

# MINICON 52

guests of honor

JIM C. HINES

BROTHER GUY

CONSOLMAGNO

MARK OSHIRO

featured artist

JEFF LEE JOHNSON

MINICON LII



# MANTICON

*An Intimate Celebration of Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature*  
Hilton Minneapolis - St Paul Airport / Mall of America  
May 26th- May 28th 2017

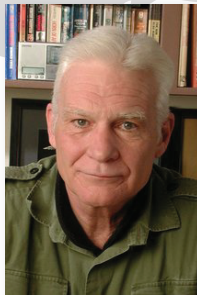
*Come Meet*  
*David Weber*  
*Author of the Honor Harrington Series*

With  
**Marko Kloos**  
Author of the Frontline Series

And  
**David Pedersen**  
Fantasy Author of the Angst series

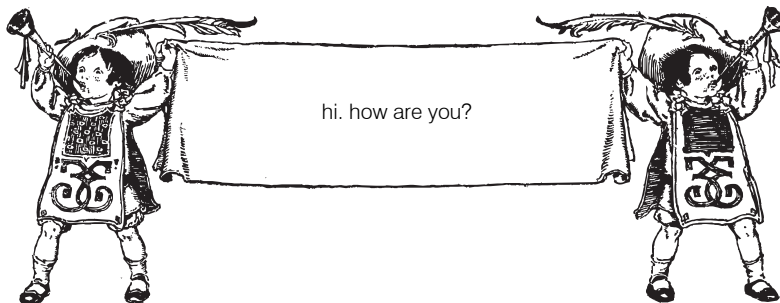
## Media Guest

Captain Dale Dye, USMC (retired)  
Saving Private Ryan  
Platoon  
Starship Troopers



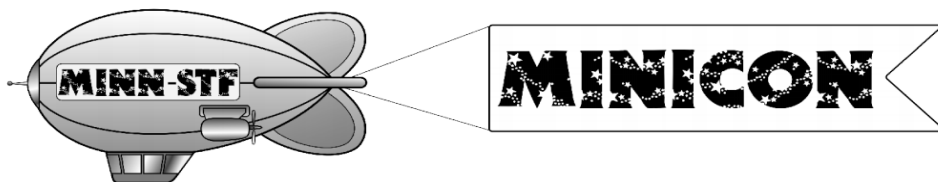
### SPONSORED BY





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                        |     |                               |       |
|----------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|-------|
| GoH Jim C. Hines .....                 | 2   | Programming .....             | 10-11 |
| GoH Brother Guy Consolmagno .....      | 3   | Schedule .....                | 12-16 |
| GoH Mark Oshiro .....                  | 4   | Registration & Policies ..... | 17    |
| Featured Artist Jeff Lee Johnson ..... | 5   | Code of Conduct.....          | 17    |
| Hospitality .....                      | 6   | MnStf .....                   | 18-19 |
| Cinema Obscura .....                   | 7   | Credits .....                 | 20    |
| Maps .....                             | 8-9 | Pie! .....                    | 21    |



## JIM C. HINES

BY RICK SNYDER

Jim Hines is THAT Jim Hines. No, not the Olympic medal winner from the late 70's or the Ob/Gyn running for Governor of Michigan (who is trying to unseat incumbent Rick Snyder - who is not me). THAT Jim Hines. The one who went viral with his gender-switched recreations of sci/fantasy book covers. The BEST Jim Hines, as far as we're concerned.



Photo by Terri LeBlanc

A lifelong Michigander, Jim has been published numerous times: over 50 short stories, 12 novels, and over 500 (by his count) rejections. His first novel, *Goblin Quest*, was described by Joss Whedon as "Too f\*\*\*ing cool for words." Not a bad start!

Within those novels are a trilogy about the aforementioned goblin and his pet fire spider, a four book series about princesses which has been described as "Charlie's Angels as a Grimm's Fairy Tale", and a four book series about a magic-wielding librarian from northern Michigan.

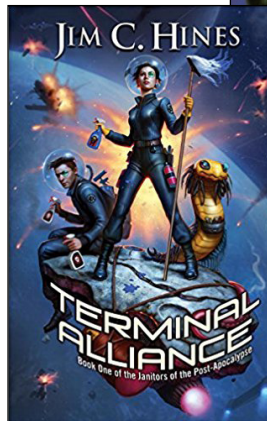
His current series about a group of space janitors and plumbers trying to save the universe from apocalypse(!) begins with *Terminal Alliance*, due out in November of this year.

His writing has been nominated for and won several awards, including the 2012 Hugo Award for Best Fan Writer. However, Jim is quick to stress that he has often learned more from rejection than success. Not that he doesn't appreciate his achievements, but becoming a better writer involves a considering a lot of criticism and growth, and nothing gets you more self-reflection than a series of refusals.

The Hugo Award was in direct acknowledgement of his work generating attention and discussion around the portrayals of women on the covers of sci/fantasy books. Originally a blog post, it soon snowballed into several other blog posts and eventually a calendar that raised over \$15,000 for Aicardi Syndrome Foundation.

With a degree in Psychology and a Masters in English, he has made a life with his wife, 2 children, and 2 cats. His wife and children seem supportive and tolerant of his obsession with writing. The cats, however, are openly disdainful and frequently spend their time trying to dissuade him towards more constructive efforts like petting them

For more information visit [www.jimchines.com](http://www.jimchines.com).



SCIENTIST GUEST OF HONOR

# BROTHER GUY CONSOLMAGNO

MINICON52

BY TOM HOGAN

Brother Guy Consolmagno was born in Detroit and received his BA and MA at MIT and then his Doctorate at the University of Arizona.

After spending years as a working researcher and astronomer, a “voice of conscience” made

him wonder why he was “wasting my time doing astronomy when people are starving.” He made the decision to join the Peace Corps. While he was serving in Kenya, he not only discovered that he loved teaching, but that “people in Africa are curious about the stars too.”

He joined the Society of Jesus (also known as the Jesuits), took his vows as a brother, and was assigned as an astronomer to the Vatican Observatory and curator of the Vatican Meteorite collection.

In September 2015, he was named by Pope Francis to be the Director of the Vatican Observatory.

His research is centered on meteoroids and asteroids. He travels between the Vatican’s meteorite collection in Gandolfo, Italy and the Vatican’s telescope on Mt. Graham near Tucson, Arizona with scientific adventures to Antarctica and other places. In 2000, the International Astronomical Union named an asteroid (4597 Consolmagno) after him. Its nickname is “Little Guy.” On July 2, 2014, he was awarded the Carl Sagan Medal for



Photo: Unknown Source

“outstanding communication by an active planetary scientist to the general public” by the American Astronomical Society.

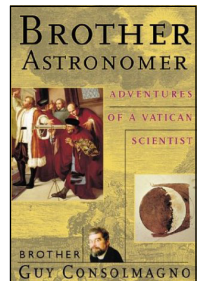
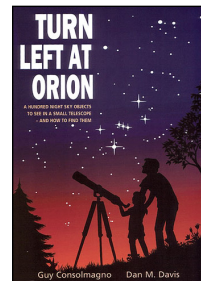
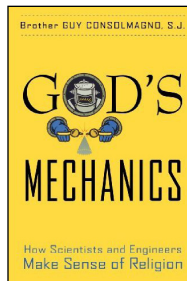
He is the author or co-author of eight books. His book on basic astronomy, *Turn Left at Orion: Hundreds of Night Sky Objects to See in a Home Telescope - and How to Find Them* has sold over 100,000 copies and is one of the most popular astronomy books of all time.

He has also written several books on the relationship of faith and science, such as *God’s Canvas*, *God’s Mechanics*, and *Would You Baptize an Extraterrestrial?*

He has appeared at a wide variety of venues; from science fiction conventions, to scientific symposiums, NPR shows and the *Colbert Report*, all to have informed and informative discussions about his reverence for science *and* faith.

As part of the Vatican’s science outreach, Guy has been a guest of many sci-fi conventions over the years and considers himself “pretty much a nerd,” so he should fit right in with us.

Guy will be very busy all weekend with various panels, so there will be lots of opportunities to hear from him.



# FAN GUEST OF HONOR

# MARK OSHIRO

BY TANYA BRODY

Have you ever wanted to experience your favorite book, movie or television show for the first time, again?

If you do, Mark Oshiro is your enabler.

Mark Does Stuff. Specifically, Mark Reads your favorite books, and Mark Watches your favorite TV shows. He records these experiences, as YouTube videos or written commentary and shares them with his audience.



Photo by Rakeem Cunningham

This gives you the opportunity to look over Mark's shoulder and experience your favorite stories, for the first time, through his eyes. You can watch (or read) as he analyzes the text, pours out his soul on his blog or laughs, cries or yells at the camera. Mark mixes humor, critique and a sense of wonder, to give you a new appreciation for your old favorites.

Here's what he does in his own words from a 2012 interview with The Daily Dot:

"I've learned to distill it down to one sentence, which is: I run an online book club where I'm the only person who's never read the book. Everyone else knows it, and they're watching someone else discover a fictional world. It's a celebration of fandom, and I like the idea of saying, 'Hey, let's have this space where we can not only enjoy the experience of reading a book, but actually talk about all the different things that it brings up, either intentionally or unintentionally, and lots of subtext.'"

Mark started this wonderful journey in 2009, when he posted reviews of *Twilight* on Buzznet.

He hated the series. But his wry sense of humor and scathing comments connected with a lot of people and grew an enthusiastic audience for him. From there, he moved on to the *Harry Potter* series, which he loved.

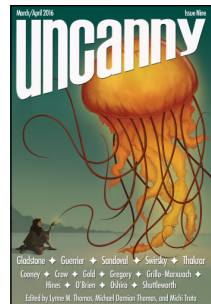
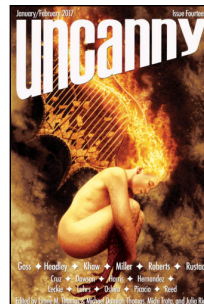
Since then, he has expanded his reading to cover over 50 books and added television to his repertoire. He didn't watch television much as a kid, so for him, it really is a whole new experience.

Mark has made "Doing Stuff" into a full-time career. He spends his days reading and watching. He lectures regularly, does readings and appears as a Guest of Honor at science fiction conventions. Topics range from his own work, to work he's read or watched, to racism, the Queer experience and inclusion and representation, to poverty and homelessness, and more.

Mark has been nominated for a Hugo award in the Fan Writer category in 2013 and 2014. He has written several articles for different magazines and collections, including *Uncanny Magazine* and *Indivisible*. He was the non-fiction editor of *Queers Destroy Science Fiction* and the co-editor of *Speculative Fiction 2015*.

He has also just sold his first book. His YA novel will be coming out for all of us to experience for the first time, very soon.

For more information visit [www.markoshiro.com](http://www.markoshiro.com)



FEATURED ARTIST

# JEFF LEE JOHNSON

MINICON52

Jeff Lee Johnson has been an award winning freelance illustrator in the science fiction/fantasy genre for over 12 years. His art has appeared in commercials, educational materials, games, books, TV, magazines, numerous websites, and even on the jumbotron at Target Field. He has dozens of book covers to his credit, and well over a thousand other commissioned illustrations under his belt. His clients have ranged from corporations like Best Buy, Target, the Minnesota Lottery, and many others, as well as book publishers like Games Workshop (Warhammer), Edge Publishing (Canada's premiere speculative fiction publisher), and many small-press clients. He is currently working with Fantasy Flight Games/Asmodee on several of their game lines,

and has enjoyed many hundreds of assignments for them and other clients in that industry. You can find a sample of his work at [jeffleejohnson.com](http://jeffleejohnson.com).

For more information visit [jeffleejohnson.com](http://jeffleejohnson.com).



## Tol-Con

*Tol-Con is Minnesota's newest fan-run convention, a 3 day celebration of all things Middle-Earth.... and we are looking for someone(s) to share in an adventure that we are arranging ...*

Expect all of your favourite convention indulgences, and then some: Panels, activities, dealer room, costume contest, workshops, archery games, & much more!

3 full themed banquets with live entertainment - Feast of Starlight, Durin's Day, and Bilbo's Birthday Party - are all included with the price of registration.

*Won't you join our Fellowship?*

November 3-5, 2017 Chaska, MN

**[www.tol-con.com](http://www.tol-con.com)**

CONSUIITE

The Consuite features a wide assortment of snacks, drinks and comfortable seating. There will be food available full-time such as hotdogs, pizza, and a salad bar, as well as Kosher options for Passover. There will also be special features for breakfast and dinner hours, and other food events on and off throughout the convention —including late-night!

The Consuite is a tremendous feat to pull off, so if you find yourself with some time to kill, please consider volunteering in the Consuite.

Consuite Hours:

- Friday ..... 7:00am - 2:00am
- Saturday ..... 6:30am - 2:00am
- Sunday ..... 6:30am - 4:00pm

BAR

Sláinte! We have a Bar!\* It is on the upper cabana level, and the mood-lit, tipsy companion to the Consuite, where you will find beer, wine, cider and Blog available all weekend. There will be table space for your gaming needs, music for your dancing needs, and a pillow fort for your political discourse needs.

See the schedule for special events happening in the bar throughout the weekend.

And please, remain calm.

Bar Hours:

- Friday ..... 4:59pm 'til sleeeepy
- Saturday ..... 4:59pm 'til fall down
- Sunday ..... Dead Dog 'til go home

JOIN US IN GENUA™ FOR THE NORTH AMERICAN

DISCWORLD® CONVENTION™ 2017

WWW.NADWCON2017.ORG



SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> - 4<sup>TH</sup>





NADWCon - WHERE FANS BECOME FAMILY

DISCWORLD® AND TERRY PRATCHETT® ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF THE ESTATE OF SIR TERRY PRATCHETT. THE NAMES AND IMAGES OF THE CHARACTERS, PLACES AND INSTITUTIONS INCLUDED IN THIS MATERIAL ARE TRADEMARKS OF THE ESTATE OF SIR TERRY PRATCHETT AND ITS SUCCESSORS. ALL TRADEMARKS USED UNDER LICENSE. ©NARRATIVA LIMITED/ESTATE OF SIR TERRY PRATCHETT

\* The Con Bar is located in room 218, and not to be confused with the hotel bar where you have to spend actual money.

# CINEMA OBSCURA

MINICON52

...or “a black hole ate our film room.”

We begin with a few items that have graced Cinema Obscura's silver screen before, which not only dovetail nicely with Arcana 47 (shameless plug), but proved popular with Minicon audiences. Cinema Obscura will also host Minicon 40 Guests of Honor, Steve Fastner & Rich Larson, as they return to Minicon with a presentation of some choice film trailers which made them the warped individuals they profess to being. And to round things out, some rarely seen gems from “across the pond” (TBA). Happy viewing!

## FEATURES

### Fastner & Larson's Trailer Park of Science Fiction & Horror

Local comics & fantasy illustrators (and Minicon 40 Artist Guests of Honor) Steve Fastner and Rich Larson present and discuss a batch of trailers from '50s and '60s SF and horror movies that “scarred our adolescent psyches and forever poisoned our artistic vision.”

### Logan's Run (1976)

In the 23rd century, turning 30 means your rapturous ascension on Carousel. Or does something else happen to you? Utopia is unmasked as dystopia when Logan 5, a “sandman” charged with executing those who try to escape Carousel, discovers the truth as his 30th birthday draws near. Don't miss creator William F. Nolan as Guest of Honor at Arcana 47!”

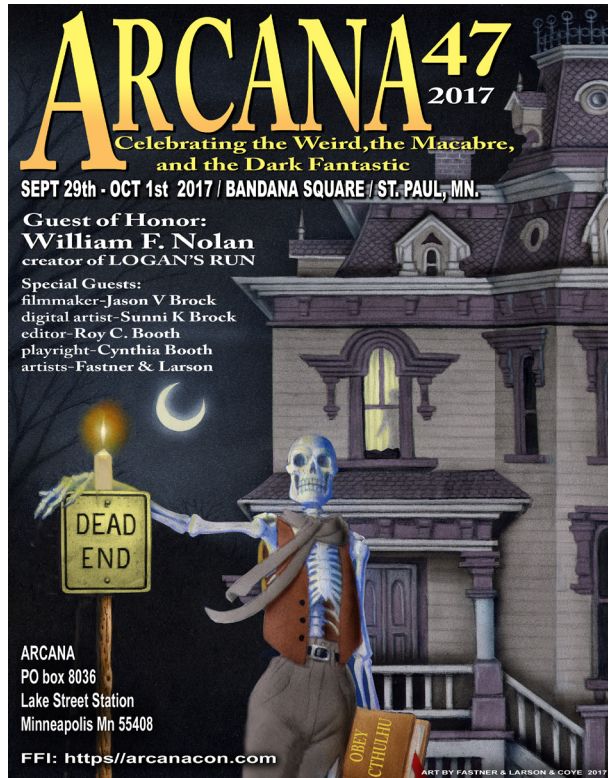
### The AckerMonster Chronicles! (2013)

The late Forrest J Ackerman (*Famous Monsters of Filmland* editor, Vampirella creator and arguably the inventor of the concept of “fandom” as we understand it) was a force of nature in the worlds of science-fiction and horror media during most of the 20th century. Whether you're familiar with him or not, this documentary will astound you! Filmmaker Jason V. Brock, will be appearing as a Special Guest this Fall at Arcana 47.

**A full schedule will be available at registration and outside the film room in Atrium 8.**

### Charles Beaumont: The Life of Twilight Zone Magic Man (2010)

The title says it all! Discover who this amazing fantasist was, journey into the mystery of his early demise and why his work continues to resonate today. Then get ready to meet documentary filmmaker Jason V. Brock at this Fall's Arcana.

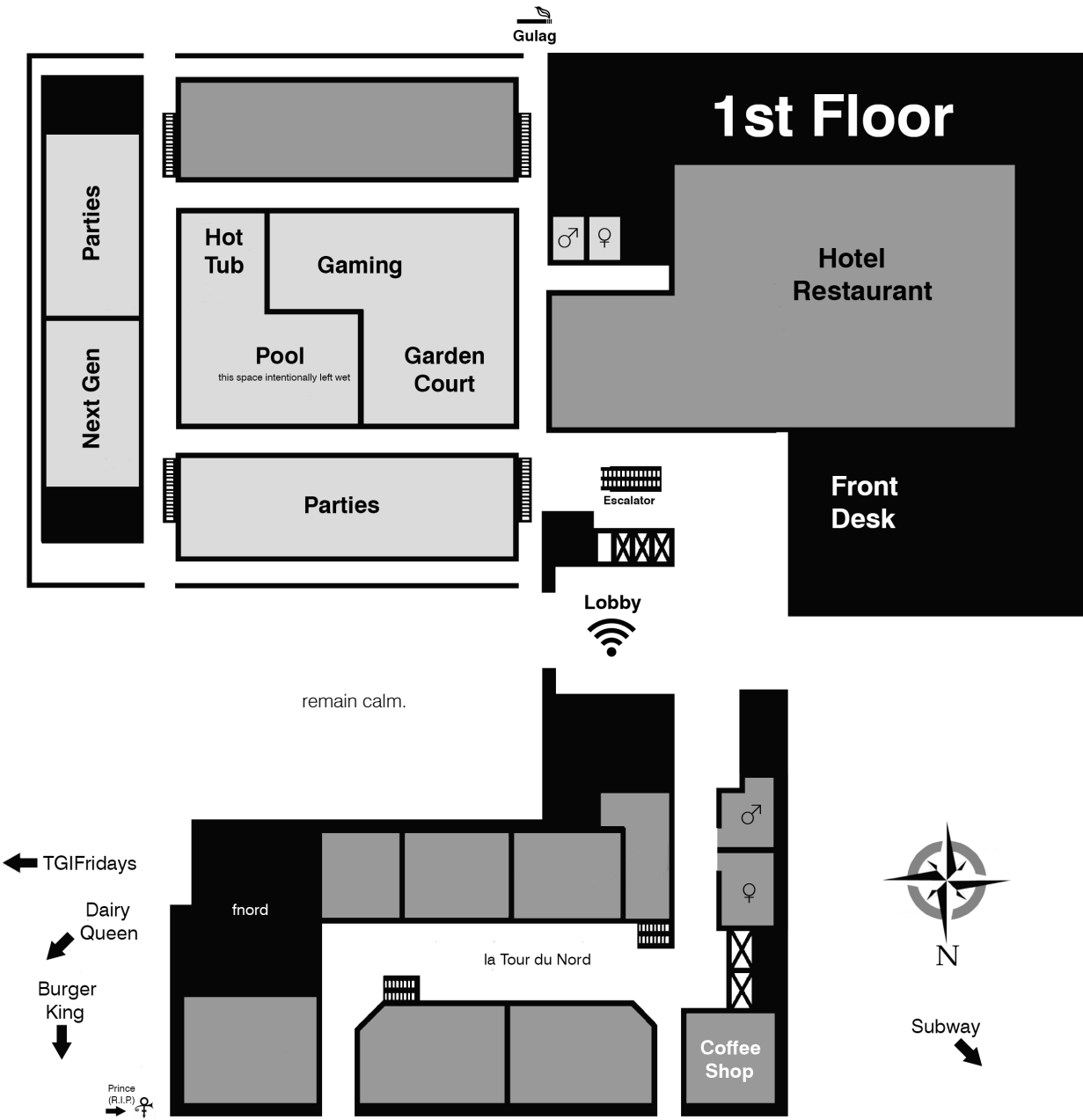


**ARCANA<sup>47</sup> 2017**  
Celebrating the Weird, the Macabre, and the Dark Fantastic  
SEPT 29th - OCT 1st 2017 / BANDANA SQUARE / ST. PAUL, MN.  
**Guest of Honor:**  
**William F. Nolan**  
creator of LOGAN'S RUN  
**Special Guests:**  
filmmaker-Jason V Brock  
digital artist-Sunni K Brock  
editor-Roy C. Booth  
playright-Cynthia Booth  
artists-Fastner & Larson

ARCANA  
PO box 8036  
Lake Street Station  
Minneapolis Mn 55408  
FFI: <https://arcanacon.com>

ART BY FASTNER & LARSON & COVE 2017

# FIRST FLOOR



# SECOND FLOOR

MINICON52



**ART SHOW**

The Minicon art show is a non-juried show open to all artists who'd like to submit artwork in a science fiction and/or fantasy theme. Most art is for sale, although some may be just for show. Art can be bid upon or, if the artist chooses, be immediately purchased at a set price.

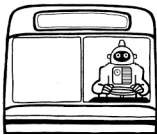
See the programming schedule for special artist events and demonstrations taking place in the Art Show area.

Art Show Hours:

Friday ..... 3:00pm - 7:00pm  
Saturday ..... 10:00am - 7:00pm  
Sunday ..... 11:00am - 2:00pm

**BOZO BUS TRIBUNE**

"We're all bozos on this bus!"



For updates, news and miscellany throughout the convention, look for the Bozo Bus Tribune, Minicon's at-con newsletter since 1993. The BBT will come in four differently colored issues left randomly in convention space throughout the weekend. If you have an announcement or correction to make, or you'd like to contribute a review or personal note to the Bozo Bus, you can just write it up and drop it in the Submissions Box outside the BBT Office, located in the Normandale Room at the far end of the Grand Ballroom Foyer. Submissions can also be mailed to [bbt@minicon52.mnstrf.org](mailto:bbt@minicon52.mnstrf.org).

You're also welcome to drop in and visit with the editor – amusements will be laid out for your perusal, and there may be prizes. You may even be asked to help proofread an upcoming issue or badge up and become a con reporter!

**DEALER'S ROOM**

The Dealer's Room is located in the Grand Ballroom, and is the marketplace where you can indulge your fandom. Here you will find a variety of books, collectibles, jewelry, clothing and more.

Dealer Room Hours:

Friday ..... 3:00 - 7:00pm  
Saturday ..... 10:00am - 7:00pm  
Sunday ..... 11:00am - 3:00pm

**HOW'S YOUR SQUEE?**

Minicon is a place to get your squee on. It's a time for strange friends and friendly strangers, marvels and wonders, interesting conversations, fascinating objects, and lots of fun. Few things destroy fun faster than having someone not take "no" for an answer. Here's the thing: you have the right to say "no." No to a conversation, no to an activity, no to a beverage, no to anything that interferes with your own, personal squee. The ability to say yes to fun includes the ability to say no to not-fun. But sometimes...sometimes people don't respect your "no," and sometimes, you feel as if you can't say "no" directly to the person harshing your squee. In those cases, we will try to help.

If you need help with a problem where someone is violating our Code of Conduct (see below), or not taking your "no" for an answer, PLEASE feel free to call us at (612) 408-1060, and we will try to help. This phone is answered all day and most of the night. If we don't answer, leave a voice mail message, or text, and we will respond as soon as we can. We will work with you to find a solution that lets you go back to full-on squee.

### MUSIC

Minicon 52 will have its usual exceptional group of musicians playing concerts, as well as less formal, open music circles. Minicon music is special —and often spontaneous, and whether you are new here or a regular, you are in for a treat. Concerts will be in the Music Room (Bloomington), with open music happening afterwards. Look for the concert schedules posted just outside.



### MEDALLION HUNT

My fellow Bozos. In times of numerous difficult challenges in our country and in many of our lives, when the political climate is choppy and the numerous battles being waged are tumultuous, we all need something constant to hold onto to let us know things are going to be ok. With the many events of 2016, when George R.R. Martin took so many dear friends from us, we could all use something that brings us together in common cause- admittedly this probably isn't that, rather, one heck of a distraction;) The good news is that the twelfth annual Minicon Medallion Hunt is on! J (Jason Spitzer) your still somewhat newly elected-ish? Game Keeper will return with harder clues and even worse jokes! For official rules of the Medallion Hunt, please see the first issue of the BBT at Minicon. Have a great con, everyone!

Hold The Door. Hold The Door! - J

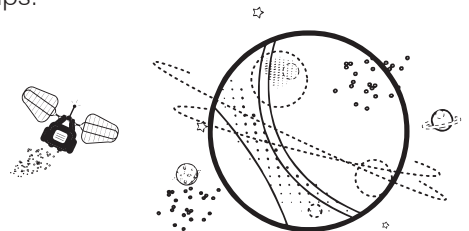
*I'm stout, I'm tall. Where I stand, I stand for all.*

### THE NEXT GENERATION

The Next Generation is a place for teens to play board games, watch movies, and just hang out with other teens at Minicon. We have a lot of different board games, movies, and fun events at night for everyone.

### SCIENCE ROOM

Come see how to transform Science FICTION into Science FACT and try your hand at landing the space shuttle. Visit the Minicon Science room Ballroom West and view hard science exhibits from many groups.



### RUMPUS ROOM

The Rumpus Room is our place for kids programming, craftiness, toys, games and other fun stuff. There will be ongoing activities all weekend such as:

- Scientific measuring
- Lock-picking
- Cardboard Castles
- Coloring
- Marble Maze
- Puppet Stage
- Rumpus Market

*Note: Programming for the Rumpus Room is listed with no end times; they go as long as the presenter and participants wish. Since we will be in the Edina Room, there will be plenty of space for more than one activity to be running at a time.*

| FRIDAY  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 3:00pm  | <b>Art Show &amp; Dealer's Room Opens</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                         | Ballroom West              |
| 3:00pm  | <b>Fun Foam Masks</b><br>Using your own handprint, we will make bright glittery masks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Bonnie Somdahl<br>Andra St. Arnauld                                     | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 4:00pm  | <b>Dragon Bookmarks</b><br>Create a fanciful winged bookmark.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Bonnie Somdahl<br>Becca Leathers                                        | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 4:00pm  | <b>Speaking the Words</b><br>What does it take to read aloud to a group of people? We will discuss the nuance and skill it takes to make your reading effective and entertaining.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Mark Oshiro<br>Jane Yolen<br>Gerald Brandt<br>Kathryn Sullivan          | Main Stage                 |
| 4:00pm  | <b>Basic Astronomy</b><br>Where to find out what's going by overhead & how to watch it. Special mention: The total solar eclipse in August.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Br. Guy Consolmagno<br>Ctein<br>Michael Kauper                          | Veranda 5/6                |
| 4:00pm  | <b>The Year In SF</b><br>The usual discussion of the best books and stories of the year. It never gets old!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Russ Letson<br>Greg L. Johnson                                          | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's |
| 5:00pm  | <b>CD Hovercrafts</b><br>Craft your own hovercraft with balloon power, then send them racing across the floor.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Bonnie Somdahl                                                          | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 5:30pm  | <b>Orientation</b><br>Is this your first Minicon? Our upbeat panelists will be happy to share basic info and answer questions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Liza Furr<br>Jane Yolen<br>Tyler Tork<br>Jeanne Mealy                   | Veranda 3/4                |
| 5:30pm  | <b>Medicine in Space</b><br>Most of the mass and cost of a CT scanner is the source to project the beam. In orbit can you use the ambient radiation instead?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Dermot Dobson<br>Bill Thomasson                                         | Veranda 5/6                |
| 5:30pm  | <b>We Suck: The Importance of Failure</b><br>Tales of failure from our panel: the lessons learned from defeat and how it led to greatness.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Jim C. Hines<br>Br. Guy Consolmagno<br>Mark Oshiro                      | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's |
| 6:00pm  | <b>Art Show Reception: Meet the Artists</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                         | Ballroom West              |
| 7:00pm  | <b>Opening Ceremonies</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                         | Main Stage                 |
| 7:00pm  | <b>Art Show &amp; Dealer's Room Close</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                         | Ballroom West              |
| 8:00pm  | <b>Beading Workshop</b><br>Come learn how to do paper-rolled beadwork in this workshop for all ages.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Laura Krentz                                                            | Veranda 2                  |
| 8:30pm  | <b>Life and Work in an Absolute (Benevolent) Monarchy</b><br>Day-to-day life in the Vatican, with an eye to how that compares to the ways that such things are depicted in fantasy novels.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Br. Guy Consolmagno                                                     | Main Stage                 |
| 8:30pm  | <b>Consciousness in Species - Terrestrial and Extraterrestrial</b><br>People may be able to readily accept the idea of consciousness in extraterrestrial species, but the idea of consciousness in non-hominid species may make people uncomfortable. Why is that? What are the benefits and disadvantages of the mirror test for evaluating consciousness? Does intelligence necessarily imply consciousness? | Ctein<br>Bill Thomasson<br>Magenta Griffith<br>Thorin Tatge             | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's |
| 8:30pm  | <b>Internet Presence</b><br>Creating, growing and maintaining your blog/Vlog/fanfic/etc presence and the do's & don'ts of managing your empire of minions and technical details about your podcasting equipment.                                                                                                                                                                                               | Jim C. Hines<br>Mark Oshiro<br>Catherine Schaff-Stump<br>Tyler Tork     | Veranda 3/4                |
| 8:30pm  | <b>Share Your Passion</b><br>Talk for five minutes or less on a topic you're passionate about.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Jane Yolen<br>Bill Higgins<br>Lisa Freitag<br>Jeanne Mealy<br>Josh More | Veranda 5/6                |
| 8:59pm  | <b>Smoooooooooooooth</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                         | Bar*                       |
| 10:00pm | <b>Moneyduck Gathering</b><br>Play Moneyduck, win a valuable chance to have your drawing featured in a future Minicon publication.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Patricia Zetelumen                                                      | Garden Court               |
| 10:00pm | <b>Scotch Tasting</b><br>Hosted by the Godfather of Minicon, Joel Phillips. As space will be limited, participants are asked to bring a single-malt to share and a story to tell.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Joel Phillips                                                           | Das Klatschhaus<br>Rm 217  |

\* The Con Bar is located in room 218, and not to be confused with the hotel bar where you have to spend actual money.

# SCHEDULE

MINICON52

## SATURDAY

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                           |                            |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10:00am | <b>Art Show &amp; Dealer Room Opens</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                           | Ballroom West              |
| 10:00am | <b>Beanie Monsters!</b><br>Take an innocent beanie baby and turn him into something frightful.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Bonnie Somdahl<br>Becca Leathers                                          | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 10:00am | <b>Amino Acids in Meteorites</b><br>What is the significance of the finding of amino acids in meteorites? Panspermia is the concept that the building blocks of life could have been delivered to Earth via comet or meteorite impact; does the presence of amino acids in meteorites add validity to that claim?                 | Br. Guy Consolmagno<br>Bill Thomasson                                     | Veranda 3/4                |
| 10:00am | <b>Exploring Creativity</b><br>What does it mean to be creative? Are we all creative, or just some of us? Can creativity be learned? What's "sense of wonder" and what does it take to create it in ourselves and for others?                                                                                                     | Jim C. Hines<br>Catherine Schaff-Stump<br>Gerald Brandt<br>Eleanor Ameson | Veranda 5/6                |
| 11:00am | <b>Sun-Catchers</b><br>Crayon shavings become something magical when pressed into mobiles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Bonnie Somdahl<br>Becca Leathers<br>Andra St. Arnauld                     | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 11:30am | <b>Kaffeeklatsch with Jim C. Hines</b><br>Klatsches require sign-up at the registration table.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Jim C. Hines                                                              | Das Klatschhaus<br>Rm 217  |
| 11:30am | <b>The Long, Strange Journey of Turn Left at Orion</b><br>Brother Guy Consolmagno published one of the most popular guides to using a small telescope. The story on how it got published is filled with missteps and adventures that were almost as much fun as the astronomical observations done for the book.                  | Br. Guy Consolmagno                                                       | Main Stage                 |
| 11:30am | <b>Games with Thorin</b><br>Join Thorin to play some old favorites, or learn some new games. We will continue playing games until 12:30 or so.                                                                                                                                                                                    | Thorin Tatge                                                              | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 11:30am | <b>Interview with Mark Oshiro</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Mark Oshiro<br>Tanya Brody                                                | Veranda 3/4                |
| 11:30am | <b>How to Spot a Fan</b><br>Fans are getting a lot of press, both positive and negative, these days. Here are some tips for recognizing other fans in the wild, concentrating on observations and personal stories about our commonalities.                                                                                       | Lisa Freitag<br>Elise Matthesen<br>David E. Romm                          | Veranda 5/6                |
| 11:30am | <b>Lazy Writing</b><br>Don't let your readers come crashing into cliches and scenes they've seen before, or take plot turns that don't make sense. That's lazy writing. We see it all the time on television, and in movies and books. Somebody needs an editor. And a writer needs to find ways to take that in a new direction. | Jane Yolen<br>Jerry Stearns<br>Tyler Tork<br>Kathryn Sullivan             | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's |
| 12:00pm | <b>Eleanor Ameson Signing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Eleanor Ameson                                                            | Outside Edina              |
| 12:00pm | <b>Story Time</b><br>Stories for Spring presented by Laura, our fabulous story teller.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Laura Krentz                                                              | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 12:30pm | <b>Tyler Tork Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Tyler Tork                                                                | Veranda 1                  |
| 1:00pm  | <b>Interview with Jim C. Hines</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Jim C. Hines<br>David Perry                                               | Main Stage                 |
| 1:00pm  | <b>Surviving the End</b><br>What happens when your favorite book/movie/anime/TV/comic series ends? Can fandom continue without new source material? Should it?                                                                                                                                                                    | Mark Oshiro<br>Ruth Berman<br>Magenta Griffith                            | Veranda 3/4                |
| 1:00pm  | <b>Getting There is Half the Fun</b><br>Our panelists relate incredible stories about conventions and fannish road trips. How big was that van, really?                                                                                                                                                                           | Bill Thomasson<br>Greg Ketter<br>Jeanne Mealy<br>Dean Gahlon              | Veranda 5/6                |
| 1:00pm  | <b>The Hugo Finalists</b><br>Did your favorite works make the list? Any real surprises to discuss? Join us for an investigative review of the finalists for this year's Hugo Awards.                                                                                                                                              | Alice Bentley<br>Michael Lee                                              | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's |
| 1:00pm  | <b>Candy Constructions</b><br>Build as high as your candy and imagination can take you.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Bonnie Somdahl<br>Andra St. Arnauld                                       | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 1:00pm  | <b>Kaffeeklatsch with Jane Yolen</b><br>Klatsches require sign-up at the registration table.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Jane Yolen                                                                | Das Klatschhaus<br>Rm 217  |

| SATURDAY |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                      |                             |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1:30pm   | <b>MNSTF Volunteer Opportunities</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Emily Stewart<br>Matt Strait<br>Kevin Austin                                                         | Next Gen                    |
| 2:00pm   | <b>Create A Badge</b><br>Color a picture, or draw one of your own and then turn it into a professional looking badge pin using our fun machine.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Bonnie Somdahl                                                                                       | Edina<br>Rumpus Room        |
| 2:00pm   | <b>Ctein Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Ctein                                                                                                | Veranda 1                   |
| 2:00pm   | <b>Mark Oshiro Signing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Mark Oshiro                                                                                          | Outside Edina               |
| 2:30pm   | <b>Ask a Scientist</b><br>Once again our panel of experts will attempt to explain recent scientific progress. With Brother Guy participating, we will likely concentrate on astronomy.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Br. Guy Consolmagno<br>Ctein<br>Bill Higgins<br>Chas Somdahl                                         | Main Stage                  |
| 2:30pm   | <b>Jane Yolen Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Jane Yolen                                                                                           | Veranda 1                   |
| 2:30pm   | <b>Science Fiction and the TV Revolution</b><br>Streaming services have vastly altered the landscape of TV programming with a flood of original short series, many of them SF or Fantasy. Let's discuss the good, the bad, and the ugly.                                                                                                                                                                   | Sharon Kahn<br>Greg Larson<br>Terry Hughes                                                           | Veranda 3/4                 |
| 2:30pm   | <b>Parenting the Non-Neurotypical Child</b><br>Bringing kids to fannish events can be... interesting, particularly if the kid is non-neurotypical. What are the benefits and problems of raising a child in fandom?                                                                                                                                                                                        | Ann Totusek<br>David Perry<br>Shannon Perry<br>Lisa Freitag                                          | Veranda 5/6                 |
| 2:30pm   | <b>Walking Alone: Shirley Jackson, 1916-1965</b><br>A centennial-plus-a-year tribute to the genre-straddling author of the novels <i>The Haunting of Hill House</i> and <i>We Have Always Lived in the Castle</i> and the stories "The Lottery," "The Summer People," and "One Ordinary Day, with Peanuts."                                                                                                | Eric Heideman<br>Greg Ketter<br>Pamela Dean                                                          | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's  |
| 3:00pm   | <b>Costume Workshop</b><br>Delve into our bins of fabrics and bric-a-brac to come up with your own costume design. Seamstresses will be available to lend a hand.<br><i>Note: We will continue costume construction until it's time for the judged Costume Contest at 5:00pm.</i>                                                                                                                          | Linda Lounsbury<br>Andra St. Arnaud<br>Marti McConnell<br>Guin & Cecilia Lazarchic<br>Bonnie Somdahl | Edina<br>Rumpus Room        |
| 3:30pm   | <b>Lisa Freitag Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Lisa Freitag                                                                                         | Veranda 1                   |
| 3:30pm   | <b>Br. Guy Consolmagno Signing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Br. Guy Consolmagno                                                                                  | Outside Edina               |
| 4:00pm   | <b>Spectroscopes</b><br>Fracture light with a device you can make yourself using a CD.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Chas Somdahl                                                                                         | Edina<br>Rumpus Room        |
| 4:00pm   | <b>Fastner &amp; Larson Trailer Park</b><br>Local comics & fantasy illustrators (and Minicon 40 Artist Guests of Honor) Steve Fastner and Rich Larson present and discuss a batch of trailers from '50s and '60s SF and horror movies that "scarred our adolescent psyches and forever poisoned our artistic vision."                                                                                      | Steve Fastner<br>Rich Larson                                                                         | Atrium 8: Cinema<br>Obscura |
| 4:00pm   | <b>Return to Jupiter: NASA's Juno Mission</b><br>Last summer, a new spacecraft arrived at Jupiter. Juno's mission is to orbit the giant planet, studying its powerful magnetic field, its intense radiation belts, and the intricate interplay of particles and energies surging through nearby space. Bill Higgins reviews Juno's role in gathering more clues to the formation and evolution of Jupiter. | Bill Higgins                                                                                         | Main Stage                  |
| 4:00pm   | <b>Interview with Jeff Lee Johnson</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Jeff Lee Johnson<br>Richard Mueller                                                                  | Veranda 3/4                 |
| 4:00pm   | <b>Steven Brust Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Steven Brust                                                                                         | Veranda 1                   |
| 4:00pm   | <b>The Creative Process</b><br>So you're going to make something. Our experts will give you all the info you need to be completely successful EVERY TIME!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Mark Oshiro<br>Elise Mathesen<br>Jane Yolen<br>J. Boone Dryden                                       | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's  |
| 4:00pm   | <b>Little Free Library Workshop</b><br>Come learn about the Little Free Library project, help construct some new boxes, and peruse a selection of free books.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Ann Totusek                                                                                          | Ballroom West               |
| 5:00pm   | <b>Toys in Spaaaaace!</b><br>Come and be wowed by the types of toys that the astronauts have taken into space, and watch videos of how they performed in zero g.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Ben Huset                                                                                            | Edina<br>Rumpus Room        |

# SCHEDULE

MINICON52

| SATURDAY |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                          |                      |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 5:00pm   | <b>Costume Contest</b><br>Saturday afternoon juried contest of costumes.                                                                                                                                                          | Melissa M<br>Jim C. Hines                                                                | Veranda 5/6          |
| 5:00pm   | <b>Pamela Dean Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Pamela Dean                                                                              | Veranda 1            |
| 5:00pm   | <b>Jane Yolen Signing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Jane Yolen                                                                               | Outside Edina        |
| 7:00pm   | <b>Art Show &amp; Dealer's Room Close</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                          | Ballroom West        |
| 7:00pm   | <b>Lady Poetesses from Hell</b><br>A Minicon Tradition! Poetry performance group.                                                                                                                                                 | Elise Matthesen<br>Jane Yolen<br>Ruth Berman<br>Terry Garey<br>Rebecca Mariasclatter     | Main Stage           |
| 7:00pm   | <b>Mark Oshiro Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Mark Oshiro                                                                              | Veranda 1            |
| 7:00pm   | <b>Self-Publishing: Tragedies and Triumphs</b><br>All self-publishers face a landscape of challenges. Let's hear some tales from the trenches.                                                                                    | Laramie Sasseville<br>Kathryn Sullivan<br>Patrick Marsh<br>Troy Skog                     | Veranda 3/4          |
| 7:00pm   | <b>Interview with Br. Guy Consolmagno</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         | Br. Guy Consolmagno<br>Bill Higgins                                                      | Veranda 5/6          |
| 7:00pm   | <b>Art Auction</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                          | Ballroom West        |
| 8:00pm   | <b>Dean Lappi Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Dean Lappi                                                                               | Veranda 1            |
| 8:00pm   | <b>Adam Stemple Concert</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Adam Stemple                                                                             | Music Room           |
| 8:30pm   | <b>Living the Con Life</b><br>Spending a lot of time at conventions sounds like a dream, but can sometimes be a nightmare. We will share survival skills and tales from the front lines on how to survive ALL of the conventions. | Mark Oshiro<br>Lisa Freitag<br>Alice Bentley<br>Michael Lee                              | Veranda 3/4          |
| 8:30pm   | <b>Jim C. Hines Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Jim C. Hines                                                                             | Main Stage           |
| 8:30pm   | <b>John M. Ford Reading</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Elise Matthesen                                                                          | Veranda 1            |
| 8:30pm   | <b>The First Con in Space</b><br>What will be the pluses, minuses, challenges, and expectations? How soon can we hope to go?                                                                                                      | Bill Thomasson<br>Bill Higgins<br>Alice Ableman<br>Jeanne Mealy                          | Veranda 5/6          |
| 9:30pm   | <b>Steven Brust Hot Tub Reading</b><br>Steven Brust reading from his work. In the hot tub.                                                                                                                                        | Steven Brust                                                                             | Hot Tub              |
| 9:30pm   | <b>Jim C. Hines Signing</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Jim C. Hines                                                                             | Outside Edina        |
| 11:59pm  | <b>SF Pub Quiz</b><br>The traditional Midnight Trivia In the Bar. Dust off your brains and assemble your teams to compete for valuable prizes! Er... prizes, anyway.                                                              | Brian                                                                                    | Bar*                 |
| SUNDAY   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                          |                      |
| 10:00am  | <b>Kazoo Making</b><br>Turn tongue depressors into noisy musical fun!                                                                                                                                                             | Becca Leathers<br>Thorin Tatge<br>Bonnie Somdahl                                         | Edina<br>Rumpus Room |
| 10:00am  | <b>The Business of Writing</b><br>Some of the nuts and bolts behind running the business end of a writing career.                                                                                                                 | Jim C. Hines<br>Jane Yolen<br>J. Boone Dryden<br>Catherine Schaff-Stump<br>Gerald Brandt | Veranda 5/6          |
| 11:00am  | <b>Art Show &amp; Dealer Room Opens</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                          | Ballroom West        |

\* The Con Bar is located in room 218, and not to be confused with the hotel bar where you have to spend actual money.

| SUNDAY  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                |                            |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 11:00am | <b>Altoid® Monsters!</b><br>Cover an unassuming Altoid tin with fur, add eyes and other features to turn it into something monstrous.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Becca & Graham<br>Leathers Bonnie Somdahl                                      | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 11:30am | <b>Kaffeeeklatsch with Mark Oshiro</b><br>Klatsches require sign-up at the registration table.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Mark Oshiro                                                                    | Das Klatschhaus<br>Rm 217  |
| 11:30am | <b>StarCitizen Tech Demo</b><br>Wyatt Mustful presents a demonstration and technical overview of StarCitizen, the largest crowd-funded science fiction space game, with details on its development and what potential stories are going to be out there.                                                                                     | Wyatt Mustful                                                                  | Main Stage                 |
| 11:30am | <b>We Love Anime</b><br>Let's chat about some of our favorite types of anime!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Alice Bentley                                                                  | Veranda 3/4                |
| 11:30am | <b>Fannish Hobbies</b><br>What do we like to do in our spare time, what makes it fannish, and where did it lead us?                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Liza Furr<br>Bill Higgins<br>Alice Ableman<br>Magenta Griffith<br>Jeanne Mealy | Veranda 5/6                |
| 11:30am | <b>Monsters from Spaaaaace!</b><br>Puppet Masters & Body Snatchers. Things & Aliens. Midwich Cuckoos & Martian Attackers. Wars of Worlds. Galactus, Darkseid... These and many other space monsters in fiction, film, TV, and comics, have brought us countless hours of pleasure. Let us, by all means, squeee.                             | Eric Heideman                                                                  | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's |
| 12:00pm | <b>Art Fun with Jeff Lee Johnson</b><br>Our artist featured guest is planning on an hour of artistic play.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Jeff Lee Johnson                                                               | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 1:00pm  | <b>Progressive Story</b><br>Join our author GoH to create a new story that everyone can take part in.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Jim C. Hines                                                                   | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 1:00pm  | <b>Intersection of Art and Law</b><br>J. Boone Dryden discusses the intersection of Art and Law, and how artists can be better equipped and educated to deal with it.                                                                                                                                                                        | J. Boone Dryden                                                                | Veranda 3/4                |
| 1:00pm  | <b>The Space Program in the Trump Era, Year One</b><br>For a bunch of years a band of space scientists and space science fans have been panelling at local cons about how space exploration and astronomy have been laring during the Obama administration. We'll wind that up and start talking about space science during the Trump years. | Eric Heideman<br>Bill Higgins<br>Ben Huset<br>Michael Kauper                   | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's |
| 2:00pm  | <b>Tool Time</b><br>Help Michael deconstruct various devices to see what's inside and how they worked.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Michael Kauper                                                                 | Edina<br>Rumpus Room       |
| 2:30pm  | <b>Exoplanets and the Potential for Life</b><br>With the confirmation of multiple planets in the habitable zone of other stars, what does this mean for the possibility of alien life?                                                                                                                                                       | Br. Guy Consolmagno<br>Ctein<br>Bill Thomasson<br>Bill Higgins                 | Veranda 5/6                |
| 2:30pm  | <b>Moneyduck Reveal</b><br>Sunday reveal of the ongoing Moneyduck serial story compiled over the course of the weekend.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Patricia Zetelumen                                                             | Veranda 3/4                |
| 2:30pm  | <b>Feet of Clay</b><br>What foibles and flaws make our heroic figures more interesting? How do we relate to the characters we create? Do we take special care of our favorites, or are they the ones most likely to be hurt?                                                                                                                 | Jim C. Hines<br>Mark Oshiro<br>Eleanor Arneson<br>Ruth Berman<br>Tyler Tork    | Veranda 7/8<br>Krushenko's |
| 3:00pm  | <b>Art Show &amp; Dealer Room Closes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                | Ballroom West              |
| 4:00pm  | <b>Closing Ceremonies</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                | Main Stage                 |
|         | <b>Dead Dog Party</b><br>After the convention has been dismantled and tidily put back in its box, we will reconvene for some hard-earned recovery, food, drinks, SMOFing, games, and open music.                                                                                                                                             | You!                                                                           | Bar & Consuite             |

\* The Con Bar is located in room 218, and not to be confused with the hotel bar where you have to spend actual money. And please, remain calm.

# INFORMATION

MINICON52

## REGISTRATION

Registration is located in the 2nd floor Grand Ballroom foyer during the following hours:

Friday ..... 10:00am - 10:00pm  
Saturday ..... 9:30am - 8:00pm  
Sunday ..... 9:30am - 4:00pm

Outside of these hours and after Closing Ceremonies, registration can be found in the Minicon Bar in Room 218.

**Badges:** Everyone attending Minicon must register and wear a badge for admission into convention functions. If you find a badge, turn it into the registration table. If you lose your badge, check at the registration table. You may get a replacement badge for \$1.00.

**Registering for Minicon 53:** The form to preregister can be found in your registration packet or at the registration table. It will never be cheaper!

Adult - \$40.00      Student - \$15.00      Kid - \$10.00  
Child - free      Supporting Membership - \$15.00

## POLICIES

Minicon occurs in a hotel, which is part of a city, county, state, and country. All rules and laws imposed by these larger entities apply, even though being at Minicon can make you feel out of this world!

**Weapons:** Prop weapons or costume pieces must be secured and pose no danger to others. We reserve the right to prohibit any such items from our function rooms. And remember: You kill it, you eat it.

**Smoking:** FYI for out-of-towners, Minnesota is smoke-free in all public places, but there are designated smoking areas outside.

**Harassment:** If you need help with a problem where someone is violating our Code of Conduct (see below), or not taking “no” for an answer, call us at **(612) 408-1060**, and we will help find a solution. This phone is answered all day and most of the night. If we don’t answer, leave a voice mail message or text, and we’ll respond as soon as we can.

**Emergencies:** In case of an emergency threatening life or limb, please call 911!

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Minn-stf acknowledges that interpersonal relationships in social settings are complex. Not everyone likes everyone else, and not everyone agrees with everyone else. Disagreements, friction, and vigorous debate are expected. However, interactions that become hostile or coercive do not have any part in a healthy social environment and Minicon commits to addressing problem behaviors.

Harassment is difficult to define, and attempts at an exact definition are subject to rules-lawyering, so we won’t attempt to do that. However, repeated unwelcome behaviors are mostly likely to be construed as harassment. If someone asks you not to touch them, not to talk to them, or not to refer to them in a way that they find objectionable, and you persist in doing so, you may be harassing them. Actions that are sufficiently egregious (assault, truly hateful language, and comparable actions) fall under this policy, even if only one occurrence has been noted. In the end, harassment is judged primarily by the person who feels harassed, and actions are more important than intent.

If you tell someone to stop something you see as harassing behavior and they don’t, you may tell us. If you don’t feel comfortable telling someone to stop harassing behaviour, you may also tell us. We want to make sure everyone is heard so that together we can make Minicon a healthy, fun, enjoyable experience for everyone.

Code of Conduct Responders can be reached at **612-408-1060**.

## WHAT IS MNSTF?

It's the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, variously abbreviated MnStf, Minn-STF, MN-STF, and other variants. It's the non-profit group that brings you Minicon. Each year, the MNStF board of directors approves the next Minicon chairperson and looks after the continuing needs of the convention.

Mnstf does more than just Minicon. It also runs a small convention each year in the fall, mainly for the purpose of having something like Minicon, but without all that pesky programming and stress. This sort of convention is known in fannish circles as a relaxicon or a fallcon. Ours changes name frequently.

Besides running conventions, Minnstf's major activity is holding two parties (officially known as "meetings") per month, generally at members' homes. It's possible that you find the idea of showing up at a new person's home uninvited a little intimidating, but guess what? ... You're invited!

These meetings involve copious conversation, food, dinner expeditions, games, music, knitting, or all of the above. Meeting locations are published in MnstF's monthly newsletter, *Einblatt*, available at [mnstf.org/einblatt](http://mnstf.org/einblatt). You can also sign up for our events and discussion mailing lists at [mnstf.org](http://mnstf.org).

We usually also have a couple of special meetings: the picnic and the pool party. The pool party is held in the winter, the picnic is in July. Check *Einblatt* for details.

How do you become a member of MnStF? It's easy! If you attend a meeting, you're a member. If you sign in at seven meetings in a year, you become a voting member for that year and can help choose the Minn-Stf board.

And, as always, remain calm.

## VOLUNTEER!

Minicon is entirely volunteer-run. No one is paid for helping; even the convention chairs and all the department heads pay full price for their memberships. This keeps our membership rates down, but also means that we need your help. Think of Minicon like a big party: some of us are hosting the party, but we're all in it together.

How to help out? Well, if you see something that needs doing—a programming room that needs more chairs, the art show staff needs a break, or consuite needs some prep help—jump in! If you're not sure how, ask the nearest person who seems to know what's going on.

If everyone pitches in, the convention will run very smoothly. There will be a sign-up sheet at the registration desk. Here's a chance to use your mad skills!



## WANTED

Minn-stf archivist seeking copy of RUNE #82 (1992), to borrow or keep. Also RUNEs from the 1960s and '70s. Maybe other papers of yours. [archivist@mnstf.org](mailto:archivist@mnstf.org). Interested in Minicon history? Start at [mnstf.org/minicon1](http://mnstf.org/minicon1)

## EINBLATT!

*Einblatt!* is the monthly events calendar of Minn-StF. It attempts to inform people of conventions, meetings, an other fannish events taking place in or related to the Twin Cities fannish community.

## THE MNSTF PICNIC

The summer Mnstf picnic will be Saturday, July 15, 2017, at Minnehaha Park, Picnic Area #2, Minneapolis (same place as the last several years). We start around noon, and continue until dark, perhaps 8pm. Snacks and beverages will be provided. There'll be a grill going throughout the day; bring your own grilling items. As is customary at MNstf "meetings", there will be game playing. Besides table and board games, expect to see outdoor games such as croquet, bocce ball and frisbee. We are right next to the horseshoe pit, so if you have a set of horseshoes and like to play, bring them. Dogs are welcome, but the park requires that they be kept on leash. The picnic area is between Nawadaha Blvd and Godfrey Pkwy.



|                                 |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Chair .....                     | Ann Totusek       |
| Vice-Chair .....                | Scott Raun        |
| Art Show & Silent Auction ..... | Alec Phillips     |
| Badges & Registration .....     | Bill Christ       |
| Bar .....                       | Susan Philbrook   |
|                                 | Brian Lundgren    |
| Bozo Bus Tribune .....          | Thorin Tatge      |
| Ceremonies .....                | Toni Brust        |
| Cinema Obscura .....            | Greg Larsen       |
| Code of Conduct .....           | Lydy Nickerson    |
| Consuite .....                  | Kelly James       |
|                                 | Rakhi Rajpal      |
|                                 | Teresa James      |
| Costuming .....                 | Melissa McConnell |
| Dealers' Room .....             | Lisa Freitag      |
|                                 | Alice Bentley     |
| Electronic PR Delivery .....    | David Dyer-Bennet |
| Email Address Handler .....     | Matthew Strait    |
| Games .....                     | Richard Tatge     |

|                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Green Room .....                | Karen Cooper           |
|                                 | Sharon Kahn            |
| Guest of Honor Liaisons .....   | Rick Snyder            |
|                                 | Tanya Brody            |
|                                 | Tom Hogan              |
|                                 | Anton Petersen         |
| Hotel & Party Liaison .....     | Keith Malgren          |
| Logistics .....                 | James Porter           |
| Medallion Hunt .....            | Jay Spitzer            |
| Music .....                     | Chas Somdahl           |
| Next Generation/Teen Room ..... | Ely McConnell          |
| Programming .....               | Alice Bentley          |
| Publications .....              | Susan Philbrook        |
| Quartermaster .....             | Joel Phillips          |
| Registration & Info .....       | Clay Harris (pre-con)  |
|                                 | Carol Kennedy (at-con) |
| Rumpus Room .....               | Bonnie Somdahl         |
| Science Room .....              | Ben Huset              |
| Social Media .....              | Aaron Vander Giessen   |
| Treasurer .....                 | Matt Strait            |
| Web Master .....                | Joe Pregracke          |

# Decongestant 2

## October 6-8, 2017

Decongestant is Minnstf's *other* con in 2017!

We expect it to be a relaxing weekend with about 3/4 of a track of light programming, possibly with a little bit of heavy programming mixed in.

We'll have a teen room, lots of gaming, a well-stocked consuite (and one or two organized meals), music, art, a craft swap, and whatever else you bring to it.

### Where is it?

The Hilton Bloomington, 3900 American Blvd West (by France, not the other Hilton Bloomington). We were there last year, and it was great.



### Register!

Pre-register at [mnstf.org/decongestant2](http://mnstf.org/decongestant2) by Sept 17. Or mail in the form on the website, or you can send the usual info to Minnstf, PO Box 8297, Minneapolis MN 55408. Pre-reg is \$50 (\$40 if need be), \$10 under 21, free under 13. More details on the website.

[mnstf.org/decongestant2](http://mnstf.org/decongestant2)





ART CREDITS

|         |                                                  |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Cover   | Artwork used by permission from Jeff Lee Johnson |
| Page 1  | Blimp art by Rachel Kronick ©2010                |
| Page 2  | Photos from jimchines.com                        |
| Page 4  | Photos from uncannymagazine.com                  |
| Page 5  | Photos from jeffleejohnson.com                   |
| Page 11 | Robot Bus - Public domain                        |
| Page 21 | Chart art by Matthew Strait                      |

The Minicon 52 Program Book, a RUNE PRESS publication, is ©2017 by the Minnesota Science Fiction Society and the above credited artists. The text of this work may be redistributed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-ShareAlike License ([creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/))

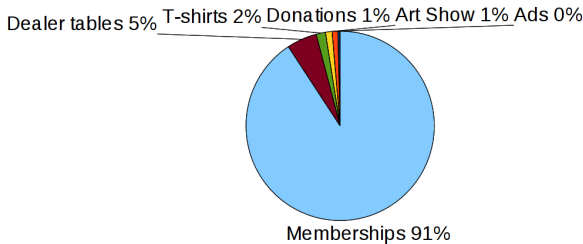
## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Minicon is a members-driven non-profit con. Our goal is to bring the community together for an enjoyable and possibly even educational experience, not to make the most money or to get the most people, although we take more people showing up as a good sign. We all chip in our membership fees so that there's enough to run this thing and to support our parent organization, Mnstf. If we end up with a profit after that, it means we overcharged. We make a concerted effort to hold the rates low and run a frugal con. We want you to know where your money goes, and we want to hear whether you think it's being spent well.

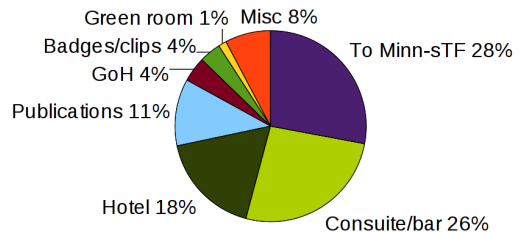
## MINICON 51 FINANCES

Minicon 51 returned more money to Mn-StF than projected, primarily because of an unexpectedly low hotel bill and GoH expenses being much lower than the initial projection.

Minicon 51 Income

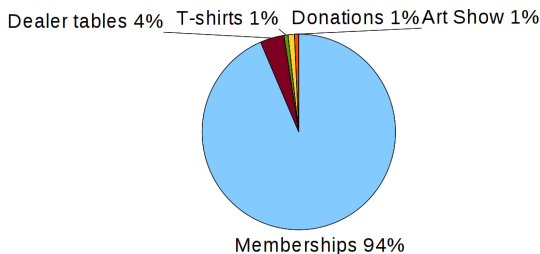


Minicon 51 Expenses

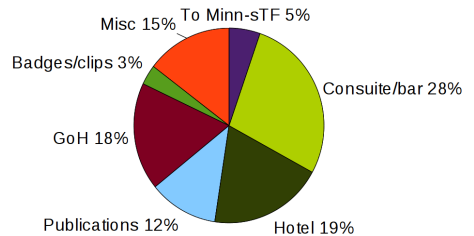


## MINICON 52 PROJECTED FINANCES

Minicon 52 Income



Minicon 52 Expenses



## FEEDBACK

You can contact the Minicon 52 chairs for a little while longer at [treasurer@minicon52.mnstf.org](mailto:treasurer@minicon52.mnstf.org). You can always contact the Mnstf board at [board@mnstf.org](mailto:board@mnstf.org). And you are welcome to come chat at Minn-stf meetings/parties. See [mnstf.org](http://mnstf.org) for times and locations.

**THE WORLD IS COMING BACK TO THE BAY!**

# **WORLD CON 76**

**SAN JOSE 2018**

## **GUESTS OF HONOR**

**PIERRE & SANDY  
PETTINGER**



**BOB  
WILKINS**  
(GHOST OF HONOR)



**EDGAR  
PANGBORN**  
(GHOST OF HONOR)



**CHELSEA  
QUINN  
YARBRO**



**SPIDER  
ROBINSON**



*Make the Future*

The McEnery Convention Center  
San Jose - California - August 16-20, 2018

**WWW.WORLDCON76.ORG**