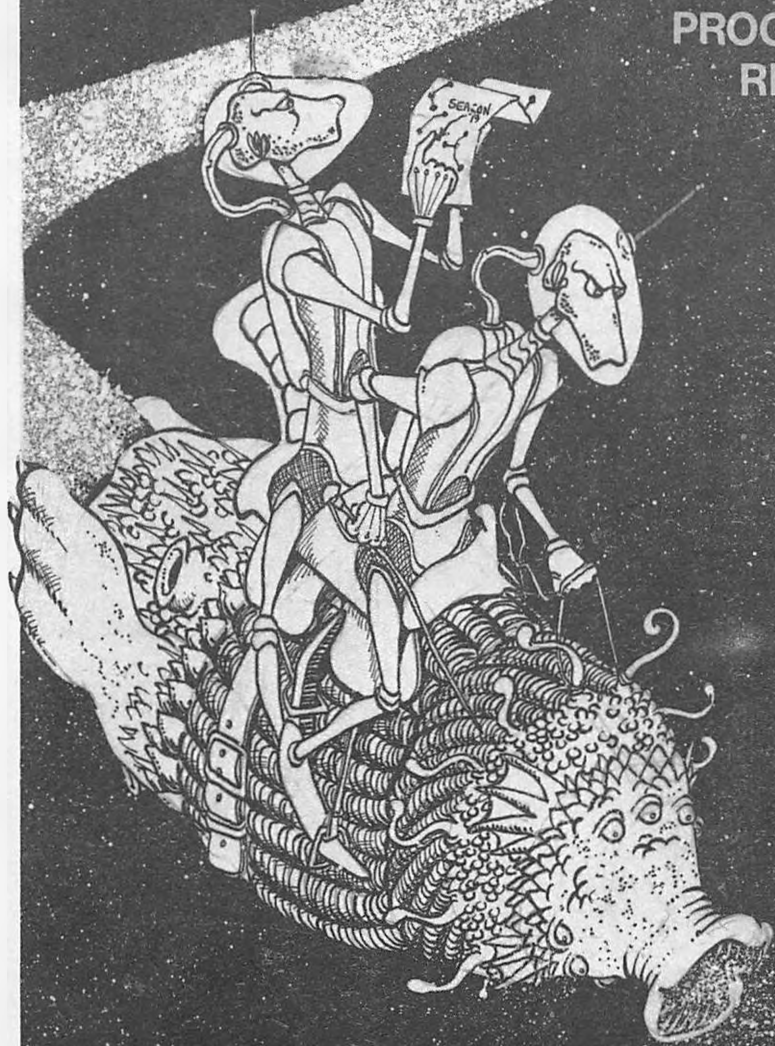


SEACON 79

PROGRESS
REPORT
3



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SEACON '79

37th World Science Fiction Convention

METROPOLE HOTEL, BRIGHTON, U.K.

AUGUST 23rd - 27th 1979

Permanent address: SEACON '79

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Jan. 1st 1979 to August 1st 1979*

Supporting: \$10.00 (£5.50)

Attending: \$20.00 (£11.00)

*IMPORTANT NOTE: After August 1st 1979 no further registrations will be accepted by mail.

Registrations at the door will be £13.00 for full Attending Membership or £5.00 per day.

The Steering Committee

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SECRETARY John Stewart

Publications Graham Charnock

Membership Secretary Pat Charnock

Programme Malcolm Edwards

Fan Room Eve Harvey

Fancy Dress & Functions Rob Jackson

Books & Films Lercy Kettle

Fan Programme Peter Roberts

Operations Manager Kevin Williams

Agents & Enquiries

Write to Seacon '79, 14 Henrietta Street, London WC2E 8QJ, or, in the countries listed below, to your National Agent:

USA (East Coast): Tony Lewis, PO Box 429, Natick, MA 01760.

USA (West Coast): Fred Patten, 11863 W. Jefferson Blvd. 1, Culver City, CA 90230.

USA (Roving): Jan Howard Finder, PO Box 428, Latham, NY 12110.

Australia: Robin Johnson, GPO Box 4039, Melbourne, Victoria 3001.

Canada: John Millard, 86 Broadway Ave., Apt. 18, Toronto, Ontario M4P 1T4

France: Eric Btard, B.P. No. 661, 37006 Tours Cedex, France.

Germany: Waldemar Kumming, 8 Munchen 2, Herzogspitalstr. 5.

Holland: Leo Kindt, Spotvogellaan 45a, Den Haag 2023.

Italy: Ernesto Vegetti, Piazza Martiri 17, 28021 Borgomanero (Novaro).

Sweden: Per Osterman, Astrakangatan 113, 162 32 Vallingby.

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WESTON'S WISDOM

Words from our Chairman Peter Weston

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Just before Christmas I was in a more-than-usual state of chaos at my office when the telephone rang. An unfamiliar male voice said something to the effect that he wanted to talk to me about Seacon '79.

"It's the first world science fiction convention to be held in Britain for fourteen years..." I began almost by reflex.

"I beg your pardon," he interrupted, "but I don't understand. I'm organising a conference called SEACON '79 at the Hotel Metropole, Brighton, and I'm hoping to sell you advertising space in our programme book."

I was nonplussed. Was this a joke? It didn't sound like Roy Kettle.

"Can you give me some more details," I asked weakly.

Apparently the Institute of Weights & Measures are holding their own event at the Metropole this year, also called SEACON '79. (My firm makes weighing machines, hence the contact). How's that for coincidence?

Actually their title makes a good deal more sense than does ours, since their theme concerns offshore installations. I think we have prior claim to the name since substantially the same committee used it in 1975 and we are now officially registered as a limited-liability company. Fortunately, no-one is arguing and it should cause no confusion except, possibly, to the Metropole staff themselves, though the manager thinks the whole thing is hilarious.

In retrospect I wish we could have found another name; it was never our intention to up-stage the bid for the real SEACON-2 in 1981, (although fortunately the Seattle group have been most charitable towards us). But I ask you; who wants to go to a Worldcon with a name like 'Britcon', 'Anglocon', 'U-Kon', to name just a few of the horrible suggestions discarded.

GROWING PAINS

Fortunately that's been about the only snag we've encountered in the six months since our last PR. Several committee members have been heard to mutter uneasily that "it just ain't natural", that some major disaster is lurking around the next corner, and that by now we ought to be in deep, deep trouble of

some sort. Maybe there's something we've forgotten; but I'll try to run quickly through the various things we've recently done, and you, our members, can remind us of things we ought to do!

First, we're now legal. Good work by our legal adviser Tim Stannard and treasurer John Stewart have created the entity known officially as SEACON '79 LIMITED, complete with certificate of incorporation, brass plate on the door and a lot of other paraphernalia the rest of us don't even pretend to understand.

Next, we signed a mutually-binding contract with our main convention hotel, the Metropole, on 10th July 1978. This contract is modelled on those negotiated by NOREASCON & MIDAMERICON with appropriate amendments; among other things it provides for late-night opening of bars until 3.00 a.m. at least; exclusive use of the hotel for SEACON members; and provision of iced-water on restaurant tables!

Final point concerning the hotel is that we've very recently expanded our space requirements by taking two additional halls, providing a further 14,500 square feet of useful area. The reasons for this will be explained a little further on, but it's reassuring to have facilities with almost no upper limits on the numbers, they can take: our total commitment is now for some 75,000 square feet, with a further two large halls available if we need them!

THE GREAT EXPLOSION

But what, you may ask, are we going to do in a place as big as it sounds? Already the grumbles are beginning; "too large; too impersonal", and certainly SEACON shows no sign of levelling-off in its explosive rate of growth; Membership secretary Pat Charnock advises that we have approximately 3000 members as of the beginning of 1979. Without making much attempt to promote the Worldcon we're getting promotion anyway - the first plug in Analog attracted something like 200 registrations within a week or so, many of them from people who've never previously had any contact with fandom but for whom the prospect of a World Convention seems irresistible.

I think it's a good thing, by and large. Big is not necessarily beautiful and we've seen U.S. Worldcons endlessly debating the practicalities of limiting their size in some manner, but at least we shall have enough people to make things go with a swing and our attention can be fully devoted to providing a framework of events and entertainment which will have some appeal to everybody.

ACCOMMODATION BOOKING

Hotel booking forms went out as promised to our membership on 1st October 1978 (except for the fabled fourteen, whose envelopes slipped behind Eve Harvey's settee: alas all good intentions - but no harm done, anyway!). By now the vast majority have been returned and we understand that the three nominated convention hotels - Metropole, Bedford and Old Ship - are now effectively full. Additionally, we already know that considerable numbers of people have booked into smaller hotels and guest-houses in the town.

Brighton's official Accommodation Bureau appear to have done a really first-class job and we've only heard one complaint - and that not their fault. The manager of the Bureau repeats his advice from last time; "Book early, if you haven't already done so." The normal summer-holiday rush is already beginning in Brighton but the Bureau can place everyone, in one hotel or another, unless people are foolish and leave it to the last minute.

PEOPLE & THEIR JOBS

The growth of SEACON has extended to committee members as well as membership and a considerable number of people have joined us in the last few months, along with one of two reassignments of particular functions.

Pat Charnock came on to the committee during the summer to take care of the Fan Room, a fast-growing tradition at British conventions; in November Pat switched jobs with Eve Harvey, who had been membership secretary for the past 1½ years. Having processed 2,500 memberships, or thereabouts,

Eve quite naturally wanted a break - particularly since she and husband John are also heavily committed to the BSFA's publishing activities.

Kevin Williams of the North-East 'Gannet' Group has taken the job of Operations Manager; actually responsible for day-to-day running of SEACON in August but until then mercifully free of most organisational hassles. Colin Lester (late of the SF Foundation) has taken over

responsibility for sales of advertising space in our publications; previously this job had been handled by Roger Peyton, who had to resign a few months ago due to heavy commitments and expansion of the Andromeda Bookshop.

Joe Nicholas has been appointed to run the UK end of our Auctions; John Eggeing, well-known fantasy bookseller, will run the Book (Huckster's) Room; and Gerald Bishop assumes his time-honoured role as Chief Projectionist and trouble-shooter for our film programme.

Over and above this brief list, further individuals have expressed willingness to help and Kevin in particular is building a team of assistants ('gophers') who will help to make SEACON '79 the success we all hope for.

It's perhaps premature to mention in detail some of the extra attractions which have been added to our repertoire since PR-2. However, all being well we should now be able to look forward to the following:

A performance by Ken Campbell's (Illuminatus) team, most probably a dramatisation of a well-known SF work; a major display of costumes, still and effects from Star Wars and its sequel, together with participation from Gerry Kurtz and various stars from the films; an exhibit and slide-show on the old Eagle character, Dan Dare; and most likely at least one display from BEC presentations Dr Who and Blake's Seven.

Besides the usual Art Show, run by Marsha & Eddie Jones, there will be a special art exhibition - works not for sale - by leading artists from Britain & abroad. This will be organised by Roger Dean of Dragon's World Publishers and will feature materials from Bruce Pennington, Chris Foss, Jeff Jones, Patrick Woodroffe, and many, many more - mostly artists that wouldn't normally be seen at any convention art show.

Professional authors attending include Frederik Pohl, Larry Niven, Robert Heinlein and Arthur C. Clarke, and while the last two are rarely found on convention programmes, we have hopes of persuading them to participate. M Heinlein will be running his blood drive, as has been the practice at many U.S. conventions in the past few years.

Banquet and Award-giving takes place on the Sunday; Fancy Dress on the Saturday; Friday sees Graham Charnock's Thrash (i.e. dance) and on the Thursday we shall have something really special, a convention within a convention at which British fandom will attempt to demonstrate some of its historic traditions.

Gollancz

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A SHORT HISTORY OF BRITISH CONVENTIONS

Part II

BY
PETER
ROBERTS

1951 was the year of the Festival of Britain and the Festivention, held in London over Whitsun weekend, was both large and international. Estimates of attendance vary from 120 to 300, many fans packing themselves into the White Horse pub for a couple of evenings before moving on to the Royal Hotel when the con officially opened on Saturday. Speakers included Chairman Ted Carnell, Arthur Clarke, Walter Gillings, Forry Ackerman, & Bill Temple (who gave an account of a spaceship propelled by onions). Some forty fans stayed of after the con for a visit to the Festival itself and a final night in the pub.

On a different scale was the October Necon, a small regional convention attracting a couple of dozen fans to Pat's Cafe, "a 2^d trolleybus ride from the centre of Bradford"; but even the next Loncon, held once again over Whitsun at the Royal Hotel, was something of an anti-climax after the Festivention. About 150 fans turned up for a dispirited programme whose highlight, apart from the antics of a can on the skylight, was the auction conducted by Ted Tubb. Its contents consisted mostly of unwanted rubbish, but Walt Willis declared the event to be an "artistic experience" and quoted an example of the enthusiastic patter Ted Tubb lavished on some totally undistinguished paperback: "A FIRST EDITION! THE PLATES HAVE BEEN SMASHED! ...REMEMBER, THIS BOOK HAS BANNED IN BOSTON. (At this point he would open the book at random and pretend to read a lascivious passage...) AN HOUR OF EROTIC ENTERTAINMENT. THIS SORT OF STUFF WILL MAKE YOU INDEPENDENT OF YOUR GIRL FRIEND. DID I HEAR A SHILLING? COME OUT FROM BELOW THAT CHAIR AND SAY 1s. 3d. WE SOLD ONE OF THESE FOR TEN BOB AND IT WAS STOLEN FROM THE PURCHASER BY AN OUTRAGED FAN. THIS BOOK WAS BURNED IN EFFIGY IN FRANCE, SMUGGLED INTO THIS COUNTRY UNDER THE GUIDE OF NYLONS. WHAT, ONLY 1s. 3d. FOR THIS HIDEOUS TRAVESTY OF HUMAN DRAMA? ...ALL RIGHT THEN 1s 3d. (He pauses dramatically, holding up a copy of Authentic with his own first novel in it. He waits statuesquely for utter silence. Then, solemnly -) THE GREATEST PIECE OF LITERATURE EVER WRITTEN... I HEARD THAT!!! COME ON NOW. DO YOU WANT ME TO COMMIT SUICIDE RIGHT HERE ON THE FLOOR?... " (and so on).

Having lost their bid for the 1953 con, Manchester fans put on a one day Mancon in October 1952 which attracted some 80 northern fans and boasted John Russell Fearn as Guest

of Honour. The next major convention, however, was the Coroncon held over Whitsun 1953 (the year of the Coronation) in the Bonnington Hotel, London. It's an important convention, since it might reasonably be considered the first modern British sf con, establishing a pattern for all conventions thereafter. Thanks partly to Walt Willis's trip to the States and a subsequent scanning of American con reports, British fans felt determined to put on a convention as lively as the ones they'd read about. Amongst new ideas at the Coroncon were name-tags, James White's zap-guns (more commonly known as water-pistols), and room-parties; but the greatest innovation was the debunking of the official programme, hitherto almost sacrosanct.

Highlights of the Coroncon included a lively discussion on sex and sadism in sf and an extraordinary ballet involving Ted Tubb and other London fans; but there were also such things as a dismal play (by a group called the "Junior Fanatics") and a series of quizzes and official games (audience participation was "so poor as to be tantamount to a civil disobedience campaign"). Whilst the programme lurched along, gap-filled, late, and part-cancelled, some fans sat still and complained, whilst others, grasping the new idea of a fannish convention, went off to party at Londoners' homes, whilst one brave contingent, by changing rooms and bribing night-porters with whisky, kept one party going at the hotel — even though it did end up on the roof.

A small local convention, the Medcon, was held in Chatham on November 7th; but the next major event was the Supermancon of 1954. Northern fans had been complaining about London fandom's hold on conventions for several years and something of a rift had grown up between the two groups. This had been exacerbated by a remark about "bloody provincials" at the Coroncon and also by reports that the Manchester convention would show the Londoners how cons ought to be run. The Supermancon therefore looked like it might become a battleground — indeed London fans had devised a plan, known as "Operation Armageddon", to sabotage the con. In the event the Supermancon required no such action. Harry Turner bravely opened the programme precisely on time at 11.30 am on Whit Saturday and welcomed the Guest of Honour, J.R. Fearn, and the 150 or so attendees. But after that the official programme almost completely disintegrated,

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DENVER IN '81

without any aid from London. The chaos was so complete that both the committee and attendees treated it as a joke, and the Supermancon produced such an atmosphere of fannish good humour that the North-South split vanished, never to be seen again. The Supermancon also marked the complete end of the traditional British lecture-hall convention — fans now felt free to attend selected items and to ignore others in favour of conversation, the bar, and such other activities as they fancied.

Thanks to a wealth of convention reports, certain of these activities became semi-legendary. The London Circle's bizarre overnight voyage to Manchester, for example: seventeen fans & professionals started out in a convoy of two cars, a taxi, and a motorbike, but only sixteen arrived at the Grosvenor Hotel the next morning — Bert Campbell and his bike were last seen near Rugby and neither ever reached the con. Vin Clarke, meanwhile, deluged the con with quotecards, and vast numbers of fans deluged each other with zap-guns (editors Carnell and Hamilton were seen to fight a private duel with pistols loaded with sherry). Brian Burgess brought along a bag of entrails (for a mock-sacrifice) and left them in a room without telling the occupant. When discovered they were swiftly thrown into a nearby canal, leaving the anxious Burgess to wander the convention asking if anyone had seen his lights (the sacrifice was cancelled, since, as Willis said, at the last moment no one had the guts to do it). So the supermancon continued, and passed into fannish myth.

The Cytricons of 1955, 1956, (1957?), & 1958 were small, ultra-fannish conventions with little programming, but a large amount of socializing and partying. All were held over Easter weekend in the George Hotel in Kettering (the first time any of convention anywhere was known to take over an hotel in its entirety). It was a friendly place where the bar staff and Boris, the night-porter, happily served the new fannish drink, Blog, and occasionally battled the fans with their own zap-guns. Beanies, the propellor-caps used to indicate fans in fan cartoons, were widely worn at the 1955 con, some of them of monstrous proportions and complexity. There were US visitors in 1956 and a Fancy Dress was held, attendees alarming the citizens of Kettering as well as the manager of the overflow Royal Hotel. But by 1958 attendance had slumped. 115 fans turned up in 1955, only 80 in 1956; the remaining fans at the 1958 Cytricon resolved to do something about it and came up with the idea of the British SF Association, essentially designed as a recruiting centre for British fandom. It seemed to work, and indeed it was the BSFA that sponsored the 1959 and subsequent conventions till 1967.

In the meantime, however, the first non-American worldcon was held in London in 1957. The London attracted some 250 fans to the King's Court Hotel in Bayswater over the weekend of September 6th-9th. A charter flight brought some fifty US fans over to a

worldcon that, following the tradition of contemporary British Eastercons, was unusually informal and fannish. John W. Campbell was Guest of Honour and John (Wyndham) Harris was convention President. The hotel was in the process of being rebuilt, causing some difficulties (it's the only known con where fans complained about hotel staff making too much noise); but British and American fans got on well together — even battling each other in an international tea-drinking contest.

The last two conventions of the decade were small and, under the aegis of the BSFA, somewhat more formal than was by now customary. The 1959 Eastercon was held at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham — the place was described as "dingy" and the bar apparently closed at 9.30 pm! But the fifty or so fans present managed to party as usual and indulged in another tea-drinking contest ("a meagre affair — nobody was even sick"). The 1960 Eastercon was also a quiet affair, though the venue was at least changed from a teetotal hotel at the last minute. The con finally ended up in the Kingsley Hotel in Bloomsbury. Ted Carnell and TAFF delegate, Don Ford, were Guests of Honour.

And that's about it. Next time we'll take a brief look at the conventions held in the sixties and then move on to the seventies and the present state of British SF conventions. In the meantime, anyone with photos of past cons, especially those from the sixties and earlier, is more than welcome to contact us — Seacon '79 can make good use of them and we can come to some arrangement about taking copies rather than risking damage to original photos. It would be a fine thing to have some sort of display in the fan room, especially of photos from the 1957 and 1965 UK Worldcons. The address: Peter Roberts, 38 Oakland Dr., Dawlish, Devon.

Seacon '79, in the spirit of recent British conventions, will have a mixed and largely informal fan programme with open discussions on topical and traditional fan topics, talks, panels, quizzes, — even games (yes, we're still thinking about that cricket match), — as well as auctions, films, and, of course, serious and constructive parties.

Much of the programme will take place in the fan room which is large, well-equipped, and right in the centre of the convention facilities. Eve Harvey is in charge of the place itself and we're hoping it'll function not only as a programme room, but also as an information centre and a place to relax and meet people. There'll be displays of photos and artwork, fanwriting and fan-history, and plenty of fanzines to look at and to take away, as well as information boards on British and international fandom, and a daily convention news-sheet and contact service. There'll also be comfy chairs, a relaxed atmosphere, things to do, and people to meet.

Look forward to seeing you in the fan room — and if you can help us out, either before or during the con, drop us a line.

CONSTITUTION

of the World Science Fiction Society, October 1978

New provisions adopted at Iguanacon are shown in bold face and the one area of old text that was replaced is shown in italics. See page 91 of the Iguanacon Program Book for the two amendments whose ratification effected these changes. Article III, Section 1, has been divided into two sections because of its unwieldy length which would otherwise have been increased by one of the amendments ratified at Iguanacon.

ARTICLE I — Name, Objectives, and Membership

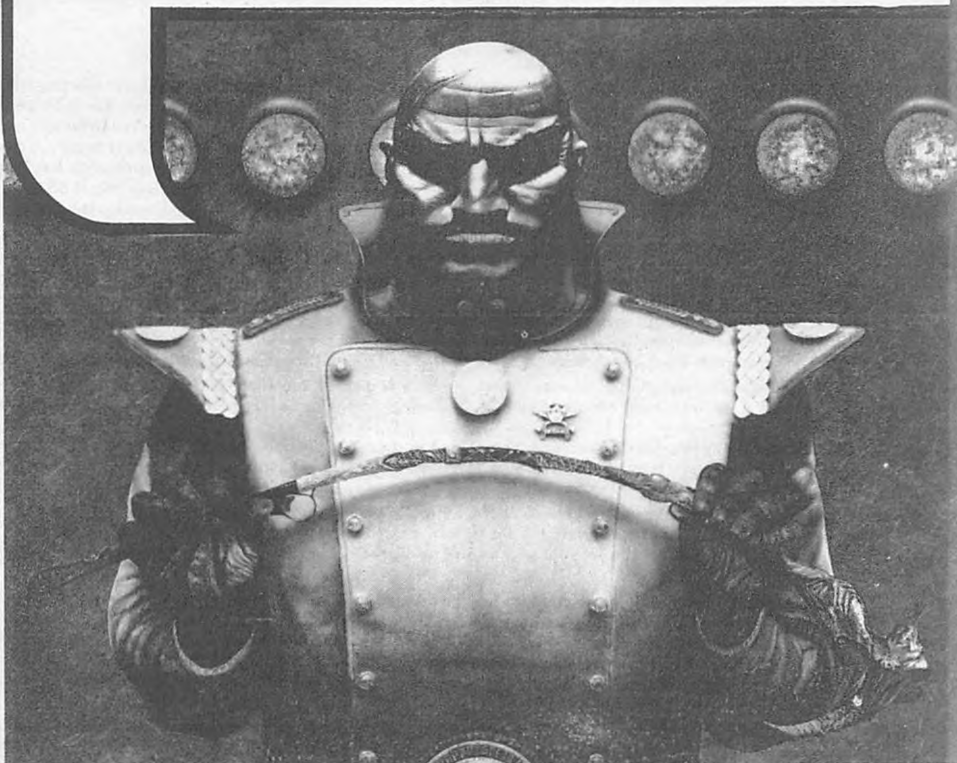
- SECTION 1:** The name of this organization shall be the World Science Fiction Society, hereinafter referred to as WSFS.
- SECTION 2:** WSFS is an unincorporated literary society whose functions are:
- To choose the recipients of the annual Science Fiction Achievement Awards (the Hugos),
 - To choose the locations and Committees for the annual World Science Fiction Conventions,
 - To attend those Conventions, and
 - To perform such other activities as may be necessary or incidental to the above purposes.
- SECTION 3:** The Membership of WSFS shall consist of all people who have paid membership dues to the Convention Committee of the current World Science Fiction Convention.
- SECTION 4:** Authority and responsibility for all matters concerning the Convention, except those reserved herein to the Society, shall rest with the Convention Committee, which shall act in its own name and not in that of the Society.
- SECTION 5:** Each Convention Committee should dispose of surplus funds remaining after accounts are settled for the current Convention for the benefit of the membership of the Society as a whole, and should publish or have published by the following Convention Committee a final financial report.

ARTICLE II — Science Fiction Achievement Awards (the Hugos)

- SECTION 1:** Selection of the Science Fiction Achievement Awards, known as the Hugos, shall be made as follows in the subsequent Sections of this Article.
- SECTION 2:** *Best Novel:* A science fiction or fantasy story of forty thousand (40,000) words or more appearing for the first time during the previous calendar year. A work originally appearing in a language other than English shall also be eligible in the year in which it is first issued in English translation. A story, once it has appeared in English, may thus be eligible only once. Publication date, or cover date in the case of a dated periodical, takes precedence over copyright date. A serial takes its appearance to be the date of the last installment. Individual stories appearing as a series are eligible only as individual stories and are not eligible taken together under the title of the series. An author may withdraw a version of his work from consideration if he feels that that version is not representative of what he wrote. The Convention Committee may relocate a story into a more appropriate category if it feels that it is necessary, provided that the story is within five thousand (5,000) words of the new category limits.
- SECTION 3:** *Best Novella:* The rules shall be the same as those for Best Novel, with length between seventeen thousand five hundred (17,500) and forty thousand (40,000) words.
- SECTION 4:** *Best Novella:* The rules shall be the same as those for Best Novel, with length between seven thousand five hundred (7,500) and seventeen thousand five hundred (17,500) words.
- SECTION 5:** *Best Short Story:* The rules shall be the same as those for Best Novel, with length less than seven thousand five hundred (7,500) words.
- SECTION 6:** *Best Dramatic Presentation:* Any production in any medium of dramatized science fiction or fantasy which has been publicly presented for the first time in its present dramatic form during the previous calendar year. In the case of individual programs presented as a series, each program is individually eligible, but the series as a whole is not eligible.
- SECTION 7:** *Best Professional Artist:* An illustrator whose work has appeared in the field of professionally published science fiction or fantasy during the previous calendar year.
- SECTION 8:** *Best Professional Editor:* The editor of any professional publication devoted primarily to science fiction or fantasy during the previous calendar year.
- SECTION 9:** *Best Fanzine:* Any generally available fannish publication devoted to science fiction, fantasy, or related subjects, which has published four (4) or more issues, at least one (1) of which appeared in the previous calendar year. The words "fanzine" and "fannish" shall be defined only by the will of the membership, and the Convention Committee shall impose no additional criteria. *[[Former wording that was replaced:] Best Amateur Magazine: Any generally available non-professional magazine devoted primarily to science fiction, fantasy, or related subjects, which has published four (4) or more issues, at least one (1) of which appeared in the previous calendar year.]*
- SECTION 10:** *Best Fan Writer:* Any person whose writing has appeared in magazines of the type defined in Section 9 above.
- SECTION 11:** *Best Fan Artist:* An artist or cartoonist whose work has appeared through publication in magazines of the type defined in Section 9 above or through other public display during the previous calendar year. Any person whose name appears on the final Awards ballot for a given year under the Professional Artist category shall not be eligible for the Fan Artist Award for that year.

TELL ME MIGHTY MEKON. WHAT DO ALL THESE PUNY TERRANEANS HAVE IN COMMON?

LIN CARTER · PHILIP K. DICK · J.G. BALLARD · URSULA LE GUIN
ISAAC ASIMOV · ROBERT SILVERBERG · LARRY NIVEN
EDMUND COOPER · JACK VANCE · POUL ANDERSON · H. G. WELLS
CLIFFORD D. SIMAK · FREDERICK POHL · HARLAN ELLISON
THOMAS M. DISCH · STANISLAW LEM · JOHN WYNDHAM · BOB SHAW
HARRY HARRISON · BRIAN ALDISS · SAMUEL R. DELANY
JOHN BRUNNER · DAMON KNIGHT · PIERS ANTHONY · ALGIS BUDRYS
PHILIP JOSÉ FARMER · KURT VONNEGUT · RAY BRADBURY · A.E. VAN VOGT
MICHAEL MOORCOCK · EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS · ROGER ZELAZNY
BRIAN STABLEFORD · PATRICK MOORE · ROBERT SHECKLEY
JAMES BLISH · ROBERT HEINLEIN · JULES VERNE · E.E. 'DOC' SMITH
ANNE McCAFFREY · OLAF STAPLEDON · JOHN SLADEK



- SECTION 12:** *Additional Category:* Not more than one special category may be created by the current Convention Committee with nomination and voting to be the same as for the permanent categories. The Convention Committee is not required to create any such category; such action by a Convention Committee should be under exceptional circumstances only; and the special category created by one Convention Committee shall not be binding on following Committees. Awards created under this Section shall be considered to be Science Fiction Achievement Awards, or Hugos.
- SECTION 13:** *Name and Design:* The Hugo Award shall continue to be standardized on the rocket ship design of Jack McKnight and Ben Jason. Each Convention Committee may select its own choice of base design. The name (Hugo) and the design shall not be extended to any other award.
- SECTION 14:** *No Award:* At the discretion of an individual Convention Committee, if the lack of nominations or final votes in a specific category shows a marked lack of interest in that category on the part of the voters, the Award in that category shall be cancelled for that year. In addition, the entry "No Award" shall be mandatory in each category of Hugo on the final ballot. In any event, No Award shall be given whenever the total number of valid ballots cast for a specific category is less than twenty five percent (25%) of the total number of final Award ballots (excluding those cast for No Award) received.
- SECTION 15:** *Nominations and Voting:* Selection of nominees for the final Award voting shall be done by a poll conducted by the Convention Committee under rules determined by the Committee. Final Award voting shall be by mail, with ballots sent only to Society members. Final Award ballots shall include name, signature, address, and membership number spaces to be filled in by the voter. Final Award ballots shall standardize nominees given in each category to not more than five (5) (six (6) in the case of tie votes) plus "No Award." The Committee shall, on or with the final ballot, designate, for each nominee in the printed fiction categories, one or more books, anthologies, or magazines in which the nominee appeared (including the book publisher or magazine issue date(s)). Assignment to the proper category of nominees nominated in more than one category, and eligibility of nominees, shall be determined by the Convention Committee. Voters shall indicate the order of their preference for the nominees in each category.
- SECTION 16:** *Tallying:* Counting of all votes shall be the responsibility of the Convention Committee, which is responsible for all matters concerning the Awards. In each category, votes shall first be tallied by the voter's first choices. If no majority is then obtained, the nominee who places last in the initial tallying shall be eliminated and the ballots listing it as first choice shall be redistributed on the basis of those ballots' second choices. This process shall be repeated until a majority vote winner is obtained.
- SECTION 17:** *Exclusions:* No member of the current Convention Committee nor any publications closely connected with a member of the Committee shall be eligible for an Award. However, should the Committee delegate all authority under this Article to a Subcommittee whose decisions are irrevocable by the Convention Committee, then this exclusion shall apply to members of the Subcommittee only.

ARTICLE III — Future Convention Site Selection

- SECTION 1:** The Society shall choose the location and Committee of the Convention to be held two (2) years from the date of the current Convention at the Business Meeting of the current Convention. Voting shall be by mail or ballot cast at the current Convention with run-off ballot as described in Article II, Section 16, and shall be limited to Society members who have paid at least five dollars (\$5.00) towards membership in the Convention whose site is being selected. The current Convention Committee shall administer the mail balloting, collect the advance membership fees, and turn over those funds to the winning Committee before the end of the current Convention. Each World Science Fiction Convention Committee shall provide a reasonable opportunity for *bona fide* bidding Committees for the Convention to be selected one year hence to make presentations.
- SECTION 2:** Bids from prospective Committees shall be allowed on the ballot by the current Convention Committee only upon presentation of adequate evidence of an agreement with the proposed sites' facilities, such as a conditional contract or a letter of agreement. To be eligible for site selection, a bidding Committee must state the rules under which the Convention Committee will operate, including a specification of the term of office of their chief executive officer or officers and the conditions and procedures for the selection and replacement of such officer or officers. Written copies of these rules must be made available by the bidding Committee to any member of the Society on request.
- SECTION 3:** To ensure equitable distribution of sites, North America is divided into three (3) regions as follows:
Western: Baja California, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Saskatchewan, and all states and provinces westward.
Central: Central America, Mexico (except as above), and all states and provinces between Western and Eastern regions.
Eastern: Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Quebec, and all states and provinces eastward.
- SECTION 4:** Convention sites shall rotate in the order Western, Central, Eastern region. Bids from sites located out of rotation may be considered only if the rule of rotation is set aside by a three-quarters majority of those voting for site selection at the current Convention. In the event of such setting aside, the same motion shall establish where the rotation is to resume.
- SECTION 5:** A Convention site outside of North America may be selected by a majority vote at any Convention. In the event of such outside Convention being selected, there shall be an interim Continental Convention in the region whose turn it would have normally been, to be held in the same year as the overseas World Science Fiction Convention, with rotation skipping that region the following year. To skip a region without giving it an interim Continental Convention shall require a three-quarters majority vote. Selection of the site of such Continental Convention may be by vote of the Business Meeting or by such other method as the competing bidders might agree upon.
- SECTION 6:** With sites being selected two (2) years in advance, there are therefore at least two Convention Committees in existence at any given time. If one should become unable to perform its duties, the surviving Convention Committee shall determine what it is to do, by mail poll of the Society if there is time for one, or by decision of the Committee if there is not time.

**ELEMENTARY, DEAR COLONEL KYLLING.
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ARTICLE IV — Constitution and Powers of the Business Meeting

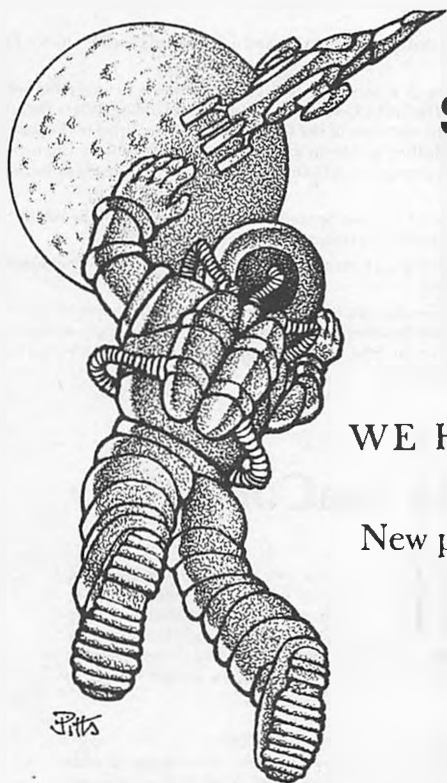
- SECTION 1:** Any proposal to amend the Constitution of WSFS shall require for passage a majority of all the votes cast on the question at the Business Meeting of the Society at which it is first debated, and also ratification by a simple majority vote of those members present and voting at a Business Meeting of the Society held at the World Convention immediately following that at which the amendment was first approved. Failure to ratify in the manner described shall void the proposed amendment.
- SECTION 2:** Any change to the Constitution of WSFS shall take effect at the end of the World Science Fiction Convention at which such change is ratified.
- SECTION 3:** This Constitution, together with all ratified amendments hereto, shall determine the conduct of the affairs of the Society. All previous Constitutions, By-Laws, and resolutions of WSFS are hereby revoked.
- SECTION 4:** Business Meetings of the Society shall be held at advertised times at each World Science Fiction Convention. The current Convention Committee shall provide the Presiding Officer and Staff for each Meeting. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, and such other rules as may be published by the Committee in advance.
- SECTION 5:** The Constitution of WSFS, together with an explanation of proposed changes approved but not yet ratified, shall be printed by the current Convention Committee, distributed with the Hugo nomination ballots, and printed in the Convention book, if there is one.

Standing Rules for the Governance of the WorldCon Business Meeting

- RULE 1:** Business of the Annual Meeting of the World Science Fiction Society shall be transacted in one or more sessions called Preliminary Business Meetings and one or more Main Business Meetings. The first session shall be designated as a Preliminary Business Meeting. At least eighteen (18) hours shall elapse between the final Preliminary Business Meeting and the one or more Main Business Meetings. In so far as practical, the Business Meeting sessions shall be scheduled so as not to overlap with the Convention main programming.
- RULE 2:** The Preliminary Business Meeting may not pass, reject, or ratify amendments to the Constitution, but the motions to "object to consideration", to "table", and to "refer to committee" are in order. The Preliminary Business Meeting may alter or suspend any of the rules of debate included in these Standing Rules. Motions may be amended or consolidated at this Meeting with the consent of the original maker. Absence from this Meeting of the original maker shall constitute consent to amendment and to such interpretations of the intent of the motion as the Presiding Officer or the Parliamentarian may in good faith attempt.
- RULE 3:** The deadline for the submission of non-privileged new business shall be two hours after the official opening of the Convention or eighteen hours before the first Preliminary Business Meeting, whichever is later.
- RULE 4:** Six (6) identical legible copies of all proposals requiring a vote shall be submitted to the Presiding Officer before the deadline given in Rule 3 above. All proposals or motions of more than seventy-five (75) words shall be accompanied by at least one hundred additional identical, legible copies for distribution to and intelligent discussion by the Meeting attendees. All proposals or motions shall be legibly signed by the maker and at least one seconder. The Presiding Officer may accept otherwise qualified motions submitted after the deadline, but all such motions shall be placed at the end of the agenda. The Presiding Officer will reject as out of order any proposal or motion which is obviously illegal or hopelessly incoherent in a grammatical sense.
- RULE 5:** Debate on all motions of less than fifty (50) words shall be limited to six (6) minutes. Debate on all other motions shall be limited to twenty (20) minutes; if a question is divided, these size criteria and time limits shall be applied to each section. Time shall be allotted equally to both sides of a question. Time spent on points of order or other neutral matters arising from a motion shall be charged one half to each side. The Preliminary Business Meeting may alter these limits for a particular motion by a majority vote.
- RULE 6:** Debate on all amendments to main motions shall be limited to five (5) minutes, to be divided as above.
- RULE 7:** An amendment to a main motion may be changed only under those provisions allowing modification through the consent of the maker of the amendment, i.e., second-order amendment motions are not allowed.
- RULE 8:** A person speaking to a motion may not immediately offer a motion to close debate or to refer to a committee. Motions to close debate will not be accepted until at least one speaker from each side of the question has been heard, nor will they be accepted within one minute of the expiration of the time allotted for debate on that motion. The motion to table shall require a two-thirds vote for adoption.
- RULE 9:** In keeping with the intent of the limitations on debate time, the motion to postpone indefinitely shall not be allowed.
- RULE 10:** A request for a division of the house (an exact count of the voting) will be honored only when requested by at least ten percent (10%) of those present in the house.
- RULE 11:** These Standing Rules, and any others adopted by a Preliminary Business Meeting, may be suspended for an individual item of business by a two-thirds majority vote.
- RULE 12:** The sole purpose of a request for a "point of information" is to ask the Presiding Officer or the Parliamentarian for his opinion of the effect of a motion or for his guidance as to the correct procedure to follow. Attempts to circumvent the rules of debate under the guise of "points of information" or "points of order" will be dealt with as "dilatatory motions" as specified in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

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- RULE 13:** Citations to Articles, Sections, or specific sentences of the Society Constitution or Standing Rules are for the sake of easy reference only. They do *not* form a part of the substantive area of a motion. Correct numeration of Articles, Sections, and Rules and correct insertions and deletions will be provided by the Secretary of the Business Meeting when the Constitution and Standing Rules as Certified to the next WorldCon. Therefore, motions from the floor to renumber or correct citations will not be in order. The Secretary will also adjust any other Section of the Constitution equally affected by an amendment unless otherwise ordered by the Business Meeting. Any correction of fact to the Minutes or to the Constitution or Standing Rules as published should be brought to the attention of the Secretary and to that of the next available Business Meeting as soon as they are discovered.
- RULE 14:** At all sessions of the Business Meeting, the hall will be divided into smoking and non-smoking sections by the Presiding Officer of the Meeting.
- RULE 15:** The World Science Fiction Society Business Meeting is a mass meeting of the Society's membership which the Convention is required to sponsor in accordance with the WSFS Constitution and these Standing Rules. Therefore, (1) the quorum is the number of people present and (2) the decisions of the Chair as to who is entitled to the floor are not subject to appeal. The motion to adjourn the Main Meeting will be in order at any time *after* the amendments to the Constitution proposed at the last Worldcon Business Meeting for ratification at the current Business Meeting have been acted upon.
- RULE 16:** If time permits at the Site Selection Meeting, bidders for the convention one year beyond the date of the Worldcon being voted upon will be allotted five (5) minutes each to make such presentations as they may wish.
- RULE 17:** These Standing Rules should be published by each Convention Committee at the same time as the current Constitution and pending amendments for ratification are published.
- RULE 18:** These Standing Rules shall continue in effect until altered, suspended, or rescinded by the action of any Business Meeting. Amendment, suspension, or rescission of these Standing Rules may be done in the form of a motion from the floor of any Business Meeting made by any member of the Business Meeting, and such action will become effective immediately after the end of the Business Meeting at which it was passed.

Business Passed on to SeaCon '79

Items 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 below are amendments to the WSFS Constitution that were first passed at IguanaCon. They are to be considered for ratification at SeaCon '79 and will take effect in accordance with Article IV, Sections 1 and 2, of the WSFS Constitution, if ratified. Item 3 is an amendment to the WSFS Constitution being considered for the first time. It occurs at that point in the listing of business, rather than at the end, because IguanaCon ordered it made a special order of business when they postponed it at that point in their proceedings. Items 7 and 8 are committees that were created at SunCon, were renewed at IguanaCon, and are to report to SeaCon '79.

- ITEM 1:** MOVED, to amend Article III of the WSFS Constitution by adding the following:
- Site selection ballots shall include name, signature, address, and membership number spaces to be filled in by the voter. The name and address information shall be separated from the ballot and the ballots counted only at the convention with two witnesses from each bidding committee allowed to observe. Each bidding committee may make a record of the name and address of every voter.

The intent of this amendment is to provide a set of minimum standards for the form of site selection ballots and for the procedures used in their processing and counting. It was moved by Leslie Turek, seconded by Tony Lewis, and contains 63 words.

- ITEM 2:** MOVED, to amend Article III of the WSFS Constitution by adding the following:
- Members of the Society paying the minimum fee towards membership with their site selection ballots shall be members of the selected convention with the right to receive all generally distributed publications. Those who have voted may convert to members with the right of general attendance at the selected convention and its Business Meeting by paying, within 90 days of site selection, an additional fee, set by the selected convention committee, of not more than the minimum voting fee and not more than the difference between the voting fee and the attending fee for new members.

The minimum voting fee can be modified for a particular year by unanimous agreement of the current convention committee and all bidding committees who have filed before the mail ballots are sent.

The minimum fee in force shall be listed on all site selection ballots.

Under the current Constitution, paying the fee to vote does not necessarily get you anything. If this amendment is adopted, voters will get supporting memberships and be guaranteed that they can convert to attending for a limited additional fee. The amendment also provides for some flexibility in varying the minimum fee. It was moved by Tony Lewis, seconded by Donald Eastlake, and contains 141 words.

ITEM 3: MOVED, that the WSFS Constitution be amended as follows:

A. Add at the end of Article III, Section 3, the following:

A fourth region, called Outside North America, shall consist of all the area not included in the three regions above.

B. Insert in Article III, Section 4, the words "Outside North America" between the word "Central" and the word "Eastern"; and

C. Replace Article III, Section 5, with the following:

When a convention site in the region Outside North America is selected, there shall be an interim Continental Convention in one of the North American Regions. Selection of the site of such Continental Convention may be by vote of the Business Meeting or by such other method as the competing bidders might agree upon.

This motion has not yet been voted on so if passed at Seacon '79 it will still have to be ratified at Noreascon II before becoming part of the Constitution. For practical purposes, the current Worldcon site rotation system and the effect of this motion would be as follows: Presently, each third of North America is eligible for a Worldcon once every three years. Sites in the rest of the world are eligible to bid whenever they want and if a site outside North America is chosen, the North American region that was skipped gets an interim Continental Convention. If this amendment is adopted, each third of North America would be eligible for a Worldcon only once every four years and sites in the remainder of the world would only be eligible once every four years. Sites bidding for the Western region of North America would always be bidding at a Worldcon outside of North America. There would always be an interim Continental Convention every four years which would be chosen at the Western region Worldcon. The first year affected by this motion would be 1983 which would become an Outside North America year and then 1984 would be an Eastern region year rather than a Western region year.

This motion was presented by Kent Bloom, seconded by Lee Smoire, and contains 77 words.

ITEM 4: MOVED, to amend Article IV of the WSFS Constitution by adding Standing Rules to those rules in accordance with which the Business Meeting is to be conducted, adding Standing Rules to the items to be printed by the Convention Committee, and substituting the following for Section 3:

"The conduct of the affairs of the Society shall be determined by this Constitution together with all ratified amendments hereto and such Standing Rules as the Business Meeting may adopt for its own governance.

The purpose of this amendment is to clearly authorize Standing Rules. It was moved by Donald Eastlake, seconded by Jill Eastlake, and contains 38 words.

ITEM 5: MOVED, to amend Article III of the WSFS Constitution by striking out all of Section 4 after the first sentence and inserting the following:

Each site selection ballot shall list the options "None of the above" and "No preference" after the bidders and with equal prominence. A ballot voted with first or only choice for "No preference" shall be ignored for site selection. A ballot voted with lower than first choice for "No preference" shall be ignored if all higher choices on the ballot have been eliminated in preferential tallying. "None of the above" shall be treated as a bid for tallying. If it wins, the duty of site selection shall devolve on the Business Meeting of the current Convention. If the Business Meeting is unable to decide by the end of the Convention, the Committee for the following Convention shall make the selection without undue delay. When a site and committee are chosen by a Business Meeting or Convention Committee, they are not restricted by region or other qualifications and the choice of an out of rotation site shall not affect the regional rotation for subsequent years. If no bids qualify to be on the ballot, the selection shall proceed as though "None of the above" had won.

This amendment would require a "No preference" option on the ballot so voters could take advantage of the lower fees they are normally offered without choosing a site (although in principle the voter can presently do that by leaving the vote part of the ballot blank). It would also provide a "None of the above" option to indicate that a voter opposes all the bids on the ballot and wishes to force the decision into the Business Meeting. This motion was presented by Jill Eastlake, seconded by Leslie Turek, and contains 185 words.

ITEM 6: MOVED, to amend Article I, Section 5, of the WSFS Constitution by striking the words "of the membership" and "and should publish or have published by the following Convention Committee a final financial report" and appending the following:

Each Convention Committee shall retain an independent certified public accountant at least a year before their convention and shall publish a financial statement compiled and reviewed by said accountant within ninety days after their convention and a final financial statement within a year.

The words "of the membership" are to be struck to make it a little easier for Convention Committees that want tax exempt status to get it. The rest of the amendment is to provide clear standards of externally reviewed financial reporting for Convention Committees. It was moved by Lou Tabakow, seconded by Sid Allus, and contains 61 words.

ITEM 7: A report by the Committee, originally created at SunCon and continued at Iguanicon, to begin drafting a new Constitution for the Society incorporating certain matters pertaining to the permanent organization of the Society. The Chairman of the Committee is Bob Hillis. The Committee may be contacted through its Secretary, Larry Smith, at 875 Overland Park, Columbus, OH 43224 USA. The Committee was continued when the following motion (drafted by Ben Yalow) was PASSED at Iguanicon.

Be It Resolved That:

A permanent body, the World Science Fiction Society, Incorporated, (WSFS, Inc.) should be established, independent of any Worldcon Committee, whose members will be the members of the current and upcoming Worldcons. The Board of Directors of WSFS, Inc., should be selected by the members of the Society and by current and recent Worldcon Committees.

WSFS, Inc., should be responsible for the administration of voting for selection of the Hugos and the site of future Worldcons. No change should be made in either the Hugos or site selection as a result of the establishment of WSFS, Inc., except as necessary to administer the voting.

In cases of a Worldcon Committee becoming unable to properly manage its designated Convention, either because of internal collapse or misconduct, then, after investigation and due process, the Board of Directors should have the right to remove the name "World Science Fiction Convention" and the awarding of the Hugos, site selection and the holding of the Society's Business Meeting from the control of the guilty Committee and to award them to another responsible group.

Therefore, it is moved that the current WSFS Constitution Drafting Committee, with such deletions and substitutions as its current Chairman shall consider proper, be empowered to continue its current activities and present its next report at the Thirty-Seventh World Science Fiction Convention in Brighton, England, in 1979.

Since it was not an amendment to the Constitution, the above resolution took effect immediately continuing the Committee.

ITEM 8: A report by the special Committee created at SunCon and continued at Iguacon, to consider a reworking of Article II, Section 7, of the WSFS Constitution concerning the Best Profession Artist Hugo. The Committee consists of the following persons: Jim Hudson, Chairman; George Flynn; Steve Miller; Rick Sternbach; and Andrea Mitchell. The Committee may be contacted through its chairman at 33 Unity Avenue, Belmont, MA 02178 USA. The following motions relevant to this Committee were PASSED at Iguacon:

MOVED: To request assistance from SeaCon in testing the proposed Art Hugo nomination and voting process.

MOVED: To keep the committee [the Art Hugo Committee] in existence, as currently constituted, for another year (until SeaCon).

Since it was not an amendment to the Constitution, the above motion took effect immediately continuing the Committee. The main idea the Committee is working on is to have the Professional Art Hugo be for an individual work, as the literary Hugos are, rather than for the general work of a person. There should be a page in this Progress Report requesting your assistance in testing their current proposal.

Site Selection Procedures

Among the duties of SeaCon '79 and its Business Meeting under the World Science Fiction Society Constitution is to supervise the selection of the 39th World Science Fiction Convention which will be held in 1981. The general procedures that will be followed are listed below.

ONE **Mail Ballots:** The mail site selection ballot will be sent out with Progress Report 4. It will list all bidders who have submitted complete bids by March 31, 1979, and will have a place for write-ins and to indicate no preference. Mail ballots must be returned as indicated on the ballot, with US\$5 (or equivalent) toward membership in the 1981 Worldcon, by 1 August 1979.

TWO **Voting at SeaCon '79:** It will be possible to vote at Seacon at a table set up in the general vicinity of the registration area. The same fee must be paid as with voting by mail. This table will not be open later than 6PM Saturday.

THREE **Bidding:** Bids from prospective Wordcon Committees in the Western Region (see Article III, Section 3 of the WSFS Constitution) or from outside of North America must be submitted in writing to Donald Eastlake, Seacon '79 Site Selection, Box N, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, MA 02139 USA before 1 August 1979 or brought to Seacon '79 and submitted before the votes are tabulated. It is strongly recommended that bids be mailed in early to get on the mail ballot and so any defects can be corrected. The bid must specify the Committee and location proposed and include adequate evidence of an agreement with the sites' facilities such as a conditional contract or a letter or agreement. Since it is technically a nomination, each bid must be indorsed by at least one SeaCon '79 member whose membership number should be given. Bidders should note that they are required to provide in writing to any member of the Society who so requests a copy of the rules under which their Convention Committee will operate, including a specification of the term of office of their chief executive officer or officers and the conditions and procedures for the selection and replacement of such officer or officers.

ART HUGO EXPERIMENT

The current professional artist Hugo gives the award to the body of work done by an artist, while the fiction awards are given for individual works. It has been suggested by a number of people that the latter approach is more meaningful, and that Art Hugos should be awarded for the best individual works of SF art published in that year.

A committee of the World Science Fiction Society was set up at Suncon to consider this idea, and did so between Suncon and Iguanacon. However, we couldn't make a recommendation then, because we needed more information. To be blunt, we didn't know how the idea would work in practice, no matter what our bias for or against it in theory.

Specifically, we needed to know how much of a problem it would be for people to choose individual pieces worth nominating, whether we could figure out who the artists were, whether the publishers would be cooperative, and a whole host of other trivial details that could make or break the idea.

So, we proposed a test run. We would like everyone interested to give us nominations for the best SF artwork of 1978, just as you'll send your Best Artist and Best Novel nominations to the Seacon committee. Here is what we're interested in:

- *Best Color*: a piece of SF or fantasy art done in full color and published for the first time in 1978 (use publication date).
- *Best Monochrome*: A piece of SF or fantasy art done in monochrome (generally black and white) and published for the first time in 1978.

These will, in general, be book or magazine covers and interiors, plus other published works. We would like up to five nominations from each of you, ideally with your thoughts on how much trouble the process is, and whether you think the idea is a good one. **Please include where the works were published**, in as much detail as possible (e.g. *Analog*, May 1978, page 87), since one thing we're checking is how easy it is to identify the work.

We will decipher your comments, compile the nominations, and send out a report to each person nominating on what happened. In addition, we'll use the information on the number of people nominating, the spread of the nominations, and so forth to determine whether the whole thing is clearly a good idea, marginal, or a flop, and that will probably decide whether it gets passed at Seacon as a change in the voting rules. We should mention that no change in the Fan Artist award is currently being considered—these changes would simply replace "Pro Artist" with "Best Color" and "Best Monochrome" pieces.

Please DON'T send your nominations to Seacon. Instead, mail them to

Jim Hudson
Art Hugos Committee
33 Unity Avenue
Belmont MA 02178
United States of America

PROGRAMME NOTES

Banquet & Hugo Awards

The Banquet and the Awards Ceremony will be programmed as separate events, both on Sunday evening. The Banquet will be held in the Winter Gardens Ballroom and will feature brief speeches from our Guests of Honour; the Awards Ceremony itself will take place in the main Convention Hall.

There will be 750 seats at the Banquet, all told, so when we send out the ticket reservation forms with the final Hugo ballots reserve your tickets promptly or there may be none left. There will be facilities for about 500 non-banqueting members to hear the speeches after the banquet in the Winter Gardens Ballroom, and seats for 2,000 to watch the Hugo Awards Ceremony.

We still have 15 rooms seating up to 50 people each (not bedroom suites) for which functions have not definitely been allocated. If you wish to use one of these rooms for meetings or displays please get in touch with Rob Jackson as soon as possible. (If it's to be used for a closed meeting we may need to make a nominal charge for this.)

We would also be very grateful if organisers of traditional Worldcon events such as the Burroughs Dum-Dum, the Georgette Heyer Tea and others would contact Rob as soon as possible with their requirements. For the Georgette Heyer Tea in particular, a Worldcon in Brighton with its grand Regency tradition presents a unique opportunity to organise something really special — but the town's facilities may be booked up over the convention period if we don't act quickly, so we need the information now.

Write to Rob Jackson at: 8 Lavender Road, West Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT19 9EB, U.K., tel: 01-397 6514. (The address on the Seacon booking forms is still valid too.)

Fancy Dress Competition

The fancy Dress Competition will be at 8 pm on Saturday, in the main convention hall, Hall 1. Naturally we're trying to make it the smoothest running Worldcon Fancy Dress parade ever; Iguanacón's was pretty good, we hear, but we aim to improve on it if possible.

If you want to enter for the Fancy Dress, we'd be grateful if you write to us as soon as you know you're going to prepare a costume, as it will help us plan numbers. Entries will be accepted, though, as late as noon on the day of the Parade itself, as we know many people do make last-minute plans.

To help you plan, here are some details of what will be expected of you. There will be a raised catwalk out into the audience, so you'll have to dress your backs up as well as your fronts. You'll have to climb steps, so it would be better if you're reasonably mobile; but we will have plenty of guides and helpers, though, if you need lifting up (say if you're on wheels) or are half-blinded by your costume. There will be no limits on what you wish to wear (or not wear!) although SF or Fantasy-related costumes obviously stand a better chance of winning awards. If you have any special requirements (background music or special lighting, for example) please let us know well in advance of the convention; don't just tell us when you arrive, as it'll probably be too late.

When planning your presentation please bear in mind that we will impose a time limit of 60 seconds per person, or 90 seconds for groups; after that the mike will be turned off on you or rotten tomatoes will be hurled. If you have an especially long presentation in mind, again let us know in good time — you may be able to entertain the audience while the judges deliberate (you will already have appeared in the regular parade, of course).

We're also organising a costume slide show and open discussion to be held in the Fan Room on the Friday of the con; we hope those wizards of the costume ball, Mike and Carol Resnick, will moderate this.

We will provide about twenty cubicles in the hall next to the main hall for use if you don't want to change in your room (or subject your costumes to the elements and the ridicule of passers-by on the way from your own hotel). These will be available from about 5 pm. There will be a registration table where you will be able to leave valuables, as well as prop and make-up facilities (mirrors, chairs, tables, tissues, etc). Drinks will be available for hot and thirsty contestants. When you arrive to compete we will give you a number and ask you to fill in a sheet saying what you would like to be announced on your behalf.

The prejudging and photo session will start at 7.15 pm at the latest. There will be facilities for both flash and floodlight photography; only bona-fide photographers will be allowed at the photo-session. There will be no photography during the Parade itself; even if flashes don't blind the contestants they can certainly disturb them and photographers do tend to obstruct other people's view.

If you're competing you will be able to watch the parade while waiting your turn; you'll all be waiting behind a screen till you're ready to go on. After you come off the stage there will be seats reserved for you.

If you want to compete or need any further information about the event please write directly to us: Rob Jackson & Coral Clarke, 8 Lavender Road, West Ewell, Surrey, KT19 9EB, U.K.

Book Room

One of the busiest and most interesting places at any convention is the bookroom. Season '79 will be, as they say, no exception. Once more the dealers will be providing a wide range of magazines, books, comics and other bits of paper with words or pictures on with which you can enlarge your collection and decrease your bank balance. This time, however, the Book Room will contain the biggest and most varied selection of SF material ever offered for sale in Britain at one time. Start saving now for that Vector Magroon novel you've always wanted.

Selling & Displaying Books

If you intend to sell or display books or magazines at Season and you don't receive an information sheet in the near future, please contact our Book Room Consultant: John Eggeling, 82 Elmbourne Road, Tooting, London SW17, U.K.

Auctions

The success of a book/magazine/manuscript auction is very much in your hands. Although we have three good and experienced auctioneers in Jack Chalker, Roger Peyton and Ron Bounds, they can only sell what you let us have.

If you have anything you would like to donate to the auction or anything you would like us to auction on your behalf for a small commission, please write directly to Joseph Nicholas, 2 Wilmot Way, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 1JA. The more detailed the description of what you have and the sooner you can send it, the easier it will be for us to give you a good auction.

Remember to make clear whether you are donating, or selling on commission. Profits will of course go to the convention funds unless you specify a recognised fannish cause which you would like to receive all proceeds from the items you donate.

Films

Most British readers of this report won't be used to a separate film programme of any length at conventions, but it is standard procedure at a Worldcon. Our intention is to have about eighteen hours of films a day.

While concentrating on SF, a certain amount of fantasy, horror, and experimental material will also be included. In addition we plan to show 2 or 3 new items in the main convention programme.

As part of the programme there will be 'seasons' on British films and films based on published stories. There will also be exhibitions of stills and props, and a number of people involved in making SF films will be taking part.

Film notes in the programme book will be by John Brosnan, author of the recently published study of SF films, FUTURE TENSE. John, together with our technical expert and ace projectionist, Gerald Bishop, is doing much of the day-to-day work involved in organising the programme.

Although we obviously have our own ideas on the range of films we will show we would welcome any suggestions for programme material. Obviously some of the films will be 'old favourites' — which ones would you like to see (again)? What movies have you seen that the committee may have missed? Do you have access to any films, stills, publicity material, models, costumes or props which would make the convention film programme something out of the ordinary?

If you have any comments or offers of help please write to Leroy Kettle, 56 Falkland Road, London N8.

Art Show

Art Show information and booking forms will be mailed out in early March 1979 to all those interested in displaying artwork, in any medium, in the show. Please write to either

Marsha Elkin Jones
9 Cecil Road
Prenton
Birkenhead, Merseyside L42 9PF
England

or

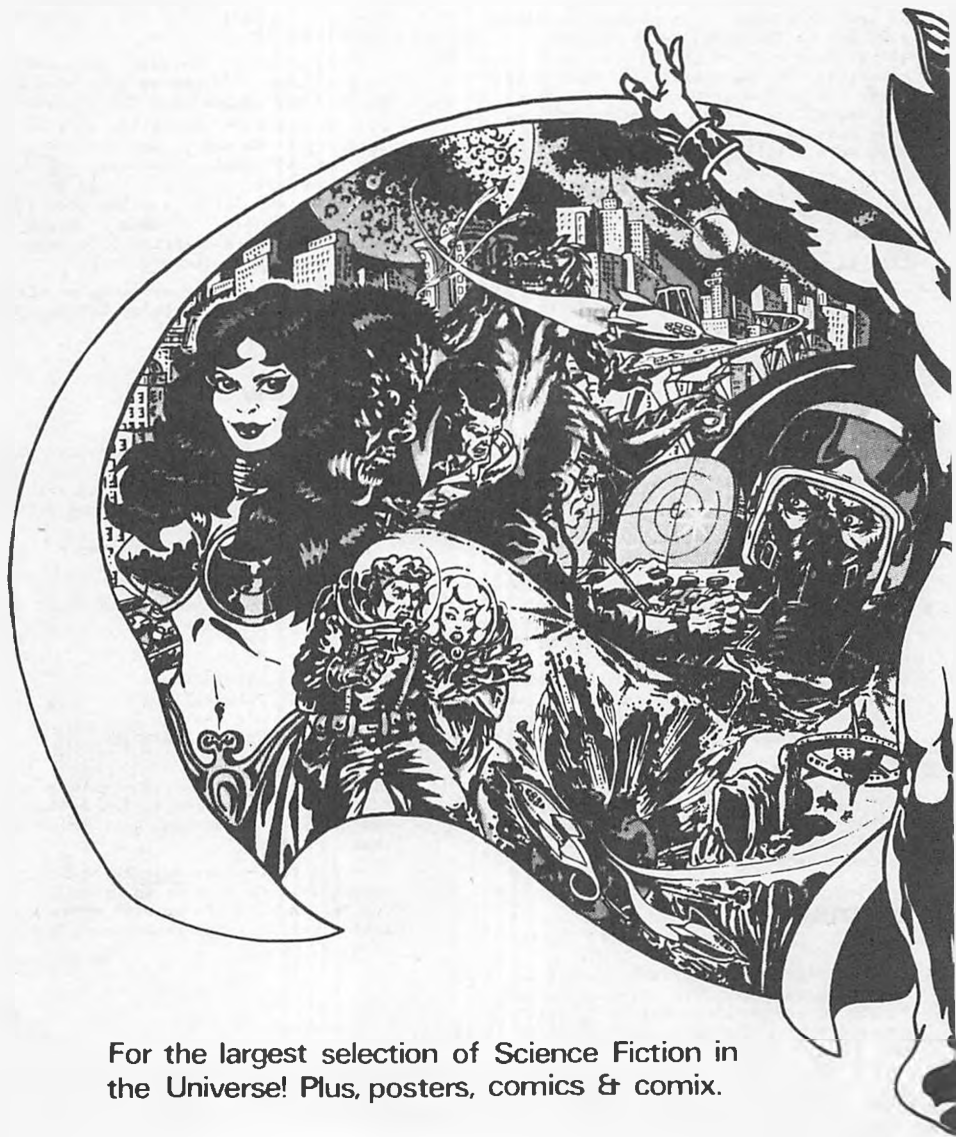
Shford Lewis
Pussywillows
off Wheeler Lane
Natick, MA 01760
U.S.A.

if you are interested in participating in the show and wish to receive the booking forms and art show rules (and Customs information where necessary).

Art Show space must be booked in advance. There will be no space available for people who turn up with artwork at the last minute without having notified us in advance.

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THE TRAVELLING FAN

Joyce Scrivner writes

There are hundreds of people from North America planning to go to Seacon '79. This small article is to give you some early warning out the things you should do before you go, or else you may not make it to Brighton.

The first thing needed to get out of the country is money. Though you could go swim in the ocean and say you were out of the country without money, you wouldn't get far unless you were picked up by a passing boat, and who knows where that would leave you? Anyway, without making an enormous list of legal and illegal methods to acquire money, I have no advice to give.

Once you have money you can buy a ticket. There are currently rumours about several charters in the early stages of planning. I would suggest reading the newszines (LOCUS, FILE 770, SPANG BLAH, CHECKPOINT) for further information (and, of course, stayed tuned in to the Seacon '79 Progress Reports!). Seacon itself is not taking responsibility for any charters, so there is always the possibility they will not occur. The charters will probably be scheduled so that they return in time for the NASFIC in Louisville.

Finally, to get out of the country you need a passport. If you were to arrive in England without a passport, you would not be admitted into the country. Several people who would otherwise have gone to Heicon or Aussiecon were left in America because they neglected to get a passport in time.

The Seacon committee are preparing for hordes of North American fan. They would much prefer you were in Brighton than waiting by your mailbox for a passport or sitting on a ship in the harbour staring at the flashy lights. I'm only going to discuss getting a U.S. passport, but since governments and red tape are much the same evrywhere, this will give you an idea of what's involved.

To get a U.S. passport you must prove to the State Department that you exist as a viable U.S. Citizen. You need a completed passport application, two identical photos, and some money.

WHEN TO APPLY: This is very important. Apply early, preferably a few months in advance of your departure date. Although it usually only takes a couple of months to process the application, you may run into problems with your identification papers, and may have a delay. I'd advise you to apply by May 1, 1979, sooner if possible.

IDENTIFICATION: This is the hardest requirement to fulfill. The easiest method is to show a previous passport, but if you had one this article would be superfluous.

There are two segments required to identify you. It must be shown that there is a valid U.S. citizen with your name. Then you must prove that that citizen is you.

The usual (and easiest) method to prove the first is to show a notarized birth certificate. This will usually have an embossed seal on it. This is different from the standard paper given you at birth, which is usually merely a record of birth. Pennsylvania, for example, only gives out a certificate of birth registration; this is not a valid birth certificate and the passport office will not accept it. So be careful, get the certificates from your parents now. There is a good likelihood that they are not valid birth certificates, and you will have to write away for one (or visit a local office).

If you can't get a birth certificate, secondary evidence such as baptismal records, records of birth abroad, witnesses to your birth, sworn statements (notarized), and other such are valid. If you've changed your name you should have proof that you changed your name. If you have a fannish and a real name you should be careful about such things as haking booked under your fannish name and your passport being in your real name. A lot of foreign hotels require that you surrender your passport when you check in.

The easiest method to prove that you are the person listed on the birth certificate is with a piece of identification bearing both the name and your picture or physical description, i.e. a driver's license or a work identification. If you don't have any of these, then you should bring someone with you that has known you for three years or more and they will swear that you are you. Then they must prove who they are and sign a certificate.

APPLICATION: You must complete a passport application. The last one I saw also asked if you had belonged to any communist organizations and you had to swear to uphold the constitution. Generally you must apply in person, unless you have a previous passport issued within 8 years prior to the date of a new application, in which case you can mail in a form.

PHOTOGRAPHS: You need two identical photos. The easiest way to get these is to have a regular passport photo place take them. It usually costs \$5 for three. They must not be

smaller than 2½ x 2½ nor larger than 3 x 3 inches, and must withstand a mounting temperature of over 200 deg. F. Both photos must be signed on the front on the left-hand side without marring the features. They require street attire, so put away the masquerade photos. Most vending machine photos are no good.

MONEY: Unless you have had a passport in the past eight years, you must go to the passport office and pay them £13. If you had a passport, it will only cost £10 by mail. People that work for the government and are going on official business or people in the armed forces can get them free.

WHERE TO APPLY: There are agencies in Boston, Chicago, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington, D.C. In other places you may be able to use a large post office. You can call the passport agencies for more information. A brochure **YOU AND YOUR PASSPORT** is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Price is probably 75¢.

It takes at least six weeks to process a passport application. It also takes a certain amount of time to get the birth certificate. It takes time to fill out the application and get the photos, though usually not as long as either of the former.

The above is a brief overview of what you'll need. Contact your local passport agency for more information. I hope that you manage to make it to England without getting Shanghai'd or lost at sea. I'll be expecting to see you.

Linda E Bushyager writes

Visiting Europe no longer requires smallpox or other vaccinations unless there is an outbreak in the area. You may want to get smallpox, tetanus, and typhoid, as a precaution. As a general rule, Western European countries do not require visas for vacationing US citizens for periods of stay up to three months. Passports can be obtained for family groups, rather than individuals. This saves money, but in the event that you are separated, you may prefer individual passports.

Since August is the main tourist time, you should probably reserve all rooms in advance. Cheap bread and breakfast hotels are available and they can be booked in advance. Definitely get your passports early, and reserve rooms at Brighton as soon as the booking forms are available.

British Railpass and European Rail Passes are available if purchased in the U.S. before your trip. There is also a special pass available which admits you to museums and stately homes in England free, after you pay for the pass. Check with your travel agent if you can't get the information

elsewhere. Generally the railpasses are only worthwhile if you are doing considerable travel over large distances.

I know it is difficult for fans to do advance planning, but it is highly recommended for a trip to Britain in the height of the busy tourist season. Hope to see you there.

(Olde Englishe) Customs

There are various Customs regulations which may affect the importation of goods into Great Britain which you ought to know about; in particular, those governing the importation and exportation of posters and original works of art.

Books, magazines and other literary matter may enter this country free of both excise duty and Value Added Tax (which is the British equivalent of the USA's sales taxes).

Original works of art, though, are subject to Value Added Tax (VAT) of 12½%, and posters are subject to VAT and possibly Excise duty as well. If you bring these items into Britain with you, you will probably be asked to pay this on their nominal value (say, their reserve price at auction), then if you re-export them unsold you can reclaim your VAT.

However, we believe Seacon is classifiable as a Cultural Exhibition, which should give us — and you — certain advantages. We are making enquiries and are awaiting official word on this from H.M. Customs, but if Seacon is eligible as a cultural exhibition then artwork not for sale may, we believe, enter the country free of VAT provided it is re-exported.

Anyone who intends to bring any dutiable or taxable goods into the country for Seacon, or even anything you think might be dutiable or taxable, please contact us (or knowledgeable organisations in your own country) for advice on the best way of going about it. Write to Ian Maule, our consultant on Customs affairs, c/o Rob Jackson, 8 Lavendar Road, West Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT19 9EB, U.K., tel: 01-397 6514, and we'll send exact details when they're available.

Now, about drink and other things. Don't forget that at the airport (or other terminal) you can buy quite reasonable quantities of alcohol and tobacco duty-free to bring with you; remember to save £20 or so (or the equivalent) for this if you so wish! There will be leaflets and notices at the airport telling you what the duty-free allowances are.

Finally, a sombre word of warning to those of you who may consider bringing more exotic substances than alcohol and tobacco into Britain:

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The average penalties for being caught trying to smuggle drugs internationally tend to be much more severe than those for possession within the U.K., my legal friends tell me; and even the penalties for possessing drugs within the U.K. are far stiffer than their United States counterparts. We couldn't bail you out even if we wanted to, but we thought we'd offer a word of warning because we want you to spend your Season at our hotel bars, not behind prison bars. British fans tend to be drinkers, if anything; we like our poison legal, even if it is a little fattening.

Jan Howard Finder writes

I understand that there is some kind of worry about the drinking habits of American fen. I can assure you that they drink. However, there is a bit more spirits and less bbeer in the makeup of the drinks. On the whole I'd say that American fen do drink less, but this will in no way decrease their enjoyment of bending an elbow in the bar and chatting with fen.

You might suggest to fen to plan to spend a couple of weeks overseas AFTER the con. In this way they could fly over on Laker, which is not all that impossible going EAST in mid to late August. However, it is impossible for them to get back on Laker before Labor Day. I called Laker's office in NYC and was told that the jamup at Gatwick disappeared a day or so after Labor Day. Hence, if they stay over until, say 15th Sept., they could utilize Laker both ways. Also, they could, in this manner, see the UK or the continent in the company of or at least crash at the homes of all the new fen whom they will surely meet. It beats Hotels.

Do stress that it is high season for everyone, not just the fen. Hence everything will be crowded with all those crazy tourists, everything will be late or delayed and that one should do a bit a research on those things which they want to see or visit. If they take some time before they arrive they will enjoy their stay much more.

Charter Flights & Travelling Parties

Fans from the U.S.A. and Canada interested in joining Travelling Parties and/or Charter Flight Groups are invited to contact the following:

Don & Grace Lundry, 18 Karen Drive, Cherry Hill, N.J. 08003, U.S.A.

Farewell Travel Service Limited, Groups Department, 77 Front Street East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5E 1C1.

IF YOU HAVE ANY TRAVEL PROBLEMS OR WANT GENERAL INFORMATION ON TOURISM IN GREAT BRITAIN, THE BRITISH TOURIST AUTHORITY MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU. WRITE TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL OFFICES:

UNITED STATES

New York: 680 Fifth Avenue
New York
NY 10019

Los Angeles: 612 South Flower Street
Los Angeles
CA 90017

Chicago: John Hancock Centre
Suite 2450
875 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago
IL 60611

AUSTRALIA: 171 Clarence Street
Sydney
NSW 2000

CANADA: 151 Bloor Street W.
Suite 460
Toronto
Ontario, M5E 1T3

DENMARK: P.O. Box 46
1002 Copenhagen K.

FRANCE: 6 Place Vendome
75001, Paris.

ITALY: Via S. Eufemia 5
00187 Rome

NORWAY: Post Box 1781
Vika
Oslo 1

SWEDEN: Malmkillnadfg 42
1st Floor
F 10342
Stockholm 40.

Both Don & Grace Lundry and Farewell Travel Service Limited have Charter Groups/ Travelling Parties in an advanced state of organization and will supply details on request.

Fans from France and the Benelux Countries are invited to contact French agent Eric Batard, BP No. 661, 37006 Tours Cedex, France, who, together with Georges Pierru is interested in organizing group travel from France.

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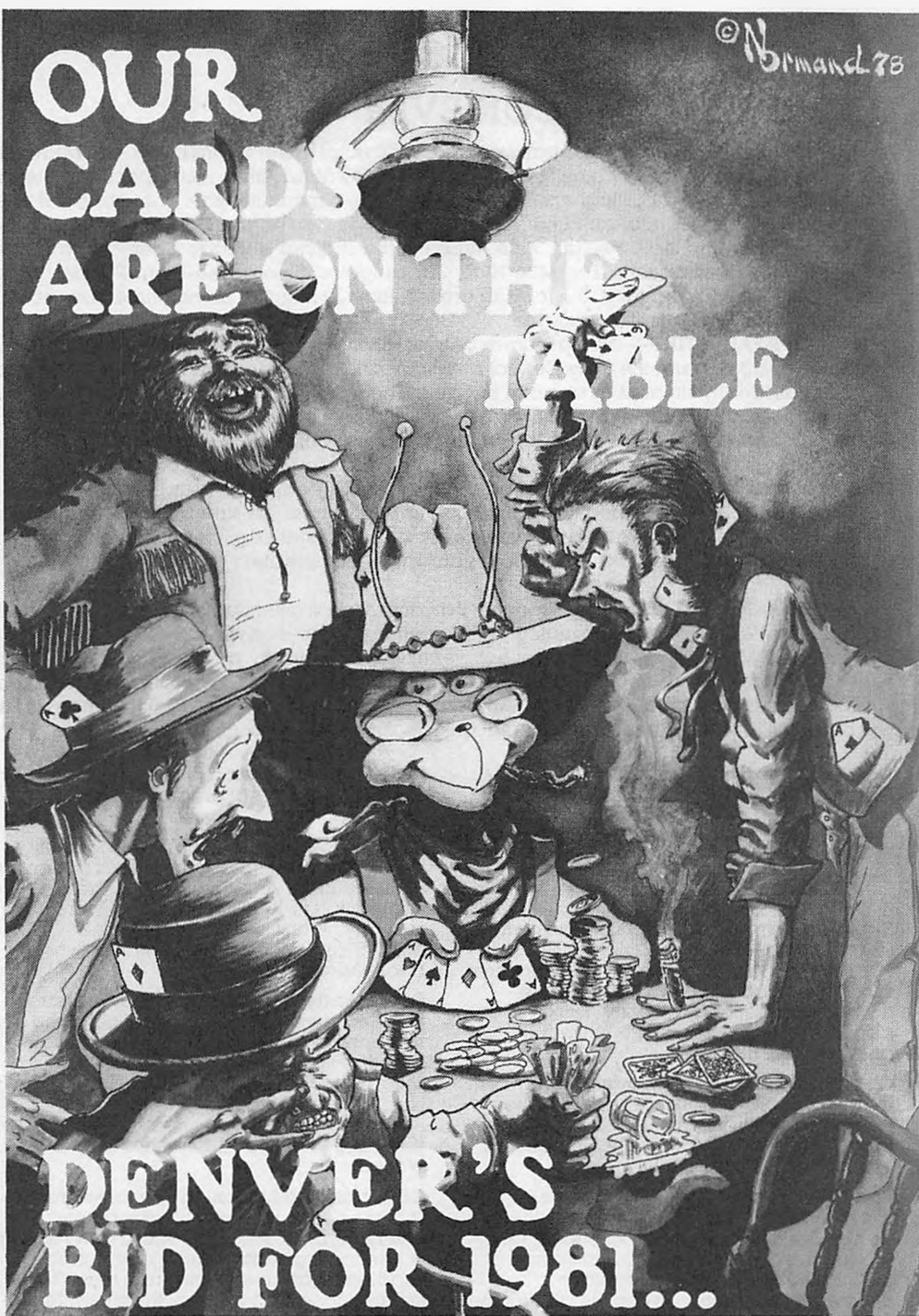
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OUR CITY — Denver is centrally located, 1,000 miles closer to fans in the East, Midwest, Britain and Europe than any other bidding city. The downtown area is compact and clean, with wide streets and a bustling energy. Within a five to ten minute walk from our hotel one can view the State Capitol building, the spacious Civic Center, the Denver Mint, the new Denver Art Museum, the Colorado State Museum, the Judicial Heritage Center — to name just a few of the attractions. The Mile High City snuggles close to the Front Range of the magnificent Rocky Mountains; the foothills are less than 30 minutes' driving time from downtown. Mountain bus tours are available.

OUR FACILITIES — The downtown Denver Hilton occupies the area between the central business district and the State Capitol buildings, and is bordered on one side by a park; it's about as ideally situated as one can imagine. The hotel is a 20-minute trip by shuttle bus or limousine from Stapleton International Airport and only a mile away from the Trailways/Greyhound bus depot. The Hilton has a total of 850 guest rooms, and the four overflow hotels within a two-block radius bring the total to over 2,400. The Hilton's 45,000 square feet of function rooms, including the 17,000 square-foot Grand Ballroom, can be supplemented by the 5,000-seat outdoor Greek Theatre in Civic Center Park across the street, and the 1,500-seat Centre Theatre next door. The hotel is within easy walking distance of literally scores of eating places, in all price ranges, including five restaurants in the hotel itself and a giant McDonald's next door.

OUR COMMITTEE — An experienced committee is essential to hosting a successful Worldcon. By 1981, various individuals of our 20-member committee will have been involved in 12 successful MileHiCons and at least two Penulticons in this city alone, as well as having either sponsored or assisted with such other cons as the small but very fancish KarvaKon, YuccaCon and FortCon in Fort Collins, AmberCon in Wichita, Kan . . . In addition, many of us will have put in volunteer work on Iguanacon, Seacon and Noreacon.

Don C. Thompson, Chairman—Don is Chairman of Penulticon I, II, and the Denvention II bidding committee. He has been involved in every MileHiCon since its inception in 1968. He is editor of *Dasfax* and *Don-O-Saur* and has frequently been nominated for a Hugo as Best Fan Writer.

Suzanne Carnival, Vice-chairman and Hotel Liason—I'm the housewife in this committee. I'm also on the board of directors for two corporations, and have successfully co-ordinated three conventions. I have also been hotel liason for Penulticon II and one MileHiCon.

Chuck Hillestad, Legal Counsel—Partner in a 24 attorney lawfirm. President of the Rocky Mountain Sierra Club, trustee of Historic Denver, owner of twenty 3-piece suits and general stuffed shirt.

Peter Alterman, Editor of Denvisions/Thin Air Wonder Stories—Educational editor of *Cihulu Calls*. President of Rocky Mountain S.F.R.A. during 1975-1977. Co-chairman of 1975 S.F.R.A. Regional Conference in Denver, and conference coordinator for the

US Office of Education, Denver Region, 1976-1977. Co-director of programming for Penulticon I.

Bob Alvis, Treasurer—Bob is budget officer for a major federal agency with a budget of \$100 million a year. He attended his first convention in 1951 (Westercon). More recently he has been treasurer for 2 MileHiCons and 2 Penulticons. He owns books Forey doesn't.

David Anderson, Membership/Registration—As he said in *Denvisions* (plug), he has registration at 5 MileHiCons, 2 Penulticons, and one Worldcon. Was vice-chairman of MileHiCon 9, co-chaired MileHiCon 10. Currently keeping the computer list of Denver in '81 pre-supporters up-to-date, and planning the registration scheme for the Worldcon.

Ed Bryant, Pro Liason—There aren't many science fiction writers who grew up as cowboys, but Ed is one. Reared in Wyoming (close to *Virginian* country), he started reading SF as an escape. From there he escalated to writing his own, turning out such

books as **Cinnabar**, **Phoenix Without Ashes**, and **Among the Dead**. If the present boom in SF busts, he may go back to roping cattle.

Charlotte Donsky, Programming—A Frenchy in charge of programs? I've done it before with Peter (Penulticon I) and alone (Penulticon II). By day, I teach French and SF, by night, I become the "were-devotee" of Denvention II.

Fred Goldstein, Sales Room—Fred has dedicated his entire life to doing whatever he must to bring a Worldcon to Denver. As a child, his 5 mile walk through rain, hail, sleet, and snow did not bother him because his every waking thought was devoted to Denvention II planning. And now he smells success, and with your help, success will be his! (He also has run programming for several MileHiCons, and the Sales Room at Penulticons I & II.)

Leanne Christine Harper, Pro Liason—Architecture student. MileHiCon 10 publicity, Penulticon II assistant pro liason.

Stephen Larue, Publicity and Hotel Liason—I'm the first born child, tall and thin, with glasses and a passion for hoarding. On the other hand, I'm a business graduate of the University of Colorado — and you know what those types are like! Been a member of every Worldcon since St. Louiscon in 1969.

Dale McBeath, Films—Dale is the service manager/technician for a Denver area chain of computer stores. In his spare time, he builds synthesizers and robots and hikes in the mountains, as well as being in charge of films for MileHiCon 10 and Penulticon II.

Bruce M. Miller, Publicity—Former perennial vice-director of the Denver Area SF Association, now treasurer of same (people will let you direct their money, but not their vices). In charge of Penulticon II publicity. Variety of positions in MileHiCon, currently chairman. Personally have sold over 200 pre-supporting memberships for Denver in '81. I use sentence fragments a lot.

Phil Normand, Art Show—Up and coming SF/Fantasy illustrator and cartoonist, has been a freelance commercial artist for 4 years. Before that he persisted in being a puppeteer and actor for 8 years. Now he has his own business — Ad-Venture Graphics. He directs the Penulticon art shows, and is known mainly for his mustache.

Olon Wiggins: Chairman of Denvention I

Daniel A. Darlington: Operations

Carolyn Thompson: Registration

Gordon Garb: Publicity

Lindy Mitchell: Registration

Lise Nelson: Art Show

Sharon Jackson: Operations

A SPECIAL BONUS — Denvisions/Thin Air Wonder Stories is our very own publication — a 40-page zine with two halves and two covers, done up in the old Ace Doubles style. One half is full of serious stuff — our Worldcon philosophy, our committee insights and other facts and figures worth knowing. The other half is a showcase, edited by Denver authors Edward Bryant and Peter Alterman, crammed full of the oddball humor and the literary talents of DENVENTION II backers. Getting a copy is easy — All pre-supporting members of the Denver '81 bid receive one.

To become a pre-supporting member, send \$1.00 (American) or 50 pence (British) to one of the addresses below. You'll be joining the more than 600 others (from 42 states and 5 continents!) who have already invested in what promises to be the greatest worldcon ever — **DENVER IN 1981**.

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- *1949 Terry Adams (USA)
- *2563 Richard Allard (SWE)
- *2287 Hans Joachim Alpers (GER)
- 2629 P M Altenburg (USA)
- 2484 Darrell Ambro (USA)
- *2578 Ann Anderson (GB)
- *1181 David O Anderson (USA)
- *2603 I Anderson (GB)
- *2453 Paul Anderson (AUS)
- *1877 S Andrews (GB)
- *2690 Mark Aronson (USA)
- *2691 Lynne Aropson (USA)
- *2250 Michael Ashley (GB)
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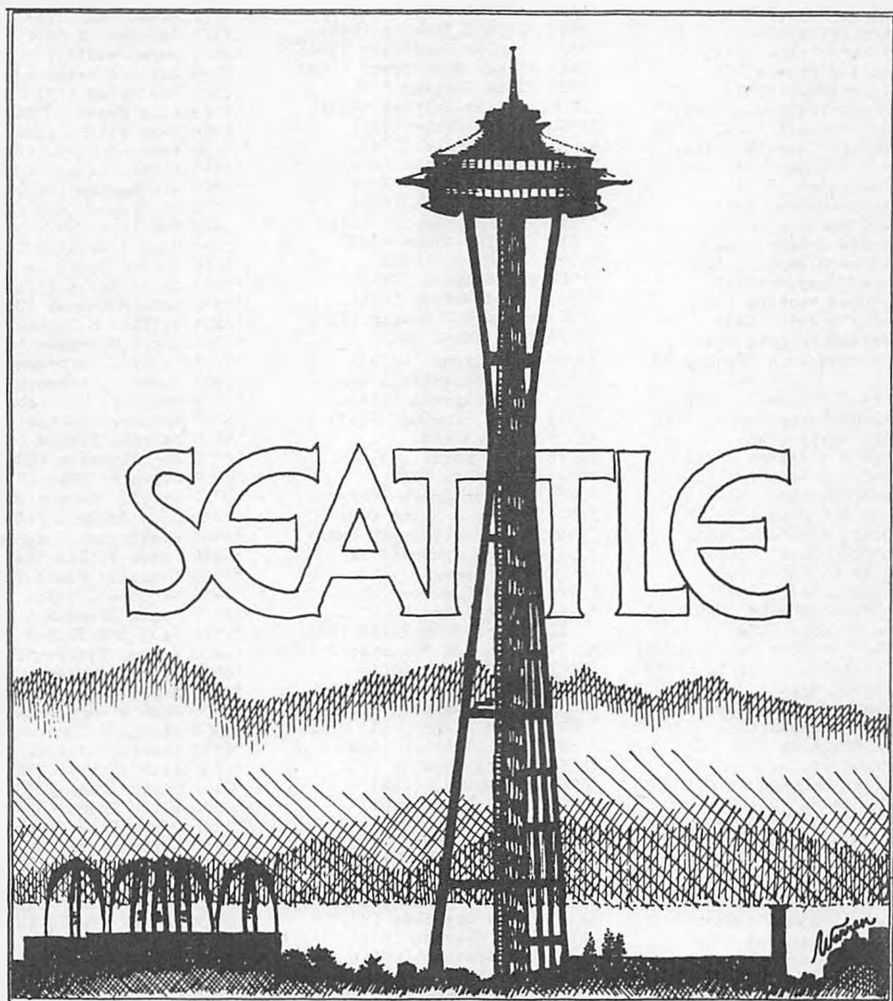
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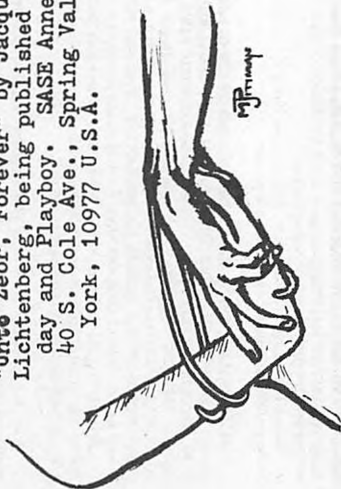
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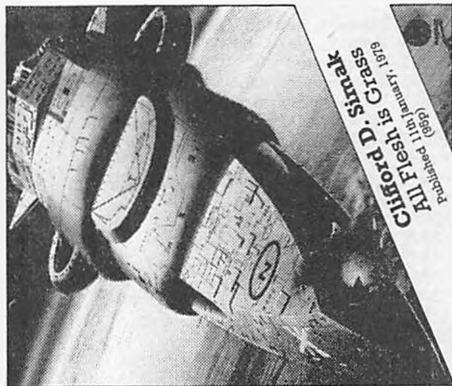
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