

Bozo Bus Tribune

The Official Organ of Minicon 49

"We're all bozos on this bus!"

3½ Days Sailing the Seven Skies

— or —

I'll trade you half a Thursday for a Minicon today!

Welcome to Minicon 49: Pirates and Airships!¹ The great zeppelin is on the runway (do zeppelins have runways? Well, ours do) to next year's silver convention, which the scriptures promise will comprise a full four days of fannish merriment. This year, we get three and a half! The extra half day is split between late Thursday and early Friday—your humble editor proposes "Thiday" for this awkward extension.

So what's open Thursday?

To begin with, **Registration!** The desk will be open from 7 – 10 p.m. Unlike previous years, you can register at the door on Thursday. After-hours registration will be in the Bar or Consuite as normal.

When will the **Consuite** open? According to Consuite head Hershey L., it'll open when the **Art Show** is set up! That, after all, is the biggest set-up task requiring volunteers, followed by the **Bar** and the Consuite itself. Artists may hang their art from 5–10pm. Set-up begins at 3, so if you're available Thursday afternoon, pitch in! You'll be helping Minicon to begin faster. Every minute you volunteer thus creates more Minicon.

That said, 8p.m. is a "reasonable guesstimate" for when Consuite and Bar will open. The Bar will be hosting a **Guest of Honor reception** at 8 or whenever set-up is complete. In case you've forgotten, our guests of honor this year are author **Catherynne M. Valente**, artist **Don Maitz**, and author/illustrator **Janny Wurts**.

The **Rumpus Room** has three Thursday items, all of which are curiously creature-based:

- ★ **Stuffed Animal Zoo** (3:00 – 4:00)
- ★ **Rampage**, a dexterity board game (4:30 – 5:30)
- ★ **King of Tokyo**, a dice and card game (6:00 – 7:00)

Then there's **Cinema Obscura**, which opens its doors at 8! Our film room will be showing two films on Thursday—see the program book for descriptions.

- > **Vessel** (8:00 – 9:30)
- > **Pioneer One - part 1 of 2** (9:30 – 11:00).

No concerts are scheduled for Thursday night, but there will be **open music** in the Bloomington room. Likewise, no official gaming events are scheduled for Thursday night, but **games** and **jigsaw puzzles** will be available in the Garden Court.

Location changes

- 🎮 The **Film Room** is now in Grand Ballroom East B—at the end of the programming corridor and to the right.
- 🎮 **Gaming** is returning to the Garden Court.
- 🎮 The **Teen Lounge** is now in a south side first floor cabana.

A promising start

According to pre-registration head Clay H., our prereg total is 417—up 34 from last year and the highest since Minicon 40.

On Harassment:

Harassment complaint or report? Call the Code of Conduct Committee: (763) 515-7833.

Signage rules

"The hotel is providing 4 large papered areas which are approved for signage to advertise parties or other events. These will be located near the Bloomington room, in the Grand Ballroom corridor, escalator foyer and first floor near the escalators/poolside. Any tape may be used on the papered areas.

"Only one 8.5"x11" sign may be hung on the wall vinyl per cabana room outside of the guestroom door to identify the party room. Please use 3M/Scotch safe release painter's tape for this. Minicon has a supply—you can get some at the reg desk, the consuite or from Parties head Matt Weiser. No signs may be hung on the guestroom doors. No signage in the elevators or on the escalators, per the city of Bloomington."

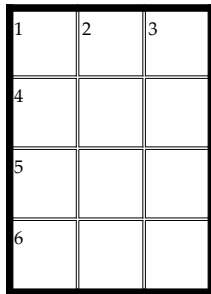
—Con co-chair Matt S.

Programming notes

- ▶ **SF Squeecast** will be at 7p.m. Saturday, not at 8.
- ▶ Wondering about Friday night's 9:30 **Live Model Drawing** event? The Art Show doors will be re-opened especially for it at 9p.m.

¹ Starring Barkhad Abdi and Logan Lerman.

Celebrate the paper in your hands with a... Compact Crossword



ACROSS

1. Touchdowns in reverse
4. DO NOT WANT
5. Search for paradise?
6. Deity and card game!

DOWN

1. Lets you play 5 Across
2. I'm sorry I couldn't do that 13 years ago.
3. Instructions for a Hitchhiker's Guide party?

Hugos past and present

The announcement of this year's Hugo nominees will again be streamed live via Ustream from Eastercon in Glasgow! It happens in the Edina room at 3:30 Saturday.

In addition to the 2014 Hugo nominees, **Loncon 3** will be presenting Retrospective Hugo Awards for eligible works from the year 1939, in honor of its 75th anniversary. This will be the fourth set of Retro Hugos awarded.

Avast—'Tis the Medallion Hunt!

The Minicon Medallion Hunt, now in its ninth year, is a search for hidden booty stashed all over the hotel! Fourteen shiny pennies dating back to the ripe old year of nineteen hundred and seventy-three are up for grabs, some for completing challenges and some for deciphering clues and seeking them out. This newsletter ye hold in your hands be your very own treasure map!

Clues to the whereabouts of these 'medallions' will be included in each issue of the BBT. No pennies are hidden in restrooms, shops, or anywhere in the Grand Ballroom Center. Please be respectful and quiet when searching outside of convention space.

Find a penny? Redeem it with the Cluemeister! The numbered pennies are good for their face value in Dealer Dollars (good in the Art Show and Dealer's Room), while the lettered ones each win you a miscellaneous prize. If you can't track down the Cluemeister anywhere else, you'll find him in his office during the listed Hours of Redemption. He'll ask for your story of discovery, which will be told in future BBTs or at Closing Ceremonies.

As an additional hunting aid, there will be a sign outside the BBT Office tracking the status of the various medallions. It will also be used for general BBT updates.

The Black Box Challenge

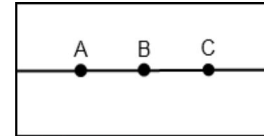
(For those kids who enjoyed playing with invisible marbles)

The Cluemeister has a new challenge in the BBT office this year—the 1978 Parker Brothers deduction game Black Box! The mystery is where the invisible balls are located; the Cluemeister will explain the rules. During each Hour of Redemption, you may probe one line to gain information and make one guess as to the location of the secretive spheres. Solve the puzzle and win a prize! Three such

puzzles, represented by pennies B1, B2 and B3, will be available over the course of the convention.

CLUES: ROUND 1

2. Chairy is scared and wants a hug.
3. What's yellow on top, wood in the middle, and silver on the bottom?
4. A thick piratey walk with rigging in this year's theme!
5. Not available yet!



6. Construct circles with radius AB.

7. Not available yet!

8. Sometimes 'X' doesn't mark the spot.

e	i	e	i	o	u	a	y	e	o
a	n	c	m	s	l	k	p	w	u
u	r	w	z	j	v	b	q	n	i
t	p	f	d	g	c	m	s	h	a

10. Canada.Burundi.Niger.Chad.Rwanda.Eritrea.Latvia. Lesotho.Vietnam

15. It's a jumble board!

20. 0.04 roentgens * (# of stairs in the main south tower staircase – # of beads that should be hanging from one of the broken light fixtures next to the second floor elevators) / half a dozen moles of whatever * 11 [theme]d grams = ?? ???

B1. Brave the baffling Black Box to bag this bauble!

EE. Stop by and try the Easter Challenge!

MAU. Self-explanatory.

TTB. Affectionately known as the Putty Challenge! Ask the Cluemeister how to attempt it.

Hours of Redemption:

Your first three chances to redeem medallions and attempt challenges will be:

- ◆ 10p.m. – 11p.m. Thu.
- ◆ 11a.m. – Noon Fri.
- ◆ 3 – 4p.m. Fri.

Got material for the BBT? Drop it in the Submission Box at the Coat Check near the Normandale Room at the end of the Grand Ballroom Foyer. Pens and paper are provided.

The Bozo Bus Tribune

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