

The Riverboat Packet

RiverCon's Daily Newsletter
Issue Number 1
Friday, July 18, 1997



Welcome to RiverCon XXII!

We're back for the 22nd time, and we're glad you're with us. In case you still don't know, we're here to share our mutual obsession interest in science fiction and fantasy and all its myriad variations. So get together with old friends, meet new ones and have a great time. Yadda, yadda, yadda.

SF Jeopardy Rules!

For the umpteenth year (we've lost count), RiverCon will feature its SF Jeopardy tournament. Julee Johnson-Tate plays the role of Alex Trebek, while Chris Tate is her trusty sidekick Don Pardo. They would like to acknowledge a great deal of help from the staff of Contact, a neat little con held every Fall in Evansville, Indiana. Here's how you can take part:

We'll be choosing a total of nine players, three for each round, to be held consecutively beginning at 12:00 noon Saturday in The Chapel. If you want to be a contestant, enter your name at the Information Desk (next to Registration) by 10:00 p.m. Friday. A random drawing will determine the players, and their names will be posted by 10:00 a.m. Saturday morning.

Prizes will be awarded to the winner of each round and a grand prize given to the winner of the championship game on Sunday.

Where's Linda?

Indefatigable Masquerade Director Linda Wyatt is unfortunately among the missing this weekend. Due to emergency surgery a few days ago, she is under doctors' orders to take it easy for a while. She is doing fine, however, and we send her our best wishes. Longtime masquerade assistants Richard and Lois Wellinghurst will be running the show (literally) this RiverCon, following Linda's meticulous guidelines.

More program participants

Since the program book went to press, we've added a couple more folks to the schedule. We thought you'd like to get to know them.

Dan Gallagher is the author of the new novel *The Pleistocene Redemption* (<http://www.paleobook.com>). A former Army Ranger, Dan has an MBA and is an award-winning securities principal. His other serious pursuits, all of which contributed to his novel, include physics, biology, archaeology, comparative religion and paleontology. Dan resides with his wife Laura and their three children in Virginia. (Dan will be here only on Sunday, when he will read from his book and discuss it at 12:00 in the Bagpipe Room. He will have copies for sale.)

Kurt Roth is a proud survivor of Clarion West. While his work has appeared in small press magazines and anthologies since 1989, he is still something of a neo-pro, with stories forthcoming in *Chronicles of the Round Table* and in the new British magazine, *Odyssey*. He has been described as a "tireless" interviewer, reviewer and essayist, but denies it categorically, claiming "I'm often tired." He's a member of HWA and will be joining SFWA as soon as the papers arrive.

Extended Pool Hours

The hotel is extending the pool hours until 2:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday night *for RiverCon members only*. You might need to show your badge, but don't forget to take it off before getting in the water.

Makin' Copies . . .

Need a sign or a last-minute party announcement? We have a copy machine in Registration and will be able to offer copy services to RiverCon members. To have copies made, go to the Information Desk (*not* Registration). Copies are 5c each, and we have a limited choice of papers.

Ribbons, Get Yer Ribbons! Can't tell who's who without yer ribbons!

Here's your handy-dandy pocket guide to the ribbons of RiverCon:

Gold	Chairs and Vice-chair
Red	Department Heads
Brown	Staff
Tan	Gophers/Volunteers
Blue	Guests
White	Program Participants
Purple	Artists
Green	Hucksters

Note that there is no prize for the individual wearing the most different ribbons.

Williamson Autographing

Special Guest Jack Williamson will be signing his books at 1:00 p.m. Saturday in the Aberdeen Room. Due to the anticipated demand, we ask that you limit to three the number of items for signing. You may, of course, re-join the line as often as you like as time allows. If necessary, and if scheduling permits, we may try to schedule a second session later in the convention.

And speaking of autographing, aside from a Terry Bisson session following his reading at 2:00 p.m. Saturday in the Shannon, we have not programmed any other formal autographing sessions. But please feel free to approach your favorite authors and ask to have your book signed. All will be delighted to accommodate. However, please be considerate and polite when doing so. Do not interrupt conversations or meals. And don't haul out a bagful of books without warning.

ATTN: Card Players

The Paisley and Tweed Rooms have been set aside for the exclusive use of card players of all kinds (er, that is, card *games* of all kinds). The Tweed Room is a smoking room, while the Paisley is for non-smokers. We expect that the rooms will be available on a first-come, first-served basis around the clock.

Program Change

Marketing Yourself and Your Work, the beginning Writers Workshop with Michael Banks and Diann Thornley has been changed from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. It remains in the Bagpipe Room.

Hotel Brunch

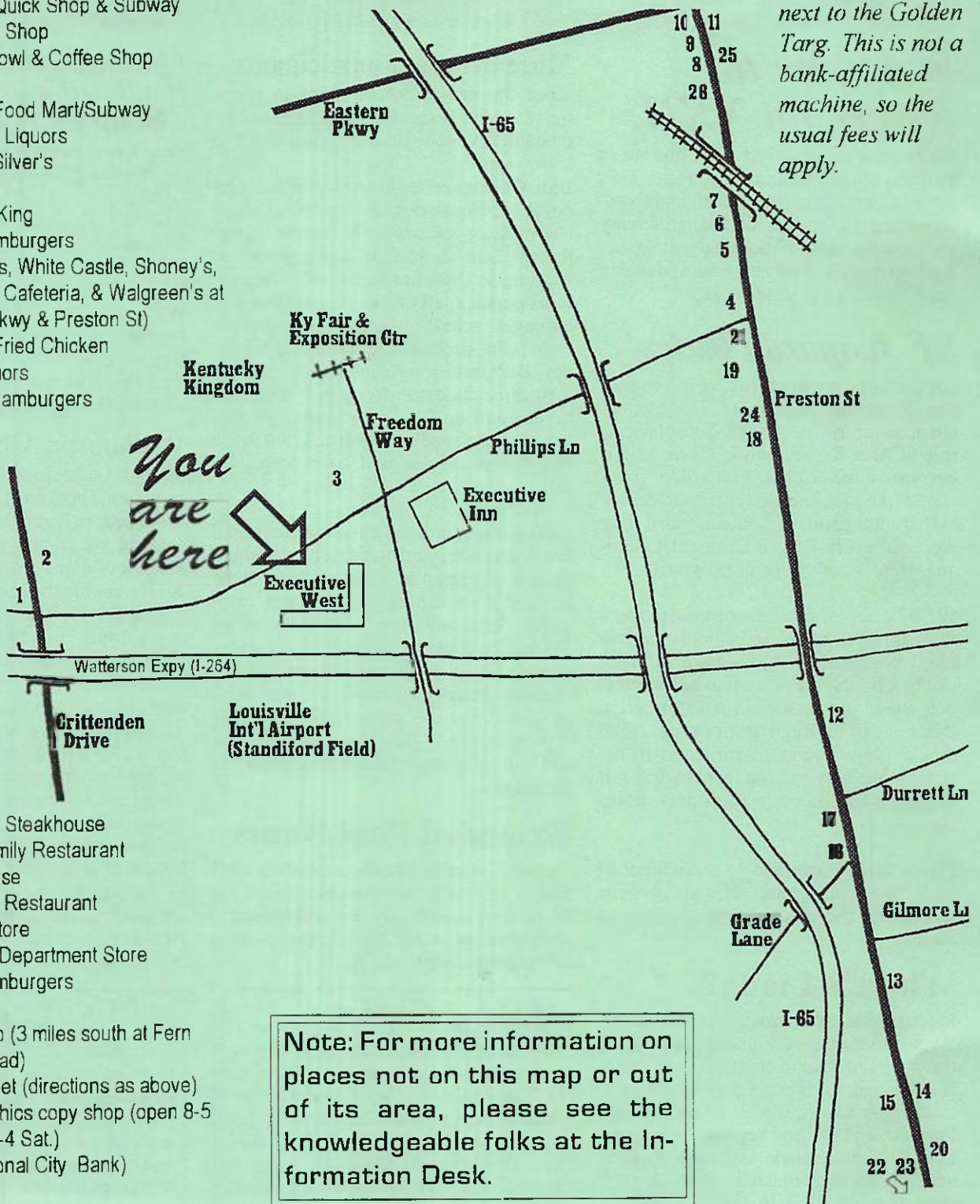
The Executive West is offering a brunch on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 6:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the Golden Targ. The price is just \$8.50, which includes beverages, tax and gratuity.

Please Recycle

We're generating a lot of empty aluminum cans this weekend, so please look for the containers designated for recycled cans and use them.

The World Outside

1. SuperAmerica—Quick Shop
2. Thornton's Quick Shop & Subway Sandwich Shop
3. Executive Bowl & Coffee Shop
4. McDonald's
5. Thornton's Food Mart/Subway
6. Fairgrounds Liquors
7. Long John Silver's
8. Pizza Hut
9. Chopsticks King
10. Rally's Hamburgers
(Mr. Gatti's, White Castle, Shoney's, Blue Boar Cafeteria, & Walgreen's at Eastern Pkwy & Preston St)
11. Kentucky Fried Chicken
12. Dupre Liquors
13. Wendy's Hamburgers



Note: There is an ATM machine in the hotel located next to the Golden Targ. This is not a bank-affiliated machine, so the usual fees will apply.

14. Ponderosa Steakhouse
15. Lindy's Family Restaurant
16. Waffle House
17. Bob Evans Restaurant
18. Aldi Foodstore
19. Value City Department Store
20. Rally's Hamburgers
21. Taco Bell
22. Sam's Club (3 miles south at Fern Valley Road)
23. Liquor Outlet (directions as above)
24. LaserGraphics copy shop (open 8-5 Fri. and 9-4 Sat.)
25. ATM (National City Bank)
26. Auto Zone

Note: For more information on places not on this map or out of its area, please see the knowledgeable folks at the Information Desk.

The Riverboat Packet

RiverCon's Daily Newsletter
Issue Number 2
Saturday, July 19, 1997

RiverCon XXII: Day 2

Well, we made it to Saturday, and all is OK. We closed registration at 12:00 midnight with a membership of 728. We are anticipating a total membership of just over 800.

Sunday Hotel Check-out

According to our contract with the Executive West, Sunday check-out time is 2:00 p.m. However, there is a major check-in that afternoon, and the hotel would be extremely please if anyone checking out Sunday would do so as early as possible.

Makin' Copies . . .

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HIV/AIDS Benefit Auction

The fifth annual RiverCon auction to benefit the Community Health Trust will be held Saturday at 3:00 p.m. in the King Room (adjacent to the Art Show). We have quite a few interesting items for you to bid on, including an advance copy of *Saint Leibowitz and the Wild Horse Woman* signed by Terry Bisson; signed books by Marion Zimmer Bradley, Harry Turtledove, Paul DiFilippo, Michael Whelan, and several more; plus some rather unclassifiable items that you'll just have to go see. It's all for a good cause, so bid early and often.

Hotel Brunch

The Executive West is offering a brunch on Saturday and Sunday mornings from 6:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the Golden Targ. The price is just \$8.50, which includes beverages, tax and gratuity.

Program Changes

Michael Williams is joining *Keeping Fantasy Fresh* today at 11:00 a.m. in the Shannon Room.

Gary Williams has been added to *Have Pixels Replaced Painting* today at 1:00 p.m. in the King Room. (Debbie Hughes and Mark Maxwell are unfortunately unable to attend RiverCon this year.)

Religion in Science Fiction has been moved to the Edinburgh Room at 1:00 p.m. (same time, different room).

The Artemis Project

Luna or Bust, a program discussing The Artemis Project, a plan to build a commercial lunar base, will be presented by Thomas K. Martin at 6:00 p.m. Saturday in the Shannon Room.

The Return of the Exquisite Corpse!

Exquisite Corpse, that perennial RiverCon favorite, has been added to the program schedule. Watch artists Nancy Lockyear, Archie Harper, Dan Alldredge, Leigh Kimmel, and Eric Yates try to top each other with outrageous drawings. See Gary Williams try to keep order. It all starts at 2:00 p.m. today in the King Room on the second floor next to the Art Show.

Video reception problems?

If you are unable to receive Channel 13 on your hotel room TV set, it's probably because you have a newer model set that was not programmed to receive it. If so, just call hotel maintenance at x4104 and ask that your set be re-programmed. Sorry about that; it was an unanticipated glitch.

Copies of the program schedule and program book are available at Registration in large print and Braille, thanks to the efforts of Samanda Jeude and Electrical Eggs.

SF Jeopardy Contestants

The following RiverCon members have been chosen in a drawing to be SF Jeopardy contestants:

Round 1

Chris Barkley
Nichole Gray Besse
Jann Melton

Round 2

John Filpus
Michael Kingsley
Jim Woosley

Round 3 is yet to be determined.

The matches begin at 12:00 noon in The Chapel. Each round will last approximately 30 minutes. The three winners will face each other in the championship round at 12:00 noon Sunday.

Party Announcements

Chicago in 2000

Saturday, 9:00 p.m. in Room 657. There will be a door prize drawing at midnight.

USS Questar

All day Saturday in Room 670. Raffles, prizes, movies throughout the con.

Dixie Walker Memorial

Saturday, 9:00 - 11:00 p.m. (re-opening after the masquerade), Room 795. Several of her prints, paintings and sculptures will be on display.

Check signs posted around the hotel for any other scheduled open parties.

Extended Pool Hours

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