

DROP IN



DRINK UP



PLAY ON

RAPID-FIRE QUESTIONS WITH A [toggle] REGULAR

THIS MONTH:
Mandi Lynne



WHAT COLOR
DO YOU PLAY?

PINK/RED,
PURPLE,
OR BLUE

WHAT'S THE
EARLIEST GAME
YOU REMEMBER PLAYING?



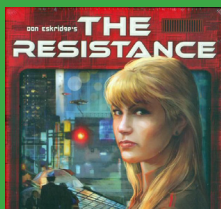
I'D LIKE TO BE:



PEOPLE THINK I AM:



BUT I AM REALLY:



AMERITRASH, EURO,
OR PARTY GAME?

IF YOU WERE A D&D
CHARACTER, YOU
WOULD BE...

TWO TRUTHS
AND A LIE

Any, really.
I like playing new
games that I have
not played before.

Is rogue/spy a thing?
Because I want
that to be a thing.

- I have a brother and sister in Florida
- I have flown a plane
- I can hook you up with free breadsticks.

UPCOMING [toggle] EVENTS

THE TRIUMPHANT RETURN OF FEATURED GAME OF THE WEEK

It's baaaack! [toggle] gaming Featured Game of the Week (FGtW) returns September 3rd with new games, new friendships, new teachers! Please make sure to try one of these new games, take pictures, hashtag the donors, thank the teachers - but most of all, have fun!

3-4 days before each FGtW, we will post a reminder and sign up for anyone who wants to sign-up on Facebook and by email. There should also be drop-in opportunities and if something is popular enough, we'll teach it again in the coming weeks. Of course, it will also be in the library.

Find more info at: togglegaming.com/events/gotw/



Tabletop Tuesdays

20 August, 27 August, 3 September, 10 September
@ Dirty Nellie's, 6pm-Midnight

Join us for our weekly game meetup in Palatine, chock-a-block full of fun games, great people, and tasty victuals. See Meetup or Facebook for more.



Featured Games of the Week

Descriptions at: togglegaming.com/events/gotw/

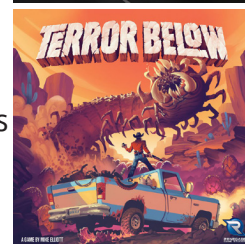
3 September:

Legendary James Bond
Donated by Upper Deck
Taught by Nykole



10 September:

Terror Below
Donated by Renegade Games
Taught by Paul Luri

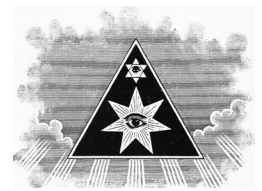
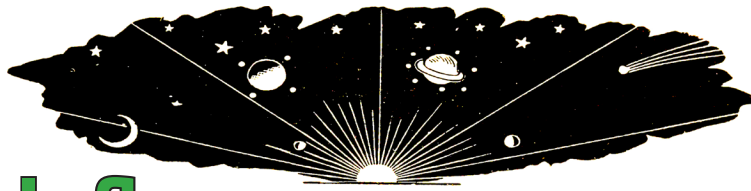


17 September:

Raccoon Tycoon
Donated by Forbidden Games
Taught by Ray & Elizabeth Slover



Have an event to add to the calendar?
Let us know: info@togglegaming.com



Under the Influence

by Master Iko Saghan



VIRGO (August 23-September 22): Virgo is The Maiden and an Earth Sign, your practical nurturance will be vital to those around you as we finish the story of another summer. Limit your play of intensely luck based games, unless they are party games. Rely on fun euros to say farewell to Aquila and Cygnus.



LIBRA (September 23-October 22): The word 'l' is composed of one solitary letter, precariously poised... ready to tumble at the tiniest touch. Learn from its lonely lesson, your strength is community. Earth needs her Moon, the Sky her stars, and you your gamers. Draw upon their strength, wisdom, and queso dip.



SCORPIO (October 23-November 21): Scorpions can be terrible to behold. Crablike claws, glistening carapice, and a whip mounted stinger appear to be weird weapons. You know that these are just your natural tools. Don't avoid using your tools at the table of game, do avoid those who can't see them for what they are.



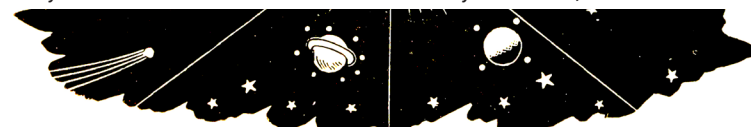
SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21): With the influence of Gen Con fading in Leo and the looming Autumnal Equinox it is vital that you keep your game fires burning. Play lots of games. Focus on playing new games, buying new games, and seeking new gamers to play them with and your transition will be smooth.



CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19): Your facility with the practical and emotional planes makes you an ideal host for game night, don't resist this blessing from the spheres. Host a game night and spread your gifts. Just don't do it in a way that drains your reserves. Let willing Earth signs help shoulder the load.



AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18): This is a warning, Aquarians... please take heed! An unforeseen confluence of Mars and Mercury places Aquarius in opposition to Neptune. This means you need to play fast war games and avoid games with a prominent water theme or risk losing luck's favor for the rest of the year.



PISCES (February 19-March 20): Pisces. You are a fish. A water sign. Often life requires that you spend time out of your element, this is not one of them. As the fish does not stay at the surface, now is your time to dive into the archives of beloved designers, you will be rewarded. Consider AR Moon's *Incan Gold*.



ARIES (March 21-April 19): The dark that attends the waning influence of Childes in Stonemaier may tempt you to resist the urge to upgrade game components and spend more time taking inventory of your library, this would not be wasted time... but your light will sustain you if you seek to gilt your games. SHINE!



TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Those games you've never played but have always wanted to... read their instructions, watch "how to play" videos, and look into player aids because a beloved Scorpio is going to surprise you with an opportunity to move one of them from your 'want-to-play' list to your 'have-played' list.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20): All of the interactions between the spheres, Mother Earth, humanity, and analog games will never be known to us. But that doesn't mean we should stop plumbing the depths of these interconnections. Spend some time tracking your plays. How do the spheres affect you, or your games?



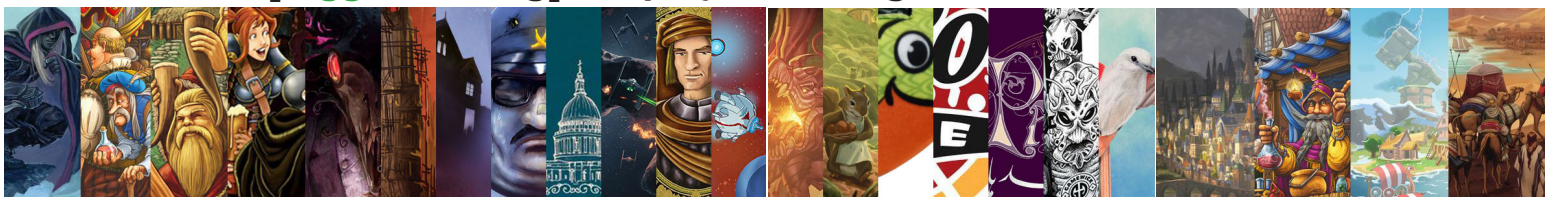
CANCER (June 21-July 22): You cannot separate the physical from the intellectual, just like you cannot separate your fate from the stars under which you were born. Support your health by eating fresh local foods, support your mind by playing newer games by local designers. Your body and mind will thrive.



LEO (July 23-August 22): Your nature is to seek your own path. This is an instinct that has served, and will serve, you well. That being said, you would be well served to relent to the influence of the *imum coeli* by revisiting the games of your youth. There are lessons to be gleaned from your roots, Leo.



Last month at [toggle Gaming], we played these games and more!





Raise a glass for Alan Greenberg, [toggle] publisher outreach master. He outdid himself this year in the GenCon exhibit hall, explaining [toggle] to publishers and soliciting games for our library.

We can all show our appreciation by playing the “Game of the Week” games and sending our love and support to these generous publishers. Thanks, Alan!



Join the [toggle] Tour!

Taking a trip this summer? Get a picture in your [toggle Gaming] gear! Then share it on social media or send it to us at info@togglegaming.com.



Sean Conroy brings [toggle] to Switzerland.

Your editor, Brendan Riley, laments finding a game store that has gone out of business in South Bend.

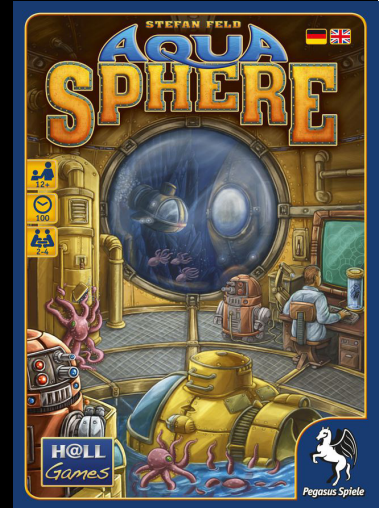


Library Spotlight

AQUASPHERE

by Stefan Feld, 2014

They say the last great frontier on earth is the sea. When we finally begin exploring the depths of the ocean intensively, who knows what we will find? Movies imagine Krakens or Giant Sharks, or both. But game design legend Stefan Feld knows better. It will be all crystals and octopods.



In the 2014 worker placement game *AquaSphere*, you and up to 3 other scientists will strive to make the most discoveries in an underwater research facility by managing your squad of robotic helpers. Each round, you take actions and program robots, acquiring upgrades for your lab, mining crystals to SCIENCE better, and fending off the annoying octopods that keep getting everywhere. Lab segments can only hold so many robots, so you're constantly bumping and getting bumped out of the prime spots, which is key since the researcher who controls each part of the lab gains points for that too.

Like many Feld games, it's a bit of a “point salad,” but the weird theme and cute octopus, robot, and submarine meeples give it a dash more flavor than your standard brain-burning Euro. The programming board, which charges up your robots, makes for an unusual feature and taxes your planning energy even further. The variety of lab extensions and upgrades also give you plenty of options about how to proceed.

AquaSphere's top selling point is also the biggest hurdle to getting it played -- its complexity. There's a lot going on in this game, so watching a video or pre-reading the rules will go a long way to getting it played. Or perhaps arrange with someone who's played before to do a teach for your group. The extra work is worth it, though, for this fascinating, complicated, amusing game. Take a look next Tuesday!

Is there a game in the [toggle] library you don't think gets enough love? Promote it here! Submit a 300-word piece telling others why they should play the game, and we will probably run it in a future edition of THE [tOGGLE] TIMES. Send it to brendan@togglegaming.com

THE RIDDLE BOX

LINKEE PUZZLE

In a Linkee puzzle, you start by answering four questions. These answers "link" to one another through a category. Find the category and you've found the answer to the puzzle!

QUESTION 1:

In 1931, Chester Gould created a comic strip starring this eponymous police detective who spends most of his time tangling with odd, colorful villains in dangerous Chicago.

QUESTION 2:

This garment, named for its resemblance to ammunition, became popular in the 1940s and 1950s.

QUESTION 3:

Most commonly used in the midwest, this palindrome is a synonym for "soda."

QUESTION 4:

Many species of mammals have *diastemata*, gaps between these. In human women, they have sometimes been associated with lustful behavior, as with the Wife of Bath in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*.

Answer to the JULY puzzle: **THE INVENTION OF THE ATOM BOMB**
Send guesses to brendan@toggleGaming.com

SHOUT OUT



We have a wealth of creative people in our community. It would be great to feature some of that creativity here in our newsletter. If you have something you made that you'd like to show off, let us know!

Reach out to brendan@togglegaming.com and let your star shine!

[toggle] sponsors



xyzgamelabs.com

The many generous gamers who put cash in our donation box each week and donate games to the library.

THANK YOU

A BRIEF NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Greetings, friends!

The summer is nearly at an end, GenCon has passed us by, and we're looking forward to the cooling autumn temperatures and lovely evenings out on the Nellie's deck.

As you head into the autumn, make plans to join us every Tuesday at Nellie's, and let your friends at [toggle] know what else you have going on. Are you going on a trip? Attending a con? Have you started a campaign game? Planning to? What new games do you have your eye on? What should the [toggle] librarians seek to acquire for our group?

Share your plans by emailing info@toggleGaming.com or speaking to one of the organizers next time you attend an event. In the meantime, **[toggle] Your Inner Geek!**

Publishing info

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