

# Sacramento Book Review



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## **1635: The Dreeson Incident**

*By Eric Flint and Virginia DeMarce*  
Baen Books, \$26.00, 608 pages

*1635: The Dreeson Incident* is the latest installment in the Flint's Ring of Fire series, where a small West Virginia mining town is transported back in time and space to Germany, 1632. Each book has followed the stories of the residents and other key historical figures, as the Americans, their technology and ingenuity begin to change history. In a large part the series is a "What If" for history buffs. On the publisher's website, there was created some highly active message board threads about what could have happened, how hard would it be to create modern items with 17th Century technology and how history would change due to the American presence in that time period. There have been multiple novels, some co-written by Flint with other authors (including David Weber) and several short story collections that many of those contributors from the message boards became first time authors.

The series, overall, is quite good—highly expansive. However, as the number of characters has expanded, the number of people, places, and events to keep track of has grown almost unmanageable. *1635: The Dreeson Incident* is a sort of attempt at housekeeping. Lots of little updates, on many dangling story lines, that probably need to be done, but doesn't make for entertaining reading except to die

hard fans and completists. Other books in the series (*1634: The Baltic War* was recently released in a mass market paperback), and some of the upcoming books will focus more on one or two story lines.

