

Welcome Mat: LoneStarCon2 Newsletter Zine 0

Extremely Early Wednesday Morning, August 27

Welcome to LoneStarCon2, the first Worldcon ever held in Texas. We're glad you're here.

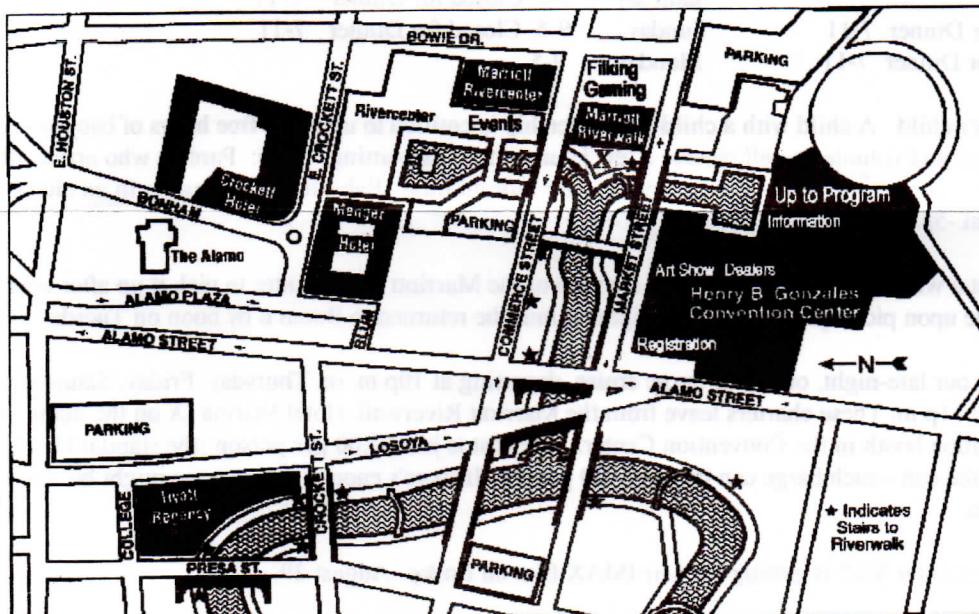
This newsletter is not your standard witty zine, with huge lists of parties, program changes, etc. This newsletter is an ~~emergency holographic newsletter~~...errr... more of a "you are here" sign - it'll help you get around the convention and let you know what's going on before the convention officially starts. This newsletter covers where to pick up wheelchair and mobie rentals, where to volunteer, where to find babysitting and a few suggestions about where to eat. The official newsletter, with lots of fan art and other stuff that you know and love about a newsletter, starts with #1 later today.

First: The all-important Registration hours list:

Wednesday noon-8p.m. (3rd floor of the Marriott RiverCenter)

Then, beginning at 9a.m. on Thursday in the Gallery of the Convention Center:

Thursday 9a.m.-9p.m. Sunday 9a.m.-5p.m.
Friday 9a.m.-9p.m. Monday 9a.m.-noon
Saturday 9a.m.-5p.m.



The Gallery is in an isolated corner of the Convention Center (corner of Market and Alamo). However, you'll only have to walk there once. When you get to the Convention Center, follow the signs to the Gallery. Once you register, you need to walk back outside to get back to the Arcade area — there's no interior access between the Gallery and the rest of the Convention Center..

Walking to the Convention Center: The fastest way is to go out the back door of the Marriott RiverCenter on the lobby level and into the RiverCenter Mall. Take a left and go outside. Cross the street, cut through the Marriott RiverWalk and follow the signs to the Convention Center. Or, you can take a left down the stairs to the RiverWalk, stay left past the Marriott RiverWalk, and go to the Convention Center. This leaves you one level below the Arcade, where Information and the main entrance to the North Exhibit Hall and the stairs to the Program area. The RiverWalk way is a little shadier and has more stairs. Note: when you walk to the Gallery to register, don't take the RiverWalk as you'll wind up going out of your way.

Taking Wheelchairs/Strollers to the Convention Center: Go towards the back door of the Marriott RiverCenter on the lobby level. Take a left into the RiverCenter Mall, and go to the exit door onto Commerce St. Cross Commerce St. and go

into the Marriott RiverWalk Hotel. Follow the signs to the Convention Center. There's an automatic door on the far left of the lobby. Once outside of the RiverWalk, follow the driveway left or right — don't go straight as there is a step there. Go to the ramp and cross the street. While there is a part of the Convention Center directly in front of you, don't go there. Go across the plaza to your right and follow the signs to the South Exhibit Hall/Arcade. You can also follow the access signs on the RiverWalk, which take you to a tiny elevator in the theater wing of the Convention Center. It looks like a mobie may not fit in this elevator, but wheelchairs and strollers will. Note: When you go to the Gallery to register for the convention, don't take the RiverWalk as you'll wind up going out of your way.

Help Wanted! Volunteers are always needed - stop up in Room 6 on the third floor of the Marriott RiverCenter. Here are some areas where we're going to need help:

- Art Show (especially set-up on Wednesday-Thursday and tear-down on Monday)
- Art Show Auction/ Sales (Sunday)
- Exhibits (especially set-up on Wednesday-Thursday and tear-down on Monday)
- Hucksters' Room (especially set-up on Wednesday-Thursday and tear-down on Monday)
- Registration (especially on Thursday and Friday)
- Masquerade (Sunday night - volunteer at the Masquerade registration desk next to Registration, or in the Events Office, Room 4, third floor of the Marriott)

Babysitting will run in two suites: 529 and 530. It will be open for the following hours:

Wednesday	9-5		Saturday	9-5	Closed for Dinner	7-11	
Thursday	9-5	Closed for Dinner	7-11	Sunday	9-5	Closed for Dinner	7-11
Friday	9-5	Closed for Dinner	7-11	Monday	9-5		

Babysitting is \$5.00 per hour per child. A child with a child's membership is entitled to up to six free hours of babysitting. Children of program participants and volunteers will receive a few hours of free babysitting. Note: Parents who arrive after 5:10p.m. or 11:10p.m. will be assessed a late fee — please pick up your kids on time. Babysitting is running in an alternate room on Wednesday: 550, 9a.m.-5p.m. only.

Rentals: If you arranged to rent a wheelchair or scooter, go to Room 6 of the Marriott RiverCenter to pick it up after noon on Wednesday. Rental fees are due upon pick-up. The rented equipment must be returned to Room 6 by noon on Tuesday, 9/2.

Moonlight Barge Cruise: Join our late-night, one-hour barge cruise, departing at 10p.m. on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights and returning by 11p.m. These charters leave from the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel Marina (X on the map). Buy your barge ticket at the Information booth in the Convention Center. The cost is just \$2.00 per person (the standard barge trip is \$4.00). Sign up early in the con - each barge can take only 40 people. If there's enough interest, we might be able to add additional barges at the con.

The IMAX Theater in the RiverCenter Mall is getting the Mir IMAX film on Friday, August 29.

Great Local Restaurants — none of these are on the RiverWalk, but you should try them!

Best close fast food — Taco Cabana on Commerce - breakfast/lunch/dinner Mexican-style with great homemade tortillas.

Best 24-hour restaurant — Mi Tierra in Market Sq - take a right on Commerce, turn left under Route 35, and park in the lot. Only a mile away from the hotel. Bakery, bar, full meals and amazing atmosphere.

Place where Fred Duarte's parents used to date — Karam's is a great Mexican restaurant run by people from Lebanon. Take a right on Commerce, drive about three miles, take a right on Zarazmora, park in the first lot on the right. Warm tortilla chips, wonderful dinners (especially fajitas!). It also has a Mayan garden in the back and live music many evenings.

The Garden restaurant in the Marriott RiverCenter will be running 24 hours a day starting on Wednesday night. They'll also run their breakfast buffet until 2:00p.m. The Denny's across the street is also open 24 hours a day.

Hall Costumers at the Masquerade: We want you to have the chance to show your work to a wider audience. Come backstage after the presentations are over. The MC will take your name and announce your costume.