

TROPICON VII

December 2-4, 1988

Fort Lauderdale Surf Hotel & Marina
Fort Lauderdale, FL

PROGRESS REPORT

GUESTS OF HONOR

POUL ANDERSON & WALTER A. WILLIS

with Karen Anderson, Madeleine Willis,
Hal Clement, Will Eisner
Joseph Green, Lee Hoffman
Tom Maddox, Gary Alan Ruse
and many others

*Willis
Re-Discovers
America*



The South Florida Science Fiction Convention

TROPICON VII Progress Report

TROPICON VII is fast approaching. Enclosed you will find information on activities and events without which a convention goer would be lost.

We want you to become involved. If this is your first convention, don't be afraid to volunteer to help. Without volunteers, our convention could not be successful. And for those of you who are old-timers, welcome back to another fun-filled convention with the usual interesting panels and interviews with our guests, late hours, little sleep, and early morning filking...

We wish you a warm welcome and hope to see you at TROPICON VII !! There will be the normal fantastic Art Show, Programs, Video, Films, Costume Contest, Banquet, Dealers' Room, Gaming, Trivia Free for All, Filking, Con suite, exhibits about our Guests, *plus* some special surprises!

Guests of Honor

POUL ANDERSON is a multiple award-winning author of science fiction, fantasy, and historical novels. His writing runs the gamut from high fantasy to hard science fiction, from verse and song to farce and space opera. He is a co-founder of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA), and a past Worldcon Guest of Honor. Poul's first story was published in 1947. He continues to be a thought-provoking and entertaining master of science fiction. Among his works are "Queen of Air and Darkness" (Hugo & Nebula awards, 1972), THE HIGH CRUSADE, BRAIN WAVE, THE BROKEN SWORD, "Call Me Joe", the Hoka stories (with Gordon Dickson), the Flandry stories, OPERATION CHAOS, ORION SHALL RISE, THREE HEARTS AND THREE LIONS, TAU ZERO, the Polesotechnic stories, and many, many more. He has won a total of seven Hugos and three Nebulas. His most recent publications include the KING OF YS series, written with his wife, Karen Anderson.

WALT WILLIS' fannish career is legendary. From Slant in 1948 to Hyphen 37 in 1987, he has been one of the finest, most innovative writers to appear in the fan field. Among other things, he is the man responsible for the *Enchanted Duplicator*, "The Harp That Once Or Twice", and many many puns. Walt is best known for his fanzines humor criticism fiction everything. His column on fandom appeared for over a decade in the professional magazine, NEBULA. A 614 page collection of his writing was published as a special, hardbound issue of *Warhoon* in 1978. Walt was the linchpin of Irish Fandom and the Belfast-Savannah Axis. This is a rare opportunity to meet one of Ireland's finest contributions to the field.

Registration: 3 DAY MEMBERSHIP: \$20 until November 1, 1988

Children 8 years and younger free with adult member.

Registration hours:
Friday: noon - 7:30 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 6 PM
Sunday: 10 AM - 2 PM

NOTE: All advance registrants are eligible for a special drawing for a carton of books valued at over \$50.00 !!

Hotel & Room Rates

The Fort Lauderdale Surf Hotel & Marina is directly across from the beach and promises to be an excellent facility. The staff have been extremely helpful and cooperative. Nearly all of our function space is on the top floor with the five mile Fort Lauderdale Beach across the street. Rooms are \$47 per night, single through quad. Reserve a room early. Reservations should be sent directly to the Ft. Lauderdale Surf Hotel & Marina, 440 Seabreeze Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316 or call (305) 462-5555. Mention TROPICON when you are reserving a room to receive the special convention rate.

Directions to the hotel: From the South:

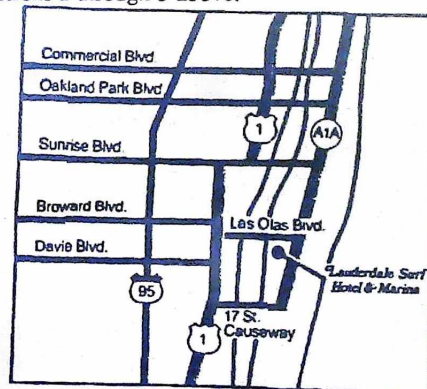
1. Take I-95 north to Broward Blvd.
2. Go east on Broward Blvd. until SE 3rd Ave.
3. Turn right on SE 3rd Ave and go south to Las Olas Blvd (which is the 2nd traffic signal).
4. Take Las Olas Blvd. east to Seabreeze Blvd. (one block before A1A and the beach).
5. Turn right on Seabreeze and go south about one block to the Fort Lauderdale Surf Hotel & Marina.

From Fort Lauderdale International Airport:

1. Take U.S. 1 north to Broward Blvd.
2. Turn right and go east on Broward Blvd to SE 3rd Ave.
3. Follow Directions 3 through 5 above.

From the North:

1. Take I-95 south to Broward Blvd.
2. Follow Directions 2 through 5 above.



Programming

Program development for this year's TROPICON is in progress. With our outstanding line-up of guests, our programs will be literary or scientific or fan-nish — and maybe all three. In addition to Poul Anderson, Walt Willis, Karen Anderson and Madeleine Willis, our confirmed program participants include Hal Clement (author), Will Eisner (artist - creator of THE

SPIRIT), Gail Bennett (artist), Sarah Clemens (artist & author), Ginger Curry (author), Alexis Gilliland (artist & author), Joseph Green (author), Mary Hanson-Roberts (artist), Lee Hoffman (author), Brad Linaweaver (author), Tom Maddox (author), Vincent Miranda (SF historian & editor) Ingrid Neilson (artist), Gary Alan Ruse (author), Steve Stiles (artist). With Walt Willis making a very rare appearance in the U. S. (his first in over 25 years), we are planning some special fan programs. Programs scheduled include our traditional TROPICON Guest of Honor interviews and Trivia Free-For-All. Come join us, and take advantage of this opportunity to meet, and talk with your favorite authors and artists.

Banquet

A banquet in honor of TROPICON's Guests of Honor, Poul Anderson and Walt Willis, will be held Saturday night and includes the Guest of Honor speech. Tickets are \$19.50 each and must be purchased by Wednesday, November 30. We always have a packed house for the banquet, so order your tickets now!

Exhibit

Come visit the TROPICON showcase exhibit which will have books, magazines, fanzines, and unusual items by Poul Anderson, Walt Willis and other TROPICON guests. If there is a special book missing from your collection, you might have a chance to see it here.

Art Show

TROPICON is pleased and proud to announce its best art show ever. (We've made this claim for years and have not been wrong yet.) Please reserve and pay for your panel as early as possible or you may miss out on the chance to have your artwork displayed. TROPICON accepts both checks and cash, but no credit cards. (Sorry!)

The Art Show will be open from

Friday	December 2	12 - 6 p.m.
Saturday	December 3	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday	December 4	10 a.m. - 1/2 hour before the auction

Ribbons will be awarded for the best in the categories of science fiction and fantasy, and all TROPICON attendees have one vote for the *Best in Show*.

The Art Show is always in need of volunteers. If you would like to help in any aspect of the Art Show, contact the Art Show's coordinator, Becky Peters, at (305) 463-5471 from 9 PM - 1 AM. No collect calls, please.

Dealers' Room

This year, the Dealers' Room will have 18 tables. The rental fee is \$40 which includes a membership. Please submit the name of the dealer attending, so we may have a badge ready in advance. A limit of 2 tables will be set for each dealer, but requests for additional tables may be submitted. Should tables be available 14 days before the convention, these requests will be honored in the order received.

If you have any special needs to be fulfilled in setting up your table, please let us know so we can assist you as much as possible. Please remember that the Dealers' Room is a non-smoking room. Food and drink will be allowed behind the tables only.

For further information, contact Gail Bennett at 3705 E. Shore Rd., Miramar, FL 33023. Or call (305) 961-2831 from 6-11 PM weekdays or 12 Midnight on weekends. No collect calls, please.

Tentative Dealers' Room hours are as follows:

Set up:	9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Fri., Dec. 2
Operation:	12 p.m. - 6 p.m. Fri., Dec. 2
	10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat., Dec. 3
	10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4
Breakdown:	4 p.m. - 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

Note: If you are interested in purchasing ad space in our program book, please include a SASE for more information.

Con Suite

The con suite will be open from Noon - 4 AM, Friday and Saturday, and from Noon - ??? on Sunday. On Friday only, after Registration has closed, anyone who has pre-registered for the convention can pick up a badge in the con suite until midnight.

This year, the con suite promises many surprises. Among the fun events planned for the con suite are a chili party on Friday night (after the *Meet the Pros* cocktail party). Saturday night, after the masquerade, there will be a dessert contest in the con suite with prizes for the best desserts. So, when you get ready for this year's TROPICON, remember to bring your favorite (hot) chili or dessert.

There will be five categories for judging the desserts: candy, cake, cookie, a special medieval division, and none of the above. If the dessert to be entered in the contest is perishable, please tell the person in charge of the con suite so proper arrangements can be made. If you need further information or would like to help in the con suite, contact Linda Hill, c/o SFSFS, P.O. Box 70143, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307.



Filking

As always, TROPICON wants you to filk. We invite you to participate by bringing any instrument you might have - guitar, autoharp, kazoos and your voice (on-key or off-key). Off key participants should bring "on target" refreshments for compensation to the singers!

Video Room

Tired of all the new and untried films at video festivals? Tired of coming to a Con and seeing programming that looks like HBO this month? We offer an array of classics upon classics - from the 30's to the 60's. (Okay, we might have something newer, but we won't admit it here.) For the first time, we are featuring a festival with two main themes:

- 1) George squared- films by George Wells (H. G. to you) & George Pal,
- 2) Fabulous Forties Fantasies - At a time when SF films were few and far between, fantasy held full sway. We will offer a super group. You can guess at the titles, because we won't tell you here!

Midnight MOVIES Saturday Night

Can you survive our *all Florida*, triple critter marathon Saturday night? — including *EMPIRE OF THE ANTS*, *ATTACK OF THE GIANT LEECHES* and *FROGS*. The first film is loosely based on a story by H. G. Wells and includes giant ants foraging in Central Florida. The second is located in Florida's swamps. And the third film is directed by Roger Corman's brother, Gene Corman. If you survive any one of these films, you receive a button. Survive all three and you will be eligible for a special drawing to be held at Sunday's closing ceremonies.

Heinlein Memorial Blood Drive

With the approval of his wife, Virginia, TROPICON VII will hold a special blood drive in honor of Robert A. Heinlein. So roll up your sleeves and help us out with this cause. Donations will be accepted on Saturday, December 3. For more information about this event, contact Peggy Dolan, 4427 Royal Palm Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33140-3039.

Masquerade "Extravaganza"

As usual, our Costume Party will be held Saturday night, in the Con Suite after the Banquet. This year's costumers will be judged in science fiction and fantasy categories, as well as a special medieval category. Any weapons must be peace-bonded.

Gaming

What's your favorite game?? Be it STAR TREK, DR. WHO, DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, we'll have a game for you. Last year, local gamers developed a highly praised game based on the works of George R. R. Martin, TROPICON VII's Guest of Honor. This year we welcome suggestions for a game based on a work by one or both Guests of Honor.

TROPICON VII Registration Form

Please register me for TROPICON VII. My payment is enclosed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for the items checked below:

- _____ 3-day membership \$20.00 (until November 1)
- _____ Banquet Ticket \$19.50 (must be purchased by November 30)
- _____ Dealers' Room _____ table(s) at \$40.00/table. Limit 2 (includes one membership) Must be purchased by Nov. 15.
- _____ Art Show \$20.00 full panel (4'x8'), \$15.00 half panel, \$10.00 quarter panel. Please reserve by Nov. 15)
- _____ Volunteers. If you do not wish to volunteer, mark an x here. (Just kidding - but if you do want to volunteer, write YES in the blank.)

Make checks payable to : South Florida Science Fiction Society
Mail to: SFSFS Treasurer, 4427 Royal Palm Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33140

Hotel Registration Form

TROPICON VII The South Florida Science Fiction Society Convention
December 2, 1988 - December 4, 1988, Fort Lauderdale Surf Hotel & Marina

Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Arrive _____ Depart _____

Please circle Occupancy: Single Double Triple Quad
Room Rate: \$47.00 plus Tax.

Enclosed please find my check for _____ Advance Deposit One night revenue (Check #____) or please bill my credit card for \$_____
Advance Deposit. Credit Card Expires: _____

Signature: _____
Make check payable to: Lauderdale Surf Hotel & Marina. Mail to 440 Seabreeze Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316, or call (305) 462-5555.

Confirmed reservations must be placed with the hotel by Nov. 21, 1988. For more information about registration, banquet tickets, art show, dealers room or any aspect of the convention, write to:

TROPICON VII, P. O. Box 70143, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307
Credits: Editor: Carol Porter. Art: Lee Hoffman

Society for Creative Anachronism

If you've a yearning for the past as it should have been, this is your chance to find out more about the Society for Creative Anachronism. The Shire of Sangre Del Sol will be represented at TROPICON. Members of the SCA that wish to participate in related demonstrations or programming, please contact Sue Trautman, c/o SFSFS, P.O. Box 70143, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307.

Roommate Sharing

If you would like to a roommate for TROPICON VII and happen to feel particularly adventurous, please fill out the form below and send to: TROPICON VII Roommate Matching, P. O. Box 70143, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307-0143.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Interests: _____

Smoking Non-smoking (circle one)

Age _____ First time Attendee? _____

Other comments _____

TROPICON VII
SOUTH FLORIDA SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 70143
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33307-0143

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REQUESTED



R. A. McAvoy
Underhill at Nelson Farm
1669 Nelson Road
Scotts Valley, CA
U. S. A. 95066

