan 9th - 11th). He said that last year the club was offered \$2 off of each ticket in exchange for running games. While the club is there supporting the Con, it ought to be more of a two-way street than two bucks. If no better offer is made this year Jim said that he will not post any flyers for the Con in ACE stores. It is lots of work to run a quality tournament at a Con, and you deserve a major break on admission, if not free admission, if you run a game. Jim said that he will also not allow club terrain to be loaned out for the event.

Jim said that he has a list of Heartbreak Hobbies figures and a new issue of the HBH magazine, *Chronicles #7*, for those interested in Warzone. He said that Warzone is getting very hot; a new expansion came in and sold out within an hour. If you play Necromunda, you have to get these figures. Warzone is 40K cheap. Mike Turner added that the figures are the same scale and very similar between the two games, and therefore transfer from one to the other. Jim said that he hopes to arrange a demo of Warzone soon.

Mike Clancy made a pitch for the stylish and practical ACE Game Club T-Shirt (remember, you can't get your club discount without a valid membership card and a Club T-Shirt on your body!). (Shane did the needful on the spot, and now has *the* shirt to be seen around town in.)

Jim asked the group if people would be interested in having fantasy artist Larry Ellmore (Dragon Magazine, Rage) flown in during January. Larry would have signed prints of his excellent work for sale at \$30 each. The cost would be \$300 for the plane ticket plus a minimum sale of \$500 worth of prints. Jim asked people to think about how many people are willing to shell out \$30 for a print.

Jim also reminded people that there is a BattleTech tournament next week.

Jim was pleased to report that Jimbo Thorpe got his Tyrannid army back. Jim said that while he intended absolutely no aspersions on the competition, he had heard that several people had gone down to Worlds Best Comics and really laid into their staff, saying that they were not going back because apparently people can steal stuff from players there and no one cares. If you have a place for gaming, you *should* be able

to play without worrying about your stuff. What made this situation so offensive was that Jimbo recovered his army over the threats and objections of the staff who were working at the time.¹

When asked what had happened, Jimbo said that he was headed for the World's Best game room and that the people at the front counter had shouted at him that he could not go



in there because he was not a member. (Remember from last month's meeting that Jimbo had gone next door for 15 minutes to get a drink and found his army packed up and gone when he returned.) He charged in anyway and found that the person who had stolen his army was playing with it.

Jimbo said that he went in and just kicked the guy's butt. He did not think any bones were broken, but the felon was balled up on the floor. Though he was short a couple figures, Jimbo was very pleased to have recovered his army with the figures and paint-jobs undamaged. The thief was about 25, and can be recognized by a sizeable gut with multiple bruises. Jim said that, based on the description, it was someone who had been thrown out of the Denbigh store for stealing in the past.

Jim Destromp said that the club needs a volunteer for the Treasurer position. A replacement for Lonnie is needed before he ships out to Saudi. Lonnie has done a good job, but he is so busy that he does not make it into the store very often these days. Scott was approved as Treasurer by a vote of 18 to 1.

¹Disclaimer: this newsletter is written and edited by the ACE Game Club Scribe. It is in no way intended to represent the opinions of ACE store management, and ACE should not be held accountable for its content in any way. The editor would appreciate it if other store owners and their staffs would conduct themselves so that disclaimers like this one are not needed in the future.

Michael Menard made a pitch for the BattleTech tournament that he will be running at Sci Con. He said that he plans to provide everything for the game except tape measures. He also pointed out that the club now has a full set of dry-erase markers that he donated with the idea of making the on-going BattleTech tournaments self-sufficient. Michael said that he



would like to start a BattleTech card league similar to Arena. It could be based upon the use of Clan and House decks and organized like a bowling league. Decks would be customized and a side-board could be used. Michael promised to work on the rules.

Jim reminded the group that there will be a sale at ACE III in Denhigh on November 15th and 16th.

Mike Clancy was approved for a \$25 reimbursement for an ad. (Sorry I think my handwriting failed on this one. -Ed.)

Jim suggested that the club could take a banner, membership cards, and shirts to Sci Con for Michael's BattleTech game.

Dollar Tree currently has 36-inch tape measures. Jim added that he is pursuing having Warzone and FASA come to town for a promotion. Eventually we will get on their promotional mailing list. Also, Jim said, the new Dune card game is out (though there have been some shipping problems with the store's orders). It is really complex but fun. The next Star Wars card game expansion is due out soon.

Mike Clancy solicited people to do the featured game for the December meeting. Patrick Rault and Dave Peterson agreed to run Gorkamorka. The tentative plan for January's game will be Warzone, run by Chris Companion. He is working on ideas for a campaign featuring Mega Corporations. Chris also mentioned that HBH is getting ready to release a WFB-equivalent game. He also said that he would try to run a small 500-point game in December if he had time available.

He ran a 1000-point demo at ODU that went pretty well. Warzone blister packs are about \$3.95. They are in 30mm scale and their quality is good, even in their resin kits. Some of the figures are by former GW sculptors. Chris said he would bring some of his books to the next meeting for people to take a look at. Jim added that he is circulating HBH and Ral Partha miniatures lists for people to take a look at.

Mike Clancy announced that the club 40K campaign by Jim Morris had ended. Jim apparently collected his materials in dismay because people were not submitting orders any more. Mike said he wants to start a 1500 point league soon.

Games happening at Sci Con will include BattleTech, West

End Games' Star Wars RPG, WFB, and a Necromunda tournament run by a GW outrider. Mike Turner said that he will be looking for opponents for any of his three armies.

Attendance for this meeting was 19.

The next game club meeting will be December 7th at 1:00pm. The featured game will be Gorkamorka.

ACE Game Club Events

December

- 5 Jim D's D&D Campaign, 8:00pm - midnight.
- 7 **ACE Game Club Meeting**, 1:00pm at ACE I in Hampton. Featured event: Gorkamorka.
- 12 Jim D's D&D Campaign, 8:00pm - midnight.
- 13 BattleTech Mercenary Campaign, 12:00n at ACE I in Hampton.
- 14 BattleTech Tournament at ACE I in Hampton, 1:00pm. Entry \$3.00.
- 19 Jim D's D&D Campaign, 8:00pm - midnight.
- 20-21 **Holiday Sale** at ACE I in Hampton. Great specials, fantasy artists. Don't miss out! Send Mom and Dad to do their Christmas shopping!
- 20 BattleTech Mercenary Campaign, 12:00n at ACE I in Hampton.
- 21 BattleTech Tournament at ACE I in Hampton, 1:00pm. Entry \$3.00.
- 26 Jim D's D&D Campaign, 8:00pm - midnight.
- 27 BattleTech Mercenary Campaign, 12:00n at ACE I in Hampton.
- 28 BattleTech Tournament at ACE I in Hampton, 1:00pm. Entry \$3.00.

January

- 4 **ACE Game Club Meeting**, 1:00pm at ACE I in Hampton. Featured event: Warzone.
- 9-11 **MarsCon 98**. Still just a Relax-a-con. Games, LARP, Caprizzio Women of Whimsey, Charity Auction, Friday Night 50's Sci-Fi Theme Party, Dealer Tables, Special Guests Peter Schweighofer, Patty Jackson, Bud Webster, Rik Jacobs, Luna-C. Ramada Inn Historic, 500 Merimac Trail, Williamsburg. Call 1-800-666-8888 for room reservations at the special Con rate of \$38/night. Registration \$10 util Dec 10th, \$20 at the door. Con info by email: marscon@erols.com.

February

- 28 **Dominion 4**. ODU Sci-Fi and Fantasy Club-run Con. 9:00am - midnight, at Old Dominion University's Webb Center, Hampton Blvd, Norfolk. Star Wars, BattleTech, Space Hulk, White Wolf, Necromunda, Card Games, Anime. Registration \$3.00 students, \$5.00 non-students. For info call Ron Johnson 640-8424 or Phil Langley 463-6232. Special discount \$1 off for ACE Club members.