

# Minicon 25

## GENESIS OF A FAN

"Fandom is a way of talking..."  
— Unknown

Ahem. Excuse me... Hello again.

It has been brought to my attention (by a friend) that while I wrote a friendly little essay for PR1, I wasn't forceful enough in asking for each and every Minicon attendee (that's you, son) to volunteer for **Operations** at this Con. (I'm sure this has nothing to do with his being co-head of Operations) It should be easy. After all, I got into Minicon by volunteering (even after I bought a membership).

This guy (What was his name? Made me think of snails!) at the Registration desk asked me if I would like to be a Badger or a Gopher for a couple of hours. Now, I'd never been to any science fiction convention before, much less Minicon, so naturally I was suspicious.

"Only if you promise to do something next year about this confirmation card that doesn't say where or when the convention is!" says I, wanting to see just what it was worth to him.

Well, he dutifully recorded my "suggestions" in his notebook. Mollified, I signed up to be a Badger at the consuite door one evening. Oh yeah, there was also a bribe: a Badger badge with colorful artwork on it. (Ok, I'm easy, but it was fun!)

I reported to my post a few minutes early with a friend who had also signed up; just in case it was boring, we could entertain each other, right? Well, it wasn't boring. I remember meeting Ironmonger Jim and one or two of his sons. (I still have his business card which says: "When there is no place to recharge your blaster, there is nothing like a good knife" on the back.) Between him and the other folks I met, I felt like I was a participant in the convention and not just a spectator. Next thing I knew, I was attending Minicon meetings and had signed up to work at the next Minicon.

Badgers aren't the only volunteers we are looking for. Operations also signs up Gophers (q.v.

## The Silver Edition

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Badgers check badges, Gophers go for things) to do things such as take an extension cord to the video room or extra pens and tape to Registration. But don't let 'em fool you. Mostly, Gophers get to hang out in the Gopher Hole with the Den Mother and listen to the hubbub that accompanies con activities on the Bridge.

But wait! There's more! **Parties** needs volunteers. They are looking for Twinkies (who get Twinkie Doinkers), mega-Twinkies and Sorcerer's Apprentices. I was a Twinkie once; I picked up around the consuite and put out pretzels and chips. Another time I made popcorn — lots of popcorn — and I was there when one volunteer bartender was acclaimed a "Hero of Minicon".

I've worked at the Registration desk too, but

haven't worked at the Art Show, or Child Care or Filmeo or (gasp) Programming yet, and...

Oh. Sorry.

Tom (you don't want to know) says I am dangerously close to boring. Anyway, you've got the idea. (Right?) If you want to participate in putting on Minicon (how else can you justify your existence?), there are plenty of choices. Just talk to the Recruiter near the Registration desk, or come to the Bridge in room 215 (on the east side overlooking the pool). You won't regret it.

P.S. — About those numbers: Sharon tells me it will be made clear at the con, so I'm off the hook going to make you wait until then.

## GUEST OF HONOR

JANE YOLEN

Is beloved by children of all ages for her finely crafted stories of folk and fantasy. Her published children's titles are too numerous to list, including Caldecott winner *Owl Moon* and two science fiction series for primary readers, and *Heart's Blood*, *Dragon's Blood*, and *A Sending of Dragons*, a fantasy trilogy. Her recent adult novels include *Merlin's Booke* and *White Jenna*. Jane is also a superb storyteller in person as many delighted fans can attest. Jane's

quick wit and charm have made her many friends in local fandom, and we are proud to finally have her as Minicon's Guest of Honor.

## FAN GOH

DAVID E ROMM

Is a noted fanzine publisher, convention committee member, radio writer/producer, playwright, video archivist, conceptual artist, masseur, bon vivant, world traveller, and dilettante.

If you've heard any of his Shockwave radio shows or seen any of his live productions at Minicon or read any of the last several *Runes* or even read this bio, you are familiar with his work. He is far too modest to list all of his accomplishments in this space, but promises not to be so restrained at Minicon 25.

## AUTHOR GOH

KIM STANLEY ROBINSON

Dr. Kim Stanley Robinson is a scholar whose dissertation work investigated the writings of Philip K. Dick. Stan Robinson is better known as an author with several novels to his credit, including his latest, *Escape from Kathmandu* (Tor — November 1989).

He has won several awards for his shorter fiction including the Hugo, the Nebula and the World Fantasy Award.

## "ARTHUR" GOH

PATRICK PRICE

Minicon's first "Arthur" Guest of Honor has been the editor of *Amazing Stories* for the past several years, and is also working on a nonfiction book about his Ojibway heritage.

His first encounter with crazy Minneapolis fandom was at the 1986 Worldcon when he and several members of Troupe MonHarr crashed into each other. Despite this Patrick has attended several Minicons and was Guest of Honor at C'ntraction, where he gave panels on aemstones and chakras, psychological Tarot interpretation, and his adventures as an SF editor.

## SCIENCE GOH

DR. EARL JOSEPH

Dr. Joseph is a professional futurist and President of Anticipatory Sciences, Inc. a St. Paul company. He was co-founder of the Minnesota Futurists, the local chapter of the World Future Society, and a former staff futurist at Sperry Corp.

In his work with Congress he helped to draft the Strategic Defense Initiative.

Dr. Joseph intends to be involved with various Minicon programming events including a futurist workshop.

## HONORED GUEST

ART WIDNER

One of the wonders and privileges of being in fandom is in the richness of our living history. Art Widner was a key actifan in the '30s, '40s, and '50s, helping introduce universal fannish concepts like the N3F (or National Fantasy Fan Federation), an early version of current fannish club bureaucracies, and *Interplanetary*, a popular game among early gamers in the pre-D&D era. After several decades away from fandom, Art has once again become very active, attending cons, publishing his fanzine YHOS, as interested as ever at communicating with and uniting the diverse elements of fandom.

## HONORED GUEST

DR. JOSEPH ROMM

Noted brother of DavE Romm, Dr. Romm has his Ph.D. in physics from M.I.T. and is teaching a course at Columbia University. He is also an assistant to the Director of the Rockefeller Foundation, which takes him to interesting places such as Italy and the Soviet Union.

He has published articles in *Scientific American* and other scientific publications and has written several unpublished science fiction novels and a play about Shakespeare's son Hamlet.

## HONORED GUEST

P.C. HODGELL

Patricia Christine Hodgell has been a storyteller since her earliest childhood in Iowa, although she began with an audience of one: herself. Her avid reading and the discipline she acquired at Eckerd College came to fruition at the Clarion Writers Workshop and after finishing her M.A. here at the U of MN she started writing again. The result was *Godstalk*, "a curious blend of Charles Dickens, Fritz Leiber, and *Marvel Comics*" as Pat describes it, followed by *Dark of the Moon* and with the promise of at least three more volumes.

## PROGRAMMING

Assemblage, assembly, caucus, conference, congregation, council, crowd, gathering, group, meeting, rally, symposium — CONVENTION. You can trim most elements of a convention, but not the essentials. The fans. The parties. Almost as necessary is the physical manifestation of fannish ideology, demonstrated to one and all through that conglomerate of weirdness known as "programming". Without programming you have a very different con — not even a con some would say.

If a convention runs (or can run) on its programming, programming certainly runs on people. Many people. Idea people, performance people, even a few (rare) organized people. However, few convention committees can stage such productions without help from the science fiction community. This is where you (yes you and that guy over there too) come in.

You don't have to be a professional to moderate a panel, give a talk or demonstration or oversee something — you only need the desire to participate. Following is a compendia of ideas Programming is already considering, suggestions requiring volunteers to become reality, goals of the Programming co-heads, and a few corrigenda such as deadlines. You, the attendee, are paying for admission — you may as well make sure there is at least ONE programming item you would enjoy, right?

FNORD

### THE MISSION

- To get as many people involved as possible, all working in the style most comfortable for them...
- To subdivide the work, making it possible to get more done with less burnout...
- To document everybody's responsibilities in a manner useful to subsequent programming committees and subcommittees...
- Increase the diversity of both style and content in programming...

### COLLABORATION

You can volunteer for a specific item or offer yourself as a generic panelist. Items currently under consideration include:

**FANNISH RHOOOTS:** In keeping with our theme, we are planning a grand assortment of programming items which allow us to wallow in fannish nostalgia. Items currently under consideration and seeking participants include: Funny Famous Figureheads of Fandom, My First Time, Fannish Religions, Rune Reunion, Bozo Bus Redux, Oldfarts on Parade, Fannish Myths and Legends, The Origins of Fanspeak.

**FAN FAIR:** A scheduled time and place where fan groups and clubs can meet, network, and recruit prospective members. Related programming items include: Star Trek Family Feud and A Time Traveller's Guide to the Dark Ages.

**SCIENCE:** Possibilities include: Science and Medical Ethics, Nanotechnology and Cluster Theory, and Computers and the SF Community.

**KID PROGRAMMING:** Programming by and for fannish kids. Possible items include: SF for Kids (kids of all ages share their favorite juveniles), Growing Up in Fandom (panel), Magic and Ventriloquism.

**MUSIC:** (Nate Bucklin) If you have ideas for musical programming or a musical party you want to throw, please let us know. We can provide space and/or refreshments.

**ART PROGRAMMING:** Possible items include: Artists Jam, Artist Demonstrations, Fanzine Alt, Teaching Art to Children.

**SLIDE SHOWS/AUDIO TAPES:** We are looking for fannish or science fictional slide shows and/or audio tapes for our audio-visual room.

**KRUSHENKO'S:** Krushenko's I and II, our SF coffeehouses, will be open for both programmed and informal discussions. Scholarly papers or presentations on science-fictional subjects are also welcome. We are currently looking for panelists/participants in the following items: Non-Supernatural Horror, Feminism and the Future, Writers' Workshops, Readers' Workshops, Vidiocy vs. Literacy, P.K. Dick Redivivus, Doublespeak Blurbiology

**AUTHOR READINGS:** Half-hour time slots available. Unusual venues possible on request (readings in the Jacuzzi?)

**MODERATORS' WORKSHOP:** Past, future, and prospective moderators of programming items get together and share their expertise, experience, and hair-brained theories. Goal: develop a Tip Sheet for Moderators, have fun, hone our skills, spill our guts. First and possibly

only meeting scheduled for Saturday, February 24, 2-5 pm., at 4002 Pillsbury Ave. So., Minneapolis. Phone: 827-3228.

**MISCELLANEOUS IDEAS:** Juvenile SF: Not Just Kid Stuff, Pros and Cons, How to Run Conventions, SF Based on Gaming Worlds, Theme Collections (real and imaginary), Consenting Aliens (alternative sexuality), If a Tree Falls in the Forest is it Art?, Jewish Humor in SF, Urban Myths and Legends, Silverfish in Fandom, Warm Superconductors and Cold Fusion, Food and SF.

### DEADLINES

You can never have too many ideas. Please submit any YOU have by February 1, 1990.

Fame and... well fame anyway. Be a panelist/participant for programming items. You may volunteer for a specific item, list areas of interest or just tell us about yourself and let us pick something for you. But you have to let us know by March 1, 1990.

No ideas? Stagefright? Just into following instructions? Programming droids are needed to work shifts at the convention posting signs, stocking the Green Room, and so forth. Just let us know before the convention ends.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

It would be socially catastrophic (maybe) to miss the opening or closing ceremonies. Presented for your enjoyment are: The Shockwave Radio Show is broadcast live from opening ceremonies every Minicon and The Prairie Fan Companion will mark closing ceremonies. Don't miss either one.



# ART SHOW

## Changes to the Rules

Reduced Minicon commissions, space limits, no after auction sales.

## Potential Buyers

A bid on artwork is an offer to buy and is legally binding when accepted on behalf of the artist. It is illegal, unethical, and impolite to submit a bid you are not willing to honor.

Bid "insurance" will be offered this year. Ask for details in the Art Show room at the con.

There will be no opportunity to submit additional bids after the art auction.

## Artists

There is a 25¢ hanging fee per piece of art entered in the Show. Multiple prints may be displayed free of charge in the "Print Shop." Minicon will take a 10% commission on all artwork sold through the Art Show or Print Shop. Art in the Print Shop will be sold by direct sale only and may not sell for more than \$15 per piece.

Prints and reproductions may be entered in the Art Show if they are signed, and numbered, and have a total print run or reproduction lot of not more than 500 pieces. Multiple originals, where the medium permits unique but similar copies, are permitted. Other reproductions must go through the Print Shop. No artist may enter more than 20 pieces in the Art Show or use more than 50 square feet of display space. Our limited space does not permit active demonstrations or work in progress during the show.

There will be one auction on Saturday Night. All art with four or more bids will be put up for voice auction. Items with one, two or three bids will be sold to the highest bidder after the auction. There will be no "after auction" sales conducted through Minicon. Late sales must be negotiated directly between artist and buyer.

Art not sold at the convention will be returned to the artist on Sunday or during the following two weeks. If postage, insurance, or hanging fees have not been received or covered by sales, the artist will be notified at this time.

Hanging space will be available on a first-come, first-served basis (except that artists who help set up the panels and Art Show space will have first choice of hanging space). There is a display case available for small sculpture and jewelry and table space for three dimensional pieces.

There are different bid sheets for originals, multiple originals (photographs, hand-colored prints) and reproductions (mechanically produced prints). Please use the appropriate bid sheets. The Master Control sheet has been revised this year. Please use the new version.

Security will be provided by Minicon staff while the Art Show is open and by hired guards at night. No bags, packs or cameras will be allowed into the Art Show.

Unless arrangements are made at least a week in advance for payment to the artist at the convention, checks will be made out and mailed along with sales records shortly following the convention.

Minicon is a Science Fiction and Fantasy convention. Please exhibit art appropriate to Science Fiction, Fantasy, or fannish interests. Use your own judgement.

# CHILDCARE

The childcare facility returns for Minicon 25 with, we hope, more space, more toys, more activities - and, we fear, more kids! The fannish baby boom shows no sign of slowing.

Most arrangements will be as they have been in the past. Use of childcare is limited to kids who have memberships. Planned hours of operation are Friday, noon to 2 a.m. (Sat.); Saturday, noon to 2 a.m. (Sun.); Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

However, this year we will limit the total number of children and the number of children of certain ages using childcare at any one time and the number of consecutive hours a child can be in childcare. Parents who **pre-register** their kids will have a chance to reserve a certain number of hours of childcare ahead of time, so that they can be guaranteed a place, for example, during dinner time or opening ceremonies. Parents who register their children **at the door** may find that a place in childcare is not available when they want it.

If you have any questions, comments, or complaints about childcare (whether this year's or previous years'), or if you are interested in organizing an activity or entertainment for the kids using childcare, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can consider the information in planning this year's childcare. Write to: Jonathan Adams and Carol Kennedy, 3336 Aldrich Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408; (612) 823-2784.

# SARTORIAL

## ALERT!

Deadline for submission is going to be in the first week of February, as the voting will take place 6 to 8 weeks prior to Minicon 25 (April 13, 1990).

Once you've conquered procrastination and decided to actually send something, PLEASE keep the following in mind:

The art needs to be camera ready AND the correct size for T-shirts.

If you ever want to see your artwork again, you can persuade us to return it by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope along with your submission.

## THEME

If you have somehow not figured it out, the official theme is: MINICON: THE SILVER EDITION. This invites all sorts of nostalgic ideas and images. Dig in those memories!

Mail submissions to:

702 Marshall Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104  
c/o Xeno Station

# MINNEAPOLIS in '73

Since the last Progress Report, the Minneapolis in '73 Hotel Acquisition Committee conducted a thorough investigation of facilities and attitudes at both the Radisson South (Minicon's convention hotel) and the Sofitel (Minicon's overflow hotel). We came, we saw, we partied. And so it has come to pass that the *Minneapolis in '73 suite will be located at the Radisson South*. Stop in at the same zany bid party you've found at conventions 'round the world for the past twenty years. Now *that's* time-binding. Fanzines, fannish photos (bring some of yours, too), legends explained, and legends invented. Minneapolis in '73! Post-supporting memberships available, as always.

# RUMBUSTIFICATION

Your hosts - Sue, Peter and Pete (nope, I can't tell them apart) invite you to "Come on Down! er... -UP!" to the 22nd floor of the Radisson and VOLUNTEER TO HELP! We need Bartenders, and Twinkies (people who help pick up and get to wear those weird Twinkie Doinkers) by the dozens, and people to help make popcorn, relay beer, set-up and tear down.

It is the funnest way to meet people and make new friends. If you're feeling lost and lonely at the Convention, go immediately to the 22nd floor. Find a co-head or sub-head of Parties (wearing the Top Hats) and say the magic words, "I wanna help!" You will never be bored again. Or go to the bar and sign up in the "Book of Wisdom" (the sign-up book) for whatever hours you can work.

Or if you are really together and organized (HA!) we would very much like to hear from you in advance - so we can get most of the hours set before the Con. Please write and tell us what you want to do and when (if you already know). We will get back to you to set up hours. Write to:

Peter Hentges  
1045 25th Ave. SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

# FILMEO

Here is a list of tentative titles for filmeo:

## Video

- Little Shop of Horrors
- Dark Crystal
- The Bride
- Morons from Outer Space
- Close Encounters of the Third Kind
- Silent Running
- THX 1138
- Beetlejuice
- Condorman
- Innerspace
- Back to the Future
- Xanadu
- Invaders from Mars
- Lady Hawke
- Battlestar Galactica
- Ghost Story
- 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
- Starman

## Films

- Legend
- Dune
- Bladerunner
- My Science Project

# HUCKSTERS

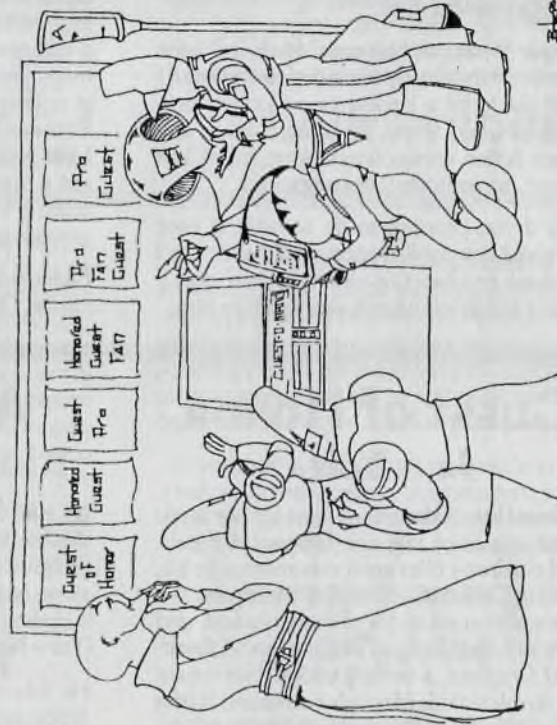
Tables are sold out. If you wish to be included on next years Hucksters mailing list, write to Steve Bond at Comics, Etc., 3952 Central Avenue NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421.

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Minneapolis, MN 55408

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# HOTEL

Once again, Minicon will be at the Radisson South, and once again there are special convention rates (mention Minicon when making reservations):

Single, double, triple or quad \$48/night

The address and phone numbers of the Radisson South are:

7800 Normandale Blvd.  
Bloomington, MN 55435  
612-835-7800  
800-333-3333

## NOTE:

The Sofitel is not booking rooms until the Radisson is completely full. When this occurs, the Sofitel will honor the \$48 rate. At the Sofitel, checkout is 12:00 noon unless you specifically request a 4:00 pm checkout.

# SPECIAL REQUEST

While the Radisson certainly makes money from Minicon, they ALSO make money from the Sunday brunch held on Easter weekend, but ONLY if the guests can park their cars somewhere. So, PLEASE do not use the Southeastern lot between the Radisson and the Sofitel on Easter Sunday (April 15). We prefer to have good relations with the hotel.

# AD RATES

## DEADLINE:

Anything to be included in the program book MUST be in my hands by February 28th. There are no appeals.

Each page in the program book will be 4.5" wide by 7" tall (paperback book size). Available spaces will be double page, full page and half page. Since the book will be perfect bound, double spreads are advised not to have anything significant in the middle inch or so of the ad. Smaller spaces or prep work for non-camera ready ads can be negotiated by writing to Publications, c/o Minicon. NO BLEEDS!

Rates are: Double-page: \$125 pro/\$40 fan, Full-Page: \$75 pro/\$25 fan, Half-Page: \$40 pro/\$15 fan.

Requests & information can be faxed to Tom Juntunen at 349-2790, but CALL him at 349-2743 FIRST - he hates surprise fax material.

# REGISTRATION

## General

The registration deadline for Minicon 25 is Thursday, March 15. Any registration received with the postmark dated after March 15 will have the registration held and be charged the at-the-door rate at the con. Please send in your registrations as early as possible. If we can lessen the last-minute rush, everything will run much more smoothly.

## Badge Names

Please have pity on the person doing data entry. If you want the name on your badge to be the same as the name you gave for registration, **leave the badge name blank**. Don't write "same," or "ditto," or anything else. If you want the badge name to be in upper and lowercase, **write it that way**. If your badge name uses non-English characters (i.e. Elvish), please provide a clean copy of what you want on the badge. The badges are prepared before the convention - if you don't make it clear what you want on your badge, it may not be printed the way you want it. If you want a badge name with more than 30 characters, we will do our best, but can make no promises.

# OVERDUE CREDIT

Committee Heads for Minicon 25 are:

- Art Show ..... Don Bailey
- Childcare ..... Carol Kennedy
- ..... Jonathan Adams
- Filmco ..... Kevin Stahl
- Hotel ..... Jeff Peasley
- Hucksters ..... Steve Bond
- ..... Chad Eschweiler
- Liaison Liaison ..... Peg Kerr Ihinger
- Mpls in '73 ..... geri sullivan
- Operations ..... Rob Ihinger
- ..... Dave Messer
- Parties ..... Sue Grandys
- ..... Peter Hentges
- ..... Pete Richardson
- Programming ..... Sharon Kahn
- ..... Jerry Stearns
- Publications ..... Kay Drache
- ..... Tom Juntunen
- Registration, Life Support  
and Badges ..... Beth Friedman
- T-Shirts ..... Gail Catheryn
- Treasury ..... Twila Tuttle

NOTE: If you have an asterisk (\*) next to your name on the mailing label this is the last mailing you will receive unless we hear from you!

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