

The Squeak of the Rat #3

being the Winter 1994/95 collation of the L.A.con III Committee newsletter/apa.

Hi there. Functional look is still in place because my computer awaits repair. I anticipate that will happen not too far into the new year. I'm still Matthew B. Tepper, still living at Saint Duckburg, 1550 South Saltair Avenue #6, Los Angeles, California 90025-2610, (310) 820-0723 (home) and (310) 277-4657 (work).

This time we have the usual healthy contribution from Chaz Baden, and Robbie Cantor says she will have several pages on "L.A.con III Proposed Space Allocation." I had hoped to have a couple of pages of thoughts, but since they will fit neatly on this page I will do it that way.

My thoughts are mostly peripherally related to L.A.con III in particular, and Worldcons in general. What is the "mission" of a Worldcon? To award the Hugos? To bring together fans, writers, artists, editors, academics, dealers, and others from around the world and give them something to do for a few days? To amuse and entertain the committee? To improve (somehow) media coverage of SF&F and its fandom? Probably all of the above. But I'd like to probe a little deeper. What is the lasting effect of a Worldcon on the fans already in place in the region?

Admittedly, different localities which bid on (and sponsor) Worldcons have different levels of organized fandom. There are Worldcons which infamously cause serious rifts in their local fan groups which can take years to heal - Iguanacon, for one. There are conventions which seem to confirm the strengths of the pre-existing fan groups - L.A.con comes to mind, though I'd wager there are many others. There are conventions which, so far as I can tell, serve as lasting good memories of the locale but don't do overmuch to bring the local group together. (Nolacon II, anyone?) What do we hope to gain, or risk to lose, by hosting a Worldcon?

A few thoughts on another subject. I've just finished serving as a Department Head for the local Los Angeles convention, Loscon 21. My expectations for my role were a little different from what I actually wound up doing at the convention, probably a not-too-surprising occurrence for most of us. I had thought I was going to be sitting in Ops answering a telephone all day, but I wound up being a wandering Ombudsman. I spent my time basically being visible and listening to complaints and other comments about the convention from fellow committee members, local clubfans, and first-time attendees. If there was a problem, I endeavored to solve it, or at least to communicate it to the appropriate committee person. I also wound up drafting a couple of notices which went into the daily newszine.

What I would like to know is, to what extent do you folks think that immediate feedback at a convention can assist in the running of that convention? Obviously there are certain planning issues which preclude flexibility to a degree. I mean, you have to make a good guess before the con as to how many program books you're going to need if that (hoped for?) big rush of at-the-doors comes in waving their green stuff. If a function looks like it's going to be a bigger-than-envisioned draw, what sort of deal have you hammered out with the hotel? Is the hotel staff in place truly going to mind the deals in the contract, or did the manager who has glad-handed you all along gone off on a skiing vacation and left some blinkered underling in charge?

I'll bet most people reading this have more Worldcon committee experience than I do (my experience is that one Loscon, as well as six Minicons.) I look forward to reading whatever you write.

Next deadline 20 February 1994, and I will endeavor to be more timely about the issuance thereof. It's time for me to knuckle down and get this job done right. But be aware that I'm not going to go out and solicit contributions or comments or whatever from you; if you have something to say, you already know it.

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James White

Writer Guest of Honor

A considerable number of White's works focus, either wholly or in part, on aspects of medical practice among alien species and their interactions. Others, like *All Judgment Fled*, are novels of first contact. In this way, his stories reflect the science-fiction reader's continuing appetite for puzzle stories.

Roger Corman

Media Guest of Honor

In the last days of the era of the "B" picture, he knocked out a large number of cheapie-quickies that have out-lasting the films they supported on those double bills.

Elsie Wollheim

Special Guest

From the Futurians of the 1930s and 1940s to the DAW Books of the 1970s and beyond, she has been a Presence in the vortex of our field that is New York.

Takumi & Sachiko Shibano

Fan Guests of Honor

Their long-lived fanzine, *Uchujin*, is credited with the birth of Japanese fandom. They are fixtures at WorldCons, seen presenting Seiun Awards (the Japanese Hugos) to overseas winners.

Connie Willis

Toastmaster

Not only have fans acclaimed and awarded Connie Willis's science fiction stories, but they have often heard her quick wit and gift for public speaking on display at conventions.

Art Show

See those beautiful book and magazine cover paintings (and more) up close... Buy a print, bid on original art in the auction, or just admire them all.



Hugo Awards.

See them presented. Join early, and you can vote for them!

L.A.con III

54th World Science Fiction Convention

August 29-September 2, 1996

Anaheim, California, U.S.A.

Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim Hilton — Anaheim Marriott

Come to California for everything you'd want in a WorldCon

Memberships: \$90/\$120* (through June 1995)
Kids 3-12: \$35/\$47*
Supporting: \$30/\$40*
L.A.con III
P.O. Box 8442
Van Nuys
CA 91409 USA

email: lacon3-info@netcom.com

Enormous Dealers Room

300 tables and booths, selling all kinds of merchandise related to science fiction, fantasy and horror.
Attention Dealers: Sign up now for best results.

Writer's Workshops

for fledgling and hopeful writers. Details and instructions will be included in future Progress Reports with submissions accepted after September 1995.

Comics Fans:

Meet the artists, writers, editors...

Gaming! Magic, AD&D, and more. Tournaments, open gaming, introductory sessions. Meet the game designers.

Filksongs: Filkers from around the world. Rick & Deborah Weiss welcome your ideas.

Films and Videos
... And writers, directors, actors, special effects and makeup artists — with previews and presentations, behind the scenes looks, even live makeup demos.

Exhibit Area
Real props and miniatures from movies and tv shows ... that's right, the actual items from the actual shows and films. Plus other surprises!

There's plenty to do after dark, including dances, open parties, and the **Masquerade**. See world-class costumes!

Meet friendly people from around the world! If you like fan-run conventions, you'll love a WorldCon in sunny Southern California. Write for more info. (And yes, it's near Disneyland.)

L.A.con III Memberships

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

Address: _____

POSTCODE: _____ COUNTRY: _____

NEW:

_____ Attending Membership \$90.00 (\$120.00 CDN) _____

_____ Kid-In-Tow Membership \$35.00 (\$47.00 CDN) _____

_____ Supporting Membership \$30.00 (\$40.00 CDN) _____

CONVERSION TO ATTENDING:

_____ \$60.00 (\$80.00 CDN) _____


PRE-SUPPORTERS:

_____ Take a \$5.00 (\$7.00 CDN) discount _____

TOTAL: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT: _____ check _____ cash _____ MC/VISA

INITIALS: _____

RECEIPT: 

NAME: _____

MEMBER TYPE: _____ AMOUNT PAID: _____ DATE: _____

_____ FOR L.A.con III: _____

James White

Writer Guest of Honor

A considerable number of White's works deal with aspects of medical practice among alien species and their interactions. Others, like *All Judgment Fled*, are novels of first contact. In this way, his stories reflect the science-fiction reader's continuing appetite for puzzle stories.

Roger Corman

Media Guest of Honor

The director/producer of dozens and dozens of sf & horror films, Corman has been a seminal influence in the motion picture field who gave many top actors, writers, and directors their starts.

Elsie Wollheim

Special Guest

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Hugo AwardsSM See them presented. Join early, and vote for them!

Comics Fans:

Meet the artists, writers, editors...

Gaming. Magic, AD&D, board games, and more. Tournaments, 24-hour open gaming, introductory sessions.

Filking:

The Weisses will run the Filk dept.

Your ideas are welcome!

Please write them directly.



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Come to California for everything you'd want in a WorldCon

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Supporting: \$30

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P.O. Box 8442

Van Nuys CA 91409

email infobot: lacon3-info@netcom.com

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300 tables and booths, selling all kinds of merchandise related to science fiction, fantasy and horror.
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There's plenty to do after dark, including dances, open parties, and the **Masquerade**. See world-class costumes!

Meet friendly people from around the world! If you like fan-run conventions, you'll love a WorldCon in sunny Southern California. Write for more info. (And yes, it's near Disneyland.)

Come to California for the 1996 Worldcon. If you've never been to the L.A. area, here's the perfect excuse. Take some vacation time, see the sights, enjoy yourself.

Family Entertainment: Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Six Flags Magic Mountain, Movieland Wax Museum, Universal Studios Hollywood, Queen Mary, Raging Waters, Wild Rivers, and Los Angeles Zoo; and just down the road we have San Diego Zoo, San Diego Wild Animal Park, and Sea World.

We have beaches, miles and miles of them, with beautiful weather, and more shopping malls than you can shake a stick at (such as South Coast Plaza, MainPlace, Mall of Orange, Beverly Center, and even a "factory outlet" mall or two). There are excellent Mexican and Chinese restaurants; actually, you can get good food in almost any Asian cuisine you'd want, and most of the rest of the world too. Also Hollywood (and Orange County) are simply overrun with movie theatres...

Museums and Historical Landmarks: Adamson Home and Malibu Lagoon Museum, Albinger Archaeological Museum, American Military Museum/Heritage Park, Angels Attic, Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum... (I've got a rather long list here; instead of listing them all alphabetically, I'll try to just hit the highlights.) ...Bowers Museum, California Museum of Science and Industry, Children's Museum, L.A. County Fire Museum, Gamble House, J.P. Getty Museum, Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum, George C. Page Museum (La Brea Tar Pits), Heritage Square Museum Village (restored village), Kenneth G. Fiske Musical Instrument Museum, Kidspace Museum, Los Angeles Maritime Museum, Long Beach Children's Museum, Museum of Flying, Orange Empire Railway Museum, Petersen Automobile Museum, Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace, S.S. Lane Victory Memorial Museum.

Hotels & Convention Center: Bobbi Armbruster and Ben Yalow have completed negotiations with the Anaheim Hilton and Towers to be L.A.con III's headquarters hotel, and also for the Anaheim Marriott's rooms and function space to be at our disposal.

Our other facility is the Anaheim Convention Center where we held the largest Worldcon ever, in 1984. We plan to use one or more of the exhibit halls plus program rooms and the arena. Our version of the Concourse will begin just beyond the Convention Center's North Lobby (the one nearest the Hilton) with access to the Dealers Room, Art Show and Exhibits.

It's just a two-minute walk to the Anaheim Hilton from the Convention Center. L.A.con II attendees will remember that the Hilton's fifth floor suites open onto a common outdoor area, creating a communal, midsummer night party atmosphere. The Anaheim Marriott flanks the Hilton and was successfully used as

L.A.CON III P.O. Box 8442, Van Nuys CA 91409
Email infobot: lacon3-info@netcom.com

NAME: _____

Address: _____

ZIP/Postal Code: _____ COUNTRY: _____



CANADA: Rate (through June 30, 1995) is C\$120, payable to BRUCE PELZ · P.O. Box 8442 · Van Nuys CA 91409 · USA

AUSTRALIA: Please contact our agent, ERIC LINDSAY · 7 Nicoll Ave. · Ryde, NSW · 2112 Australia













EUROPE: Please contact our agent, KEES VAN TOORN · Box 3411 · Rotterdam · 3003 AK · Netherlands

	Through June 30, 1995	As of July 1, 1995	
_____ Attending Membership	\$90.00	TBA	_____
_____ Kid-In-Tow Membership (age 3-12 at con)	\$35.00	\$35.00	_____
_____ Supporting Membership	\$30.00	\$30.00	_____
_____ Conversion from Supporting to Attending	\$60.00	TBA	_____
_____ Pre-supporters: Take a \$5.00 discount	-\$5.00	-\$5.00	_____

TOTAL: (payable to L.A.con III) check cash MC/Visa _____

  number: _____ Expire: _____

Signature: _____

- Check boxes for info
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers  | <input type="checkbox"/> Masquerade  | <input type="checkbox"/> Filksinging  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dealers Room  | <input type="checkbox"/> Access  | <input type="checkbox"/> Gaming  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art Show  | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Program  | <input type="checkbox"/> Parties  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programming  | <input type="checkbox"/> Writer's Workshops  | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibits  | |

the site of the 1989 Westercon. Both the Hilton and the Marriott have full ballroom and meeting facilities, offering a lot of flexibility for programming, special interest meetings, dances, and late-night events.

Room reservations will be handled through the Anaheim Visitors & Convention Bureau. More details, room rates, and reservation cards will be mailed in a future Progress Report; watch for them. (Neither hotel chain accepts reservations more than 12 months in advance.)

Dealer's Room: Dealer tables are \$125 and up. For best results, write directly to Dick Spelman, L.A.con III Dealers' Room Manager, 8111 Timbertree Way, West Chester OH 45069.

Art Show: The Art Show at L.A.con III is in the capable and experienced hands of Gay Ellen Dennett & Crew, of Boskone and Noreascon fame. At this early date, the Art Show is not yet assigning space, and the fee structure has yet to be set. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list for Art Show information when it becomes available, please write to: L.A.con III Art Show, P.O. Box 1010, Framingham MA 01701.

Service Mark Notice: "World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFiC" and "Hugo Award" are registered service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

L.A.con III

The Squeak of The Rat #3

(310) 542-5849 - Chaz Baden, P.O. Box 1792, Redondo Beach CA 90278 - (310) 542-1827
hazel-chaz@netcom.com - lacon3-info@netcom.com - lacon3-help@netcom.com



Fan Publicity Dept.

Business-Card Flyers. I've had some business card flyers printed up. At right is a reasonable facsimile of how they look. (By the way, the card has been assigned control number 010. More on those numbers later.) I've asked Matthew Tepper and Robbie Cantor to include one with each *Squeak*. (I was originally thinking of five or ten, but not all of you might be in a position to hand them out.) If you'd like some more of these, call me up or write me (or email) and I'll send you a bunch. (I think I can mail 20 in a 29¢-stamp envelope.) Or if you need a big batch for representing us at a convention, just let me know.


The intent with this card is to create a flyer that will fit in your wallet. You can carry around half a dozen, and when you want to pass on the word about the con you can just hand out a card.

I haven't figured out exactly how these cards will be distributed. I can't put them in with the shipments of flyers we send to cons, but if "one of us" is going to represent L.A.con III at a con then perhaps that person should have a generous supply to hand out.

With it being just a card, we can slip it in just about any envelope going to someone in particular. Perhaps we should include one with every Progress Report mailed out (to everyone, or to new members only)? Include one or two with dealer packets or art show packets?

I've set an ambitious goal for myself. I want to distribute 2000 of them before July. So if you can use them, please speak up!



Departmental symbology. I found symbols for almost every department, except Children's Programming. (Although Pat Lawrence thinks the pencil-and-scribble should be for autographs, not art show.) The teddy bear was the best I could come up with in the size allotted. (I had  to choose from.) The version shown here is breaking up into dots on the bottom of the bear, but the cards will be printed from a double-sized version of the artwork so it shouldn't be too bad on the actual card.















Flyer news. I finished my first two flyers (attached). The first yellow flyer (control numbers 003 005) went with the Pelzes to ConAdian. The second flyer (control numbers 006 008) has been distributed to Con-Chord, Bouchercon 25, Conclave 19, Armadillocon 16, Icon 19, and Necronomicon 13 (Florida), and will be going to additional conventions. Thanks to Craig Miller for the improved blurb on Roger Corman.

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August 29-September 2, 1996 · Anaheim, California, U.S.A.
Anaheim Convention Center · Anaheim Hilton · Anaheim Marriott
James White · Roger Corman · Elsie Wollheim
Takumi & Sachiko Shibano · Connie Willis
Email: lacon3-info@netcom.com
Full Membership: \$90 through June 30, 1995
Supporting \$30 • Kid-in-tow (3-12) \$35
Send to: L.A.con III · P.O. Box 8442 · Van Nuys CA 91409

NAME: _____

Address: _____

ZIP/Postal Code: _____ COUNTRY: _____

- Info: Volunteers  · Dealers Room  · Access 
 Programming  · Masquerade  · Art Show 
 Children's Programming  · Writer's Workshops 
 Exhibits  · Filksongs  · Gaming  · Parties 

Front and back of business-card flyer, obsolete draft version

Mike Glycer pointed out in *Squeak #2* the importance of selling the site. And I just realized my second flyer design didn't mention the enormous Swap Meet at the Orange County Fairgrounds, or the plenty of concert venues & playhouses (in L.A. County). I hope to feature both the fannish angle, and the family-entertainment angle, but I don't know if I'll be able to fit the Fannish Places in L.A. article on this flyer...



Flyer Art. Shawn Crosby has been doodling rats in various situations, including plenty of stuff we can't possibly use. For example, he's got Calvin & Hobbes dressing up as rats (with taped-on ears for Calvin), and a passable Snoopy-as-rat-on-doghouse with a puzzled (human) Charlie Brown looking on. I'm providing him with Bruce's Rat Movie list, and we'll see if he wants to do anything in that vein. He's working on *Ratters of the Lost Ark*, and almost has it finished.



I'll probably have Shawn as our regular artist for the flyers. We're going to try to have a different fillo everytime we print a batch of flyers. (And to forestall the collectors going into a feeding frenzy on this, I'll be sure to put one of each in *Squeak*.)

Shawn has been working on a concept for an alien rat doctor, to go with our Author Guest of Honor. When that's ready, we'll be running it in the Loscon 21 Program Book. (*What other conventions should get L.A.con III advertising?*)

I think having Taral as **Progress Report** cover artist is a good choice; keeping the same artist and the same style of typeface on the covers there makes for a nice matched set of Progress Reports. (Con Francisco's musical typefaces drove me batty.)



Fanzine Column Service. For my next Fan Publicity project, I'm going to start making Fanzine Column packets. I hope to create a mailing list of fanzines that might be able to use an article occasionally, and then send them articles to use to fill their space, and promote L.A.con III at the same time. I'll start with the stuff out of **Progress Report 1** first, then we'll write more... If you know of any fanzines that should be put on my list, please drop me a line. I also need people to write articles, because I'll use up the Progress Report articles soon enough, and I can't write them all. If you want to write about your particular view of L.A.con III (or your department), be my guest.



Ideas picked up at a LASFS after-meeting. I was asked if part of my job includes sending flyers to cons we don't have a physical presence at. (It is; I'm not quite in charge of deciding which cons get the package, as yet.) This led into a commentary on our L.A.con III presence at conventions, esp. ConAdian. I heard that the bid tables for El Paso and St. Louis had banners and flyers and lots of people soliciting votes, and the Glasgow table had banners and flyers and lots of people soliciting memberships, and at our table Bruce Pelz was completely unassisted and seemed rather forlorn. Bruce has been stumping for L.A.con III a good long time, and he's been doing the best job he can... but we need to help run the table, guys!

It seems that use of our table falls under my jurisdiction, and the rest of the concom has been kind enough not to demand I get that end of things overhauled immediately. But the time is swiftly coming... So what should we have on a vibrant, nifty con table?

A backdrop? Maybe one based on the back-and-white Freas poster that was sold in '84? Pamphlets and freebies? We can certainly ask the Hilton and Disneyland and the Convention Center for boxes of flyers. (We'll skip asking for the Anaheim-Orange County Lodging Guide, because we're trying to get them to stay at the Hilton.) It seems that these freebies would be an absolute minimum to have, in addition to our own literature. If you have any comments or suggestions on this area, I would very much appreciate hearing from you.



Too many conventions, not enough flyers. How do we determine which conventions we should mail flyers to? (Short

answer: the exec concom decides.) There are about 50 conventions in this 3rd Quarter 1994. I've printed 2000 flyers for our immediate needs. (I want to print another edition in January, when the July rate is announced.) For cons with less than 3000 expected attendees, I'm mailing 100, or sending more if someone's hand-carrying them there and back.

Depending on how many of these conventions we choose to flood with flyers, I may be printing another 1000 this quarter. (We can get a rate of approx 5¢ per flyer — that's 2¢ per side plus 1¢ for the yellow paper — at Staples anytime we want it.)

The bold-faced cons below were sent flyers.

- September 30 - October 2, 1994 (California, Southern) CB MG concom**
- CON-CHORD 10. Burbank Airport Hilton, Burbank, CA. Filking convention.**
- September 30 - October 2, 1994 (Minnesota)
- ARCANA '94. Holiday Inn Bandana Sq., St. Paul MN
- September 30 - October 2, 1994 (Mississippi)
- WOLF-CON IV. Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS**
- September 30 - October 2, 1994 (Virginia)
- RISING STAR 3. Salem Civic Center, Salem VA. Media.**
- September 30 - October 2, 1994 (Wisconsin) MG
- FIRST CONTACT. Grand Milwaukee Hotel, Milwaukee WI**
- September 30 - October 2, 1994 (England) DD MG
- UK NATIONAL FANTASY CON XIX. Birmingham, England, UK.**
- October 1-2, 1994 (Michigan)
- MARMALADE DOG GAMEFEST. Western Michigan Univ., Kalamazoo, MI. Gaming**
- October 1-2, 1994 (Ireland) DD MG
- OCTOCON (IRE) '94/IRISH NATIONAL CON 5. County Dublin, Ireland.**
- October 6-9, 1994 (Washington) DD MG**
- BOUCHERCON 25. Stouffer Hotel, Seattle WA; World Mystery Convention.**
- October 7-9, 1994 (Colorado)
- THE GATHERING. The Regency Hotel, Denver, Colorado; Highlander convention.**
- October 7-9, 1994 (Illinois)
- CONSANQUINITY I. Corporetum Hyatt, Lisle, IL. SF/Horror convention.**
- October 7-10, 1994 (Maryland)
- INTERCON 9.5. Hampton Inn, Hunt Valley, MD. Gaming Convention.**
- October 7-9, 1994 (Michigan) BP MG**
- CONCLAVE 19. Ramada Inn, Southfield (near Detroit), MI.**
- October 7-9, 1994 (Ohio)
- CONTEXT 7. Holiday Inn West, Columbus, OH**
- October 7-9, 1994 (Texas) DD BP MG**
- ARMADILLOCON 16. Red Lion, Austin TX Yalow?**
- October 7-9, 1994 (Washington)
- VIRGULE CON. Quality Inn Sea-Tac, Seattle, WA. Media slash fans.**
- October 14-16, 1994 (Colorado)
- THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY. Lit. conf. Univ. of Northern Colo., Greeley, CO.**
- October 14-16, 1994 (Florida) MG
- NECRONOMICON [FL] 13. Airport Holiday Inn, Tampa FL**
- October 14-16, 1994 (Indiana) MG
- CONTACT 12. Ramada Inn, Evansville IN**
- October 14-16, 1994 (Iowa) BP MG**
- KON 19. Best Western Westfield Inn, Corahville, IA**
- October 14-16, 1994 (Maryland)
- FARPOINT '94. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, Baltimore, MD.**
- October 14-16, 1994 (Washington)
- INCON '94. Cavanaugh's, Spokane, WA.**
- October 21-24, 1994 (Colorado) DD BP MG**
- MILEHKON 26. Lakewood Sheraton, Denver CO.**



October 21-23, 1994 (Florida)
 CONCLAVE. The Tropics, Navarre, FL
 October 21-23, 1994 (Massachusetts)
 NOT JUST ANOTHER CON X. University of Massachusetts, Amherst MA.
 October 21-24, 1994 (Scotland)
 ALBACON '94. Central Hotel, Glasgow, Scotland.
 October 22-23, 1994 (Texas)
 STELLAR OCCASION. The Executive Hotel, Dallas, TX

The cons in bold below are on my list to receive flyers, but this is subject to change.

October 27-30, 1994 (Louisiana) DD BP EP MG
1994 WORLD FANTASY CONVENTION. Clarion Hotel, New Orleans, LA
 October 28-30, 1994 (California, Northern)
 FRISCON. San Francisco Airport Doubletree Hotel. San Mateo(?) CA
 October 28-30, 1994 (Minnesota)
 VALLEYCON 19. Madison Hotel & Conference Ctr., Moorhead MN
October 28-30, 1994 (Missouri) MG
CONTRACEPTION 6. Howard Johnson's, Independence, MO. Relaxacon.
 October 28-30, 1994 (Virginia)
 BIG E CON. Omni Waterside Hotel, Norfolk VA. Media convention.
October 28-30, 1994 (Washington) MG
DREAMCON 9. Everett Holiday Inn, Everett, WA. Theme: SF/Gaming.
 October 28-30, 1994 (Canada, Ontario)
 PRIMEDIA. Holiday Inn, Brampton, Ontario, Canada
 October 28-30, 1994 (England)
 WHO'S SEVEN. Queens Hotel, Church Road, London UK. Blake's 7/Dr. Who.
November 4-6, 1994 (Alabama) MG
CONSTELLATION XIII: MUSCA. Tom Bevill Center, Huntsville AL.
November 4-6, 1994 (New Jersey) MG
ELECTIKON. Ramada Hotel, Newark NJ. Media fandom convention.
November 4-6, 1994 (New York) MG
CONTRADIKTION 14. Days Inn Fallsview, Niagara Falls NY
November 4-6, 1994 (England) DD EP MG
NOVACON [UK] 24. Royal Angus Thistle Hotel, Birmingham, England, UK.
November 5, 1994 (California, Southern) MG
UNICON 6. Youth Services Center, Irvine, CA
November 11-13, 1994 (Arizona) BP EP MG
TUSCON 21. Best Western Executive Inn, Tucson AZ
 November 11-13, 1994 (Florida)
 VIDCON. Airport Holiday Inn, Tampa, Florida
November 11-13, 1994 (Illinois) DD BP EP MG
WINDYCON XXI. Hyatt Regency Woodfield, Schaumburg, IL
November 11-13, 1994 (New Jersey) MG
ANIME EAST. East Brunswick, NJ; East coast anime & manga convention.
November 11-13, 1994 (Oregon) DD BP EP MG
ORYCON 16. Red Lion/Columbia River, Portland OR
November 11-13, 1994 (Virginia) MG
SCI-CON. Holiday Inn Executive Center, Virginia Beach, VA.
 November 17-20, 1994 (Germany)
 NORDCON. Hanover, Germany.
 November 18-20, 1994 (Massachusetts)
 WISHCON IV. Sheraton, Springfield MA. Starfleet Region 15 conference.
November 18-20, 1994 (Oklahoma) MG
SOONERCON 10. Century Center Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK
November 18-20, 1994 (Pennsylvania) DD BP EP MG
PHILCON 94. Adam's Mark Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
November 25-27, 1994 (California, Southern) DD BP EP MG
LOSCON 21. Airport Hilton, Burbank CA.
November 25-27, 1994 (Maryland) MG
DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING 17. Holiday Inn, Timonium, MD

November 25-27, 1994 (Tennessee)
 CONCAT 6. Radisson Hotel, Knoxville, TN.
 November 25-27, 1994 (Texas)
 CONTEX 12. Holiday Inn Medical Center, Houston TX
 November 25-27, 1994 (Australia, Victoria)
 SURVIVAL '94. Novotel, Melbourne, Australia. Doctor Who Convention.
 November 25-27, 1994 (Netherlands)
 HILLCON V: CONSEAL. Dorint Hotel, Eindhoven, Netherlands
December 2-4, 1994 (California, Southern) DD BP EP
SNOFCON 12/FANHISTORKON 2. Burbank, CA; for people who run cons.
 December 30, 1994 - January 1, 1995 (Australia, Victoria)
 VOYAGER. Hilton on the Park, Melbourne, Australia. Star Trek Convention.



And next year... Here's the conventions for January-February. Are any of you going to any of these?

January 6-8, 1995 (Florida)
 TROPICON 13. Palm Beach Airport Hilton, West Palm Beach, FL. GoH: Kristine Kathryn Rusch; AGoH: Jael
 January 6-8, 1995 (Tennessee)
 MUSICON 4. Quality Inn Executive Plaza, Nashville, TN 37217. Filk
 January 13-15, 1995 (California, Southern)
 CONFJURENCE 6. Airporter Garden Hotel, Irvine CA 92715: lurry fandom.
 January 13-15, 1995 (Massachusetts)
 ARISIA '95. Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers, Boston MA.
 January 13-15, 1995 (Tennessee)
 CHATTACON XX. Read House Hotel, Chattanooga, TN. GoHs: Kim Stanley Robinson, Jane Yolen; AGoH: Jim Burns; SGoH: Matthew Costello; Local Artist GoH: Alan Clark; TM: Charles L. Grant.
 January 13-15, 1995 (Washington)
 RUSTYCON 12. Seattle, WA. GoH: Terry Brooks; FGoH: T. Bryan Wagner.
 January 13-15, 1995 (Australia, New South Wales)
 NOVACON '95 [Australia]. Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia: Doctor Who
 January 27-29, 1995 (Michigan)
 CONFUSION 10101. Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, Romulus, GoH: Pamela Sargent; FGoH: Bob Tucker; TM: Kathe Koja.
 January 27-29, 1995 (Australia, Queensland)
 EVENT HORIZON. Carindale Hotel, Brisbane, QLD, Australia. Blake's 7
 February 1-4, 1995 (Utah)
 LIFE, THE UNIVERSE, AND EVERYTHING XIII. Salt Lake City, UT. GoHs: Lois McMaster Bujold, Patricia McKillip; AGoH: NeNe Thomas
 February 3-5, 1995 (Massachusetts)
 DEAD OF WINTER II: THE NIGHT IS ALIVE. Days Inn, Woburn, MA; Forever Night Fan Club
 February 3-5, 1995 (Wisconsin)
 CREMECON. Manchester East Hotel, Milwaukee WI. GoHs: Elaine Bergstrom, Kris Jensen; AGoH: Ishtar; EGoH: Brian Thompson; FGoH: Jeff Ford.
 February 10-12, 1995 (California, Northern)
 POTLATCH 4. Waterfront Plaza Hotel, Oakland, CA
 February 17-19, 1995 (Georgia)
 UNDER CONSTRUCTION 2. Northeast Atlanta Hilton, Norcross GA. Convention for those who want to gain experience and insight in the creative areas. Includes, readings, showcases, filking, workshops, seminars in acting, costuming and more.
 February 17-19, 1995 (Massachusetts) bid
 BOSKONE 32. Sheraton Tara Hotel, Framingham, MA; Diana Wynne Jones; AGoH: Ruth Sanderson; SGoH: Fred Larsen; Filk Performer: Talis Kimberley.
 February 17-19, 1995 (Virginia)
 KATSUCON KHI. Holiday Inn Executive Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia; First SF convention on the U.S. east coast dedicated to anime.
 February 18-19, 1995 (California, Southern)
 LEAP CON '95. Burbank Hilton, Burbank CA
February 24-26, 1995 (California, Southern) concon
THE SIX WIVES OF GALLIFREY ONE. Radisson Plaza Hotel, Irvine CA
 February 24-26, 1995 (California, Southern)
 CON-DOR. Town&Country Hotel, San Diego, CA GoH: Jennifer Roberson.
 February 24-26, 1995 (Washington)
 RADCON 1C. Best Western Tower Inn, Richland, WA. GoH: M.J. Engh; AGoH: Rob Alexander; FGoH: Scruffy.



Internet Information Dept.

Chaz Baden, P.O. Box 1792, Redondo Beach CA 90278, (310) 542-5849

The Squeak of the Rat #3

I'd like to take this moment in my apazine to thank Pat Lawrence for donating the use of her Internet account as a host site for *lacon3-info@netcom.com*. Ninety fans tried out the new **lacon3-info** email server in the first month of operation; it surges everytime I make an announcement about L.A.con III. If anybody out there knows who to email for announcements on the science fiction conferences on the various networks, please let me know. I will write up an article for **Progress Report 2** to help spread the word to all the fans with email out there. As you can see, we're accumulating files on-line that aren't direct duplicates of material in **Progress Report 1**.

Please note that anyone with email access can make use of the *lacon3-info* server; you don't need "full Internet" capabilities. If you're on CompuServe, or even Prodigy, or have Internet email at work or on your favorite BBS, you can send a message to *lacon3-info@netcom.com* and get an automatic reply back. To get any of these files, put a **send** command in your message. For example, **send concom** would send you a copy of the committee list, shown at right.



INDEX — List of filenames on lacon3-info

L.A.con III Fan Publicity & Internet Information
 Email Infobot - *lacon3-info@netcom.com*
 Anonymous ftp - *ftp.netcom.com/pub/lacon3-info/*
 Worldwide Web - *ftp://ftp.netcom.com/pub/lacon3-info/www/lacon3.html*

You can get these files by sending a message to *lacon3-info@netcom.com* that says **SEND (FILENAME)** on each line for each filename you want from the list. You may also find the **LS** and **DIR** commands useful, to just get an alphabetical list of filenames... we're accumulating quite a lot of files...

— the files below were created/updated on or before October 1, 1994 —

ad.rates	L.A.con III PR Publishing Dates and Ad Rates (PRI, 4-Aug-94)
agents	Overseas agents (13-Aug-94)
anchelm.eats	Convention Center/Disneyland area restaurants. (26-Sep-94)
anchelm.map	Very rough schematic map of Conv. Ctr. vicinity. (13-Sep-94)
anchelm.txt	Convention Center/Disneyland area survival/shopping. (26-Sep-94)
art.show	Art Show (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
chair.msg	Chairman's Message (PRI, 11-Aug-94)
concom	Committee List (25-Sep-94)
cons.txt	Copy of Rutgers conventions list, Sep 1994 edition. (20-Sep-94)
contact	Contact list (addresses) for certain departments. (26-Sep-94)
conversion	Deadline for converting: August 15, 1994 (PRI, 11-Aug-94)
conversion.0	Converting memberships supporting to attending (PRO, 31-Jul-94)
conman.bio	Roger Conman -- Last of the B Kings (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
conman.films	Roger Conman filmography, more detailed (15-Aug-94)
dealers.room	Dealers' Room (26-Sep-94)
depts	Departments reachable with forthcoming "DEPT" command (1-Aug-94)
disneyland	Disneyland Frequently Asked Questions (with answers) (14-Jun-94)
elsie.wolheim	Write-up on Elsie Wolheim, Special Guest (from PRO, 31-Jul-94)
facilities	Description of facilities. (Same as "site".)
faq	Worldcon Frequently Asked Questions (5-Aug-94)
filename	little message explaining how to properly use "send" (10-Aug-94)
finances	Financial Report (PRI, 8-Aug-94)
guests	Guests, including Guests of Honor. Guest list only. (25-Jul-94)
help	L.A.con III Email Infobot information, with command details
hotels	Description and other info about convention hotels. Anaheim Hilton & Towers, Anaheim Marriott. See also "site". (09-Sep-94)
info	L.A.con III basic information (Canned response to inquiries)
lacon3.help	L.A.con III Email Infobot command details (10-Aug-94)
lacon3.info	L.A.con III basic information (same as "info") (11-Aug-94)
lacon3.news	Archived messages from LACON3-NEWS (11-Aug-94 on)
lacon3.www	Archived messages from LACON3-WWW (11-Aug-94 on)
los.angeles	Los Angeles: Home of Worldcons (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
mailing.lists	Plug for mailing lists LACON3-NEWS, LACON3-WWW (10-Aug-94)
members	L.A.con III members list (19-Sep-94)
memberships	Membership Rates and Conversion Policies (PRI) Credit card and overseas agents, too (12-Aug-94) same as "rates"

pb.rule	Why Masquerades have the "no peanut butter" rule (6-Aug-94)
pr0	Progress Report 0 (31-Jul-94)
pr1	Progress Report 1, minus the membership list (2-Aug-94)
pr1.notes	Editors' Notes (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
programming	Programming (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
rat-movie.art	Announcement, we need Rat Movie artwork. (from PRO/L; 4-Aug-94)
rates	Status for memberships (see "memberships")
scifi96a.zip	MS-DOS PKZIP archive, containing L.A.con III info (26-Sep-94)
see-10-1.txt	Southern California amusement parks & museums (11-Aug-94)
service.marks	re: Hugo, WSFS, WorldCon, and other service marks. (31-Jul-94)
signup.txt	Membership form. Print it out, mail it in. (26-Sep-94)
site	Site description, Conv. Ctr, Hilton, Marriott. (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
spelling	Notes on the Orthography of L.A.con III (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
takumi.shibano	Write-up on Takumi & Sachiko Shibano, fan gah's (PRO, 31-Jul-94)
volunteers	Volunteers Wanted! (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
web	Status report on L.A.con III world-wide-web Beta Test (6-Aug-94)
welcome.2california	Top 20 S.F. places in L.A., etc. (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
white.bio	James White - Sector General (bio from PRI, 8-Aug-94)
white.books	Reading list and book reviews for James White, gah (8-Aug-94)
willis.bio	Write-up on Connie Willis, toastmaster (PRO, 31-Jul-94)
willis.books	Connie Willis book list, reviews (14-Aug-94)
workshops	Writers' Workshops (PRI, 2-Aug-94)
worldcon.opinion	WorldCons are Great, by Pat Lawrence (8-Aug-94)

— any late-added/updated files will appear below. —

pr1.ads	Adverts from Progress Report 1 (not in "pr1") (06-Oct-94)
lacon3.flyer	Text of L.A.con III flyers, suitable for posting (08-Oct-94)



concom — Committee List

The following is the committee list as posted on the 'Net. It's not guaranteed to match Robbie's roster at the back of *Squeak*. Additions and corrections are requested.

Committee List	25-Sep-94
Chairman	Mike Glyer
Committee Newsletter	Matthew Teper
Vice Chair, XMaster Scheduler	Robbie Cantor
X Master Scheduler Asst.	Christian McGuire
Den Mother	Allan Rothstein
Administration Division Head	Eloyne Peiz
Logistics	Bob Null
Postmaster	Sandy Cohen
Facilities Division Heads	Babbi Ambruster, Ben Yalow
Art Show	Gay Ellen Dennett
Contractors' Liaison	Danise Deckert
Convention Center	Patty Wells
Exhibits, XConcourse	Joe Siciari
Government Agencies	Kurt Siegel
Huxters	Richard Spelman
Staff	Nancy Cobb, Doug Houseman, Gary Louie, Kim Marks, Wilma Meier, Sandy Rymer, Michael Siladi, Edie Stern, Glenn Glazer
X	
Kitchen Sink Division Head	Bruce Peiz
Assistant Division Head	Drew Sanders
Masque	Kathy Sanders
Programming Division Head	Craig Miller
Assistant Division Head	Noel Wolfman
X Book Exhibit	Val Ontell, Ron Ontell
Childrens	Karen Willson, Chris Weber

I N E V E R K N E W T H A T A N A P A C O U L D B E S O M U C H F U N

Filk
Films
GOH & VIP Liaison
Program Development

Rick Weiss, Deborah Weiss
Michael Donahue
Genny Dazzo
Craig Miller, Arthur Byron Cover,
Genny Dazzo, John Hertz,
Rebecca Lillienfeld,
Bill Warren, Noel Wolfman
Peter Burcham, Chuck Shimada
Kathi Overton
Adrienne Foster

% Tech Serv Heads
% Tech Serv Floor Mgr
Writers Workshop

Services Division Head
Suites
Info & Electronic Liaison
CompuServe
America Online
Internet
Prodigy
Fan Publicity

Don Deckert
Ed Green
J. Shaun Lyon
J. Shaun Lyon
J. Shaun Lyon
Chaz Baden, Pat Lawrence, *Brian Lucas
Marjorie Holt
Chaz Baden, Shawn Crosby, Pat Lawrence,
Christian McGuire
Mark Olson, Priscilla Olson
Charles Matheny, Mary Jane Jewell,
Charles Lee Jackson II
Glenn Glazer
John Lorentz

lacon3-infoanet.com

Membership/Registration
Make checks payable to L.A.con III.
L.A.con III Membership
c/o SCIFI
P.O. Box 8442
Van Nuys CA 91409
USA

The L.A.con III email Infobot server will check the status of your membership if you send it a message (subject doesn't matter) that says QUERY [NAME]. lacon3-infoanet.com

Overseas Agents for L.A.con III
Eric Lindsay
7 Nicoll Ave.
Ryde, NSW
2112 Australia

Kees Van Toorn
Box 3411
Rotterdam
3003 AK
Netherlands

Programming
L.A.con III Programming
P.O. Box 8442
Van Nuys CA 91409
USA

Write the topic (e.g. filking, videos, etc.) on the envelope.

Services
Dan Deckert, Services Division Head
L.A.con III Services
P.O. Box 8442
Van Nuys CA 91409
Email: ddeckertausfmain.win.net or dandekertaool.com.

% Changes/additions 19-Sep-94
* Changes/additions 25-Sep-94



contact — contact addresses for selected depts
If your department is ready to receive mail or email directly, instead of via the Van Nuys post office box, please let me know asap.

L.A.CON III CONTACTS

General Contact
If there is no separate address for the department you're interested in, use the general convention address. Put the name of the department on the first line.

L.A.con III, _____ dept.
c/o SCIFI
P.O. Box 8442
Van Nuys CA 91409
USA
Email: lacon3-infoanet.com.

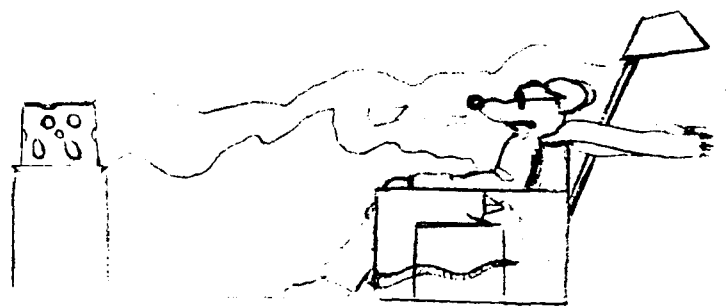
Art Show
Gay Ellen Dennett
L.A.con III Art Show
P.O. Box 1010
Framingham, MA 01701

Chairman
Mike Glycer c/o SCIFI
P.O. Box 8442
Van Nuys CA 91409
Email: 72557.1334@compuserve.com

Dealers' Room
Dick Spellman
L.A.con III Dealers' Room Manager
8111 Timberline Way
West Chester, Ohio 45069
Email: 73060.1062@compuserve.com

Information
Department Head & CompuServe Liason: J. Shaun Lyon
Internet Information: Chaz Baden, Pat Lawrence
L.A.con III email Infobot server:

Return to Information Desk



Illustrations ©1994 Shawn Crosby

Miscellaneous Ideas

Chaz Baden, P.O. Box 1792, Redondo Beach CA 90278

Where are you from? Lynn Boston had a nifty suggestion: Get a wall map of the world and mount it on corkboard. Put it on an easel in the main entrance corridor (the one that runs from the outside world, to the main Convention Center hall) and provide a supply of several thousand straight pins. (Given the quantity needed, we'd better buy the cheap ones!) Invite fans to put a pin where they live.



Remember what we like in convention hotels. Do we have space to burn? Or are we trying to squeeze every last erg out of every square centimeter? If we have extra space, my maze idea from last issue is feasible. If we have some space to play with, we can at least do the rest-stops. I don't think it's an earth-shattering observation if I say that the best convention hotels have lots of lobby couches throughout the function area. Fans like to sit and talk. The only reason we're using the convention center's function space is because we need so much of it, right? So let's furnish it like our ideal con hotel!



Spread them around. It is my impression that the entire dealers' room/exhibit area/art show is treated as one secure floor, and locked up all at once. What are the constraints on how they are laid out? You want to be able to close off the art show, but can the rest of the place be intermingled? Let's take my lounge-areas-in-the-dealers-room one step further, and spread the dealers throughout the hall. (We already have that when we put the publishers' booths up front, don't we?)



The Mall as a source of inspiration. I was walking through a mall recently; it happened to be Del Amo Fashion Square. Del Amo has an interesting characteristic: you actually can go *through* Robinsons-May to get to more mall. Anyway, it occurred to me that while California doesn't have a monopoly on malls, we do have plenty of them and they are part of the California experience. What can we do on the convention floor to make the floor as visually interesting as a mall? For that matter, many of the trade shows held in convention centers are more visually interesting than WorldCon. (I'm speaking from memory of Con Francisco here; I couldn't afford to go to ConAdian. How was it, by the way?) The key visual elements at Con Francisco were M. Barkadero and those huge balloon sculptures hanging from the ceiling.



More on façades. Perhaps we could make those façades I talked about last time. We could get some flame-retardant lightweight fabric, in white, and use them as canvases, paint them and put them over our tall pipe-and-drape constructions. At this point we have the capability of murals: what should they have? How about a jungle with aliens peeping out from behind every bush?



Hang it in mid-air. If we can suspend stuff from the ceiling, perhaps we can have something hanging over each of the major areas? For example, a painting above the art show, a spacesuit over the exhibit area, some merchandise (books?) over the dealers... Maybe a giant Hugo rocket mockup over the Hugo/Worldcon exhibit... And a great big question mark above Information.

Worldcon Sign. One of our themes is **HOLLYWOOD.**

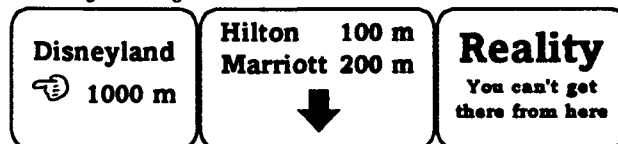
What if we make giant letters out of 4x8 sheets of foamcore and suspend them from the ceiling at the rear of the hall? Suppose we say

WORLDCON instead of HOLLYWOOD. (I'd recommend

L.A.CON III, but that's probably too short to look right; we're already pushing it with "WORLDCON." Of course, we could add "LAND" at the end, like the old sign had before the Rocketeer smashed into it...)



The Fannish Freeway System. Another part of the California Experience: Freeways. Suppose we have the usual 20' aisles (or whatever) through the main portions of the convention floor, but we "stripe" them into 5'-wide lanes? We could suspend "exit" signs as well. Or, if we have to, we'll just put them on poles or some other kind of support. Paint them green with white lettering. **Dealers This Exit, Art Show Next Exit Ahead 100 m.** We could even go metric... it makes the distances sound longer. Imagine the fannish caution signs! **No Smoffing, Neo Xing, FIAWOL, FIJAGDH.** And it gives us a perfect excuse to use speed-of-light speed limit signs. Maybe have a **GAS FOOD NEXT EXIT** sign at the Convention Center's snack bar... And here's a sign to hang over the exit.



Follow the yellow brick tape. At L.A.con II, Sandy Rymer and Pat Lawrence arranged different colored tapes on the floor of the exhibit area, for self-guided tours. We could do that for the floor as a whole, with the tapes starting at Information. One color would take you to Autographs, another takes you to the dealers, one for the panels, another for the art show, and one for the exhibits. We could even have a hoax tape that ends up back at Information.

With permission of the appropriate management, we could even have a tape leaving the convention center and going across Convention Way to the Hilton. But that's probably asking too much...

On the other hand, how effective are those colored lines? It might be better if we just have something hanging above the place you want to go, and you figure your own way over there. Colored tape would be handy if the route takes you around corners, though...

Ideas picked up at Everywoman's Village. They have a yellow line running from the Store to the Office, and every five meters or so it says it says **Store** → on one side and ← **Office** on the other. We could do something like this, with a sign taped to the floor next to the colored tape, telling you which way takes you to **Exhibits** and which takes you back to **Information**, and so forth.



How about a flat maze? While I love my rat-maze proposal, it does have two big obstacles. *What do we put in the center? How do we make it attractive yet optional?* We can't require everyone who goes to the dealers room to first thread a maze. Suppose we draw the maze with tape on the floor... we probably shouldn't have a reward at the center in that case...

ZIP/Postal Code: _____

Info: Volunteers Dealers Room Access & Masquerade Art Show Programming Children's Programming Writer's Workshops Exhibits Filksongs Gaming Parties &

COUNTRY: _____

I wonder if we can tie
sometimes the freeway sy

How about a maze with a high center. The center could have some kind of lookout perch. (This maze is more complex structure, and we lose our wheelchair accessibility) central portions of the maze could not only have higher walls (as I suggested last time) but they could also be on tiered platforms. The center of the maze would be the highest point, and if it were central to the hall you could look out in all directions.



Prizes at the center of the maze. Another idea would be to have a bunch of helium balloons tied off at the center. When you reach the center, you can take a balloon. Whoever's in charge of keeping the helium balloons stocked can watch for how many are still bobbing above the center of the maze. (Thanks to Gary Louie for inspiring this idea.) We do have a problem in that a prankster could go in and release all of them; but then, any prize at the center is subject to this kind of abuse, and this one would cause a minimal amount of damage.

I wonder if we could get Disneyland to sponsor the maze, and have a bunch of Mickey Mouse balloons there? (Probably not.)



Deep-six the golf course. It has been pointed out that a miniature golf course is not inherently fannish or Californian, and has been done before. That sounds like three strikes against it, so I won't suggest it again; I'll just kick myself for missing Magicon.



Info computers. The last time I was at the Anaheim Convention Center for a trade show, they had little computer & printer stations in the corridors connecting the big halls. You could look up exhibitors for the show you were at, and print out a list with their names, wares, and booth numbers. Can we get access to that cheap/free? Do we want to? Will Greyhound charge us an arm and a leg?



The Fair as a source of inspiration. I went to the Los Angeles County Fair recently, and kept my eyes open for ideas that might translate to the fannish convention floor. For starters, the carnival operator had numerous benches throughout the midway, giving the adults places to rest while the kids go on the rides. (This is a feature I don't remember seeing at the Orange County Fair.) The benches were made from wooden 2x4's, with moulded plastic end pieces. You could use three end pieces, instead of two, with the extra one in the middle, to reinforce the benches; or use shorter beams. I admired the design for its portability, and light weight. They're made by Tecumseh Bench of Michigan, and distributed by Hobson Bros. (Michigan).



Trash and Recycling bins/boxes. Also at the fair, they had those cardboard trashcans. They consist of a corrugated cardboard box, with a large square cross-section, and a trash-can liner sized to fit. Burrtec Waste Management (800) 998-8774 had the contract this year. They can be imprinted for your event, but we probably wouldn't need enough to warrant that kind of effort. (Also, the convention center probably has



their own trash arrangement.) But wouldn't it be nifty to get ahold of a bunch of blank ones, and paint them ourselves?



Picture yourself in a boat on a river. The fair also has those self-service photo booths, where you get four poses per payment. (\$2 for B&W, \$3 for color.) They come with two curtains for the backdrop, a red one and a blue one. But if we got one, we could remove the curtain and make a painted backdrop. Maybe something with rats and aliens and L.A.con III and WorldCon and 1996 and California and bug-eyed monsters...

Polaroid (I think) is marketing their latest model of the photo booth, which gives you one standard Polaroid-sized Polaroid instead of four wallet-size. And, where I've seen them demonstrated, they've had a special colorful painted backdrop instead of the plain red/blue curtains. So it can be done... I personally lean towards \$3 for 4 wallets, than \$2 (or whatever) for one large.



Registration ideas stolen from several sources. *Con-Chord* is a little filking convention, run by our Filk Dept. heads Rick & Deborah Weiss. I dropped off some L.A.con III flyers (hot off the presses) recently, and saw that fans were wearing their badges on cords tied around their neck. The member that I was with (Lynn Gold) had hers on a 40" length, not counting the knot and attendant wastage. She tells me that they have the cord available, and you can cut whatever length you need. (And they have pins, if you don't want yours on a string.) This would be an alternative to Evelyn C. Leeper's suggestion in her ConAdian report:

"The badge holders were very large and came only with clips, meaning that it you wanted to attach them to a T-shirt you had to clip them to the collar and then they tended to poke you in the chin. Once again I put in my vote for cons to provide a choice of clips or pins or, even better, a holder that has both."

And over on the net, Jacky Andrew from *Intersection* says that they'll be putting countries on the badges, and will make an attempt to get the members' country-of-origin or citizenship country, as opposed to current mailing address. So an Irish person who happens to be living in New York could still have a badge that says they're from Ireland. Should we try this ourselves? It would mean adding an extra field to the membership database... we might want to print it on the mailing labels, or at least on those membership cards we issue, if it differs from the country of mailing.

It would lead to an interesting possibility of abuse, of course; with new country names popping up all over the place, a fan could send in a fictitious country and it might get onto the badge. (Qatar, for example.) For that matter, would Registration allow "obsolete" countries? USSR, anyone? Or CSA, if you're from Alabama?



Something to do with a passport. Under the category of *Ideas We Can Steal*, I remember at the last World's Fair I went to, as well as RailFair '91, you could get a little booklet and then go around to all of the exhibits getting all of your pages stamped. I understand ConAdian did something with this idea, with a "Passport to the Universe."



I think it's a great idea, and I think we should do the same. We could encourage pre-supporters to bring their sticker books, and print up booklets for everyone else. (Or just print up the booklets.) Base the design on the bid booklets. Make sure that a preliminary list of stamps is available (in the pocket program or somewhere), and encourage potential stampers to join in, have updates printed in the newszine.



Was Filthy right? I have Filthy Pierre's 1984 Concom Guide. Filthy's book is an interesting combination of speculation and recorded history. His "Direction Signs" proposal: was this tried at L.A.con II? (I imagine not.) His sample Direction Sign has all of the rooms used at L.A.con II, and indicates what they were used for. Filthy's sign proposal looks something like this shown here. The theory being that you would locate the place on the signs that had the room you were interested in, and follow the signs, one by one, to your destination.

There are disadvantages to relying on the hotel's signage. Most hotel signs assume you're starting from the elevators and going to the room of your choice, not trying to navigate from room to room. (If you look at it this way, it suddenly makes a lot more sense.)

I admit that this is a common flaw in hotel signage, but it doesn't automatically mean that Filthy's signage idea will be more effective. (It has to be easy to use.) I propose *not* using identical direction signs (with different arrows) for the entire facility.

Most of the time, you just need to know if the room you want is in the other building, on another floor, or just down the hall, right?

I saw some four-sided direction-sign cubicles at the Fair. They looked something like this, on each side.

We could adapt this approach to our facility, as long as we don't need to put more than 20 panels on a sign cubicle. (Five per side.) We can also do it cheaply, if we can get hold of some video-game or refrigerator packing boxes, and paint them white before marking them for the signs. (We

Filthy Pierre's Direction Sign Proposal (1984)

ANA SANTA	see Santa Ana	LIDO A	
AWAKEIN		Libt Party	seePartyList
ARENA		Lobby Grand	see Grand I
ARENA CONCOURSE		Loatlfrond	see Gardens
Art Show	see South Hall	Lounge Fax	seePalosVerdes
Art N shop	see Oceanside	MALIBU	
Autograph	see North Hall	MANHATTAN	
AVILLA A & B		MANVERDE	see Arana
Awards	see Arana	Mesa Costa	seeCosta Mesa
Ballroom	see Pacific	Times Room	seeManhattan
Barbers	see Santa Barbara	Wollheim	see Santa Monica
Blood Drive	seeAranaCon	SOUTHERY	
Board, Frable	see Grand	Swm Office	seeManhattan
Board, Party	seePartyList	Sine	see Orange 9 & 10
CALIFORNIA PAVILLION ABC		NORTH HALL	
CALIFORNIA PAVILLION D		OCEANSIDE	
CALIFORNIA ROOM A		See	seeSanta Ana Room 1
CALIFORNIA ROOM B		ORANGE COUNTY ROOM	
CAPISTRANO		ORANGE 9 & 10	
Capitan	see El Capitan	PACIFICBALLROOM	seeLACON
CARNEL		PACIFIC ROOM 1A	
Children's	seeCapistrano	PACIFIC ROOM 1B	
Climate S	seeCapistrano	PACIFIC ROOM 2A	
Compture, Arn	seeAranaCon	PACIFIC ROOM 2B	
Con Suite	see 3-324	PALISADES	
CORONADO		PALOS VERDES	
COSTA MESA ROOMS 11/12		PARTY LIST	
Costuming	see Coronado	Party Room	see Con Suite
County	see Orange County	Pavillion, Cal	see Calif
Daily News	see Manhattan	Policedart	seeManhattan
Dealers	see North Hall	Professions	seeCostaMesa
Disneyland	see Grand	Pro Sessions	see Orange
DisplayFax	seeHuntington	Red Cross	seeAranaCon
EL CAPITAN A		REPODO	
EL CAPITAN B		Registration	see Grand
Elevat. Room	seeCostaMesa	Room	see AranaCon
Exhibits	see South Hall	SALINAS	
FanLounge	seePalosVerdes	SANCLAN	seeCapistrano
Fansite	seeHuntington	SAN SIMON A	
Film	see Anaheim	SAN SIMON B	
Film	see Calif Pavill D	SANTA ANA ROOM 1	
FIVE-324 (5-324)		SANTA ANA ROOM 2	
Flyers	see Grand Lobby	SANTA BARBARA	
Found, Lost	see Gardens	SANTA MONICA	
Freebies	see Grand Lobby	Show Art	see South Hall
Gaming	see Carnel	Sineca	see San Simeon
Gaming	see Monterey	Single Pro	seeCosta Mesa
Gaming	see Salinas	Single Pro	see Orange
Gaming	see San Simeon B	SOUTH HALL	
Gaming	see Sunset	Suite, Con	see Five-324
GARDEN GROVE B		SUNSET	
Gazette	see Manhattan	Ten	see Orange 9 & 10
GRAND LOBBY		Thought	seeManhattan
Hall, South	see SouthHall	Twelve	seeCostaMesa11/12
Hairline	seeAranaCon	Two	seeSanta Ana Room 2
Hucksters	see North Hall	VENTURA	
Hugo Awards	see Arana	Verdes, Palos	see Palos V
HUNTINGTON		Video	see Santa Monica
Info	see Garden Grove B	Workshops	see Coronado
Jobs	see La Jolla	Workshops	see Oceanside
LA JOLLA		1 to 12	see spelled out
LAGUNA A			

Filthy Pierre's Direction Sign Proposal (1984)

will need to find a way to weight them down so they don't fall over when they're jostled.)

When you're standing in front of the signbox, anything behind you doesn't need to be listed. (You can go around the other side and they'll be listed there.) We don't need to be rigorously consistent in our use of the panels.

A comprehensive alphabetical list by room name and by function is not really needed, either. Consider that anyone trying to find a room very probably already knows what function it is. ("Where's the Con Suite?") In some cases, the function is spread over several rooms, i.e. "Programming" and in that case, the person probably knows the room or the abbreviation.

Recent WorldCons have had abbreviations used for function rooms; for example, one of the function rooms at ConAdian was MR 12.



You can't tell the function rooms without a scorecard. The Anaheim Hilton and the Anaheim Convention Center collectively have the *Orange*, and *Orange County* rooms (and the Marriott has an *Orange County* ballroom too); the *Pacific Rooms*, and *Pacific Ballroom*; the *California Rooms*, and *California Pavilion*. Of these, all but the Pacific Ballroom were used at L.A.con II.

Is there any possible way to reduce or eliminate the confusion at L.A.con III? We could simply not use rooms with conflicting names. Can we rename the rooms at the Convention Center? We only need to come up with three names. How about Tiptree, Campbell, and Gernsbach?

Then we plaster our signs all over the Convention Center, including on top of the facility's directional signs. I think picking on the Convention Center is better than renaming rooms at the hotel, because (1) we won't be using it 24 hours a day, (2) there are fewer different things going on there, and (3) the layout of the Convention center is less-confusing than the Hilton and therefore the fan is less likely to need to buttonhole a site employee and ask "Where's the Tiptree Room."

Information →	
Rides ←	Exhibits →
First Aid →	Restrooms →

Typical view, 4-sided direction cubicle at L.A. County Fair (1994)



Program Ideas. If you want to hold the *How to host a Con Party* panel mentioned in *Squeak #2*, I recommend getting Lynn Gold to participate. She knows her stuff.

And Lynn Boston says you should have a panel on *Bartending in Zero-G* and put me on it, so I can tell everyone the facts and figures of making alcoholic Jell-O. (Does anyone know what kind of Jell-O they served at the *Slightly Higher in Eastern Canada* party at ConAdian?)



Ideas picked up at a LASFS after-meeting. Can we make a Children's Program Book? Make it mostly black and white, with pages suitable for coloring; have a couple of pages where the kids can draw what they think their home will look like in 50 years, or draw a masquerade costume; possibly have some stiff-paper inserts for making pop-up pages and paper dolls. (The paper doll kit could have some common hall costumes, like a Klingon and so forth, and some other stuff like a spacesuit...) We don't have to worry about the labor of actually assembling the pop-up pages; we can make that one of the Children's Programming projects.

If this sounds a little "young" to you, keep in mind that the Kid-in-Tow membership rate is for a child that will be supervised at all times. If your kids are old enough to roam around the con on their own, they'll have to have full memberships and this Children's Program Book won't apply to them.

On the other hand, we could make extras available for \$10 or \$20 a pop, for those full-membership kids (and full-grown children) who want one, and possibly make back the expense of printing them in the first place.

Lessons gleaned from ConAdian. From Evelyn C. Leeper's report.

It would be very helpful to have large clocks strategically placed: in the dealers room and the art show, over the information desk, and in the hallways outside the programming rooms.

Can we do this, and do it in a creative fashion? Clockworks are fairly cheap. (I've seen the same single-AA gizmo in a dozen different clocks.) What would it take to do something in a large size, and suspend it from the ceiling or hang it on the wall? Can we get a bunch of clocks cheap?

As before, I had pulled a copy of the schedule off the Net before the convention (and in fact had printed up a customized program for me of what I wanted to see, and gave a copy to Mark so he could find me). This year was slightly better than last year: the Net copy was posted fifty-two hours before we were leaving for the airport instead of last year's thirty-six hours. (Admittedly, we were leaving earlier than many, but there are always a fair number of people who leave early to sight-see, and the schedule is usually fairly firm by a couple of weeks before the convention.)

Kevin Standlee emailed me the ConAdian Program. I, in turn, posted it to the newsgroups, but not immediately. (It took me a day or two to figure out that that's what I should do with them.) The next time this happens, I'll be quicker off the mark to retransmit them. And, when we finalize the L.A.con III program, I'd like to get a copy out as quickly as humanly possible.

As an optional item, it would also be nice to set up some kind of database lookup feature, to query the Program info. If we can slap together a simple MS-DOS program to do it, we can also release that to the net, and the overly-enthusiastic in the audience can download it and do their own customized programs. This would be a good software project to start now, and test-drive it on other conventions, and if it looks like it works then we can use it in an official capacity for L.A.con III.

It would require a standardized input format for the Program Listings. I don't think it has to be fancy; the software just has to know what to expect. We can very likely use the same, or similar, format as the ConAdian Program used when posted to the net. If we can get it to work, we'd release the query software early. Then anyone interested can grab the query software well before the con, and then just plug the program listings into it.

(There were also electrical outlets where I could plug my palmtop in and save battery power. This may become a more common request, and I heard some people talking about providing Internet hookups at future cons!)

Can we convince some of the Internet Service Providers (such as Netcom, Delphi, AOL) to rent a booth and set up free workstations to preview their services? Then, anyone who's signed up for a service that allows "telnet-in" can check their email. Of course, several phone lines into a convention center is expensive. (How about at the hotel?) We might just want to compile a list of local access numbers for the usual suspects (CompuServe, GEnie, AOL, Delphi, Netcom, CRL).

Nifty Idea: what if an Internet Service Provider had a special Convention signup rate? Say, \$10 gets you a week's access; after that, you have to pay their usual hookup & monthly rates. Access would have to include telnet, so the user can check their "usual" email.



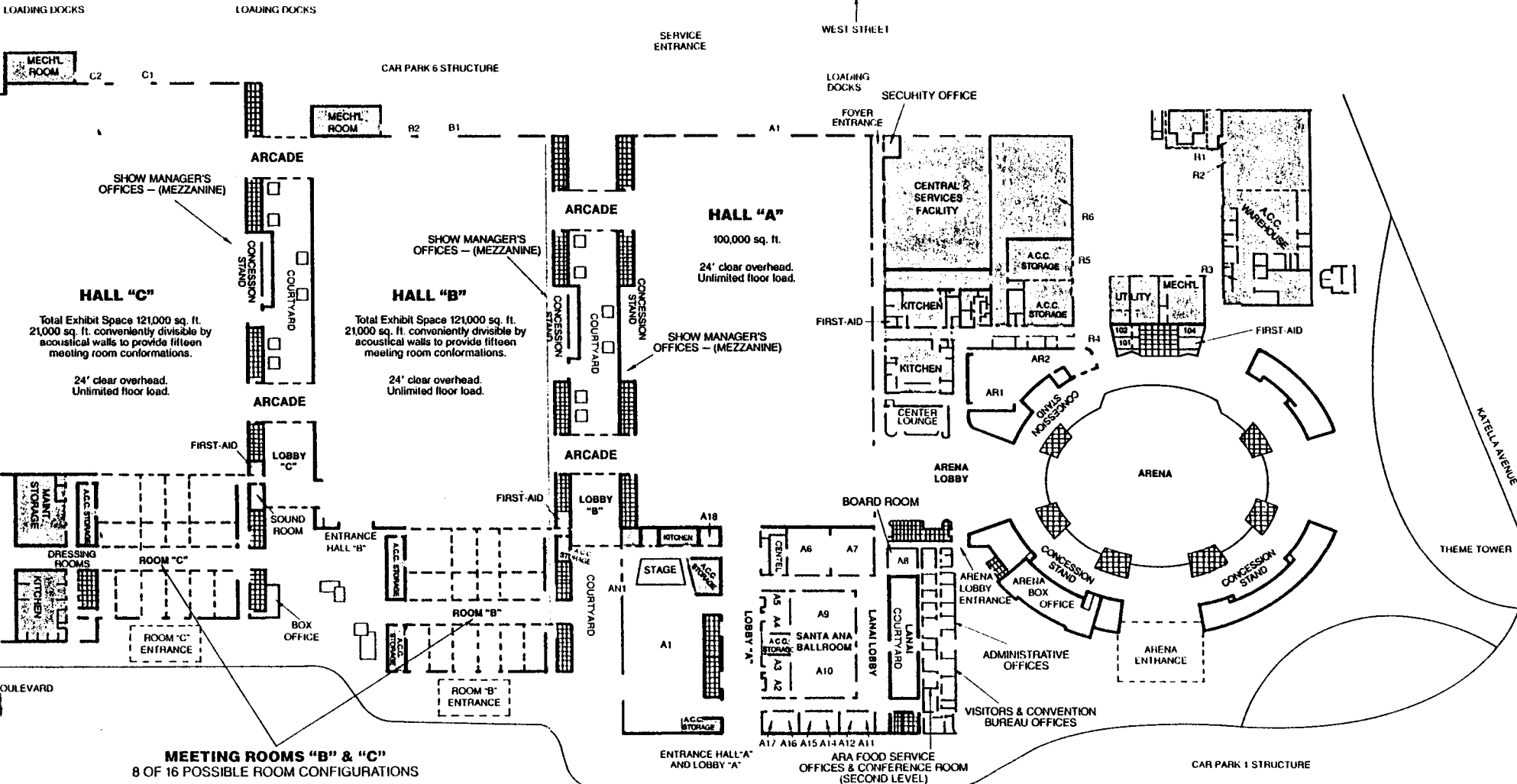
L.A.Con III Space Usage

CONV CENTER

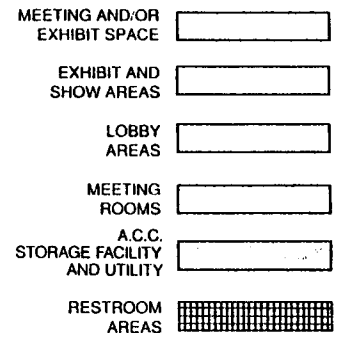
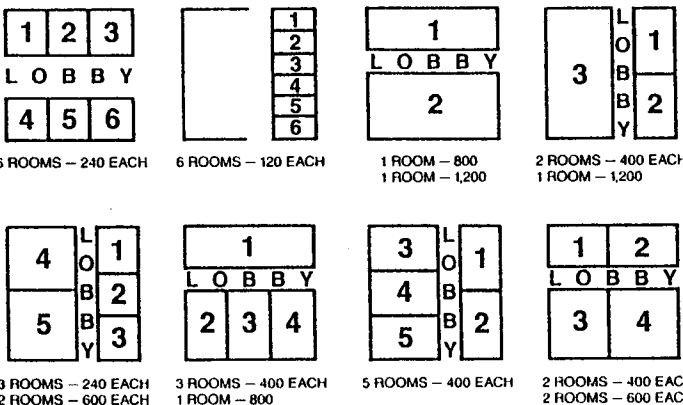
	Room Name	Theatre	Square Feet		
PROGRAMMING	Room C	6 @ 240	20, 736 overall		
	and Room B	or 6 @ 120 or 800, 1200 or 2 @ 440 + 1 @ 1200 or 3 @ 240 + 2 @ 600 or 3 @ 400 + 1 @ 800 or 5 @ 400 or 2 @ 400 + 2 @ 600			
	Room A2-3	140	588 ea or 1,232	Green Rm	
	Rooms A9-A10	2 @ 394 or 1 @ 867	3,726 7,452		
	Room A7	557	2,300	Tech Dump	
	Room A1	1500	11,914		
	Rooms A11-A15	4 @ 35 or 2 @ 88	374,418, & 2 @ 429 792 & 858		
	FACILITIES	Hall A		100,000	Dealers/Art/ Concourse
		Room A18	35	399	
	KITCHEN SINK	Arena	8700		
Rooms AR1 & AR2		342, 200 or 647	3,100 & 2,100 5,200		
Rooms A16-A17		2 @ 30 or 1 @ 60	440 & 484 924		
SERVICES	Room A4-A5	2 @ 56 or 1 @ 144	616 ea 1,232	Site Sel Info/Access	
	Room A6	1 @ 557	2,300	Volunteers	

CAR PARK 5

CAR PARK 7



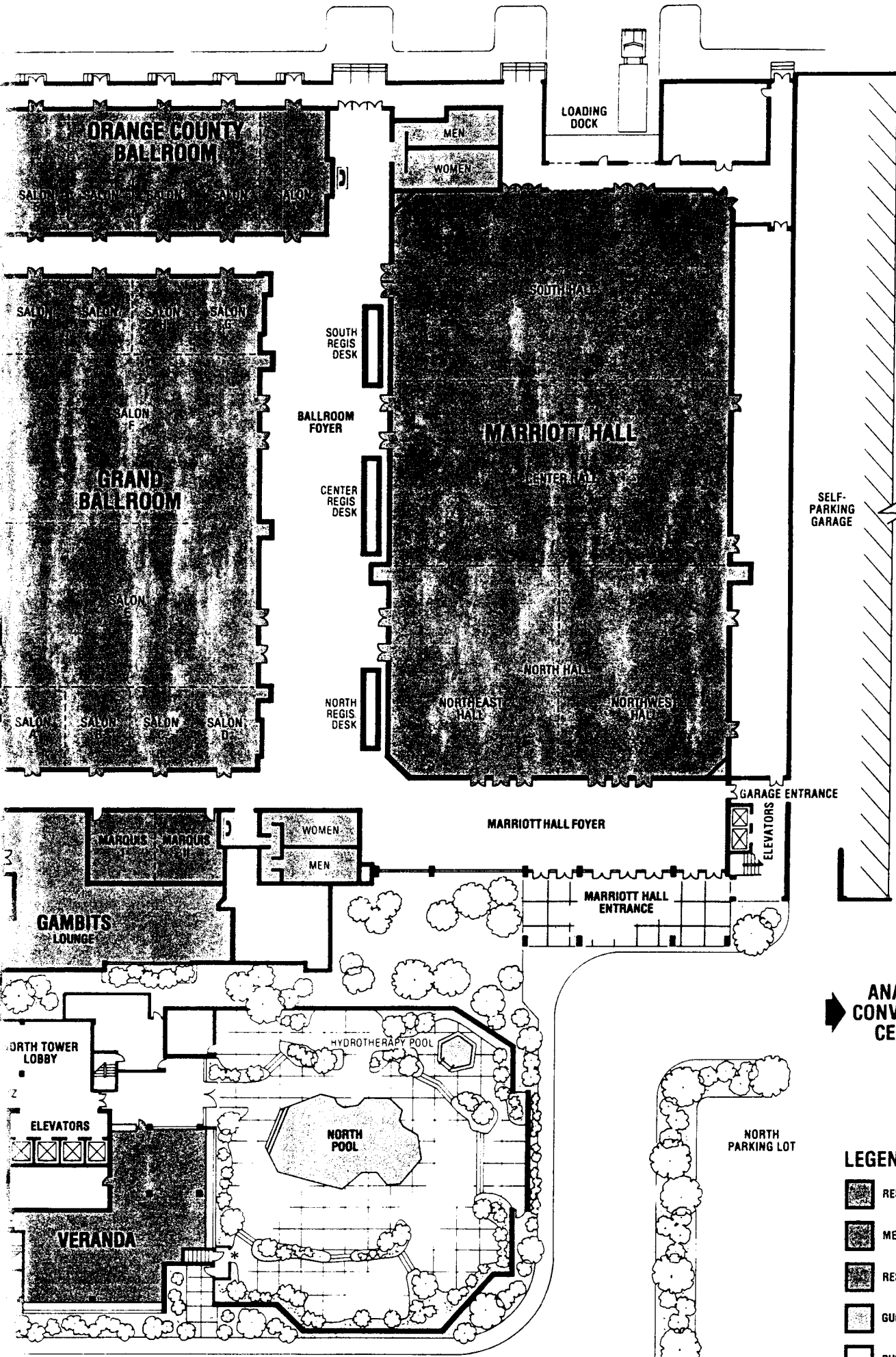
MEETING ROOMS "B" & "C"
8 OF 16 POSSIBLE ROOM CONFIGURATIONS



L.A.Con III Space Usage

MARRIOTT

	Room Name	Theatre	Square Feet		
PROGRAMMING	South Hall	650	7,200	Dances?	
	Center Hall	900	9,480		
	Salon 1-5	5 @ 105 or 1 @ 500	968 ea 4,972		
	Salon A-D	4 @ 80 or 2 @ 160 or 1 @ 340	704 ea 1,408 ea 2816		
	Salon E & F	2 @ 540 or 1 @ 1100	5,187 ea 10,374	Dances?	
	Salon G,H,J,K	4 @ 80 or 2 @ 160 or 1 @ 340	704 ea 1,408 ea 2816	Gaming Prob	
	SERVICES	North Hall	800	8,280	Registration



ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER

LEGEND

-  RESTAURANTS & LOUNGES
-  MEETING FACILITIES
-  RESTROOMS
-  GUEST SERVICES
-  PUBLIC AREA

HEALTH CLUB IS LOCATED ON LOWER LEVEL OF NORTH TOWER

L.A.Con III

Space Usage

HILTON

	Room Name	Theatre	Square Feet
PROGRAMMING	California Pavilion	1 @ 3000 or 3 @ 900+ or 400,375,1000,900	28,542 2 @ 9,380; 1 @ 9,782 4,830; 4,550; 9,782; 9;380
	Sunset	55	504
	Salinas	68	504
	Monterey	80	754
	Carmel	90	988
	San Simeon	2 @ 90+ or 1 @ 150	1,064 & 912 1,976
	Avila	2 @ 90+ or 1 @ 150	1,102 & 912 2,014
	Palisades	60	1,760
	Laguna	180, 70 or 1 @ 280	1,792 & 768 2,560
	Capistrano	82, 72 or 1 @ 132	896 & 768 1,664
	San Clemente	80	858
	Oceanside	72	891
	El Capitan	2 @ 100 or 1 @ 160	1,176 & 966 2,142
	Coronado	70	625

Filking

FACILITIES Pacific Ballroom 28,542

KITCHEN SINK
 Manhattan 80 864
 Redondo 80 832
 Palos Verdes 2 @ 70+ 928 & 768
 or 1 @ 132 1,696
 Huntington 3 @ 80+ 800; 992; 736
 or 160, 80
 or 280 2,528

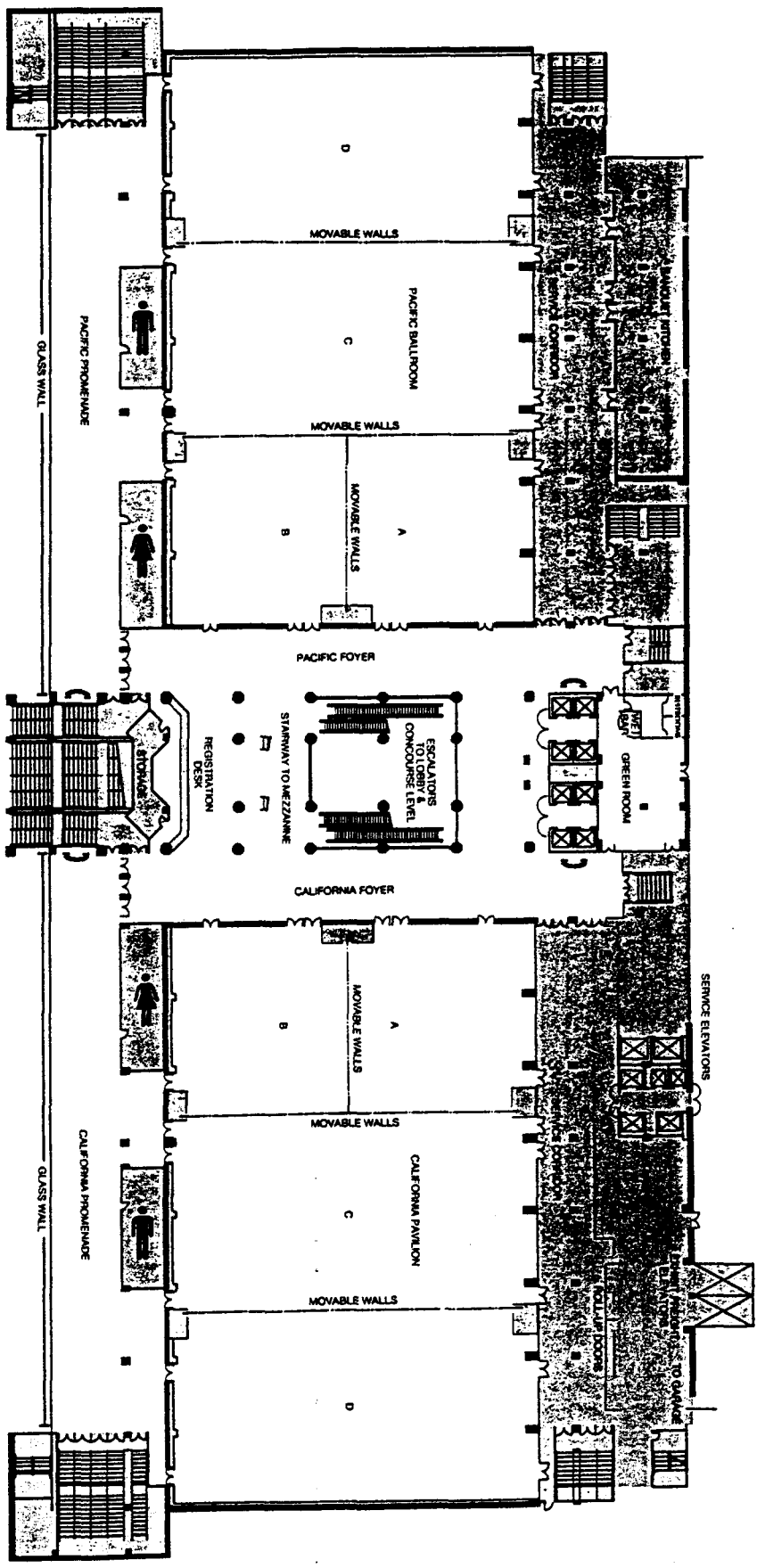
ADMINISTRATIO
 Santa Barbara 40 400
 Ventura 40 416
 Malibu 130 1,170
 Santa Monica 125 1,012

VICE CHAIR
 Lido
 BAAlboa
 Exec Boardroom
 La Jolla
 Rooms 1-14
 Conf Office A-C

In reserve for possible needs from other areas

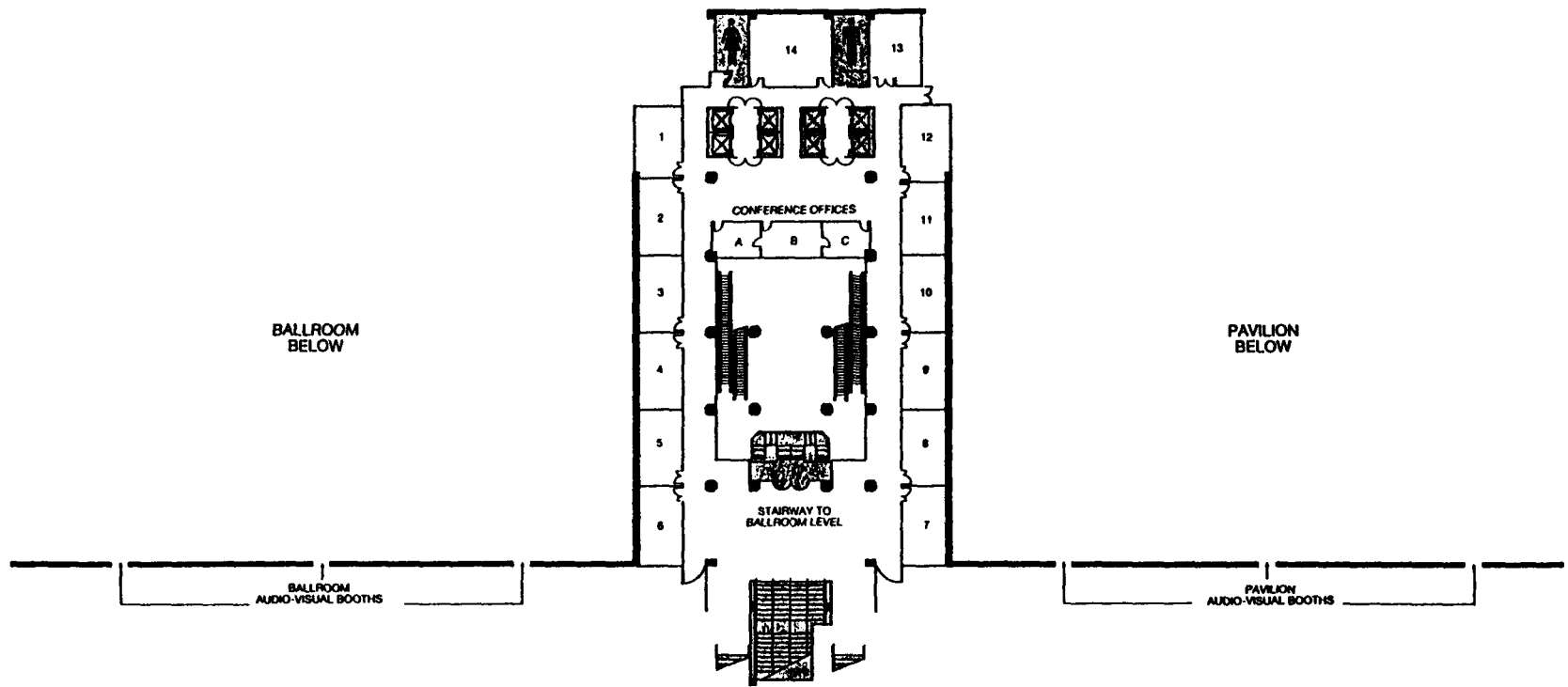
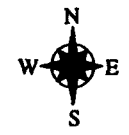
BALLROOM LEVEL

(SECOND FLOOR)



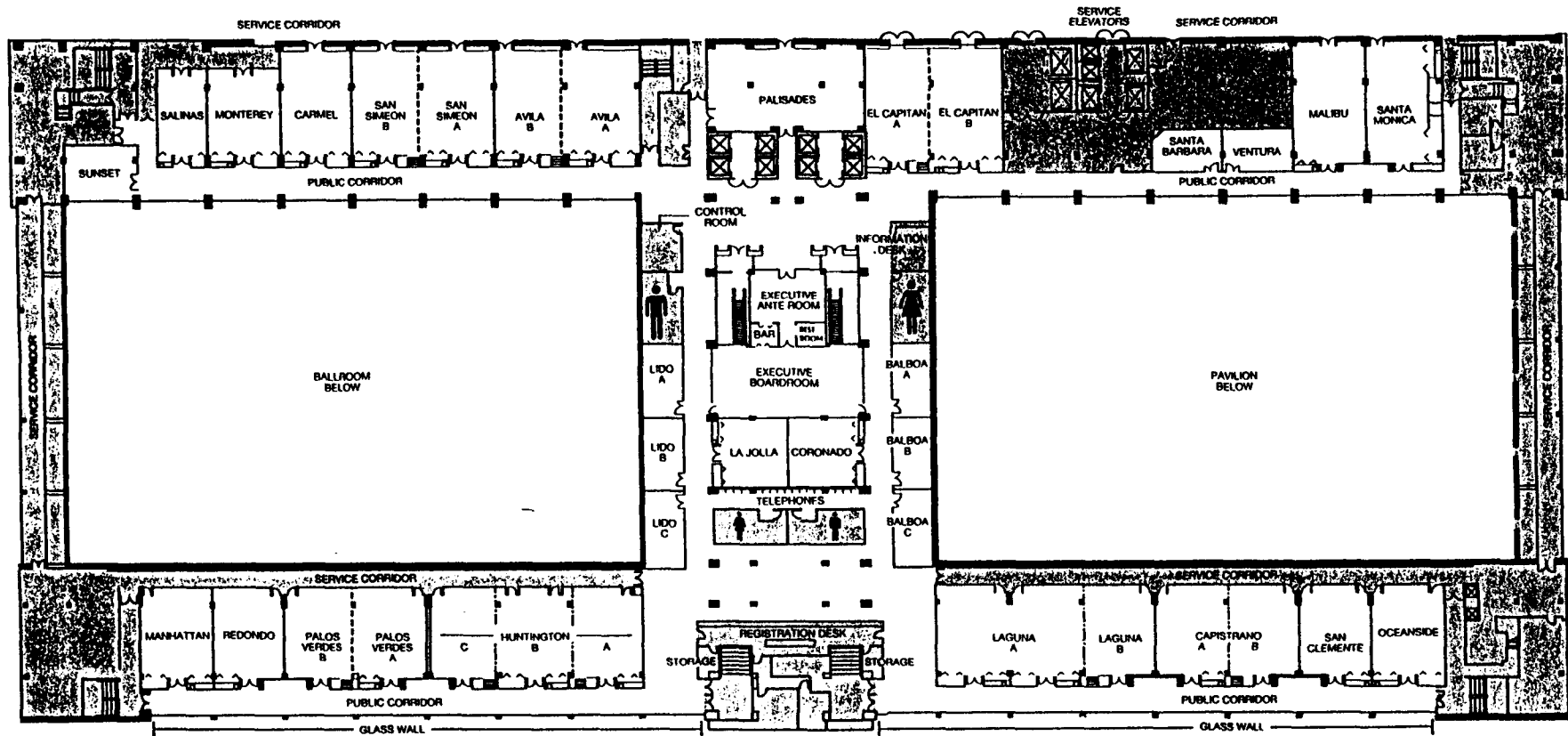
MEZZANINE LEVEL

(THIRD FLOOR)



CONCOURSE LEVEL

(FOURTH FLOOR)



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FAC = Facilities ADMIN = Administration
SERV = Services V.C. = Vice Chair
PROG = Programming
S = S.C.I.F.I. Director - unassigned

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