

PROGRESS REPORT 3





September 1-5, 2022 Hyatt Regency Chicago

Chicago, Illinois



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https://amazingstories.com/

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR





Hi Everyone,

Welcome to Progress Report 3 – our first of 2022.

This is our year! We had a great time at Discon III in December, and now it's all on

us. We are the next Worldcon. We can see fandom emerging out of the pandemic, and we want to make Chicon 8 successful and awesome.

Program is going to be amazing – I've seen so many great ideas flying around on our brainstorming list, you're going to definitely be in the position of choosing between multiple great panels at any given time. Our Fringe division is organizing some fantastic outings for during the convention (and just before / just after), as well as getting ready to bring you several online items this summer as a warm-up to the big event! We have plans afoot in Exhibits and Events (our Toastmasters are totally geeking out about writing the script for the Hugo Awards Ceremony). We're pulling together our full vision for the Virtual piece of Chicon 8, and it's looking really good. Our Member Services, Hospitality, Publications, and other divisions are all getting the pieces in place to welcome you and help you have a great time at Chicon 8.

Sounds good? We think so too!

Here's the scoop. We need y'all to help us achieve our goals.

We understand it is hard to plan – it's been a great challenge for us as we look at our budget, as we look around at the state of the world. We have struggled with our own timelines – we've been delayed for a variety of reasons, largely pandemic related, on opening up hotel reservations, Dealers' Room applications, and Art Show reservations. Obviously our difficulties with these translate into delays for you in your planning, and we apologize for that.

In addition, we appreciate the concerns you have about attending Chicon 8, be they financial or about COVID or about all the other humanitarian crises happening.

The reality, however, is that we need more members. Memberships are our primary source of income. We have amazing ideas, dreams, and plans, but we need cold hard cash to make them reality. We are working on things that will happen in person in Chicago, and we're also working on finalizing our plans for Virtual Chicon 8. The earlier people join, the more stability we have and the easier it is for us to make things happen.

Our ask of you is that if you can, we need you to encourage others – friends, family, fellow fans, the people you often see – to join the convention, book their hotel rooms when they become available, and volunteer.

We greatly appreciate how many of you have supporting or full memberships already. You're our heroes! For the folks you are encouraging to join, remind them that they can buy a supporting membership now and lock in the current attending rate by starting an installment plan. Buying a supporting membership now also means they'll be part of the way toward a virtual attending membership if they decide to attend that way!

There is so much potential for Chicon 8 – I honestly just cannot fully express how excited I am by the ideas flying around! We really cannot wait to bring you all to Chicago, to show off our city and our fandoms, and to share our love of science fiction and fantasy together. Help us make our dreams, and yours, reality.

What are you looking forward to?

Stay safe and be well, Helen Montgomery Convention Chair

STATEMENT REGARDING CHARLES DE LINT

It is with regret that we announce that Charles de Lint has had to step down as Guest of Honor for Chicon 8 due to family circumstances.

We were utterly thrilled in 2020 when Mr. de Lint agreed to be our Author Guest of Honor, and have been looking forward to having him at the convention. However, we completely understand that his current situation will not allow him to attend Chicon 8 either in person or virtually. In discussion with Mr. de Lint, we agreed that rather than honor him in his absence, we will release him as a Guest of Honor. Our sincere hope is that a future Worldcon will take the opportunity to honor him as he so richly deserves.

MEMBERSHIP RATES WILL INCREASE MAY 1

Some other events sell tickets, but Worldcons sell memberships. Why? Because Worldcon members are not just spectators but active participants, with both rights and responsibilities.

Chicon 8 memberships are available in two classes: Attending and Supporting. Attending members can physically attend the convention and enjoy full access to convention activities and events. Supporting members cannot attend the convention. Both Attending and Supporting members get all convention publications and can vote for the Hugo Awards and for site selection for the 2024 Worldcon, and they can nominate for the 2023 Hugo Awards.

On May 1, 2022, our rates will be increasing in certain membership categories. We would like to reach out to everyone so that you can start planning to attend the con, and we encourage you to join as soon as you can. Please reach out to your friends so they can also get the current rates. You can see those rates, learn more about the membership categories, and buy a membership *here*.

These will be the rates after May 1:

Membership Rates <i>Beginning May 1, 2022</i>		New or	New or Bid Donor		Bid Friend or Star	
		Voted	Did Not Vote	Voted	Did Not Vote	
Supporting		Automatic	50		Automatic	
Attending	Adult (25+)	180	230	Automatic	180	
	YA (18-24)	50	100		Automatic	
	Teen (14-17)	20	70			
	Child (10-13)	Automatic	50			
	Kid-in-Tow (0-9)	Free	Free	Free	Free	
First Attending Worldcon*		80	130	Automatic	Automatic	

* Available to any adult attending their first Worldcon at Chicon 8.

HOTEL INFORMATION – ROOMS & SUITES

"I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by." — Douglas Adams

We are pleased to announce that we will be opening hotel reservations on **April 25, 2022**. The links for quiet and party floors will be available on our website at **12:08 p.m. CDT**.

Our room rate is **\$165** (**\$193.71** including state and local taxes). That covers all standard King, Double and Accessible rooms, single through quad occupancy. There are no additional fees other than the state and local taxes which are currently **17.4%**.

Along with opening our general housing, we will also start taking requests for our suites. As such, let's talk about the suites that we have available and the procedure you need to do to book them.

The process is quite easy.

If you are interested in a suite, when you are able, you will book a standard room in the type of block you would like.

- If you are throwing a party and would like a suite to throw it in, you would make your reservation on the Party or Non-Quiet floor.
- If you would just like a suite and aren't going to be making noise and don't want to be around noise, then you would book your room on a Quiet or Non-Party floor.

Once you have your reservation number, you will then need to fill out the Suites Request form. The form will be easily accessible on the website when housing opens.

All requests received in the first month will be marked as received on day one. On **May 25**, we will start assigning both the party and quiet blocks. Requests received on or after May 25 will be filled as they arrive until all the suites are filled. We will do our best to accommodate as many requests as possible.

The form will ask for your suite choice, along with second and third choices in case your initial choice is not available. When requesting make sure the suite you are listing is on the type of floor you prefer.

Remember, not all suite types are available on both quiet and non-quiet floors.

Need some extra room? When requesting your suite, you can ask for up to two connectors (depending on the suite). All connectors are at the standard rate of \$165/per night + tax (17.4%). A separate reservation will be necessary for the connectors but can be made after your suite is confirmed.

There are a limited number of suites on the party floors, so we may not be able to assign you a party suite for all the nights you request. If you're only taking the suite for a few nights of party or are not planning on sleeping in the party suite, please remember to reserve another room for your sleeping room.

We are also asking that groups that are requesting party rooms have volunteers within their group to book their additional rooms on the party floors. This gives your staff easier access to your party and helps us reduce the chances of people being disturbed by the party noise. Please send email to *suites@chicon.org* with the names and confirmation numbers for the additional reservations to be blocked near your party.

You can also use *suites@chicon.org* for any questions you may have. We are here to assist.

Now, before you fill out your form, you probably are interested in what types of suites will be available and more information on them. So, without any further ado, here they are:

Monarch Suite: \$935/per night + tax (17.4%)

Party/Non-Quiet Floor Only Food and Beverage must be purchased from Hyatt if used for hospitality

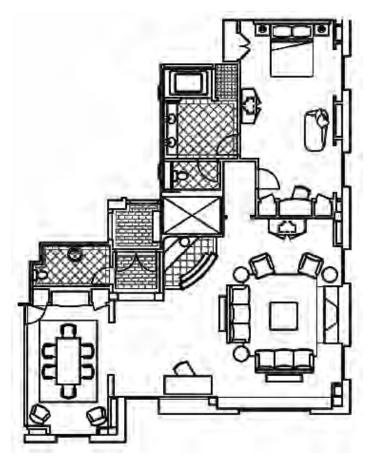
Parlor: 1,728 sq ft Total: 2.295 sq ft Capacity: 75–100 Bar Seating: 4 Dining Table Seating: 6 Reception Space and Self-Contained King Sleeping Room

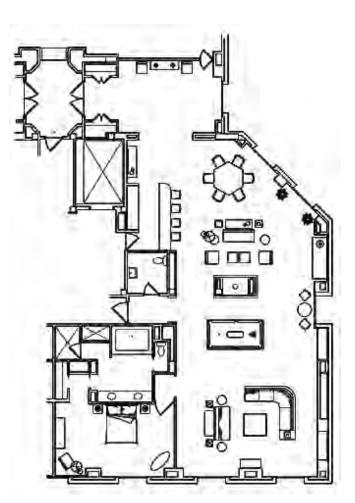
Features:

Grand Piano, Fireplace, Full-Service Backed Bar, Plasma TV, Pool Table, Powder Room, Separate Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Refrigerator, Full Kitchen

Connector Rooms Available: 1 (Dbl/Dbl or King)

Monarch Suite: General Diagram rooms may vary by location





Presidential Suite: \$825/per night + tax (17.4%)

Non-Party/Quiet Floor Only Food and Beverage must be purchased from Hyatt if used for hospitality

Parlor: 1,350 sq ft Total: 1,994 sq ft Capacity: 50–75 Dining Table Seating: 6 Bar Seating: 4 Reception Space and Self-Contained King Sleeping Room

Features:

Fireplace, Glass Shower, Large Picture Windows of the Chicago River, Lake Michigan and Navy Pier, Plasma TV, Wet Bar, Whirlpool Tub, Refrigerator

Connector Rooms Available: 1 (Dbl/Dbl or King)

Presidential Suite: General Diagram rooms may vary by location

Astor Suite: \$660/per night + tax (17.4%)

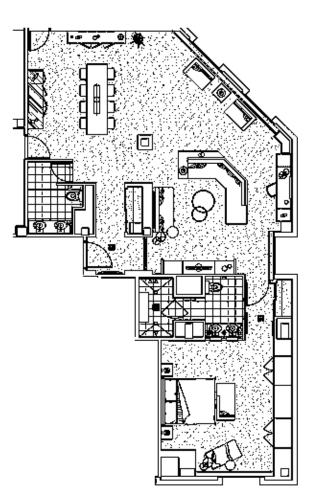
Party/Non-Quiet Floor Only Food and Beverage must be purchased from Hyatt if used for hospitality

Parlor: 524 sq ft Total: 1,056 sq ft Capacity: 40–50 Dining Table Seating: 8 Reception Space and Self-Contained King Sleeping Room

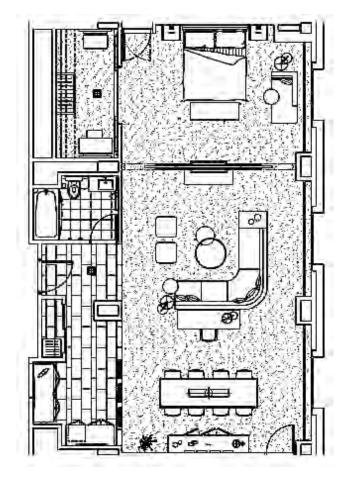
Features:

Extra-Large Bedroom, Glass Shower Surround, Powder Room, Refrigerator

Connector Rooms Available: 1 (Dbl/Dbl)



Astor Suite: General Diagram rooms may vary by location



Park Suite: \$550/per night + tax (17.4%)

Party/Non-Quiet Floors Corkage Waiver Available

Parlor: 486 sq ft Total: 620 sq ft Capacity: 50–65 Dining Table Seating: 8 Reception Space and Self-Contained King Sleeping Room

Features: Extra-Large Walk-In Closet, Refrigerator

Connector Rooms Available: 2 (King and/or Dbl/Dbl)

Park Suite: General Diagram rooms may vary by location

Plaza Suite: \$550/per night + tax (17.4%)

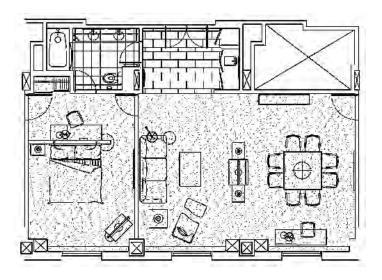
Non-Party/Quiet Floor Only

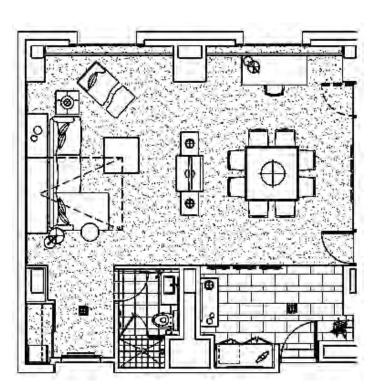
Parlor: 648 sq ft Total: 999 sq ft Capacity: 40–50 Dining Table Seating: 8 Reception Space and Self-Contained King Sleeping Room

Features: Large Dining Table, Spacious Seating, Refrigerator

Connector Rooms Available: 2 (Dbl/Dbl and/or King)

Plaza Suite: General Diagram rooms may vary by location





Millennium Suite: \$495/per night + tax (17.4%)

Non-Party/Quiet Floor **AND** Party/Non-Quiet Floors **Corkage Waiver Available – PARTY/NON-QUIET FLOORS ONLY**

Parlor: 204 sq ft Total: 600–800 sq ft Capacity: 20–25 Parlor/Reception Area Only Dining Table Seating: 8 Comes with 1 connector sleeping room (Dbl/Dbl or King)

Features: Large Dining Table, Spacious Seating, Refrigerator

Additional Connector Rooms Available: 1 (Dbl/Dbl or King) Available on Non-Party/Quiet Floors Only

Millennium Suite 1: General Diagram rooms will vary by location

Skyline Suite: \$330/per night + tax (17.4%)

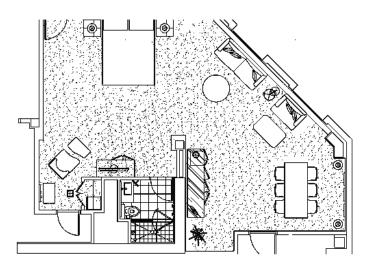
Non-Party/Quiet Floor **AND** Party/Non-Quiet Floors **Corkage Waiver Available – PARTY/NON-QUIET FLOORS ONLY**

Parlor: 284 sq ft Total: 700 sq ft Capacity: 30–40 Dining Table Seating: 6 Reception Space with King Bed

Features: Raised Dining Table, Sitting Area, Refrigerator

Connector Rooms Available: 1 (Dbl/Dbl or King)

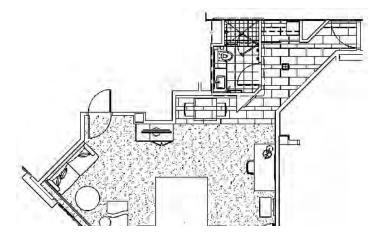
Skyline Suite: General Diagram rooms may vary by location



Riverview Studio Suites (420 sq ft thru 800 sq ft)

Non-Party/Quiet Floor **AND** Party / Non-Quiet Floors **Corkage Waiver Available – PARTY/NON-QUIET FLOORS ONLY**

We are working with the facility to verify which size(s) are on the Party Floors. Information will be available on the website prior to housing opening.



Riverview Studio Suite (420 Sq Ft): \$220/per night + tax (17.4%)

Parlor: 84 sq ft Total: 84 sq ft Capacity: 15-20 Dining Table Seating: 2 Reception Space and King Bed

Features: Raised Dining Table, Sitting Area, Refrigerator

Connector Rooms Available: 1 (Dbl/Dbl or Queen)

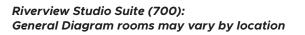
Riverview Studio Suite (420): General Diagram rooms may vary by location

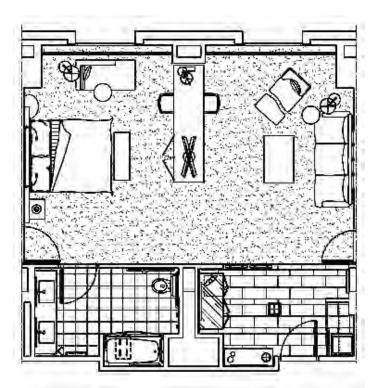
Riverview Studio Suite (700 Sq Ft): \$220/per night + tax (17.4%)

Total: 700 sq ft Capacity: 10 King Bed

Features: Spacious Seating, Large Desk, Refrigerator

Connector Rooms Available: 2 (King and/or King)





Riverview Studio Suite (800 Sq Ft): \$220/per night + tax (17.4%)

Total: 800 sq ft Capacity: 10 Dining Table Seating: 8 Reception Space and King Bed

Features: Spacious Seating, Large Desk, Refrigerator

Connector Rooms Available: 2 (Dbl/Dbl and/or King)

Riverview Studio Suite (800): General Diagram rooms may vary by location



Glasgow is a vibrant city filled with science fiction, fantasy and inventiveness, and our team aims to bring our love of these to our Bid to host the 82nd Worldcon. Our venue, the Scottish Event Campus, has seen much growth with new onsite hotels and restaurants, and will serve as a hub for a fantastic Worldcon. Join us as we bring all our futures together in one great celebration!

8th-12th August 2024 • Glasgow SEC www.glasgow2024.org • 🖾 🛱@glasgowin2024 • info@glasgow2024.org

A CON REPORT FROM AMAZING STORIES (1939)

AMAZING STORIES

Steve stared at the flickering lights, drooping from fatigue. A moment later Don returned, breathless.

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"Code reports coming in!" he exclaimed. "We've lost the Astoria, the Brooklyn, and half a dozen destroyers! And the Maryland's pulled out of line, badly damaged! Can't tell yet what we've done to the enemy! All we can do is fire at the flash of their guns!"

Anne nodded, very pale, turned toward the sea once more. Tense, anxious minutes passed. A half-hour, an hour, and still the guns, like distant thunder, roared their deadly chorus. More messages reached the post, telling of ships lost or put out of action. Then, with startling suddenness the red glare on the horizon winked out.

"What is it?" Mr. Ogden muttered.

"Have the Japs won? Have we been -2"

Shouts from the observation post drowned his voice. A man's figure appeared, silhouetted in the doorway.

"We did it!" he cried. "The enemy fleet's been wiped out! Took 'em by surprise in the channel, blew 'em to bits! We've won! Won!"

"Steve!" Anne turned to him, her eyes shining. "This is your victory! You alone made it possible!" She gazed at the harbor far below, its surface unmarred by ice. "You've given the islanders their tropical paradise again!"

Steve grinned, slipped an arm about her shoulders.

"It's always paradise," he whispered, "as long as you're here!"

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

ECENTLY, in New York, an unusual event occurred. Science fiction readers held a World Convention. It was unusual enough to warrant the weekly newsmagazine Time giving it two columns. But Time, according to AMAZING STORIES readers Mark Reinsberg and Erle Korshak, who attended the convention, missed a few important facts. Their story follows:

The 1st World Science Fiction Convention is over but it will live long in the minds of the

near two hundred fans, and celebrities who jammed the Convention hall on July 2nd in New York City. Sponsored by New Fandom, an organization of science fiction fans, the plans were two years in the making, and science fiction owes this energetic organization a vote of thanks for the success of their undertaking.



Mark Reinsberg

Even before 10:00 A. M. when the doors swung open for the morning session, a large crowd had gathered outside. We had met several fans enroute to the Convention and were not alone as we were greeted by Sam Moskowitz and James V. Taurasi, in charge of affairs.

Things got started with a bang. The morning session was to be one of general introductions, in which everyone was to get acquainted. Editors ferreted out their critics, fans met their penpals,

authors got together on stories and plots.

Surprises were forthcoming, people who had existed only as styles of writing stepped out as live characters, friends were made, precious secrets were revealed, choice items of news buzzed along.

In no time at all noon recess arrived and autograph hunters ceased their efforts, to duck out with fans and celebrities for a hurried lunch.

Promptly at 2:00 o'clock the Convention reconvened for its official opening. Everyone was re-

quired to register in the "guest book" in the foyer, where official convention books were sold and SF tags given out for

Upstairs, special Convention fan magazines adorned a table and were quickly exhausted by enthusiastic buyers. Dozens of original drawings by Paul, Scott, Krupa, Fuqua, Wesso, and others

were scattered at strategic points along the walls, eliciting many longing glances from everyone. Quickly the chairs up in front were filled up, and there was a scramble for advantageous positions, for things were beginning to happen.

Erle Korshak

On the platform sat William S. Sykora, Chairman of the Convention Committee, Sam Moskowitz, and James V. Taurasi, while over to one corner of the room R. Van Houten prepared to take notes of every word uttered-officially.

handy identification.

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Sam Moskowitz approached the microphone and gave the official welcome, followed by the reading of the minutes to the First National Science Fiction Convention held the previous year. Then Sykora gave an interesting speech entitled "Science Fiction and New Fandom" which was somewhat abbreviated due to lack of time.

Receiving a tremendous ovation upon his introduction, Frank R. Paul, who modestly declared, "I hadn't expected anything like this," delivered a talk on "Science Fiction, the Spirit of Youth."

A huge drawing by Paul, picturing a composite view of tomorrow, was a feature of the convention. The "grand old artist of Science Fiction" was supremely happy at his enthusiastic reception and proud of the fact that the whole affair, including the Banquet the next day, was in his honor.

The program then turned to one of its highspots, the motion picture *Metropolis*. One of the true "old-timers" of science-fiction pictures, it had a very weak plot and thin philosophy as science fiction goes, it nevertheless proved very interesting and worthwhile.

After a thirty minute recess the Convention was again called to order. The most interesting part of the Convention, the public introduction of science fiction personalities, began.

John W. Campbell, Jr., was called upon and spoke on Changing Science Fiction.

Following him, Mort Weisinger gave a talk entitled *Men of Science Fiction*, relating many amusing and little known facts about SF personalities. Charles D. Hornig also spoke briefly.

Then came a surprise—or at least to us. We had presented our official letter of introduction one given us by Ziff Davis shortly before we left Chicago, and although representing AMAZING STORIES and Fantastic Adventures, we hardly expected to be called upon to say a few words.

From then on, characters came fast and enthusiastically. Celebrities and world-famous characters in science fiction such as: the eminent German rocket authority Willy Ley, L. Sprague de Camp, L. A. Eshbach, Manly Wade Wellman, Harl Vincent, Schneeman, Nelson S. Bond, shy and retiring Otto Binder, "world-saver" Edmond Hamilton, Ross Rocklynne, R. D. Swisher, Malcolm Jameson, John D. Clark, Ph.D., Isaac Asimov, John Victor Peterson, and many others.

But, the center of attraction was held by two of SF's most colorful fans, Forrest J. Ackerman and a vivacious lady-fan also from Los Angeles, whose adopted Esperanto name is Morojo. They came to the Convention dressed in ultra-modernistic clothing as witnessed in the movie "Things to Come" and created no little excitement when they were introduced to the eager crowd.

Ray Cummings, one of science fiction's old timers, put in an unexpected but warmly welcomed appearance. For the third consecutive convention, Otis Adelbert Kline ducked out before he could be called upon to speak.

Mario Racio, also on the convention committee was presented, and later in the program SF fans met Leo Margulies, who was quoted in the writeup by *Time* as saying: "I am astonished. I didn't realize you boys could be so damn sincere!"

The evening session featured the auction of magazines, original drawings, SF items, fan mags, original manuscripts, etc., all donated by wellwishing editors, authors, artists and fans. Sam Moskowitz, James V. Taurasi, Mario Racio, Jr., and later just about anybody who wanted—auctioned off rare and unique items. Prominent bidders were Ackerman, Korshak, Ruppert, Reinsberg, and others. So concluded the first day of the Convention. Famous last words: Will Sykora to Sam Moskowitz (1:30 A. M. or later), "Sam, we gotta get them out'a here!"

July 3rd there was no morning session. At 2:00 PM a group of about sixty-five fans, plus numerous celebrities were called to order.

Ruroy Sibley, famed lecturer and astronomer was presented and accompanying an excellent movie on the universe, gave a very interesting talk.

After this enjoyable lecture was over, the Convention recessed briefly for more refreshments and then returned to the Hall for a combination science discussions and just plain talk session. The remaining auction items were quickly disposed of at bargain prices. That being the final session held in the Hall itself, the fans were shooed out, the Hall cleaned up and vacated, pending the Science Fiction Dinner to be held at 8:30 PM that same evening. Once more the crowd sub-divided into those who were going to the Dinner, in honor of Frank R. Paul, and those who had planned their evening differently.

We attended the banquet. There were speeches --speeches by Paul, all decked in smiles, by Sykora, master of ceremony, Moskowitz, Ackerman, Hornig, Ley, Taurasi, in fact, by almost everyone there. When Reinsberg was called upon he made a Chicago bid for the next convention in 1940.

But all good things must end, and so did the Science Fiction Dinner, at 1:00 AM.

On July 4th, last day of the Convention, the SF baseball game got under way early in the afternoon out in Flushing, N. Y. It all ended with the team led by Moskowitz beating that led by Sykora 23 to about 13 (no one kept accurate count, to tell the truth!).

We still might remark humbly, that this hasn't, by any means, covered everything—that would require a book-length novel, but we have tried to recount something of the spirit, something of the sincerity and enthusiasm we shared and witnessed at this, the greatest of all Science Fiction Conventions, and in conclusion we'll simply say: "SEE YOU IN CHICAGO—1940!"

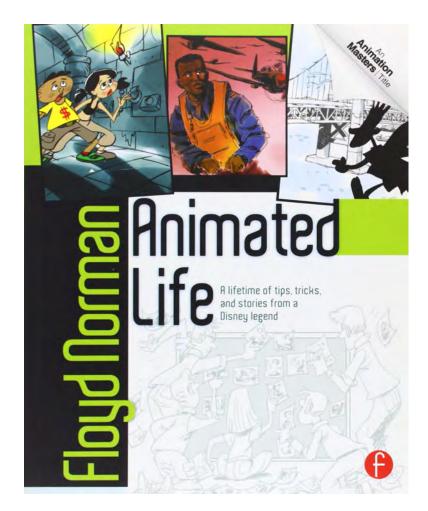
Mark Reinsberg & Erle Korshak.





FLOYD NORMAN ADVENTURES





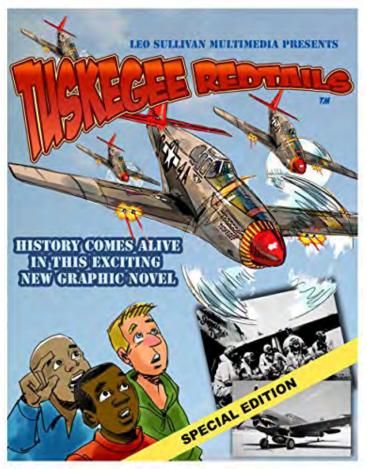
by James Bacon

Fans will know the work of Floyd Norman well. It is hard to not be aware – let alone not have seen – some of the famous films he has worked on from Sleeping Beauty, The Jungle Book, and Mary Poppins to Toy Story 2. Here James Bacon, who has been reading and enjoying some of the other works that Floyd has created, shares what is available for you to read.

I decided that I wanted to learn more about our Guests of Honor and started with Floyd Norman. His book *Animated Life: A Lifetime of Tips, Tricks, Techniques and Stories from an Animation Legend*, is a wonderful autobiographical book which goes into considerable detail about Floyd's life and work, as well as giving considerable professional insight into his profession as an animator. Published in 2013, it is available.

While reading this book, one of the strong impressions I got was Floyd's positivity and incredibly productive time, while demonstrating a level of understanding and patience with those who perhaps don't deserve it. The book is beautifully illustrated and includes many photographs going back to his start at Disney in 1956, as well as sketches, cartoons, and work by Floyd, and comes all the way up to 2013. With over 250 pages, one certainly can get a fine picture of Floyd. This book led to others.

I was soon tracking down *Tuskegee Redtails*, a fusion of history book and comic by Floyd Norman and Leo Sullivan. The book not only introduces the Tuskegee Redtails to young readers, it also presents a detailed history and insight, contrasting a very accessible story with pages of text with details and photographs. It opens up the history of the World War II unit and going on to look at the legacy, while the book itself forms part of the work that continues today to build children's self-esteem and understanding of their cultural heritage.



animators. Many images are accompanied by text, with Floyd talking about them, which ensures a clear understanding of a subtle cartoon that had been understood by those concerned. **Son of Faster Cheaper** was available as a print-ondemand book, but **Faster! Cheaper!** is harder to find.

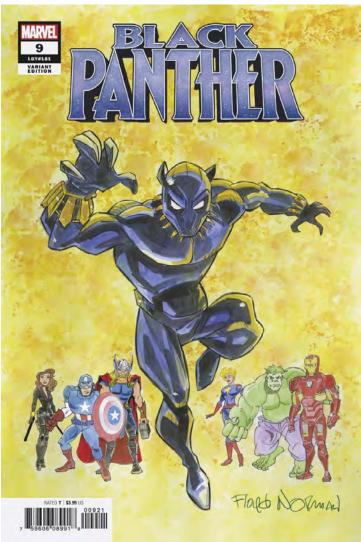
Floyd writes an introductory essay, over two very wide pages, for Walt Disney's *Mickey Mouse Vol. 1*, which collects the 1930's comic strip work of Floyd Gottfredson, which had a big influence on Floyd and of which he notes that he wanted to return to the sense of adventure to strips. It is quite a focused introduction and well worth reading, as is the collection.

Another introduction from Floyd can be found in *Usagi Yojimbo Foxhunt* which collects #110-#116 and *Saya*, and *Usagi Yojimbo Saga Vol. 3* which reprints issues #94-#116.

Finally, **Black Panther #9** from February 2019 had a variant cover by Floyd Norman. This issue is part of the fabulous Ta-Nehisi Coates second run (Volume 7), and has art by UK artist Kev Walker. The cover features Black Panther and a number of Marvel heroes and is really quite lovely.

Floyd's skill as a storyteller comes to life in the comic parts, but it is such a clever presentation of story, facts and contextualization of the history around the formation of the unit. I found this book readily available on the **We Buy Black** website for \$15, and was astounded then with the service from **Afrokids**, and very pleased to get my copy signed by Leo Sullivan. Which was quite unexpected.

Floyd is an adept and very funny cartoonist, and his work is a very wry and insightful view of time as an animator. These cartoons started while at Disney, something that he had seen other colleagues do providing humor in images ribbing one another. I picked up **Son of Faster Cheaper** and **Faster! Cheaper!**, both of them additional books of cartoons by Floyd. I found this the work of a keen observer of what is going around himself, and with the ability to find the hilarious moment. It is also quite an unexpected biography into who he worked with, starting with Walt Disney, but then moving to Michael Eisner with a cutting humor and shining a notaltogether-blissful light onto the life of hardworking



CIRQUE DES SMOFS



Smofcon 38 A convention for those who enjoy running conventions December 2-4, 2022 Montreal, Quebec, Canada



https://smofcon38.ca/index.php



CHICON 8'S LOGO AND CHICAGO'S CITY FLAG: THE SOURCE OF THE STARS (PART 2)

by Sue Burke

A rocket and stars in colors of pale blue, dark red, and white: this is the logo that represents Chicon 8. Every Worldcon has a logo, and creating this one took the efforts of two people and some local inspiration.

Ray VanTilburg came up with the initial idea and the tag line, *Take it to the stars*. "It was science fiction, so it had to have a rocket," he said in a telephone interview, "sort of like the Hugo rocket but not exactly like the Hugo rocket." It also had to have a background of starry space.

This was not Ray's first Chicon logo. He'd created logos for the 2000, 2007, and 2012 Worldcons. Maybe 1991, too – he's not sure because he's designed "a lot of stuff" for various conventions, large and small, over his career. Art has been his business. He and his wife met at the 1987 Windycon, and together they founded OffWorld Designs to put his artistic bent to good use. Over its 30 years of existence, the company sold teeshirts, clothing, and other souvenirs at conventions, usually at 40 to 50 events each year. It closed for business in 2021.





"Once covid did its number on us, we decided to retire," he said. At age 70, is he enjoying retirement? "I probably will eventually," but it has taken a lot of work to close OffWorld Designs and to set up his own art business at **Etsy**.

Back in 2017, he was in contact with the group planning the Chicon 8 bid and was asked to create a logo. "It was just natural," he said. He based it on the rockets in the 2000 logo, and he tried to incorporate the colors and unique stars of the Chicago city flag.

"Just about what you see is the original design," he said. He passed it on to Emily Knowles-Grumble, who is in charge of artistic direction for the convention. "She's the one who decides what colors to use and makes sure it goes with what's been done."

She's also the graphic designer and owner of **eek! design**. Her job for Chicon 8, she joked, is doing whatever Helen Montgomery, the convention chair, asks her to do.

"In all seriousness, though," Emily said, "a lot of it

revolves around creating visual elements that create a cohesive image for the con." That includes a style guide, flyers, web images, postcards, a banner stand, and a tablecloth – so far, and she expects things to get more hectic.

"I chose to do this because I felt like I needed to give back to Worldcon in some way," Emily said. Like Ray, fandom brought her a life partner. At Chicon 7, she and her future husband were just dating, and they were at a party where Neil Gaiman would be attending soon.



"I'd been a huge Neil Gaiman fan since I was 16 years old, and the owner of a local comic book shop introduced me to **Sandman**. It was that night, at Chicon 7 when I could've met one of my favorite authors of all time, that I instead decided to retire with my then-boyfriend back to our room so that I could tell him that I loved him for the first time. Here I am, 10 years later, happily married to that guy but still cursing myself for missing my chance to meet Neil!"

The process for creating a logo, she said, begins with research into colors, fonts, and imagery "to encompass the core or soul of the company or event." That can be the hardest part of the job, asking probing questions of the client. "I think with the Worldcon

logo I actually got to be on both sides of the conversation as someone who had been in fandom and designing for fandom for about 10 years at that point."



In this case, "I already had a good starting point with Ray VanTilburg's initial design concept."

She has worked with him and his wife before, and Emily said she adores both of them. "When I grow up, I want to be Ray, as he is a master artist and illustrator." With his permission, she began to look for ways to add to or adjust the art to make it better. Her key changes were to use a sleeker, sans serif font for the type and to make it more reflective of Chicago as the host city.

"This meant more emphasis on the Chicago flag for the color scheme and use of the stars as well." She called



that decision a no-brainer.

"I think for me, having spent so much time growing into an adult while living and working in Chicago, is something that gives me a sense of pride. Chicago is a strong city with what I consider to be a very 'no b.s.' attitude while at the same time having this sort of stark beauty about it ... the skyline and the architecture come to mind. I think the flag is symbolic of those ideas."

She had previously worked with design projects incorporating the flag, which had given her the chance to study Chicago's flag, architecture, and design. "The fact that each star represents a defining historical event in Chicago's history seemed like a fitting design element to incorporate into a logo which represents a historic event for the world science fiction community."



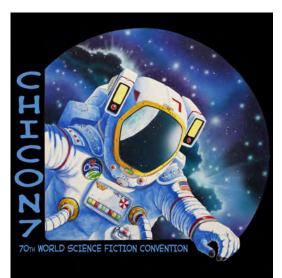
She wanted the logo to be inviting and feel modern and clean. "Maybe more than anything I wanted it to be a bonding of two ideas. One being that this is an event where our community comes together to grow our knowledge and celebrate our communal love of science fiction; the other idea of course being to show the strength and beauty of Chicago as the host city. I hope I was successful in that!"

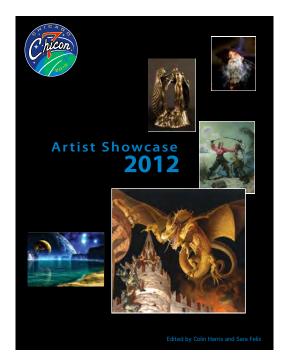
At the convention, whether you attend online or in person, you'll get a chance to buy clothing and souvenirs with the flag-inspired logo. If you come to Chicago and explore the city, you'll see the flag and art based on the flag everywhere to admire and purchase. These things aren't just for tourists. We who live in Chicago wear hoodies and socks and use coffee mugs and tote bags with Chicago's flag, or with a design inspired by the flag, because we love this city.

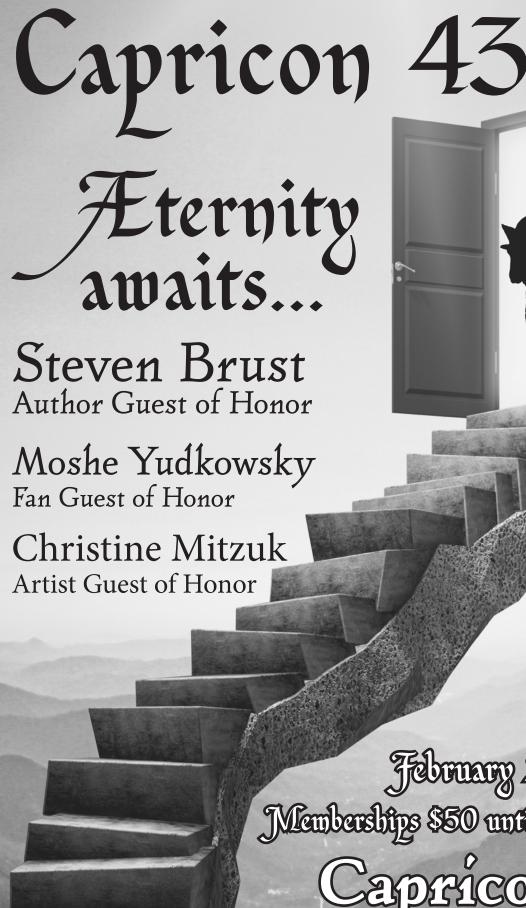
So go ahead and buy

something! You won't look like a tourist. You'll look like you fit in – and you will. Whoever you are, wherever you're from, whether you're here for a lifetime or just a few days, you'll be very welcome in Chicago.









February 2-5, 2023 Memberships \$50 until 4/1/2022 Capricon.org



WE ALL HAVE HISTORY





The Fanac Fan History Project

by Edie Stern & Joe Siclari

Over the last 50+ years, our fannish activities have ranged all over the map. Joe started an SF club that's still going 35 years later, and four separate conventions: Tropicon, SMOFcon, FanHistoriCon, and the Travelling Fete. We have each pubbed our ish, run a club, argued with the IRS over non-profit status, collected art, and even written filk songs. We've done just about every convention job there is from chairing to con suite, for conventions from local to Worldcon. Joe chaired MagiCon, the 50th Worldcon, in 1992.

Today though, we're not going to talk about any of that. We're going to talk about the Fan History Project: *Fanac.org*, *Fancyclopedia.org*, and the *FanHistory YouTube Channel*. There's also a *Zoom History series*.

Over our years in fandom, we were fortunate to hear many great stories (some even true)! We met and became friends with so many cool older fans, including fans who were there when SF&F fandom started, such as Dave Kyle, Bob Madle, Jack Speer, Bob Tucker, Robert Bloch and our co-Chicon guest Erle Korshak, along with many others. It's no wonder that Fan History has been a long-time passion of ours.

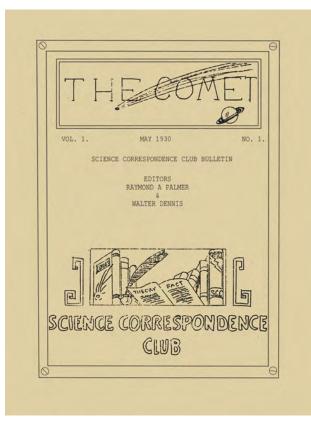
For decades, learning about Fan History mostly meant hanging out with fans and listening to their stories or reading fanzines. Unfortunately, a lot of the most highly regarded fanzines were hard to find, especially the ones from decades past. You might hear about a spectacular fannish writer but never really get the chance to read their work. As far back as 1979, Joe was dreaming and writing of having "all the fanzines ever pubbed in a little box on his desk," as you can read in his *DNQ 19* article, *https://fanac.org/fanzines/DNQ/DNQ19.pdf*. Now, thanks to the miracle of modern technology, he almost does. And you can too!

The **FANAC.org** part of the Fan History project started soon after MagiCon was over. The project preserves original materials created by fans, from photos to fanzines to convention publications. As of now, we have scanned more than 17,750 pubs and 8,500 photos. They're up in the online archive at FANAC. org. The oldest fanzines are from 1930 and include both *The Comet* and *The Planet*, one of which is the first science fiction fanzine ever published. Why do we list two, and with a question? Look at the articles on the fanzines in Fancyclopedia.org. Then you can check out the zines themselves on FANAC.org and make your own decision.

Fancyclopedia.org is another part of the Fan History Project. It is FANAC's crowd-sourced fannish encyclopedia under the guidance of Mark Olson.



Fancyclopedia, a.k.a. Fancy 3, provides context and background about people, fanzines, and conventions. It is an incredible expansion of the two previous versions done in 1943 and 1959. Is your corner of fandom well covered? You are invited to make sure of it. Hey, we said crowd-sourced.



Some of us absorb things better when we hear and see them, so five years ago, Edie started our FanHistory YouTube channel for those who want their history almost live and in-person. The channel has over 100 pieces of audio and video, the oldest, so far, being James Blish's Guest of Honor speech at Pittcon, the 1960 WorldCon. There are convention panels, Hugo ceremonies, GoH speeches, interviews, filk performances and masquerades for you at *http://youtube.com/c/FANACFanHistory*. The three most viewed recordings are:

(1) the Star Wars presentation in 1976 at Big Mac by Mark Hamill and producer Gary Kurtz,

(2) Ursula LeGuin's 1975 Worldcon Guest of Honor speech at Aussiecon, and

(3) Robert Heinlein's 1976 Worldcon Guest of Honor speech at MidAmeriCon. There are also recordings of Theodore Sturgeon, Bob Tucker, Harlan Ellison, Fritz Leiber, Harry Warner Jr., and others.

Encyclopedias and audio/video recordings have a clear appeal. But why should you care about fanzines? It's a bit of a cliché, but you can think of the fanzines as the internet of fandom before there was an internet. Fanzines were different in that they took some sweat equity to make a

statement. It took typing, reproducing, collating, stapling, and shelling out for postage and mailing. There are serious constructive fanzines, fannish fanzines, and fanzines you'd swear were designed to plunge all fandom into war. There are amazing zines out there, some of which kept brutal publishing schedules. Nydahl's famous first anniversary issue of Vega (1953) was 100 pages. Publishing it burned him out, and he ended the fanzine. Buck and Juanita Coulson's Yandro schedule was brutal in a different way – they published a general interest fanzine (genzine) nearly every month for 30 years.

Fanzines create legends. Walt Willis wrote so engagingly of the fannish doings in Oblique House, that decades later ghoodminton is still revered as the game of heroes. Alas, there had been a little exaggeration in those ghoodminton articles: *https:// fancyclopedia.org/Ghoodminton*.

Fannish history is ripe with knowledge. "The Flushing Blitzkrieg" is a teaching tale, wherein concerned members of FAPA made a real world trip to the Official Editor, who was late in getting the mailing out. They were able to physically get the contributions so they could put out the mailing. Of course, they wrote about it: https://fanac.org/fanzines/Sense_FAPA/Sense_



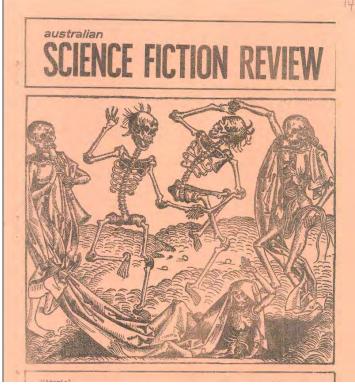
FAPA1-063.html. Edie participated in a re-enactment of that in the '80s, in the completely different context of running a convention.

Fanzines are a palpable victory over entropy. What else would you call it when there is finely detailed art created by drawing on jello or directly on wax stencils? There was even "plaid" ink.

Fan History is fun. It lets us understand how our current community came to be. Many other fandoms were birthed by science fiction fandom including comics, cosplay, mystery, and the SCA. Our fandom was the forerunner of much of today's popular culture. Appreciate our history and you'll see why.

The Fan History project sites are the products of many hands, and those hands are all over the world. For 25 years, fans have provided fanzines, photos, scans and articles for the archive. There are close to 500 names listed on our contributors' page. Material has come from North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and

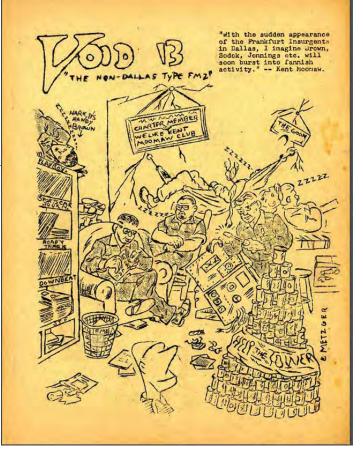




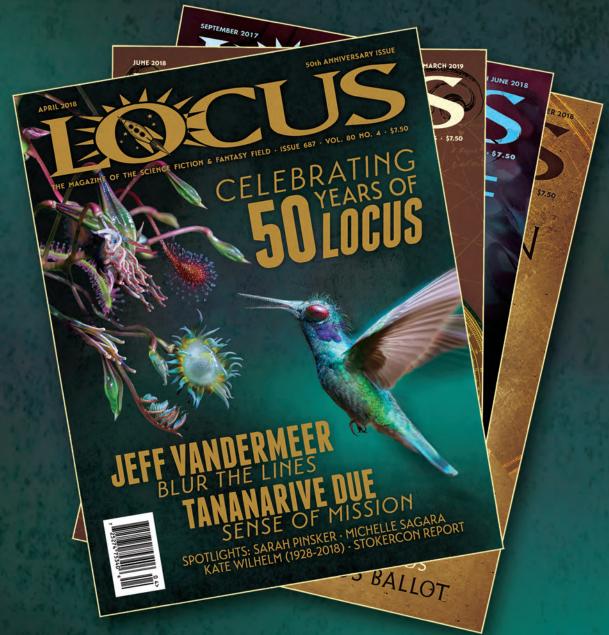
Australia. We're still hoping for material from Africa and Antarctica. Let us know if you want to be part of this.

To keep up with the Fan History Project, sign up for our quarterly newsletter at *FANAC.org*.

You can be sure of one thing — all this effort and history won't go to waste. The US Library of Congress is archiving the site to make it available to researchers in the future.



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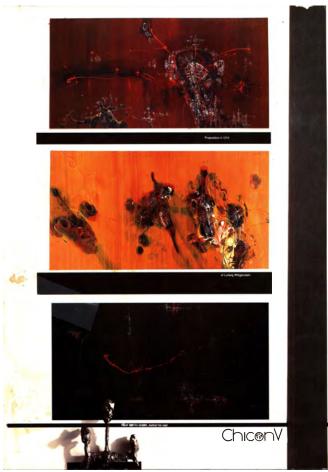


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NEWS & PROGRESS BY DIVISIONS AND AREAS





Courtesy of FANAC.org

ART SHOW

We will be hosting an Art Show featuring the art of our Guest of Honor, Floyd Norman, as well as numerous other speculative artists, both professional and amateur. Applications are now open. Price per 3' by 4' panel is \$30 and for a 3' by 2.5' table space also \$30. As information is updated, it will be at the website:

https://chicon.org/home/whats-happening/art-show/

The art show is being brought to you by the team of Elizabeth Klein-Lebbink and Jerome Scott. In addition to the art displays, these other events are planned:

- A reception with the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists (ASFA) and the Chesley Awards
- A print shop
- Demonstration spaces available in the Art Show
- A special exhibit of the collections of our Guests of Honor: Erle Korshak, and Edie Stern and Joe Siclari
- A showing of the best of #GeeksWholnk (the Chicon version of #Inktober)
- A showing of the art of Featured Guests Gene Ha and Eric Wilkerson
- A showing of all the Rotsler Award winners and their art
- An Art Show auction brought to you by the Dorsai Irregulars auctioneer team, always a fun time!

There will be a quicksale in addition to the normal silent and voice bidding process. Pieces sold by quicksale will be requested to remain on display until the end of the show.

We are exploring what options we will be able to provide for virtual attendees.

DEALERS' ROOM

The Chicon 8 Dealers' Room will have more than a hundred tables and booths with vendors selling all kinds of things for you to peruse and purchase in person! If you like books, t-shirts, costume accessories, jewelry, art prints, more books, crafts, gaming supplies, or other fannish items, there's something here for you.

Applications for Dealers' Room tables will be opening soon. https://chicon.org/home/whats-happening/exhibits/dealers-room/

EXHIBITS

Applications for Fan Tables and Bid Tables are now open. Tables for Worldcon and NASFIC bids are guaranteed, but we need your contact information. Please see

https://chicon.org/home/whats-happening/fan-tables/

for more information.

HOSPITALITY

Hospitality Volunteer Letter

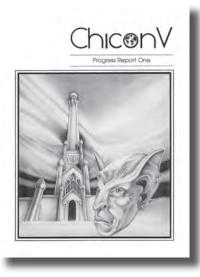
The Hospitality Division is made up of several sections: Con Suite, Staff Den, Green Room, and Teen Lounge, all dedicated to providing snack food, drinks, and a quiet spot to hang out and recharge for the various groups at the convention. Additionally, Hospitality is responsible for the management of the room parties and several receptions.

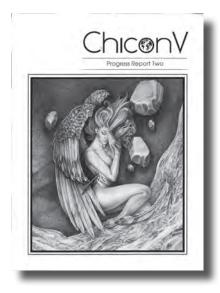
The **Con Suite** is for everyone (with a convention badge) who wants to come in, but mostly serves regular attendees. In past years, depending on the hotel contract, we may have had open food trays with tongs or other serving utensils, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, most things will be individually wrapped or single-serve items. Con Suite is meant to be a place where you can grab a piece of fruit, some chips or pretzels, or perhaps some yogurt or applesauce (disclaimer: specific offerings in Con Suite may vary), but not full meals. There are restaurants and grocery stores nearby that will have more filling options for your "three squares." What Con Suite is good for, though, is a place where people can sit down, read a book, play a card game or two, or hide in a corner with headphones and a sketchbook until it's time for the next panel on your agenda.

Convention staff, volunteers, presenters and guests will have a combined service room where light meals and snacks will be available. The **Staff Den** is for staff and volunteers, and the **Green Room** is for presenters and guests. These spaces are designated only for staff and guests, respectively, so regular attendees aren't allowed in. This gives staff and guests the opportunity to have some time to themselves or to network with other guests or staff.

If an attendee, staff member, or guest has any allergies or dietary restrictions or requirements, please let us know and we will help them make safer choices. For very severe allergies it might be better to bring food themselves that they know they can eat if they are concerned.

At the moment, we are looking for Area Heads for the Con Suite and Staff Den/Green Room and Party Mavens. There are also openings for Deputy Area Heads, and staff for various jobs in all areas.





Courtesy of FANAC.org







Courtesy of FANAC.org

MEMBER SERVICES

Member Services Division Update

First, we would like to welcome **Shana Worthen** as our new Deputy Division Head!

The Member Services Division is cruising along on our journey to the stars, but we could definitely use some help achieving peak escape velocity for our journey. By now, you should have seen our **Access Guide** on the website, received information about accessible hotel room bookings, and found information about how to obtain help from us if you need a visa. We've also launched the Chicago Community Worldcon Fund, and we continue to answer member questions via email.

We still need help in the following areas. Please email *memberservices@chicon.org* if you'd like to learn more or sign up to help with any of these tasks:

Info Table: We could use help putting together our at-con maps, guides, and overlays. Are you a local who knows all the best restaurants near the Hyatt? We would love to get some personalized recommendations for a restaurant guide. Do you like putting together maps? We need you to save us all from my stick-figure drawings that will be unmoored from all concepts of geography.

Operations: Do you like putting together the logistics of an event? Are you a night-owl who might want to do some of the overnight work for our 24/7 Ops Room? Crazy about line management and crowd flow? Or, maybe, you just really like radios? These are all valid, life-affirming joys, and we'd love to have your help in these areas.

Where to Find Information

(to the tune of "Revolution" by the Beatles)

You say you want some information. Well, you know We'd all love to see the plans. You ask me for the information. Well, you know We're all doing what we can. But if you want information for yourself right now-ow-ow All I can tell you is that you need to email *info@chicon.org*.

I must admit, it loses something towards the end there. In all earnestness, if you are unable to find a piece of information on the website, please email *info@chicon*.org, and we will be happy to point you in the right direction. We are also working on our FAQ for the website and would greatly accept any help in putting it together.

Chicago Community Worldcon Fund

The best thing about Worldcon is the people. Worldcon is an event where amazing, awesome people come together to create, to learn, to make, to do, and to participate with one another as we build our community together.

This community becomes amazing when we are able to help as many people as we can to join us. In reality, not everyone finds it financially easy to attend Worldcon.

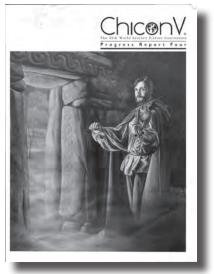
The Chicago Worldcon Community Fund (CWCF), inspired by the funds and initiatives that have come before, is here to facilitate bringing more people into our community. The CWCF is a special fund to help defray the expenses of attending Chicon 8 for the following groups of people:

- Non-white fans or program participants
- LGBTQIA+ fans or program participants
- Local Chicago area fans of limited means

If you would like to learn more about the CWCF and how donations will be utilized, please head to our FAQ on the website:

https://chicon.org/home/for-members/chicagoworldcon-community-fund/

Are you in a position to help the Chicago Worldcon Community Fund? Please go to the website to donate, and thanks!



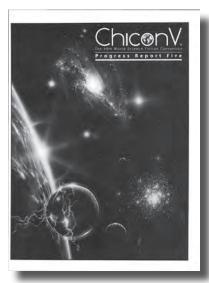
Courtesy of FANAC.org

PROGRAM

If you're interested in participating in the program, here's what you need to know.

How do I become a participant?

First complete the *program participant interest form*. Within a few weeks we will send you the program participant survey. The deadline for you to complete a program participant interest form is **April 15, 2022**, and you will be notified of your participation status by the beginning of June 2022.



Worldcon typically has more people wanting to be program participants than we have space for on the program, and we believe that Chicon 8 will be the same. We have developed a process for choosing who is and isn't selected as a participant, and program staff will participate in this process. Program leadership doesn't and can't know everyone, and one of

Courtesy of FANAC.org

the benefits of having a large team, in addition to the distribution of work, is utilizing the varied knowledge brought by members of the team.

What is the overall program participant process for Chicon 8?

Chicon 8 will be using an opt-in program development model.

- First complete the *program participant interest form* by **April 15, 2022**.
- Within a few weeks we will send you the program participant survey. This tells us who you are, and gives us an overview of what you hope to contribute to the program. Among other things, this survey will include the opportunity to (optionally): Suggest panel topics that you would like to see run at the convention; and propose workshops and presentations that you would like to conduct as solo or duo presenters.

- Potential participants will be put through a vetting process to make sure that they are aligned with the values and principles set out in the convention code of conduct and anti-racism statement.
- Once the program team has completed the initial program development phase, you will be asked to select specific program items that you would like to be on. You will be asked to provide information as to why you are a great choice for the topics that you choose.
- Later on, we will ask prospective participants to inform program staff of their availability. This will be your chance to tell us all about your scheduling constraints for the convention, like maximum number of items per day.
- Once we are within a few months of the convention, we will send participants a draft schedule for review. This is your opportunity to provide feedback on your schedule. We will have prepared it for you using the information you provided in earlier steps, but it still may need improving!
- The last step fairly close to the convention – will be to confirm a "final" schedule after we've adjusted for the provided feedback from the draft schedules, before we release the convention schedule publicly.
- After the convention, we will ask you to provide feedback about your experience as a participant and will send it to future Worldcons.



Courtesy of FANAC.org

AUGUST 11-14, 2022 HYATT REGENCY HOTEL, MINNEAPOLIS MA **COURT REALITY** MAY VARY



MEMBERSHIP STATS & DEMOGRAPHICS



The following table summarises Chicon 8's membership demographics as of **February 12, 2022**.

Country	Adult Attending *	Age Attending **	Supporting	Total
Australia	6		35	41
Austria			3	3
Belgium	2		2	4
Bermuda	1			1
Brazil	1			1
Canada	37	2	118	157
China			2	2
Colombia			1	1
Denmark			1	1
Finland	3		23	26
France			5	5
Germany	9		28	37
Hong Kong			1	1
India			1	1
Ireland	7		13	20
Israel	2		2	4
Italy			5	5
Japan	4		3	7
Luxembourg			1	1
Malaysia			1	1
Netherlands	3		3	6
New Zealand	1		7	8
Norway			3	3
Poland			2	2
Saudi Arabia			14	14
Singapore			1	1
South Africa			1	1
Spain	1		2	3
Sweden	6		6	12
Switzerland			5	5
Taiwan			1	1
Thailand			1	1
Uganda			1	1
Ukraine			2	2
United Kingdom	38	5	101	144
United States	1569	63	670	2302
TOTAL	1691	70	1065	2826

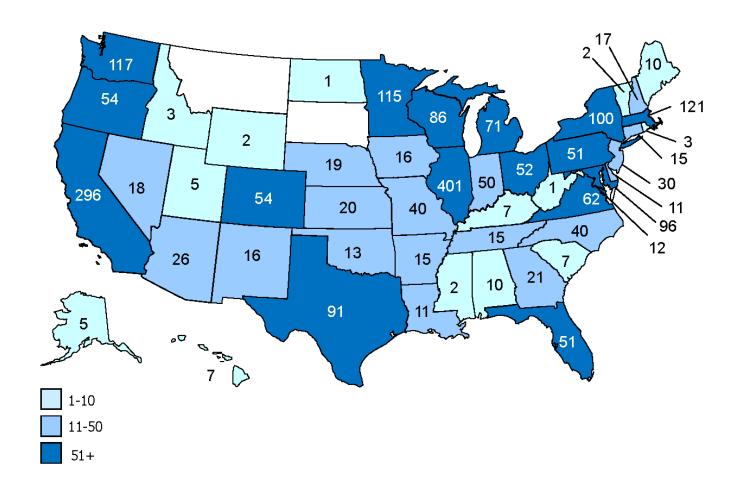
(*) includes First Worldcon attendees

(**) includes Young Adults, Teen and Child Attending Members plus Kids-in-Tow



The US state demographics for the 2,302 US members are shown on the following table and chart. We are delighted to have members registered from 48 different states (plus Washington D.C. and Guam) – and if you're in South Dakota or Montana, we'd love to complete the set!

AK (5)	GA (21)	MA (121)	NH (17)	SC (7)
AL (10)	GU (1)	MD (96)	NJ (30)	TN (15)
AR (15)	HI (7)	ME (10)	NM (16)	TX (91)
AZ (26)	IA (16)	MI (71)	NV (18)	UT (5)
CA (296)	ID (3)	MN (115)	NY (100)	VA (62)
CO (54)	IL (401)	MO (40)	OH (52)	VT (2)
CT (15)	IN (50)	MS (2)	OK (13)	WA (117)
DC (12)	KS (20)	NC (40)	OR (54)	WI (86)
DE (11)	KY (7)	ND (1)	PA (51)	WV (1)
FL (51)	LA (11)	NE (19)	RI (3)	WY (2)
				Unknown (13)





A bid for the 15th North American Science Fiction Convention July 20-23, 2023



https://main.winnipegin2023.ca/