

BWOB Con 8

Program Book



Guest of Honor

Marion Zimmer Bradley

BYOB-CON

MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY
Professional Guest of Honor

JAN HOWARD FINDER
Fan Guest of Honor

ALLAN J. WILDE
Toastmaster

STAFF

Chairman-John D. Taylor
Treasurer-David Sooby
Programming-John D. Taylor
Films-Pat Taylor
Art Show-Nancy Asire
Huckster Room-Allan J. Wilde and John Vaughan
Registration-Kate Graf
Security-Pete Shifflett
Trivia Contest-Bob Bailey
Publications-Jeffrey May
Publicity-Rita Rousseau
Hotel Liason-Pat Taylor
Masquerade-Bob and Diana Bailey
Masquerade Music-Neil Preston and Bob Bailey
Art Credits-Bill Garnett (cover), Nancy Asire, and Daryl Murdock
Special Thanks to Juanita Coulson
Special Thanks to Brenda Granthem and George Matson of the Hotel President

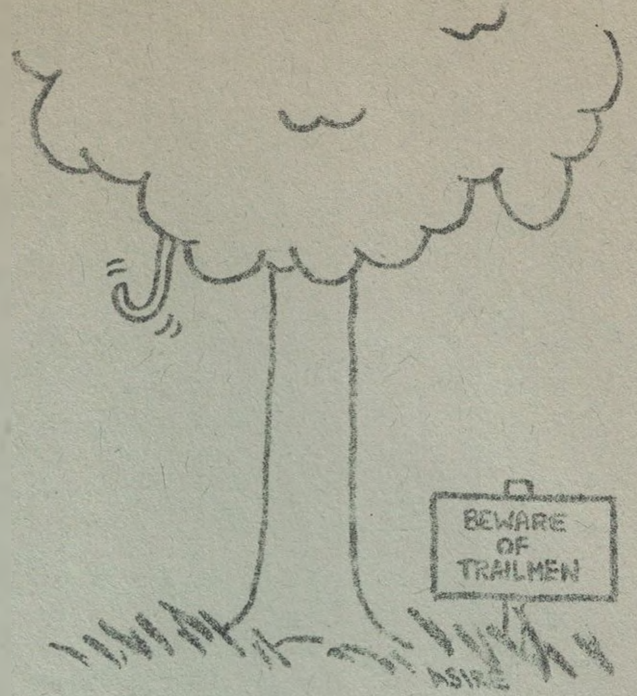
Byob-Con regrets that its original Guest of Honor, Kate Wilhelm, was unable to join us for medical reasons. We wish her a speedy recovery.

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Byob-Con is a yearly presentation of the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, which meets monthly. For more information on KaCSFFS ask any Committee Member.

MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY

by Juanita Coulson



For years now, Marion Zimmer Bradley has been enthralling and fascinating readers with her extrapolations of alien worlds and exotic cultures, from "Centaurus Changeling" in The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction to THE FORBIDDEN TOWER. Her creations have pleased old and new readers both, and throughout her career she has kept up her friendships with fans who knew her when, not leaving us behind as her star rose. So when I was asked to introduce Marion to you I accepted at once, and I envy you; I won't be able to join you at the convention, but you'll be lucky enough to meet a very special person--Marion Bradley.

Where do I begin to tell you about Marion and ready you for that meeting? She is so versatile, and her story has so many facets, it would be impossible to cover it all. Of course she's a talented writer of science fiction and of other fiction and non-fiction, a former editor of a nationally-circulated astrology magazine, has a degree in music from Hardin-Simmons College, has found the time to raise three children, to sing, to cook, to publish fanzines, to correspond, to encourage and abet would-be young writers in their budding careers, to attend sf conventions... to be the Compleat SF Fan and Professional wrapped up in one. Now do you see why you're lucky?

Marion was summed up for me by one of her own anecdotes, told in a fanzine a while ago. When she was in the middle of finishing a manuscript and trying to meet a deadline, when the house was demanding attention, and when all the other details of coping were in full roar, her small daughter plaintively asked for a peanut butter sandwich. Marion, typically, turned to the most important task--the human one. As the sandwich was a-building mother and daughter mutually decided they had discovered the secret of the universe: There were some lumps that needed finishing along the way because, obviously, the Creator had to stop in the middle of the job and make a peanut butter sandwich for her toddler. It seemed an eminently reasonable explanation--and one very much like Marion.

In the stories and novels of Marion Zimmer Bradley there is a constant thread. Technology and its spaceships and machines and coldly efficient gadgets are important and wondrous, but it is people--whether human or extraterrestrial--who count, people and their relationships with each other. It is the passion and humanity of her characters which makes her fiction vivid and memorable. The reader may love those characters or hate them, but they're impossible to ignore. They don't get lost in the gadgetry, because they're real.

Perhaps Marion has that talent for bringing characters to life because she draws on her own background and life, which have followed a sometimes tangled road, and a long one. The road started in upstate New York, where Marion grew up in World War II America. Then the road turned southward to a small town in Texas, where she lived until the '60s. Eventually, the road was to lead to the Bay Area, and along the way there would be joys and sorrows and triumphs and failures, just as there are for us all. Marion, though, was an acute observer and a quick thinker, and above all she doesn't give up.

The very fact that she became an sf fan in the '40s tells you she does not give up. Believe me, it took courage for a female to buy the sf pulps of that era. Enduring the stares and giggles while you paid for this sleazy-looking magazine with the bug-eyed monster, the scantily-clad woman, and the impossibly stalwart hero on the cover... if you could survive that, you were tough. She didn't put her brains on "hold" while she was being a housewife and mother in Texas, either. She linked up with the lifeline of sf fandom, the magazine letter column, and she started her own fanzine (with the seeds of Astra's Tower and many another glimmering of what was eventually going to blossom into the mythos of Darkover), and she wrote. At one point Marion conducted a fanzine review column, where she was never unkind but was honest, sometimes painfully so. The legend ran that Marion Zimmer Bradley ate neofans for breakfast, as she did in that fanzine review column. To be truthful, she did once eat a neofan, and it was early enough to be breakfast, too. I saw her do it. But it was a gingerbread neofan, lovingly baked by friends and admirers, and in the spirit of the thing Marion posed for pictures, biting ferociously into the hapless boy. So keep that in mind if you're timid about making Marion's acquaintance; she really doesn't bite--unless you're masquerading as a cake.

Those of us who read Marion's fanzine fiction knew she wouldn't be printing her stuff free for long, and we felt smug when we were proved right. "Centaurus Changeling," THE COLORS OF SPACE, FALCONS OF NARABDELA, SEVEN FROM THE STARS, HUNTERS OF THE RED MOON, THE FORBIDDEN TOWER, and so many, many others, and the end is not yet. There will be more Darkover novels, other science fictional worlds yet undreamed of, and worlds closer to our own, and not sf; in progress now is an engrossing novel I read in manuscript, a story of circus people and their life. You have treats in store, more to read, and more real and human characters to meet.

It's never easy to become a professional writer, and it's especially difficult for a woman with small children, but Marion Zimmer Bradley has done both superbly and continues to do so. A writer, a mother, mentor to young writers, singer, cook, editor, gracious guest of honor...you are a lucky bunch of people. I'm sure you're in for an interesting and stimulating con with Marion as your guest.

Oh, and though the opportunity isn't likely to arise on this festive occasion, according to all reports, she makes a great peanut butter sandwich, too.

FAN

GOH:



JAN

HOWARD

FINDER

by Jeff May

At various times and places around this convention you may see what appears to be a giant wombat under an Aussie slouch hat. (At least, that's what the shirt may say.) However, don't let appearances deceive you. What you are seeing is actually our Fan Guest of Honor, Jan Howard Finder.

Jan has been a fan since 1972. He actually discovered Tolkien and Tolkien fandom earlier than that, but in 1972, while he was in Europe, he heard about an sf con in Trieste, Eurocon I. He attended, and his reaction was one all con fans know: "Say, this is fun!" At Eurocon he met John Brunner, who invited him to come to England and get a look at how the English fanned. In 1973 Jan made it to Eastercon, Britain's annual national convention. There, as he puts it, "I fell in love with British fandom, fell in love with conventions, and fell in love." Jan still thinks of himself as a British fan, but more of that anon.

Jan remained in Europe until 1976. At one point he found himself the Italian delegate to the Conference on European Science Fiction, this coming about in part because he couldn't go as the U. S. delegate (The U. S. isn't a part of Europe.), or as the British delegate (There already was one.), and he was then living in Italy, so...

In 1976 the call of his job brought Jan back to the U. S., where he found himself settled in the wilds of ~~The Great Westland~~ Kansas. His liking for cons made him a familiar face at Midwestern cons. In 1977 he chaired Totocon I, in Wichita, and a good time was had by the 150 attendees. All of this would indicate Jan Howard Finder is a dyed-in-the-wombat convention fan, if not for The Spang Blah.

"What's a Spang Blah," I hear you asking. The Spang Blah is Jan's fanzine. It is virtually the only fanzine he has ever done, which is a bit unusual. Many long-time fanzine fans have published at least two or three (or more) different titles, but the only other zines Jan admits to are a zine for Anzapa (The Australia-New Zealand Amateur Publishing Association) and a highly-irregular personal-zine for those attending Aussiecon. He began The Spang Blah while in Europe, as a dittoed zine of news about European fandom, a rare commodity in U. S. fandom. He soon discovered he could get The Spang Blah printed offset on the airbase where he worked, and so it took on the form it still has today, 8½ x 11 offset.

Currently The Spang Blah is a mixture of news about fandoms other than North America's, worldcon news, and articles which have as their sole point in common some relation, somehow, to science fiction. There has been a women's issue, with all women contributors (except for the editor, who did not--contrary to rumor--undergo a wombat-change operation for the issue), and an issue on Seacon. According to Jan The Spang Blah is intended to appeal to everyone. Pick up a copy and see if it appeals to you.

Jan now lives in New York (job again) where he works as a Title Education Specialist for the Army, pointing out to high school and college administrators that the Army is an employer. He is active in "academic fandom," particularly the Science Fiction Research Association. He attends 8-10 cons a year (the Program Book's editor wrote enviously). Lastly, he continues as a British fan; he is running the first British sf con in Albany, N. Y. since 1776 ---Novacon 9 (West), scheduled for November 2-4, 1979. Get to know Jan and find out how he does it all, and when you find out, please tell me.



toastmaster: allan j. wilde

by John D. Taylor

One of the nicest things about fandom is that every once in a while it enables one to write an introductory article about one of his dearest friends, exposing him in print to public awe and/or ridicule. Here then is an article on Allan John Wilde, Toastmaster of BYOB-Con 8 and Director of the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, written by one who knows him well, and who has a couple of old scores to settle. (Remember El Chico's? Sugar?)

In writing about Allan, I am reminded of the story of the man who was run down by a freight train. Interviewed about it later, he said, "The first thing that struck me was its size." Allan Wilde is a big person--tall, broad, heavy-set, with a looming, menacing presence accentuated by his broken nose (gained, the chatty know-all reveals, in a childhood incident with a rocking chair). Encountering Allan for the first time can give the diffident the feeling of a picnicker confronting a bull. Relax. Give him a flower; it's really Ferdinand you're dealing with.

Next to his size, Allan's most noticeable characteristic is his irreverent sense of humor. He constantly cribs lines from the greats of humor: Alice in Wonderland, Bored of the Rings, Tom Lehr, "Saturday Night Live", "The Wizard of Oz"; and uses them in conversation. Friends quickly pick up on the habit in self-defense, so that an un-initiate listening in feels either totally baffled or as if he came in during the middle of the movie.

Military strategy is Allan's besetting interest. He enjoys board games such as Risk and Diplomacy (at which he wins with depressing frequency), and also the games from Avalon Hill and Strat 'n' Tac which are played with innumerable cardboard counters on maps representing great battlefields of the world. His major in college was the history of Germany from the Weimar Republic to 1945, and as a result he knows more about Nazi Germany than J. P. Goebbels. (Incidentally, to avoid a misconception, Allan's specialty is MILITARY HISTORY; he is not a neo-Nazi and I have never heard him utter any opinion on racial purity. To the best of my knowledge, his only opinion on miscegenation is that it should be carried on between consenting adults.) Despite (or because of) his expertise, he will not watch any war movies because, instead of enjoying the plot, he automatically picks holes in research: Russian tanks in the German army, incorrect insignia on uniforms, moving of major landmarks to improve story flow, etc. It is annoying to him and incredibly tedious to his friends (who hear all about it later).

He has one of the finest collections of science fiction, fantasy and horror books



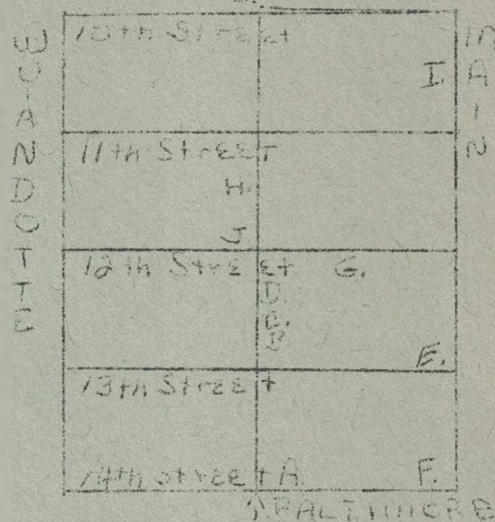
in the midwest. He has, however, the characteristic (obnoxious to many, self included) of carefully sealing them in cellophane to prevent damage (and reading). And, like most such collectors, he has selective deafness; nothing I've ever said makes any impression. None the less, it is an impressive collection, containing many items which leave the viewer teary-eyed--first edition Arkhams, complete sets of his favorite authors (Cordwainer Smith, Silverberg, Howard, Lovecraft, and many others), and a Wall of Serpents I would kill for, and almost did.

His history as operator of Hobbit House Bookstore, as Dungeon Master par excellence, as auctioneer extraordinaire, and as morning avoider would exhaust the space I have available. I will just conclude by saying, if you need a toastmaster who is a veritable "Renaissance Man", I highly recommend that eminent reincarnation of Niccolo Machiavelli, Allan J. Wilde.

FOOD

or

PLACES TO EAT IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA



- A. The Hotel President
 1. Coffee Shop--hours vary, prices moderate, food good.
 2. The Drum Room--same as Coffee Shop, with Booze.
 3. King Henry's Feast--check their reservation desk or office for special convention rates and requirements.
 - B. Pizza Hut--the pizza you all know and love. Hours 11am to midnight. Closed Sunday.
 - C. Alfie's Fish and Chips--11-2, 4-8. 11-8 on Sundays. Fish, shrimp, chicken, beer. Prices okay. Closed Sunday.
 - D. Pioneer Grill--prices low, food--there. 24 hours. The steak and eggs can't be beat for the money. P.C. has kept us alive during many a convention.
 - E. Don's World of Beef--sandwiches. 9-5, prices cheap to moderate, food okay.
 - F. Smaks--local hamburger chain. Hours not known. Carry out or stand up--no seating.
 - G. Greek Islands--food good, not too autre. Sit-down or carry-out, prices cheap. Hours unknown. Likes science fiction conventions, so far.
 - H. Italian Gardens--10:30am-midnight. Food good, prices moderate and up. NICE place.
 - I. Eddy's Loaf and Stein--cafeteria style sandwich place. Food excellent, prices cheap to moderate. 9-5:30. Closed Sunday.
 - J. Berbiglia's (pronounced Ber-beel-ya's)--package liquor store. Closes at 10:00, not open on Sundays, so plan ahead, especially this weekend.
- There are many hotels to the north on Baltimore, each with one or more places to eat.

BYOB - CON 83

Friday, May 26

10:00AM	Registration Opens	
	Huckster Room Opens For Set-up	225, 229
12:00NOON	Art Show Opens For Set-up	215
1:00PM	Huckster Room Opens	
2:00	Art Show Opens	
6:00	Huckster Room Closes	
	Art Show Closes	
	Registration Table Closes	
	Post Card Auction Preliminary	Aztec Room
6:30	Trivia Contest - Round 1	Aztec Room
8:00	Radio Spoof "Rip Jarvis of the Space Cadets"	219
8:30	Hospitality Suite Opens	441

Saturday, May 27

10:00AM	Registration Opens	
	Huckster Room Opens	225, 229
	Art Show Opens	215
11:00	Fantasy War Gaming Panel	Aztec Room
1:00PM	"Building A Society" Panel with Marion Zimmer Bradley, James Gunn, C. J. Cherryh	Aztec Room
2:00	Trivia Contest - Round 2	Aztec Room
3:00	James Gunn on "Fiction Writing"	219
4:00	Marion Zimmer Bradley	Aztec Room
5:00	Art Show Closes	
5:30	Post Card Auction	221
6:00	Huckster Room Closes	
	Registration Table Closes	
	Art Auction	221
	Cash Bar Opens	Aztec Room
8:00	Masquerade Ball with Trivia Contest Finals	Aztec Room
After	Masquerade Ball Ends, Hospitality Room Opens	441

Sunday, May 28

10:00AM	Registration Opens	
	Huckster Room Opens	225, 229
	Art Show Opens	215
11:30	Film Panel	Aztec Room
1:00PM	Pat Killough's Pun Panel	219
2:00	Banquet and Guest of Honor Speeches	Walnut Room
	Huckster Room & Art Show Close	
4:00 or after	Banquet - Huckster Room & Art Show Reopen	
5:00	C. J. Cherryh Presentation "Building A World"	Aztec Room
6:00	Art Auction #2	221
	Registration Table Closes	
8:00	Charades	Aztec Room?
	Huckster Room & Art Show Close	
9:30	Hospitality Suite Opens	441

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Monday, May 29

10:00AM	Registration Opens	
	Huckster Room Opens	225, 229
	Art Show Opens	215
11:00	Burroughs Panel	219
1:00PM	"Rip Jarvis" rerun with commentary by those responsible	219
3:00	Around this time the convention will begin disbanding itself	
	Huckster Room Closes	
	Art Show Closes	
5:00	The Hotel brings in these huge vacuumms	

film schedule

Room 221

Friday, May 26

1:00PM to 5:30PM - "Take Mine Music" & "The End of August at the Hotel Ozone"

Saturday, May 27

10:00AM to 1:00PM - "Dark Star"

2:00PM to 4:00PM - "Phantom of the Opera" 1943, Claude Rains

Sunday, May 28

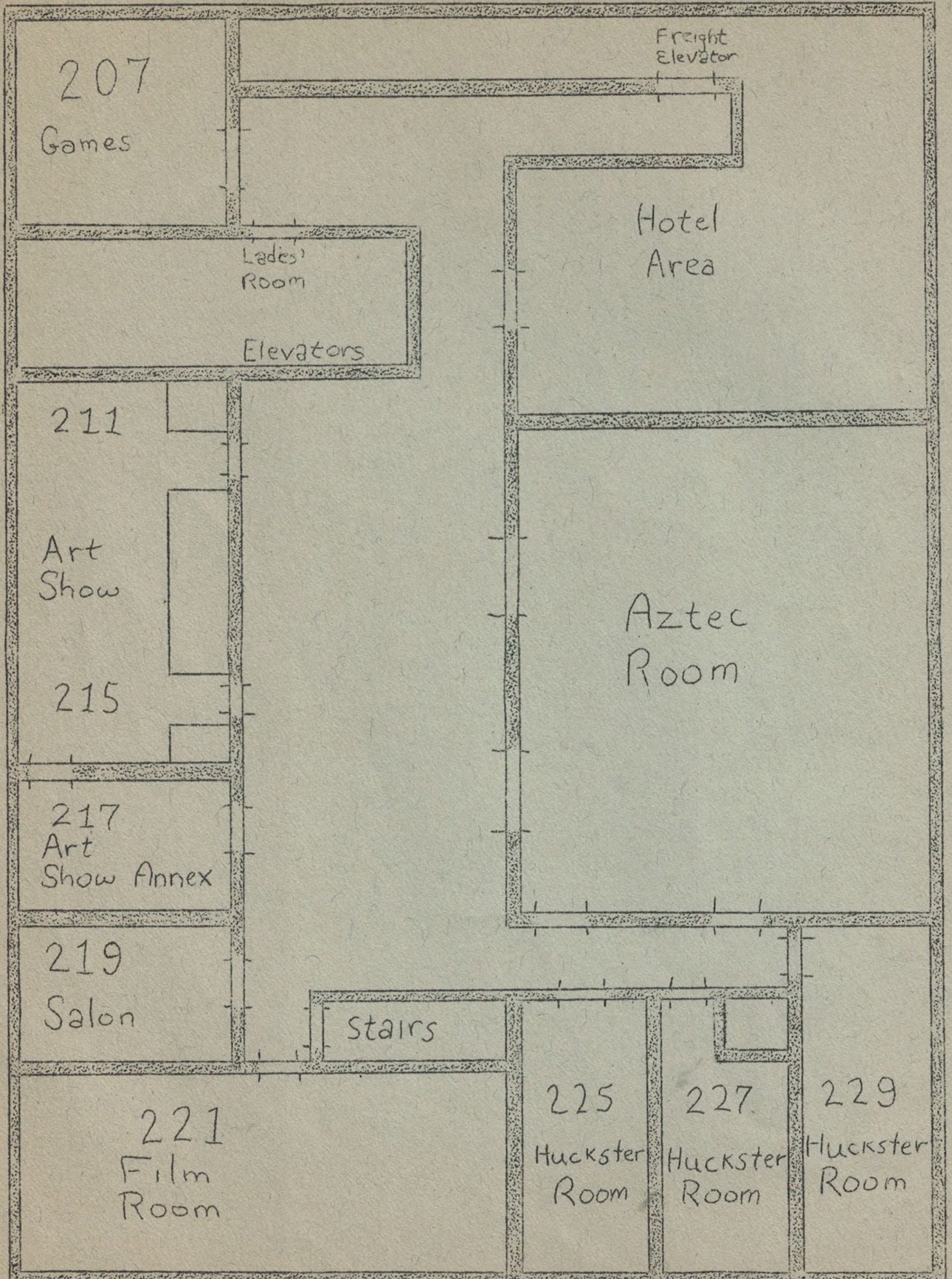
All Films will be run at least once. Check for time of specific film.

Monday, May 29

Films run by request only.

NOTE: NO FILMS WILL BE RUN DURING ART AUCTIONS, BANQUET OR GUEST OF HONOR PROGRAMING, NOT EVEN BY REQUEST!!





In Memoriam

TOM REAMY

November 4, 1977

