



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 for 15 years. This year-book 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.

Credits

- Convention Director:** Don Greenwood
- Webmaster & Publicity:** Kaarin Engelmann
- Board Chairman & Treasurer:** Ken Gutermuth
- Secretary:** Bruce Monnin
- Assistant Treasurer:** Peter Stein
- Incorporator:** Scott Pfeiffer
- BPA Logo:** Mark Simonitch
- Cover Art:** Kurt Miller
- Photography:** Debbie Gutermuth, Charlie Kibler
- PBeM Coordinator:** Hank Burkhalter
- Online Discussion Board:** John Kranz
- Kiosk Prints:** Jeff Billings
- Legal Counsel:** Ralph Gleaton
- Printing:** Lost Battalion Games
- Insurance:** Phil Barcafer
- Exclusive Show Vendor:** Decision Games
- Security:** Ken Whitesell
- Juniors Room Monitors:** Joanna Melton, Jenna Sunderlin
- Juniors Program Coodinator:** Laurie Wojtaszczyk
- AREA Ratings:** Glenn Petroski, Bruno Wolff
- Team Handicaps:** Stuart Tucker, Jeff Cornett
- Auction:** Bruce Reiff, Ken Gutermuth, Jeff Mullet, et al
- Religious Services:** John Poniske
- Proof Reading:** Bruce Monnin
- Signs and Tech Support:** Roy Gibson
- Web Personal Scheduler:** Steve Okonski
- Team Logos:** David Dockter, Kaarin Engelmann
- Sampler Showcase:** Tom McCorry
- Library Coordinator:** Keith Levy
- Social Networks Answer Person:** Scott Nerney
- Registration Staff:** Charlie Kibler, Judy Kibler, Cher Gibson and Tara Greenwood
- Sponsors:** Alliance Distributors, Aran Warszawski, David desJardins, Haim Hochboim, James Doughan, Ken Gutermuth, Rick Northey, Jerald R. Tracy



Contents

- Team Tournament Top 25.....Inside Front Cover
- 2013: Year in Review2
- Century Events3
- Trial Events57
- Board of Directors63
- Play-By-Email Champions.....64
- Team Champions66
- Core Cadre67
- Caesar Award70
- Consul Award71
- GM of the Year.....72
- Sportsmanship Award.....73
- Recollections74
- Patrons78
- Hobby Service Award80
- 2014 Pre-ConsInside Back Cover
- Omens; Event StartsBack Cover



1541 Redfield Rd., Bel Air, MD 21015-5739
www.boardgamers.org • info@boardgamers.org
 July 29-August 4, 2013 • August 4-10, 2014
 Lancaster Host Resort, Lancaster, PA



What a difference a year makes! WBC 2013 was perhaps the best yet. It was certainly the largest, having topped our previous attendance by a resounding 6%. The Host was at the top of its game to make amends for a dismal 2012 wherein the elements and faulty air conditioning combined to yield a trying and hot experience. In contrast, a nearly flawless effort was made in hosting the 15th WBC and guests were greeted with the gift of free breakfast vouchers throughout the week as a make good gesture. Even the weather co-operated, with the mildest temperatures anyone could remember during our eight years in Lancaster.

In all, more than 50 states and Canadian provinces plus 17 nations sent participants in 2013. The record crowd was reflected in tournament participation with no less than 23 events drawing triple-digit participation and five more knocking at the century door with 90+. Average participation in the 156 tournaments rose to 56.8 players per event, buoyed by 203 players for *Stone Age*, 205 for *Lost Cities* and *Can't Stop*, 249 for *Ticket to Ride*, and 265 for *Liar's Dice*. Twelve reigning WBC champions successfully defended their titles, led by the Master, James Pei, who extended his latest *For The People* streak to five years to maintain his hold on WBC's longest current winning streak. Curt Collins II (*Union Pacific*) and Sean McCulloch (*Battleline*) emerged as his closest pursuers—both retaining their third straight title.

Elsewhere, the fair sex doubled their previous market share with ten claiming titles in 2013—up from five, six and eight in the previous three years. Newcomer Trella Bromley (*RBN*), Angela Collinson (*CMS*), Jessica Brown (*LB*), Tammy Wyatt-Johnson (*LLM*), Janet Ottey (*RAI*), Julie Ehlers (*SET*), Kristen LaDue (*SLS*), Carol Haney (*AVU*), Hilary Haagen (*TTR*) and Stefany Speck (*PRC*) lorded it over the guys in their respective events. Multiple winners were scarce with only 15 finding the winner's circle more than once compared to 20 in 2011 and none won more than twice. However, 11 new Boardmasters joined the fraternity by earning their third WBC title in one event, while 11 more upgraded their current levels. At the other end of the title spectrum, 49 players won their first title (up from 42, 46 and 31 in the previous three years). 93 managed to record their first laurels compared to just 88 last year.

The next generation continued to elbow their elders aside as *Nathan's Nuggets* over-

came 139-1 odds to edge the *Ski Patrol* team by attendance tiebreakers after rallying to tie the Finnish team with a pair of bonus points for scoring in events they had not previously won. The surprise team of wanna-be's weren't on anyone's radar—appearing on none of the Bracket Busting contest entries. Dave Meyaard, another Young Turk, tied the record for Top Ten predictions with six in winning the annual Prediction contest.

Randy Buehler's two-year stay atop the BPA Laurels list came to an end as Andrew Emerick emerged as our newest Caesar—besting top career laurelist James Pei by 29 laurels thanks to a combination of mini-con standings and a delay in the completion of Pei's PBem specialty past the WBC "fiscal" year. The cessation of mini-con activity as a bankable head start in the laurels race should make this competition even closer in the years ahead. Meanwhile, Ken Gutermuth overcame schedule handicaps caused by Board meetings and Auction finance obligations to post his best week in years to take Consul honors—besting defending Consul Nick Henning by a mere four laurels. Another charter member, Larry Lingle, won Top GM honors for his captainship of *Pirate's Cove*.

But it was a newcomer who stole the third leg of our Triple Crown as Emily Wu charmed the membership to take the Sports(wo)manship vote for getting married at WBC and spending her honeymoon in wargame tournaments. Geoffrey Allbutt has himself a keeper and should be commended for keeping his priorities in order.

2013 may be remembered as when the badges took on a personalized look with photos of the members. Others may recall it as the year the 23,540 sq ft Expo Center debuted as an overflow Open Gaming site. Relatively few people made it out to the Expo Center to check it out, much less game there so its future use remains unresolved. The twin advantages of improved lighting and additional space seem equally offset by the inconvenience of distance from everything else.

In the continuing circle of life evolution of WBC winners and losers, the events themselves again competed for the player lifeblood needed for another year of WBC existence. This constant churn yielded 11 new occupants of the Century club. Losers outnumbered gainers 23:19 although the gains tended to be higher than the losses.



2013 Results

- ♣ Bruce Beard, MD
- ♣ Akihisa Tabei, jp
- ♣ Peter Eldridge, uk
- ♣ Stephen Yu, WA
- ♣ Tom McCorry, VA
- ♣ Walt Collins, PA

♣ Pierre LeBoeuf, MD

† 61 📖 1991-2013



2013 Results

- ♣ Kelly Czyryca, MD
- ♣ Dan Shmueli, NY
- ♣ David Platnick, VA
- ♣ Ed Ericson, AR
- ♣ Zach Snyder, PA
- ♣ Jeremy Lennert, CA

♣ Nick Ferris, MD

† 128 📖 2011-2013



Bruce Beard, MD

Top Laurelists

Bruce Beard, MD	452
Jim McDanold, TN	120
Jon Kwiatkowski, NC	104
Paul Hakken, NJ	103
Spencer Hamblen, MD	96
Barrington Beavis, uk	90
Mark Neale, RI	72
Akihisa Tabei, jp	58
Jeremy Viperman, TN	54
Pierre LeBoeuf, MD	54



Kelly Czyryca, MD

Top Laurelists

Andrew Emerick, CT	58
Matthew Beach, MD	50
Kelly Czyryca, MD	40
Luann Stubbs, PA	30
Bill Zurn, CA	30
Dominic Blais, qc	30
Dan Shmueli, NY	24
Lissa Rennert, MD	24
Robbie Mitchell, VA	20
Randy Buehler, WA	18

18XX (8XX)



14 newcomers swelled the largest field since 1994 with four of them winning preliminary games. Bruce Beard's 2012 fall from grace was brief, reclaiming his title and winning for the eighth time in nine years. Round length was restored to six hours, returning a 3-day format. 1830 remained the top choice by a 16-6-6-5-4-3-2 margin over 1846, 1880, 1861, 1856, 18EU, and 1870, respectively.

The four preliminary rounds filled 13, 10, 10 and 9 tables to yield a quadruple (Beard), three triple (Anthony Lainesse, Rick Dutton and Kevin Karg), nine double and 13 single winners. 22 of the 26 victors elected to advance so the semifinals expanded to five games with 11 of 2012's semifinalists making the cut again.

Tabei outbid Eldridge for the C&A in the Final, after letting McCorry take the M&H private. Beard took the B&O private at cost. Much wheeling and dealing later, the C&O was left trainless, and it appeared Yu would bankrupt buying a diesel before Beard had to. In the following stock round, Eldridge stole the NH from Tabei. Beard sold Yu one of the NYC's 4 trains for \$112. Having delayed the diesel purchase, Beard took the Penn. McCorry triggered the endgame by holding with the B&M to buy the diesel, but enough time had elapsed for Beard to get two diesels. The combination of



greater revenues and quantity of shares was enough to start a new winning streak for the Beard dynasty.

Seven Wonders (7WS)

4-player preliminary games replaced the previous 7-player game format in the qualifiers to enhance the game's strategic choices—knowing that some of the cards they pass may return to them. Nine players won both qualifying rounds. The format change made for tighter games, but a single quarterfinal match of 5-player games proved to be the greater trial for the 40 who advanced. Not surprisingly in an event this size, no former laurelists enjoyed such success again. The semifinals returned to 4-player games where Ed Ericson's Science-heavy 62 points was the highest score of the round and earned him the top seat at the Final.

The three-game "Gauntlet of Doom" Final rounds started with a 6-player test including cards from the Leader expansion. The victory went again to Ericson, followed by David Platnick, Kelly Czyryca, and Dan Shmueli. Game 2 saw Ericson again pursuing a bold Science gambit. This time, however, it didn't pay off, landing him in fourth place with 49 points. Shmueli went Military-Civilian to take first, while Platnick captured second with Science.

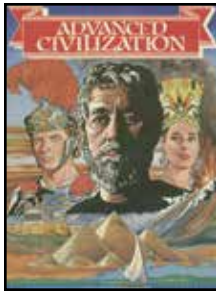
In the last game, Czyryca built Science early (and, ultimately, exclusively!) while Platnick and Shmueli engaged in Military conflict. Later, Platnick's battle with Shmueli also crossed into the Civilian building realm, and the two split points in almost every category. With his opponents focused on their head-to-head competition, Czyryca coasted to a Science-based victory of 64-59-56.





2013 Results

- ♣ Anthony Lainesse, qc
 - ♠ Paul Klayder, KS
 - ♣ Kevin Broh-Kahn, MD
 - ♠ Gary Moss, MO
 - ♠ Glenn Massey, MD
 - ♠ Steve Shambeda, PA
 - ♣ Cliff Ackman, PA
- † 73 📖 1991-2013



2013 Results

- ♣ Shantanu Saha, NJ
 - ♠ Doug Galullo, MD
 - ♣ Ron Clement, on
 - ♠ Kevin Youells, PA
 - ♠ Christina Harley, VA
 - ♠ Steve Spisak, on
 - ♣ Kevin Youells, PA
- † 42 📖 1991-2013



Top Laurelists

Justin Childs, FL	88
Joshua Cooper, MD	69
Matt Calkins, VA	60
Steve Shambeda, PA	54
Gary Moss, MO	51
Jason Ley, WA	45
David Gantt, SC	44
Phil Bradley, IL	38
Anthony Lainesse, qc	30
Ken Richards, SC	30



Top Laurelists

Kevin Youells, PA	411
Doug Galullo, MD	352
Shantanu Saha, NY	199
Joe Gundersen, IN	186
Christina Harley, VA	126
Eric Gundersen, NJ	125
Mads Lunau, dk	96
Harald Henning, CT	80
Gregory Kulp, NJ	64
Jon Anderson, PA	54

Acquire (ACQ)

The heats drew evenly—filling ten, nine and ten tables in turn. The 16 semifinalists were drawn from the top 20 qualifiers with only four winners falling victim to more pressing concerns elsewhere. Anthony Lainesse made the most of his first semifinal, winning easily. Kevin Broh-Kahn coasted also. With the highest score of the tournament (54,000), Paul Klayder still only bested 4th ranked Steve Shambeda by \$200. 1999 champ Gary Moss had the same margin over the #1 seed, 1993 champ Steve Packwood in the closest semi, with Mark Love just \$600 back in third.

The Final started slowly with no chains formed the first round. Then five chains erupted in six plays. When all had been formed, Anthony had the advantage by starting three while a matching tile still eluded Gary. Everyone went broke at about the same time. The first takeover to the first safe chain took four plays. Anthony benefited by being majority shareholder in the first chain to be sold as well as the first safe chain. Rather than invest in emerging markets, he reinforced his majority status in expensive, but safe, chains. But Paul continued to start chains and managed to be the sole owner of a late takeover. The end was called with three safe chains. Anthony's hot start bested Paul by the same \$200 margin he had enjoyed in the semis and resulted in his first WBC shield as our 19th champ in 22 years.



Advanced Civilization (ACV)

It was a watershed year with our largest field in 21 years filling a cooler and brighter Kinderhook. Four 8-player games yielded advancement to Christina Harley (Thrace), Steve Spisak (Assyria), Ron Clement (Assyria), and defending champion Doug Galullo (Iberia). Day 2 drew ten reinforcements for the 12 diehards braving a second heat. Shantanu Saha and Kevin Youells (Illyria), and Spisak again (Babylon) claimed victories. York Dobyans and Jeff Cornett filled the remaining Final seats with 96.62% of the winners score.

The draw for countries was followed by a scene not unlike an ancient bazaar. Babylon, Egypt, Iberia, and Thrace all changed hands before the game got underway. When the last seeds had been harvested it was Shantanu (Egypt) 4482 leading Doug (Thrace) 4414, Ron (Babylon) 4323, Kevin (Iberia) 4001, Christina (Crete) 3906, Steve (Illyria) 3362, Jeff (Africa) 3060, and York (Babylon) 2394.

Egypt was seemingly knocked out early, a victim of famine and flood on Turn 6, and earthquakes the next two turns. Assyria and Thrace traded the lead throughout until Thrace was dropped to six cities and bumped on the AST. Meanwhile, Egypt was quietly making a comeback. Mining and Coinage fueled his purchases, enabling him to buy from the "9" stack for five straight turns. When the trade cards were spent, Clothmaking, Philosophy, Monotheism, and Theology were gained in one amazing 755-point spending spree.



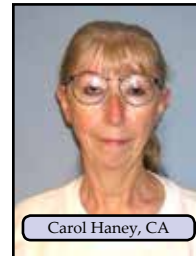
2013 Results

- ♣ Carol Haney, CA
 - ♠ Doug Kolpien, OH
 - ♠ Luke Parauda, NJ
 - ♠ Haakon Monsen, no
 - ♠ Barrett Straub, MD
 - ♠ Lisa Shaud, PA
 - ♣ Larry Lingle, PA
- † 35 📖 2010-2013



2013 Results

- ♣ Ted Simmons, IL
 - ♠ Ron Clement, on
 - ♠ Steve Simmons, NJ
 - ♠ Mark Smith, KY
 - ♠ Kurt Miller, CA
 - ♠ Tedd Mullally, NJ
 - ♣ Tedd Mullally, NJ
- † 38 📖 1996-2013



Top Laurelists

Larry Lingle, PA	39
Carol Haney, CA	38
Daniel Pappas, MD	30
Barrett Straub, MD	20
Chris Brandt, VA	20
Patrick Murphy, CT	18
Andrew Fedin, PA	18
Doug Kolpien, OH	12
Jason Fisher, NC	12
Isaac Clizbe, MD	12



Top Laurelists

Jeff Mullet, OH	454
Bill Crenshaw, VA	331
Ken Gutermuth, NC	276
Ewan McNay, CT	271
Harald Henning, CT	261
Carl Damcke, IL	200
Steve Simmons, NJ	197
Chris Byrd, CT	186
Mark Smith, KY	154
Kevin Sudy, VA	138

Adventurers (AVU)

We got off to a slow start with only four boards and never really recovered. Heats 2-4 generated only three, four and two boards. So the bullwhip appears destined for retirement. In a down year for derring-do, 24 vicarious adventurers were squashed by the speeding boulder, 16 were entombed, 11 burnt in the lava pit, and eight drowned in the river. The bridge did not claim anyone despite the loss of four planks. Dave Brooks scored the most decisive victory in the preliminaries by being the only survivor ...all others being mashed by the boulder.

Since allowing all winners to advance would have advanced more than half the field—contrary to WBC rules—and thereby trivializing the preliminaries, the top six advanced to play three games for the wood. The finalists had learned their survival skills well. Not one died in those three games! Doug Kolpien won the first, 33 - 27 over Luke Parauda. Barrett Straub took Game 2 18-14 over Carol Haney in a quick outcome due to a fast boulder. Doug came back strong in Game 3 with 28 points to tie Carol for the lead at 61-all. The tie-breaker was number of cards—giving Carol a 16-15 edge and her first WBC shield.

Our contenders had more lives than a cat and didn't let a little thing like death deter them. Doug had the highest burial costs—having died seven times, followed by Carol with six trips to the morgue.



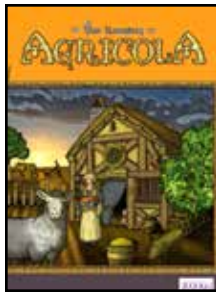
Age of Renaissance (AOR)

The format return to three heats increased attendance by nearly half—including the return of three former champs—leading to hope for a 2014 semifinal. Genoa again enjoyed the best overall win rate, but dropped by half to a 30% victory rate. Veteran players were able to convert Hamburg, Paris, and even beleaguered Venice into wins. London came back strong and rivaled Barcelona, both enjoying 20% of the victories.

There were less noteworthy events in the heats aside from a deplorable lack of sportsmanship at one table. Last year's focus on Ocean Navigation subsided. Those who did invest in Ocean Nav, seemed to jump immediately to New World on the power of Columbus. Perhaps it was just the new blood at the table, but Cathedral seemed the more powerful play this year.

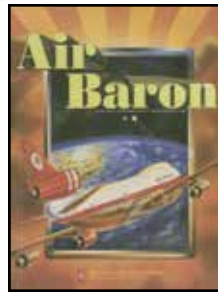
Our finalists engaged in a more cordial test. Despite that, Paris could not buy a dice roll. Barcelona's attempt at the commerce strategy did not fare well due to the weakness of his holdings. When you're counting on Industry, you need more defensible holdings than a dozen 2-spots. Hamburg saw a strong late game surge from Fur and Timber, but ultimately Venice's ability to diversify his holdings when cloth payouts were withheld won the day. In juxtaposition, London was reeling in the Wool payouts, often at the \$98, or \$128 level, but that was his only income source so he languished in the middle of the pack.





2013 Results

- ♣ Ben Scholl, PA
 - ♠ Sceadeau D'Tela, NC
 - ♣ Haim Hochboim, IL
 - ♠ Winton Lemoine, NV
 - ♠ Eric Ho, NY
 - ♣ Cary Morris, NC
- ♣ Joshua Cooper, MD
- † 75 📖 2008-2013



2013 Results

- ♣ Stephane Dorais, qc
 - ♠ Craig Melton, VA
 - ♠ Bruce Bernard, PA
 - ♠ Brandon Bernard, PA
 - ♣ Brian Stone, NY
 - ♣ Matt Fagan, NJ
- ♣ Henry Richardson, VA
- † 57 📖 1996-2013



Top Laurelists

Mike Kaltman, PA	88
Sceadeau D'Tela, NC	83
Ben Scholl, PA	75
Tedd Mullally, NJ	70
Cary Morris, NC	66
Jon Senn, PA	62
Eric Ho, NY	58
Rob Kircher, RI	53
Bill Crenshaw, VA	49
Dan Eppolito, PA	41



Top Laurelists

John Coussis, IL	131
Ken Rothstein, NY	112
Chris Storzillo, NJ	108
Stephane Dorais, qc	106
Brandon Bernard, PA	88
Robert Sohn, PA	78
Andy Gardner, VA	73
Michael Musko, IN	50
Jack Jaeger, VA	50
Jimmy Fleckenstein, VA	46

Agricola (AGR)

The tournament changed format to three heats ushering 20 players to four semifinals. We also introduced a "World Championship" deck for the Final. Only Sceadeau D'Tela was familiar with the cards beforehand, but all had a night to study the cards.

The Final consisted of Haim Hochboim in the 1 seat further motivated by this being his team game, followed by his teammate Ben Scholl, Winton Lemoine and Sceadeau. The outset saw Haim setting up a food engine with Sceadeau to his right stealing away his animals with cards he wasn't expecting. Haim was looking for animals to fuel an engine that let him play occupations without spending an action but at the cost of two food. He had to struggle for that food throughout.

This proved good for Ben who was to Haim's left and benefiting from his taking food instead of resource actions. Ben's play of the Village Fool gave him points for NOT playing cards—so he was able to play a basic game and be rewarded for doing so. The downside of Ben's card (which kept him from taking start player) didn't hinder him much, as Haim claimed start player for much of the game. Sceadeau banked on a long game, but the interactions of the other players allowed Ben to take some powerful actions, such as family growth without room in Round 12 while going third! Nevertheless, the game remained close with the top three spots separated by only a few points.

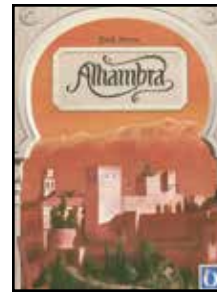
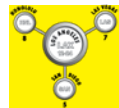


Air Baron (ABN)

It was a lean year for airlines. The Final began with a banker's roll of 1 so cash was scarce from the outset. The Contract was renewed seven times in as many turns for \$36, while yielding only \$17, further reducing coffers. Two of the five calamities were never drawn, but a Recession, Strike, and three Fuel Hikes contributed to four bankruptcies.

Brian Stone started in SF, spread to Denver, DFW, and Phoenix, and topped out at 120 market share before the third Fuel Hike bankrupted him. 2006 champ Brandon Bernard spent all his starting money on a \$2 spoke that never paid, so after three turns of brown bagging his lunch, he sold West Palm Beach back for \$1 and declared bankruptcy. His second foray reached 120 market share before back-to-back Fuel Hikes led to his third airline of the day. By comparison, his dad had it easy. He started in Phoenix and quickly moved into LA and Singapore. He eventually fortified the LAX hub with Jumbo Jets on each spoke to finish third with 160 market share and \$74 cash. Craig Melton started in Detroit. Moving into the DC and NY hubs, he weathered the three Fuel Hikes on cash reserves to end with \$270.

2011 champ Stephane Dorais began his rise in Atlanta and also kept a strong cash reserve. The Fuel Hikes only cost him one undeployed Jumbo. He ran the table on Round 15 with seven successful attacks to reclaim his crown.



2013 Results

- ♣ Alan Elkner, NJ
 - ♠ A. Henning, PA
 - ♠ Jeff Mullet, OH
 - ♠ Peter Eldridge, uk
 - ♣ Ken Gutermuth, NC
 - ♣ Paul Klayder, KS
- ♣ Debbie Gutermuth, NC
- † 144 📖 2004-2013



Top Laurelists

Vassili Kyrkos, NY	70
Luke Koleszar, VA	58
Nate Hoam, OH	54
Alan Elkner, NJ	40
Bruce DuBoff, NJ	40
Richard Meyer, MA	34
Kevin Wojtaszczyk, NY	30
L. Dan Hoffman, MD	30
Michael Mullins, MA	30
Bruce Reiff, OH	30



2013 Results

- ♣ Rob Kircher, RI
 - ♠ Owen Kyrrollos, NJ
 - ♠ A. Warszawski, IL
 - ♣ Andrew Emerick, CT
 - ♣ Eric Freeman, PA
 - ♣ Haim Hochboim, IL
- ♣ Alex Bove, PA
- † 77 📖 2003-2013



Top Laurelists

Greg Thatcher, FL	112
Eric Freeman, PA	94
Alex Bove, PA	92
Arthur Field, SC	91
Haim Hochboim, IL	67
Raphael Lehrer, MD	64
Kevin Wojtaszczyk, NY	55
Nick Anner, NY	51
Aran Warszawski, IL	48
Curt Collins II, PA	43

Alhambra (ALH)

Despite using only two qualifying heats, *Alhambra* shattered its attendance records while amassing a triple digit field for the fourth straight year. The first heat filled 18 tables and the second 20—all 5-player affairs. Since only 25 could advance, tiebreakers were huge. For those seeking to continue, a win in their first try versus their second attempt, as well as the margin of victory were important. The 38 games yielded 34 different winners, potentially denying nine a chance to continue. However, as usually happens, six did not appear, leaving only three to be disappointed by their tiebreaker standing.

Ken Gutermuth, enjoying his best run in years, won his third straight game to lead the five semifinal victors into the Final where his mojo suddenly abandoned him. Jeff Mullet took the early lead with 12 points, but the pack remained close with Alex Henning, Alan Elkner, and Ken at 7 points and Peter Eldridge at 6. Jeff maintained his lead through the next scoring round with the wall lead and control of the highest scoring purple buildings. However, Alan and Peter had narrowed the gap with walls of 11 and 10 length. Jeff was running out of steam and was overtaken in the third scoring round. He kept his lead in purple, but lost the walls, leaving him in third. So it all came down to Alex and Alan. The latter's 18 wall length outclassed Alex's 10, giving him a 16-point victory and his first WBC title.



Amun-Re (AMR)

The largest field since its 2003 debut filled 23 qualifying tables in three heats yielding 22 different winners. Only Chris Moffa managed to win twice. 20 of the 22 opted to continue, making four 5-player semifinals. The top seeds (Chris Moffa, Alex Bove, Bob Cranshaw, and Aran Warszawski) were seated at separate tables, but only Aran advanced. The other winners were 2009 champ Eric Freeman, 12th ranked Andrew Emerick and relative newcomer Owen Kyrrollos. Rob Kircher was the closest runner-up, relegating Haim Hochboim to the sidelines with 6th place laurels.

The Final duplicated the same winning (33) and last place (27) totals as its predecessor and was just as close, even though the margin of victory was four points. The Old Kingdom saw players scramble for money as only five positive sacrifices were made and farmer income never rose above one gold. The pharaoh also changed hands three times. Only three scoring cards were played.

In the New Kingdom, the first half money leaders each bought one of the most developed territories. The final sacrifice was crucial for Rob. He had built a second pyramid on Amama but left just one on Edfu. If his sacrifice was the highest, he could build a second pyramid on Edfu and complete another set for four points. Owen and Rob both bid nearly all of their cash, but Rob came out ahead and completed his set. Those four points proved to be his margin of victory. The final scores were 33-29-28-28-27.



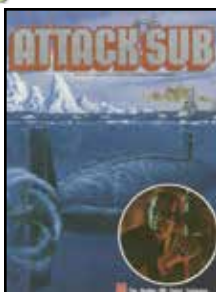


2013 Results

⚔ Stephen Squibb, PA
 ⚔ Steve Cameron, PA
 ⚔ John Coussis, IL
 ⚔ Ron Glass, FL
 ⚔ Scott Driessen, MD
 ⚔ Rob Eastman, NV

🏆 John Coussis, IL

† 110 📖 1998-2013

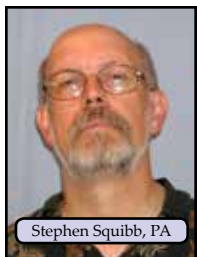


2013 Results

⚔ Sceadeau D'Tela, NC
 ⚔ Karl Buchholz, MI
 ⚔ M. Mossman, MD
 ⚔ Dan Hoffman, NC
 ⚔ Dave Buchholz, MD
 ⚔ Antero Kuusi, fi

🏆 Steve Caler, OH

† 40 📖 1991-2013



Stephen Squibb, PA

Top Laurelists

John Coussis, IL	168
Roy Gibson, MD	100
Scott Buckwalter, MD	96
Rob Winslow, NY	95
Rob Eastman, NV	88
Patrick Mirk, FL	85
John Elliott, MD	84
Bruce Young, SC	68
Henry Richardson, VA	60
Andy Gardner, VA	50



Sceadeau D'Tela, NC

Top Laurelists

Bill Edwards, VA	84
Daniel Hoffman, NC	58
Steve Caler, OH	40
David Sidelinger, CT	40
Kaarin Engelmann, VA	35
John Conlon, OK	33
James Doughan, PA	32
Bruce Young, SC	32
Rob Schoenen, PA	32
Alexander Lange, GA	30

Atlantic Storm (ACS)

For the 16th straight year over 100 of the BPA's finest answered the call of the sea. Five semifinals sent a pair of laurelists, Steve Cameron and Stephen Squibb, plus Scott Driessen and Ron Glass, into the Final against top-ranked, two-time champ, John Coussis.

John continued the hot gunnery that brought him this far by bagging the first two convoys. The favorite was off to a strong start. Round 3 provided the only push of the game to stall his impetus. Steve took the lion's share of the resulting spoils in the tiebreaker round by playing the *King George V* and a bonus after John had changed the suit to Combined. Stephen also won Rounds 5 and 6 while John won Round 7, but Steve took two of the next three Convoys. In between, Stephen got solid gunnery from the *Tirpitz* to take a 4VP Convoy plus a spoil. Round 15 saw the biggest guns come out for an Arctic convoy. Scott led with the *Duke of York*. That prompted Steve to employ the *Bismarck*. Stephen followed with the *Hood*. Steve missed his chance at the brass ring when he couldn't pull the rags to riches upset by rolling a 12.

Stephen pulled ahead on Round 19 as he rolled a 6 to rob John of 5VP's. A round later Stephen was at the top of a 33-24-22-14-12 score. He started the event as the last of 51 ACS laurelists and improved his ranking 38 places with the win.

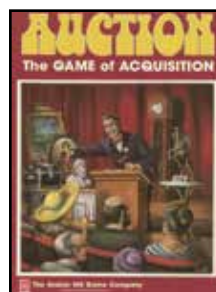


Attack Sub (ATS)

Although long out of print, this event has been trending larger of late with many Finals-deprived wood hounds trying their hand in a last chance for glory on Sunday. This year 40 submariners turned out to play this quick cat and mouse game of modern submarine warfare—including many newcomers with scant or no experience.

Four emerged unbeaten from the three swiss rounds: Sceadeau D'Tela, 12-year old Mandy Mossman, David Buchholz, and Antero Kuusi. Tiebreakers added Karl Buchholz, Bruce Monnin, and two-time champions Dan Hoffman and Bruce Young to the elimination rounds.

The Final pit Karl Buchholz's Soviets against Sceadeau D'Tela's British in Scenario A: SUB DUEL. The malfunctions that plagued Karl's attack systems in his semifinal would now transfer to Sceadeau's sonars. Regardless, Sceadeau was able to draw first blood, sinking the *Ivan Rogov*. In desperation, Karl's *Skvortsov* used active sonar, Battle Stations, and a Close Range to increase contact on *Valiant*. Moving into the second deck, *Valiant* fired on *Skvortsov*, missed, and then used Battle Stations to try to open range but *Skvortsov* countered with its own Close Range to keep contact. Karl couldn't draw a fire card to save his life. Sceadeau continued to close range with both subs. Finally, *Valiant* sank the *Skvortsov* to make Sceadeau D'Tela the 2013 champion! Quite a feat considering he was taught the game just minutes before by Dan Hoffman.

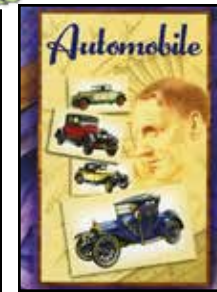


2013 Results

⚔ Ken Gutermuth, NC
 ⚔ Aran Warszawski, il
 ⚔ Andy Joy, MD
 ⚔ Bruce Reiff, OH
 ⚔ Michael Shea, CT
 ⚔ Natasha Metzger, NY

🏆 Bruce Reiff, OH

† 28 📖 1993-2013



2013 Results

⚔ Romain Jacques, qc
 ⚔ Nick Henning, DC
 ⚔ Jack Jung, on
 ⚔ Rob Cranshaw, RI
 ⚔ Andrew Maly, TX
 ⚔ Elaine Pearson, NC

🏆 Greg Schmittgens, KS

† 41 📖 2010-2013



Ken Gutermuth, NC

Top Laurelists

Bruce Reiff, OH	84
Ken Gutermuth, NC	50
Arthur Field, SC	50
Andy Gardner, VA	40
Jon. Lockwood, VA	34
George Sauer, OH	34
Steve Cuccaro, MD	32
Jeff Mullett, OH	30
David Brooks, TN	28
Andy Joy, MD	24



Romain Jacques, qc

Top Laurelists

Nick Henning, DC	48
Andrew Maly, TX	36
Romain Jacques, qc	30
Bill Zurn, CA	30
Harald Henning, CT	18
Rod Spade, PA	18
Matt Calkins, VA	18
John Weber, MD	15
Jack Jung, on	12
Michael Kaltman, PA	12

Auction (AUC)

Nine winners were present after two heats, allowing three runners-up to advance to Round 2 including Andy Joy and myself. In my semi, Jeff Mullett got his wish during the random seating to be on my left. Unfortunately for him on her first turn Natasha Metzger sold her Rare Miscellany and the bank refused to pay. This gave moi a third one when I bought it in the subsequent auction. The next item was another Rare Miscellany that called to me. I sold just enough to hit the \$7500 mark and advance in record time. Andy Joy similarly dominated his table as we also-rans proved how dangerous a second life can be. The third semi went longer and allowed Ken Gutermuth and Vassili Kyrkos to duel for survival behind Aran Warszawski. Sadly for we finalists, Ken grabbed the second chance Final ticket by \$190 while saving his best karma for me.

Ken took the seat to my left with Aran to my right. A Buyer's Card appeared early and I fell on my sword to keep it from Ken. The sales dice were unkind and left me with under \$900. Sadly, two turns later one of Ken's needed items appeared and I was unable to stop his purchase. The luck of the also-rans continued unabated and Ken was able to sell and claim his first Auction plaque in 16 years while ending his 3-year losing streak. It would be the start of his best week in years.



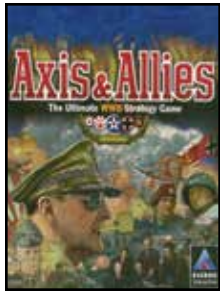
Automobile (AUT)

The only finalist with previous laurels was defending champ Nick Henning. But it was Romain Jacques who gradually entered all three markets, building the mid-price Thomas Flyer initially, expanding to the luxury Crane-Simplex on Turn 2, and entering the economy class with the Hupmobile R on Turn 3.

Romain stuck to his sales strategy, passing without an executive action on the first three turns. By the last turn, Romain was the clear leader (carrying over two loss cubes; the others had seven or more). Everyone over-produced economy cars at the end, building 34 cars, even though the maximum market is 32 in the best of circumstances. It didn't happen that way. Romain's strategy appeared to be loss-management, taking Chrysler to reduce loss cubes on Turns 1 and 3, Howard to get a few more sales on Turn 2, and Sloan (to cut his game end loss cubes in half) on the last turn. He enjoyed the added benefit that no one else could take Sloan. Nick, behind at the end by only 140 points, generated a few too many loss cubes, opening the Franklin Model A on Turn 1 and not closing it until Turn 4.

Romain did the best job of handling his losses and won 4700 - 4560 - 4040 - 2850. Sales strategy has evolved for the better as the game has aged, with Howard being the most popular character choice—picked three times as often as Sloan, the least selected option.





2013 Results

- ♣ Ty Hansen, DC
- ♠ Joe Gioia, NY
- ♣ Sam Packwood, MN
- ♠ Michael Gioia, NY
- ♠ Al Hurda, on
- ♠ Steve Packwood, MN
- ♣ Joe Powell, VA
- † 32 📖 1999-2013



2013 Results

- ♣ Steve Ambruzs, VA
- ♠ Justin Rice, VA
- ♣ Chris Storzillo, NJ
- ♠ Bill Beckman, SC
- ♠ Ashton Worley, ru
- ♠ Pete Pollard, TN
- ♣ Dave Terry, MD
- † 61 📖 1992-2013



Ty Hansen, DC

Top Laurelists

Joe Powell, VA	210
Philip Shea, VA	192
Kevin Keller, MD	191
Ty Hansen, DC	184
Pat Mirk, FL	129
Phil Rennert, MD	96
Richard Beyma, MD	95
Andrew Murphy, PA	94
Tim Rothenhoefer, MD	68
Brian Fitzpatrick, VA	54



Steve Ambruzs, VA

Top Laurelists

Paul Risner, FL	343
Richard Moyer, MN	156
William Rohrbeck, NH	106
Keith Hunsinger, OH	100
Bill Beckman, SC	90
Eric Stranger, OH	76
Steve Ambruzs, VA	60
Steve Sabatino, PA	60
Dan Dolan Sr, NJ	60
Dave Long, NC	60

Axis & Allies (A&A)

An influx of new players acquitted themselves well as only two of 2012's laurelists managed to add to their totals. Ty Hansen won his third title, defeating 2009 champ Andrew Murphy in the third round, as well as Michael and Joe Gioia in the playoffs. Only Ty was able to defeat either of the father/son newcomers.

Defending champ Joe Powell lost to Michael in Round 2 while two-time champ Kevin Keller fell to Sam Packwood. Meanwhile, Joe Gioia was living on the edge, winning 12-12 ties against 2010 champ Richard Beyma in Round 1 and Al Hurda on Round 3. Both wins were decided by income gain tiebreakers. Another family tandem scored well with Steve Packwood in sixth place and son Sam claiming third after losing yet another 12-12 tie to Joe in the semifinals at that same tie-breaker. In the other semifinal Ty's Axis defeated Mike as his attacks on Russia outpaced Germany's fall to the Allies. A British attack on Germany failed, and Russian counterattacks at Kazakhstan and Novosibirsk led to heavy Russian losses without retaking the territories.

Ty accepted a bid of 5 for the Allies in the Final and concentrated American strength in the Pacific. On Turn 4 the British attacked France while the US Pacific fleet took New Guinea. Joe conceded on the fifth turn.

Play balance has never been stronger with 38 games split evenly. The average bid to play the Axis was 5 IPC to the Allied player.



B-17; Queen of the Skies (B17)

The war wore on with three "milk run" missions from December 1943 as the 8th rebuilt its strength after October's second Schweinfurt raid. Norway's Telemark Heavy Water plant was the featured target. Because of the "safer" raids, the scores were tightly bunched from top to bottom, resulting in eight ties including one for first place. All ties were broken based on a priority of bombing performance followed by crew survival and enemy aircraft shot down. We also had a tie for fifth place, with the lucky "loser" of the tiebreakers receiving the more coveted sand plaque.

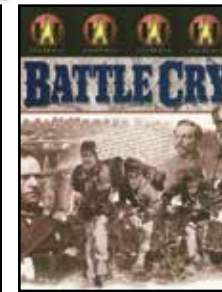
The most notable of the story lines belonged to Dave Long who set a record that will never be broken. He managed to be shot down on all three missions which is not that rare. In fact, Jim Miller—his German counterpart—has done him in before in triplicate. The record that can only be tied, never broken, is that all ten crew members survived and were taken prisoner—in all three aircraft! So Dave broke the bank in customer loyalty points at Stalag 17 with 30 room reservations. Herr Reichsmarschall is said to have denied their request for private suites.

Between conventions, Michael Coomes designed two magnificent squadron trophies for the best and worst squadron performance. The trophies are perpetual prizes, with placards to be engraved each year and will reside with each squadron as we enter our 23rd year of the WBC B-17 tournament.



2013 Results

- ♣ Pierre LeBoeuf, MD
- ♠ Daniel Barnes, CA
- ♠ F. de Bellefeuille, qc
- ♠ Daniel Farrow IV, PA
- ♠ Fred Minard, PA
- ♠ John Ford, PA
- ♣ William Wallace, OH
- † 21 📖 2011-2013



2013 Results

- ♣ Peter Stein, OH
- ♠ Aiden Powers, VA
- ♠ Jeff Cornett, FL
- ♠ Bruce Reiff, OH
- ♠ Jim Bell, MD
- ♠ Mike Stanley, OH
- ♣ Bruce Reiff, OH
- † 33 📖 2001-2013



Pierre LeBoeuf, MD

Top Laurelists

Pierre LeBoeuf, MD	50
Akihisa Tabei, jp	48
Daniel Barnes, CA	24
Bruce Beard, MD	18
F. deBellefeuille, qc	14
Dave Earls, PA	12
Jonathan Squibb, PA	9
Dave Metheny, PA	9
John Ford, PA	8
Daniel Farrow IV, PA	6



Peter Stein, OH

Top Laurelists

Jeff Cornett, FL	132
Philip Shea, VA	66
Ben Knight, MD	60
Lyman Moquin, DC	48
David Metzger, NY	45
Patrick Mirk, FL	33
Robert Eastman, NV	33
Steve Lollis, MD	33
Peter Stein, OH	30
Nicole Reiff, OH	30

Baltimore & Ohio (B&O)

The Final started wild and never let up. Francois started the PRR with under five shares. Fred kicked off the C&O next, followed by Barnes with the B&O and John with NYC. Farrow and Pierre invested in the established PRR rather than start another line. That convinced Francois to dump all his shares and begin the NYNH&H. Pierre suddenly found himself President of the PRR. Everyone dumped stocks and invested in other railroads in the next market with Fred giving control of the C&O to Farrow. The third market saw two established railroads change ownership and two new ones begun, the B&M and the Erie. All established railroads took a tumble in the volatile market. The fourth market turned the heat up further with all but the B&O changing ownership, a couple more than once. The business rounds had every railroad increasing their valuation at least once.

The last market ratcheted up the volatility to new heights with NYC changing hands twice after John dropped it to start the IC, and the C&O changing hands four times. The Wabash was started by Barnes, taken by Francois, and then retaken by Barnes before it even got out of the roundhouse. The only railroad to keep the same President throughout was B&O. The last business round left the Erie with the top valuation of \$110 and the NYNH&H at the bottom with \$45. That left Pierre atop a \$2033 - \$1872 - \$1684 - \$1587 - \$1283 - \$1003 score.



Battle Cry (BCY)

The abridged version of a much longer ballad all came down to the last dice roll. 11-year old Aiden Powers left the Juniors room just long enough to kick adult butt in *Battle Cry*. Having dispensed with Mr. Plaque himself in a 5-2 semifinal rout, it was seemingly all downhill from there with only Pete Stein standing between him and a shield all his own.

Aiden opened the hostilities with an assault on his left that crushed Peter's right. With a flag lead, he now charged the center to strike the final blow against adult tyranny. He destroyed one unit and crippled another, leaving him one piece short of victory. But now it was Peter's turn, and although he needed three flags, his usual frown morphed into an evil grin. That's when it all went wrong. For our anti-hero had moved his forces into the center where he now unleashed his plan. He destroyed two units, leaving the general vulnerable. Surely our young hero, who was holding an Assault Center card that all but assured victory if Peter missed his 42% chance, could dodge one last bullet from the worst die roller this side of Yoshikawa.

Somewhere bunnies hop and birds sing, but not that afternoon. Not vs. the Grinch. When the dice stopped rolling, the dream ended. Aiden? He stuck out his hand like the little champ he is and congratulated the Grinch on stealing his Christmas. We can't wait to see Aiden next year. Stein? Not so much...

