

# The **GCOMMUNICATOR** - December 2004 Edition

Newsletter for Gamers. Issued by the Games Club of Maryland.  
<http://www.gamesclubofmd.org>

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## GCOM's Newest Location (Our 18th)

In Cooperation with the

**Washington Gamers Association (WGA)** <http://www.washingtongamers.org/>

## **Games Club of Virginia**

**Manassas** Host: Rick Bynaker. E-mail: gcom@bynaker.com, Co-Host: Rhonda Blake.

E-mail: rhonda@bynaker.com. 7635 Somerset Ln. Manassas, VA 20111. Phone: 703-856-3988

Sessions on the 5th Saturday of every month from 1pm - 1am (about every three months or so).

First Official GCOV Session: Saturday,  
01/29/05.

Upcoming

Schedule: 1/29/05, 4/30/05.

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## GCOM 2005 Tournaments

### GCOM McGARTLIN MOTORSPORTS TOURNAMENT

This event -- which has now graduated from its "outlaw event" status at Euro Quest -- will for the first time be run as an official GCOM event consisting of a series of races held at various GCOM venues throughout calendar year 2005. Each race will consist of a full blown NASCAR race simulation using the basic, optional and advanced rules from the former WBC Century event McGartlin Motorsports Championship Stock Car racing game. The actual format may vary depending upon the number of participants, but we expect to offer the option of racing as two-car teams as in real-life NASCAR. You will also use the replicas of the team cars those teams actually use. There will be added rules to promote excitement and more strategy, such as:

- \* fuel mileage
- \* mandatory pit stops
- \* tire wear
- \* 2-tire and 4-tire pit stops
- \* two-lane racing
- \* some rules for dealing with lapped cars (including NASCAR's new 2004 addition, the "Lucky Dog" rule) and time gaps that may open up
- \* If needed, some dummy drivers with stats based on real-life NASCAR drivers.

Note, even if people show up late for the race, they can still join the action in by starting at the back or taking over a dummy car. This is one of the beauties of the game system).

The first race of the season will be the Daytona 500 and it is scheduled for the GCOM Winter Game Fest event Jan 15, 2005 to be held at Keith Levy's house, which is the GCOM-Reisterstown location. Tentative start time is 3 PM Saturday Jan 15th, to be preceded by a demo that will double as the qualifying race for the main event. Other races will be announced once we can work out scheduling commitments with the respective hosts.

Expect to see more details announced at the GCOM website in 2005 at [gamesclubofmd.org](http://gamesclubofmd.org) "GCOM Tournaments" as they become available. Also at the website, there are directions to GCOM-Reisterstown as well as other GCOM locations under "Locations."

We are looking to line-up two-car teams and hosts for the entire series; if interested, contact John Weber at [jcw222@earthlink.net](mailto:jcw222@earthlink.net) or Scott Fisher at [scfishman@adelphia.net](mailto:scfishman@adelphia.net)

You will not need to know the rules to play. Before each race (at least in the first part of the season) there will be a short demo race that will double as a teaching session for newcomers and also serve as the qualifying race for the main event that will familiarize drivers with the basics of the game system (i.e., none of the advanced rules discussed above will kick in until the main event). No one will be eliminated during the qualifying race; it only will be used to establish starting positions for that day's main event race.

The GCOM Board has authorized prizes for the overall winner of the series. There will also be prizes for the team winners (assuming we have at least three teams competing) and small prizes for the winner of each individual race. Expect there to be around 10 races (an average of one per month) -- time and dates for remaining races TBA. Can JP Roberts III (winner of the races at last year's Game Days and Euro Quest) continue his winning ways or will a new winner emerge in 2005? Come join us for the start of this series at Keith's place in January and find out.

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## Games Club of Maryland 2005 Special Events

The [City of Brunswick](#) and the [Games Club of Maryland](#) Presents:

### **Brunswick Games Day**

(a.k.a. **I Wish I was at Evecon\***)

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Brunswick City Park Building

600 East Potomac St.

Brunswick, MD 21716

## **An Open Gaming Event** **Have Fun, Learn, Share, Grow, Play**

When: Saturday, January 8th from 10AM. - 11PM.

What: One full day of gaming fun. Free and open to the public. Board games, Card games, Role-playing games. Have fun, learn, share, play, and make new friends. Play your old favorites and learn some new ones. Bring your own games and you'll find players to play. Experienced game masters will be available to teach most games. All ages are welcome, but children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult

**Railroad Games:** Age of Steam, Empire Builder, Eurorails, Express, Hell Rail, Santa Fe Rails, Silverton, Transamerica, Union Pacific.

**German Games:** Aladdin's Dragons, Attika, Bohnanza, Carcassonne, Citadels, Clippers, Corsairs, Drunter & Druber, Elfenland, Lord of the Rings, Medici, Mississippi Queen, Pirate's Cove, Ra, Rheinlander, Settlers of Catan, Take 6, Ursuppe, Web of Power.

**Classics:** Backgammon, Checkers, Chess, Clue, Go, Mille Bornes, Monopoly, Pit, Risk, Trivial Pursuit

**Games Companies Represented:** [Steve Jackson Games](#) (Chez Geek, Frag, Illuminati, Munchkin, Ninjaburger, X-bugs), [Cheapass Games](#) (Button Men, Capt. Park's Imaginary Polar Expedition, Give Me the Brain, Kill Dr. Lucky, Lord of the Fries, Save Dr. Lucky, Witch Trial), [Looney Labs](#) (Chrononauts, Fluxx, Nanofictionary)

[Mystic Station Designs](#) (Chivalry & Sorcery, Traveller),

[Slugfest Games](#) (Fishing for Terrorists, Kung Fu Fighting), [Games for the Mind](#) (Screw the Workers)

**Other Games Provided:** 221B Baker Street, Acquire, A Game of Thrones, Apples to Apples, Chairs, Cosmic Encounter, Filthy Rich, Guillotine, Hamlet, Hills Rise Wild!, History of the World, Junta, Lunch Money, Management Material, Nuclear War, Plague & Pestilence, Road to the Whitehouse, Tribond, Vinci, Who Stole Ed's Pants, Wiz War, Zombies!.

Where: Brunswick City Park Building, 600 block of East Potomac Street, Brunswick, MD 21716

Contact: Karl Musser, 24 Gum Spring Rd. Brunswick, MD 21716. Phone 240-462-3029.  
[karl\\_musser@yahoo.com](mailto:karl_musser@yahoo.com)

If you are interested in running a game, please let us know.

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## **GCOM Winter Game Fest**

Saturday, January 15th, 2005. 11am.- 2am.

**GCOM Reisterstown**

9 Augusta Wood Ct Reisterstown, MD. 21136

Lots of open gaming.

Featuring first leg of GCOM McGartlin Motor Sports Tournament.  
Check out the new additions to the ever growing game collection.  
Cake, ice cream and snacks will be served.  
Host: Keith Levy. E-mail: [gcom@gamesclubofmd.org](mailto:gcom@gamesclubofmd.org)  
E-mail or call 410-833-4395 for more information.

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## **GCOM's Ninth Annual Field Trip to Prezcon**

February 23th-27th 2005.  
DoubleTree Hotel, Charlottesville, Virginia  
[www.prezcon.com](http://www.prezcon.com)

Games Club of Maryland is planning its 9th annual Field trip to Prezcon.  
Join the members of GCOM on its annual trip to Prezcon. Pre-registration for the weekend is \$50, and if we receive your registration fee by January 30th, you will get a free PrezCon T-shirt or hat!

GCOM is planning to stay on site at the Double Tree Hotel.

Special rates are available at the DoubleTree Hotel for PrezCon Attendees: \$79 for a single, double, triple, or quad hotel.

Visit [www.doubletree.com](http://www.doubletree.com) or call the DoubleTree Hotel at 1-800-494-7596 or 434- 973-2121 to make room reservations, and mention you are attending the PrezCon Game Conference to get special rates.

Rooms: GCOM will be coordinating reservations for rooms if you are interested in getting a roommate or staying in a close block of rooms.

Car Pool: GCOM will also be offering car pooling and coordinated times of departure for those needing or willing to provide transportation or for those wishing to drive down in caravan style. Charlottesville is a three-hour drive from the Baltimore Metropolitan area. Actual departure dates and approximate times will be announced as they are offered.

Teams: Three players teams compete for a special Team Competition plaque.

GCOM will help getting you on a team or forming a team. Deadline for team formation: January 30th.

Club T-shirt Day: Saturday, February, 26th, 2005. Show your colors and wear your GCOM t-shirt.

E-mail: Keith Levy at [gcom@gamesclubofmd.org](mailto:gcom@gamesclubofmd.org) if you are interested in sharing a room, for carpool information or for Team formation.

PrezCon, Inc. is proud to host its 12th annual event that has become the premier winter boardgaming convention. Over the years, PrezCon has grown from a small, regional convention to the big event it now is, drawing attendees from all over the USA, Canada, and Europe. We will be running 65+ Tournaments with many Trial Events and Demos to boot! The events will include some of your old favorites, Eurogames, as well as some of the classic war games. We continue track scheduling for 2005. What does that mean? It means that if play Eurogames games, you will be able to play every heat of every Eurogame game we host. If you play wargames, it will be the same and so on. This will make your convention gaming schedule easy to follow, and it will allow you to play in all your favorite games! We will continue with the track Ironman Championship! This means all of our schedule will be their own Ironman Championship! As in the past, the gaming facilities will be centralized in a few closely located meeting rooms at the Double Tree Hotel. We expect even greater things this coming year and hope to see you.

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# GAME DAYS 2005

GAMES CLUB OF MARYLAND presents the eighth annual

## Game Days 2005

April 14th - 17th, 2005

Days Hotel

9615 Deereco Road

Timonium, Maryland 21093

### An Open Gaming Event

**Have Fun, Learn, Share, Grow, Play**

**When:** Thursday, April 14th at 1 PM through Sunday April 17th at 10 PM.

Over eighty (80) hours of open gaming time!!!

**What:** Open to the public. Four days of open gaming. Have fun, learn, bond, make friends and compete with the best group of gamers around. The camaraderie is great!! The convention known for learning new games and playing your favorites as well. Experienced Game Masters available to teach most games

**Featuring:** Open Gaming. Your favorite games. Titan National Tournament. Demonstrations. Silent Auction. GCOM Products. Snacks. Vendor sales. Door Prizes, GCOM After Action & Annual meeting.

**Some of the Games Provided:** 18xx, Acquire, Age of Mythology, Age of Renaissance, Alhambra, Amun –Re, Atlantic Storm, Attika, Axis and Allies, Bang, Big City, Blokus, Call My Bluff, Carabonde, Carcassonne, Citadels, Corsairs, Crokinole, Detroit Cleveland Grand Prix, Die Macher, El Grande, Empire Builder, Euphrat & Tigris, Europe Engulfed, Formula De, Geist, Go, History of the World, La Citta, Lord of the Rings, Lost Cities, Medici, Memoir 44', Metro, Napoleonic Wars, New England, Pirate's Cove, Princes of Florence, Puerto Rico, Ra, Risk, Robo Rally, Settlers of Catan, Taj Mahal, Tikal, Tichu, Ticket To Ride, Titan, Trans America, Traumfabrik, Union Pacific, Werewolf.

**Registration: Convention Early Registration Special: All four days for \$30 until February 1st, 2005.**

Pre-Reg: By Friday, April 8th, 2005: All Four Days: \$35, any One Day: \$10

**Registration at the Door:** Four Days: \$45, Three Days: \$35, Two Days: \$25, One Day: \$15  
Seventeen and under: \$5 per day. Must be accompanied by a paying adult. Limited to three kids, per one adult.

GCOM Supporting Members receive a \$5 discount off the prices listed above (except seventeen and under).

**On Site Lodging Info:** Days Hotel, 9615 Deereco Road, Timonium, MD. 21093. 1-800-235-3297, 410-560-1000, Off I-83 Exit 17, Padonia Road. The Days Hotel is a half-mile walk from the Light Rail connection to BWI Airport. BWI Airport Shuttle available. Game Days offers a convention special discounted rate of \$79 per night plus applicable taxes until April 1st, 2005. You must mention "Game Days" and must be booked by April 1st, 2005 to get the special room rate. Rooms include two queen beds. Days Hotel website: [www.dayshoteltimonium.com](http://www.dayshoteltimonium.com)

**Contact Information:** Keith Levy, 9 Augusta Wood Court, Reisterstown MD. 21136.

Voice: 410-833-4395, During the Convention Only: Cell: 443-629-5585

E-mail: [gcom@gamesclubofmd.org](mailto:gcom@gamesclubofmd.org)

Website: <http://gamesday.gamesclubofmd.org>

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## TNT 2005

### Titan National Tournament

At the 8th Annual Game Days Conference  
Days Hotel  
9615 Deereco Road  
Timonium, Maryland 21093  
April 14 - 17, 2005

**When:** Thursday, April 14th from 7 P.M. to midnight (open gaming starts at 1pm). Friday & Saturday, April 15th & 16th from 10 A.M to midnight. Sunday, April 17th - Finals start at 9 A.M.

**What:** TNT is back! TNT is a focused in depth tournament featuring the exclusive play of Avalon Hill's Titan. Competitive play featuring some of the best players in the United States. Awards will be given for Multi-player and two player Tournaments. Game Masters: Brian Sutton and Ed Rothenheber.

**Featuring:** Game Days 2005 included with TNT 2005 registration. Open to the public. Four days of open gaming. Have fun, learn, bond, make friends and compete with the best group of gamers around. The camaraderie is great!! The convention known for learning new games and playing your favorites as well. Experienced Game Masters available to teach most games.

**Convention Early Registration Special:** All four days for \$30 until February 1st, 2005.

**Pre-registration By April 8th, 2005:** All Four days \$35. Any one day \$10.

**Registration at the Door:** Four Days: \$45, Three Days: \$35, Two Days: \$25, One Day: \$15.

**Seventeen and under:** \$5 per day. Must be accompanied by a paying adult. Limited to three kids, per one adult.

GCOM Supporting Members receive a \$5 discount off the prices listed above.

Contact Info: Keith Levy, 9 Augusta Wood Court, Reisterstown MD 21136. Voice: 410-833-4395, During the Convention Only: Cell: 443-629-5585. E-mail: [gcom@gamesclubofmd.org](mailto:gcom@gamesclubofmd.org)  
Website: <http://gamesday.gamesclubofmd.org>

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## GCOM Family Picnic

Games Club of Maryland presents the first annual  
**GCOM Family Picnic**

Sunday, July 10th, 2005

Centennial Park

Pavilion D, 10000 Clarksville Pike - Route 108

Ellicott City, MD. 21042

**When:** Sunday, July 10th, 2005. Park Hours: 10AM to 8PM.

**What:** Join GCOM for fun, games, food and great times.

Who: GCOM Members and invited Guests.

Food: Hamburgers and hotdogs on the grill. Assorted beverages, side dishes, snacks, and deserts.

Available Activities: Open gaming, boat rentals, playground, beach volleyball, tennis court, basketball court, hiking path.

What to Bring: Your Favorite Games. If you are interested in any sports activities, you must bring along the appropriate equipment to play. Anyone interested in coordinating special games or sporting events should post on our GCOM discussion forum at <http://forums.gamesclubofmd.org/>. We are looking for volunteers to assist with bringing sides, snack and desserts. Contact Keith Levy for details.

**Pre-registration** by July 1st, 2005, ONLY. Space is limited, NO Registrations at the door.

GCOM members: \$10. Supporting Members \$5. Patron Members: Free.

Children 17 and under: **FREE** when accompanied by a paying adult.

**Contact Info**: Keith Levy, 9 Augusta Wood Court, Reisterstown, MD. 21136.

E-mail: [gcom@gamesclubofmd.org](mailto:gcom@gamesclubofmd.org) Voice: 410-833-4395.

During the Picnic: Cell # 443-629-5585.

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Other Area Gaming Events

**WGA's 12th Annual New Year's Eve All-Nighter**

**Game Parlor Chantilly &**

**Game Parlor Woodbridge**

**December 31st 2004 10pm until 10am the next morning**

Due to last year's overwhelming attendance, we have expanded to two locations! Enjoy New Year's Eve in a safe, fun environment playing your favorite or new board, miniature, role playing, and card games with family, friends, and fellow gamers. All ages and experience levels are welcome. For those true gaming diehards, you can game for 36 straight hours from Friday at 10am when the Game Parlors open, through the WGA All-Nighter, until Saturday at 10pm when they close.

Pre-register by Dec 27, 2004 to be eligible for a drawing at midnight for a \$20 gift certificate to the Game Parlor. You must be present to win. Pre-registering will help us plan better for the refreshments. Pre-registering will help us plan better for the refreshments.

Go to

[www.washingtongamers.org](http://www.washingtongamers.org) for Pre-registration instructions.

When: December 31st 2004 10:00 pm until 10:00 am January 1st 2005.  
Where: **Game Parlor Chantilly**, 13936 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly, VA. **Game Parlor Woodbridge**, 14400 Smoketown Road, Woodbridge, VA.  
Directions can be found at [www.gameparlor.com](http://www.gameparlor.com).  
Price: \$8 or Free with a Paid 2005 WGA Membership. *Moderate Snacks and Refreshments Provided*

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## GCOM News

### **Bylaws Updates**

The Board of Directors has made several changes to the GCOM bylaws over the past year.

The current bylaws are posted on our website at

<http://www.gamesclubofmd.org/CharterBylaws.asp>

Other items that appear on this webpage are our Charter, fliers and newsletters.

### **The New GCOM Board of Directors taking office on January 1st, 2005 for a two year term are:**

President: Keith Levy, [gcom@gamesclubofmd.org](mailto:gcom@gamesclubofmd.org)

Vice President: Scott Buckwalter, [sbuckwalter@comcast.net](mailto:sbuckwalter@comcast.net)

Secretary: Eric Haas, [erichaas@comcast.net](mailto:erichaas@comcast.net)

Treasurer: Rich Shipley, [rich@rtgames.com](mailto:rich@rtgames.com)

Director at Large: Stan Hilinski, [stan@hilinski.net](mailto:stan@hilinski.net)

Director at Large: Michelle Hymowitz, [michg2mich@hotmail.com](mailto:michg2mich@hotmail.com)

Director at Large: JP Roberts III, [jpr3@comcast.net](mailto:jpr3@comcast.net)

### **GCOM Organizing Committees**

The GCOM Board of Directors has appointed the GCOM President, Keith Levy, to be the Director for these 2005 Events: Game Days 2005, GCOM Family Picnic, Euro Quest III. General Discussion of these and other GCOM events will take place at

<http://forums.gamesclubofmd.org/>

Anyone can join the general discussion.

Private discussion groups will be set up for the organizing committees at the same location.

If you would like to be on the organizing committee and volunteer to assist with any of these events please

Contact Keith Levy at [gcom@gamesclubofmd.org](mailto:gcom@gamesclubofmd.org)

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## **GCOM Annual Supporting Membership Drive**

*Supporting Membership* is an OPTIONAL level of annual membership open to all GCOM members.

Current GCOM members who pay the yearly dues of \$20 become Supporting Members.

The \$20 covers Supporting Membership for one year from date of purchase.

Your money goes towards helping GCOM exist, thrive and grow.

Some GCOM operating expenses are: -Website -Advertising -Flyers -Operating supplies - Incorporation fees - Seed money for GCOM conventions & products. Help support the Hobby you enjoy!

The additional benefits to becoming a Supporting Member are:

1. A standing discount of \$5 for each GCOM event where a fee is charged.

This includes Game Days, Euro Quest and the GCOM Family Picnic.

2. One order of Free GCOM business cards. (For more details click on services on the GCOM website )

3. Discounts on GCOM merchandise. (See website for details)

4. Ability to run for office to serve on the GCOM Board of Directors.

5. Voting rights on matters the Board puts forth to supporting members.

6. Ability to recommend new GCOM locations and host.

7. Ability to be on a GCOM committee.

8. Invitations to GCOM Board of Director meetings.

9. As a Supporting member you have been given access to GCOM website to do the following. including additional GCOM website access to: Add/Edit a Link and Add/Edit an Event(limited to special events).

### **Games Club of Maryland Patron Membership**

Patron membership is an OPTIONAL level of annual membership open to all GCOM members.

Current GCOM members who pay yearly dues of \$100 become Patron Members.

The \$100 covers Patron Membership for one Calendar Year.

Your money goes towards helping GCOM exist, thrive and grow.

The additional benefits to becoming a Patron Member are:

1. All the benefits of a Supporting Member.

2. One admission to GCOM's Game Days Convention. (Your admission is transferable to any person you designate up to the pre-registration deadline.)

3. One admission to GCOM's Family Picnic. (Your admission is transferable to any person you designate up to the pre-registration deadline.)

4. Invitation to all Board meetings to observe.

5. Copied on all board communications if desired by member.

6. Recognition in event literature if desired by member.

7. Recognition on the website membership list.

### **To Become a Supporting or Patron Member.**

-Payment methods:

Make Checks payable to "Games Club of Maryland".

1. Send the following information with your payment:

A. Your Full Name B. Post Office Address C. E-mail Address

Mail to: Games Club of Maryland, Augusta Wood Ct., Reisterstown, MD. 21136.

2. Send payments by PayPal (non-credit card) to:

gcom-treasurer@rtgames.com

For PayPal details go to: <http://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=p/ema/index-outside>

3. GCOM Location Hosts that desire to can accept a check or cash payment along with the following information:

A. Your Full Name B. Post Office Address C. E-mail Address

\*\*Locations hosts will need to e-mail the Supporting Membership information to [gcom@gamesclubofmd.org](mailto:gcom@gamesclubofmd.org)

AND mail a check made out to "Games Club of Maryland" to the GCOM treasurer at:  
Games Club of Maryland, 1241 Linkside Drive, Baltimore, MD. 21234

### **Associate Member Benefits**

In addition to both Patron and Supporting member benefits, you will continue to enjoy the benefits of an Associate Member.

Associate Member benefits are:

1. Getting gamers together across the state of Maryland and beyond.
2. Eighteen Locations
3. Member Recognition
4. Open gaming space
5. Use of games and gaming equipment
6. Invitations to special events
7. Convention Information
8. Game Reviews
9. Club Flyer and bulletin board
10. Web page (discussion group/billboard use available)
11. Biweekly GCOM scheduling updates and gaming news via e-mail
12. Personalized membership business cards
13. Games Club of Maryland Products

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### **GCOM Trivia**

Who is considered the First member of GCOM?

Clues: 1. This person is not the Founder. 2. This person is a currently active member.  
First one with the correct answer gets a GCOM t-shirt.

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### **Have Fun, Learn, Share, Grow, Play**

GCOM Newsletter compiled by Keith Levy. December 2004.