

Cold Wars 2012 Seminars

James Arnold

1812 The Eve of Invasion: A Napoleonic Cocktail Hour

Friday 5:15 PM, 45 Min, Hopewell Room

On June 22, 1812, some 430,000 soldiers commanded by Napoleon Bonaparte assembled along a 250-mile front to invade Russia. This host included entire corps composed of allied troops. About 218,000 Russians prepared to defend their homeland. At 2200, three French voltigeur companies crossed the Niemen River to cover the bridging sites and the invasion began. James R. Arnold, author of *Napoleon's Triumph: La Grande Armée versus the Tsar's Army, The Friedland Campaign 1807*, describes the strategic and tactical strengths and weaknesses of the opposing forces, emphasizing the adaptations made since the great rivals' last encounter in 1807. A question and answer session about anything Napoleonic follows. 45 minutes.

David Waxtel

How to build professionally made buildings

Friday 7:00 PM, 4 hr, Hotel Lobby HL-1

This is a 3 hour course on how to build a professional 15mm or 25mm building. Hands on step by step construction of a European Farm House. It's a lot of fun, and you will be astonished with your final result. If we have time we can even paint it. All materials will be supplied by HMGS and the organizers of Cold Wars.

Chris Carlson

Staying Power: Assessing the Damage Capacity of Ships

Saturday 10:00 AM, 1 hr, Hopewell Room

Modeling the survivability of warships in combat is a complex problem that has been the subject of intense debate for at least 100 years. It gets harder when the model has to provide reasonable results from big guns to anti-ship cruise missiles. Join the Admiralty Trilogy staff as we delve into the concept of the staying power of ships.

James Arnold

Foreshadowing Borodino: The Battle of Heilsberg, June 10, 1807

Saturday 11:00 AM, 1 hr, Hopewell Room

Historians have long sought to explain Napoleon's poor performance at the climactic conflict of the 1812 Campaign, the Battle of Borodino. Overlooked is an event five years earlier, when the Emperor confronted similar challenges — well-designed earthworks, aggressive Russian counter-punching tactics — that eerily foreshadowed Borodino. James R. Arnold, author of *Napoleon's Triumph: La Grande Armée versus the Tsar's Army, The Friedland Campaign 1807*, addresses these issues in a provocative illustrated lecture on "The Battle of Heilsberg." Heilsberg is the Emperor's least-understood major battle. Strategy, leadership, tactics, cossack eruptions, valorous infantry assaults against earthworks; come learn how Heilsberg was a full-dress rehearsal for Borodino. 1 hour.