

>>>>>>>> PROGRESS REPORT ZERO

ConDiablo

The 49th WesterCon

July 3-7, 1996

Camino Real Paso del Norte & Convention Center
El Paso, Texas

Guests of Honor

James P. Blaylock

Howard Waldrop

Artist Guest of Honor

Brad W. Foster

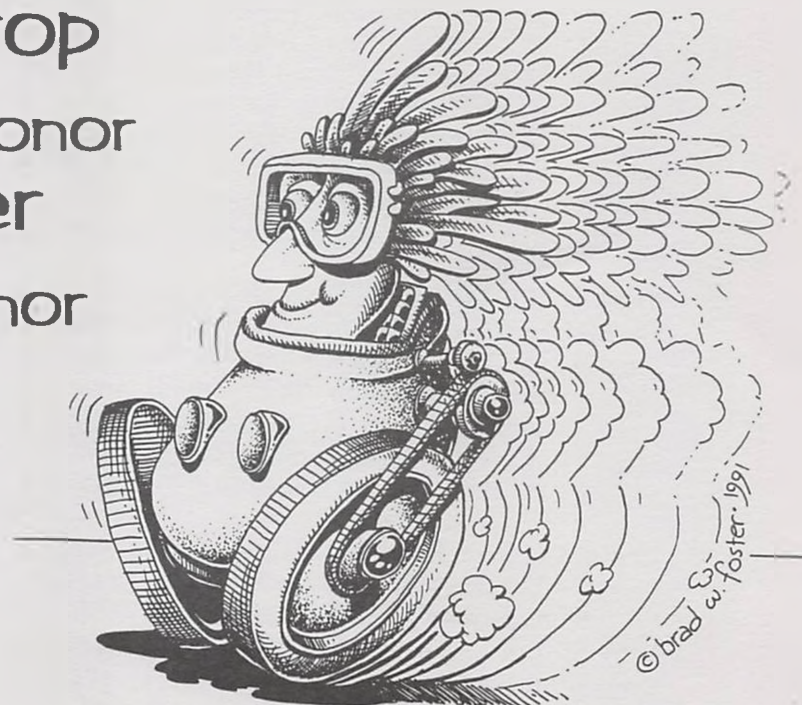
Fan Guests of Honor

Arnie Katz

Joyce Katz

Toastmaster

Pat Cadigan



Memberships: \$30 Attending through Dec. 31, 1994
\$20 Supporting

Make checks payable to WesterCon 49

Write: ConDiablo, P.O. Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79923

Tel. 1-800-585-8754 (in El Paso: 542-0443)

Internet: RichBrandt@aol.com

CompuServe: 71573.2724

Sponsored by the El Paso Science Fiction and Fantasy Alliance and
The Fandom Association of Central Texas, Inc.

Our Guests

James P. Blaylock has received the World Fantasy Award (for "Paper Dragons") and the Philip K. Dick Memorial Award (for *Homunculus*). A widely-admired fantasist as well as a sometime practitioner of the Victorian-themed science fiction jocularly known as "steampunk," his other writings include *The Disappearing Dwarf*, *The Elfin Ship*, *The Digging Leviathan*, *Paper Grail*, *Land of Dreams*, *The Last Coin*, and *Night Relics*. His latest is *Lord Kelvin's Machine*, a sequel of sorts to *Homunculus*.

Howard Waldrop, known to Texas fandom as "Mr. National Treasure," received the Nebula award for his classic novelette, "The Ugly Chickens." In addition to creating the doomed heroic figure of Jetboy for *Wild Cards*, he has written the stories collected in *Howard Who?*, *All About Strange Monsters of the Recent Past* and *Night of the Cooters*, as well as two novels, *The Texas-Israeli War* (with Jake Saunders) and *Them Bones*. He also is known as a reader-without-equal to those who have been privileged to witness him in performance.

Brad W. Foster has received the Hugo Award for Best Fan Artist four times. His artwork has appeared in such publications as *Amazing Stories* and *The Dragon*, the graphic novel series *Mechthings*, and his own Jabberwocky Press. It has also graced countless fanzines, program book covers and convention T-shirts.

Arnie & Joyce Katz in another lifetime were a key member of the 1967 New York Worldcon committee and the co-chair of the 1969 St. Louis Worldcon. They also produced, alone, jointly or with others, a slew of fanzines including *Quip*, *Potlatch* and *Focal Point*. After sojourns in wrestling fandom and the electronic gaming industry, they've re-emerged in the '90s with a new fanzine, *Folly*, and a new base of fan activity in Las Vegas. At the same time that they've nurtured a crop of young publishers and conrunners, they've coaxed "retired" fans like Charles Burbee into renewed activity. All this while editing a slick monthly newsstand publication, *Computer Games*...

Pat Cadigan is the World Fantasy Award-winning author of *Mindplayers*, *Patterns*, *Synners*, and *Fools*. A sought-after speaker at conventions and scientific conferences, she also holds sway over ArmadilloCon's annual "Science Fiction Family Feud," where she's been known to wield a mean bullwhip.

The Committee Thus Far...

Co-Chairs: Richard Brandt, Fred Duarte
Treasurer: Michelle René Lyons
Administrative Division: Nina Siros
Registration: Edw. A. Graham, Jr.
Hotel Liaison: Michele Ellington
Guest Liaison: Charles Siros
Fixed Functions: Willie Siros
Art Show: Teresa Patterson
Dealers Room: Bryan Barrett
Gaming: Karl Kreder

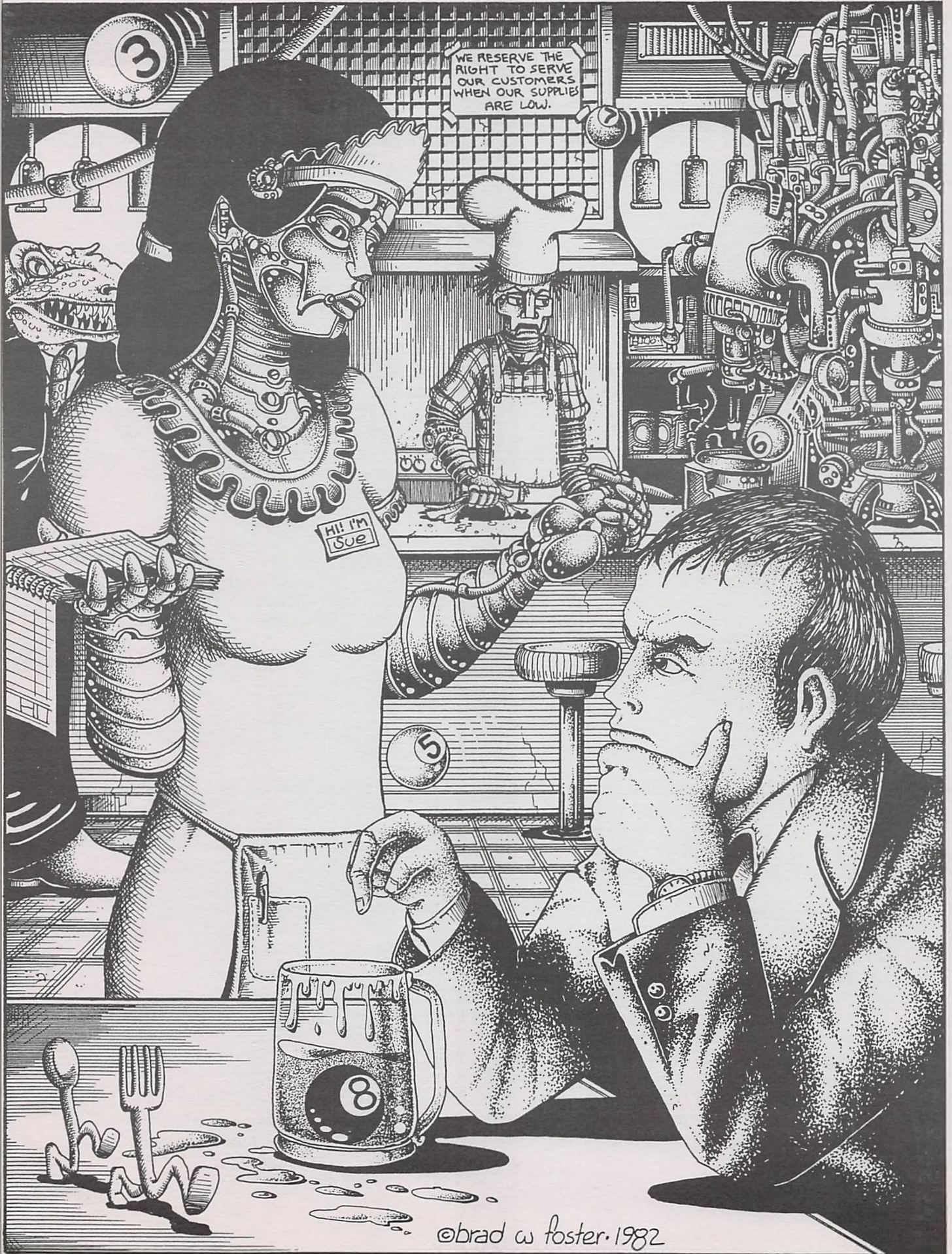
Who Are We?

ConDiablo, the 49th WesterCon, is co-sponsored by the El Paso Science Fiction and Fantasy Alliance and the Fandom Association of Central Texas, Inc. Both are 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organizations. Our members have served at chair, committee or staff level at conventions as diverse as Worldcons, NASFiCs, Westercons, Sercon, Corflu, and "local" conventions with 500-600 attendees.

Where Are We?

El Paso is the westernmost city in Texas, situated on the banks of the Rio Grande at the southernmost pass through the Rocky Mountains, and directly on the border with Mexico at *Ciudad Juarez*.

Our facilities are centered in the Camino Real Paso del Norte Hotel, and in the El Paso Convention Center directly across Santa Fe street. The Paso del Norte is El Paso's original luxury hotel, built for the cattlemen's trade in 1912, renovated and expanded in the 1980's to a total of 375 rooms. (All told, we have over 900 rooms blocked for the weekend.) Its Tiffany glass dome has been restored to its original glory, as has the four-star Dome Grill.



©brad w foster. 1982

The hotel features 8000 square feet of ballroom space and six additional meeting rooms. Directly across the street, the Convention Center with its 60,000-square-foot Grand Hall and an additional 4800 feet of meeting space.

How Do I Get There?

Several major airlines fly into El Paso, including American, Continental, Delta, Southwest and America West. The Greyhound bus terminal is across the street from the hotel and the convention center. Amtrak delivers passengers to El Paso's historic Union Depot. And if you're driving, we're conveniently located on Interstate 10 at the Downtown exit.

What Is There to Do in El Paso Besides Go to a Westercon?

For history buffs, the Paso del Norte hotel itself is steeped in Western history. One only has to cross the street to find not only the convention center, but the landmark Plaza Theater, the El Paso Science Museum (geared towards young audiences), and the future home of the El Paso Museum of Art. Elsewhere downtown, one can walk in the footsteps of gunslingers like John Wesley Hardin (who rests in El Paso's Concordia Cemetery) or find the offices where Madero and Villa plotted the Mexican Revolution.

Along the river, one can dine at La Hacienda Cafe, built by El Paso's first miller, and visit the barracks of historic Fort Bliss. The base's current site on the Northeast side of town hosts several museums for military buffs.

The international bridges and Juarez are only blocks from the hotel, and trolleys leave every half hour during the day from the convention center. You can visit state-sponsored shops and museums, or try your luck haggling with the merchants at the City Market or the shops lining Juarez Avenue. Explorers can enjoy a pleasant (and *safe*) meal at recommended restaurants. You can also bring back, free of duty, a liter apiece of liquor and wine, a case of beer, and up to \$400 in general merchandise.

Farther afield into El Paso's Lower Valley is the historic Mission Trail, home to settlements dating back to the 1680's. You can also find the state's only Native American reservation, home to Tiguas who fled from the Pueblo revolt in New Mexico.

In addition to tribal restaurants and shops, the Tigua reservation features legalized gaming, a vice that can also be indulged at the Juarez Dog Track and the Sunland Park (Horse) Race Track across the river in New Mexico.

El Paso also plays host to plenty of fine restaurants, live-music clubs and dance halls; amusement parks such as Western Playland and Wet'n'Wild; and parks and hiking trails are located throughout the mountains. And you can take in the splendorous view from Scenic Drive, as seen in the opening moments of *Manos: The Hands of Fate...*

El Paso is also conveniently located for driving trips to Carlsbad Caverns, Big Bend National Park, historic Mesilla, Lincoln National Forest (Billy the Kid country), and Alamogordo, home of the International Space Museum and Hall of Fame.

How Do I Join?

If you presupported and voted, you are automatically an attending member.

If you voted but did not presupport you are now a supporting member. Conversion to attending is \$5 through December 31, 1994.

Otherwise, attending memberships are \$30 through December 31, 1994. Supporting memberships are \$20 and will remain so.

How Do I Contact You?

To write us, or to send your membership check (payable to Westercon 49), write to ConDiablo, P.O. Box 3177, El Paso, TX 79923.

Our phone number is 1-800-585-8754 (from El Paso, call 542-0443). We can also be reached electronically as RichBrandt@aol.com or on CompuServe at 71573.2724