

Road Kill Gazette

Yellow Journalism at its best

The Night Track

By Adrian

Moco the parrot was a bigger hit than the Chicago bid party. Moco visited with partygoers in the hallway and made many new friends. Chicago on the other hand, now there's a con bid. Their slogan should be "Chicago in 2000:Vote early and often." What exactly are my choices again? We did see a poster on the wall with the names of the pre-supporting members. Megan wanted to know how many of those names actually belong to dead people.

Downstream, the Gay Fandom party was much cheerier and pleasant. The supply of libation seemed more plentiful and there was not a single hint of "Buick Man." About him, more anon. But who's really surprised that this group put on a nice party. Fen do know how to party, and gay fen, doubly so. And a polite bunch; not a single person groped, leered or pawed at me while I was there. I was shattered! Tomorrow it's the tightest jeans in my drawer, you can bet on that!

ConCanCun won our award for the best simulation of an aquarium. This didn't help cool things down at all, but the decorations were presentable and the staff pleasant. It was here that we learned of the presence of "Buick Man." A buxom friend of ours, (and that's spelled with a capital X) claims that this lout, whose name we cannot divulge, leaned across a party hallway and exclaimed, "Whoa baby, you could park a Buick between those!" C'mon boys. We can do better than that. Anyway BM (as Megan now calls him,) showed his age with that comment. In today's world, the proper admiration would have been, "I think I left my Hummer in there."

As a public service to lady fen, we've decided to pledge a watchful eye and to present rapid "Buick Man" sightings as they happen.

SFFnet provided a presentable place to sit, hold a conversation and actually catch a breath during the hectic tour. We found relaxation there, but we expected to hear more about the organization. We thought that maybe this group had the best party posters of the night, but we sort of expected that we'd see a demo somewhere. It wouldn't have been too hard to supply folks. An old computer, a cheap local internet connection, a few rolled up newspapers... You get the idea.

Our best of tour award tonight had to go to the folks from Philly on the 19th floor. They greeted everyone cheerfully and welcomed all. No SMOF'ing here. The suite they drew was the most comfortable, and in some places the most breathtaking. The people of San Antonio decorated for them. It is not true that the homebrew turned our heads at all, we feel certain that our decision on this was unadulterated by mere creature comforts. Kudos to the folks from Philly. Do it again as soon as you can. Megan and I will both be looking for you.

Access to the Message Board

Due to an overwhelming cry of complaint about the fact that the Message Board is locked up in the Dealer's room during the evenings, the board will be relocated to the staff lounge. If further complaints are encountered, the board will be placed in Larry Niven's room and messages will be available whenever Larry feels like going to the hotel. Should that turn out to be unsatisfactory,

Fund Raising Do's and Don'ts

We were pleased to learn that we could get LoneStarCon2 paraphernalia and help with the incidental expenses from the con. We *really do* understand about the expense and difficulty of getting one of these beasts off the ground. Several members of the RCG staff did feel however, that the sale of Planning Committee action figures went a little far.

Tower of Babel FAQ Panel

Kudos to the conference staff for getting the programming grids out with appropriate schedule modifications. Prior to the wide distribution of the grids, many con-goers were a bit confused. The most obvious manifestation of this was the panel with no panelists. An intrepid fan reports that one of the conference rooms on Thursday filled with fan, eager to discuss the history and chronology of their favorite SF television series. No panelists appeared, so the folks in the room decided to hold their own "round-table" discussion of the topic. Everything worked out, and nobody was sadder for the experience. Fortunately, no one in the convention center has been accurately identified as "the last, best hope."

The Hotel Armadillo's Nasty Secret

The staff of RCG has learned that the armadillo is actually a rat in an armadillo costume. The LACon rat refused to relinquish his position of power. What nobody bothered to mention to him was that a gig playing "Feelings" and "Hey Jude" on a hotel piano is not exactly a position of authority. In fact, Adrian tells us that if we hear one more rendition of "Muskrat Love," we'll be calling the "Orkin Man" for an emergency visit.

Nightcrawler's Party Update

By Megan

The well-heeled nightcrawler should keep several things in mind tonight. Getting the most out of your con party time is an art and even the most experienced among us could use a little help in a strange party hotel, so here are some tips.

Most of the parties are between the 32nd and 36th floor. This means that those of you who start on the ground floor will have to watch carefully to make sure you're in the right set of elevators. This only leaves you with the problem of getting to the very stylish parties being hosted by the Boston and Philly people on the 19th floor. If you were on the 32nd floor and wanted to visit these parties, you would have to ride down to a "transfer floor" and then ride in a different set of elevators up to the 19th.

Now most of us thought that this meant that you'd have to ride down to the 4th floor, and then back up to 19. The problem with that of course, is that whenever an elevator stops on the 4th floor, it is filled with party goers who have loaded up on the first and second floors. The savvy party girls and boys tonight will know that the elevators for the upper floors stop on the 25th floor, and so do the elevators for the lower floors.

Another strategy that should be useful tonight is to start on the lower floors and then work your way up. In fact, the elevators are a really tacky way to get between most of the party floors, so the very most stylish among you will use the incredibly attractive stairwells. Adrian and I decided last night that the prize for most dramatic unexpected view is found in a lavish picture window in

pocket programs will be reprocessed at the entrance to the dealer's room and the information desk.

Locked in the Dealer Room

One intrepid traveler reports being locked in the Dealer's room. A staff member found him curled up nearly catatonic in front of the information booth. Here is the tale he shared with us.

"I should have known I was in for trouble when I looked up from my notebook where I was copying from the Party Board to see a tall blonde in a Klingon officer's uniform. But I've always been a sucker for an alien in a tight tunic.

"I winked and returned to my work. I'd been sent by my pals to copy down the information about the party circuit so that we could chart the most efficient track during those important hours of the con. I had just about finished transcribing the last two parties into my notes when the lights above me dimmed out.

"Startled, I looked around and noticed that nobody was left near me. In fact, nobody was left in the entire cavernous hall that makes up the Dealer's area.

"I raced to the doors and saw the Klingon walking away with keys in her hand. I pounded on the glass, but she ignored me. I yelled, but my cries only echoed across an empty wasteland of used books, garish tee-shirts and pewter figurines.

"I tried all of the doors, but none would open. I knew where all of the parties would be, but had no way to get there. 'Why,' I asked? 'Why had they put the most important evening information in a place that would be closed in the evening?'

"I could only wonder. But somehow, I had to get out of here. I spied an art dealer's table across the room, and it occurred to me that I might be able to use one of the swords to pry open a door. I struggled mightily, but to no avail.

"I considered using the bug body from the "Starship Trooper" display as a battering ram, but it proved too flimsy. (Early intelligence about that film should have alerted me to this possibility.)

"After an hour, I could only hope that the convention staff would tumble to the idea that an alternate party board would be necessary at the hotel. [The convention staff did, indeed, tumble to this conclusion and there is one in the party hotel near the entrance to the mall. -ed] In the meantime, I needed to get something to eat.

"I was able to use the art dealer's sword to pry open one of the cooler cases in the food area and there were two hot dogs left. Slim picking's when I'd been dreaming of the strudel from ChicagoCon's party suite. Bare sustenance when measured against the spreads at the Gay Fandom party.

"Morning dawned and I finally heard the jingle of keys announcing that I'd be able to scurry to my room and clean up in time for the morning programming. I could console myself with the fact that I'd be able to read about the party circuit as soon as the convention bulletin hit the streets. Just as long as I didn't have to rely solely on those snotty reviews from that Adrian fellow."

The RCG staff has considered this story and holds the nearly unanimous opinion that it is a gratuitous fabrication.

the fire escapes. Be sure to put it on your party calendar. And speaking of that, here's the early inside scoop:

Marriot RiverCenter

time	Floor/Room	party
5-12	3/conf room	Con Suite
8:30-10	3 /conf room	Homicide Fans
9-11	3 /conf room 17-18	Odyssey Writing Workshop
9-?	612	Forever Knight
8-?	1912	National Space Society
9-?	1905-06	Millennium Philcon (Philadelphia in 2001)
9?-?	1951-51	Boston in 2000
10-dawn	2631	Frefan (libertarian)
8-?	2923	Sime-Gen
9-11	2938	Edge Writers
10-?	2932	Skynet/end of world/Irish Worldcon bid
7-9	3026	Sunshine & Bob Weissinger post-wedding reception
8-?	3030	Costumers' Suite (videos)
9-1	3040	Perry Rhodan magazine
9-?	3012	ICON
9:30-?	3018	Z'ha'dun in 2260 IWC bid
8-12	3031	B5 video party
9-?	3126	San Francisco in 2002
9-1	3140	Empirecon toga party
9-?	3312	Dragoncon \$\$
9-?	3326	Coyotecon (Phoenix '99 NASFIC bid)
9-?	3332	Conutopia (Los Angeles NASFIC bid)
9-2	3316	Anne McCaffrey fans (Compuserv Pern Weyers)
9-2	3346	Great American Con (Santa Clara NASFIC)
9-?	3436	Gaylaxians
9-?	3430	Chicago in 2000

Marriot RiverWalk

8-?	Alamo Ballroom	Regency Dance
8-dawn	2 /meeting room	FILK