

Bozo Bus Tribune

The Official Organ of Minicon 52

"We're all bozos on this bus!"

Oshiro's [TBA what] coming [TBA when]!

Fan GoH **Mark Oshiro** is utterly excited about his upcoming novel, which for contractual reasons he can't tell us the name of, or the publisher for, or the release date of, or the format of publication for. But it is YA and concerns protests (and painful overreactions thereto) in a college setting. He can tell us that this book is a first for his publisher, which quite reasonably wants the drama of the announcement for itself. The editorial letter giving him the go-ahead will be arriving any time, and when the book does drop, Mark promises to "tag Minicon's Twitter and say, 'See, *this* is why I couldn't tell you!'" And it will all make sense.

From "Jim Hines Reads":

Birthday cupcakes were served at **Jim Hines'** reading, attended by about thirty. "Yesterday was my last day of being 42," said a bittersweet Hines. "You only get one shot at that year. On the bright side, cupcakes?" He then treated us to a work in progress about aliens visiting Earth and trying to communicate with seabirds by catapulting feces, among other things. The humans they meet are, at first... less than communicative. And maybe a titch undead.

Paraphrased excerpts from the Brother Guy interview...

Q: Could hypothetical extraterrestrial beings that might cause a Big Crunch (or by implication those that might have caused the Big Bang) be considered gods?

A: No. Okay, a flaky definition of God. Gods like those in the Greek or Norse pantheons are part of nature while making things happen in nature,

but Christianity posits a God that is supernatural and thus fundamentally different.

Q: Can we really believe in the resurrection of Christ?

A: There used to be a theory about certain meteorites that precluded the possibility they came from Mars, but when they were split open, Martian gases were found within, and we needed a new theory. If you believe that Christ wasn't resurrected because you don't believe resurrection is possible, then you're shaping the data to fit your theory.

Q: Could science someday shed light on the question of life after death?

A: I don't believe that at this point science can add anything to the conversation. If I had a colleague who wanted to investigate that, I would advise them to pick another topic.

Q (on matters of faith): Is there a test for that?

A: Unfortunately, most of the tests are 'Wait fifty years and see what happens'—at which point it's too late."

Bonus fact: His dad wanted to be a zeppelin pilot!

Personals

Lost a camera or car keys? They are at the hotel desk.

Team Mystic! Who wants to help take down that red gym in the parking lot? Talk to Sharon in the Green Room.

Thanks again to E.S. From SUJAM!

Those of us who are dependent on closed captions are unable to squee: They are unavailable on BBC America in this hotel, and therefore not available for the Doctor Who premiere.

Help fund an Ethel Romm scholarship!

Thank you for all the kind words for my mother, who can't be here at this Minicon. She misses the con, but just turned 92 and moved to be near my brother and her granddaughter in Washington DC. I have established a scholarship in her name, the Ethel Grodzins Romm Scholarship in Interior Design. It's endowed starting next year, but contributions will ensure a student will get the scholarship for the coming school year. Want to help? You can bid on the iPad in the Dealer's Room (at the first table, next to the pile of books for my father's scholarship in Interdisciplinary Journalism) or contribute directly to the U of M at <https://crowdfund.umn.edu/EGRScholarship>. Contributions are tax deductible. Help a student and make mom happy!

—Dave Romm

Bar Trivia Contest

Midnight Trivia in the Bar was won for the third year running by the eight-headed **Space Barracudas** with 18 out of 21 points. Tied for second were the Bar Crowd and Kobayashi Mornu with 14 each, and James O. tied with Pam, Douglas, Douglas and Bruce for fourth with 13 points.

They Like Anime

Asked which currently running shows they enjoy, the "We Like Anime" panelists cited *Tiger Mask W* (pro wrestling is real and U.S. Wrestlers want to destroy Japan), *Shimoneta* (dirty jokes are contraband) and *JoJo's Bizarre Adventure* (a family's exploits start weird and get weirder). Not sure where to get your anime? Consider subscribing to Hulu or Crunchyroll, scour thrift stores for used box sets, or use the Inter-Library Loan program.

A note to Consuite:

"The Consuite staff at Minicon deserve the deepest thanks possible by a convention. I witnessed acts of heroism likened unto the Greek gods in relation to the cleaning and maintenance of the cooking equipment as well as the con's food supply itself. There are not words to describe the extent of their dedication except to say that I've now seen the hot dog roller thoroughly cleaned from start to finish and anyone who eats a hot dog should know that the maintenance of said machine is... eww!" —J

Survey for Minicon 53

Hey! There is a survey so that the brand-spanking-new Minicon 53 chairs can hear your opinions at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GXH7FQS>.
—Emily Stewart

Krahn-Gahlon 4a.m. Pulse Check

Bar: 8 Outside bar: 3 Hallway: 3 Consuite: 3+1
By hotel bar: 2 Gaming: 4 Balcony: 3
Seamstress' Guild: 8 Counter: 1 **TOTAL: 36**

Reg Update

As of close of reg Saturday at 8:
593 total memberships, 563 warm bodies.

Medallion Hunt =DODEX=

Various puzzle-based medallions remain in the BBT Office (still on the Green Room balcony). The Cluemeister will be available there from 2–3p.m., and then at Closing Ceremonies; otherwise, people can come find him in 106. He would like all the medallions back!

TALES FROM THE HUNT

4. Found by John S. It was on the sign that said "Minicon Upstairs." If you're new, here's where you go!

5. It was found by Stef in the foyer of the 11th floor on the side of the window ledge. She knew it was a window from the mention of the moon.

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CLUES: ROUND 4

6. The Medallion Hunt J runs isn't the only game in town.

8. I'm on my own channel

15. Miranda Tate

20. What would elevate those who couldn't hold themselves upright to a higher plain of existence?

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This was the last issue this year! See you next time!

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