

PHOENIX 1988 SMOFCON 5

PROGRESS REPORT 1

HOWDY!

The dates are December 9-11, 1988 and the location is the Hyatt Regency Phoenix in lovely downtown Phoenix, Arizona.

The subject of much of the programming at the 1988 SMOFCon will be Convention Communications, which is being interpreted in a very broad sense. The focus will be on a range of options for each available means of communication and we'll try to make the material salient for all sizes of conventions wherever possible (or else mention where different options might be applicable).

Attendance is expected to be in the range of 70-100 people with most coming from the Western U.S. We'll be making an extra effort to attract con runners and other interested parties from all over the U.S. This will be done by direct mailings to con committees of many U.S. and Canadian conventions as well as to attendees of past SMOFCons, those on the CON GAMES mailing list (which includes about 250 people and conventions), and those who are bidding for future Worldcons and WesterCons. There's a large local fandom in the Phoenix and Tucson area and we expect 30-40 of them to attend, so there will certainly be a Western convention perspective to the proceedings.

We will have two more PR's before the 1988 SMOFCon occurs. The next will focus on further Program development, give a list of members, and will begin the process of assigning people to panels. PR 2 will be out at the end of August. The third PR will complete the assignment of people to panels, selection of topics, have more detailed instructions on how to get to the 1988 SMOFCon, and will have what we hope will be a final membership list. This final PR will go out by the end of October.

WE WANT YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS! Please let us know your thoughts on the material in the PR's. It's still early enough to change most things mentioned in PR 1 (except the dates and hotel, naturally). We look forward to seeing you at the 1988 SMOFCon!

PROGRAMMING

The main purpose of this first Progress Report is to start firming up the Program and to refine the current list of topics. Our theme of "Convention Communications" is currently planned to be in up to half of the formal Program. We will begin programming at 8 pm on Friday, December 9, 1988 and will continue through 5 pm on Sunday, December 11, 1988.

The main track of the daytime Program will consist of 3-5 person panels and will generally run an hour each event with 50 minutes of actual Program and 10 minutes for changeover. Most of the

Theme topics will be in the main track. Parallel to the main track with the same starting and ending times will be a track primarily of discussion groups that will usually only have a moderator pre-assigned. The area for the main track seats about 120 and the secondary track is in a lounge next to the main track room and seats about 30. Amplification is available for the main track only, unless we feel the need to bring in a portable system. When only the main track is running, the lounge will be used for continuation of discussions that continue after conclusion of the main track.

Enclosed is the proposed Program. We would like your input on these subjects, need to find who is interested in being on the panels/would like to be moderator (please let us know your related experience on the subject), and solicit opinions regarding other subjects that should be covered. We are also noting whether these subjects are presently considered main program (mp) or secondary track (st).

To make this easier for making comments, we are numbering the events so that you can use the back side or another sheet to key your remarks. We might even be bright enough to put a mailing surface on one part of the questionnaire. Might.

Our goal is to have everyone involved to some extent in the Program. If you don't want to be involved directly, we hope to at least have you as a responding member of the audience.

THE HYATT REGENCY PHOENIX

Our hotel is a Hyatt Regency with the large, open atrium. We've used or are about to use this Hyatt for 7 local conventions as well as two WesterCons, a Worldconsm, the 1987 North American SF Consm, and several fringe conventions.

A reservation card is enclosed. The sleeping room rate is \$60 for single/quad occupancy (the preprinted card only goes to double, however, and it remarks that a maximum of 3 are allowed per room...this is not so). Rollaways, if needed, are \$15 per night. As to suites, they're wrong again. Their normal suite rates are on the card, but their sales department again confirms to us that the rate is \$60 per room (for example, a bedroom + parlour = \$120 not \$200, and 2 bedrooms + parlour = \$180 not \$300). We didn't bother to have them reprint since y'all should be sophisticated enough to read this PR and understand. PLEASE CONTACT US IF THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS!!

The con hospitality suite is on the 3rd floor (which is also the pool level) and there are sleeping rooms and suites available on the third floor. Please book your rooms as you wish, but the 3rd floor or 4th floor would probably be your best bets. The function rooms are on the 2nd floor and can be reached by stairway as well as by elevator from the 3rd and 4th floors (okay, they can be reached that way from all floors for that

matter). You don't have to book suites through the convention itself. But do mention in all cases that this is for the 1988 SMOFCon. Rates will be honored for 2 days pre and post-con.

Reservations will be held, per our contract, until 6 pm on the date of your arrival and will then be released unless guarantee has been made by check or credit card. In case you don't have a reservation card, the phone number is (602) 252-1234 and (800) 228-9000. The address is Hyatt Regency Phoenix, 122 North Second Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2379 USA Attn: Reservations.

The pre-con cutoff for advanced reservations (after which they will no longer keep our block of 50 rooms available) is November 18, 1988 (21 days pre-con). There may be rooms left after that date, but please don't count on it and RESERVE YOUR ROOMS EARLY.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Phoenix weather is fantastic, to say the least, in December. It's why we're up to our fanacs in snowbirds from October through April every year. Expect weather between 70-80 as a high and 40-50 as a low. Rain is bloody unlikely as a rule. The pool is heated and is on the third (our hospitality level) floor and swimming or soaking is recommended, day or night.

Phoenix fandom is fairly active. We conducted a WesterCon in 1982 and have one upcoming in July, 1988. We also hosted a Worldconsm in 1978, a World Fantasy Convention in 1985 (held in Tucson, but run primarily by Phoenix and some Tucson fans), and a NASFiC in 1987. There are also two annual conventions in Phoenix (LepreCon in April and CopperCon in September), put on by LepreCon, Inc. and CASFS, Inc. (CASFS is the sponsor of the 1988 SMOFCon). Tucson hosts TusCon each October. There are also 3 Fan Gatherings (which are RelaxaCons) each year. We are bidding for the 1991 World Fantasy Convention and the 1993 Worldconsm.

If you're interested in visiting with local fans pre or post-con, traveling in Arizona, or anything else relating to your travel to the 1988 SMOFCon, please let us know.

YOUR FRIENDLY 1988 SMOFCON COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN/PROGRAMMING	Bruce Farr
TREASURER	Margaret Grady
HOSPITALITY SUITE/HOTEL LIAISON	Terry Gish
PUBLICATIONS	Bruce Farr + everyone else
MEMBERSHIPS	Kim Farr

Our sponsor is the Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society, a 501(c)3 (IRS-recognized) non-profit corporation that puts on CopperCon convention annually, Fan Gathering relaxacons, publishes MAW and CON GAMES newsletters, and generally tries to spread goodness and light in the world. Well, we do our best, anyway.

1988 PHOENIX SMOFCON TENTATIVE PROGRAM

As mentioned in this PR 1, we need your comments and are soliciting potential panelists. Please refer to each topic by number when commenting. Again, "mp" refers to events planned for the main Program room and "st" refers to the secondary track.

- A) one track from 8pm to 10pm on Friday, December 9 mp
 - B) one track from 10am to noon on Saturday, December 10 mp
 - C) two tracks from noon to 5pm on Saturday, December 10 mp, st
 - D) one track from 8pm to 10pm on Saturday, December 10 mp
 - E) one track from 10am to noon on Sunday, December 11 mp
 - F) two tracks from noon to 2pm on Sunday, December 11 mp, st
 - G) one track from 2pm to 5pm on Sunday, December 11 1-mp, 2-st
- 1) mp General Publications to Members (Program Book, PR's, Pocket Program, Post-Con PR)
 - 2) mp Radios, Telephones, and Pagers, Oh My! (electronic communications during the con)
 - 3) mp Pre-Con Special Publications (Dealers' Room & Art Show PR's, Travel Info., Masquerade Info.)
 - 4) mp At-Con Special Publications (Daily Newsletter, Film Guide, Video Guide, Restaurant Guide, Handicapped Pubs.)
 - 5) mp Publicity (PR mailings; flier distribution; free or paid ads in commercial media; ads in other con publications, free con listings, use of fanzines)
 - 6) mp Committee Newsletters (primarily for large cons only)
 - 7) st Electronic Communications (Computer Networks - pre-con publicity and communications)
 - 8) st Budgeting and Treasury (how to budget, control monies, report results)
 - 9) mp 1989 & Future SMOFCon Presentation/Future Worldcon(s)sm presentation
 - 10) mp Upcoming Worldcon(s)sm Presentations
 - 11) mp General Topic...Role of Communications in a Convention - Pre-Con
 - 12) mp General Topic...Role of Communications in a Convention - During the Convention
 - 13) mp Communications & Coordination/Security/Whatever Dept. Role in the Convention
 - 14) st Brainstorming the 1989 Worldconsm
 - 15) st Brainstorming the 1991 Worldconsm (will add 1990 if anyone will be here to represent them)
 - 16) st Brainstorming on SMOFCon (topics/themes for the future, purpose of the convention, areas needing improvement)
 - 17) mp Role of the Pre-Convention Office
 - 18) mp How to Make a Good Impression with the Con Attendees
 - 19) st Outrageous Behavior at Conventions (and what to do, or not to do, about it)
 - 20) Reserved for Attendee Suggestions (will be in PR 2)
 - 21) " " " "
 - 22) " " " "
 - 23) " " " "
 - 24) Reserved for SMOFCon game, etc.
 - 25) Reserved for SMOFCon game, etc.

"WorldCon" and "North American Science Fiction Convention" are registered service marks of the World Science Fiction Society.

TRAVEL TO THE 1988 SMOFCON

Phoenix is one of the primary destinations in this country. Plus Phoenix has what must be the best located major airport as well...Sky Harbour Airport is about 3 miles from the Hyatt Regency in downtown Phoenix. We won't yet confirm that the Hyatt has a free shuttle to the airport (these things seem to come and go - no joke). It'd be silly to have an Official Airlines for such a small con, but America West often has the best rates to Phoenix. We'll publish a map with PR 3 to show you the routes for anyone driving in. The Hyatt is near I-10 freeway at 1st. Street & Adams.

HOSPITALITY AND AT-CON REGISTRATION

Hospitality and At-Con Registration will be located on the 3rd Floor in rooms 326 and 327. It'll be possible to register whenever Hospitality is open.

Hospitality/Registration will be open from 2pm to 1am on Friday, 8am to 1am on Saturday, and 8am to at least 1am on Sunday. We will have coffee, soft drinks, and other munchies available during all open hours and will have other special fattening items as well. We'll know more as we see how Registration numbers/the budget go.

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SMOFCON 5 REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE/PROVINCE _____

POSTAL CODE _____

TELEPHONE () _____

AREA(S) OF INTEREST _____

(refer to Program Topics by number if related to specific topics)
(please note if you wish to be on a panel/be a moderator)

FANNISH EXPERTISE/EXPERIENCE _____

ENCLOSED IS \$ _____ FOR _____ MEMBERSHIP(S)

MEMBERSHIPS

Until 7-31-88 \$30 8-1 to 10-15-88 \$35
Thereafter \$50

No, we're not money grubbers. We want people to register early so that, as SMOFCon 3 so wisely put it, we can know that your money will be there and we can therefore spend it on you! Everyone, including the Con Committee, pays for their membership and there will be no refunds post-con (except for those who notify us prior to PR 3 that they can't attend). We will sell memberships at the door, but reserve the right to grumble at you for waiting so long.

For your membership \$ you'll receive pre-con meeting notes, the 3 PR's, access to the Hospitality Suite and the consumables therein (we're working on pop and light munchies for the Programming area as well...they're reluctant to waive corkage for that area), and a Proceedings publication post-con.

PHOENIX 1988 SMOFCON FIVE
C/O Central Arizona Speculative
Fiction Society, Inc.
A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corporation
P. O. Box 11743
Phoenix, AZ 85061

Non-Profit Org.
Postage Paid
Permit 839
Phoenix, AZ

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

TO:

ENCLOSED IS \$ _____ FOR _____ MEMBERSHIP(S)