

Minicon 40

PO Box 8297

Lake Street Station

Minneapolis, MN 55408



730020

CERI F. SULLIVAN
TOAD WOODS
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WALES, MA 01081-9743

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RETURN TO SERVICE CENTER, S.T.F.P. 1111

Minicon 40

March 25-27, 2005
(Easter Weekend)

PROGRESS REPORT 2

Guest of Honor	Terry Pratchett
Fan Guest of Honor	Jim Young
Artist Guest of Honor	Fastner & Larson

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
\$40.00 until March 1st, 2005

Sheraton Bloomington South
(Formerly the Radisson South)

HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE:
February 22nd, 2005

www.mnstf.org/minicon/

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Minicon 40 (Minicon Fortean*) will be held on Easter Weekend, March 25-27, 2005 at the Sheraton Bloomington South (formerly the Radisson South).

Hotel

Deadline for Minicon Hotel rate is FEBRUARY 22

Sheraton Bloomington Hotel (Formerly the Radisson South)

7800 Normandale Boulevard, Bloomington, MN 55439

Room Rates: Single thru Quad \$82.00 plus tax

Poolside Cabana \$92.00 plus tax

You can book regular rooms on the Minicon website under "Hotel" or with the Sheraton directly at 952-835-7800 or at their toll-free number 1-800-325-3535. If you would like a poolside cabana, please contact the convention as we are allocating them for parties.

Programming - Minicon has been known for its spirited and thought-provoking program. We also have a lot of fun. Our two major themes are "The Worlds of Terry Pratchett" and "Minicon Fortean". If you have programming ideas or would like to participate on the program, please contact Sharon Kahn at sharon.kahn@pobox.com.

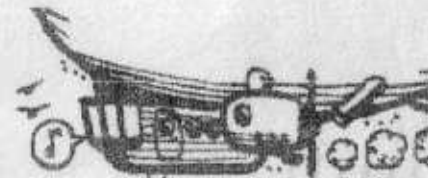
Discworld Ball Featuring Folk Underground - What would Minicon be without music? At our Discworld Ball, costumes are encouraged with prizes for the best Discworld depiction and for other categories as well. Music for your dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by Folk Underground. Their lively Irish-inspired kick-ass gothic folk music features songs by Neil Gaiman, Stephen Merritt and others, with plenty of twisted traditional music added to the mix. ("Happy little songs about going to Hell."--MN Public Radio) Plus music by Lorraine a' Malena (Lorraine Garland and Malena Teres).

"If you aren't familiar with the works of Charles Fort (hence "Fortean") then you probably don't recognize the reference in "Minicon Fortean". Fort was a devotee of unusual phenomena and had some skepticism of scientific explanations which ignored inconvenient data at hand in favor of predetermined opinion. The Fortean Times, a journal which was founded with Charles Fort in mind describes itself as "a forum for the discussion of observations and ideas, however absurd or unpopular, and maintains a position of benevolent skepticism towards both the orthodox and unorthodox." A better description of Minicon could not be found.

Minicon 40

Registration March 25-27, 2005

P.O. Box 8297
Lake Street Station
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GoH: Terry Pratchett
Fan GoH: Jim Young

Instructions:

To preregister for Minicon 40, fill out this form and send it along with a check or money order to the address shown above. Make checks out to Minicon 40. - NO CASH PLEASE! -

Minicon Membership* Type:	Until 1 Mar 2005	At the Door	Membership(s) for friends to be named later in addition to the membership at the left:
Attending	\$40	\$50	
Child Attending (12 and under) Indicate age at right ->	\$15	\$25	\$_____ additional Attending @ \$_____ = \$_____
Supporting†	\$15		\$_____ additional Supporting @ \$_____ = \$_____

Please send me information about:

- Program participation
 Exhibition in Art Show
 Hucksters' Room tables

-> If Child Membership, Age of Child: _____

If you live outside the United States you may read your registration form now, and pay the preregistration rate in U.S. dollars at the door.

*Memberships are transferable, but are not refundable. At-the-Door transfers may incur a \$5 badge-replacement charge.

†Supporting Memberships may be converted at the door to attending Memberships for \$30.

First Name _____ Middle Initial / Name _____ Last Name _____

Address 3 (Use this line for street address) _____

Address 1 (For apartment or suite number) _____ Address 2 (Use this line for P.O. Box) _____

City _____ State / Province (Use two-letter abbreviation) _____ Zip / Postal Code _____

Country (if not USA) _____ Your city and state/province will appear on the badge. If you would like us to hide your city and state on the badge, please check here:

Email _____ Your name will be included in the non-indexed list of our members on our web site (so folks can see if their friends are registered) to indicate you web Home page next to your name, write its location below. If you would like us to omit your name from our memberlist, please check here:

Optional Information:

Web Home Page: _____

Home Phone: (Area Code) _____ (Number) _____ Work Phone: (Area Code) _____ (Number) _____ (Extension) _____

Cell Phone / Pager: (Area Code) _____ (Number) _____ Preferred time and method of contact for volunteers _____

Please Volunteer!

Pre-con (up to the Wednesday before the convention):

- Phoning other volunteers
 Mailing Parties
 Pretty much anything that needs doing
 Badges & Signs
 Data Entry

Thursday Night Work Party:

- Collating/Assembling publications
 Consite Setup
 Assembly of Art Show Panels
 Pretty much anything that needs doing
 Hauling

At the Convention:

- Badges (checking for membership badges at room doors)
 Consite
 Working the Tables (dispensing information)
 Pretty much anything that needs doing
 Gophers ("go-in-this, go-in-that...")

Teardown (misassembling, hauling, cleaning):

- Sunday
 Monday

Number of Minicons attended: _____

<http://www.mnsl.org/minicon/>

Optional Badge Name Information:

Most members of Minicon have their names on their badges. However, if there is something else by which you are more commonly known, or by which you would like to be known at conventions, enter it here. (Only characters in the extended ASCII character set, please!) Or you may leave this line blank and we'll use your name as shown above for your badge.

Name on Badge _____

If you would like additional information on your badge (for example: your e-mail address or ICQ #, or if you're representing a Worldcon bid, a publisher or magazine, or a bookstore) you may enter it below. Or you may leave this line blank.

Additional badge information _____

Volunteer Information -- Special skills / experience:

Volunteer Information -- Anything else we should know:

TO BE HELD AT:

The Sheraton Bloomington South (Formerly the Radisson South)

DreamHaven

Books & Comics

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- New, used and rare science fiction, fantasy, and horror
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superstore with shopping cart and secure server

Visit our tables in the dealers room!

Films - We're bringing films back to Minicon. First up, we're showing *Planetfall*, a local feature-length film from Car School Films. *Planetfall* is a sci-fi western done in the low-budget Troma style. And Jeremy Stomberg gets killed! A panel discussion with members of the cast and crew will follow the showing. Don't miss it.

We'll also be showing "Psychotronic" type films in the evenings. Titles like *Face of the Screaming Werewolf* (starring Lon Chaney as a mummy who becomes a werewolf!), *Bigfoot* (to fit with our Fortean theme), and others too hideous to mention will be featured. Audience participation is encouraged, a la *Mystery Science Theatre 3000*. Some of these films would make Ed Wood blush with embarrassment. And, of course, there will be the inevitable surprises.

Writers' Workshop - For the first time, Minicon will be hosting a Writers' Workshop, with several local writers available to critique your work. This will be held on Friday morning at 10:00 am. We will have as many as three small sessions, each hosted by one of our local writers.

PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE as each participant will critique each others' work, Clarion-style. Each writer must submit five (5) copies of either a short story or a chapter of a novel (less than 7500 words, please, with standard double-spaced, 10-12 point, New York or Times type). In order for everyone to receive manuscripts to review in time for the convention, WE MUST HAVE THEM BY FEBRUARY 19.

To participate, send your five copies to: Minicon Writer's Workshop, DreamHaven Books, 912 W. Lake St., Minneapolis, MN 55408. Again, the deadline is February 19th. If you have any questions contact: Naomi Kritzer (naomi.kritzer@alumni.carlton.edu) or Lisa C. Freitag (lfreitag@visi.com).

Dealers Room - The Dealers Room is currently sold out. If you would like to be placed on the waiting list or contacted for next year, please send an email to Lisa Freitag at lfreitag@visi.com

Art Show - If you are interested in displaying your work in the art show, please contact David Wilford at wilfordd@hotmail.com. The art show is open to flat art as well as 3-D works. We do accept mail-in work but you must be a supporting member (\$15.00) to do so. More details from David or on the website.

Hospitality - We are fortunate to have Joel and Beth Phillips hosting our Hospitality Suite again. Expect plenty of good food, drink and conversation. If you would like to help out with hospitality, contact Joel at 612-720-7996.

If you or your group would like to host a party, we have special rates on the poolside cabanas. This is a great place for a party since it's on the way to the con suite and all parties will be conveniently located together. We have a number of groups hosting parties and a list should appear on our website before the convention.

Registration - Membership is currently \$40.00. This will go to \$50.00 available only at the door after March 1st. Don't delay.

If you have questions about your registration status, we will have a list of all registered members on the website soon. For further information contact Minicon at registration@mnstf.org

Volunteers - Minicon is an all-volunteer run convention. We need your help. If you would like to help out in any way before, during, or after the convention, please contact us at volunteers@mnstf.org. There will be special incentives to help out including free books, prizes and a special signing session with Terry Pratchett just for helpers.

Blood Drive - The Heinlein Society is sponsoring a Blood Drive at Minicon. It will take place from noon to 4:00pm on Saturday, March 26th at the convention. A special pin designed by Robert A. Heinlein for the blood drive at MidAmericon in 1976 will be given to each contributor as well as a goody bag with books and things. To better help us to know how many to expect, please pre-register at www.heinleinsociety.org/blooddrives/bloodconform.html and give the gift of life.

If you have other questions or concerns, or if you wish to volunteer, please contact:

Greg Ketter at greg@dreamhavenbooks.com

OUR GUESTS

Terry Pratchett

Terry is the author of the phenomenally popular series of Discworld novels. He began his writing career at an early age with *The Carpet People* and continues to craft wonderful novels, mostly in his own universe, Discworld. While primarily considered an author of humorous fantasy, Terry's works contain a wisdom far beyond most serious fantasy novels. He has written for children as well as for adults and I think you would have to have no humor in you whatsoever if you don't laugh out loud at least once every novel. And "crivens" is not a swear word.

Jim Young

Jim is one of the Founding Fathers of The Minnesota Scientifiction Society (MN-Stf) and the original spearhead for the Minneapolis in '73 Worldcon bid. He has chaired Minicon, worked on several Worldcons, been a fan writer and artist for nearly 40 years and still looks like he just graduated from high school. He is retired from the State Department's Foreign Service where he served in such places as Botswana, Russia, Nigeria, and Great Britain. He has written two SF novels, *The Face of the Deep* (Pocket 1979) and *Armed Memory* (Tor 1995). More recently he has acted in Hollywood films and is writing more novels and short stories.

Fastner and Larson

Steve Fastner and Rich Larson* have been working together as commercial artists for over 25 years. They have worked on comic books, book covers and advertising art. Their art is generally very colorful and energetic. They do many pin-up pieces and have published a number of collections from SQ Publications. They'll have a super display in the art show and they'll also have a table so that you may talk to them and commission a piece of art if you like.

Other attending professionals: Naomi Kritzer, Hilary Moon Murphy, Katya Reimann, Caroline Stevermer, R. M. Meluch, John M. Ford

* There. I've finally spelled Rich's name correctly. I've known him for more than 25 years and I still can't get his name right. My apologies to Rich. (Greg Ketter)