

~ Nathan's Nuggets ~

Jacob Hebner, CO
Paydirt • 8Angela Collinson, MD
Circus Maximus • 9Kevin Lewis, DC
A Few Acres of Snow • 3Nathan Hill, PA
Manoeuvre • 2

94 teams entered the 23rd "Run for the Slivers" at the 2013 WBC and all the pre-race chatter was about which of the dueling handicappers would correctly predict the outcome. Neither did, if the posted odds were to be believed. The biggest overachievers may have been **Nathan's Nuggets** who won it all while coming from well back in the pack to overcome 139-1 odds. They ruined more than a few brackets in the process—having appeared on no prediction entries.

You also had to gaze all the way to mid-racing form to find the runner-up **Ski Patrol** on the Happy Handicapper's list as the Finnish team overcame 112-1 odds to place second with three titles in *Manoeuvre*, *Empire of the Sun*, and *Twilight Struggle* to edge **KGB A** (a 73-1 choice) by a single point. It was not like these guys were unknowns—all had won their events previously and, as such, they achieved their team victory without the aid of a single bonus point. The Baltic champs received more respect from our challenging Handicapper who picked them tenth. KGB A, for their part, were no babes in the woods—having tasted the Top 25 with a 19th place finish last year in the guise of the KGB Comrades. While gaining points with strength in numbers by scoring with every team member, they were led by Mark Guttag's 10-point win for *Facts in Five*. The win in the recently flourishing 75-player event tied for top individual win in the Team Tournament with Steve Squibb's predicted win in *Atlantic Storm* over a field of 110. The latter proved the big blow for the **Cardboard Heroes'** 5th place finish. Both 10-point scores benefitted from bonus points for first titles.

Our top three teams were separated by one point and two were deadlocked at the top with 22 points and had to be decided by tie-breaker with the Nuggets triumphant since their four events drew 30 more total entrants: 191-161. But it was even closer than that, since we actually had the

Finnish team winning for several weeks before discovering a scoring error that caused the tie. Bonus points were also critical with Nathan Hill and Kevin Lewis scoring two while the other five scorers were all previous event champs.

With the usual prohibitive favorites coming up short in 2013, our bracket busters had tough sledding in the annual Team Picking contest. Once again, Mark Love's 2009 record of six correct picks remained unbeaten but it is no longer unmatched as David Meyaard correctly identified six of the Top Ten teams.

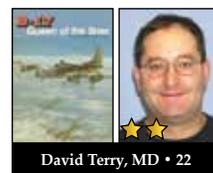
Scoring was up across the board with both Top 10 and Top 25 finishes requiring two more points to make the cut. It was a big year for depth in scoring with six teams avoiding the Weak Link syndrome - garnering points from all four members (Nathan's Nuggets, KGB A, Band of Fools, Me & 3 Stiffs, Four to Beam Up, and Make My Day). 27 teams were shutout—holding steady again at 29% of the field. The highest ranked squad failing to score and thereby earn the 2013 title for Most Overrated was that forlorn bunch of Cabbies "Forgot Our Team Name" who also apparently forgot how to play despite their 48-1 odds and #5 ranking. Many a bracket backer rued this choice.

Cardboard Heroes proved the most sociable team in the Top 25—averaging 118 players per event. On the opposite end of that ledger were three teams drawing only 24 players per tournament. All in all, our 376 players selected 134 different games that meant only 22 events were not involved in the Team Tournament. *Dominion* proved to be the most popular choice with ten players, followed by *Agricola* and *Air Baron* with eight each. *Atlantic Storm* was fourth as the choice of seven players while nine events drew six each. 33 Team participants (8.7%) managed to win their predicted events—an increase of 7 titles and 1.22% over 2012 totals.

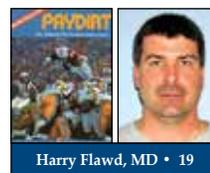
Years of Service: 22 to 11

Core Cadre is a long overdue feature paying homage to those "what brung us" this far. Our GMs are the essence of what we are all about, without whose efforts, there simply would be no WBC. We expect more from them than is the norm elsewhere and more often than not, we get it. Everyone who takes a turn as a WBC GM has our respect and thanks, but those who return to shoulder the load year after year for the enjoyment of others are a special breed. For as much as we value the efforts of every GM, those that return with years of experience borne of trial and error are precious resources indeed.

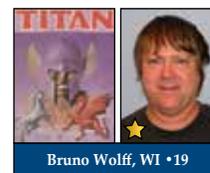
The list below, ranked by years of service (and GM Awards ☆), encompasses our current longest serving GMs in their respective specialties with nary a break in service. Admittedly, this does a disservice to those who have taken a year off here or there—or switched between events—but we have no easily recalled records of such. So, with advance apologies for omitting those who also have served wherever needed by moving from one event to another over the years, we herewith present our Core Cadre for your consideration.



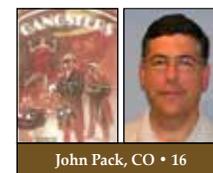
David Terry, MD • 22



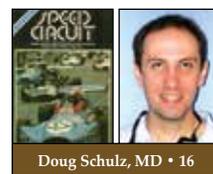
Harry Flawd, MD • 19



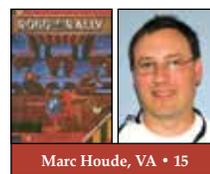
Bruno Wolff, WI • 19



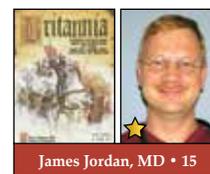
John Pack, CO • 16



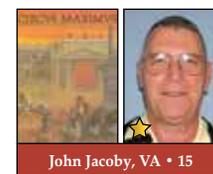
Doug Schulz, MD • 16



Marc Houde, VA • 15



James Jordan, MD • 15



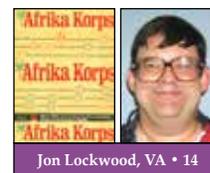
John Jacoby, VA • 15



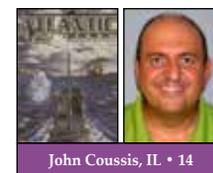
Mark Love, MD • 15



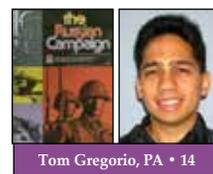
Pierre LeBoeuf, MD • 14



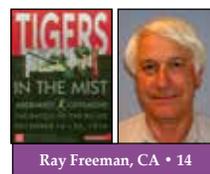
Jon Lockwood, VA • 14



John Coussis, IL • 14



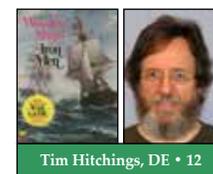
Tom Gregorio, PA • 14



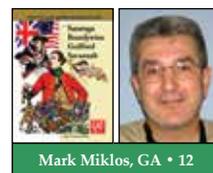
Ray Freeman, CA • 14



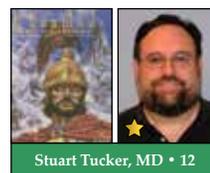
Brad Johnson, MI • 13



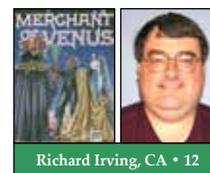
Tim Hitchings, DE • 12



Mark Miklos, GA • 12



Stuart Tucker, MD • 12



Richard Irving, CA • 12



Vincent Meconi, DE • 11



Years of Service: 11 to 8



Years of Service: 7 to 5



2013 proved to be an extremely competitive year for BPA's Top Gamer award when no one won more than two events at WBC. That meant the issue would be decided by the results of earlier minicon and email tournaments under the BPA umbrella. Such was the case with the top 11 laurelists scoring at least part of their total outside of WBC week. Given our recent divestiture of minicons, this may be the last year the issue is so heavily influenced by events outside of WBC.

Andrew Emerick paired an 86-laurel headstart at the 2012 Euroquest with wins in *Liar's Dice* and *Egizia* to score the eighth best WBC performance and emerge as our 2013 top gamer. His margin of victory over 2004 Caesar James Pei was actually much less than would appear by sheer laurel count. James had already placed second in a *For the People* email tournament months before WBC, but because that event used concurrent consolation matches to resolve lesser places and those matches dragged on long after WBC, his 36 laurels for that event were not credited towards 2013 totals. Had they been, James would have won the Caesar title by seven laurels.

Rounding out

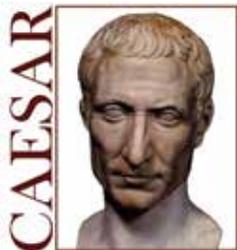
the top six BPA competitors for 2013 were Robert Kircher, Sceadeau D'Tela, Ken Gutermuth and Stefan Mecay.

Only nine of 2012's Top 25 players managed to retain that top billing led by Pei who alone of all BPA's Top Dogs has managed to remain in the Top 25 for each of the past five years. In fact, you have to go back seven years to 2006 to find the last time "The Master" did not place in the Top 25. The other top scorers to retain their Top 25 standing in 2013 were Emerick, Kircher (3rd), D'Tela (4th), the defending Caesar Randy Buehler (7th), Doug Galullo (8th), Riku Riekkinen (9th), Keith Wixson (11th) and Nick Henning (12th).



Andrew Emerick

Past Caesars		
1999	Marvin Birnbaum, NY	135
2000	Ewan McNay, CT	120
2001	Nick Benedict, CA	138
2002	Marvin Birnbaum, NY	146
2003	Nick Benedict, CA	113
2004	James Pei, VA	293
2005	Arthur Field, SC	224
2006	Jeff Mullet, OH	166
2007	Raphael Lehrner, MD	170
2008	Alex Bove, PA	159
2009	Stefan Mecay, TX	295
2010	Stefan Mecay, TX	182
2011	Randy Buehler, WA	241
2012	Randy Buehler, WA	205



CAESAR

James Pei, VA	Robert Kircher, RI	Sceadeau D'Tela	Ken Gutermuth, NC	Stefan Mecay, TX
148	139	131	126	125
- The 2013 Caesar Line of Succession -				



Even mandatory Board Meetings, Auction finances, and site inspection trips could not prevent our talented Chairman of the Board from posting the best results during WBC week to claim Consul honors for 2013 with wins in *Auction* and *Empire Builder* coupled with scores in three other events. A mere four laurels separated him from Nick Henning who posted his third straight triple-digit week while finishing first or second for the week for the third straight year. Wins in *A Few Acres of Snow* and *Galaxy Trucker* plus places in four other events fueled his 104-laurel week.

David Platnick, eight laurels behind, was third with a win in *Princes of Florence*, two seconds and a third in an all-Euro performance. But newcomer Trella Bromley in her first WBC had the most eye-opening

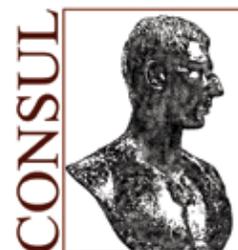
week. The Train Gamers exec and lone woman in the Top 25 proved she knew her stuff around the rail yard with an all-rails 98-laurel performance. Improving either of her two thirds in *Empire Builder* or *Ticket to Ride* to runner-up status would have netted another 12 laurels and the Consul title. Robert Kircher finished fifth with wins in *Amun-Re* and *Santa Fe Rails* plus three also-rans. The defending Caesar, Randy Buehler, did not give up without a fight—scoring laurels in six events and winning two—but he was unable to record a signature win to finish sixth for the week with 94 laurels in six Euros.

Notably absent from the Top 10 resumes were wargame results—with only Bruce Reiff's claim to *Battle Cry* laurels presenting any balm at all to wargamers, slim though that may be. Rounding out the Top Ten were Israeli Aran Warszawski (92 laurels) who managed to finish seventh overall without winning a single event, 2014 Caesar Andrew Emerick (91 laurels), Bruce Reiff (87 laurels) and Brandon Bernard (84 laurels).



Ken Gutermuth

Past Consuls		
2004	Devin Flawd, PA	111
2005	None	-
2006	Jeff Cornett, FL	134
2007	None	-
2008	Andy Latto, CT	129
2009	Rich Moyer, MN	100
2010	Bruce Reiff, OH	151
2011	None	-
2012	Nick Henning, DC	133



CONSUL

Nick Henning, DC	David Platnick, VA	Trella Bromley, FL	Robert Kircher, RI	Randy Buehler, WA
104	100	98	95	94
- The 2013 Consul Line of Succession -				



Our 2013 GM of the Year was **Larry Lingle** for 15 years of service to WBC—tracing back to his appointment as a 1998 original member of the Board of Directors—and culminating in his current job as tour director of WBC's own *Pirates of the Caribbean* ride.

"Cap'n Larry" has been at the helm of the *Pirate's Cove* event for nine years—during which time it has grown from humble beginnings to last year's triple-digit mega field of 121. 2013 marked its fifth straight year of rising attendance. Cap'n Larry's Pied Piper success story stems from his transformation of the Marietta room into a veritable smuggler's cove of pirate accessories ranging from talking parrots to walking the plank. His crew is a motley lot liberally adorned with eye patches and hooks while munching on chocolate doubloons. In short, it's one big party and "Arrrrgh" fest.

The Cap'n owed his selection to consistently high marks from the Board, faring no worse than 7th in our 12-point scoring system, despite getting only one first place vote. His score of 77 bested runner-up Nick Ferris by seven points. Nick was a rare rookie nominee who garnered the most top votes with four top picks from our

eight board members. Nick impressed with his ability to handle two mega events (*Dominion* and *7 Wonders*), while introducing an effective new system for quickly assigning random tables.



Larry Lingle

Past Winners

1991 – Russ Gifford, NE – ASL
 1992 – Jim Burnett, TN – WPS
 1993 – Glenn Petroski, WI – VIP
 1994 – John Ellmann, MD – MMS
 1995 – Ken Lee, PA – GCA
 1996 – David Terry, MD – B-17
 1997 – Will Wible, VA – ROR
 1998 – Bruce Monnin, OH – WAS
 1999 – Bruno Wolff, WI – TTN
 2000 – Vince Meconi, DE – WAS
 2001 – David Terry, MD – B17
 2002 – John Jacoby, VA – CMS
 2003 – Chuck Foster, TX – EPB
 2004 – John Coussis, IL – ACS
 2005 – John Sharp, FL – VIP
 2006 – Don Chappell, TX – WTP
 2007 – Ivan Lawson, MD – LST
 2008 – Tom McCorry, VA – CAR
 2009 – Jim Jordan, MD – BRI
 2010 – Stuart Tucker, MD – HRC
 2011 – Claire Brosius, MA – TTR
 2012 – Brad Johnson, MI – DUN

Placing third with 69 points and the three top votes was Dan Dolan in his farewell appearance as the colorful GM of *Elchfest*. The voice of Dan's World and a worldwide Moose booster will be missed wherever flicking games are played or "rugsrats" roam. Rounding out our crew of Top Six GMs were Pierre LeBoeuf (61), Terry Coleman (61) and Gregory Crowe (60). Pierre, who earned his fourth Top Six award, also is stepping down as GM of *18XX* after 14 years. By moving the event to the pre-con he returned it to its highest attendance (61) since 1994. Terry Coleman gained his second Top Six Award for his tenth presentation of the always popular *March Madness* and a second orphaned event. This year it was *House Divided* fans who had Terry to thank for keeping it on the bill of fare. Greg Crowe

earned his first Top Six notice for his 11th year of *Titan: the Arena* in both adult and junior formats.



Who says romance is dead? WBC's presumably male bastion has elected a member of the fair sex for the fourth time as our Sports(w)man of the Year. **Emily Wu** won our annual membership vote handsily over a field of 15 nominees by commanding over 17% of the vote. Emily's presence was noted throughout the con as being a game and upbeat competitor in numerous wargame events heavily dominated by males where female presence is often lacking. Despite not much in the way of success in the won/loss columns, she took the experience in stride and came back for more.

That alone is worthy of notice, but when she and Geoff Allbutt got married during the convention at 9:30 on Thursday and then returned to the

Host to play in another tournament—well, her election was all but certain. In the game of life when a woman gives up her honeymoon to pursue her husband's hobby, she's a keeper! Congratulations, Geoff and Emily! As compensation for the honeymoon, the first anniversary lodgings are on us at WBC 2014. And you can even bring Geoff if you want.

All 15 nominees received votes with 310 members participating. Others receiving strong support were Tom McCorry (14%), Rob Drozd and Max DuBoff (10%), Antony Saccenti (9%) and Rose Hitchings (8%). Congratulations to all of our good sports and our thanks for making WBC a better experience for all of us to enjoy.



Emily Wu

Past Winners

Chuck Stapp, NJ – 1992
 Tiger Von Pagel, FL – 1993
 Rob Kilroy, PA – 1994
 Ian Lange, AE – 1995
 Jim Matt, MI – 1996
 Ed Connery, NJ – 1997
 Frank Sinigaglio, NJ – 1999
 Robert Sacks, NY – 2000
 Bret Hildebran, OH – 2001
 Kaarin Engelmann, VA – 2002
 James Jordan, MD – 2003
 Steve Okonski, MD – 2004
 Bruno Sinigaglio, AK – 2005
 Phil Barcafer, PA – 2006
 Rebecca Hebner, CO – 2007
 Kaarin Engelmann, VA – 2008
 Mark Yoshikawa, CA – 2009
 John Emery, SC – 2010
 Larry Lingle, PA – 2011
 Peter Eldridge, uk – 2012

