

DIPLOMACY WORLD NEWS

Welcome to DIPLOMACY WORLD NEWS (DWN), a brief newsletter for the hobby's publishers & service providers, new comers to the hobby, and new members of the DW family. Its purpose is to provide you with the latest up to date information on DW and various affiliated projects, news about the hobby at large, and particular items of interest to our readers.

Since we can't trade DW itself for your various individual publications; and since some of you don't, alas, sub to DW; we'll have to rely on this newsletter to get important news to you and, through you, to your readers. Keep in mind that this is just a summary of what's happening, details are in DW. You are encouraged to reprint information herein in your own publication(s) and we'd appreciate any plugs for DW you care to send our way. This first DWN is in the nature of an experiment. If you like it and find it useful, let me know. Your input is welcome and should be sent to: DWN, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102, USA. Publication will be on an as needed basis, probably quarterly, alternating on a semi-monthly basis with DW. A single copy is available for 2, 22¢ stamps. Trades for other publications are welcome. If we decide to continue with DWN we'll establish somekind of subscription fee.

The basic purpose of DWN is to get news of interest to hobby members out to the general hobby membership. We already reach alot of hobby publishers, but not all. DWN will go to every hobby publisher, including ones who don't get DW. Hopefully they will see that the news it contains is passed on to their readers; thereby spreading the word. People who inquire about the game or hobby, or new subbers to DW will receive a copy of DWN so they'll know what's going on while they wait for their first copy of DW. Naturally this project will only work if people make use of the information it provides. If it just goes from us to you and then dies, it's of little use. It has to get passed on from you to your readers to make it worthwhile. At the moment there is no one single source of hobby information available to everyone in the hobby. DWN hopes to fill that need. No features, no hobby politics, just news is what we offer here. We invite you to make use of this service by sending us your own news items for inclusion in DWN.

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WORLD DIPLOMACY ISSUE OUT

DW #45, the Winter 1987 issue, is out and it's an unusual one with a "World Diplomacy" theme, featuring contributions from a dozen different Diplomacy playing countries and some of the best known names in the hobby: Walker, Billenness, Smith, Holley, Coughlan, Brown, Smyth, Parr, Sharp, Bouwman, Jacobs, etc. Also included are a wide variety of types of articles & a couple of reports on EUROCON, Poll results, S&T stuff, and a long list of overseas pubbers looking for US readers and players. If you are interested in the overseas hobby and didn't get a copy of this issue, you should get one. Single copies are US\$4, postpaid.

DW #46 IS COMING SOON

The Spring 1987 issue of DW is in the final planning stage and we are looking for contributions from hobby members. This will be a pot-luck issue, so if you've got an article you've been saving, why not send it along (Originals only, plez)? We can always use good material. This time we're interested in Mid Game S&T stuff, , ratings ideas, comments on past DW Demo Games from former participants. Remember the deadline for the spring issue is 1 APRIL!!

NON-DIPLOMACY WORLD NEWS

AWARDS TIME!!

It's time for the Awards process to begin for this year. Since no one volunteered to take on this responsibility; I'm stuck with it again. Why not, it's one of the few truly pleasurable jobs in the hobby.

Anyway, I need your help in several ways: (1) Publicity; (2) Committee Service; & (3) Ballot Distribution & Voting.

The Awards are the Miller (for service), the Walker (literary), Koning (for play of the game), and DOT HAPPY (for a clean fold). Nominations are for the last year (e.g. 1986) and may come from anyone in the hobby, but nominees must come from N. America. Nominations should be sent to me by 1 MARCH!! Enclose a copy of the article or item up for the Walker Award. Seconds are acceptable.

Cash donations to help cover costs go to Fred Davis, Jr., 3210K Wheaton Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

Volunteers are also needed to serve on the various screening committees. Volunteers need not be publishers or hobby service providers, but should have some knowledge of the hobby's membership.

So, this is your chance to be a part of deciding who has contributed most to the hobby in the past year. Certainly there are some worthwhile candidates to consider this year.

NEW DW FLYER IS READY

New flyers are the rage at the moment. We've got one for DW and we'll be sending it to all those who write about the game, hobby, or DW. It plugs DW stuff and presents basic hobby info via a Q&A format. We'll update the contents from time to time and keep them current, if that's possible. A single copy is free for a SASE.

A PRICE LIST

No price increase yet for DW, but that may change soon. A single copy is still US\$4. A sub in the US is US\$12, in Canada US\$14, and overseas US\$16, plus another US\$16 for airmail delivery. Back issues are available and US\$4 each. The 86 BBB is US\$6. Vol. I of the Anthology (Best of DW) is US\$10. The 86 Reprint Series is US\$90, plus overseas postage. And yes, people do pay that much for it.

SUCCESS BREEDS SUCCESS

Because of the success of last year's XENO anniversary essay contest, DW is sponsoring a similar essay contest for DW readers and hobby members who write original material on the game or hobby for the magazine. Avalon Hill is donating \$200 worth of merchandise certificates as prizes for this year's contest. Details in DW #46.

1988 BBB PLANNING

We're already thinking about the 1988 edition of the BBB, the hobby's official directory; which we hope will include hobby members from all over the world, not just North America. However, before we tackle those overseas mailing lists we need up-to-date lists from every N. American pubber. So, plez: Names, addresses, phone numbers (with Area Codes) if you will.

DW DOWN UNDER, BY GOLLY!!

Starting with the current issue DW is being simulpublished in Australia for hobby members down under. Because of this they'll be getting their issues about two weeks after N. American readers and without paying the high price of international air mail. There's a wild and wooley bunch down there playing Dip, so if you'd like to recruit some players from down under let us know.

Now, next is Africa!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HALL OF FAME COMMITTEES

We also need a group of 12-15 volunteers to serve on the two International Diplomacy Hall of Fame committees (nominations & elections) who will select the newest inductees into the hobby's Hall of Fame, the highest honor the hobby can bestow for career long achievements.

Nominations Committee members will accept & screen nominations from hobby members, or make their own choices. Members of the Election Committee will then select the new IDHOF members from that group.

Anyone interested in serving on either committee should contact Larry Peery, IDHOF, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102 ASAP; and not later than 1 March.

BEYERLEIN DONATION TO ARCHIVES

Doug Beyerlein, a member of the hobby since 1966, has recently retired from active involvement in the hobby after many distinguished years as a player, gamesmaster, writer, BNC, etc. In a very generous gesture Doug has donated some 167 pounds of Diplomacy magazines and records to the Archives. The 2,000+ item collection includes complete sets of zines such as Hoosier Archives, Broddingnag, etc., as well as many other collectibles. Doug has also donated a box of rare A-H games for next year's PDORA.

Current plans are to use Doug's collection as the basis for a Lending Library, to make these materials to hobby members.

OCEANA ARCHIVES

Ric. Snell, GPO Box 206C, Hobart, 7001, Tasmania, Australia is trying to set up an Australian Diplomacy Archives. If you've got something you'd like to donate, send it along or send it to me and I'll bulk ship whatever we can collect for him.

QST, QST...

Does that mean anything to you? If not, read on....

DIPCON DATE CHANGES

The date of DIPCON XX (MADCON V) has been changed to June 5-June 6. It's still at Madison, WI. For info: Mark Frueh, 4320 Wallace St., St. Louis, MO 63116 (314-832-1791). The change means I won't be able to attend, but it does open up a date for PEERLO, VII; tentatively scheduled for June 19-21, in San Diego.

We are very pleased to announce that Melinda Ann Holley, widely known player and publisher of The Rebel, has joined the DW staff as our interviews features writer. Melinda's first interview, with Gary Coughlan, is in DW #45, and her future subjects will include some of the best known personalities in the hobby.

Coming on board overseas are Derek Caws, who will be acting as our UK correspondent; and Rick Snell, publisher of The Go Between, who will be our Australian publisher.

DON'T FORGET

For the latest list of game openings send a SASE to Scott Hanson, 3804 Fourth Ave., So., Minneapolis, MN 55408 and if you are a new pubber or GM looking for players send the appropriate info along to Scott so he can include it in the next issue of PONIEVEDRIA, our listing of game openings.

Novices with questions about the game or hobby are invited to write our Novice Consultant, Bob O'Donnell, Box 835, Klamath Falls, OR, 97601. Enclose a SASE.

NEW PUBLICATIONS!!

Two new IDS/DW publications are in final preparation. First, volume two of the DW Anthology series. This volume features the ~~writings~~ of Mark Berch, who has written more material for DW than anyone else. It includes all of Mark's writings for DW, both serious and humorous. Mark's updated many of his S'T essays to reflect his latest thinking on the game.

Second, is volume three of the DW Anthology series, this one featuring the complete reprinting of all the DW Demo Games. Eight games and some 200 pages of moves, commentary, and end game analysis are included. The hobby's never had a basic introductory reader for new players. Now it will.

Both of these volumes should be available this spring. Watch for them.

TO TRADE OR NOT TO TRADE

Unfortunately, DW's financial condition does not allow us to trade with other hobby publications. We wish we could but it is beyond our resources to subsidize such an effort and we don't think it is fair to ask the paying customers to do so.

However, we are considering two alternative for those of you who are publishers in your own right. First, an offer to trade a copy of our BBB for an equivalent value of your publication. Since the BBB goes for \$6 that should cover a year's trade with most of you. Secondly, I (Peery) am considering reprinting my book on Diplomac as a series of individual booklets. There would be 8 of them, one for each great power and an introduction, etc; a total of 378 pages or so. This is a basic intro-

Bill Stapel, 5423 Academy, Dearborn Hts., MI 48125 (313-292-1294) is also planning a Diplomacy event in Canton, Ohio sometime in the near future. If you're in that area give him a call.

The STRATEGICON people in LA (Box 8399, Long Beach, CA 90808, 213-420-3675) are planning three events this year: ORCCON 10 on February 14-17; GAMEX on May 22-25, and GATEWAY on September 4-7. These all offer Diplomacy tournaments and other gaming events.

NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW ZINES

In addition to two new zines that began late last year, Hugh Christie's OVER THERE (43 E. Houston St., Montgomery, PA 17152) and Bruce Geryk's BLUNT INSTRUMENTS (5748 S. Blackstone Ave., #11, Chicago, IL 6063.), the new year has already brought us three new publications:

OHIO ACRES: from Robert Greier, Jr. (35171 Gromley Rd., Salem, OH 44460);

RANDOM THOUGHT: from Jeff Zarse (Hirman, Box 284, Hanover, NH 03755);

PENGUIN DIP; from Stephen Dorneman (95 Federal St., #2, Lynn, MA 01905).

All three of these zines look interesting and they offer a variety of games and features. So, if you didn't get a copy of their first mailing, why not send them a copy of your zine and welcome them to the hobby. Make them feel at home, so to speak. If you are a non-pubber and looking for a game opening, try sending them a couple of stamps and ask for a sample copy.

PERELANDRA RETURNS

PERELANDRA, the hobby's only literary zine is back with us, thank to the sponsorship of an anonymous hobby member.

So for high-brow literature, low-brow snowball fighting, and Diplomacy contact: Pete Gaughan, 3121 East Park Row, #171A, Arlington, TX 76010. Subs are US\$12 a year.

QST EXPLAINED

QST is the radio call sign used by amateur radio operators all over the world looking for a contact. There are 250,000 of them in the US, alone (and 16 in the PRC!). How many play Dippy? We know of one and we are looking for more for the Radio DW Network. Contact Mike Maston, N6OPH, c/o DW, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102.

DON'T FORGET OUR NEXT DEADLINE IS 1 APRIL FOR DIPLOMACY WORLD.

ductory guide for those who want to improve their playing skills. I haven't set a price on it yet because I don't know what the printing or postage costs will be, but it will probably be in the area of \$15 or \$20 for the series. Again, I might consider trading it for an equivalent value of your publication. One possibility, is to combine a reprinting of my book with selected items from past DWs dealing with the same great powers.

If you are interested in either of these possibilities let me know. Your feedback will help me decide what I'm going to do.

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!!

That wraps up the first and, perhaps, last issue of DWN. Whether there will be a second issue, and when, depends on your response to this issue. If you like it let us know and give us some publicity in your own publications. Everyone assumes that everyone in the hobby knows about DW, but such is not the case. A lot of hobby members don't know about DW and they won't, if you don't tell them.

And don't forget to send us your news items for DWN. It's the easiest way for you to reach all the hobby's publishers and "movers and shakers." And, if for some reason, you haven't subbed to DW already, why not do so today? We still have a few copies of issue 45 available for US\$4.

DON'T FORGET OUR NEXT DEADLINE IS 1 MARCH FOR DNW

FIRST HONORS GAME UNDER WAY

The first Honors Game, consisting of players selected from the top of the Dragons-Tooth Rating System list of top PBM players, is under way. The game is being GMed by Jim Benes, who is publishing the results in Dippy. Among the players: Dave Lincoln, Don Swartz, John Stewart, Doug Baker, Peter Reese, Peter Fuchs, and Dale Bakken. Summaries of the action will be in DW but to follow the game on a blow by blow basis contact Jim Benes, 417 S. Stough St., Hinsdale, IL 60521 (Subs are 3/\$1).

NEW MASTERS OF DECEIT ON THE WAY

The third edition of the highly successful Masters of Deceit is on the way, according to Ken Peel, who is handling the typing and printing chores. The novice-oriented publication is \$1 and available from Woody Arnawoodian, 602 Hemlock Cr., Lansdale, PA 19446.

FLYER FINALLY FLYS

If all goes well the next batch of Diplomac games prepared by Avalon Hill will contain a flyer promoting the postal Diplomacy hobby with attention directed toward several novice oriented publications and Diplomacy World; which should help us ~~expand~~ our contacts in the non-PBM hobby.

'87 RUNESTONE POLL ON THE WAY

According to Bruce Linsey, who runs the hobby's Runestone Poll, the 1987 edition is just about ready for mailing. The annual poll rates zines, gamesmasters, etc. Pubbers are encouraged to promote the RP by distributing ballots with their own zines. Be watching for your mailing from Bruce.

FROM: DIPLOMACY WORLD NEWS
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FIRST CLASS MAIL



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