

CONCAVE

18

UPPERSOUTHGLAVE XXVII

FEB. 28 - MARCH 2, 1997

PARK CITY, KY



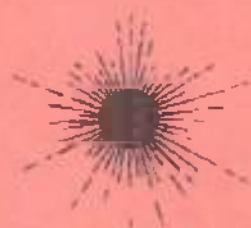
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GRUMBLES FROM THE CAVE . . .

Words of Wisdom From The Conchair

It still does not seem real to me that we have had to institute the lottery system to handle room reservations at Concave. I am sorry that we just can't fit everyone into the Park Mammoth Resort, but it can not be avoided. I apologize for any errors that may have occurred in the running of the lottery, especially if your name didn't get included in the list. To make the process go smoother next year, there are lottery ticket entry forms in the Barn Room and Registration tables. If you simply fill out the card, I will have a paper trail to follow instead of my fallible memory, and nobody will have to stand in line to enter names by computer.

I am pleased to inform you that Concave has a special guest this year. Harry Stubbs (a.k.a. Hal Clement) is giving a lecture at Western Kentucky University, and since he is in the area, we invited him as our special guest at Concave. I hope you enjoy the opportunity to get to meet Harry this weekend.

If this is your first Concave, we are glad you could make it. We pride ourselves on styling it like the SF cons from the 40's and 50's. This means that Concave is an unstructured weekend of socialization between SF fans with no planned activities beyond what's in the schedule. With limited space and staff, we won't be able to please everyone, but please bring problems to our attention. I should be easy to recognize: look for the guy in the strangest shirt.

The Barn Room is a **NO SMOKING** area. The Patio Room will be the overflow consuite and smoking area. We will hold the Art Auction in the Barn Room on Saturday night. I am sorry that we have to close it down for the auction, but there isn't another room large enough in the hotel. If you help us move the furniture, the shutdown will be that much shorter.

Concave has few rules, but there are some we insist upon. The minimum drinking age in Kentucky is **21**. You will be asked for ID at registration and wherever alcohol is served. Wear your badge visibly while you're here. All drinks taken from the consuite must be poured in cups. The consuite staffers wearing the aprons **ARE THE BOSS**. If you are refused service, you are probably doing something wrong. If you have a problem with that, come to me. Confine weapons, toy or real to sleeping rooms. Please heed all posted rules of the hotel. The watchman is an Edmonson Co. deputy sheriff. Unruly behavior can land you in the county jail. We will eject disruptive elements from the convention. Finally, when you leave, do it sober. For those staying outside the Park Mammoth Resort, we will provide transportation on request.

Most of you should not need an introduction to the Park Mammoth Resort by now. The pool will once again be open for the duration except for cleaning periods in the wee hours. Remember that the pool is a public area and anything you do can show up on the video program. Once again, we will have the famous Saturday afternoon banquet. Seating is limited, and admission is \$10 per person, so buy early and often.

WE ♥ VOLUNTEERS! Helpers in the consuite, art show, art auction, and drivers are always extremely welcome. There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the cabinet doors on the Barn Room kitchen for anyone interested in working. It's a great way to meet people. As always, we hope that this is the best Concave ever. Go and enjoy!

Gary R. Robe

CONCAVE 18 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, February 28, 1997	
12:00	Registration Opens- Hotel Lobby Consuite Officially Opens - Barn Room & Patio Room (1. Huxter Room Opens for Dealer Setup - Blue Room Art Show Setup - Rooms 134- 136.
5:00 pm	Huxter Room. Art Show and Gaming Rooms (234236) & Video Room Open (2.
7:00 pm	Opening Ceremonies - Patio Room
11:00 pm	Registration Closes. Late Registration in Barn Room
Saturday, March 1, 1997	
10:00 am	Registration, Art Show, Huxter Room and Gaming Reopen
12:30 pm	Registration Closes. Late Registration in Barn Room
1:00 pm	Banquet & Guest of Honor Speeches - Hotel Restaurant
6:00 pm	Art Show Closes to Bidding
8:00 pm	Art Auction - Barn Room
Sunday, March 2, 1997	
10:00 am	Art Show Checkout - No Sales After 11:00 am
11:00 am	Business & Site Selection Meeting - Room 266
12:00	Hotel Checkout. Gaming Room Closes. Taking Reservations for ConCave 19 - Room 266
TBA	Huxter Room Closes when the Huxters have made enough money to pay for the weekend. Dead Dog Party for survivors. Volunteers working on teardown will get a pizza dinner on ConCave's tab.

(1. The Barn Room, the stairwell and the hallways are **NO SMOKING** areas.
Smoking is permitted in the Patio Room

(2. The opening times for these functions are approximate, and depending on
the speed of setup. Volunteers are always welcome. The closing times for these
functions are not set and will be determined by the people running them.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be **Room Parties!** Look for announcements.

AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR GUEST OF HONOR T.K.F. (TONI) WEISSKOPF

A TALE OF TWO TONIS -or-T.K.F. OR
NOT T.K.F.: THAT IS THE QUESTION

By Gary R. Robe

Assume you are a SF Fan (not a bad assumption for Concave), and you are thinking about what would be career nirvana for you. You would want to read all day and get paid for it. You would like to interact with SF pros on a daily basis. You might want to publish a couple of books yourself. Finally, you would probably like to get copies of new books before they hit the stands. Now you know why T. K. F. (Toni) Weisskopf, our Guest of Honor, has such a sunny disposition. This is her job description.

Of course, when the avocation becomes the vocation, it probably isn't much as much of a kick anymore, but let's face it, as an editor at Baen Books, and Lady Friday to Jim Baen, Toni's job is way cool.

Toni first came to the attention of Southern Fandom through her activity in NASFA in Huntsville, AL, and many of us first met her during the Constellation conventions in Huntsville. Toni, however, has preferred smaller, more informal conventions, and during her years at Oberlin College in Ohio, became a regular attendee at Octocons and Midwestcons.

It was about this time that I began corresponding with Toni through her activity in KAPA, the Kentucky Amateur Press Association. She justified her membership in the Kentucky APA since she had to drive through Kentucky when commuting between college in Oberlin and her family in Huntsville.

A memorable incident involving Toni occurred during the 1986 DSC in Louisville, KY. During the convention, there was a charity auction for the benefit



T.K.F. (Toni) Weisskopf

of George Alec Effinger who had recently suffered a tragic house fire. The GoH at that con was SF editor David Hartwell who acted as auctioneer. David offered some of his famously outrageous neckties in the auction. As the last tie was sold, I don't remember who started it, but someone shouted: "How much for the pants?" David rose to the occasion, and the bidding was fierce. When all was over, Toni owned the pants—using a loan from Mrs. Hartwell to make up the last few dollars! I think he wore boxers underneath.

Soon after graduation, Toni set her sights on a job in the publishing industry, and soon after secured a job as a slushpile editor at Baen Books. She now is a senior editor at Baen, and has gotten to rub elbows and argue comma placement with most of Baen's star writers. She has

worked with Robert Heinlein, Lois McMaster Bujold, David Weber, and even Newt Gingrich (remember-1945 was a Baen Original!).

Not completely satisfied with staying on the giving end of the blue pencil, Toni has now produced three books using the pen name T. K. F. Weisskopf. These are *Greasy Grimy Gopher Guts* (with Josepha Sherman), and two edited anthologies, *Tomorrow Bites* and *Tomorrow Sucks* in collaboration with Greg Cox. Toni points out with a gleam in the eye that the Library of Congress lists coedited anthologies by their title, a comma, and the last name of the first editor in alphabetical order. You work it out.

It's now time to explain the Toni/T. K. F. thing. In the APA Toni and I now share. SFPA, the Southern Amateur Press Alliance, she once explained that she was still Toni to her friends, but professionally she prefers to be known as T. K. F. She points out that historically, female writers are paid more attention if they use initials. Ursula K. LeGuin was first published as U. K. LeGuin, and who knows what the P. D. stands for in P. D. James? To her fannish friends Toni will always be Toni, but in print, even in SFPA, she is T. K. F. Weisskopf.

At the DSC in Birmingham in 1994, Southern Fandom awarded Toni its highest honor for service by a SF professional-The Phoenix Award. As they announced her as the winner, she was talking to Bob Shaw in the back of the room and was saying something like, "I wonder who they'll find to give The Phoenix to this year?" Her feet barely touched the floor as she came forward.

Immediately after Toni floated back to her place in the audience, it was my turn. Her fellow SFPAn's respect Toni for her professionalism, but also decided to bring her down a notch or so in case she harbored any ideas of becoming too professional for the likes of us APA-hacks.. We had voted the night before to give Toni

the Rubble Award for doing the most TO southern fandom-just in case she was feeling too uppity to mix with her old friends.

Thankfully, Toni refrained from denting my skull with the acrylic pyramid form of the Phoenix Award during the presentation. She stopped herself only because part of the Rubble Award was a (Barney) Rubble PEZ dispenser with three rolls of candy provided. You might say that confection won out over concussion.

It is my hope that this introduction to Toni has brought across some ideas. First, Toni is a SF fan. She was raised on it, and has opinions on it that count! Second, as T. K. F. Weisskopf, she has transformed the fan into the respected publishing professional who pushes the envelope as a writer/editor. Third, and most important, Toni is just plain fun to be around. Her cheerful disposition, wit, intelligence, and charm come through every time you meet her. Whether the subject is politics, baseball, or changing baby diapers, Toni will have something to say, and it will be well said.

It was a real moment of inspiration last year when the ConCave committee decided to invite Toni to be Guest of Honor for ConCave 18. It is fitting that our Guest of Honor is someone who took the old FLAWOL (Fandom Is A Way Of Life) cliché, and is showing us just how much a fan can do with a life. I hope you have as much fun getting to know Toni this weekend as I have over the last 12 years or so.

-Gary Robe

In Memorandum:

Lynn Hickman

Guest of Honor, ConCave 8.
Passed from this life October 30,
1996. To his family and friends our
deepest sympathies.

A FAN'S GUIDE TO THE CAVE AREA



FOOD: The Park Mammoth Resort (PMR) restaurant is a perennial fannish favorite with

excellent home-style cooking and their justly famous cinnamon rolls. If you want to explore, turn left on US-31W (the main road running in front of the hotel), and drive 6 miles to KY 90 in Cave City. Turn left, and you are in fast food nirvana. If you are looking for something fancier, Bowling Green offers several choices within a 30 minute drive. Ask the con staff for recommendations and directions.



CAVE TOURS:

Mammoth Cave National Park is located about 8 miles from PMR on KY 255, and is well

marked. The PMR front desk has tour schedules available. Tours often sell out, so make reservations as soon as possible. Advance tickets are available at the National Park site. Plan to get to the Visitor's Center at the Park at least two hours before departure to decide which tour you wish to take and beat the crowds.



DRINK: If you need something that's not in the consuite, you'll discover you are in a desert, and the nearest oasis is Bowling

Green. Just get on I-65 and drive to either Exit 28 for the basics, or Exit 22 for a larger selection. Since Bowling Green is the only wet area in a 50 mile radius, there are liquor stores within sight of these exits.



SHOPPING: There is an outlet mall in Horse Cave just 10 miles to the north on I-65.

Bargains are mixed with the rip-offs, so caveat emptor! There is also an ATM machine located inside one of the restaurants in the center of the mall. This is the closest cash machine to the PMR. If this machine is not in line with your current banking system, Bowling Green or Glasgow are your second and third options.



THE RESORT: The PMR is a big part of Concave's success. It has many features that are unusual for a SF con hotel. The front desk can equip you for the

sauna or miniature golf. Pool cues can be checked out in the consuite. The riding stables may be open if the weather permits. Follow your nose to find them! The mini-train is not running, but walking the 1.5 mile track is a Concave tradition in good weather. Other favorite outdoor activities include a walk to Lookout Point and the Tilt House, plus the tennis courts, playground and the 18 hole golf course.



GASOLINE: There are two gas stations on KY 255 in Park City. There are other flavors, including a 24 hour Super American, in Cave City.





Concave 18 Lotto Officials



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* See Rules For Additional Information * No Substitutions Allowed * Void Where Prohibited *

Additional Departmental Officials

Sue Francis - Consuite First Officer	Pat Molloy - Art Show
John Han - Game Room	Naomi Fisher - Art Show
Patty Teague - Game Room	Liz Williams - Mr. Robe's Wardrobe
Mike Nunn - Video Room	Gary M. Williams - Program Book
John Young - Video Room	Dan Caldwell - The Night Patrol
Mack Humphreys - Ghod of Beer	And The Elevator Committee

Thanks to the Deputized Concave Lottery Officials

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And to others
who
volunteered
Our Thanks.

And Special Recognition to the Staff and Management of

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for the Use of Their Outstanding Facilities by
All Lottery Winners!