

# OHIO ACRES



Issue #1

5 JAN 1987

I've often wondered what to say in the first sentence of a new zine, and finding nothing that sounds substantial enough, I've decided to go to the second sentence. Well, I've arrived, here, at the second sentence, and decided "Hello", is the best I can think of.

Hello, you just read the first paragraph in what I guarantee is the first zine put out by Robert W. Greer Jr. 3517 1/2 Gromley Rd. Salem Ohio. 44460 See I know the gut, devilishly good looking, a total joy to be associated with, and the third best liar known to man. (Following Ronnie, & Steve Howe)

Well know we've reached the third paragraph, guess its time to put the honest attempt at humor behind us, and move on to the zine prior mention, OHIO ACRES!

Hey, just what the hobby needs, another zine, right! Just when you paid off the loan for your last round of subscriptions, this guy from Buckeye land decides you could use a bit more pleasure in your life.

Actually, your right, thats how I feel. Its time you relaxed, put your feet up, and decided a fabulous schem aimed at that SON OF A BITCHEN AJ - STIRLAN QUEER! Think about it, for 60 ¢ an issue, in increments of 10, you can plan the total domination of Europe. (Course you could also get your buttocks stepped on, but such is life)

## SOME PERSONAL DETAILS

For anyone who gives a....

Im indepently wealthy due to my invention of "Aids for rats". Some damn fool said that if I was so damn smart, why did'nt I make a better mouse trap, so's to piss him off, I did.

Now I'm tied up in a law suit, seems some backwards boy has a rat fetish, and now aids. Thats why I'm putting out this thing, the initial revenue should help pay my legal fees, and keep my cash free for my latest invention "Cabbage patch wives".

Yes folks, you'll wanna get right in on this one!

She'll be delivered to you direct from the Chapel, with an original set of Wedding papers.

Each doll an original!

She'll come with the 10 most usual traits bestowed upon a wife by God. 1. Bitch 2. Moan 3. Grumble 4. Headache 5. Curlers 6. Asbestos nighty 7. Lack of enthusiam for Sunday football 8. Belief in the total domination of the male species 9. Voice that can be heard up to 4 miles awat 10 A mother.

(This is based on my ex, not Edna, who is a damn fine wife.

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I love Rock and roll, so put another dime in the jukebox baby!

Thank God I'm a country boy, YEAAAAAAA!

She was a fast machine, she kept her motor clean, she was the best damn woman that I ever seen?

## GAMES

What games you ask? Why the 2 were gonna try and start. See I've always felt it important for a dip zine to have games, so were gonna try and fill 2.

To play in a game is quite simple, just send me your name, THE MULAJ, and a preference if you wish. Theres no game fee, never will be, just keep a sub.

All players will be sent C.O.D., my 486 page, detailed report on rules and reg., for Ohio acres. A\$19.95 best seller at your local bookstore, its yours r only\$19.95.

Course the last sentence is total bullshit, (tell your wife to tear up the check), we'll not burden you with lots of G.M. specialty rules, lets make it fairly simple, and say we'll use the Dip Rule book, Copy 1976.

(Could make it more interesting and make up the rules as we go along?)

A few of the key points for this Issue are

1. We'll use the DIAS rule (Draws include all survivors).
2. Three NMR's and your out! I fell very strongly about this one, seems most games are decided not by the better player, but the player who can keep his allies on time. Two NMR's in a row and your out!  
NMR in S'01 and your out!
3. If your in more than 1 game, and you NMR in game #2(3 times, or S01 or twice in a row) your outta game #2, but this does not effect your other game.
4. Seasons will run Winter/spring, Summer/fall. Theres a seperation for W'01, after that it takes a majority of the players to seperate a season.
5. ORDERS- Folks, this is easy. Date em, make em legible, use rule book abbreviations (or full spell), sign them. I would appreciate knowing who you are as well!
6. An NMR., in S'01. Its exactly as it sounds. An NMR. Well bring in a standby, and continue with the S/F season.

Glad we did'nt go into houserules, are not you!

(Folks I gotta be honest with you, this type writer sucks. Please forgive\*

I've decided after a small amount of deleberation, that I'll name the games after the most abundant, and beautiful items in Ohio's acres, our tree's! (eat your heart out Conrad)

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### BIRCH

Austria	France-	England-
Germany	Russia-	Turkey-
	Italy-	

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### WILD CHERRY TREE

Austria-	Germany-	England-
Russia-	Italy-	France-
	Turkey-	

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No game fee. Send preference list if you so desire. Those not sending a preference lis will have countries assigned at random, then the shuffle for the rest.

Here we are, at page two, and your still deliberating? Well shame on you, can't you spot a find when it sneaks up on you!

P.S. Were gonna run on 4 week deadlines here in Ohio Acres.

Guess its time I got on with what will be Ohio Acres. What will be its motivator, get you to open, and read, while zipping on down the highway. (sure as hell won't be the humor)

Hope to stir up some conversation on sports. Especially Football, Baseball, and Basketball. See, I like sports.

Would also enjoy some heated debates on Diplomacy. Strategy, tactics, and the like. See, I like Diplomacy.

We can even talk music in these pages, im into rock, but can enjoy most areas, so long as they dont include drugs, sex changes, the appearance of a sex change, of Prince.

See I like music.

One thing I;d prefer we did'nt discuss is politics. See I HATE POLITICS. Mostly because politics normally includes Drugs, sex changes, the appearance of a sex change, and other undesirable traits such as Nixon, Ford, Casey, and Ronnie.

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#### THE BACK FORTY

We'll call this section of our zimmy the back forty, which is where I;ll be every chance I get, for the rest of my life.

See my Dad owns this farm, all 56 acres of it. He owns the house on the hill, I own the trailer at the bottom of it. He owns the land, I own the septic tank, folks we need each other. The front 16 acres we plant a little, and generally live our lives. The back forty includes 3 ponds, and a multitude of wildlife. For all you people who don't believe in killing another creature, I only shoot with my camera. For the rest, you outta see the mount  $\frac{1}{2}$  bagged with my Kodak last year.

You may ask what to expect in the back forty. Well, we will have letters from you, or so I hope. But be warned, if you don't write anything the back forty will still be filled. If need be I'll write my own articles, a full essay on rocks, the sleeping habit of the common toad, and the like. You've been warned.

I hope to be able to talk my good friend Derwood Bowen into writing a few articles for the back forty. He's an extremely interesting writer, and an authority on Dip.

Actually he's only a decent friend, and if I bribe he'll probably write a few lines. He's an extremely interesting Dip, and an authoritarian writer. But maybe.....

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You'll be the best of both worlds.

And when some local kid gets down, they try and drum him outta town I've been to the edge baby, and there I stood and looked down  
SAMMY HAGER HAS MADE VAN HALEN RESPECTABLE????????????????????????????

Lets get this edition of the back forty off with a couple of questions? The first person to send me the right answers gets \$10,000. "What hun, were a little short on cash". OK then lets give two free issues to the first intelligent individual.

1. What is the #1 artificial lure used in strip ponds?

( Tell me why and I'll have your picture in Field and Stream)

2. What precaution is of the upmst importance when fishing a strip pond for bass? ( There are a few, but which of these is an absolute must)

For you city dwellers who have no idea what a strip pond is; When coal is stripped, it is actually nothing more than digging a canal in the land. A big ugly gouge is left behind and most landowners prefer that a damn is built at the low point so that the natural springs, springs created by the stripping, and rain will soon fill the gouge. Add some fish and, Walla a strip pond is born.

### BOB GOES DEER HUNTING

(how to freeze your fanny, in 1 easy lesson)

My, my, just last year I went to the back forty in quest of a deer. Seems I spent 364 days brooding about how cold and miserable I was, but the day 365, well thats opening day once again. So of course I cover myself with more clothes than the Sears Men's Dept., carries and waddled back into the woods. Escorted by Roy, my 17 year old brother.

We strolled back along the winter wheat field about 20 acres then dove off approx., 20 feet into the woods.

"This is just the spot", the tinny bopper told me.

"Heck yea , I replied, noticing a nice spot for my nap.

So we sat, against the most uncomfy log in the back forty. (Seems my nap sight was damp)

And sat.

And sat.

Those who don't deer hunt have no idea just how exciting it really is. Think now, for a moment please.

It's 35° and windy. The sun set last October, and will appear again in March, so cancel any solar warmth.

To deer hunt one must sit as motionless as possible, save for shivering, yes folks its a test of endurance! Add in that any deer in his right mind is home watching the soaps and you get a small glimpse of my attitude.

Bout 2 hours into our torture I notice a Red-tailed squirrel edging down a tree across from us.

"This is great", I whisper to Roy, as I nug his arm.

"I didnt bring a single shell for small critters".

"I did", he whispers back.

"Then unload your slug" I advised.

Roy sat motionless.

By this time the little fella has scurred across the forest floor, and perched on the most uncomfy log in the back forty. He at one end, us bout 40 feet away at the other end.

"Get your shell", I whispered, knowing the squirrel had no chance of avoiding the stew.

Roy sat motionless.

The most amazing thing happened at this point. The squirrel obviously not noticing us, gently walked down the tree toward us. Bout 5 feet from me he finally noticed that we were not a part of the scenery.

He cocked his head back and forth, I believe he was deciding if we were for him to eat, mate, or flee from!

I tilted my head a tad, (The friggin squirrel was amazed), and looked out of the corner of my eye at Roy. Hell, I figured he must be sleeping.

Actually, he was attempting to hold back an unwarranted laugh. Seems he found the whole thing amusing.

So I figure I got three choices, shot the squirrel with a 1 ounce deer slug, ~~shot~~ Roy with a 1 ounce deer slug, attempt to strangle the squirrel, or make the most horrid face I can, yell, and hope the little fella dies of a coronary.

I opted for the third choice!

The squirrel went scrambling across the forest floor, and up into a low branch of a dying tree. Just the right spot for a good shot at em.

I look back at Roy, who I figure is taking aim before firing, but am bewildered at what I see. The little shit is giggling so hard he can't load his gun. Now folks, I don't need to tell ya any seriousness has left the back forty.

Roy finally loads, takes aim, and misses the squirrel, who scampers to the top of the tree, never to be seen again.

Any deer in the area have either fled, are fleeing, or have hurt themselves laughing at the events just transpired. Roy is pissed cause he missed, and I'm a laughing loony.

Course we sat there a while longer, hoping maybe there was a blind and deaf deer around, then went home.

I tell you readers, this is definately the last time I go deer hunting, it just ain't worth it.

Next year, on Dec. 1, in agoin squirrel hunting!

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Thats it for the back forty, I hope you'll consider giving me some better material for next time.

Before giving it to Derwoods "OUT TO PASTURE" I'd like to fill you'all in on a little secret, the Browns are gonna win the Super bowl.

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Send all money to me Robert Greier Jr. If you want to be in one of Derwoods games, you can send him your preference list your fondest wishes on his marriage, or your first born son. But don't send Derwood the money. (Course I trust ya Derwood) You'll notice that the big difference in my and Derwoods house rules is that mine will be DIAS, his will not.

Course if I get 28 people joined up in his games, and zero in mine, there could be a change in my houserules.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

(5)

## OUT TO PASTURE BY DERWOOD BOWEN

2140 East State Street  
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What we have here is a birthing of sorts. That's right, folks, you get to be in on the birth of yet another dip zine. Bob Greier has decided to crank one out, and he has asked me to contribute, thus demonstrating his wisdom. Anyway, I wind up doing another sub zine. I expect this one to be different from what I am doing for Don Del Grande in Life of Monte. So, sit back and enjoy.

Bob and I are both sports fans, so we hope to generate discussion about various and sundry teams in the major sports around the country. We are not talking your indoor soccer, your drag racing, your wrist wrestling. We are talking baseball, football, and basketball. This does not seem to be the time of the season to talk baseball, so I'll start on basketball. I try to follow the pro teams, but it is difficult. There are not a lot of pro broadcasts, even on things like ESPN. Ted Turner gives us a couple of games a week. Living near Cleveland allows me to follow the Cleveland Cavaliers, which gives me some chance to keep up with the NBA. The Cavs are no bonus, unfortunately. They have some good players, but lack a dominating center. They have some players that should be good, but aren't. Anyway, they seem to be losing a lot so far this year, but then, "What's new?"

The college scene is easier to follow. There are numerous telecasts on many venues. I have followed the Big 10 for many years fairly closely, so I generally have a fair idea of what's happening there. I am an Ohio State fan (going back to Fred Taylor in the 60's). But they haven't had anything good happening since the early 70's. The Big 10 used to be a real national basketball power, but has not been the last several years. Right now the ACC and Big East seem to be the powers, as conferences. There are some individual schools, such as Louisville, which figure in the national picture, but these two conferences seem to be the *creme de la creme*. (I welcome comments on any of the preceeding)  
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Do you want to confound your Domino's Pizza man? These are today's short tips. The first tip is to have the person who is going to make all the decisions **not** do the calling. That way, everything has to be relayed. (This is especially effective if the person on the phone is a young child.) And don't decide what you want until you get the pizza shop on the line. Preferrably, the order will be made by committee, allowing for lots of discussion while the order taker stands there with his thumb up his rear. (How about pepperoni? I don't like pepperoni. Get pepperoni on half. How about mushrooms? I don't like mushrooms. Etc.) And, of course, since you are having this delivered, make sure the person on the phone doesn't know the address. This works like a charm. More tips next month.

And now, Derwood's opinions on how to play dip. Specifically, how to play Austria. I haven't done particularly well at it, but I do have some ideas.

Austria comes with some assets and some liabilities. I think most of us are familiar with the liabilities, judging from the fact that most people who bother with preference lists list Austria last. There are several liabilities to playing Austria. First off is the Italian problem. Austria and Italy are the only two countries with adjoining home supply centers. Secondly, because she is centrally located, four different countries can hammer on her right off. The third liability is the inability to get fleets into play. Austria can never build more than one at a time, and it enters the board at a less-than-advantageous place.

There are some advantages, believe it or not. One advantage is that, if you do bad as Austria, you are out quick. If you don't get off to a good start as Turkey, you still get to hang around and be in agony for a number of game years. But, if you get nailed as Austria, you are gone now. Being centrally located allows you to work with a lot of different people. You can work with England, France, and/or Russia against Germany. You can work with Turkey against Russia. You can work with Russia and Italy against Turkey. Or, you can work with Turkey and France against Italy. This gives you a lot of possibilities. Austria is generally seen as less of a threat, which gives you a small advantage.

None of this tells you what to do. So, what do you do? To do well as Austria requires more diplomacy initially than for any other country. There are several things required to do well. First off, you need an immediate agreement with Italy concerning the Venice-Trieste question. You also need to take care of Galicia, either through negotiations (preferred) or by moving there yourself. You must have a Russian-Turkish war. RT is death to Austria. You also don't want Germany going to Tyrolia. This causes all kinds of problems.

Having taken care of these immediate concerns, you need to address the big picture. No country is too far away to matter. What happens to England does effect you. If England attacks Russia, you don't want to be Russia's ally. As a matter of fact, you want to get the bulk of Russian dots. You don't really want Germany moving east either. It might prove too tempting to move south. France can't hurt you right away, so you don't mind seeing him doing well. As a matter of fact, an early FG vs E is right up your alley. They need to build fleets to attack England, and it will take a while. Both of these work to your advantage, as long as things are going your way with Russia and Turkey. Otherwise, you'll need help. You might need England to attack Russia to get him off your back.

The important thing here is to read the board as quickly as possible. You must also attempt to manipulate the other players into the posture you want. Don't just let EG ally vs F if you want a Russian ally. Russia won't be around very long after F is gone. Try to talk them out of it. Lie if you have to. But do something. You must be aggressive diplomatically. Don't just offer to ally. Don't just ask for information. Suggest ways to move that benefit you. Tell the person why the person he wants to ally with is a poor ally. Try to control the initial alliances.

If things don't go just like you want them to, you'll have to scramble. If RT are determined to ally, you'll need to stir up the whole board against them. You and Italy alone just won't be able to hold out. This is where reading the board comes in. You will need England or Germany to attack Russia right away. If you get Russia in trouble, you might even get the Turk to turn on him to get his share. If Italy is after you, you will need either Turkey or France to hit him. Try to figure out what is going on before it happens and plan accordingly. Austria is a poor place to scramble from. You need to start out clean. After the start, you have more leeway. But you don't stand much chance if you don't get off to a good start.

The bottom line to playing Austria is that it takes work. You need to write everyone often. You need to persuade like mad. But the reward for doing this is the admiration of your peers for playing Austria well. Most of the people in the hobby just don't want Austria. Edi Birsan is a notable (and successful) exception. Anyway, playing Austria well will set you apart from the others. So take the red blocks and good hunting.

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Opening for regular dip: preference lists accepted, no fees, non-dias I'll have a small house rules, but I won't waste the space in here printing them up. I'm also going to run a hidden movement variant. I saw this run in Brutus Bulletin, and it looked like a lot of fun. I'll run rules for it next time. **We need volunteers for standbys. Please, please, please!**

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Hope you enjoy this offering from Salem, Ohio. I'll end this here and let Bob get this out in the mails. We both hope to hear from some of you who might be interested in chit-chat about sports, music, and maybe a little dip. Have a nice New Year.

(8)