BPA is an association of boardgame enthusiasts incorporated as a non-profit company in the state of South Carolina for the express purpose of hosting the annual gaming conference known as the World Boardgaming Championships, or WBC for short. It offers tournaments, vendors, an auction, demonstrations, seminars, open gaming, and Juniors programs. In addition, for those who can’t get enough, we offer Play-by-Email-Tournaments. We love boardgaming competition—from wargames and Eurogames to racing, sports, and rail games, and we make no apologies for it. It’s what we do. And we’ve done it better than anybody else by default for decades. This yearbook documents BPA events of the previous year. Aside from the back cover, it does not contain scheduling information for the upcoming convention. Schedules and event previews will appear in a separate program and online at boardgamers.org. In fact, on our website, you’ll find more pre- and post-event information than any place on the net—over 1,000 pages of it. It’s not very lucrative or cost effective, but we think it demonstrates our commitment to this hobby.

To help support BPA, take a moment to subscribe to our FREE e-mail newsletter via the website and continue to spread the good news about our association and its activities.

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2015 was WBC’s Lancaster Swan Song. Our tenth year in Dutch country set another attendance record despite, or perhaps due to, all the concern over the coming venue change. Each year in Lancaster saw steady attendance gains despite infrastructure challenges and 2015 was no exception with both fire and flood calamities taken in stride. Players from over 50 states and Canadian provinces plus a record 23 nations met at the Host one last time. 24 events broke 100 with ten more topping 90 entrants. All 164 events achieved tournament status with fields ranging from eight to the regning attendance champ Ticket to Ride and its 302 rides (eight). 18 reigning champions defended their titles, led by the Master, James Pei, who extended his dominance in For The People to seven straight to maintain his hold on WBC’s longest winning streak. Curt Collins lost his status as the closest pursuer when he failed to win his fifth consecutive Union Pacific title—finishing third. Peter Gurneau and Eric Wrobel also fell off the pace, failing to record their fourth consecutive title in their respective specialties. Perennial 18XX champ Bruce Beard thus became Pei’s closest pursuer with his third straight 8XX title as he built a second winning streak. Among those of us with humber ambitions, 37 claimed their first title of any kind. 110 earned their first laurels to claim contender status in the years to come. 14 gents managed to win two events each while Ewan McNay and newcomer Richard Boyes claimed three. The female presence continued to grow but their market share dropped as only Angela Collinson (Adel Vervolichti), Kate Fractal (Temporam), Stefany Speck (Pirate’s Cove) and Carol Stock (Queen’s Gambit) were able to thwart all the gurus. The Harry B’s—the best ringer laurels can buy—made good on their 18-1 odds to win the Team tournament, besting the Dice Loving Canucks who took second with 22 points. With the favorites having their way, it is perhaps not surprising that the winner of the annual Bracket Busting Contest was none other than 2014’s guest prognosticator Jeff Cornett. His six correct picks tied Mark Love’s all-time record. James Pei continued to amass laurels at a prodigious rate with 186 more to become Cae- sar for the third time while raising his career laurels to 2332. He continued to brandish For The People as his weapon of choice—scoring 100 laurels in that title alone between his latest WBC and PBeM titles. A repeat win in Sekigaha and a pair of thirds in CDWs enabled him to withstand the Euros-fuelled charge of runner-up Sceadeau D’Téla. Ewan McNay claimed Consul over the Mighty Finn, Riku Riekkinen, with 120 laurels earned in Britannia, Ingenious and Robo Rally. Relative newcomer Duncan McGregor continued a recent trend of new GMs winning accolades for their organizational skills. The rookie GM rode an impressive wave of 272 entrants for Splendor to impress the voters with the ease with which he managed the generation of 165 games. GM chores also determined our Sportsmanship winner. As the first alternate for the Here I Stand Final, Justin Rice was offered a seat by first-time qualifiers Ed and Matt Beach who were needed elsewhere to GM a Junior event that conflicted with the Final. Justin, however, insisted that they both play and instead volunteered to run the Junior event himself to enable them to do so.

In the continuing circle of life that marks the evolution of winners and losers in WBC events, 18 events set new attendance highs for the past decade while 19 sunk to new lows. Attrition usually causes more losers than winners inasmuch as new events start high and usually lose entrants over time so being close to even made 2015 a good year. The following recent attendance highs and lows over the past decade are limited to events with at least a three-year track record.

Zenith: Those setting new highwater marks for the last year years were: Saint Petersburg +27, Ra; The Dice Game +19, Castles of Burgundy +18, Can’t Stop +16, Facts in Five +11, Thurn & Taxis +10, Empire of the Sun +9, Yspahan +8, Ace of Aces +6, Acquire +6, Alhambra +5, Battles of the American Revolution +5, Rail Baron +5, Vegas Showdown +5, Advanced Civilization +4, Merchant of Venus +3, Santa Fe Rails +2, Kremlin +1, Formula Motor Racing +1.


Seven Wonders (7WS)

With 165 participants, an expanding game drought required far too many 5-player contests, advancing 50 to the next round. From that quarter-final of mostly 5-player contests, 22 advanced, including most runners-up plus a handful of thirds, and 1861 (five). In a tournament first, 4-player semi advanced only winners into the two-game Final. While most games were 4-player, two were 3-player contests, with both trios registering tighter scores than their foursome counterparts.

Game 1 of the Final round started with a 6-player matchup including cards from the Cities expansion and its coin-killing, debt-inducing, battle-avoiding mechanics. 2013 champ Kelly Czyryca dominated the first game with an 11-point spread over Michael Wojke, Duncan McGregor and Ed Beach.

In Game 2, players adopted Wonder boards from expansions while playing the base set of cards. Czyryca, playing the build-in-any-order Great Wall wonder, continued to frustrate the opposition by amassing a huge and unanswerable military and science buildup. Wojke’s Alexandria specialized in Civ cards for second, while Beach’s Petra wonder netted him 17 points on top of decent military and commerce progress (for third). McGregor’s Catan wonder and its resource-trading power led him to adopt a jack-of-all-trades approach that only dented Czyryca’s science empire slightly and cost him enough points to finish fourth. Czyryca once again won the table handily by a final score of 61-51-50-49 to take his second 7WS shield.

18XX (8XX)

The event added two games (1817, 1818NY) and saw broad international representation at the top of the standings board. 1830 continued to dominate with 14 plays, followed by 1846 and 1862 (eight). We had 26 qualifying winners (Bruce Beard, Anthony Lainesse, and Eric Brosius each won three). Unfortunately for Bill Pecck, 25 of the 26 qualifiers appeared for the semifinals and only the top 24 advanced to four 6-player games. The semifinals used four different games (1830, 1880, 1862, and 1861) that each resulted in a decisive win. The Final was 1830 and resulted in one of the closest finishes of the tourney. Peter Eldridge gave Bruce Beard all he could handle with the outcome in doubt till the end. But the undisputed 8XX Master had enough cash advantage to overcome Peter’s su- perior stock position to win 8998 to 8828 to claim his tenth 8XX shield and third straight title. In an ap- propriate finish for the World Boardgaming Championshions, the top six finishers came from five dif- ferent countries (US, Britain, Canada (x2), Finland, and Japan).

Despite the elimination of pre-cons and the WBC going to a nine-day format at its new location, we will retain the same three-day opening weekend format in 2016. Several new games have been or will be published in time for the next convention and will be considered in lieu of the less popular current tournament titles: 1854A and 1854D, 1854/1854, and 1837 and 1867.
Century Events

2015 Results
- Max Duboff, NJ 70
- Jersey Martin, GA 34
- Rikke Riekkinen, fi 24
- R. Evan Woodham, TX 21
- Tom Drueding, MA 12
- Michael Kieffe, ns 8
- Pat Richardon, VA 6
- Roderick Lee, CA 4
- Paul Sampson, OH 3

1989: Dawn of Freedom (989)

Ending a three-year absence, the formidable Finns, Riku Riekkinen, returned with another CDW bullet in his bandolier. Already a title holder in four of the most prestigious CDWs, the question was, “Is it 1989’s turn to be struck by ‘Riku lighting up?’” With five of last year’s six laurelists returning to do battle again, it was not going to be an easy road to the top.

After three rounds, only two players remained unbeaten: defending champ Max Duboff and Riku. Max faced the giant killer with the Communists. On Turn 2, Poland scored. Riku had the better position, but Max won the Power Struggle because Riku had a terrible hand with many dead cards. Seeing the handwriting on the wall, Max gave up Power.

Hungary also scored in Round 2, still without a title. Dan Farrow held the 16th seed until the late arrival of a higher ranked player. Laurie's Thrace breezed to a 276-point win over Warren Whitsitt's Illyria and followed that with the only double win of the heats and the largest win of the week as his Illyria crushed David Rynkowski's Egypt by 560. Roberto Fournier recovered as his Africa edged 1994 champion Ken Rothstein's Egypt by 39 points. Shantanu Saha reclaimed his customary seat at the Final by guiding his Babylonians to a 93-point win over Mindy Kyrkos' Illyria.

The traditional randowm draw for positions was modified by one trade (Babylon for Africa), as the finalist rollcall became: Africa: Roberto Frisby, Iberia: Ken, Illyria: Kevin, Thrace: Jon, Crete: Steve, Assyria: Ron, Babylon: Wade, and Egypt: Shantanu. The lead changed hands several times in the early going. Kevin led after the first round of purchases, but soon was struck with Fatemen and Barbarian Hordes which cut him to eight units and four cities—never to threaten again. Ron led briefly the next turn, followed by two turns of Jon at the helm. However, it was really Wade’s game most of the way as he led for six of the last seven turns.

The 2015 playoffs hosted three returning veterans with ten AFK titles among them and one veteran newcomer to this theatre. The first match paired five-time champion Vince Meconi's Germans versus Robert Frisby's Belgian grognard. The other semifinal paired Bruno Sinigaglio's British versus Robert Frisby's Belgian grognard. Newly arrived from the closed Anzio front. Although able to slow Robert's advance, the British took heavy losses, as Bruno grudgingly gave ground all the way to Alexandria. In August 1942, Bruno attacked out of Tobruch at 2-1 against an Italian division for a D Back 2. He followed that with a D Back 2. By October, Robert was forced to concede the grueling seven-hour match. The Final was slated for the next morning. An exhausted Bruno was in no condition to start another marathon, and so his Germans drove for Tobruch. Jon saw it coming and prepared his best defense for the inevitable Holy Hand Grenade vs Tobruch. It came in July, with Bruno rolling a D Elim and a mercifully quick conclusion.

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Advanced Civilization (ACV)

Attendance was up again with four games in each heat. Wade Campbell's Babylon won by 138 over Roberto Fournier's Egyptians. Ron Clement's Assyrians topped Matt Calkins' Egyptians by 139. Kevin Youells' Assyrians took a 53-point win over Eric Monte's Africa. Jon Anderson's Thrace breezed to a 276-point win over Warren Whitsitt's Illyria and followed that with the only double win of the heats and the largest win of the week as his Illyria crushed David Rynkowski's Egypt by 560. Roberto Fournier recovered as his Africa edged 1994 champion Ken Rothstein's Egypt by 39 points. Shantanu Saha reclaimed his customary seat at the Final by guiding his Babylonians to a 93-point win over Mindy Kyrkos' Illyria.

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Afrika Korps (AFK)

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Top Laurelists

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Jerome Martin, GA 34
Rikke Riekkinen, fi 24
R. Evan Woodham, TX 21
Tom Drueding, MA 12
Michael Kieffe, ns 8
Pat Richardon, VA 6
Roderick Lee, CA 4
Paul Sampson, OH 3

Top Laurelists

Justin Childs, FL 88
Joshua Cooper, MD 69
Matt Calkins, VA 60
Steve Packwood, MN 55
Steve Shamba, PA 54
Gary Moss, NC 51
Jason Ley, WA 45
David Gantt, SC 44
Phil Bradley, IL 38
Laurie VanDeGraaf, NJ 34

2015 Results
- Steve Packwood, MN 69
- L. VanDeGraaf, NJ 62
- Ben Carter, FL 60
- Tim Tu, NJ 59
- Jessica Shea, VA 50
- Cliff Ackman, PA 47

2015 Results
- Steve Packwood, MN 465
- Doug Galullo, MD 352
- Mads Lunau, dk 216
- Shantanu Saha, NY 199
- Joe Gunderson, IN 186
- Christina Harley, VA 144
- Eric Gunderson, NJ 125
- Harald Henning, CT 80
- Jon Anderson, PA 78
- Ted Mullally, NJ 74

2015 Results
- Wade Campbell, on 99
- Stephen Packwood, MN 99
- Steve Packwood, MN 99
- Jason Arvey, VA 97
Century Events

2015 Results
- Wade Campbell, on Turn 9 saw Wade’s Barcelona and Ron’s Paris finish the advances. Venice would finish fourth with 1575. Paris made a Silk run but mired down by 500 misery took third with 1991. London made a big Wool score for 160, but his 50 points of misery was the difference as his 2076 trailed Barcelona’s 2105.

Agricola (AGR)
The last Agricola tournament at Lancaster Host exceeded expectations! In a year where the field dropped 17% the skill level nonetheless raised the bar over previous standards, probably due to increased popularity of the game due to iOS availability. 2015 also allowed fresh talent to strut their stuff, as four of the previous semifinalists were not present.

The Final drew three perennial contenders: Sceadeau D’Tela, Haim Hochboim and Jon Senn, and an unknown, Micah McCormick. While Micah was a WBC fresh face, he is not a novice. He earned a 63-point win in the heats which matched Sceadeau for the highest overall score. Sceadeau raced out to an early lead by maximizing his tempo and playing cards generating future goodies. Jon built the first room in Round 6, but his family was reduced to nothing thanks to an Educator game and accumulated resources. Melton took his shot a turn later, but was like Lindo. The first Fare Wars was ever present. The first Fare Wars was ever present. The first Fare Wars was ever present. The first Fare Wars was ever present.

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Sceadeau D’Tela, NC 153
- Craig Melton, VA 108
- Mike Kaltman, PA 88
- Ben Scholl, PA 75
- Jon Senn, PA 74
- Todd Mullaly, NJ 70
- Cary Morris, NC 66
- Haim Hochboim, il 58
- Rob Kircher, RI 55
- Ken Rothstein, NY 59
- Steve Simmons, NJ 40
- Bill Crenshaw, VA 331
- Stephen Spisak, on

Top Laurelists
- Jeff Mullet, OH 472
- Bill Crenshaw, VA 331
- Ken Gutermuth, NC 276
- Ewan McNay, CT 271
- Harrell Henning, CT 261
- Carl Damese, IL 200
- Steve Simmons, NJ 197
- Chris Byrd, CT 186
- Mark Smith, KY 160
- Kevin Judy, VA 138

2015 Results
- Ken Rothstein, NY 116
- Chris Storzillo, NJ 108
- Brandon Bernard, PA 104
- Andy Gardner, VA 85
- Craig Melton, VA 80
- Robert Sohn, PA 78
- Bruce Bernard, PA 64
- Tom Biss, MA 52

Top Laurelists
- John Coussis, IL 131
- Stephane Dorais, QC 122
- Ken Rothstein, NY 116
- Chris Storzillo, NJ 108
- Brandon Bernard, PA 104
- Andy Gardner, VA 85
- Craig Melton, VA 80
- Robert Sohn, PA 78
- Bruce Bernard, PA 64
- Tom Biss, MA 52

2015 Results
- Eric Wrobel, MD 50
- Rob Kircher, RI 53
- Haim Hochboim, il 58
- Ben Scholl, PA 78
- Eric Ho, PA 72

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- Jeff Mullet, OH 472
- Bill Crenshaw, VA 331
- Ken Gutermuth, NC 276
- Ewan McNay, CT 271
- Harrell Henning, CT 261
- Carl Damese, IL 200
- Steve Simmons, NJ 197
- Chris Byrd, CT 186
- Mark Smith, KY 160
- Kevin Judy, VA 138

Age of Renaissance (AOR)
With only five preliminary games logged, only winners would advance. Two-time champ Jeff Mullet qualified as London with hot dice and a resounding 3693 score. Wade Campbell took a 140% win with no ties. Steve Spisak’s Venice, Mark Smith’s Barcelona with a close 102% win and a rare Hamburg victory by John Cousis completed the qualifications. However, an alternate was required when Mark Smith opted for History of the World instead—and won—thus verifying his decision. That got alternate Ron Clement into the mix to complete the Canadian triumvirate with Spisak and Campbell together in the Final. Oh Canada indeed!

The Canadians had breakfast and agreed that it was every man for himself. Wade bid 3 for Barcelona, Ron 2 for Paris, Steve 1 for Venice, while the Americans were saddled with Genoa and London for free. By Turn 6 Paris had emerged as leader, and was soon visited by Black Death, Alchemist Gold, and Pirates/Vikings while being reduced to nothing. The fewest negative categories scored (the third tiebreaker) was required to determine the remaining order of finish. After eight years of dominance without a victory, Sceadeau claimed the win with a food advantage. The fewest negative categories scored (the third tiebreaker) was required to determine the remaining order of finish. After eight years of dominance without a victory, Sceadeau claimed the win with a food advantage.

The last 15th ABN title flown out of Lancaster. David Earls thrived amidst the Preliminary calamities, winning both of his sorties. The five semifinals were characterized by work stoppages with ten strikes slowing progress. Craig Melton was first to land in just over an hour with a market share of 280 and $53. He was joined by Seth Kircher with 330/$34, John Rinko’s 220/$110, Brandon Bernard’s 290/$51 and Andy Gardner’s 260/$30.

A $6 bankroll launched the Final so the threat was hard to guess a victor at game’s end. When the game was over it was confirmed: All four players tied at 44! Tiebreaker Melton took his shot a turn later, but was likewise denied wall length: Lynda Shea and Alex Henning at eight lengths, and Allyson Thoma with nine. There were 25 semifinal slots, but ten of our qualifiers chose not to advance, leaving only two to be cut. Brad Sherwood’s one-point winner up Frank Downing, thus earned Frank sixth place laurels as a consolation. The largest Round 2 score belonged to Lisa Gutermuth (106) as she won her third straight. David Meynard enjoyed the largest margin of victory in the Round with an 11-point lead over Ben Strock. David Bohnenberger won with only five wall lengths—the shortest wall in the tournament while Carolyn Strock survived the last table to advance.

Alhambra—-the lone repeating finalist—enjoyed the best start with ten points in the first round. Dylan Quintana scored the largest margin of victory, a 60-point shellacking. Playing it closer to the vest were four micro-winners relying on tie-breakers (Adina Weiss, Andrew Sherwood, Lou Nguyen and Matt Naughton). The biggest wall builder was Angela Collins with 18 lengths. Three winners disdained wall length: Lynda Shea and Alex Henning at eight lengths, and Allyson Thoma with nine.
Amun-Re (AMR)

18 Preliminary winners, a number reduced by six double wins, were unable to produce an all-winners semifinal of 5-player games, so four 4-player games obliged the 16 qualifiers available for Round 2.

Greg Thatcher earned the highest semifinal score (45) while Alex Bove took a comfortable 44-36 win over Aran Warszawski. The other games saw Eric Freeman and Haim Hochboim edged by Steve Spiask and Ron Clement, respectively. Eric’s two-point loss gained sand laurels, while Haim’s one-point defeat earned fifth.

Greg had a good money position heading into the second round of the Final, but Alex’s decision to push the sacrifice up to 2 to 2 aces was able to draw to a match and complete the game. The third multiple winner of the event.

Atlantic Storm (ACS)

To qualify for the semis, you had to win one of four heats. Anna Kieft and John Cousis were taking no chances—having won three each. Robert Kircher, on the other hand, won just one, and that happening in the last round. It was then that he decided to rely on his own luck and enter the semifinals. Finally, he opted for the last heat of ACS. It would turn out to be a good decision. He soon followed his victory there with a second win in the semifinals.

That decision was looking even better when he won Round 1 of the Final playing the fate card against the convoy, and everyone else discarded. At the halfway point, Robert enjoyed a slight lead and a 7-card hand, but 2011 champ Justin Thompson had an 8-card hand. Things slowed in the second half, with only three of the last ten convoys seeing actual battles. Justin won the 18th convoy using a wolf pack fated against SC 121 to tie Robert 24 while gaining a 9-card hand. The Allies encountered no further opposition, but the players still competed for the strongest Allied escort points.

Robert won a 67% chance on one die roll to win convoy #19, earning four VPs. Justin called submarine for suit on convoy #20 and played three Allied cards for a 67% chance to win the convoy. He did but was rewarded with only three VPs—giving Robert the title by a single point. It was Robert’s 16th WBC title but his first ACS shield.

Attack Sub (ATS)

Four emerged unbeaten from the three qualifying swiss rounds—young Eric Rodgers-Vargo, Andy Lewis and a pair of former champions: Dan Hoffman and John Emery. Tiebreakers were used to resurrect Jim Fleckenstein, David Buchholz and previous champions Jim Doughan and Steve Caler from the 2-1 ranks.

Emery remained unbeaten through four rounds by dispatching the 2003 champ in Scenario E by sinking Caler’s Renegade. As the Quarterfinals continued, Lewis met Fleckenstein’s British in Scenario A. Andy sank Jim’s Sailsbury and got into two attack solutions on Valiant, but missed both. Jim then sank the Stover’s with a fire 1 and Ivan Rogov with a fire 2 attack. In the other quarterfinal matches, Doughan’s Renegade managed to survive into deck 2 of Scenario E, but was sunk by Hoffman’s forces before it could escape. Buchholz and Rogers-Vargo played Scenario A with each losing a sub before Eric’s British prevailed.

Both semifinals reprised Scenario E. Rodgers-Vargo continued his run by drawing a 0 on his first attack attempt of the second deck to defeat Hoffman. The streak of the other unbeaten, Emery, came to an end against Fleckenstein’s surface fleet—being sunk by a third hit and thus guaranteeing a first-time champion would emerge.

Eric, flush with five straight wins, took the British in Scenario A. A final two-deck battle royal saw both sides score a kill before Jim emerged with his sixth WBC title and first ATS shield after many years of trying.

Auction (AUC)

24 collectors responded to the early opportunity of an extra heat on Sunday evening. The Shea family began their domination with defending champ Michael and son Jordan winning their heat. The first two heats each drew four tables with Bruce Reiff, Luke Koleszal, Sean McCulloch, Vasilli Kyrkos, Bruce Monnin, Norwegian Haakon Monsen and Lexi Shea gaining the last semi seats. Klyader got an extra pillow on his for winning the second.

11 of the 14 qualifiers appeared and were divided between three tables. Two Sheas, and Gardner prevailed with Sheas winning to fight another day as the closest runner-up.

Sunday morning saw the final four finalists vying for all the wooden marbles. Darin Shear had to fall on the team sword to stop his son from winning and again. The last three cards in the special value deck were three Rich Collectors that never saw the light of day. The big break came late as Michael was selling and the “Everyone Inherits” card appeared. Haakon and John were out of luck as the last two cards went to Michael’s son, Jordan. It challenged the game end. Then, Michael bought back the three coins he older. It was enough. He won with $6030, followed by Jordan $4200, Haakon $2760 and John $1610. The defending champ had successfully defended his title, won his sixth WBC shield and become only the third multiple winner of the event.
Automobile (AUT)

With one less heat, the fewer preliminary tables meant that some would advance on cash. In Round 1, Greg Ziemba, Matt Calkins, Alistair Thach, Tony Newton, Anthony Lainesse, Robert Cranshaw, Al Hurda, and Tom Bissa all emerged victorious. Heat 2 took on the mid-70’s aspect, as smaller was in vogue. David Stoy won his table handily. Dave Metzger, Bruce Hodgins, and Jack Jung all rebounded from initial losses. Most impressive was Jack’s triumph as he beat Pat Husey on a rare tiebreaker procedure. Matt Calkins again dominated the heats with a second win. Tiebreaker wins are an endangered species in this event but 2015 had two such sightings. In one, Greg Schmittig lost his semifinal to Rob Seulowitz, after having an apparent dominating position on the board. Matt Calkins again demonstrated his dominance, recording his third straight win. His protégé, Dave Metzger, handled his table by a comfortable $420

Axis & Allies (A&A)

It was the first time a father (Joe Gioia) and his sons (Chris and Mike) swept the plaques. With only 21 entrants, it was the third smallest field in 17 years. Three former laurelists made it to the semifinals, the aforementioned members of the Gioia family. John Shoemaker was the lone interloper, but he made his mark with a 4th place finish.

Mike was the top seed with a 3-0 record and 46 victory territories. He defeated John in the first round with an income increase as the Allies of 5, breaking the tie of 12 victory territories each. In Round 2 he defeated Sam Packwood with a concession. Two-time champ Kevin Keller was his third victim; 15-9.

Joe Gioia had finished second the previous two years, but swept his sons in the playoffs to get the brass ring, but not before tasting defeat in the Preliminaries. Tommy Miklos and Jim Tracy who defeated Bruno Vasilakis 13 to 12. The other survivors were Mark and Mike Calkins again demonstrated his dominance, recording his third straight win. His protégé, Dave Metzger, handled his table by a comfortable $420 while Robert Cranshaw won by $200. Howard was the choice in the Final, Durant and Chrysler were each chosen three times, and the other roles twice. And then Turn 3 started, and the pressure and decisions magnified. Probabilities were calculated with each move. Fates hung on the outcome of the demand tiles. The game hinged on the demand draw for luxury cars on the last turn. The resulting “4” allowed all remaining luxury cars to be sold, and yielded a spread of only $180 between the top three. Rob Seulowitz thus earned his fourth WBC title—his first since the age of Successors.

B-17: Queen of the Skies (B17)

2015 marked the 24th year of B17 competition, spanning 71 missions from August 1942 through December 1943. Our first mission this year was a repeat visit to Solingen, Germany on 1 December.

While the 3rd Bomb Division aborted due to weather, the First (B-17s) and Second (B-24s) were led by Pathfinders to the target. The second mission went to La Rochelle, France on 5 December. It featured the first escort by P-51 Mustangs and was the start of OPERATION CROSSBOW, the campaign against German V-1 sites. This raid struck several V-1 targets, and included a longer range attack on airfields in La Rochelle.

The third mission was to Emden, Germany on 11 December, continuing the pressure on the German aircraft industry. All 65 players once again flew all three missions.

B-17 regularly awards a coveted sixth place Sand Plaque. We had a tie for fifth between Brendan Coomes, OH and Dan Dolan Sr, NJ 60.

Battles of the Am. Revolution (BAR)

BAR ended a decade in Lancaster with record attendance. Six new players reinforced a field already bulging with returnees. 16 Mulligan Round matches of Eutapa Springs yielded eight American victories and two draws. A draw entitled the higher Morale to advance. Eutapa Springs was again tested in Round 1 with seven reinforcements helping contest nine more qualifying games. This time the British won three and drew two.

Round 2 was Guilford Courthouse with the British winning six of 11 contests. The remaining ten worthies met at Germantown in a Round 3 5-hour time slot. The Americans won three and drew two. In each draw the Morale differential was a single point. Rod Coffey’s Americans passed Chris Easter to 11 to 10 while Rob Doane’s British bested John Vasilakos 13 to 12. The other survivors were Mark and Tommy Miklos and Jim Tracy who defeated Bruno Sinigaglia, Bill Morse and Jeff Lange respectively. Doane’s Americans defeated Coffey in the “Holding Action” scenario from Monmouth Courthouse by capturing Perrine Ridge in a “play-in” game to determine the final four! The Saratoga semifinals were split 1-1. Doane’s British defeated Tracy and , in a father vs. son contest, Tommy’s Americans bested his dad in come-from-behind fashion, by tying him late at 2 1/2 VPs each. The stage was thus set for what would become a 9-hour Final slugfest. At the end Miklos’s Americans prevailed with 12 VPs and Morale of 14 to 7.5 British VPs and Morale of 1.