



## A Statement About the Future of RiverCon

**A**S THE END OF THE MILLENNIUM APPROACHES, we have decided to retire RiverCon, Louisville's annual science fiction and fantasy convention, after the 25th convention in the year 2000.

After much consideration, this decision was based on two main factors. The first, and foremost, was that we do not wish to continue running RiverCon beyond that time when we can still do it well, and can do it with enthusiasm and fresh ideas. We want RiverCon to end on a high note as a successful and enjoyable convention, not only for the members but also for those running it as well.

The second factor relates to our committee members. We have enjoyed an association with a fine group of talented and dedicated people who have been working on and supporting RiverCon for many years. However, it is obvious that this same group of people cannot continue to run RiverCon indefinitely. Replacing retiring committee members, department heads, and even staff has become increasingly difficult. By establishing an ending date, we have hopefully provided that "light at the end of the tunnel" that will give all our committee members (and ourselves!) the incentive to stay with RiverCon through the very last one.

The RiverCon name and distinctive logo will be retired with the convention. The names "RiverCon" and "NorthAmeriCon" are service marks of the Louisville Science Fiction Association, Inc., and cannot be used without the express written permission of the Association's Board of Directors.

Any group that wishes to begin a new SF convention in Louisville does so with our best wishes. If asked, we will be happy to offer any advice, wisdom, and guidance our cumulative decades have given us. We want to make it clear, however, that any new Louisville SF convention will be completely independent of RiverCon and its present committee, even if there is an overlap of individual members.

We sincerely hope that the many people who have attended and enjoyed RiverCon over the years will continue to do so through the year 2000. We and the RiverCon committee offer our thanks and appreciation to all those who have given us their support and enriched our lives since RiverCon began its long voyage way back in 1975.

For the time being, we invite you to attend RiverCon XXIII, July 30 - Aug. 1, 1998; RiverCon XIV, July 30 - Aug. 1, 1999; and finally, RiverCon XXV, July 28 - 30, 2000.

*Steve and Sue Francis,  
RiverCon Co-Chairs  
June 28, 1998*