

DISCON STUFF



A BIDZINE BY THE DISCON III, INC. COMMITTEE FOR WASHINGTON, DC IN 1992.

DISCON III, inc, P. O. Box 2745, College Park, MD 20740-2745 (USA)

WHY WE ARE BIDDING

The last couple of DISCONS were a lot of fun and we think we can make it happen again for the 50th World Science Fiction Convention in 1992. By the site selection at Boston in 1989, we hope you'll agree and vote for our site, Washington, D.C.

DISCON I was held back in 1963 at the old Statler-Hilton Hotel (16th & K, N.W.). 792 fen were members, but the highest badge number was #709, due to the addition of special "i" and "-i" and minus numbers. George Scithers was Chairman. He was President of the sponsoring Group, the Washington Science Fiction Association (WSFA) at the time, and our GOH was either Will Jenkins or Murray Leinster, depending on who you were. There was a live dance band at the Masquerade and, we danced. Thanks to the ChiCon III folks, we had started with a nest egg of \$374.16 and it all mounted up quickly to a gross income of \$6,237.43 (of which we sent \$440.02 on to Pacificon II). WSFA had a lot of fun doing it, with the help of some of our friends. So, DC won the bid again for the 1974 WorldCon-- due in some part to the good feelings people had about our last DISCON.

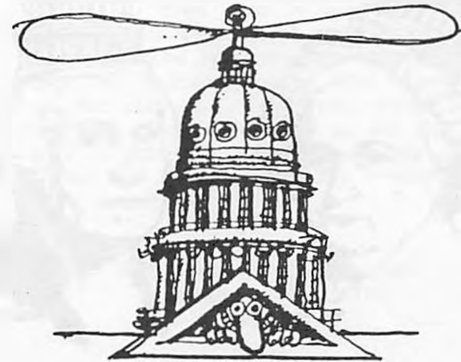
So, Jay & Alice Haldeman were made Co-Chairpeople, and Ron Bounds and a merry band of fen got it together again. This time it was held in the Sheraton Park of blessed memory. Avedon calls it "The Sheraton Gormanghast", because of the marvelous maze of rooms in which you could walk level from the eighth floor into the subterranean exhibition hall level. It was really a fun place to hang out in, or do a con in. (WSFA did a whole string of DISCLAVES there.) Roger Zelazny was GOH, and while around 600 of DISCON I's members attended, at least 3587 were at DISCON II. Its revenue was reported as \$53,187.72 - we spent most of it on the attendees, donated \$2,400 to fannish causes and had a little left over for "the benefit of future con attendees." (\$1,007.09 to be exact - it was frittered away on bids, for the most part). All in all the fen who attended DISCON II got more than their money's worth. If you were there, you know what I mean.

If you work on WorldCons, you probably know a lot of our committee because a lot of WSFA's pitch in. You'll find some of us running things, some gofering, some speaking on panels, exhibiting in the Art Show, and eventually, all of us at your party. We want to return the favor, and get you to come to our party -- in 1992.

WHO WE ARE

DISCON III, inc. is a non-share corporation composed for the most part of WSFA's. WSFA sponsors our bid, but our Corporation is autonomous. The Corporation presently has 32 members and is not closed to new members. But a Corporation isn't a bid. A COMMITTEE runs a bid. Our corporation is there to keep things legal, elect officers and chip in money. Our Corporation members include: President: Kent Bloom, Secretary: Joe Mayhew, Treasurer: Naomi Ronis, Boardmembers Alan Huff, Peggy Rae Pavlat, Dick Roepke and Mike Walsh, Members: Mary Rita Blute, Chris Callahan, Jack Chalker, Alexis Gilliland, Jack Heneghan, Dan Hoey, Bob MacIntosh, Heather Nachman, Barry & Judy Newton, Lance Oszko, Jul & Mark Owings, Eric and Peggy Rae Pavlat, John Pomeranz, Ray Ridenour, John Sapienza, Cat Slusser, Victoria Smith, Lee Smoire, and Steve Swartz. Thus we have a former WorldCon chairman, a bunch of division, department, and area heads from previous WorldCons, as well as several regional Con chairs. Or

to put it another way: 2 SF authors, 3 lawyers, 3 cartoonists, The Virginia State Archeologist, Several Bureaucrats, a librarian, an accountant, an immigrant to Australia, a chocoholic, some mummies, a Coast Guard Officer, some computer types, two more librarians, and we hope, in time, a partridge in a pear tree. Some of us have been fans since the 50's, some are less gray. One is a third generation Fan. That's the corporation so far. The Committee is being formed and we are trying to get you involved -- not just to get your vote.



UNCLE FAN NEEDS YOU

While the Greater Washington, DC area has one of the largest number of WorldCon experienced Fen of any city in the USA, not even NESFA can do it alone. If we win, we can easily provide on-site liaison personnel and management, but, like any other group, we will look out to the rest of fandom for much of our ConCom and staff. What we want to do, is get **enough** fans involved. To that end, we have volunteer forms reproduced on the back of this publication. Photocopy it so you won't have to cut up your copy of **DISCON STUFF** and fill it out and send it to us?

OUR HOTELS

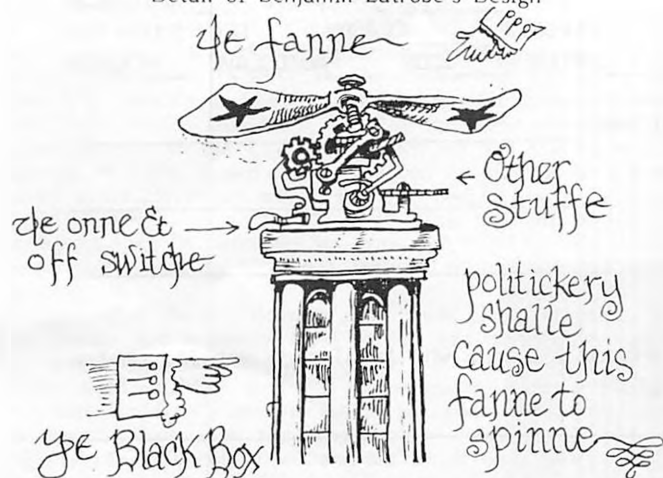
We have an arrangement with three hotels which book together as "The CONNECTICUT AVE. COLLECTION". They are: Sheraton Washington Hotel, Omni Shoreham and the Washington Hilton and Towers. The Sheraton Washington may seem a tad familiar to those of you who attended DISCON II. Yes, they did tear down the **guest rooms** at the old Sheraton Park, but they built them right back up again. Now, there are 1,505 guest rooms, 124 suites, 38 meeting rooms, a 4,200 fan capacity ballroom, 95,000 square feet of exhibit space, four restaurants, 3 lounges, 2 outdoor swimming pools and so on. The Shoreham, which is just across the street, has 770 guest rooms, a 2,500 capacity ballroom, 42,00 sq. ft. of exhibit space two restaurants, 2 lounges a swimming pool and some of the rooms look just like the old Sheraton Park's if you miss them. Then there's the Hilton. It's a few blocks down the street, but we want to use it because it has the best place we have ever seen for the Masquerade. It'll seat 4,200 and is designed for fashion shows. It is oval, has two levels and no bad seats. The Hotel has 1,150 Guest Rooms, 91 suites, 31 meeting rooms

Steven Vaughn-Nichols, Virginia Vaughn-Nichols, David L. Verdin, Jr., Michael J. Walsh, Dalroy M. Ward, Kenneth T. Warren, Vicki Warren, Eva C. Whitley, Jim Williams, Clinton Winchester, Nancy Winchester, Gene Wolfe, Rosemary Wolfe, Robin Wood, Jean Yarsawich, Jace Yeager, Susan Yee, Barry Zeiger, Beth Zipser.

OUR LOGO EXPLAINED

The U.S. Capitol Building, as seen by your casual tourist, appears to have a statue of a chubby lady wearing a knot of either feathers of tobacco leaves in her hat. But that is only a curious optical illusion created by the rapidly spinning propellor which actually is emplaced there. Local Fen know all about it of course, but many life-time residents of Washington, DC have never suspected the real truth of the matter. During the War (the Great War) Patriotic Ladies contributed the stars and stripes painted on the propellor, which were painted on without stopping the motion of the blades, but that is another story.

Detail of Benjamin Latrobe's Design



I found the original sketch for the US. Capitol Rotor in a musty box of fanzines dating from the American War of Independence, which, as you can see, included several highly futuristic elements and precise scientific terminology. It was a real tribute to Yankee ingenuity both in concept and in artistic fervor. Not to mention a profound understanding of the very legislative process by which the United States of America is more or less governed. **HOW IT WORKS:**

Hot air, rising from the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives Chambers, causes the propellor atop the Capitol Dome to spin, generating enough fan energy to run first class DISCONS.



NOREASCON THREE

Well, If you haven't joined the 1989 WorldCon yet, here's just one more reason to do so: you get to vote on the 1992 site selection...if you also pay the voting fee. Those of you who know your way around know that isn't such a bad deal. For one thing, if you buy an attending membership in the 1989 WorldCon, you can get on what will probably be a very well run, handsome Con. If you still aren't a member....well, what are you waiting for? After all, you can't vote for DISCON III if you don't belong to NOREASCON THREE.

Their Address is:

Noreascon Three
Box 46, MIT Branch Post Office
Cambridge, MA 02139
USA

ARTISTS!

So far, the DISCON III ads and features have featured art work by Richard Thompson, Mere Insinga, George Kochell, Vicki Wyman and Joe Mayhew. Our logo, the US Capitol Dome with a propellor has been done in several different versions, but we are looking for other stuff too (we'd like our Logo to appear in the background or somewhere else in the picture. We have also done two T-Shirts, one by Ray Ridenour another by Vicki Wyman. We plan on another yet. We're looking for a good 3 color design for possible use as the Con T-Shirt. We pay off mostly in gratitude. But if you'd like to get into the act, please send art work (print ready copies will do nicely) to the following address:

Joe Mayhew
5800 Annapolis Rd. Apt 105
Bladensburg, MD 20710
(USA)



SO, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you have any questions, want to join in on our bid, or even have some criticism, please get in touch.

Our address is:

DISCON III, inc
P. O. Box 2745
College Park, MD 20740-2745
(USA)

Feel free to make as many copies of the Volunteer Registry Form as you like, and fill one out for yourself.

and 45,000 square feet of exhibition space, another swimming pool and the rest of the trimmings.

What makes Washington's hotels rather different from those found in other cities is simply that they aren't very tall. There is a city ordinance which prohibits building above a certain height. The reason was originally to prevent surrounding buildings from obscuring one's view of the U.S. Capitol building but certain fringe benefits keep the law on the books. One is the lower level of congestion in the city, better air circulation and, most important, **less elevator crunch**. You, see none of our three hotels is taller than 10 stories, and furthermore, with the law in DC making it illegal to lock the stairwells between floors, "panic on the 74th floor" just don't happen. For once, the law is on our side. You can get from floor to floor without a coronary or killing someone to get onto an elevator.



GEORGE AND MARTHA WASHINGTON WERE FANS

Infrequently mentioned by mundane historians, is the fact that the General and Mrs. Washington (DC) avidly support our bid. In fact, Martha W. was heard to say rather loudly during a rather long sermon on Sunday in August, "I don't know what would become of us, if it weren't for fans." George was obviously a costumer and as the Hessians will tell you, he liked to party late.

WASHINGTON HAS THE REAL THING

OTHER SITES CAN OFFER YOU FANTASYLAND AND MICKEY MOUSE. BUT DC HAS CONGRESS, AND THAT'S THE REAL THING. WE ALSO HAVE THE SMITHSONIAN.

Yup, the warren of the federal pack-rat. Yup, the Air and Space Museum with everything from the Wright Bros. original to the latest NASA barnstormer. There's another space museum up the road a bit at the NASA headquarters in Greenbelt, MD. And another over by Andrews AFB. And it's all **FREE**. That, and the National Arts and Industries Museum, Natural History, a bunch of Art Galleries, National Monuments, Parks, Aquatic Gardens, National Arboretum, The National Zoo (complete with Pandas) and most of it is also easy to get to. Take the Zoo. It's just up the street from the hotel. Then, there's the METRO. There's a station on the corner across the street from the Sheraton and the Omni. It'll take you to the Air and Space Museum without changing lines. It sort of looks like something from an SF movie - and it's safe, clean and fast. If you fly into DC via National Airport, you can take METRO from the airport right to the Sheraton or Shoreham.

Washington is a world class cultural center one of the most important cities on Earth. It entertains people from all around the world, and has a lot of diplomats and others who get hungry for a little homestyle cooking. For some that

means Paris and haute cuisine, for others Bali and satay, or Thai, Phillipine, Austrian, Moroccan, Brazilian, Greek, Irish, Hungarian, Russian, Ethiopian, Taiwanese, Swiss, and a lot more down home stuff.

But you don't pick a site primarily for its restaurants, amusement parks or outside attractions alone. We hope you'll be spending most of your time at the con. We'd like to throw a con that will offer serious competition with the temptation to go off and wander about the U.S. Capital City. Of course, some of you will want to come early or stay late and take in the sights, get off to Annapolis (also a former National Capital City), go sailing on the Chesapeake Bay, Go crabbing with a string, a chicken neck and a net, or lobby for something on Capitol Hill.

There's a lot of things hidden away in DC to see. Did you know that there is a Japanese temple on the grounds of the US Capitol? It was brought over by Teddy Roosevelt. Then again, there's the statue of a Giant emerging from the Earth down on the South end of Haines Point. By the way, it's safe to go walking at midnight there, and quite nice, down by the Potomac River...or to picnic up in Rock Creek Park.

PRE-SUPPORTERS

These ten have bought a pre-support button to help get the DISCON III bid information out to you:

Donald Aamodt, Elise Adams, Louise Adams, Pamela Adams, Robert Adams, Steve Aines, Sharon Akey, David Albamonte, Iskander R. Alexandar, Wendy Alexandar, Nancy T. Atherton, Ted Atwood, B. Shirley Avery, David M. Axler, Mark Barker, Donald H. Barr Jr., Fred Bauer, Janice Lynn Bauer, Judith C. Bemis, William F. Benthake, John Betancourt, Kent Bloom, Mitchell Botwin, Seth Botwin, Elizabeth Bowers, Russell Bowers, Seth Breidbart, Megan Brennan, David Brin, Chris Burgin, T. J. Burnside, Chris Callahan, Jon Callas, Jack L. Chalker, Jonathan Clark, Gavin Claypool, Hal Clement, Susan Cohen, Steve Cole, Art Coleman, Ford Curry, Wendy Curry, Peter David, Phoebe A. Davis, Dan Delaney, Martin E. Deutsch, Jr., Bob Doggett, Thomas Dresser, Vincent Drew, Michael R. Driscoll, Brenda Dunham, Dutch Dunham, Jeanie Dunnington, Robbi Dyer, Donald E. Eastlake IV, Karl W. Ehrlich, Thomas A. Endrey, Dick Eney, Gary Farber, Harold Feld, Steven Fetheroff, Joseph Fleischmann, Esther M. Friesner, Judy Gerjuey, Nancy Gerlach, Michael C. Gilbert, Charles D. Gilliland, Jim Goldfrank, Jeff Gordon, Mitch Gray, Billie Grey, Mary Hagan, V. Lee Hagee, Gay Haldeman, Jon Hammel, Nancy Handwork, Curt Harpold, David Hastie, Jack Heneghan, Albert Hernhutter, Donald Hernhutter, Dan Hoey, Alan Huff, Andromeda Huff, Aron K. Insinga, Merle S. Insinga, Kurt Jaeger, Nancy Janda, Heather Rose Jones, Laura Jones, Patrick Jones, Rick Katze, Miriam Winder Kelly, Patrick J. Kelly, David B. Kirby, Judy Krupp, Roy Krupp, George Koelsch, Kay Koelsch, David A. Kuc, David Lassman, Debra Laurence, George Lawrence, Brian Lewis, Nathan Lewis, Sharian Lewitt, Bob Lidral, Tamer Lindsay, Elizabeth A. Lockwood, Kevin W. Lockwood, Kathi Logue, Will Loomis-Stewart, Bob MacIntosh, Norwin Malmberg, Carl Mami, Laurie Mann, Winton E. Matthews, Jr., Joe Mayhew, Mary Morman, Heather Nachman, Ann Nalle, Barry Newton, Judy Newton, John Novak, Nova Odenwaller, Bob Oliver, Michael Oliver, Rosa Oliver, Mark L. Olson, Agnes O'Neill, Kathi D. Overton, Lance Oszko, Jul Owings, Mark Owings, Tony E. Parker, Aly Parsons, Paul N. Parsons, Ted Pauls, Eric Pavlat, Missy Pavlat, Peggy Rae Pavlat, Lloyd Penney, Yvonne Penney, Evan G. Phillips, Priscilla Pollner, John Pomeranz, Madoc Pope, D. Potter, Lawrence R. Proksch, Jon Radel, Dianna Reed, Theresa Renner, Robert J. Rissell, Charles Robinson, Mary Robinson, Richard Roepke, Naomi R. Ronis, John T. Sapienza, Jr., Evan B. Sayers, Sharon Sbarsky, Tom Schaad, Sinya Shaffer, Mary Ellen Scharadin, Mark Schleifer, Samuel Schwartz, Norman Schwarz, Jane Schweppe, Gerri Shuman, Jane Sibley, Cat Slusser, Steve Smith, Victoria A. Smith, Lee Smoire, Jennifer Sparenberg, Charlie Spearman, Stephanie Spearman, Bill Squire, Mike Stein, Erwin S. Strauss, Ira Stoller, Lee Strong, William Stuart, Steve Swartz, Takayuki Tatsumi, John Terrell, Kate Terrell, Greg Thokar, Gerry Uba, Lee Uba, Eric Van, Erica Van Dommelen, Ellen Vartanoff,

DISCON III VOLUNTEER REGISTRY

The Washington Science Fiction Association (WSFA) sponsored the bids for DISCON I and DISCON II, the 1963 and 1974 WorldCons. WSFA invites you to join our DISCON III for the 50th World Science Fiction Convention for 1992. We believe that Washington, D.C. has the best available facilities (Washington Hilton, Omni Shoreham and Sheraton Washington Hotels) and we hope your help, added to our large group of experienced fans, will assure Fandom of the best possible 1992 WorldCon. If you are interested in becoming a member of our team, please fill out this form and return it to the person who gave it to you, or mail it to the following address:

DISCON III, Inc
P. O. Box 2745
COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740-2745

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

Name _____

Address: _____

PHONE (day) _____

(evening) _____

The best time to contact me is: _____

The site of the 1992 WorldCon will be picked by members of the 1989 WorldCon, NOREASCON III who pay the additional site selection voting fee.

I am [] am not [] a member of NOREASCON III.

We are looking for quite a variety of skills and interests: producing ad and other publications, hosting parties at conventions, staffing promotion and information tables, gathering information, Artwork is needed for t-shirts, buttons, and for other promotions, need writers, editors, typists, programmers, and most of all, friends. We need to know who'll be available to help at up-coming cons

PLEASE INDICATE INTEREST / EXPERIENCE IN:

(interest = I / experience = E)

WRITING ARTICLES/ COPY FOR NEWSLETTER _____

PUBLICATION PRODUCTION _____

ADVERTIZING LAYOUT _____

CONTRIBUTING ARTWORK _____

COMPUTER AVAILABLE FOR BID WORK _____

MODEM _____

OFFICE SKILLS (typing, etc.) _____

THROWING BID PARTIES _____

HOSTING BID PARTIES _____

HELPING AT PARTIES _____

STAFFING INFO TABLE _____

OTHER (specify) _____

I plan to attend the [X]ed Cons and am willing to work there at least two hours for the bid:

PHILCON _____ CONSPIRACY _____ WORLD FANTASY _____
CACTUSCON _____ BALCON _____ BOSKONE _____
MIDWESTCON _____ READERCON _____ RIVERCON _____
UNICON _____ KUBLA KAN CLAVE _____ WESTERCON _____
CONFUSION _____ NOLACON _____ DEEP SOUTH CON _____
CORFLU _____ ICON _____ AUTOCLAVE _____ HEXACON _____

OTHERS _____

Who do you know who is already working on the bid?:

In your own words, how would you like to help?

If you have worked on any other bids or cons, please list them: