

# LunaGram

The Latest News and Reviews of Convention Programming  
Number 1 (Vol. 9, No. 1/Whole Number 28) Friday Evening March 18, 1994



## AN EXPLANATION OF THE GEOMETRY OF THE HOTEL

The hotel is built with a central core and two wings, each containing an elevator. One wing contains floors 1-4; the other contains floors 5-8; floors 4 and 7 connect through the central core. (Go up the ramp from the 7th to the 4th floor.) The core consists of Lobby,

restaurants, pool, and Grand Ballroom (Art Show, Registration, and one program room) all nominally on floor 2, and Westchester Ballroom (Dealers and 3 program rooms), Information and freebie tables, and fixed functions all nominally on floor 7,

with one staircase connecting the Grand Ballroom Assembly and the Westchester Ballroom Assembly, and another connecting the corridor between the Grand Ballroom and Tulip Tree Coffee Shop and the corridor connecting floors 4 and 7.

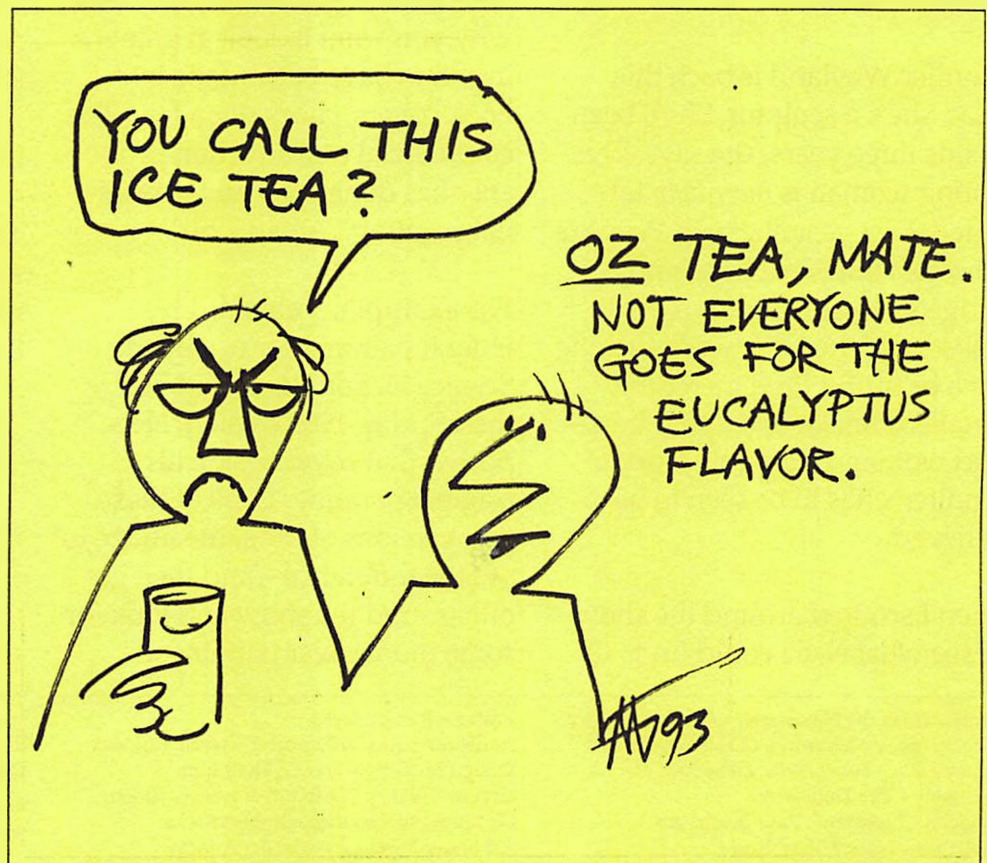
## CLARION

The 27th Science Fiction and Fantasy Workshop will be held at Michigan State University June 20th to July 30th. Clarion is the oldest and most successful writing workshop in the science fiction and fantasy field. Over a third of its graduates have published since leaving Clarion. They include in their number Ed Bryant, Lucius Shepard, George Alex Effinger, Octavia Butler, Kim Stanley Robinson, Vonda McIntyre, and Spider Robinson. Writers-in-Residence for Clarion '94 will be James Patrick Kelly, John Kessel, Ellen Kushner, Delia Sherman, Howard Waldrop, Kate Wilhelm, and Damon Knight. Editor-in-Residence will be Claire Eddy from Tor Books. Application Deadline: APRIL 1, 1994. Contact Jenifer Banks, Director c/o Mary Sheridan, Clarion '94, Lyman Briggs School, Michigan

State University, East Lansing Mi  
48825-1107. Phone: (517) 353-  
7196, FAX: (517) 336-2758.

## Snow Report

Our publisher reports that the annual snowfall is causing an 8



**Snow Report continued**  
mile back-up leading to the Tappan-Zee Bridge from all directions (including the river). Please be forgiving of late-comers (such as our newly-recruited Assistant Editor).

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## A 6 Mile Run is no fun especially in the Snow

Chuck Divine invites anyone who is interested to join him in a 6 mile run Saturday at 1:30 pm. Meet in the hotel lobby.

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## Art Show Report

Handy to the registration lobby are the South and Center areas of the Grand Ballroom. This is where the Art Show is, overseen by Andrea Senchy. On Friday evening I talked my way in to the Art Show, arriving well before it actually was an Art Show. I found some very remarkable pieces of work.

Jennifer Weyland is back this year: she's a sculptor. She's been at this three years, she says. This young woman is *incredibly* talented. Last year she won People's Choice, First Place here, and Judge's Place, First Place. As I talked with her, she was touching up a beautiful (and incredibly detailed) image of a flying horse and woman rider. This work of Jennifer's has to be seen to be believed.

Then I scouted around the show to see what else I could find. Of

# PROGRAM CHANGES

Sat 10 am DELETE Halstead  
"Hypercritical" Moshe Feder

Sat 2 pm DELETE Westchester BC  
Filk: Parody Workshop Harold Feld

Sat 3 pm DELETE Halstead  
"ST:TNG: The Last Season" Joan Winston

course there was *much* too much for a complete report on all of it. But I can suggest something to look for there (out of many possibilities). Look for *magazine covers*.

Walter Velez has a painting there of a hobbit, in a Shirish landscape, smoking a pipe and reading a book. I'm not sure the pipe is politically correct, but I like the idea. And the countryside! To see why you want to look at paintings that have been made into book covers, check out a few. The commercial reproduction probably has done a job on the original painting. A bad job!

For example, Velez did his Hobbit painting for use by the Science Fiction Book Club for their Spring 1989 catalog. He's posted that cover beside his original painting. Look at those two versions of the same image to see the difference – and then go out around the show and look for some more cover paintings.

Sun 10 am REPLACE Poplar  
Reading Michael Kandel with  
Jonathan Lethem

Sun 10am NEW TIME Poplar  
Order of St. Michael Service

Sun 1 pm DELETE Westchester BC  
"Military SF after the Cold War"  
Michael Flynn

Sun 1 pm REPLACE Halstead  
"Small Markets" Adrienne  
Reynolds with Ralph Schiano

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The Green Room will reopen at 9 am on Saturday and Sunday.

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Newsletter schedule: #1 – you are reading it.

#2 – deadline Friday Midnight –  
Opening Ceremonies report.

#3 – deadline Saturday 4 pm – Art  
Show report, party list, reports on  
featured presentations (McIntyre,  
Simonson).

#4 – deadline Saturday Midnight  
– Masquerade and Filk Concert  
reports, Art Show awards.

#5 – deadline Sunday Noon –  
report on featured presentation  
(Warhola).

The Editor regrets that the gripe  
session and the featured presenta-  
tion (Cole) will appear too late in  
the convention to be covered.



# LunaGram



The Latest News and Reviews of Convention Programming  
Number 2 (Vol. 9, No. 2/Whole Number 29) Saturday Morning March 19, 1994

## Opening Ceremonies

- Martha Adams

This year's seventeenth recurring winter weather disaster delayed the start of Opening Ceremonies, originally scheduled for 8PM. At last a slightly harried Paul Birnbaum, Lunacon '94 Chair, was able to formally open the convention.

Birnbaum opened with a comment about - what else? - the in-Clement weather.

"We need a scapegoat," he said. Hal Clement, who probably knows more about assorted planetary weathers than almost anyone, admitted he was the logical candidate, since he is from Boston.

With that, a shortened Opening Ceremonies commenced with Paul Birnbaum introducing the Guests of Honor: Walter Cole, Fan Guest of

Honor; James Warhola, Artist; Vonda N. McIntyre, who has just published her latest book (a Star Trek book); and Dean Friedman, Special Musical Guest. The Simonsons, pro in comics publishing, were also there.

New at this year's Lunacon is the Isaac Asimov Memorial Award. This award is to be given to a distinguished writer whose work has increased the public's knowledge of science, and has contributed to science fiction as literature. The award was announced by Prof. John Boardman. The vote, he said, was "overwhelmingly in favor" of Hal Clement (also known as Harry Stubbs). The audience seemed to agree.

After the Isaac Asimov Memorial Award, Paul announced a package of items to be presented to each of the Guests of Honor, or rather, exchanged among them, as the package featured such items as Vonda McIntyre's book "Superluminal", a Lunarian T-shirt from Walter Cole, and comic books from Walter and Louise Simonson.

## Bam-Bam on Barney

by Jeremy Bloom

The Barney Shoot. Great concept, but it got off to a slow start. The problem was that the most effective firearms would have violated various hotel regulations and New York State law, so the only weaponry allowed were small dart-pistols and nerf-launchers. These were, frankly, inadequate for the task of trashing the half-dozen cuddly little plush purple tyrannosaurs your friendly Hospitality staffers had set up in the Con Suite. The

little monsters just sat on the table in the corner, grinning their ridiculous toothless grins, as sundry fen fired potshots that barely made a dent. Despite enthusiastic cries of "Die, anti-democratic scum!", "Barney, you are so evil!" and "Die, son of Satan!" no Barneys died, until some enterprising gentleman by the name of Snark @panix.com came up with the concept of using juggling balls, and having the hitherto irregular anti-Barney forces combine efforts. With everyone screaming proper jurassic screams and flinging their weighted juggling balls in tandem, the monstrous purveyors of dino-treacle were blown away, time and again. It seemed to be a cathartic experience.

## PROGRAM CHANGES

Sat 2 pm DELETE Westchester BC  
"Filk: Parody Workshop" Harold Feld  
Sat 3 pm DELETE Halstead "ST:TNG:  
The Last Season" Joan Winston  
Sat 4 pm NEW ITEM Rm 526 "Fossils"  
with Hal Clement  
Sun 10 am REPLACE Poplar "Reading"  
Michael Kandel with  
Jonathan Lethem  
Sun 10 am NEW TIME Poplar "Order  
of St. Michael Service"  
Sun 10 am CANCEL Society for  
Electronic Access



Not quite as cathartic as shredding them with a burst of automatic rifle fire, or stuffing them with M-80s and pouring gasoline on them and lighting them up, or taking a chainsaw to them ... but heck, this is a family con, after all. It started getting wierd when they set up the little Barneys (6 of them, plus one Baby Bop) into little Sado-Masochistic tableaux. "It's very cathartic," noted New York fan Terency Owens. He then screamed: "I like you, you like me, I like you with fava beans," and did a flying jump onto the tableau. Then the duels started: Barneys at three paces. Snark started juggling three of them, and Baby Bop was strung up and beaten a la pinata ... but at midnight, anything can happen, no?

## LOST BADGES

Lost badges are being turned in to the Convention Office ("Oak Room").

## BID MEETING

The Boston in 1998 WorldCon Bid (B.C.E.C) is holding an open meeting, Sat 2 pm in room 357.

## THE WOLLHEIM SCHOLARSHIP

The proceeds of Lunacon's Book Exhibit Raffle go to benefit the Donald A. Wollheim Memorial Scholarship Fund. In addition, a separate memorial auction will be held Sat 5 pm in Grand Ballroom North featuring donated books, artwork, and other goodies. The Wollheim Scholarship Fund, established by the Lunarians, is dedicated to furthering the careers of new writers; the recipients receive scholarships to Clarion or Clarion West.

## DEATH & TAXES TOURNAMENT RESULTS

First Place - Bill Jorgenson  
Second Place - Conrad Deitrick  
Third Place - Thomas Pirone

## CORRECTION

The first Art Show report omitted to name Cecelia Hatlestad who is co-head of the Art Show.

It all depends on who talks to the reporter.

## THANK YOU

John Vanible look-alike (that's what his nametag looked like) Mark Levin assisted the Editor in the production of issue #1.

## Party report

by Jeremy Bloom

Friday night's party scene was somewhat lacking in venues, but what we lacked in volume was made up for in vehemence.

Lance Oszko hosted the party for Pirates of FENZance, Baltimore's 1998 WorldCon bid. They have neat stuff: Tattoos, Toys, Pirate art, Pirate videos, Candy that will turn your tongue blue (so you can talk up a blue streak). For the newcomer, a brief description of party intent and etiquette: Many parties are tossed by folks who are either putting on cons, or attempting to win the right to host a World Science Fiction Convention (WorldCon). Since WorldCon bids are awarded by popular vote, throwing parties has become a traditional way of *influencing* the voters (makes sense: the ability to throw a good party is a good indication of how well organized their party-throwers are).

Also, to help support the expensive business of throwing parties, the group sells supporting memberships; for those not as interested in charitable pursuits (and let me tell you, after 3 or 4 pieces

## WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE

There will be a debate between John Ordover and Glenn Hauman, on the relative merits of Babylon 5 vs ST: DS9 on Sun, April 10, 3 pm, at Science Fiction, Mysteries and More bookstore, 140 Chambers St, NY NY.

## In Memorium

Robert Shea, co-author of *Illuminatus*, author of *Shike*, *All Things are Lights*, *Shaman*, etc., died on March 10, 1994.

of rum cake, this guy can talk you into anything), they also have various items of pirate booty for sale - I particularly liked the Klingon skull necklace. On a more literary note, the good folks at Circlet Press had their gathering just down the hall. Cecilia Tan's delectable house of Erotic Science Fiction and Fantasy was more intellectually stimulating than erotically so, with conversation ranging from "why there isn't more good lesbian pornography", to what Ms. Tan would like to do to the jerks who rip off innocent publishing wannabes with "Make money reading "I get letters asking me to hire them as professional readers," she moaned, "and I know where they come from because they use the form letter from the kit." She went on to comment vociferously about the economics of small presses, while Ian Randal Strock, of Analog and sundry Baen Books folks tossed in cries of assent and sympathy. Anecdote of the night: During her time at Tor, Kim Kendya says they got several fan letters a month for Mary Shelly. You know, "Dear Mrs. Shelly. Loved your book, *Frankenstein*. Are you working on a sequel? When will your next book be out?"

# LunaGram

The Latest News and Reviews of Convention Programming  
Number 4 (Vol. 9, No. 4/Whole Number 31) Sunday, March 20, 1994



## **GoH Presentation: Vonda N. McIntyre**   **GoH Presentation: the Simonsons**   **Art Show Awards**

The delightful Ms. McIntyre shared a couple of pieces of writing, including a section of her forthcoming "Nautilus", the last of her Starfarers series (CORRECTION: and not a Star Trek novel, as earlier reported in these pages - "I haven't done a Star Trek novel since 1984," she notes).

Asked about ambiguous endings, she commented, "I don't believe in tying up all the loose ends in my stories. Life isn't like that."

And, on the subject of getting stories with ambiguous endings published, she added, "I was lucky. I started writing in the '70s, when you could get away with more experimental writing."

The main piece of excitement in her life these days is the screenwriting workshop she has been doing in Los Angeles. "Steven Spielberg actually endowed the program," she said, "and he came and told us that this is the only time in the business that we would be able to write what we want, without having to worry about being commercial."

"So," she said, "I'm down at Universal Studios, learning everything I can about producing movies, so I can go back to Seattle to become their competition." She laughs. "I'm sure Spielberg is worried."

## **GoH Presentation: James Warhola**

He advised artists trying to break into the business (SF book covers) that they "have to be persistent, or just hope for that break." He claimed his slide show

One subject that inquiring minds wanted to know about was the death of Superman, a subject with which Louise was intimately acquainted. "Actually," she said, "this hotel is where the idea of killing Superman occurred." DC would gather the Superman team on a regular basis to go over plot changes, she explained, and the idea of nuking the Man of Steel came up every time.

"We thought we were coming to the meeting here to discuss the marriage of Lois and Clark," she continued, "but because of the TV show, they didn't want to complicate the relationship." But they still needed some excitement, so they decided to go with the nuke 'em option. Why not, you know? "When someone in comics dies," added Walter, "they always get better."

A more serious subject was the research they did for a joint effort that had Havoc and Wolverine dealing with the Chernobyl disaster. "What actually happened there," noted Louise, "was much scarier than anything we could come up with."

**GoH Warhola continued:** was to show improvement. He looks back on some of them and would paint them totally different now. He has had his periods: humorous, alien barrooms, graveyards, Heinlein, and Mad magazine. Until his recent children's books he has worked from models (clay and human friends). Using sketches and photos he showed the painful development of some completed works.

The Program Director would like to thank Saul Jaffe for pinch-hitting in Program Participant Registration Friday.

**Judges Choice Awards**  
Serenity: Jael, "The Cat That Went To Heaven"  
"Nice" Street Scene: Nicholas Jainschigg, "Danceland"  
Best Frazetta Influence: Joseph Bellofatto, "Kaor, Helium!"  
Best Tech Art: Kevin Murphy, "Progenitors"  
Idyllic: Stephen Hickman, "Pharazar Landscape"  
Best Hairstyles: Doug Andersen, "Divided Assets"  
Nicely Done Whimsy: Pat Morrissey, "Hold On"  
Fannish Whimsy: Jill Bauman, "Housewife"  
T & A Award: Mark Rogers, "Standard Bearer"  
Mystery: Randy Asplund-Faith, "The Wight"  
Horror: Joseph DeVito, "Lobo: Smokin"  
Silliness: James Warhola, "Mad Sucks"  
Best Ready for Bookcover: James Warhola, "Blaylock Carnival"  
Subtlety: Charles Divine, "Wanderer"  
Best 3-D: Heidi Hooper, Body of Work

**Best of Show**  
Professional: James Warhola, "Callahan's"  
Amateur: Jennifer Weyland, "...And I Am The Shining Star!"

**Director's Choice:** Lubov, "Mermaid"  
**Chairman's Choice:** Daniel P. Buckley, "Aphasia Burning Bright"

**Popular Choice Awards**  
Best Professional Artist:  
1) James Warhola 2) Romas Kukalis  
Best Amateur Artist:  
1) Jennifer Weyland 2) Linda Michaels

# Masquerade

Danielle Calhoun, as the Flying Unicorn in white, with purple wings, golden horn, and pastel hair & tail won the Best Presentation & Workmanship Awards for Fabric Painting on Wings in the Young Fan division.

DJ Lang in green and brown & Stephanie Lang in blue and black, as Robin Hood: Man in Diapers, won the Cutest Legend Award in the Young Fan division.

Cassidy Norton, Lady Maya in red, with white, blue, and gold embroidery won the Best Young Fan Award.

Princess (Ebony) Ramos, as the very graceful Venusian Princess in purple, with blue skin and lavender hair had already won a Hall Costume Award and so was ineligible to compete. Nevertheless, she won a Judges Appreciation Award & Honorable Mention in Workmanship for Makeup in the Young Fan division. It is unusual to see such perfect bearing in presentation.

Kathryn Draves, as February, 1994, all in white (until the end when the cottony cape was reversed to represent the grey slush), won Best Journeyman & Best Overall Workmanship (Very quick work with found materials and first try at beadwork) Awards, and a copy of the Whole Costumer's Catalog. The presentation was timely, topical, and well-appreciated.

Kero Silverhorn, as The Minstrel (Work in progress), in white with blue embroidery won Honorable Mention in Workmanship for Embroidery in the Novice division.

ED Ganz, Master Beneforte (from the Spirit Ring) in red and blue 14th century italianate brocade and black hose won the Best Sewing Workmanship Award in the Master/Craftsman division.

Taria Carodah, the Galactic Showgirl

LunaGram is the Newsletter of and © 1994 by Lunacon '94, a convention of the New York Science Fiction Society - the Lunarians, Inc.  
President - The Donewitz  
Lunacon Chairman - Paul Birnbaum  
Publisher - Nancy Thalblum

appeared in purple (light ruff, dark body suit, hose and heels) in the Novice division.

Fenella Saunders in green and black, Dave Reed in fur and gold lame, and Linda Robertello in blue, white and silver, won the Beast "B" Movie Award in the Journeyman division for Ice Woman from the Planet Battleaxe. The heroine cheated to rescue the dumb hero, in a well-appreciated role reversal.

Lisa A. Ashton, as Wings was magnificent (in costume and presentation) in gold and natural browns and won the Best Craftsman/Master Award and Best in Show Workmanship Award for Feathers, Beadwork, Fabric Painting and Treatment. When called up to receive the pentultimate award, the audience fell silent in admiration.

Stormfire, as an Epitaph to War in grey and beaded black lace overskirt with white lilies won a well-deserved Most Dramatic Presentation Award in the Journeyman division.

Dennis Healey and Gayle Rudolph appeared in blue, silver and gold as the King and Queen of Cups in the Journeyman division.

Susan L. Toker flounced around in green and rose, winning the Best Workmanship Award for Corset and Beadwork, and was hooked by Tony Lay in purple over champagne as No More Fairies in the Craftsman/Master division. The audience agreed.

Rachel Kadushin, David Copcutt, H (Gus) Tucker, Chris Davis, Roxanne Caldwell, Anne Wells, and Trevor Vanterpool appeared as Raven's Eye, a morality play sung by Rachel Kadushin, based on Bardic Voices, in the Journeyman division. The Demoness was especially noticeable in black, black and red body paint, and a red, black, gold and silver mask.

Paul Champanier, as The Vampire Lestat

Editor - Robert Sacks  
Assistant Editor & Reporter - Jeremy Bloom  
Design & Name - Nancy Thalblum  
Layout - Nancy Thalblum & Jeremy Bloom  
Masquerade Reporter - Robert Sacks  
Art Show Reporter - Martha Adams

Discovers the Rewards of "Going Hollywood", dressed in black with the obligatory red cape, won the Best Novice Award, a Whole Costumer's Catalog and a membership to CostumeCon.

Priestess (Cindy Sudano), the Queen of the Night, horned and winged in blue, black and purple won the Best in Show Award and the Best Fabric Painting with sequins and beadwork Workmanship Award in the Craftsman/Master division and a Whole Costumer's catalog.

Ronni Katz in black and white and tail, Ed Bishop in priest's garb, and John Bishop in khaki presented The Hunt for the Party Animal, winning the Best Fur & Foamwork Workmanship Award in the Journeyman division.

Matthew Lee, as The Royal Page, in very light blue with black writing, won the Funny Pages Award in the Novice division. The audience was easily pleased.

Heidi Hooper, Coelynn McIninch, Lee Sonko, Seth Weinstein, and Mike Ventrella presented The Fearless Vampire Killer, winning the Most Biting Humor Award and the Best Metalwork Workmanship Award in the Craftsman/Master division and a Whole Costumer's Catalog. The Hunter was dressed in black and white check, the female vampires were dressed in metal, and the male vampires in black and gold over green and velvet hose (one blue, one red).

Steve Favarger in red, blue and bronze and Leah Gleser in purple and blue, as Gaston of Macedonia and Decorative Accessory, won the Most Beastly Humor Award and Honorable Mention in Workmanship for handwork combination for Leather, Fabric and Metal in the Journeyman division in an ancient takeoff on Disney's Beauty and the Beast.

Peter Cassidy and Nerva Ramos in red, winged red and black, and Max Rodriguez in black and silver fingernails, presented Fairies of the Flame in the Craftsman/Master division.

Masthead Art - © James Warhola  
Illustrations - Alexis Gilliland  
Little Loony - Wally Wood  
Programming Changes - Mark Blackman  
Publisher's Slave - Lee Thalblum