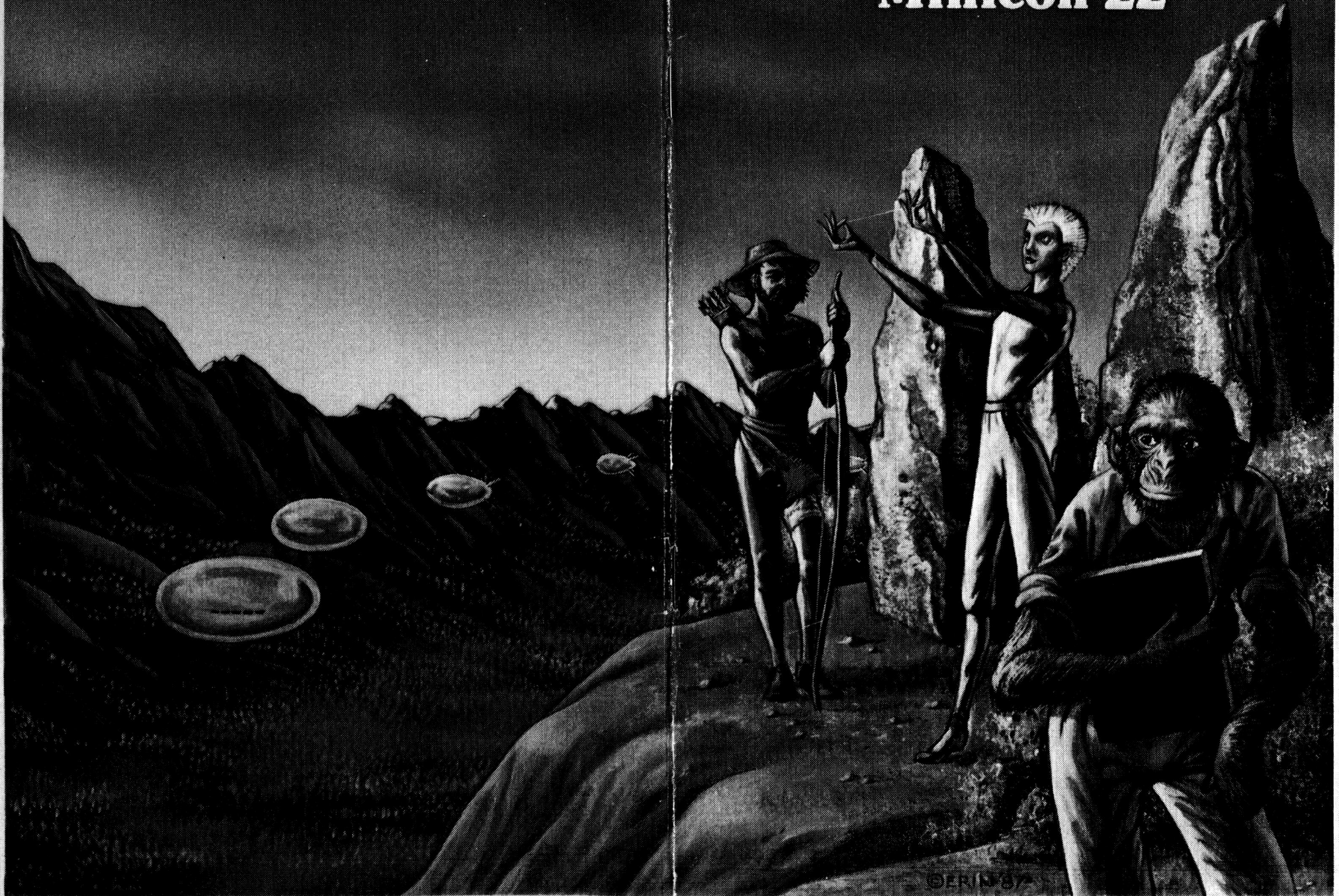


Minicon 22



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RIVERSIDE QUARTERLY

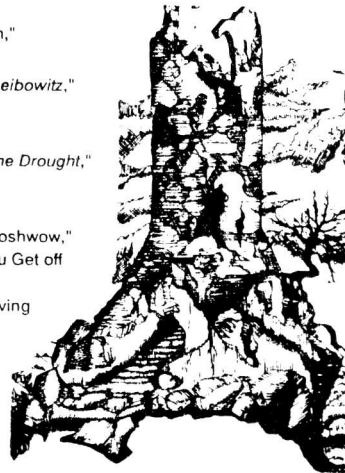
The critical magazine of science-fiction and fantasy

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Frank Bertrand, "Stanislaw Lem, Science-Fiction, and Kitsch,"
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 Marilyn House, "Miller's Anti-Utopian Vision: A Canticle for Leibowitz,"
 R.A. Lafferty, "No Stone Unthrown,"
 Brad Linaweaver, "An Interview with William Tenn,"
 Joe Milicia, "Dry Thoughts in a Dry Season: J.G. Ballard's *The Drought*,"
 Rob Hollis Miller, "On Humour in Lovecraft,"
 Karen Schuldner, "Notes on *Dhalgren* and *Triton*,"
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Mike Gunderloy, *Factsheet Five*

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Six of the 28 back issues are now available -- 23 through 28 -- with the rest being scheduled for reprinting (the next being # 11 and # 12). Each sells for \$2.

Note: A \$12 order entitles you to a free copy of H.P. Lovecraft: A Symposium, with Robert Bloch, Arthur Cox, Fritz Leiber, and Sam Russell. To our knowledge this symposium is not available elsewhere at any price.

Minicon 22

April 17-19, 1987

"Still Crazy After All These Years"

David Brin

Professional GoH

Fred Haskell

Fan GoH

Jerry Stearns

Musician GoH

Robert Bloch

Toastmaster

Erin McKee

Artist GoH

and Guests **Jane Yolen**

Ellen Kushner

Diane Duane

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"Sting Lowhand" © 85
 FARR

Artist credits:

Erin McKee: Covers

Donna Barr: 3,4,5,6,8,9,12,22,24

Teddy Harvia: 32

THANKS to all the artists who submitted
 such great work. We loved it!

Questions or Problems?
 Contact the Bridge
 Room 201

Registration

Convention Registration is located in the coat check area, Great Hall Lobby; it is open Noon to 10 pm Friday and 10 am to 6 pm Saturday. After hours go to the Bridge (Room 201) to register.

Badges come in two colors, denoting non-drinking (Goldenrod) and drinking (Blue) status. Badges are required for entrance into all official convention activities except the Dealers Room.

Restaurant Guide

Look for our handy *Restaurant Guide* on the freebie table near registration.



Hotel Rates & Checkout Time

Radisson South Hotel
7800 Normandale Boulevard
Bloomington, MN 55435
(612) 835-7800

Minicon Rates:

Room for 1-4 persons	\$46.00/night
Poolside cabana	\$58.00/night
One bedroom & parlor	\$99.00/night
Two bedrooms & parlor	\$139.00/night
One bedroom cabana suite	\$109.00/night
Two bedroom cabana suite	\$149.00/night

Room rates are subject to
9% city and state taxes.

Checkout time is 4pm daily.

4

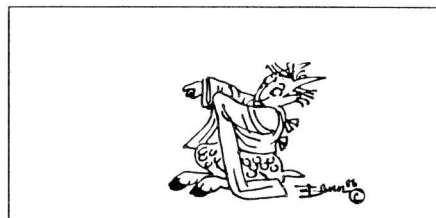


Child Care

Come play with Danny and
the other dinosaurs in Room 906.

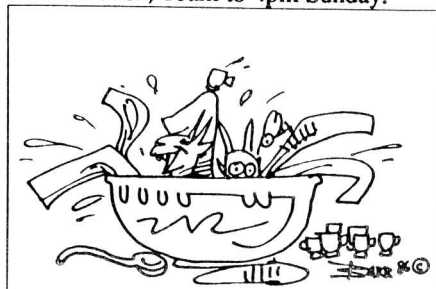
Hours: 3pm Friday to 2am Saturday
11am Saturday to 2am Sunday
Noon Sunday to 2:30pm Sunday

All participants newborn and older need
to be registered convention members.
Professional child care provided.
Volunteers greatly appreciated.



Pool Hours

Pool hours are directly related to the
chemical balance of the water. Please
do not pee in the pool - if you do,
it will be closed longer. Use the poolside
con suite restrooms. The pool is scheduled
to be closed on Saturday and Sunday from
4am to 10am. The hotel also requests that
we refrain from using the pool during the
Easter brunch, 10am to 4pm Sunday.



HELP

A call for Help

This convention is run entirely by
volunteers. We have a sizable need at the
con for people willing to give an hour or
two at a time to help out, so when you
have a little time to kill between events,
we can take advantage of help you. Badge
checking and Gophering are generally fun
and enjoyable ways to spend a few hours.
You get to meet people. You might end
up running a convention someday. And
you get to keep the badge. Thank you one
and all for your assistance.

Contact the Bridge (Room 201)
or volunteer at the
Registration Recruiting Table.



WEAPONS POLICY

We want everyone to have a safe and enjoyable time at Minicon. We therefore have established the following policy on weapons at the convention.

- 1) *Use good judgement.* Even if it complies with the remaining rules, if it is unsafe or would reduce the enjoyment of other con members, please don't!
- 2) No projectile weapons.
- 3) All weapons must be carried in a sheath, sling, or container of some kind at all times.
- 4) With regard to lasers, only Class II or lower are considered safe and acceptable.

DEFINITIONS

- I) Weapons include actual weapons (they do what they look like), anything actually used as a weapon (please don't), and anything an otherwise ignorant observer would have reasonable grounds to think was a weapon.
- II) Projectile weapons include devices that fire or throw particles or substances or are thrown themselves.
 - ✓ Squirt guns with liquid are projectile weapons and should not be carried.
 - ✓ An unstrung bow or crossbow with no arrows is not a projectile weapon.
 - ✓ Peace bonding is strongly encouraged.

FAN ROOM & COPIER

Atrium 5 is the Fan Room, an area for informal conversation and projects centered on science fiction fans as a social group. SF fans (and other fans) form social groups around a network of clubs, conventions, and amateur publications. This year the Fan Room is under the benevolent oligarchy of the amateur publishing ("fanzine") fans.

Times for scheduled discussions will be posted and published in flyers available on the "freebie" table near Registration.

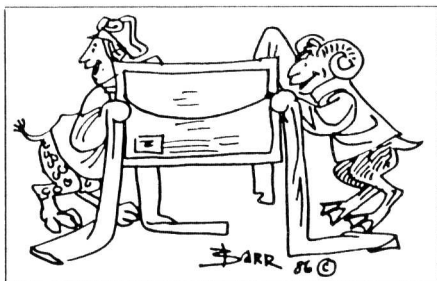
Hours:

Friday	11 am-10 pm
Saturday	10 am-10 pm
Sunday	10 am-3 pm

An attended copier is available for use by convention members in the Fan Room, Atrium 5. Members may make up to 10 copies a day "free." Additional copies are 3 cents each. Quantities may be limited and printing priorities may be determined at the discretion of the Copier operator. Info will be posted.

There may be privately published projects done at this convention. Publishers, essayists, cartoonists, artists and other pubbing types may ask in the Fan Room.

5



Art Show Hours:

Friday	5 pm - 8 pm
Saturday	10 am - 6 pm
Sunday	10 am - 2 pm

*The Art Show is in
the Great Hall Center.*

Stuff you want to know about the art show:

1. Browsers welcome. Volunteers more welcome.
2. Only pieces that have received two or more bids will go to the auction.
3. Write your bid clearly.
4. No artwork will sell for minimum bid after the auction.
5. After the auction, items which did not receive a bid will be sold only if they have an after-auction price.
6. No cameras, please.

*The art auction will be held from
9 pm to 11 pm
in the Great Hall West.*

Dealer's Room Hours

Friday	1 pm to 7 pm
Saturday	10 am to 6 pm
Sunday	11 am to 5 pm

*Eating, Drinking, and Smoking are
not permitted in the Dealer's Room.*

6

Video

There WILL be a Video Room, located in Atrium I. We will be showing rented tapes supplied by Video Update. Please observe the following amenities: Lasers have no place in a dark room. *Smoking is not permitted in the Video Room.* Tapes may not be copied. Sorry, we are not able to show unauthorized tapes. Please secure your weapon (peace-bonding is preferred). Thank you.

MINICON COVER-UP INVESTIGATION:

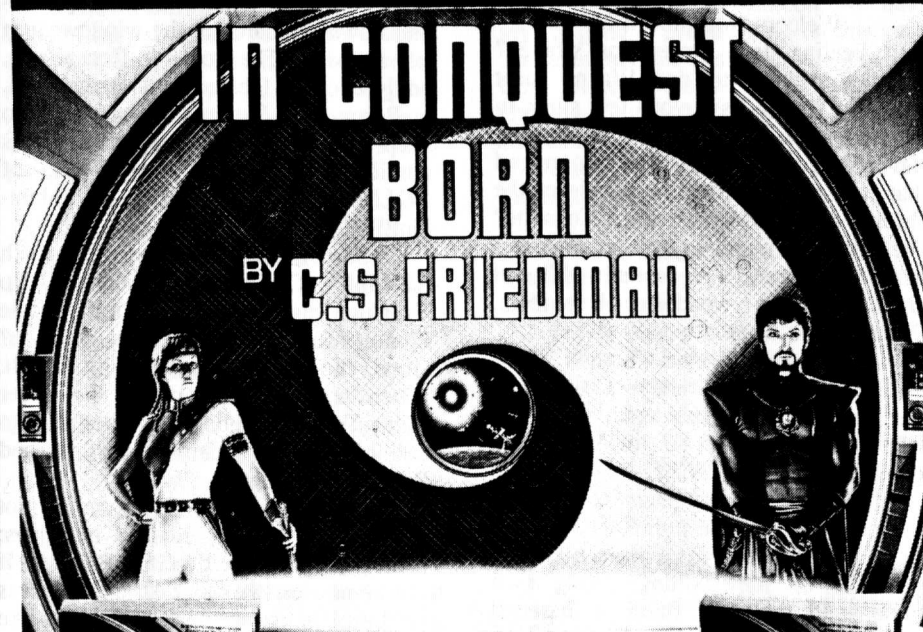
The always fashionable (especially this weekend) *Mimicon 22* tee-shirt is rumored to be hanging out at the Minicon Sales Table (located near Registration). Who's covering up? You can be, with your choice of a variety of sizes and colors available -- shop early (and often) for best selection.

For nostalgia buffs, a very limited quantity of Minicon 21 tee-shirts (useful for buffing any dusty old nostalgia you may have around) will also be available, along with Ken Fletcher miniatures, copies of the MinnStf magazine *Tales of the Unanticipated*, and whatever else turns up at the last minute during spring cleaning. Sales table hours are:

Friday	Noon to 6 pm
Saturday	10 am to 5 pm
Sunday	Noon to 3 pm

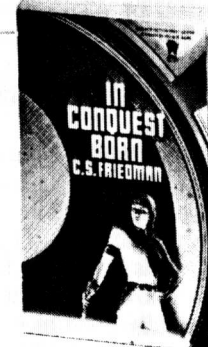


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Parties

by David Cummer

"I have always counted on the craziness of consuites."

Welcome to Minicon 22!

Feeling lost, stolen, or strayed? Want something to do? Wanna meet people? (Wanna have your feet stuck to the floor behind the bar with blog flavored glue?) Then can I recommend that you stop bothering the people on the Bridge, and come on up to the Consuite? We're warm, friendly, got lotsa food, and need *Volunteers*! (Hmm, I'll bet you'll make a wonderful bartender... When do you want to work?)

My name is David Cummer, and I am, along with Sue Grandys, Co-Head of the Parties Department again this year. Oh, by the way, just so you know who to find to *VOLUNTEER* to work up here, Sue is the gorgeous blond over there, [No, not that gorgeous blonde... he's just some idiot from Minaret City...] and I'll be the dashing young man underneath the dead flamingo baseball cap. If you don't see either of us around, contact a Sub-Head, [they'll be wearing the pink bandanas], and they'll beep either Sue or me.

Sue and I have spent hours, days, ~~years~~ discussing our philosophy of parties, which can be summed up in three little words: Hav - Ing - Fun! Hey, don't laugh, this is *serious* business!

(Now that I think about it, you'd look really good in a Twinkie Uniform... When can I sign you up?)



Let me show you around the 22nd floor Consuite and tell you about the Parties Department.

This big room we're in is the Non-Smoking Consuite, there's a Smoking Music room across the hall and further down the hall is the Smoking Consuite. (The Elephant-Branding Consuite is further down the hall, out the window; turn left at Iowa.) The Poolside Consuite is, oddly enough, located next to the Pool, in Room 115. Sue and I would like to keep these rooms open as long as possible, but we'll need lots of *VOLUNTEERS* to do so. (Hint-hint-hint!)

Somewhere around here is a bath tub full of... well... *something*. No Twinkies this year, at least not the edible kind. (You're not a cannibal are you? Good. You sure look athletic, though. When can I sign you up for the Bheer Relay Team?) We do have other stuff to eat, lotsa popcorn, chips, chocolate, and Purina Goy Chow.

Which reminds me, we've got some good looking Kosher munchies; hand picked by our own Gerri Balter. If you're not Jewish, don't eat them, unless you're planning to convert. If you'd like to contribute some more Kosher food, please let either Sue or me know.

There's various kinds of pop floating around, also blog (blog, glorious blog... Just so you know: 'Saint Paul' blog is non-alcoholic, 'Minneapolis' is *strong!*) and bheer.

And while we're speaking of alcohol, let me tell you about the drinking laws here in Minnesota.

In the State of Minnesota it is a criminal misdemeanor (a penalty of ninety (90) days in the county workhouse and/or a \$700 [SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS!] fine) to give alcohol to anyone who is either a minor or obviously drunk.

You will be careful, won't you!? We'd sure like to have booze in the consuite, and have you as an attendee, next year, too.

Meanwhile, back at the fun...



The Consuites (Main consuite, 22nd floor; Poolside consuite, Room 115) will be open 24 hours (but I can't say how active they'll be. That'll depend on whether or not we have enough *VOLUNTEERS*). The bar hours will be from 6pm (18:00) until:

A) We run out of bheer.

B) We run out of *VOLUNTEERS*.

C) We run outta patience...

Remember, the people to see to *VOLUNTEER* are either Sue (remember, blond, gorgeous) or me (dead flamingo).

Now, go ahead -- have fun!

.... Oh, by the way -- if you're interested in throwing a room party or other consuite related activity, and would like it listed on the Minicon Parties Board please inform Sue Grandys or David Cummer. Thanks!

Finally -- Sue and I have had a great time doing parties. We've had tons o' fun, met some wonderful people, and learned a lot (well, we still don't know how to tap a keg...).

None of this could have been done without the aid of some incredible people - our Sub-Heads. So please, a nice round of applause for the folks in the band.

On doughnuts and coke (uh, make that "pop") -- Joe Menkavitch; on bheer - Geof Stone; "horrors from the bathtub" - Terry Garey; pink bandanas -- Jane Freitag; juice -- Sharon Kahn; wizard jokes -- Steve Perry; "Talker to Co-ops" - Lynn Litterer; cheerfulness at odd hours - Val Lies; calmness at odd hours -- Karen Schaffer; oddness at odd hours -- Bill Bader.

And a special thanks to Chad "Watch me pull a Consuite outta my truck!" Eschweiler.

My cap is off to you all.

Gaming at Minicon:

Still Crazy After All These Years?

"'Bingo in the Elf Lounge' announced Orlon gravely."

Bored of the Rings - Harvard Lampoon.

In keeping with the tradition of benign neglect (and serious partying) regarding gaming at Minicon, we have several gaming events going on this year. These events are posted in the Poolside Con Suite (Room 115), AKA the Gaming Suite, AKA the Elf Lounge (Barca loungers are by the pool...). Please check there to see what is happening. Additionally...

- Game demonstrations will be going on as interest warrants--games are available for people to pick up and play in the Gaming Suite.

- We are looking for volunteers to staff the Poolside Consuite, to keep munchies supplied, and check badges. **THIS MEANS YOU!**

- People we are expecting to see at the Con who are Les Grand Fromages des Jeux: Allen Varney, Kenneth Rahmann, Mike Mornard, Jeff Berry, Prof. M. A. R. Barker, and many more!

- We are looking for volunteers....
- Bridge card decks will also be available for those late-night cravings....

NOT JUST FOR GAMERS ANYMORE

*** SURVEY *** SURVEY ***

We are trying to figure out just how much gaming we want to have at Minicon. To do this, WE WANT YOU TO FILL OUT A SURVEY--PLEASE! Surveys will be available on the freebie table near the convention registration area (coat check), AND in the Dealers Room at Tekumel Games, Inc., AND...well, just check around.

Turn surveys in at the Poolside Consuite (Room 115) in the convenient box - and nowhere else, please. Hopefully, YOUR input will make the difference as far as gaming is concerned.

THANK YOU *** THANK YOU

The Seven Towers

Murder, Mystery, Intrigue, Sax, Romance, Violins, Beer...

Welcome to the exciting world of Science Fiction Theatre! Minicon's fabulously talented theatrical purveyors present an epic romp through the whimsical world of Patricia C. Wrede's fantasy novel The Seven Towers, published in 1984 by Ace Books.

Performances will be held in the Great Hall West on Friday from 3pm to 5:30pm and on Saturday from 3:30pm to 6pm. There will be two acts with one 15 minute intermission.

The Seven Towers is a two and one-half hour stage adaptation of the novel. We strongly suggest that you plan to get to the play early, as seating will be limited by the number of chairs in the Great Hall West. This is a dramatic production, produced by fannish theatrical professionals from the Twin Cities theatre community; the acting company, made up of local fans, has been working in rehearsal for the last four months. This production promises to be the most impressive theatrical event ever mounted at Minicon, or at any regional SF con.

Set in a land beset by treachery and sorcery, The Seven Towers chronicles the adventures of several sets of related characters as they do battle with wizards and creatures of sorcery. The original book is faithfully adhered to, and action and set evoke the struggle and adventure of the world. Again, be sure not to miss this event; seating is limited, and there will be no late seating...

These performances of The Seven Towers are presented with the permission of Patricia C. Wrede.

Sacred Harp Singing

If you like unusual 4-part harmony, join us. Watch for signs announcing time and place.



After the Con...

The Minnesota Science Fiction Society, Inc. (Minn-Stf) is a regular sponsor of local literary events in cooperation with the Minneapolis Public Library, the Hennepin County Library, and other organizations.

On Monday, April 20, author Jane Yolen will present two programs at Hennepin County Libraries. "How a Story Becomes a Book" will be presented twice, at 12:30 at the Southdale Hennepin Area Library, 7001 York Avenue South, Edina, and 7:00 at the Ridgedale Hennepin Area Library, 12601 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka.

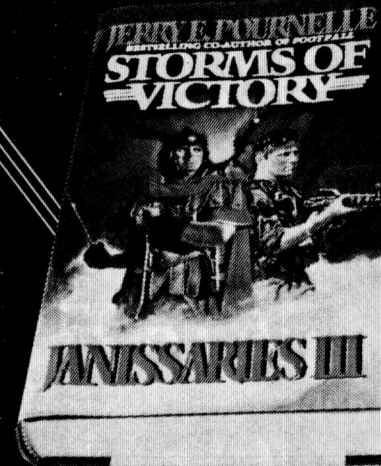
Minn-Stf publishes Tales of the Unanticipated, a literary and critical magazine, and Rune, a clubzine in the true faanish tradition.

Tales of the Unanticipated is now in its second issue. Both issues are available at the Minicon Sales table near Registration and in the Dealers Room, or by mail order (Single issue \$3; Four issue subscription, \$10) from: Eric M. Heideman, Tales of the Unanticipated, PO Box 8036, Lake St. Station, Mpls, MN 55408. Please make your check payable to the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, Inc.

For more information about local events of interest to fans, write to: Minn-Stf, P.O. Box 8297, Lake Street Station, Minneapolis, MN 55408.

THE DAWN OF A NEW AGE ACE HARDCOVERS

SPRING 1987



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\$16.95

Masquerade

The Minicon Masquerade is a refined, dignified means of honoring talented fannish costumers. In keeping with the high moral tone of this solemn occasion, we would like to describe--

The Loot: Over \$1500 worth of goods and services donated by area fans, businesses, and fannish sympathizers. See it on display at the Masquerade Registration Table.

The Scam: We will be awarding Hall costume prizes all weekend. The Masquerade itself will be held Saturday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Great Hall West.

The Red Tape: You can pick up your Masquerade Registration Card at the table conveniently located near the main convention registration area (the coat check).

Entries in the Saturday show will be limited to 100. Please register early. Registration will close at Noon on Saturday.

Carry your Hall Costume Card with you -- Hall Costume Prizes will be awarded on the spot, so watch for our intrepid roving judges!

IMPORTANT: Your Masquerade Card will assure Hotel Security, the Bloomington Police Force, and any other concerned citizens that you are a genuine, well-behaved, harmless Masquerade Participant. (Don't let us down, okay?) Please remember Rule X: All Weapons must be secured; peace bonding is strongly encouraged. So - if you will be carrying long scary pointy things, short scary pointy things, implements that buzz, beep, go bang!, emit beams of light or what have you (anything that looks like it vaguely resembles some kind of weapon), get your card and keep it with you. (This may save you a lot of unnecessary hassles. Trust us.) As always, please abide by the official Minicon Weapons Policy, page 5.

Masquerade Rules and other relevant information will be posted at the Masquerade Registration Table.

If you will be in the Saturday evening Masquerade, attend the participant's meeting at 1 pm Saturday in the Plaza Room. Your presence will confirm your spot in the show, so Be There, Aloha!

The judges are guaranteed to be opinionated and biased. Their decisions are final.

We welcome your input. We also welcome volunteers--stop by the table and let us impress you into service. This includes volunteering to help at the Masquerade and volunteering to be a Hall Judge. Yes! You can be a Judge for an hour! Or - Volunteer for next year! A Good Time Will Be Had By All.

For any special dispensations, unusual needs (rates on request), or odd questions, see the Masquerade Director, Elise Krueger, at the Masquerade Registration Table.

See you in the halls and at the show, and remember Official Masquerade Rule #4: Thou shalt have a good time!

*Thank you to all our
sponsors
for the prizes they have so
generously donated.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to limited seating, tickets will be given out for reserved seats at the masquerade, starting at 8 am Saturday at the masquerade registration table.

Masquerade volunteers will have reserved seating--so why not talk with us about volunteering!



NEW

FROM THE MINNEAPOLIS FANTASY WRITERS GROUP



*The exciting sequel
to Jhereg and Yendi*

TECKLA

by
bestselling author

Steven Brust

*"Watch Steven Brust. He's
good. He moves fast. He
surprises you."*

—Roger Zelazny

*Return to Lyra—
the world of
Shadow Magic and
Daughter of Witches*

CAUGHT IN CRYSTAL

by

Patricia C. Wrede



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May
15-17
1987

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CoH: **Keith Laumer**

HONORED GUEST **Barry B. Longyear**

ART GUEST **Ken Macklin**

FAN GUEST **Mike Glicksohn**

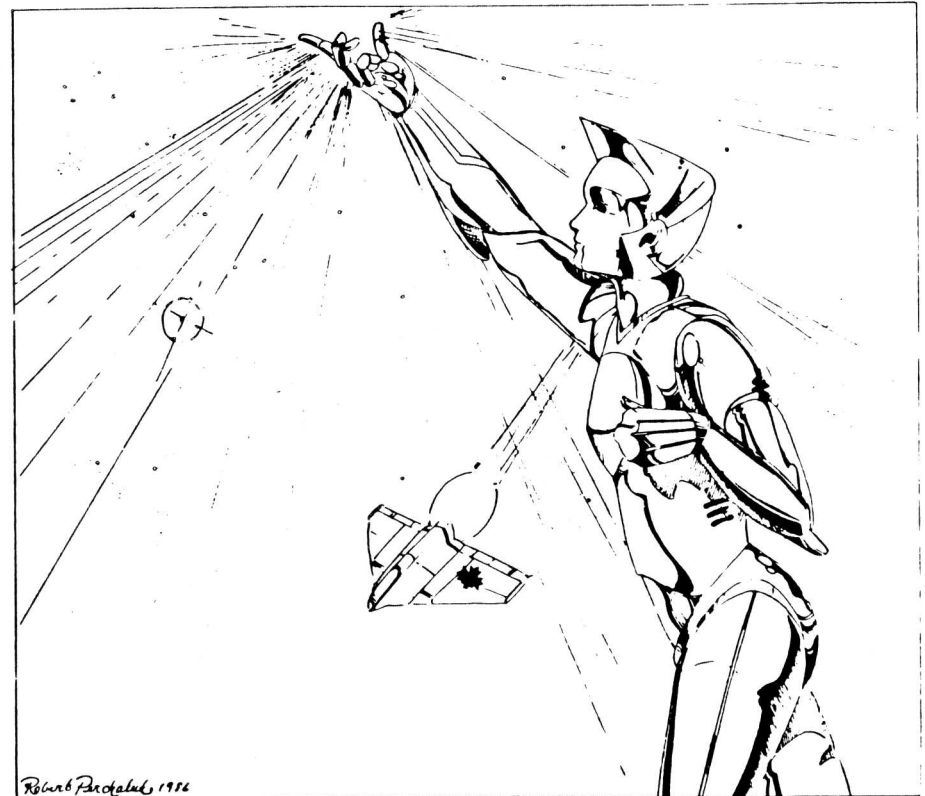
Convention
Memberships
and hotel reservation
cards are available at
Minicon from KeyCon reps.

Memberships to April 26 : \$18 (Cdn.)
at the door : \$24 (Cdn.)

Room Rates: \$65 (Cdn.) single/double/triple/quad

Look for our room party at Minicon!

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U of M Students

\$10.00 General
Admission

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U-Con 5

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Still crazy after all these years

by Robert Bloch

"Crazy" is a word seldom used these days. "Insane", "loony", "whacko" and similar terms are likewise taboo, which is a good thing. Pejoratives of that sort can drive a person out of his mind.

The problem posed by eliminating such terms is that there's very little left in case you want to describe a science fiction fan.

Let's face it, fans are crazy people. I know, because I've been facing them, man and boy (though truth to tell, I'd prefer woman and girl) ever since 1934. My first contacts came through correspondence; then occasional visitors appeared, and in 1937 -- while vacationing at the home of Henry Kuttner in Beverly Hills -- I ran into an entire coven of fans at a LASFS meeting.

Now if you know what "LASFS" stands for, you must be a fan yourself, and I needn't tell you why mundanes sometimes take a dim view of your activities. But believe me when I tell you that fandom has come a long way towards respectability over the last fifty years.

In those days fans were outcasts -- readers of magazines which were sold under the counter, and then only with a doctor's prescription. If more than two fans met in the same place at the same time, it was considered "unlawful assembly" or "conspiracy to incite a riot" -- crimes which were punishable by death. Knowing this, and wishing to avoid the cost of funeral expenses and transportation by hearse, the LASFS members held their meetings in a mausoleum at Forest Lawn Cemetery. Thus, if they were caught, they'd already be where they were going, if you know what I mean, which is more than I do. Attending this secret ceremony was exciting, and it was then that I got hooked. From Forest Lawn to Forrest Ackerman is only a short step, and soon I was receiving fanzines, writing for fanzines, sometimes even reading fanzines.

As the years passed, more groups like LASFS appeared in cities all over the country, all over the world -- anywhere, that is, where a VCR was available for viewing old episodes of Star Trek, Dr. Who, or Peewee Herman Meets Godzilla.

The inevitable result of all this was the proliferation of SF Conventions. (I almost wrote "sci-fi", but you never know when Harlan Ellison might be looking over your shoulder -- if he has a ladder, that is).

At first, SF Conventions were just what the term implies. Although they took place in hotels instead of cemeteries (not always necessarily a change for the better) the early cons did focus on science fiction per se ("Per se" is okay, isn't it, Harlan?) But times change and conventions have changed with them. Conventions got into SF films and TV; they got into artwork and costumery and jewelry and collectibles and D&D and video-games and computers and (sometimes) trouble with the hotel management. SF fans are now often members of various splinter-fandoms.

Don't misunderstand; I'm not objecting. If you're a fan who happens to be interested in splinters, more power to you -- or more wood, if you prefer. We live today in a premissive society, and if that's what turns you on, go for it. Whatever makes you feel good, even if it leads to filk-singing.

Just remember that science fiction conventions are ultimate proof of my contention. Fans are crazy.

I know I have to be crazy to write something like this. And as for you -- if you're not crazy, then you have no business reading it. Go sing a filk!

Films

Oh, Boy! Movies!

We have a great selection of films this year, showing Friday and Saturday evenings starting at 9pm. As you look at the schedule, notice the format:

- 1 A cartoon
- 2 A Three Stooges short
- 3 A Marx Brothers short
- 4 ...And a Feature.

The Features

Unidentified Flying Oddball:

The Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court retold and updated.

Visit to a Small Planet:

Flash! Jerry Lewis invades Earth. Before Mork, Jerry Lewis?

Dark Star:

John Carpenter's campus cult classic. Dan O'Bannon plays a crew member.

The Three Stooges Meet Hercules:

This convention expects silliness and the Film Committee delivers.

The Mouse That Roared:

Before the Doctor was Who he was a top sergeant in the Duchy of Grand Fenwick's Army.

Murder By Death:

For you mystery buffs -- come and see your favorite detective get murdered.

Those Magnificent Men

in Their Flying Machines:

What more can be said. Benny Hill is here, too.

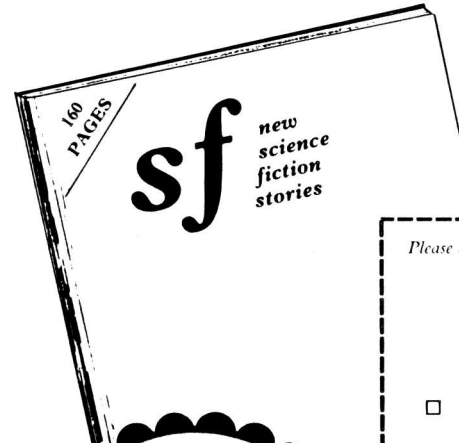
The Schedule

Start	Type	Title	Run Time
<i>Friday Evening</i>			
9:pm	Cartoon	Mr. Magoo: Barefaced Flatfoot	:07
9:07	3 Stooges	You Nazty Spy	:18
9:25	Marx Bros	Monkey Business	:08
9:33	Feature	Unidentified Flying Oddball	1:33
11:06	Cartoon	Terrytoons: Postwar Inventions	:06
11:12	3 Stooges	Pardon My Scotch	:18
11:30	Marx Bros	Pigskin Capers	:08
11:38	Feature	Visit to a Small Planet	1:26
1:04am	Cartoon	Warner Bros.: Of Thee I Sting	:07
1:11	3 Stooges	Disorder in the Court	:18
1:29	Marx Bros	The Stowaways	:08
1:37	Feature	Dark Star	1:31
3:08	Feature	The Three Stooges Meet Hercules	1:29
4:37	CLOSE		
<i>Saturday Evening</i>			
9pm	Cartoon	Sally Cruikshank: Make Me Psychic	:08
9:08	3 Stooges	3 Sappy People	:18
9:26	Marx Bros	This is War?	:08
9:34	Feature	The Mouse That Roared	1:24
10:58	Puppetoon	Ship of the Ether	:08
11:06	3 Stooges	Sing a Song of Six Pants	:18
11:24	Marx Bros	The Incredible Jewel Robbery	:34
11:58	Feature	Murder By Death	1:34
1:32am	Cartoon	Private Snafu: Spies	:05
1:37	3 Stooges	A Plumbing We Will Go	:18
1:55	Chaplin	Woman	:18
2:13	Feature	Those Magnificent Men In Their Flying Machines	2:11
4:24	CLOSE		

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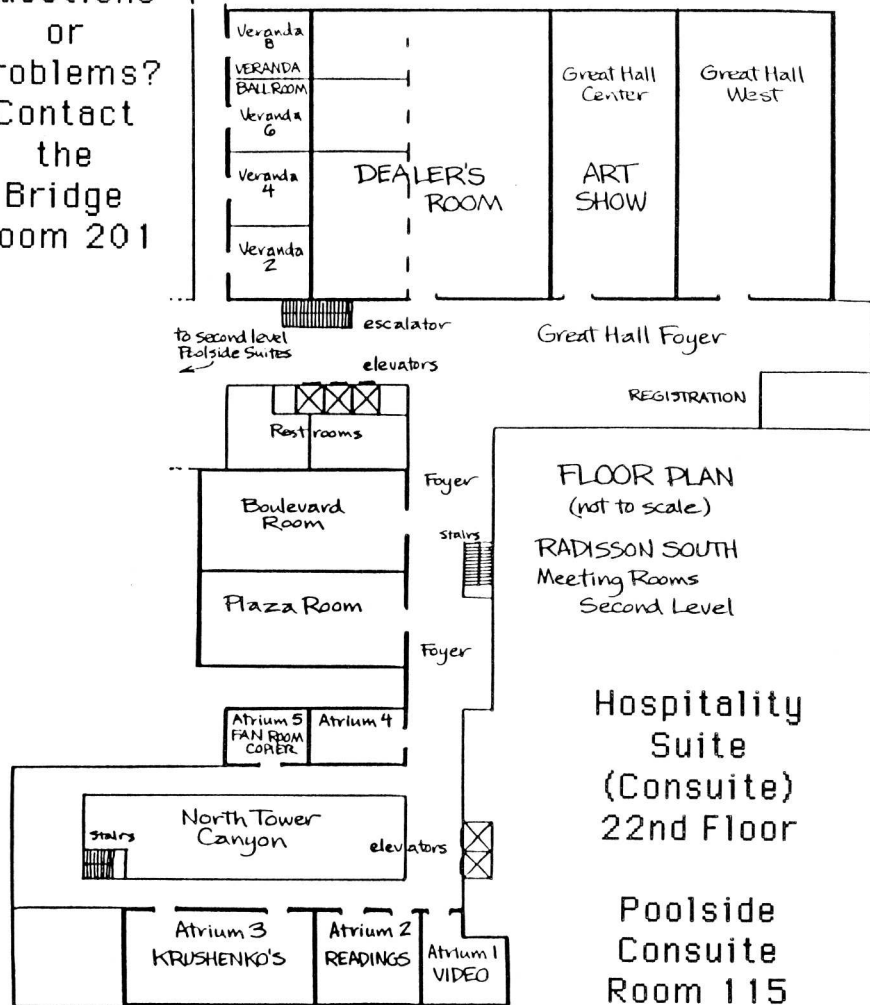
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The hotel has asked us not to put posters or notices on the Main level (the same as the 1st floor lobby). Notices are fine on the meeting room level (see Map) and other floors. Please use common sense with the tape you use and the location of posters; for instance, posters on the elevator doors will rip. Thanks!



Da Programming Schedule...

Friday: APRIL 17

- Noon: *Krushenko's SF/fantasy coffeehouse opens; open continuously until midnight Sunday.* Atrium III
- Noon: *Masquerade registration opens* Foyer
- 2:00-3:00 pm: **Panel:**
"Edward Bellamy's *Looking Backward* and *Utopian SF.*"
Eleanor Amason, moderator; Ruth Berman, Tess Kolney, Kevin Stahl. Boulevard Room
- 2:00-3:00 pm: **Discussion:** "*SF Craft vs. Fanac.*"
Gin Nelson, moderator; Bob Vardeman, Steven Brust, Wilson "Bob" Tucker, Gerri Balter, Ken Fletcher. Comparing professional activities, such as writing, with fannish. How does one divide one's time? Atrium V
- 3:00-5:30 pm: **Play:**
"*The Seven Towers.*" (dress rehearsal)
Based on the book by Patricia C. Wrede; adapted by Kayte Nonni. Great Hall West
- 3:00-4:00 pm: **Panel:**
"*Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Holmes: Late Victorian Scientific Fiction*"
With Eric M. Heideman as moderator; Ruth Berman, Gordon Hirsch, John W. Taylor, David Lenander, Kij Johnson, Marianne D. Hageman. Boulevard Room
- 3:00-4:00 pm: **Discussion:**
"*What Can We Do to Arouse Popular Support for the Space Program?*"
Margaret Howes, moderator; Russell Madden, Curtis H. Hoffmann, Sally Morem, Rick Gellman, Arsen Damay. Krushenko's
- 3:00-4:00 pm: **Discussion:** "*Whyfore Art Thou, Apa?*"
Lon Levy, moderator; Deirdre Rittenhouse, Jim Rittenhouse, Denny Lien. Fan Room
- 4:00-5:00 pm: **Reading:** *Jane Yolen reads (Out Loud)* Atrium II
- 4:00-5:00 pm: **Panel:** "*Bad SF Films.*"
Kevin Stahl, moderator; Herman Schouten, Mike Dorn, Susan Leigh Scott. Krushenko's
- 4:00-5:00 pm: **Autographing Session:**
(See Pocket Program for details). Great Hall Foyer
- 5:00-6:00 pm: **Belly Dancing Workshop:** *Val Lies.* Plaza Room
- 5:00-6:00 pm: **Joint Reading:**
Eric M. Heideman and Carolyn Ives Gilman read (Out Loud) Krushenko's
- 5:00-6:00 pm: **Discussion:** "*A Print Is a Print. Or Is It?*"
Erin McKee, Randall Asplund-faith, Giovanna Fregni. A discussion of fine art prints. Boulevard Room
- 7:00-8:30 pm: **Opening Ceremonies:**
Robert Bloch, Toastmaster; additional GoHs David Brin, Fred Haskell, Jerry Stearns, Erin McKee; Guests Diane Duane, Ellen Kushner, Jane Yolen; including Shockwave show; various notables. Great Hall West
- 8:30-9:00 pm: **Photo Session:** "*The Legion of Super-Daids.*"
David S. Cargo, head David; Daves and Davids. Great Hall West
- 8:30-10:00 pm: **Meet the Pros/Artists Reception.** Art Show (Great Hall Center)
- 9pm-4am: **Friday Films.** *Schedule on page 18.* Plaza Room
- 10:00-11:00 pm: "*Da Fred Haskell Song and Slide Show.*"
A fannish tradition. Parental discretion advised. Veranda 2-8
- 10:00-11:00 pm: **Discussion:** "*If Someone Else Had Written...*"
Dan Goodman, moderator; Ellen Kushner, Glen Cook, Denny Lien, Edward Eastman, Sally Morem. Krushenko's
- 11pm-2am: **Dance:** *Featuring Boiled in Lead. Light show by Richard Tatge.* Great Hall West
- 11pm-Midnight: **Discussion:** "*Monty Haul Campaigns: Threat or Menace?*"
Victor Raymond, moderator. Poolside Con Suite (Room 115)
- 11pm-Midnight: **Discussion:** "*Warfare in SF.*"
Sally Morem, moderator; Glen Cook, Herman Schouten, Karen Nelson, Jeff Berry. Krushenko's
- Midnight-1am: "*Mad Spaces between the Stars.*"
Composer Paul Dice will present a recital of his music for piano, violin, wind chimes, and metal sculpture--including two works based on short stories by H. P. Lovecraft. Veranda 2-8

PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE...

Saturday: April 18

9:45-10:00 am: **Dance: "Celebrating Doctor Who"** Veranda 2
Eileen Jones. (Eileen Jones appears courtesy of M.U.M.)

10:00-11:00 am: **Reading:** Atrium II
Diane Duane and Peter Morwood read from their collaboration, The Romulan Way.

11am-12:30 pm: **Demonstration** Boulevard Room
Society for Creative Anachronism Dance Demonstration.

11am-Noon: **Discussion: "Costume Tips."** Plaza Room
How to create your own costumes. Debby Jones.

11am-Noon: **Discussion: "Pencils in SF."** Krushenko's
Kara Dalkey, moderator; Terry A. Garey, Gin Nelson.

11am-Noon: **Panel:** Veranda 2
"How Much Science Does an SF Writer Need to Know?"
Polly Peterson and Mike Schoenberg, moderators; Gordon Dickson, Jerry Stearns, Eleanor Arnason, Russell Madden, Bob Vardeman, Paul Kirst, Beth Fleisher.

11am-Noon: **Panel:** Veranda 4
"Sea Changes: SF from One Medium to Another."
Lee Reynolds, moderator; Diane Duane, Doug Friauf, Eric M. Heideman.

Noon-1pm: **Demonstration:** Plaza Room
"Special Effects Makeup." Jon Bradley.

Noon-1pm: **Panel: "A Cerebration of Whales."** Veranda 2
Eric M. Heideman, moderator; David Brin, Diane Duane, Arsen Darnay, Austin McDevitt. A discussion of science fact and science fiction about cetaceans.

Noon-1pm: **Roundtable Discussion:** Veranda 4
"Running Convention Art Shows."
Erin McKee, Giovanna Fregni, others.

Noon-1pm: **Discussion:** Veranda 6
"Don't Point That Thing at Me, You May Be Loaded: Weapons at SF Cons."
Edward Eastman, moderator; Jeff Berry, Lon Levy, Bill Lochen, Victor Raymond, Peter Little.

1:00-2:00 pm: **Panel:** Boulevard Room
Still Crazy After All These Years."
Polly Peterson, moderator; Robert Bloch, Ellen Kushner, Emma Bull, Kara Dalkey.
What is the place of SF in life, the universe, and everything?

1:00-2:00 pm: **Masquerade Orientation.** Plaza Room
Elise Krueger, Jeff Berry, others.

1:00-2:00 pm: **Panel: "How Scientists Do Science."** Veranda 2
Mike Schoenberg, moderator; Al Kuhfeld, Jon Singer, Russell Madden. Scientists apply rules to derive order from the chaos of the surrounding world. How is this done?

1:00-2:00 pm: **Workshop:** Veranda 4
Black and White Media Techniques.
Erin McKee, Dell Harris, Linda Escher, others.

1:00-2:00 pm: **Meeting: Christian Fandom.** Veranda 6
Marty Helgeson, moderator.

2:00-3:30 pm: **David Brin Interviewed.** Boulevard Room
Kay Drache, Sherri Lessinger, interviewers.

2:00-4:00 pm: **Massage Seminar.** Dave Romm. Plaza Room

2:00-3:30 pm: **Cartoonists Jam.** Veranda 4

2:00-3:00 pm: **"Still Trekkin' After 20 Years."** Veranda 6
A meeting of the U.S.S. Nokomis Star Trek Group.

3:00-3:30 pm: **Reading:** Atrium II
Ellen Kushner reads (Out Loud).

3:30-6:00 pm: **Play: The Seven Towers.** Great Hall West

3:30-4:30 pm: **Stuffed Animal Masquerade.** Veranda 2
Gerri Balter and Herman Schouten, judges; George, Gracie, and George Jr., Special Stuffed Animal Judges.

3:30-4:30 pm: **Discussion:** Veranda 4
"The New DC and the Old Marvel."
Steve Bond and Eric M. Heideman, moderators; Dan Jurgens.

4:00-5:00 pm: **Discussion: "Fanzines."** Plaza Room
Fred Haskell, moderator; Jon Singer, Stu Shiffman, Teresa Nielsen Hayden.

4:00-5:00 pm: **Discussion: "The Other Guys."** Veranda 6
Curtis H. Hoffman, moderator; Bruce Bethke, Phil Jennings, Patricia C. Wrede, Al Kuhfeld, Mary Kuhfeld, Patrick Price. A look at local writers.

4:00-5:00 pm: **Autographing Session:** Great Hall Foyer
David Brin, Robert Bloch.

4:30-5:30 pm: **Discussion:** Krushenko's
"Morality and Message in Science Fiction."
Polly Peterson, moderator; Jane Yolen, Eleanor Arnason, P.C. Hodgell, Russell Madden, Susan Leigh Scott, Will Shetterly, John W. Taylor, Beth Fleisher.



5:00-6:00 pm: **Discussion:** Plaza Room
"Fred Haskell: Myth or Legend?"
David Emerson, moderator; Jon Singer, Ken Fletcher, other fans.

5:00-6:00 pm: **Presentation:** Veranda 4
Stop Motion Animation.
Jon Bradley.

5:00-6:00 pm: **Discussion:** Veranda 6
L-5 Society Manned Mission to Jupiter Contest.
A space calendar contest and discussion.

5:30-7:00 pm, **Meeting/Discussion:** Krushenko's
Rivendell Group. Topic: "Dark of the Moon" by P.C. Hodgell.
David Lenander, moderator. P.C. Hodgell is expected to be present.

6:30-8:30 pm: **Masquerade.** Great Hall West
Also featuring "Still Crazy After 73 Minutes" contest.
Elise Krueger, others.

7:00-8:00 pm: **Meeting:** Krushenko's
Topic: "How to Run a Writing Organization."
Minnesota Imaginative Fiction Writers' Alliance.

7:30-9:00 pm: **Concert: "Silly Songs of an Old Sublimate."** Boulevard Room
A concert by Jerry Stearns.

8:00-10:00 pm: **Reading/Discussion:** Krushenko's
"SF and Fantasy Poetry."
Terry A. Garey, moderator; Jane Yolen, Ruth Berman, Tom Digby, Eleanor Arnason, Cassandra O'Malley.

9:00-10:00 pm: **Reading:** Atrium II
Steven Brust reads from Easterner.

9:00-11:00 pm: **Art Auction.** Great Hall West
E. Michael Blake, auctioneer.

9pm-4am: **Saturday Films.** Schedule on p. 20. Plaza Room

10:00-11:00 pm: **Discussion:** Krushenko's
"Daughter/Sister of Free Amazons."
Elise Krueger, Jeff Berry.

11pm-Midnight: **Discussion:** Poolside Con Suite (Room 115)
"Character Development: Is It Possible? I Mean, Really?"
Victor Raymond, moderator.

11pm-Midnight: **Discussion:** Krushenko's
"How Do I Make My World's Society Believable?"
Scott Raun, moderator; Ellen Kushner.

Midnight-1am: **Roundtable Discussion:** Krushenko's
"World Building." Dan Goodman.

Midnight-1am: **Concert: Raven's Tir** Veranda 2
Jay Koelsch, Bob Alexander, and Mark Sterling.

1:00-1:40 am: **Belly Dancing Performance.** Great Hall West
Troupe Mon Harr.

PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE...

Sunday, April 19

10am: Dark Cults Game Demo by Glenn Rahman. Lovecraft lovers slither together!	Poolside Con Suite (Room 115)
11am-Noon: Discussion: "What I Like." Amazing editor Patrick Price discusses his philosophy of editing.	Krushenko's
11am-Noon: "Cosmic Consequences: The Sirius Quiz Show." Polly Peterson and Eric M. Heideman, emcees; Denny Lien and Jim Rittenhouse, judges; Kara Dalkey, B.J. Friedman, Rob Ihinger, David Lenander, Seth Peterson, Jerry Stearns, John W. Taylor, Dave Wixon. ATTENTION! A third panel of contestants will be chosen by drawing names from a hat. Enter at the freebie table near Convention Registration.	Boulevard Room
Noon-1pm: Reading: <u>David Brin reads from <i>The Uplift War</i>.</u>	Krushenko's
1:00-2:00 pm: Autographing Session. See Pocket Program for details.	Great Hall Foyer
1:00-2:00 pm: Panel: "Offspring of a Panel for Everybody Who Showed Up at the Last Minute Wanting to Be on a Panel." Susan Leigh Scott, moderator.	Boulevard Room
1:00-3:00 pm: Meeting/Discussion: "The Fiction of David Brin." Eric M. Heideman, moderator.	Krushenko's
1:00-2:00 pm: Discussion: "How to Sell Your Art to Publishers." Patrick Price, moderator; Greg Ketter, others.	Veranda 4
2:00-3:00 pm: Discussion: "Minicon Trends." Don Bailey, moderator; Greg Ketter, Peter Little. Open mike format.	Veranda 2
2:00-3:00 pm: Panel: <i>Cartooning/Comics.</i> Will Shetterly, moderator; Timothy Fay, Reed Waller, Kate Worley.	Veranda 4
3:00-4:00 pm: Closing Ceremonies, featuring an address: "Science and Senility" by Wilson Tucker. Assassination Team: Don Guido Baggins, Mario Baggins; B.J. Friedman, victim.	Great Hall West
4pm-? Films.	Plaza Room



Programming highlights

Minicon Programming is Still Crazy After All These Years with its usual unusual assortment of discussions, panels, concerts, readings, autographings, et cetera, brought to you by a bizarre and zany crew of professionals, would-be's, soon-to-be's, and a hundred and more others.

Toastmaster Robert Bloch and the Shockwave radio crew (Alert: Here there be punsters!) officially kick it all off with **Opening Ceremonies Friday at 7pm**, followed by the **Meet the Pros party and Artists Reception at 8:30**. The night keeps getting hotter with **Da Fred Haskell Song and Slide Show at 10pm** and the **Dance, which starts at 11pm**. **Bolled In Lead** will provide the music (Celtic Rock; good stuff) for the dance, which is sponsored by Dreamhaven Gallery and Ace Books.

Of course, that's not all that's happening Friday. Programming really begins in the afternoon; be sure to catch the **3pm dress rehearsal of The Seven Towers**, a play based on the novel by Patricia C. Wrede, published in 1984 by Ace Books. **The Seven Towers** was adapted for the stage by Kayte Norini, who is directing a terrific cast of local thespians in two performances during Minicon. (The other is **Saturday at 3:30pm**.)

Saturday is jam-packed. Catch the **theme panel at 1pm** in the Boulevard Room, and the **interview with our Pro GoH, David Brin, at 2pm**. You'll find Minicon Guests and other pros at panels and readings throughout the day, including "A Cerebration of Whales," with **David Brin at Noon**, a workshop on "Black and White Media Techniques," led by Artist GoH **Erin McKee at 1pm**, and "Fred Haskell: Myth or Legend?" at 5pm. (It's rumored our Fan GoH will be in the audience.)

Bigger and better than last year, the Minicon Masquerade takes the stage in Great Hall West at 6:30pm. Musician GoH Jerry Stearns will

perform **Silly Songs of an Old Subllimate** at his **7:30pm concert**. (It promises to be good. And fun. And, of course, silly.)

Don't forget to spend money Saturday night at the **Art Auction, beginning at 9pm**. Take home those treasures you covet!

In the interest of special interests, you'll find programming for artists, literary buffs, science buffs, writers, world builders, faanish folks, as well as a host of special interest group meetings, from Second Foundation (Sunday, 1pm) to U.S.S. Nokomis (Saturday, 2pm) to the Legion of Super-Davids (Friday, 8:30pm). **Additional readings by Jane Yolen, David Brin, Ellen Kushner, Diane Duane & Peter Morwood, and Eric Heldeman & Carolyn Ives Gilman** are scheduled. Most are in the Reading Room (Atrium II); check the listing.

Then there's Krushenko's coffee-house, where book lovers love to meet! In hotel-ese, that's Atrium III. Corflu lovers and other fans: be sure to check out the Fan Room, A.K.A. Atrium V, where several faanish panels are scheduled.

Wake up to **Cosmic Consequences on Sunday at 11am** and compete with trivia buffs in a fast-paced quiz show of knowledge, skill, and daring.

Alas, then there's **3pm Sunday**, which brings **Closing Ceremonies**. **Wilson Tucker** will give a special address, "Science and Senility,"* and the traditional assassination of the outgoing Minn-Stf president is likely to occur.

Enjoy.

*We refer bibliophiles to "Forty Whacks," by Robert Bloch, as reprinted in **The Eighth Stage of Fandom**.

SFWA Members!

There will be a mini-meeting for SFWA members at 10am Saturday. Check the sign near registration or ask Jane Yolen for the meeting location.

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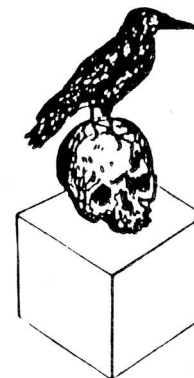
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?



Raven's Tir

In Concert Midnight Saturday

David Brin

by Gerri Balter

I'm almost always behind in my science fiction reading so it isn't surprising that I first heard of David Brin in 1983 when he was nominated for a Hugo for his novel, Startide Rising. Since I planned to vote on the Hugo Ballot, I decided to read the novel. I picked up a copy of Sundiver at the same time assuming that both books were part of the series. I started out by reading Sundiver since it was published first, and since it took place chronologically before Startide Rising.

By the time I finished Sundiver, I had become a David Brin fan. He had combined my two favorite genres, science fiction and mysteries, in a way that combined the best of both.

I began Startide Rising expecting it to begin where Sundiver ended. Imagine my surprise when I found myself involved with a different cast of characters. The only similarity was that it took place in the same universe. I was swept away, especially by his dolphins who kept their dolphin-like characteristics even though they were surgically altered so they could speak. I wasn't surprised when he won both a Hugo and a Nebula for that novel.

When his third novel, The Practice Effect was released, I ran out and bought a copy. This novel was set in a completely different universe and less complicated than his previous two books. It was straight adventure and my favorite of all his books so far. Since he wrote novels so well, I was positive that he would be able to do justice to shorter pieces. Therefore, I wasn't surprised when his short story, "The Crystal Spheres" won a Hugo in 1985.

He collaborated with Gregory Benford to write Heart of the Comet, a fascinating novel about Halley's Comet in a still different universe. I read excerpts from The Postman in SF magazines, thinking they were a series of short stories. They were completely different from the Brin novels I'd read. His other worlds were more positive. This world was post holocaust.

Nominated for a Hugo in 1986, The Postman was also to become popular with mainstream audiences. Brin was even asked to give a talk at the letter carrier's convention in Minneapolis, the place from which Gordon Krantz, the novel's main character, fled. In spite of the post-holocaust setting of The Postman, David Brin is positive about the future of our world. Although he feels there are a great many things wrong with our civilization (such as entertainers being paid a great deal more than teachers,) he believes that we are on the way to a society where people won't have to be told what to do. They will act in ways that are polite, friendly and logical because it is the common sense thing to do so.

Because Brin writes about dolphins who can talk, many people ask him about the progress made in teaching dolphins to speak our language. He has talked to experts in the field and read enough research on the topic to know that it will never happen. In spite of what we have been taught to believe, dolphins aren't intelligent enough. According to Brin we have been taught to believe a great deal of erroneous information about animals, such as they are better than we are.

He feels it's time we see animals as they really are: flawed, like humans. The difference is we can do something to correct our flaws.

Although David Brin reads SF, he didn't set out to be a writer. He wanted to be a scientist. While doing his undergraduate work in astronomy, he had to give up reading SF in order to concentrate on his coursework. That's when he began writing Sundiver, which was published in 1980, the same year he received his Ph.D. in physics.

While he pursued his scientific career, he continued writing. He feels that science fiction is our think tank. He hopes that science fiction will be read by people who might not know much about science. Perhaps someone, faced with a crisis, might remember a similar situation in a science fiction story he/she read and might think of a better solution to a problem.

Until recently he considered himself a part-time writer, not wanting to take himself too seriously because people pay him for his writing. He instructs his friends to "drop-kick me every time I show signs of going too far." He relies on a group of readers to read his works in progress and give him feedback.

His most recent publication is The River of Time, a collection of his short stories. The Uplift War, a novel which takes place in the same universe as Sundiver and Startide Rising, is currently scheduled to be published in hardcover by Phantasia Press in March 1987 and in paperback by Bantam in July 1987. He has recently returned from England where he has been living and doing research.

David Brin would like to be able to write a paper in mathematical physics that only five people in the world would be able to understand. I'm glad he's writing stories we can all understand and enjoy.

David Brin: A Selected Bibliography

Novels and Collections:

Sundiver. Bantam, 1980

Startide Rising. Bantam, 1983

(Winner: 1983 Nebula; 1983 Hugo; Locus Award)

The Practice Effect. Bantam, 1984

(Winner: "Balrog Award")

The Postman. Bantam Spectra, 1985

(Nominee: 1986 Nebula, 1986 Hugo; Winner: Locus Award, John W. Campbell Memorial Award)

Heart of the Comet. Bantam Spectra, 1986 (with Gregory Benford)

The River of Time. Dark Harvest, 1986; Bantam, 1987

The Uplift War. Phantasia, 1987; Bantam, 1987

Novellas and Novellettes:

The Tides of Kithrup. Analog: May 25, 1981

The Loom of Thessaly. Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine: Nov. 21, 1981

The Postman. Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine: Nov. 1982 (Runner-up, 1983 Hugo)

Cyclops. Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine: March 1984. (Runner-up, 1985 Hugo)

Novels in Progress:

The Council of Women. A dystopia of the future.

The Grazer. A near-future science mystery.

Short Stories:

Just A Hint. Analog: April 27, 1980

Coexistence. Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine: May 1982

Simulation Cut. Joystick Magazine: January 1983

Tank Farm Dynamo. Analog: November, 1983

The Fourth Vocation of George Gustaf. Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine Anthology. 1984

The Warm Space. Far Frontiers. Baen, 1985

The Crystal Spheres. Analog: January 1984 (Winner: 1985 Hugo)

Thor Meets Captain America. Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction: 1986

A Stage of Memory. Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction: 1986

Popular Science Articles:

Xenology: The New Science of Asking Who's Out There. Analog: 1983

The Key to Space. L-5 News: 1983

The Deadly Thing at 2.4 Kiloparsecs. Analog: 1984

The Great Silence: The Controversy Concerning Extraterrestrial Life.

Quarterly J. Royal Astronomical Society: Fall 1983

How Dangerous Is the Galaxy? Analog: June 1985

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Introducing: Robert Bloch

by John Brower

I was raised on Forrest Ackerman's gruesomely funny *Famous Monsters of Filmland*. Whether being interviewed with his friend Boris Karloff or writing about the nature of fear, Robert Bloch's humor and intelligence made him a favorite with this reader.

The terrible truth about Robert Bloch is that he has always had a sense of humor. He has the face of a grade school class clown. He's the kid who sits in the back of the classroom (or right up front, if the teacher is already acquainted with his antics) and subtly displaces some part of his anatomy in a manner profoundly disgusting to the hapless little girl whose attention he has momentarily acquired, causing her to utter a loud retching noise while he sits smiling a secret smile.

As he tells it, "Actually, I have the heart of a small boy. I keep it on my desk in a jar."

Robert Bloch is fond of clever, grisly one-liners. He has said that he often writes stories by thinking of a nasty final line or pun, then constructing a tale around it.

What attracts the author to humor and horror?

"Comedy and horror are opposite sides of the same coin. Both deal with the grotesque and the unexpected, but in such a fashion as to provoke two entirely different reactions. Physical comedy is usually fantasy; it's exaggeration. There's a willing suspension of disbelief, but we don't generally regard it as fantasy because it's designed to promote laughter rather than tension or fear. As long as human beings experience fear, horror will be a timeless emotion. I can scarcely visualize the human being who doesn't have fear, whether it's expressed or secret."

It was fandom that introduced Robert Bloch to his future career. In 1933, the sixteen-year-old Bloch wrote a letter to H. P. Lovecraft; he was stunned

to receive a reply. Lovecraft began regular correspondence with this young enthusiast, and soon encouraged him to write. The following year saw publication of "The Lilies", Bloch's first story.

He produced the most important work of his early career, "Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper", in 1943; indicating a growing talent for depicting psychopathic murderers.

Arkham House published his first collection of stories, *THE OPENER OF THE WAY*, in 1945.

Paradoxically, it was for *science fiction's* Hugo award that he won Best Short Story with "That Hell Bound Train" in 1959.

Bloch has been immortalized by Alfred Hitchcock as the author of *PSYCHO*, though in truth he has not been directly involved with any of the screen versions of Norman Bates' life.

He has written a number of films, among them *STRAIT JACKET*, *ASYLUM*, and *TORTURE GARDEN*. His television credits include *ALFRED HITCHCOCK PRESENTS*, *THRILLER*, *STAR TREK* and *NIGHT GALLERY*.

His dark visions are now more than ever the stuff of popular culture, a development he regards with some concern.

"What has changed in my work is that I have increasingly felt a sense of responsibility. I feel that it's necessary to take a position. The chief danger is not so much the violent content of today's fiction and film as it is the lack of any attitude on the part of the creator of the material. This business of saying, 'Here it is, folks, a slice of life, raw and bleeding,' without stating any emotional reaction on the part of the writer or director, seems to imply that there is no such thing as moral responsibility--that these actions have to be judged solely on the basis of an individual's interpretation for his or her own convenience."

continued

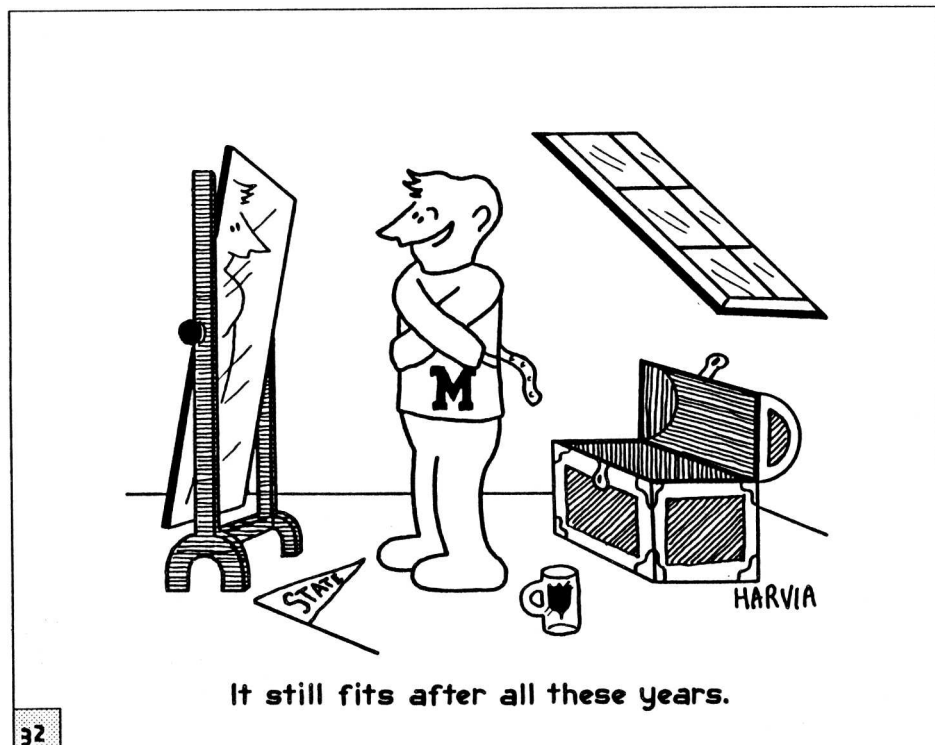
It is most fitting that in 1975 the World Fantasy Convention presented Robert Bloch with its first Life Achievement Award in the form of a bust of H. P. Lovecraft himself, designed by cartoonist Gahan Wilson.

1984 marked his fiftieth year as a professional writer. Robert Bloch has become a true legend, with a staggering output of more than four hundred published short stories, fifty books and twelve produced screenplays.

A partial Robert Bloch bibliography

The Opener of the Way	1945
Sea Kissed	1945
The Scarf	1947
The Kidnapped	1954
Spider Web	1954
The Will to Kill	1954
Psycho	1959
The Dead Beat	1960
Pleasant Dreams	1960
Firebug	1961

Blood Runs Cold	1961
Nightmares	1961
The Couch	1962
Terror	1962
Atoms and Evil	1962
More Nightmares	1962
Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper	1962
The Eighth Stage of Fandom: Selections from 25 Years of Fan Writing	1962
Bogey Men	1963
Horror 7	1963
Night Walker	1964
The Skull of the Marquis de Sade	1965
Tales in a Jugular Vein	1965
Chamber of Horrors	1966
The Living Demons	1967
Dragons and Nightmares	1969
Night World	1972
American Gothic	1974
Cold Chills	1977
Strange Eons	1978
There is a Serpent in Eden	1979
Psycho II	1982
Night of the Ripper	1984
Unholy Trinity	1984



It still fits after all these years.

FRED HASKELL CONSIDERED AS A HELIX OF SEMIPRECIOUS STONES

by Jon Singer

I thought that I could write a nice, informative bio of Fred Haskell - you know the kind:

"Fred was born as an infant, grew up in St. Louis Park (an item that Fred might rather you didn't know), plays a mean 12-string guitar (an item that the guitar might rather you didn't know - it is sometimes grumpy and secretive, as well as mean, even though it sounds ever so nice when Fred plays it)..."

But I found that I couldn't do it. I tried, Ghu knows. Thousands of lyttle nybbles down the bit-bucket. It was all for nought - the thing just wouldn't work. So instead, I prowled other dimensions until I came to a source of Much Knowledge: the Dr. Dodd Clegler Institute for TransTemporal Fannish Studies. There I met Dr. Zyx W. Vuts, a Research Fellow of the Institute, who went into his voluminous records of calumny and disinformation, and came out with something he said he had written some aeons back in the Devouring period, when fish became obnoxious. I'm going to give you that something, but not without first giving you "some boring facts," he said, in quotes.

There are 3.14159265358979 million stories in the fahrblundjet city. This is some irrational number of them. Fred Abbott Haskell was found under a cabbage leaf at a tender age by Joe and Ellamae Haskell. After picking, he was lovingly & carefully pickled, with lots of spices & Krumkake & Latkes & other good stuff (I dunno about Joe, but Ellamae is one FINE cook). These somewhat, ah, odd beginnings to the contrary notwithstanding, Fred grew up in the usual fashion. He then attended St. Louis Park High School, from which he graduated in '67, a blot upon his escutcheon to be sure.

Fred is a bachelor...of Arts (he ain't currently married, either). Got his degree in December of '71, from the University of Minnesota (c'mon, say it. I know you can say it. C'mon, say "Sky-U-Mah." There, I knew you could!), with a specialization in photographic communication. Quite some time later, his two guitars were, uhh, 'liberated' from his van, in San Fransisco. 'What,' I hear you say, 'is there some connection here?' Frankly, no. I just stuck 'em together for the Dada-Crazyquilt-School-of-Article-Writing look & feel. Real authentic, huh? How many Dadaists does it take to change a lightbulb?

Uhh, where was I? Oh yes. Thank you, Fred! San Francisco. That's where I was. Fred was travelling a lot in the late 70's--it's hard to keep track. Anyway, I don't know whether he left his heart, but he sure left his guitars, alas. However, in Seattle, Dame Fortune smile upon our Fred (a guitar being almost as necessary to his well-being as his heart, don'tcha know) and he was able to find and procure this lovely 12-string (mentioned above). Carries it around in a large and heavily padded thing that is proof against airline baggage handling procedures. Uses superconducting strings and a squid pickup. Actually, it's thoroughly acoustic [doesn't hold water, though].

Fred's first con (also his first WorldCon) was NYCon III, in Noo Yawk, in 1967. We are pleased to report that he lost his virginity there. So is Fred. (Those of you who are astute, and who know that Fred is about 5 feet 11 inches tall, will now be able to discern, having previously discovered that the other man's uncle is sitting at the South end of the table, that the name of the elephant is "J. Fred Muggs" and that Bobby has 42 apples left after the Fall [it is presumed that the Serpent gets the missing apples.]...uhh, I think maybe my calculation is a bit off.) Anyway, Fred is widely thought to be well connected on the Langdon chart, but we won't get into that here.

continued

Erin McKee

by Greg Ketter.

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then Erin McKee is worth millions.

Erin has become a regular fixture at conventions, particularly in the Midwest, displaying her subtle, finely crafted paintings in art shows as well as her wit and charm at the evening parties. She is a worthy and appropriate choice for Artist Guest of Honor.

Erin began her fannish career after attending the San Diego Comicon and soon after, the WorldCon in Phoenix. She attended many conventions in the South-west before moving to the Midwest. Currently, she lives in Minneapolis.

Erin's early work was often overlooked by flash-conscious art buyers. She generally worked in smaller sizes, black and white or minimal color; work too subtle for people used to bright colors and large formats. She became known as a "cute unicorn" artist whose work was dismissed as "not serious" by many people. Their loss.

But Erin is stubborn and very serious about her art. She has worked very hard and has been trying to catch the eye of a larger public without compromising on her art. She has been adding a bit more color, working in larger sizes while still maintaining her subtlety and finesse. And she doesn't only do "cute unicorns". She can create astronomicals of incredible depth and beauty, and wonderful portraits of real and fanciful animals with equal aplomb. She has been much more experimental in her work and is surprising everyone, sometimes even herself, by finding there is nothing she can't do.

While Erin works diligently and tirelessly on her art, her efforts at partying are also quite amazing. You will find her at once both shy and outgoing. She loves to meet new people and talks intelligently on many subjects. She can count many friends in many cities, made during her travels. I'm sure she would love a few more.

Find her and talk to her. You'll be won over quickly.



SOUTHSIDE WRITERS

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The Southside Writers meet on Saturdays from 10am to Noon in the Eagan Dakota County Library. We are also affiliated with the Dakota Center for the Arts. No charge. For more information on this support group call James 432-4136 or Robin 456-0490.

After getting into fandom, Fred became one of the Floundering Fathers of Minn-Stf. He was, and is to this day ('s far as I know, anyway) on the Minneapolis in '73 committee. He has been Fan GoH at conventions around the country. Fred is part of the Minnesota Music Movement (a name I have just coined 'cause I don't know what they really call it, if they call it anything), and has been in (and organized) more music parties than you can shake an axe at.

Fred was the editor of RUNE, the Minn-Stf clubzine, through what were probably its best years to date, publishing work by many leading lights, many people who are now leading lights but were new then, and also by myself. In all seriousness, modesty aside, I am kinda proud to have been able to put my writing into several of Fred's issues of RUNE. Fred is a superb editor, and working with him is a pleasure.

Too bad his judgement is off - he actually let Minicon ask me to write this bio. There was, ya see, also a certain amount of stuff *about* me in some of those issues...much of it at Fred's instigation. We go way back, me and Fred. Way back. All the way back to DisCon II, in '74, when he showed me a certain photograph and I asked him a delicately embarrassing question about it. (Fred is also the only person I know who could take an erotic photograph of an escalator. The man is very, very good.)

Yes, Fred has done me a few little favors over the years, but here, at last, I have my opportunity to flay the dear boy in print, and he even cooperated! Moo-ha-ha. See also, Nyar-har-har. Revenge is so sweet...

I asked Fred what I should put into this so-called factual section of the bio, and what he said was, "There are zillions of little tiny interchangeable details. How much does any one of them mean, anyway?" But, you know, it isn't any one detail, really. What does the damage is the total crushing weight of all the zillions of them, and Fred has plenty. For example, we don't, offhand, know of anyone else who has attended all the Minicons. (There may be one or two such, but we don't know of them.) For example, his stewardship of RUNE. Anyway, Fred richly deserves to be the Fan Guest of Honor of this convention, and you deserve this chance to cultivate his acquaintance.

So much for boring facts.

Chapter 1: Haskelogenesis
By Dr. Zyx W. Vuts, MHD fellow,
Clegler Institute

The lab was blue-white with the actinic glare of the limelights. It was a hellish night outside, in the heart of the Carpathians, with lightning crashing every few seconds, and the poor horses scared half to death in the stables. The Doktor^{beeblebrox} prowled nervously about, occasionally glancing up at the copper rod that arched down from the roof of the room, its path unerring from the top of the tower far above.

"I wonder how soon..." his voice trailed off as he gazed at the cowed and sheeted figure on the slab, wires looping from it the varous pieces of apparatus, and from them to the copper artery above, through which would come...the flow of life. Outside, the lightning crept closer, on very big cat feet.

"Muggsy!" said the Doktor, "Prepare for launch!"

"Vootie, boss." It was difficult for the ape (for such it was) to speak. It was hunched over a piece of apparatus in a corner of the laboratory, nervously eyeing the arcs rising in the Jacob's-Ladder columns that were strategically placed just where they would catch you right in the butt if you leaned over just a bit too far when you were adjusting some ****ing dial, and knock you on your (to be continued: see The Index page 3)

Jerry Stearns

by Kara Dalkey



He's been playin' guitar now for 23 years.

He's got music in him coming out of his ears...

And we're glad he does. Jerry Stearns has been bringing his music to Minn-Stf since 1971, when he first discovered a Minn-Stf flyer at a showing of "The Day the Earth Stood Still". It was music that got him hooked to Minnesota fandom. At a meeting at the Old Hobbitat, Jerry pulled out his guitar, sat down and began to play "Voices In The Sky". Along came a skinny, bespectacled fellow named Nate who sat down and began to play along. Jerry listened in amazement, forgetting a verse or two but just letting the chord progressions roll on. The rest, as they say, is history.

Jerry comes from a musical family. His father played clarinet, so Jerry took that instrument up in grade school "since we had one lying around the house, anyway". When his brothers took up guitar during the folk revival of the early '60s, Jerry took up banjo to play along. Then, after a year, he discovered there were some Peter, Paul and Mary songs you just couldn't play on banjo, so he switched to guitar himself. During a music theory class in college, he learned a little piano, but guitar has been his main instrument. Jerry says, "I used to play banjo, can still play guitar, and I can play with a piano".

His early influences were folk groups such as the Kingston Trio, the Chad Mitchell Trio, Peter, Paul and Mary, and Pete Seeger. He chooses songs for various reasons; those where the words are significant, or songs that are fun to play (such as "Pinball Wizard"), songs that are pretty (like "Old Tennessee"), and songs that are silly. Definitely silly. Songs by Tom Paxton and Martin Mull and others more obscure and bizarre fill his repertoire.

Throughout his musical life, Jerry has remained strictly a happy amateur. He says he and his brothers once filled in with a country/western band for one weekend. They hated it and vowed Never Again. In their youth, they played at various small-town festivals, the biggest of which was the Grand Opening of Main Street in their home town of Hutchinson, Minnesota. In more recent years, Jerry has played at a handful of benefits but his favorite place to play is still at parties with friends. He plays entirely by ear, claiming he actually knows little about music. His current influences are other local musicians including Nate Bucklin, Reed Waller and Fred Haskell. Jerry has written few songs himself, except for a few parodies, but that hasn't stopped him from developing a "sound" all his own.

So be sure to catch his concert and/or the various music parties that are sure to occur at this con, and enjoy his warm, friendly tenor. If you're lucky, you'll hear him play "Still Crazy After All These Years", which (by coincidence) is the theme of this year's Minicon, and which Jerry has taken as something of a personal theme-song as well. You'll see, it's not just "licks offa records" that he's learned.

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Look Who's Here This Year:

Jane Yolen

by Emma Bull

Okay, so she's written one hundred books for grownups and children: science fiction, fantasy, poetry, non-fiction. Marvelous books, made rich by her ear for language, her eye for detail, her deft touch with humor, and her sixth sense for what moves us all. She reads aloud better than anybody in the world. She makes ghastly puns. She's the president of the Science Fiction Writers of America. She's been known to bring wonderful three-day picnics to conventions, and none of her friends go hungry. Are those sufficient reasons to idolize her?

I think so.

Ellen Kushner

by Caroline Stevermer

Ellen Kushner is the author of the forthcoming fantasy novels Sword's Point and Thomas the Rhymer, the editor of Basilisk, and a contributor to the anthologies Borderland, Bordertown, After Midnight and Elsewhere. She scouts U.S. fantasy for Allen & Unwin, agents artwork, and has written four Choose Your Own Adventure novels with fantasy themes. She is a poet, a singer, a collector of Tarot cards, and a connoisseur of tourist traps. If she were a drink, she would be Normandy cider: effervescent, exhilarating, addictive, and astonishingly difficult to deal with the next morning.

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About Diane Duane

by Jane Yolen

Diane Duane is, except for the euphony of her name, thoroughly unpredictable. Sometimes she's a redhead -- and sometimes she's not! She'll call up at midnight and without identification launch into a dirty story: "So the farmer's daughter said to the Betelgusian..." finish the joke and hang up before you've quite taken in anything but the disgusting punchline. Or she'll hold your hand through an emotional crisis, her years as a psychiatric nurse coming to the fore. Or she'll precipitate said crisis with a string of impossible leaps of logic that come at you with her patented ratataatat delivery. Unpredictable.

She writes with that same dash and elan, a style that surprises the reader with its sudden deep plunges into the soul. If you don't know Kit and Nita -- you should. If you don't know where the doors into fire and shadow lead -- why don't you? If you've never met Captain Kirk's favorite enemy or don't know why Duane has a precious glass spider on her writing desk -- shame on you. And if the name ed'Rashtekaresket means nothing, I feel sorry for you, for you have missed one of the finest fantasy creations of the 1980's.

As of this writing -- a gray December 31st -- Duane is planning to marry a handsome young author, move to Ireland, finish her damned trilogy, and write the ending to a wicked story she and I began a World Fantasy Con in Ottawa several years ago. But don't ask me in which order. Only Duane knows -- and she is totally unpredictable.

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