



**20 Years of the Ground Zero Games East Coast Convention
Owego, NY – March 24-26, 2017**

On February 27th, 1998, a group of 13 people organized by Jon Davis, Gil Haun and Mark 'Indy' Kochte, got together in a small room located at the Hotel Brunswick in Lancaster, PA. We had all gathered because we were all fans of Ground Zero Games. We had all met online through the GZG-L mailing list and other internet places, and we wanted to meet up and play games together.

This was the first Ground Zero Games East Coast Convention.

On February 16th, 2007, a group of around 50 people, organized by Jon Davis, Jerry Han, and Mark 'Indy' Kochte, got together in a much larger room at the Hotel Brunswick. On that weekend, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of GZG ECC. What had started as a simple Internet gathering had turned into a yearly tradition.

And now, here in 2017, we have reached 20 gatherings and 20 years. A lot has happened in that time. We've changed our venue from the Hotel Brunswick in Lancaster, PA to our current home in Owego, NY. We've expanded our event offerings from GZG games to game systems of all types. There are now two decades of stories to tell, from sheep to Cinegrunt, of massive starship battles, of vast contests involving multi-hued armies and navies. Amazing miniatures of pirates, aliens, monsters, ships, scenes. Wonderful games, played by wonderful players.

As time has passed, we've said good bye to old friends, and we've said hello to new friends. But as people have come and gone, the purpose is the same: meet up, play games, and have fun together.

Thank you everybody for 20 years of fun and frolic. GZG ECC wouldn't exist without the support of the vendors, the event volunteers, and most of all, the players. This event, in the end, is about you and for you. Thank you for coming to GZG ECC in our 20th year, and celebrating with us.

Welcome everybody! Let's go play!

The GZG ECC XX Committee
Jon, Jerry and Indy

GZG ECC XX Information

Events: As always, the main focus of GZG ECC are the events. Some events are filled and are no longer accepting players. Other events, however, still have room, and can accept drop-ins. Check sign ups at the registration desk to reserve a spot in these events.

Vendors: Also, we're pleased to welcome our vendors to the Convention — please help support them and buy something nice.

Miniatures Contest: On Saturday Afternoon, Indy Kochte runs the GZG ECC miniatures contest. There are four categories (1/300, 25mm, 15mm, and starship) and each person may enter two entries per category. Entries are taken Saturday morning, and the entire convention votes on the miniatures. The prizes are awarded Saturday evening, during our awards ceremony. Talk to Indy for more information, and check out the rules (abridged) on page 8.

Quote Board: It has become a tradition to write the more memorable quotes on our infamous quote board. Feel free to record for history what you hear during the heated emotion of battle.

Unofficial Games: We give priority to events that have been scheduled with us. However, if a table is open, you're welcome to play anything you want. Just double check with the registration desk.

Volunteers: We always need volunteers to run an event. If you have your minis with you, and feel like running an event on short notice, let us know and we'll announce your event to everybody. People who volunteer get \$5 off their Con admission.

Swap Table: There's a swap table available for gamers wanting to trade or

sell some stuff. Just make sure it's well-signed, so people can find you if they have questions. Also, let one of the committee members know, and we'll keep an eye on things.

Badges: Everybody should have a name badge with their starship logo on it. If you don't have one, please see us at the registration desk.

Door Prizes: Every convention attendee receives a figure or a set of figures from the door prize collection. Talk to a committee member for more details.

Food: Food is available from various restaurants located in the area, as well as the hotel restaurant, *The River's Edge*. You are allowed to bring food and alcohol into the convention areas, but please be careful with it. Remember: you will likely be playing with another person's miniatures and terrain, and that there may be minors present. Please behave responsibly.

Photos: There will be photos taken for After Action Reports, to be posted on the GZG ECC website. If you don't want to appear in the photos, please let the various photographers know.

Tourism: Owego itself is a wonderful place to look around. Spend a couple of hours and tour historic sections of the town, or walk along the Susquehanna River.

Survey: And as an assistance to us, please give us feedback on how you feel the convention went. We need your ideas to make next year's event even better.

Questions: If you have any questions, please talk to one of the committee members — we're wearing the badges with the UNSC logo. Thanks!

Our website:

<http://warpfish.com/gzgecc>

A Message from Jon Tuffley of Ground Zero Games



A big hello to everyone at GZG-ECC 20! Indy has asked me to write a little bit of introduction for the Conbook, and I'm very happy to do so - I hope that you all have a great time over the Con weekend, and I will look forward to seeing the photos and reading the quote board!

It really doesn't seem possible that this is the 20th GZG-ECC - but then, it is hard to believe that I've been trading as GZG for almost thirty-two years!

In an industry and hobby that always seems to be looking for the newest, shiniest things, I'm still amazed that I've been making and selling miniatures (and rules of course) for that long.

I regret that I've only ever made it over to one of the twenty ECCs so far, and I would have loved to have been there with you this year - this time of year is always extremely busy for me, dealing with the post-New Year orders and also starting to prepare for SALUTE, the biggest UK wargame show (April 22nd this year, if anyone fancies booking a last minute trip to the UK...!) - BUT, as Indy and the team have promised that there will be a twenty-first ECC in 2018, I'm going to do everything I can to make sure I can get over next year to see everyone and help celebrate the 21st Birthday of the Con!

Just a little bit of history, for those of you who don't already know: in 1985 I first started to produce and sell miniatures under the GZG label; just a few 15mm SF vehicles cast in resin, literally a garden-shed business - part-time only of course - with advertising in

continued next page

the little Classified Ads in Military Modelling and even in White Dwarf (which at the time was still a "real" magazine for the hobby as a whole rather than just a house journal for GW). Of course, in those dark pre-internet days, people sent cheques and postal orders through the mail to get their toys! I carried on doing resin casting and selling part-time for about six years, introducing some 25mm vehicles and 6mm buildings to supplement the 15mm items. Over those years I wrote and published (well, photocopied a few dozen!) the original Dirtside, Stargrunt and Full Thrust rules, along with the forerunner of them all, a little set called G-CAV for the 15mm line; amazingly, there is still at least one group I know of who regularly uses an updated and added-to version of the G-CAV rules even now.

In 1991 I made the jump from running GZG as a part-time "hobby business" to trying to make a full-time living from it... that worked out well enough, I could pay my bills and still eat, and that's pretty much how it has continued for the last twenty-six years... over that time many things have changed of course, the rise of internet selling has allowed me to reach a much larger market, the great resurgence in 15mm as a SciFi gaming scale has (for me, anyway) long overtaken 25mm again, and I moved away from resin casting to doing everything in metal - and of course through all that time, Full Thrust has remained a constantly popular system and a great seller of miniatures for me. But none of this would have been possible without the continued support of my customers old and new - you have enabled me to make a living from doing something that I enjoy, which is a wonderful thing to be able to say - and I hope that in return I have been able to give you many, many hours of happy modelling, painting and gaming.

So, once again I hope that you all have a great ECC - and a HUGE thank-you to everyone who has supported the Con and helped to organise and run it for all these years - and just maybe, if the Gods are willing, I will see some of you in person in 2018.....

Happy Gaming, and may your dice be with you!

Jon Tuffley (GZG)

GZG ECC XX Schedule (Shad

		Table #2	Table #3
Friday 7 – 11pm	Open Gaming	Battle Line <i>ESCOM</i> Indy Kochte	Rite of <i>Fu</i> Ke
Saturday 9am – 1pm	Open Gaming	B5: Severed Dreams <i>ESCOM</i> Aaron Newman	AutoI <i>M</i> <i>Axles</i> Jo
Saturday 2 – 6pm	Undivided <i>Gothic Thrust</i> <i>(BFG variant)</i> Greg Davis	Jerky Time <i>Full Thrust</i> Dave Skelly	Rite of <i>Fu</i> Ke
Saturday 7:30 – 11:30 pm	Staunch the Bleeding <i>Full Thrust</i> Tom McCarthy	Open Gaming	The I <i>Fu</i> Ca
Sunday 9am – 1pm	Astrosplash: Fly til You Die <i>Silent Death</i> Tom McCarthy	Serpent Strike on the Coyote <i>Battletech:</i> <i>Alpha Strike</i> Indy Kochte	Echo <i>FMA</i> Damo

Don't forget the Miniatures Contest on Saturday Afternoon

led Items are Full as of Mar 22nd, 2017)

Table #3	Table #4	Table #5	Table #6
Succession <i>All Thrust</i> en Wang	GiTS Again <i>Ghost in the Shell</i> Mark Kinsey	When Giant Monsters Attack <i>Destroy All Monsters</i> Thomas Scheu	Get the Camera <i>All Quiet on the Martian Front</i> Dave Hornug
Duel Death Match <i>and Alloys</i> n Davis	Hitler's Death Ray-inator <i>Pulp Alley</i> Scott Howland	Old School Dungeoncrawl <i>WEGS</i> Jeff Aubert	Hold the Line <i>All Quiet on the Martian Front</i> Dave Hornug
Succession <i>All Thrust</i> en Wang	Open Gaming	Open Gaming	Get Three Coffins Ready <i>Cinegrunt</i> Stuart Murray
Real Navy <i>All Thrust</i> rl Scheu	Open Gaming	Wot... Wot... Mars again?! <i>Stargrunt (Variant)</i> Connell and Barosi	Open Gaming
oes Out of Time <i>A Skirmish</i> ond Walker	Open Gaming	I'm Your Ice Cream Man—Director's Cut <i>Axles and Alloys</i> Scott Howland	Open Gaming

on! See rules on page 8, or talk to Mark 'Indy' Kochte!

Saturday Afternoon Miniatures Contest Rules (Abridged)

You may enter in four categories:

- Starships
- 1/300
- 25mm
- 15mm

All entries must be painted by the person entering the miniatures. You may submit 2 entries per category, for a maximum of 8. Submissions will be taken by Indy Kochte during the Saturday morning session. Squads /Platoons will count as one entry. A squad with an APC will count as *two* entries. Entries must be painted by the person making the submission.

During the Saturday afternoon session, convention attendees will vote on their favourite miniatures, 2 votes per category. Winners will be announced Saturday evening, before the start of the evening session. A winner can only win one prize per category. A short photo session will follow the awards ceremony. Miniatures can be reclaimed after the photo session.

Indy will abstain from the initial voting. In the case of any ties, Indy will cast the deciding vote.

Please talk to Indy if you have any questions.

Good luck! *Remember, entries are due by the start of the Afternoon session on Saturday.*

“Charlie Don’t Surf”

Thanks to Stuart Murray for 20 years of Cinegrunt



Aliens: A Resumption of Hostilities
GZG ECC II (1999)



The Thin Red Line
GZG ECC XIX (2016)

GZG-ECC I Group Shot

Feb 28, 1998



GZG-ECC X Group Shot

Feb 17th, 2007



The Spirit of GZG ECC

What is GZG ECC?

GZG ECC is about play, not
competition.

GZG ECC is about
acceptance, not disapproval.

GZG ECC
is about games and the
people who play them,
not the rules.

At the end of the day, there
are no winners, no losers,
at GZG ECC.

Only people having fun
together.

This is the spirit of GZG ECC,
what the convention is for.

We hope you will help us
spread that spirit,
to make each GZG ECC
the best that it can be.

Why "The Spirit of GZG ECC"? We've noticed in the past that, sometimes, people get too caught up in the winning and losing of the individual events, forgetting that the whole point of GZG ECC is to get together and play games that we may not get to play at home with people we don't normally get to play with. It seemed appropriate, starting with GZG ECC X, to remind people that we're here as friends and to play, and that we depend on each one of you to help us keep it that way. Please keep that in mind as we play together this weekend. Thanks!

VENDORS AND PRIZES

Ground Zero Games

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shop.groundzerogames.co.uk
PO Box 10841
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Colchester, Essex
United Kingdom
CO6 4UB

Brigade Models

sales@brigademodels.co.uk
www.brigademodels.co.uk
15, Arundel Avenue,
Sittingbourne, Kent
ENGLAND
ME10 4RG

StarMats Plus

thrud62@yahoo.com
14331 Claremount Ave.
Middleburg Heights, OH,
44130

Modeler's Toolbox

azuredolphin@yahoo.com
3413 Fort Lyon Dr.
Woodbridge, VA
22192

HOTEL INFORMATION

Owego Treadway Inn

1100 State Route 17C
Owego, New York
13827
(607) 687 4500
treadwaysales@aol.com

The GZG ECC XX Committee

Jon Davis, Jerry Han, Mark 'Indy' Kochte

The Committee would like to thank:

Our Prize Suppliers and Vendors:

Tony Francis (Brigade Models)

Carl Scheu (Starmats Plus)

Ken Wang (Modeler's Toolbox)

The staff at the Owego Treadway Inn

Leah Davis and Dave Skelley for our wonderful con art

All our volunteers for running their great events.

And, As Always: To Jon Tuffley of Ground Zero Games, for prizes, support, and inspiration. Without his hard work, none of us would be here to share good times and play good games.

Finally, thank YOU for coming to GZG ECC XX. Without you, there wouldn't have been 20 years of C-bats and P-Torps, of sheep and cheese, of Alien mating calls and quote boards, and of crazy chit pulls and even crazier die rolls. Thank you for coming to GZG ECC here in Owego, and we hope to see you again next year!

Three handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'Jon', the second is 'Jerry', and the third is 'Mark'.

GZG ECC XX Wrap-up and GZG ECC XXI info at:

<http://www.warpfish.com/gzgecc>

GZG ECC XX After Convention Comments

We're always looking for suggestions to improve things for future years. Please take a moment to offer your opinion in the space below, and leave this with one of the Committee, email to gzgecc@gmail.com, or send it to the address below. Thanks for your time!

Jon Davis

1415 Rocco Drive

Schenectady, NY, 12303

Thanks for your comments!