

RIVERCON



July 15-17, 1983

RIVERCON VIII

July 15-17, 1983

Louisville, Kentucky

Guests of Honor

**L. SPRAGUE & CATHERINE
DE CAMP**

Fan Guest of Honor

RUSTY HEVELIN

Toastmaster

BOB TUCKER

RiverCon Committee. . . Steve & Sue Francis (co-chairs), Lynn Harris, Bob Roehm, Mike Sinclair, B.J. Willinger

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| Art Show | Lynn Harris Sid Altus Courtney Bray Dan Caldwell Holly Hina Wayne Perin Gary Suiter Gail Walker Beth Willinger | Hucksters Room | Steve Francis David Francis Stew Friedley Matt Gore Grant McCormick Bruce Schweinhart Mike Veach | Publications | Bob Roehm |
| Auctioneers | Rusty Hevelin Jim Cox | Masquerade | B.J. Willinger Ray Jones Danny McDole Sue Philips | Registration | Cheryl Francis Rosa Banks Leah Bestler Joyce Brooks Marian Brown Sue Francis Rebecca Lampert Mary Simon Jann Tidwell Sue Young |
| Babysitting | Laura Francis Missy Tucker | Movies | Mike Sinclair | Staff | Donna Bacher Chris Dean Larry Jewell Anne Miller Gene Miller Trubie Turner |
| Games Room | David Daring | Programming | Bob Roehm Lisa Morrison Jim Woosley | Video Room | Steve Spero |
| Headquarters Room | Keith Hufford | Projectionists | David Francis Scott Hanson Bob Markwell Rick Nugent Tom Stevens Jack Young | | |
| Hospitality Suite | Mike Lalor Keith Asay Lisa Lomax Rickey Sheppard Mary Simon Paul Watson | | | | |

RiverCon VIII Program Book © 1983 by the Louisville Science Fiction Assn., Inc. Cover by Henry J. Penn. Edited by Bob Roehm. Additional copies available for \$1.00 from RiverCon, P.O. Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40258.

WELCOME

Welcome to RiverCon VIII! To our old friends from past RiverCons, we're glad to see you once again. And to those for whom this is their first RiverCon, we think you'll have a great time.

First of all, a few words about your name badge. Yes, we know it can sometimes be a minor inconvenience, but **please** wear it at all times you are in the convention areas. Your badge is, in effect, your ticket to RiverCon and without it you may be denied admission to certain functions. Also, it makes it a lot easier for us to get to know each other, and isn't that an important reason for conventions anyway? You'll notice that some badges have little colored dots on them — these are for further identification. The badges with blue dots belong to VIP members, usually an author or artist. The hucksters have green dots (the color is just a coincidence, of course). Yellow dots indicate a special membership of some sort. Committee and staff are wearing red dots on their badges; in addition, department heads also sport red ribbons. Please come to them if you have any problems during the convention.

If you've already registered, you'll have been asked to show some form of identification to prove your age, and your badge has been marked accordingly. This is to make things simpler for those running the hospitality suite and the Friday night cash bar. Though we like to think sometimes that science fiction conventions are not part of the real world, we are subject to the same laws as anyone else. Sorry about that.

All of the RiverCon activity is located on the third floor of the Galt House except the hospitality suite (located in a suite on an upper floor; exact number not available at press time) and of course the Belle of Louisville cruise on Sunday afternoon.

If you are planning on going on the cruise, by the way, please purchase your ticket at the RiverCon registration desk. If you do not have one when you get to the wharf, you will be charged the full fare and there is nothing we can do about it. If you do buy a ticket and later change your mind, just return the ticket to us for a full refund at any time. It's best, too, to show up a little early for the cruise just to make sure you get on board. Since your ticket is not actually a reservation of space, boarding is strictly on a first-come, first-served basis. There's a snack bar on board, but you may bring anything with you (coolers, however, are not allowed).

For the games fans among us, we've added some features that should make you happy. The Corn Island Room has been set up with a number of video games to while away your time (and take your quarters). And for those of you with tastes a little less electronic, the Old River Room is available for all types of board games. Because some of these games

ABOARD...

can take up a lot of space and/or time, we'd advise you to reserve time in advance. Check with the games room supervisor in the Old River Room or with the registration desk.

If you have any problems or questions during RiverCon, the helpful staff at registration should be able to take care of it. During the hours the desk is closed, please go to the RiverCon headquarters room, located at the south end of the hall on the third floor. If you are pre-registered, you can also pick up your membership materials there if you arrive late.

The schedule in the program book is accurate as we go to press, but please check for posted announcements near the registration desk for changes or additions. We also hope to have a newsletter on Saturday morning containing any updates, program changes, party announcements, etc. If you have anything you'd like to have mentioned, please leave it with the folks in the headquarters room.

And finally, if there's any way in which we can make RiverCon more enjoyable for you, please let us know.

The RiverCon Committee & Staff

RIVERCON VIII WEAPONS POLICY

The weapons policy for RiverCon VIII is as follows:

1. No bare blades or unholstered weapons of any kind will be permitted in any public area of the hotel.
2. No brandishing of any type of weapon will be allowed. (A weapon is defined as anything that looks like or may be used as a weapon, in the opinion of the RiverCon committee.)
3. Exceptions to the above rules:
 - a. The Masquerade. Weapons may be drawn during the masquerade as part of the stage performance. They must remain holstered or sheathed at all other times.
 - b. The Huckster Room. Weapons may be sold in the huckster room but must not be handled in the aisles. Upon sale they must be wrapped by the dealer and the new owner must remove the weapon from the huckster room.
4. Failure to follow these rules will lead to a warning and possible confiscation of the weapon and/or revocation of convention membership.



Guests of Honor

L. SPRAGUE & CATHERINE DE CAMP

When a reader new to the SF field hears the name L. Sprague de Camp, he is apt to think immediately of Conan, for that is the character for which de Camp has become most famous. It is not, however, his only claim to fame. In fact, L. Sprague de Camp is a true Renaissance Man of science fiction and fantasy.

He has written all kinds of fiction, ranging from hard science to whimsical fantasy and all points in between. His first published story was "The Isolinguals" in 1937 in John W. Campbell's *Astounding*. But it was with the Harold Shea stories, in collaboration with Fletcher Pratt, that de Camp gained literary recognition. Unless you count his 1939 novel *Lest Darkness Fall*, which is still one of the best time travel novels around. And then there were (and are) the series of stories known as tales of the Viagens Interplanetarias (or, simply, the Krishna stories). And let's not forget the Jorian trilogy, of which *The Unbeheaded King* is the most recent. And then there's . . . But you get the idea. To pick the best of de Camp, or even a representative sample, would take far more space than we have here. Take our advice: Read everything the man has written, and we guarantee you won't be disappointed.

And what of Catherine Crook de Camp, the other half of our guest of honor team? She is an author in her own right, having published several works on money management under a solo byline, and she has been a collaborator with her husband on several non-fiction works, most notable *Spirits, Stars and Spells* and *The Science Fiction Handbook, Revised*. Much of her time, however, is spent in acting as Sprague's business manager, and his obviously successful career says a lot about her ability in that area.

Together the de Camps have finished a biography of Robert E. Howard, with whose life theirs has become inextricably intertwined. The book, *Dark Valley Destiny*, will be published by Bluejay Books in December.

The de Camps may be Rivercon's guests of honor, but we're the ones who are honored by their presence.

FILM NOTES *by* Jack Young

The Phantom of the Opera: The original 1925 classic starring Lon Chaney and Mary Philbin. Chaney deliberately distorted his features, painfully wiring open his mouth and using metal disks to make his nostrils flare. The result scared the youthful Ray Bradbury out of his socks. Most memorable sequence: Chaney's entrance as the Red Death — filmed in the early Technicolor process of the day.

The Cat People (1942): Val Lewton's story of a woman torn between an ancestral curse and her own passionate needs. A low-keyed film utilizing mood rather than the outwardly grotesque. Fine performances by Kent Smith and Simone Simon. Directed by Jacques Tourneur (later director of *Curse of the Demon*).

Curse of the Cat People (1944): Deals with neither curses nor cats. Universal forced the title on Lewton to promote ticket sales. The film is rather a sensitive story of a misunderstood child, and embittered middle-aged parent, and a ghost out of the past. A beautiful and fascinating film with excellent performances by Kent Smith, Simone Simon, and Ann Carter, and directed by Robert Wise (*The Day the Earth Stood Still*; *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*).

The Thing! (From Another World)(1951): Howard Hawks purchased John W. Campbell's classic "Who Goes There" and proceeded to turn it into a typical Hollywood monster movie. It is not Campbell's story but Hawks compensates with believable character interrelationships and a stark polar setting. The conflict between Captain Hendry (Kenneth Tobey) and chief scientist Dr. Carrington is a bit silly but the movie is still fun.

Earth Vs. the Flying Saucers (1956): Hugh Marlowe's Project Skyhook is menaced by ugly tree-things from another planet. Follows a basic Hollywood formula dubbed by Robert Bloch, "Look out boys, they're gonna destroy the world!" Good Ray Harryhausen special effects, especially the destruction of Washington D.C.

The War of the Worlds (1953): George Pal produced this excellent retelling of the H. G. Wells classic, transplanting the story (as did Orson Welles in 1938) to the United States, the West Coast this time. The film holds up well thanks to a fine cast headed by Gene Barry. Look for two scenes lovingly spoofed by Steven Spielberg in *E.T.* (Hint: both involve Martians).

Twenty Million Miles to Earth (1957): Ray Harryhausen's last black-and-white feature. Entertaining film about a specimen from Venus which survives a crash landing on Earth and grown up to be a big, hulking reptilian critter. (Harryhausen put the Ymir's ugly puss on several subsequent monsters, most notably atop the Kraken in *Clash of the Titans*.) Most memorable sequence: the Ymir facing down an elephant in the Colosseum.

First Men in the Moon (1964): Charles H. Schneer produced this adaptation of the Wells novel starring Edward Judd and Martha Hyer. The effects by Harryhausen are very good, especially in the chamber of the Grand Lunar. The "first" man on the moon, interestingly enough in this British production, is an American who sparks an electric celebration that should have greeted Apollo 11.

The Fly (1958): "He meddled with things man was meant to leave alone." In this case the meddling involves the prototype of the matter transmitter. Brave inventor tries it out on himself, unaware that he has company in the transport chamber. Thanks, folks, but I'll take the bus all the same. . . An effective film starring Vincent Price and Al (David) Hedison.

continued on p. 9



Odyssey bookshop

science fiction & fantasy

1613 Bardstown Rd., Louisville, KY 40205 (502)458-7722

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1983

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 24 hours | Hospitality Suite |
| 2:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. | Registration open. Third floor lobby. |
| 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Huckster Room open. Cochran Ballroom. |
| 2:00 p.m. - | Game Room open. Old River Room. |
| 2:00 p.m. - | Video Game Room. Corn Island Room. |
| | Video Room. SF movies and TV episodes. Check posted schedule for titles. King's Head Room. |
| 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | Art Show. Water Poet Room. |
| 7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. | RiverCon VIII opening ceremonies. Announcements and introduction of notables. Welcome aboard! Archibald Ballroom. |
| 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. | The Con Game. A panel discussion featuring current and past convention chairmen who talk about the whys and hows of SF cons. Archibald Ballroom. |
| 9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. | First Impressions. A slide show by Rusty Hevelin illustrating the earliest works by SF worldcon guests of honor. Archibald Ballroom. |
| 10:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. | The RiverCon Dancehall. For your dancing and listening pleasure, a program of taped music, featuring a cash bar with half-price(!) drinks. Archibald Ballroom. |
| 12:00 midnight - | Filksingers room open. Anchor Room. |

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1983

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 24 hours | Hospitality Suite remains open. |
| 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Registration. Third Floor lobby. |
| 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Huckster Room. Cochran Ballroom. |
| 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Art Show. Water Poet Room. |
| 10:00 a.m. - | Movies. Check posted announcements for starting times Queen Room |
| 10:00 a.m. - | Video Room. Taped SF movies & television. King's Head Room |
| 10:00 a.m. - | GameRoom.Boardgames,D&D,computers,etc. OldRiverRoom. |
| 10:00 a.m. - | Video Room. Corn Island Room. |
| 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | How to Enjoy Your First Con. If you've never been to a SF con (and you probably haven't if you're up this early), Rusty Hevelin and Gay Haldeman (who've been to lots of them) reveal the secrets of the ages. Archibald Ballroom. |
| 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | The Candid Stuff. Back with a third new space show, space scientist/writer Bill Breuer, wearing three flight suits, mixes a profound and humorous look at the past, present and future space program. With demonstrations of actual NASA gear and slides. Archibald Ballroom. |

- 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon L. Sprague & Catherine de Camp will autograph copies of their books in the **Anchor Room**. (Please, no more than three books per request.)
- 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. RiverCon VIII Banquet. (Tickets required.) Toastmaster, Bob Tucker.
- 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. The Joe 'n' Andy Show. Joe Haldeman and Andrew J. Offutt play dice with the universe. **Archibald Ballroom**.
- 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. My friend, Conan. L. Sprague de Camp and Robert Jordan, one of the earliest chroniclers of the saga and the most recent, compare their approaches to the character. **Archibald Ballroom**.
- 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. What's Good About Science Fiction/What's Bad About Science Fiction. Mike Resnick and Lawrence Watt-Evans debate the question. **Archibald Ballroom**.
- 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. The Fourth Hypothesis. The alternate concept of the origin of humans on earth, presented by Bill Breuer, who popularized this science fiction concept which brought him national attention. (NOT creationism, evolution, or von Danikenism) **Anchor Room**.
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. All About Us: The Private Lives of Sprague and Catherine de Camp, by themselves. Introduction by Bob Tucker. **Archibald Ballroom**.
- 8:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Art Auction. Rusty Hevelin, head auctioneer. **Archibald Ballroom**.
- 10:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Masquerade pre-judging. Contestants only. **Archibald Ballroom (rear)**.
- 11:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. RiverCon VIII Masquerade. **Archibald Ballroom**.
- 12:00 midnight - Filksinging room open. **Anchor Room**.

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1983

- 24 hours Hospitality Suite remains open.
- 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Registration. **Third floor lobby**.
- 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Huckster Room. **Cochran Ballroom**.
- 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Art Show. **Water Poet Room**.
- 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Game Room. **Old River Room**.
- 10:00 a.m. - Video Game Room. **Corn Island Room**.
- 10:00 a.m. - Video Room. Movies on tape. **King's Head Room**.
- 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Science Fiction Writers of America South/Central Regional Meeting. Open to current and prospective SFWA members. Sharon Webb, regional director. **Anchor Room**.
- 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Boarding for Belle of Louisville cruise at wharf. Purchase tickets at RiverCon registration.
- 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Belle of Louisville cruise.

Film Notes continued from p. 6

The Power (1967): George Hamilton's finest moment on the screen. The story of a man involved in a secret military project (aren't they all?) who discovers a.) that someone on the project is telekinetic and b.) someone is trying to eliminate him. Good adaptation of Frank M. Robinson's better novel. Mr. Robinson will discuss book and film after the movie.



Fan Guest of Honor

RUSTY HEVELIN

Photo by Jay Kay Klein

If you've been in fandom for a while, you've probably heard the word SMOF. That acronym stands for Secret Master of Fandom and refers to an individual who influences the course of fannish politics and attitudes. Now a lot of fans, particularly the SMOFs themselves, claim that these people don't exist and are merely figments of fannish imagination. And it is true that some egotistical fans call themselves SMOFs when they of course are nothing of the kind.

But if anyone has ever deserved the title SMOF, it is our fan guest of honor, Rusty Hevelin. Rusty has been in science fiction fandom since before many, even most, of you who are reading this were born (a fact he probably doesn't like to be reminded of), and over the years he has been involved in nearly every aspect of fan activity. His speciality, however, is conventions; one would hesitate to even guess how many he's been to. And at cons you'll usually find him in the huckster room during the daytime and at the parties at night.

A relatively quiet man, Rusty always has an informed and reasonable opinion on the fannish topics of the day, and his views are solicited by those who wish to have fannish support for any project or idea – which is what makes Rusty a bona fide SMOF.

In recent years, Rusty has devoted a great deal of his time to helping raise money for TAFF and DUFF (the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund and the Down Under Fan Fund, two fan charities that enable fans to attend foreign conventions). Undoubtedly there will be one or more TAFF and DUFF auctions at RiverCon with Rusty auctioneering, so please bid generously.

Often mistaken for Bob Tucker's father (he is in fact his son), Rusty Hevelin is one of fandom's truly wonderful people, and we are pleased to be able to honor him at RiverCon VIII.

Toastmaster BOB TUCKER

BY JOEL ZAKEM

Photo by Jay Kay Klein

Having someone like me write about the venerable Bob Tucker, your toastmaster, is slightly ludicrous. What's someone like me, a relative youngster who has been hanging out on the edge of fandom for almost 15 years, going to tell you about a legend like Bob Tucker that you didn't already know?

You probably know how Bob Tucker plunged fandom into war in the 1930s over the vital issue of staples in fanzines. You've heard how, armed only with a bottle of Beam's Choice (green label), Tucker taught an entire Australian Worldcon how to "SMOOTH". And you saw how, along with his faithful companion Chewbacca he rescued the princess and saved the republic.

(O.K., maybe not the last one, but I had to put in something for the media fans.)

I'm not going to write about any of these Bob Tuckers. I'm going to tell you about the one I met at my first con.

This is the Bob Tucker who would go out of his way to help an extremely young neo-fan feel welcome. The Bob Tucker I know would take the time to answer any question put to him by a young fan, no matter how insane. This is the Bob Tucker who wrote *The Neo-Fans Guide*, which deserves to be reprinted.

And this is the Bob Tucker who, whether at a small Midwestcon banquet or at a Worldcon's Hugo ceremony, is one of fandom's best loved toastmasters.

(I could also write about the Wilson Tucker I know, who wrote such classics as *The Long Loud Silence* and *The Year Of The Quiet Sun*, but that's a different subject.)

At this Rivercon, you will have the pleasure of hearing Bob Tucker introduce the de Camps and his "dad", Rusty Hevelin. You may also have the great pleasure of meeting the Bob Tucker I met at my first con, who helped make that one and many others more enjoyable.



ed
qtr
fs.,
267
's-
'd.
5
ent
ast
the
pr-
04
ee.
D.
./
to
ld
1.
fe-
ast
ea.
old.
00.
d's
wk.
ry-
30.
de.
os.
di.
D.
n.7
nce
ea,
7.
no,
12.
45.
fe.
of
at
Re-
ed/
8
has
54.
ed
03
ale.
ot-
061

FOR SALE

**Daydreams
Fantasy
Myths
Legends
Illusions
Figments of
Imagination**

**Science Fiction
and Fantasy**

Comics
Paperbacks
Magazines
Prints
Portfolios
Ect.

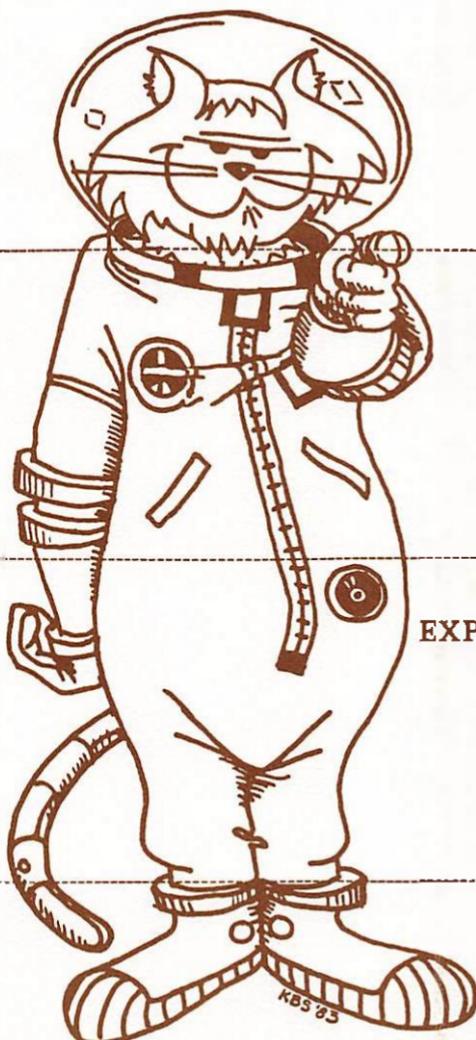
The Great Escape

2433 Bardstown Road
1 mile North of Watterson
Open Daily - 456-2216



STO
PSI
NEE
semi
time
w/hil
grad
App
Nu
Wom
Ca
WAN
on
North
a.m.
92
WAN
nia,
Exc.
TRA
AU
110

Copyright © 1981 Marvel Comics Group, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All rights reserved.



STEPS TO A BETTER NASFIC

DON'T
PANIC!

1

PROVIDE THE BEST FACILITIES

165,296 sq ft in 43 meeting
rooms, 2 ballrooms, and a
94,000 sq ft exhibit center.

950 sleeping rooms commit-
ted with 685 more available.

Hyatt Regency, Ohio Center,
Sheraton Columbus Plaza

2

FORM A DIVERSE EXPERIENCED COMMITTEE

Celia Smith: Chairman
Jean Airey, Barb Alexander,
John Ayotte, Tom Huff, Sally
Kobee-Ludwig, Van Siegling,
Larry Smith, Tom Van Horne

With interests and activity
in art, Dr. Who, fantasy, fan-
zines, filking, gaming, hard
sf, media, SCA, and numer-
ous sub-fandoms.

3

VOTE COLUMBUS FOR 1985

4

VIDEO ELECTRONICS

4416 OUTER LOOP, LOUISVILLE

964-DISH

**Wide selection of science fiction
video tapes & disks**

Satellite receivers

**Largest video game selection
in town**

Atari & Colecovision

"Your satellite technology company"

