

Issue 1

Friday noon

# Bozo Bus Tribune

## The Official Organ of Minicon 45

### A Magnanimous Welcome

Last year, the rapacious hordes who march under the banner of the 1973 penny\* overwhelmed the Bozo Bus and reupholstered its spacious interior according to their diabolical tastes. Now, your editor, his velutinous burgundy boots disgracing the venerable tome of archives, his flocculent hair inflicting innumerable lacerations against the headrest of the official editor's chair as he tilts himself unconscionably far back in decadence, sits dictating effortlessly, his eyes as far closed as his bushes of briery eyelashes allow, his words transcribed faithfully by the benevolent gremlins who in prior times dwelt in the Bus's tenebrous undercarriage and maintained its sporadic functionality. From this easy position he welcomes you to Minicon—may it sate all your senses, low and high, inside and out.

#### Let's start out with some...

#### Program Book Errata

- \* "Invasion of the German Games" will take place at 10p.m. on Friday, not 5:30 on Saturday.
- \* The Costume Workshop will take place in Grand Ballroom A.
- \* Brandon Sanderson's reading and signing will take place in Veranda 1.
- \* Replacement badges now cost just \$1, not \$5.
- \* There is no registration box in the Consuite; to pre-register for Minicon 46, go to Registration.
- \* Registration will be open until 4p.m. on Sunday, not 11a.m.
- \* The Concom page should list Kelly Strait, not Shaun Kelly, under Pre-Con Registration. Patricia Zetelumen, not Kelly Strait, should be

\* Bearing three stripes—tarnished, non-tarnished, and untarnished.

listed under Volunteer Wranglers.

### Panelist Changes

- \* Lisa Frietag and Pat Scaramuzza have been added to "Ask a Scientist", on Friday at 5:30.
- \* Diane Stewart has been added to "Recursiveness In Science Fiction That's About Recursiveness."
- \* Pat Scaramuzza will not be appearing on "The Space Program in the Obama Years".

### Hungry?

Dinner expeditions are to meet at 6:30 at the Registration Desk, and leave at 6:45.

### The Fifth Annual Minicon Medallion Hunt—adding a little color to your con!

As is well known in all the fashionable salons since the conquering hordes rewrote its history, the BBT exists for the sake of the Medallion Hunt, and the Medallion Hunt exists for the sake of the BBT, much like various other codependent dyads. We are therefore proud to announce the fifth year of the Minicon Medallion Hunt!

There is a theme to the clues this year, and that theme is: **COLOR!**\*\* Some of you may recall that last year, the Cluemeister tossed three Easter eggs into the pool at pre-appointed times according to a color-based code. This code, derived from the colors of solid pool balls, went uncracked, and as a result the prizes went to random swimmers. Now, if the Medallion Hunt operates by any principles at all, one of them must be that *if the people don't figure out a clue, hammer them with it next year!!* That's how our tradition began of including an alternative-base arithmetic clue every year, and that's why color—and in particular, color-based codes—are this year's theme.

\*\* If you don't see the vibrant display of color, your issue of this newsletter may be broken. Try shaking it!

## RULES OF THE HUNT:

Sixteen specially marked 1973 pennies (or 'medallions', *a la* the St. Paul Winter Carnival) have been (or will be) hidden throughout the Sheraton Bloomington. Clues to their locations will follow. Your task is to find these medallions and bring them to the BBT office in the Normandale Room, whereupon you will be rewarded with Dealer Dollars or other assorted prizes. Each medallion's number is its value in Dealer Dollars, which can be spent in the Dealer's Room or Art Show; those with letters are good for other prizes instead.

All medallions are hidden within the hotel, and are not located in any shops, restaurants, restrooms, or areas off-limits to the public, nor in the Dealers' Room or Art Show. Some may be hidden in non-convention space, but when searching these areas, be considerate of hotel guests and keep noise to a minimum.

Medallions may be redeemed whenever you can find the Cluemeister, but he is guaranteed to be in the BBT office (located at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor foyer, opposite the Coat Check) during scheduled Hours of Redemption, which will be listed in these newsletters. Additional issues of the BBT will contain clues for those medallions that remain undiscovered, as well as additional Hours of Redemption.

Additionally, a sign placed outside the office will provide updates as to which pennies have been found and which are still at large. It will also provide other information, such as future Hours of Redemption and estimated release times for further issues of the BBT.

## CLUES: ROUND 1

1. Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, gray, pink. You needn't look far.
2. That yellow egg's going back in the pool, but this time it's how the other half roll! Calling this one for Friday, yellow-brown in the post-mer.
3. A squat X-Men symbol, wrought in metal.
4. You *will* check the little outlet door near the elevators on Floor Red, at brown-black-green-violet in the morning. Resistance is (not) futile!!
5. This medallion can be earned only by seeking out a smart-aleck known as the Coinmaster and completing his challenge.
6. Great poem; six signs: first part, seventh line.

7. Seven above; seven below. Sound and light behind me; nowhere to go!

8. From relative value in a Moorish palace to numbers to letters: Brown, Blue, Purple, Green; Purple, Blue, Brown, Blue, White, Green. On the left..

9. From chemicals to numbers to collectible critters to letters:

TICRSIV MNAMTCHS PRKMDTB NHECUGD

10. Boise, Nampa, Honolulu, Dover, Denver, Indianapolis, Omaha, Little Rock, Colorado Springs, Oklahoma City, Fort Wayne, Atlanta, Fargo, New Orleans, Meridian, Evansville, Anchorage, Pocatello, Augusta, Portland.

16. Start with a submarine and take away a great pair of lips. Raise to one half and divide by the other. Then get a room.

20. Taran, Bombadil, Radcliff, Agrajag, Valentine, Jubal, Alaric, Deckard; Ain, Snowball; Humfrey; Mavin, Calvin, Vorkosigan, Ged, Marm; Van Winkle, Hindmost; Raoden, Dumarest, Belgarath, Fogg, Faelamor, Bastian; Stonebender, Skeeve, Jakkin, Protagonist.

A. A is for Alcatraz! Come to the BBT office and escape from it.

B. It starts and ends with this—a piecemeal mystery.

D. This one is a Double Dipper connected to Medallion #10.

H. Last one! Black, khaki, green, robin's egg, peach, orange, crimson, silver, gray, wasabi, tan, violet, ash, purple, rhubarb, fuchsia, lavender.

## Hours of Redemption:

The Cluemeister's first three office hours are:

1p.m. – 2p.m. Friday

5p.m. – 6p.m. Friday

9:30p.m. – 10:30p.m. Friday

*Have an announcement, a news story, a review, or a personal item for the BBT? Drop it in the Submission Box at the end of the Grand Ballroom Foyer, outside the Coat Check. Pens and paper are provided.*

## The Bozo Bus Tribune

Volume 45, Issue 1

Editor – Thorin N. Tatge

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Issue 2

Friday evening

# Bozo Bus Tribune

The Official Organ of Minicon 45

## Guests of Honor Excited to Meet Their Fans!

We already knew that Brandon Sanderson—our Author Guest of Honor—and his editor, Moshe Feder, love getting the chance to meet and mentor bright new writers, but it wasn't until Thursday's pre-con party that we realized just how interactive they want to get!

### The Brandon/Moshe Reality Show

Following the 4p.m. event “Brandon Sanderson Talks to Authors About Writing”—which should feature some lively Q&A of its own—Moshe will join Brandon at the head of the room, and the two of them will welcome book pitches from aspiring writers! (We assume it's just an exercise, but you never know!) YOU have five minutes to convince Moshe to buy your book, after which he'll give you his honest, uncut initial response. Brandon, in turn, has offered to play Paula Abdul to Moshe's Simon Cowell, reacting from the standpoint of a fellow artist.

### Oil Painting with Dan Dos Santos

You also won't want to miss Artist GoH Dan Dos Santos earlier on Saturday as he creates an oil painting from scratch! At 1p.m., Dan plans to set up between the Art Show and Dealer's Room and give an introductory talk that may run twenty minutes or so. He'll then get to work on an original creation. Feel free to stroll by, watch for a spell, or strike up a conversation as he works; he, too, is happy to interact with fans. The event is officially listed from 1-2, but chances are he'll be there for two or three hours.

## Party Guide

As night falls, be on the lookout for parties in various first- and second-floor cabana rooms! Descriptions follow; hours may vary.

**107**—MISFITS/Geek Partnership Society Party

**109**—Goddess Party, hosted by Sarah Richard (Saturday only)

**110**—Krushenko's Annex (see below)

**114**—Marscon party, hosted by Ben Ellis (Saturday only)

**205**—LiveJournal Party (Saturday at 8p.m.)

**206**—Ladies' Sewing Circle (Sunday only)

**207**—Baron Dave's Birthday Bash, with Dave and Ethel Romm

**208**—Madcon 2010 party, hosted by Jon Manzo

**209**—Texas in 2013 bid party, hosted by Kurt Baty

**210**—SF Contraries, hosted by Diane Lacey

## About Krushenko's

**Krushenko's** (Veranda 7/8) and its sometime partner, **Krushenko's Annex** (Poolside 110) are spaces that encourage conversation about science fiction and fantasy at SF conventions. Krushenko's, named after a Manhattan bistro in Larry Niven's novel *Ringworld*, started at the 1983 Minicon, where Niven was Guest of Honor. Krushenko's now travels to MarsCon, WisCon, CONvergence, Diversicon, and Arcana. In recent years the Minicon Krushenko's has served up a lively assortment of panels and discussions about science fiction in literature and other media, and speculative science, in daytimes and early evenings, while Krushenko's Annex offers conversational parties hosted by SF-related fan and pro groups in mid-to-late evenings. "Krushenko's is accustomed to serving alien guests!"

—Eric M. Heideman

## Friday in Krushenko's Annex (Poolside 110):

### 7:30 – 8:15p.m. Arcana Meeting

Come and learn about this Convention of the Dark Fantastic!

### 8:30p.m. – 2:00a.m. Tales of the Unanticipated #30 Recent Publication Party

Warm off the presses! Come and get acquainted with the latest issue of this Twin Cities speculative fiction magthology.

## New concert!

Stop by Stevie Ray's Saturday night from 11:30 to 12:30 to enjoy the Spanish guitar of **Gabriel Hilmar**.

## Smoooooooooooooth

Nick Faller is orchestrating a Bob Tucker Memorial 'Smooth', to be held in the Grand Ballroom Foyer at 4:00p.m. Saturday. Be there!

## Other Updates

- The Blood Drive will take place Saturday from noon to 3, not from 8 – 2 as printed in the pocket program.
- The registration box will be available in the Bar after Registration hours are over.
- Name tent corrections—"Brad Beader" should read "Brad Bender"; "Rachel Kronik" should read "Rachel Kronick".
- Lisa Freitag was unable to Attend "Ask a Scientist" as reported, but Lisa Freitag heroically arrived to take her place.

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## Medallion Hunt Goes Top-Heavy!

The Cluemeister appears to have misoverunderestimated the puzzle solving abilities of Minicon fen—an easy thing to do, perhaps! For whatever reason, the higher-numbered medallions are falling first this year, despite the fact that they were numbered in supposed order of difficulty. He was even informed that one medallion had been found that he hadn't even put out yet—such are the reality-twisting skills of our fhannish brethren.

### REDEEMED ALL TOO SOON

8. This one's clue referred to the board game Alhambra, whose six building types are ranked in order of value as follows: blue, red, brown, white, green, purple. If these colors are assigned values from 1 – 6, and the numbers are then changed to the letters they correspond to, the clue's text yields: CAFE FACADE. The penny was affixed to the iron gate of the hotel coffeehouse. Interestingly enough, this location and ciphertext (though not the coding mechanism) were used last year by Minicon 44 co-chair Matt S., who inserted the clue furtively into the pocket program in the form of various absurdly inappropriate vowels in "Guerilla Programming." Even more interesting is the fact that it was Matt's wife, Kelly S., who unraveled the code and found the medallion. *Is the fix in*, as they say? Apparently not, as she was unaware of the clue's history.

20. You've got to be kidding us! The Big Kahuna, found already?! And not by lucky happenstance, either, but by the intended method. The Cluemeister might have known better than to challenge SF fans to identify the sources of a list of characters from science fiction and fantasy books. The authors who created these characters, respectively, were:

Lloyd Alexander, J.R.R. Tolkien, Harry Turtledove, Douglas Adams, Orson Scott Card, Robert Heinlein, Phyllis Eisenstein, Philip K. Dick; James Tiptree, George Orwell; Piers Anthony; Sheri S. Tepper, Isaac Asimov, Lois McMaster Bujold, Ursula K. LeGuin, Harlan Ellison; Washington Irving, Larry Niven; Brandon Sanderson, E. C. Tubb, David and Leigh Eddings, Jules Verne, Ian Irvine, Michael Ende; Spider Robinson, Robert Asprin, Jane Yolen, Neal Stephenson.

The last initials of these authors spell out the solution:

ATTACHED TO A TABLE IN STEVIE RAY'S. It was a team of dedicated solvers in the Dealer's Room who cracked this code, including Lisa F., Kelly S., Denny L., and pretty much the collective consciousness of all fandom. The actual prize was bequeathed to Lisa's son, Will K.

(Fun fact: The Cluemeister originally used the ciphertext: THE CHECKERBOARD TABLE IN STEVIE RAY'S. He was dismayed to find that the table in question had been removed since the pool party, which led to a bit of a scramble to modify the puzzle. Authors L. Ron Hubbard, T. S. Eliot, Arthur C. Clarke, Franz Kafka, Joel Rosenberg, Christopher Rowley, David Brin, and Rose Estes had to be cut accordingly.)

## CLUES: ROUND 2

1. You *will* submit to your destiny!! *P.S. The purple is missing.*

2 & 4. Be patient, my pretties, and bide.

3. This one is in the North Tower.

5. Look for the youthful sage with Coinmaster on his badge, and flex your knuckles!

6. *q.v.* Susan Cooper, Johnny Cash.

7. This poor lonely penny adorns a set of sweeping curves.

9. FOUND! at press time; story to follow.

10. Unlike in #20, there is a system to the entries on this list.

16. Colors are not this year's only theme. There's also lists (obvious) and something else (slightly less obvious). But why is this one not #15?

A. This penny can be found in the BBT Office.

B. This one skirts one of the Hunt's rules—but that's what you'd expect from the dangerous sort.

D. Seek the palindromic connection!

H. H is for Hemi (and something else, too!)

## Hours of Redemption:

The Cluemeister's next four hours of redemption will be:

9:30p.m. – 10:30p.m. Friday

1a.m. – 2a.m. Saturday

11a.m. – noon Saturday

2:15p.m. – 3:15p.m. Saturday

Bring submissions to the Submission Box on the Coat Check counter at the end of the Grand Ballroom Foyer. Pens and paper are provided.

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### Volume 45, Issue 2

Editor – Thorin N. Tatge

Reporter – Sharon Kahn

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## The Official Organ of Minicon 45

### Brandon Sanderson savagely destroys Minicon tradition of not having GoH keynote speeches

Author Guest of Honor Brandon Sanderson wrapped up an otherwise amiable Opening Ceremony Friday by delivering an educational and entertaining half-hour keynote speech to around 90 hapless con-goers, forcing them to engage in such arduous activities as thinking, laughing, and occasionally even responding to ideas. This tradition, taken for granted at Sanderson's local conventions, was purportedly practiced in the barbaric annals of Minicon history as few as twenty or as many as three years ago, depending on sources.

The speech first skewered the myth of a flat-earther mutiny on Christopher Columbus's first voyage to the New World, with the apparent twin lessons that (A) People from other walks of life aren't as dumb as you think, and (B) People can believe things (about others' beliefs) that are wrong. Having thus softened up the audience, Sanderson proceeded to formulate an argument against the fannish adage known as Sturgeon's Law, which states that "90% of everything is crud." Sanderson first placed the remark in its original context in defense of genre fiction despite the existence of banal examples (is there not banal literary fiction?) and then argued that to believe in Sturgeon's Law, broadly interpreted, is to believe in the prevailing stupidity either of one's fellow readers or of authors and editors. But as lovers of stories of the future, he said, we are supposed to be optimists!

He concluded by laying out three axioms with which he hopes to replace Sturgeon's Law:

1. Just because you don't like it doesn't mean it's crud.
2. If you hate 90% of everything you read or watch, you probably aren't much fun to hang out with.
3. Let's talk about what we like a little bit more, and about what we hate a little bit less.

### Magic in the Air

The winner of today's *Magic: the Gathering* tournament in the Garden Court gaming area will win not only two copies of each of 19 signed cards with artwork by Dan Dos Santos, but the chance to play against Brandon Sanderson, most likely at 4:00 on Sunday. 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is one copy of each signed card. The tournament began at 11:00 this morning, but director Matt McMillan says that if eight more *Magic* players show up, he can run a mini-tournament for them, complete with prizes.

### Brandon Sanderson Trivia Contest

There's more! If you're a fan of Brandon's work, be at the Bar tonight for a midnight trivia contest! The winner gets a *Mistborn* box set.

### Soma to do, so little time.

Baffled by the huge pile of cardboard boxes in the Garden Court? They're a giant Soma Cube, a well-known puzzle consisting of seven distinct polycubes that can be assembled into a 3x3x3 cube. But they can be assembled into countless other impressive shapes, too! (Your editor, assisted by one Rand P., made them into a covered fort last night.) A stack of cards with shapes to recreate is available nearby, as is a small version of the cube for planning out your construction. All are free to play with the boxes, so long as you're careful not to let them tear apart! Thanks to Mark Richards and friends for this delightful new toy, likely to be a recurring attraction.

### Saturday in Krushenko's Annex (Cabana 110):

8:30 p.m. – 2:00 a.m. Bandana Square Cons Party

Hosted by three cons to be held at the Best Western, Bandana Square, St. Paul this year: **Con-Sarnit Three**, **Diversicon 18**, and **Arcana 40**. Visit for more information!

## More stuff to do!

- \* There will be a **Minn-Spec reading** from 6 – 7 Saturday in the Readings room (Veranda 1)...
- \* And there will be a **Drum Jam** in the Bloomington room, starting at 10p.m.!

## Party corrections

- \* The Ladies' Sewing Circle will be meeting in room 206, not 205, from 2 – 4 Sunday.
- \* The party in room 210 is that of SFContario, a new Toronto SF&F convention to be held in November, and not, as we wrote, the “SF Contraries”. Their party is open Saturday only.

### Krahn-Gahlon 4a.m. Pulse Check

Bar: 8    Consuite: 3    Hallway: 1  
Moneyduck: 14    Total: 26

## Medallion Hunt Update

### They just keep Lincoln those clues together!

1. The Lazy Medallion! This one never ventured far from the BBT Office, lurking in the box of markers by the submission box. Various Dealers and others whispered to one another about its likely whereabouts, but it was John S. who actually brought it home.
3. On a roll, John claimed this one as well, hidden behind the X-shaped joint of one of the North Atrium's loveseats. Rob I. later spoke knowingly of this location.
6. This one, too, went to John S., who had a vague recollection of Susan Cooper's *The Dark is Rising* series. He didn't specifically identify the ring of fire referred to in the seventh line of the prophetic poem, but just kept his eyes open for mystical-looking circles, and eventually spotted the ornate candle-holder in the first floor lounge.
9. Medallion 9 was turned in just as Issue 2 was going to press. No surprise that it was found by Kelly S., who earlier brandished her heavily marked BBT to the Cluemeister and reported that she was “on the hunt!” The clue was fairly straightforward but tedious; it involved splitting the text into elemental symbols, replacing these with their respective atomic numbers, finding the Pokémon with the corresponding numbers (Lisa F. went down the false trail of Beanie Babies), and stringing together their initials to form four four-letter words: FAKE POOL AREA SINK. She then crawled into the plastic kiddie house near the pool to retrieve the penny stowed therein. Upon reporting her difficulties in finding the correct Pokémon for each number, the Cluemeister directed her attention to the Pokémon chart on the wall of the BBT Office, just opposite the periodic table.

## CLUES: ROUND 3

2. It hit the water at 9:15 Friday night, but when no one showed up to claim the yellow egg, the Cluemeister retrieved it—the mirror equivalent of throwing back minnows. Let's be more explicit this time. Into the pool for a brief window at purple-green on Sunday. What numbers are on *striped* purple and green pool balls?
  4. Lonely and waiting under cover!
  5. The Coinmaster is not the Cluemeister and does not dwell in Normandale. He can often be found in the greater poolside area and is renowned for his maroon coin pouch.
  7. Look for this wall flower in a new @traction.
  10. This penny has been on a bit of a ride, which is why it temporarily boasted *two* toothpicks in the At Large section of the status table. String together the postal abbreviations of the respective cities' states to find its location, and quest around in case of migration.
  16. The secret theme is Powers of 2, and like the other powers (Hemi included), this one relies on a color code. We could have said, “Raise to the power of snow over elephants,” for example.
    - A. Some have discovered this penny in the BBT Office, but none have yet unlocked its cage. There are three (3) tiny magnetic balls near said cage. *They are not relevant.*
    - B. B is not for Box, but it could be. Look for the B's and you may discover a mysterious puzzle.
    - D. D is for Dogs. Your outside letter works better at the bottom. (But you can't even try until #10 comes home!)
    - H. Come on, who ever heard of a color called 'rhubarb'?! There's a reason this was the last color code. Second verse, bad as the first!  
*Suddenly, from out of the beyond, two new pennies hit the scene!!*
    - P. P is for PA\_\_ \_! A whole row of them, in fact, one sense of which leads to the other...tonight. Look for the Cluemeister in yellow-white-pink at blue-yellow-yellow-purple. WRNTSY
- ???: If you can tell the Cluemeister the name of the secret penny, he'll...um...give you THREE PRIZES!!

## Hours of Redemption:

The Cluemeister's next two hours of redemption will be:

**6:30p.m. – 7:30p.m. Saturday**  
**11p.m. – midnight Saturday**

**Bring submissions to the Submission Box on the Coat Check counter at the end of the Grand Ballroom Foyer.**

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Volume 45, Issue 3

Editor – Thorin N. Tatge

Receptionist – Sharon Kahn

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Issue 4

Sunday noon

# Bozo Bus Tribune

## The Official Organ of Minicon 45

### The Story of the Mirror Maze

You may have thought the Soma cube was cool, but it was overshadowed by the huge maze of wood and Mylar at the edge of the Garden Court, enticing people (and at least one dog) with its hypnotic monotony. Where did it come from?

We can thank the Permanent Floating Riot Club, an enthusiastic society of science and tech enthusiasts from Michigan Technical College. They're been attending Minicon semi-regularly for decades, in their heyday sending a contingent of thirty members, and being honored collectively as Fan GoH for Minicon 20. One of their members, Cory H., told reporters that the club has been recently building a new amazing and ridiculous large craft project each year, and one of their number decided to construct 'a room of mirrors' (instead of a mere triangle thereof) in order to give his beloved lasers a good workout. The group labored for a week on the maze, consulting with the theater crowd on which joints to use (they went with a modified Broadway joint), and designing the maze so as to be immersive without the limitations of dead-ends, a purpose served by three triangles carefully positioned so as to block line of sight.

The club's ambitions were to set the structure's interior alight with the networked fractal program Electric Sheep, but a string of technical setbacks and triumphs left the maze ultimately un-illuminated after a valiant struggle.

The BBT was glad to lend assistance to PFRC in its efforts and looks forward to any future marvels it may produce.

### Returning Guests of Honor

We were happy to have several of Minicon's previous Guests of Honor back with us this year:

Eleanor Arnason	Ruth Berman
Ben Bova	Nate Bucklin
Ctein	Pamela Dean
David Dyer-Bennet	Ken Fletcher
Eric Heideman	Dennis Lien
David E Romm	Jerry Stearns
David Wixon	Jane Yolen

### Short Film Festival Encore

The film room will be reopening at 2:30p.m. on Sunday for an encore presentation of the Short Film Festival, due to popular request. *Hellraiser: Deader* will not be included in the festival due to technical difficulties.

### Sunday in Krushenko's Annex (Poolside 110):

#### 7:30p.m.-1:30a.m. A Party for Readers and Viewers

Sponsored by Second Foundation, a Twin Cities speculative fiction book discussion group that has met regularly since 1983, some of whose members are also film buffs. The party will probably combine conversation with a couple of viewers' choice films.

### If it hadn't been for those meddling kids...

In the wake of the "Secrets of the Bloomington Sheraton" panel, a check was made for the time capsule, hidden lo! these 10 years somewhere in the hotel.

Even though we remember where we left it, it is missing and presumed lost forever. Immediate efforts have been undertaken to determine a more foolproof location for its successor.

—Karen Cooper and "others"

### Correction to Correction

<deep breath> Okay, so. The Ladies' Sewing Circle is Sunday, 2-4p.m., in Room **205**, not 206, as opposed to the reverse. I guess the editor just really subconsciously wanted it to be in 206 for some reason. Sorry, Laura!

### Panel Quotes

#### Recursiveness in Science Fiction That's About Recursiveness

"The funniest movie title I ever heard was *The Neverending Story...2*."

#### Do I Know Enough Science to Write Science Fiction?

"That implies that you need to know something to write science fiction but you don't need to know anything to write fantasy...when really fantasy is another thing altogether. Fantasy is *not* science fiction written badly because you don't know the science."

### Final Registration Count

Warm bodies: 431

Total registrations: 447

## PERSONALS

On behalf of the busy  
Peeps, hi to Will & Emma!

"Deactivate the centr  
mystifier." -  
Superthunderstingcar

## WOMBATS SEEKING HUMANS

### Come to Melbourne!

Aussie Ambassador Doug Burrows wants *you* to come to the Melbourne Worldcon in September! Visit with fans from around the Worldcon and see exotic creatures: kangaroos, koalas, echidnas, and wombats like him.

### Trapped in Rath—plea help!

I need a reliable guide with the following qualifications:

- Head screwed on at least reasonably straight
- Does not grow vampiric squash
- Must have at least *the faintest* idea how to use a pickaxe
- No bandersnatchi plea

## Medallion Hunt Update

Interest in the hunt was low this year, allowing those intrepid few who sought to seek hard and seek well, much like clean-up species filling an ecological niche. In particular, the Cluemeister saw very little interest in the hunt by children, its mainstay in past years. What can be done? Will the Medallion Hunt return for a sixth year? It's too soon to say.

**For now, those medallions that found their way...**

4. The reference to 'resistance' in the initial clue suggests the correct interpretation: the colors must be translated into numbers using the electrician's resistor code! As such, the coin was hidden—in a nifty plastic container—in the outlet box behind the escalators on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at precisely 10:57a.m. Saturday morning. To the Cluemeister's surprise, no one was there to pounce on it, but the prize was found later by John S., who put the pieces together.

5. The Coinmaster, one Alec Phillips, was finally identified by a few sundry individuals, who he challenged to flip a dollar coin across one hand, finger to finger. Only Andy E., on his second try, was able to match the Master's expert demonstration and win the prize.

7. This one brings John S. to a record-setting five medallions in a single hunt. It was located on the back of one of the large TV stations in the Link @ Sheraton area, with seven curving wooden slats above and seven more below.

10. This one was discovered by Will K. with help from his mother, who had discovered it earlier and thrown it back into the wild for a worthier target. The text of the solution was a string of two-letter state codes. Each city chosen to represent a state was the most populous city from that state not yet included in the list. The text read:

IDIDHIDECOINNEARCOOKINGANDLAIDIN  
AKIDGAME

The medallion was in the children's strategy game Toot and Otto, which was originally placed next to the cooking area

in the consuite, and was later moved to the outside tables, to the coffee/cereal table, and then back outside before finally getting brought back to the BBT Office.

P. This late arrival in pennyspace could have stood for anything from 'Pond' to 'Pool' to 'Penny' itself, but it ended up standing for 'Pawns' and 'Party'. The missing letters to fill in the blanks were provided later in the clue. The pawns referred to were sitting in a row on the Coat Check counter near the Submission Box, designating, in order, the digits 1 through 9, while a white pawn standing alone represented 0, as a sticky note on the status sign proclaimed. Taken as such, the clue advised solvers to look for the Cluemeister in room 208—Baron Dave's Birthday Bash—at 12:24a.m. The penny, ensconced in a egg with some pencil shavings, was available for five minutes and, sadly, went unclaimed forever.

## CLUES: ROUND 4

16. Think Beatles, and Rocky Horror. Think of things that come in sixteens. Remember what it is to divide by half.

A. It may not be as ingenious as some, but this one takes testosterone. And yes, there is a magnet.

B. This one is in the Puzzle Lounge. We told you it played havoc with the rules.

D. Beat the Cluemeister at Toot and Otto during his final office hour to win this penny! You get two chances.

H. It's a book, set in an unobtrusive place. And the Cluemeister can say with some degenerate certainty that the manuscript is good to the last letter.

?????: Hint: This penny's name has a double 'k' in it, is exactly one letter long, and is consistent with the transcendent pattern of this year's hunt.

*To learn the fate of these last six, go to Closing Ceremony!*

## Final Hour of Redemption:

Last chance to (reliably) turn in your pennies!

2:45p.m. – 3:45p.m. Sunday

### Krahn-Gahlon 4a.m. Pulse Check

Bar: 5 Consuite: 13 Music: 11 Hakasot: 12  
Gaming: 4 Pandemic: 6 Random: 2 **Total: 53**

**\* That's it for this year! May you keep your inner bozocity close to your heart until we meet again! \***

## The Bozo Bus Tribune

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Editor – Thorin N. Tatge

Editor Emeritus – Sharon Kahn

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