

RUNE

january 1973





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Rune 28



Rune 28 (March 11, 1973) is a newsletter of the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, Inc. This issue is co-edited by Ken Fletcher & Caryl Bucklin. Ken Fletcher c/o 1501 Grade Ave., St. Paul, Mn. 55106 // Caryl Bucklin; 1673 Thomas Ave. St. Paul, Mn. 55104. Moral support in getting this issue out has come from Larry Nichols & various other Minn-Stffers, but the primary expenditure of energy has come from Caryl, who will be doing printing & mailing, and a large portion of the writing & typing for this issue. Approximately 225+ copies will be printed & distributed. Comments appreciated. (KF)

Minn-Stf Meeting Dates

Meetings of the Minnesota Science Fiction Society will be held on the following dates:

- Saturday, 24 March, 1973 at the home of Dennis Lien (1102 E 24th Street, Minneapolis, Mn. 55404. Phone: 336-7505)
This is Minn-Stf, Inc.'s Annual Meeting, and will include the election of the Board of directors. The meeting will start at 1 p.m. and probably last until 5 p.m.
- Saturday, 7 April at the Hobbitat, 3755 Pillsbury Av. S, Minneapolis 55409. Phone: 823-3756 or 825-6355.
- Saturday, 5 May--location not yet set.
- Saturday, 19 May--location not yet set.
- Saturday, 2 June--location not yet set.
- Saturday 16 June--location not yet set.

Corrections & additional information on meetings will appear in future Runes. You can also phone Minn-Stf people for more information....

Enclosed with this Rune you should find a new Minn-Stf directory with a calendar on the back showing meeting dates....

Thanks, by the by, to the past genial hosts of Minn-Stf meetings & parties, including long-suffering spouses & roommates. Let's see--I can think of the Berners (hosting a Minneapolis collation), Fred Haskell, the people at the Hobbitat, the Lessingers, Dennis Lien & tag team, Mary Merlin, Blue Petal, Bob Schmelzer, Bev Swanson, and I'm sure there are others that have slipped my memory. Thanks to you all for a job that is more appreciated than acknowledged.... (KF)

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Minn-Stf Elections

The Minn-Stf meeting of 24 March will be the corporation's annual meeting, which will include elections for the board of directors. There will be a ballot to determine the number of directors for the coming year--set by our by-laws to be 3, 5, 7, or 9. Having accepted nomination for directors are: Chuck Holst; John Husske; Margie Lessinger; Blue Patal; Bob Schmelzer; Frank Stodolka; Bev Swanson; & Garry Wassenaar.

According to our by-laws, to be eligible to vote you must fulfil the following requirements: attend more than 6 meetings in the last year, request membership, and give your name & address to the Minn-Stf Secretary.

Ballots will be available at the meeting of the 24th, or you may write Frank Stodolka at the Hobbitat (3755 Pillsbury Av. S., Minneapolis, Mn. 55409.) who will double-check your eligibility & mail you a ballot so you may vote by mail.

All ballots must reach the teller at the Annual Meeting by 2:30 p.m., Saturday 24 March, 1973.

(KP)

At the Minn-Stf meeting held 24 February, the current Minn-Stf directors held a meeting, during which they unanimously voted to recommend that the number of directors remain at 5. There has been some discussion about the number of directors at the intervening meetings, and there is likely to be more at the meeting of 24 March. Your opinion, as expressed in your vote, is solicited....

The Board of Directors manages the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, Inc. and appoints the club's officers. Our current President, Frank Stodolka, has a Presidential message tucked away somewhere in this Runa.

(KP)

Minn-Stf recently acquired a collection of some 1000 books and 500 prozines. Bought from the invalid widow of a collector and fan, Minn-Stf voted to buy the collection for our own library and for the fannish good deed of making sure the widow got a fairer price for the books than she had been offered by bookstores. The purchase was made through a combination of Minn-Stf funds and donations by members. At the time of the purchase it was decided that the prozines would be sold, preference being given to members with the remaining zines to be sold or auctioned at Minicon 7. Gerry Wassenaar and I expect to have a complete list of the zines for sale completed within the next few days. Those interested in receiving a list and the details of the sale should contact me before March 24.... *Caryl*

Those of you who don't make it to the Minn-Stf meetings might be interested in learning more of Minneapa. Those participating contribute duplicated pages which are assembled into a larger publication that becomes a collection of combined essays/letters/"conversations in print". Pages are either brought to a meeting, or mailed to the Official Editor, or duplicator masters are sent to an agent in the Twin Cities who will print your pages & take them to the meeting. The most recent Minneapa was the 18th, with about 130 pages and 30 contributors. For more information, contact the Official Editor, Mike Wood--1878 Roblyn Av., #3, St. Paul 55104. Phone: 644-3294

(KP)

Minicon 7

Regional Science Fiction
Convention
the Minneapolis in '75 con!

Minicon 7 will be held April 20, 21 and 22 at the Hyatt Lodge in downtown Minneapolis. Registration will be \$2.00 in advance, \$3.00 at the door. Checks should be made payable to MINICON and sent to Gerry Swanson, 2301 Elliot Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404.

The Hyatt Lodge is a medium-sized motor hotel located just one block off Hennepin Avenue at 41 N. 10th Street. The rooms are large and comfortable with a color TV in every room. There are pop and ice machines on all floors and a restaurant and a piano bar within the hotel. The pool and sauna are open to all con members and will be open as long as someone wishes to use them. Free parking will be available for hotel guests.

There are two quoted Minicon 7 convention room rates:

SINGLES: \$16.00 DOUBLES: \$19.00

There will be no extra charge for extra people in a room unless he, she or it wants a cot for \$10.00 a night. When you send in reservations and when you register, be sure to mention that you are with Minicon 7 so you are sure of receiving convention rates and blocking with the other con attendees.

Larry Niven, science fiction writer and fan, will be our pro Guest of Honor. Rusty Hevelin, long-time fan and bookdealer, will return to Minneapolis this Minicon as fan Guest of Honor.

Art show entries may be mailed to the Art Show director or brought to the convention. There will be a fee of \$.25 per entry. Entries can be sold through the Art Show at our regular Auction rates. For information or entry, write Dick Tatge, 3755 Pillsbury Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409.

The Auction will be conducted in two rounds, one on Saturday and again on Sunday. The money received will be divided 25%/75% in the donor's favor. Label your Auction entries with a minimum bid (especially Art Show entries). For information write Gerry Wassenaar, 1123 Olson Highway, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408.

The bookdealers and hucksters will have a lockable area, perhaps shared with the Art Show. Tables will be \$5.00 for the duration of the convention. Tables will be available at the con or may be reserved in advance with a check made payable to MINICON. For more information write Gerry Wassenaar, 1123 Olson Highway, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408.

It is possible to advertise in Minicon 7 publications. The Second Progress Report has a deadline of 24 March, 1973 and will have a print run of 300. The Program Book will have a deadline of 13 April, 1973 and a print run of 250. Ads will be printed by photo-offset methods and must be camera ready when we receive them. Ad rates are \$6.00 perpage. Dimensions for ad copy are 5½ inches by 9 inches. Ads should be sent to Blue Petal, 1036 Front Ave., #2, St. Paul, Minnesota 55103.

The Minicons have programming (the program for Minicon 7 will be outlined in the Second Progress Report) but are also oriented towards socializing and re-meeting friends. The Banquet this year will be at the Hyatt and served buffet style, 5:00 Saturday. The price is \$4.00 dollars and tickets can be obtained at registration.

The Hyatt has provisions for ½ day suite rentals and other accommodations for any group wishing to hold a special function.

If you want more specific information on the Minicon, please write or call Blue Petal, 1036 Front Ave., #2, St. Paul, Minnesota 55103. (488-2019)

THREE FOR THE PRICE OF TWO!
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CHEAP AT HALF THE PRICE

--Frank Stodolka

Since I'm so cramped for writing nowadays I think this presidential message will be in a slightly different style than usual. In other words, you Run readers and assorted Minn-Stiffs have the rare privilege of being experimental subjects for Frank Stodolka's Unnaturalized Science Fiction Storyettes C. As you can guess by the title of this introduction the experiment will be conducted in three phases or treatments. And, of course, like any good scientist, I have arranged for one phase to be used as a control, that is, a placebo.

Elections: Sacred Cows Revisited, or What's Up with Minn-Stif?

When in the course of fannish events it becomes necessary to pay homage to that time-honored tradition of electing the lesser of two evils by going to the ballot box, one sometimes pauses to ask oneself, "Why hassle it? Why not let sleeping ids lie?"

Well, the fact that Minn-Stiffs will have to choose from among now two but several evils this coming March "24th is one indicator of how important the office of directorship of Minn-Stif is. Nine fans have accepted nom nominations for posts which only five can eventually fill. And, knowing the fans who are running this year, I feel safe in saying that these individuals accepted, not just because there is prestige in the office, but because they think they can do more for Minn-Stif by being directors.

The election this year, like last year, has been a singularly constructive one. There have been no unfannish personality clashes, but there have been some good criticisms and ideas exchanged by a number of fans.

This brings us to the most important part of our elections: discussing the goals and the means of attaining them for Minn-Stif. Now that Minn-Stif is an incorporated non-profit organization it is more important than ever that we openly discuss our plans for the future. And elections provide a sense of urgency--if not a forum for debate--which can facilitate discussion. Whoever is elected to serve this year, there are enough irons in the fire to make for a lot of fun--no matter what your brand of fannishness is. Even if the elections themselves do not generate any great new ideas, new directors coming to grips with these ideas will have their hands full.

Minneapolis: The Spirit of '76

Now, I ask you, where else but in the Minnesota Science Fiction Society could a phenomenon like Minneapolis happen? Where else but in a fan group where the printed word is so sacred, so highly respected, so profane, could Minneapolis happen?

Marshall McLuhan, the famous prognosticator for the future of mass media, has proclaimed for all that "the medium is the message". If this is to be taken literally, then Minneapolis' medium is truly the spirit of '76--2076, that is, Minneapolis changes so fast, labels everything it reproduces so fluidly that it is surely the wave of the future.

Of course, we all owe it to Mike Wood for making it happen. Our debt to him will grow the more we realize how important Minneapa is to expanding participation in fanzines and science fiction. And if Minneapa's mailings keep growing, then our media can become far more massive than even McLuhan ever dreamt!

Thots Thunk While Thinking

Whilst stumbling through one of our meetins slipping on loose fanzine pages and stumbling over loose feet I fell upon a number of ideas which we should probably hash over together sometime.

For exemplar, in the six-plus years Minn-Stf has been around our regular bi-weekly gatherings have grown an average of 4 or 5 fen per year. Now, assuming we keep the golden gates open to the great thing we've got going, where are we to put all these beings in another five years or so? And how big will our library be then? (I shudder to think of the day Bev Swanson should move away from us.)

Yes, it's about time we all started thinking seriously about a home for Minn-Stf and its paraphernalia. Because our meetings are getting so crowded that some of us--especially newcomers--can't really enjoy ourselves socially anymore. Soon only a few fans will have houses big enough for our meetings--and we'll be lucky to have access to those.

It occurs to me that Minneapa people are lucky they've got a regular activity from one meeting to the next. What of the rest of us? Sometimes I wonder how we ever got along without the grand collating sessions to spotlight our meetings. Sure, the collating takes space. That is another aspect of the housing situation. But it's something fun to do (another important plus for us and for new fans who want to get involved). Then again, our meetings are beginning to take on so many of the characteristics of a small Minicon that we just might think about providing a little programming? A newcomers' table?

So, okay, I'm biased. I'm throwing these ideas at you because I work for the Minneapolis Housing Authority. Since everyone has tired of Pillsbury-Waite and the U of M bureaucracy I've grown tired of single-handedly hunting down members who can share the load of hosting meetings. And each meeting I arrange is only a temporary answer to the larger problem.

And so we leave our mighty hero, Flash Gordon, trapped underground with his loyal companions as the stalactite roof of their cave slowly descends upon them. And these urgent questions remain unanswered: will the clay people who have brought this dastardly doom down upon them wake up and stop dragging their feet? Will they escape to free their world from the threat of Ming the Moneyless? See you all at the next Saturday matinee performance of Minn-Stf Conquers the Universe.

Frank

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