



TONOPAH TELEGRAPH

THE NEWSLETTER OF WESTERCON 74

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Welcome to Tonopah

Welcome to Tonopah, and welcome to the *Wild, Wild Westercon!* We're so glad that you've made it to what we think is the most interesting place (in a good way) to ever host Westercon. We hope that you enjoy the convention, and that you take the opportunity to explore the fascinating town of Tonopah. This town, known as the "Queen of the Silver Camps," was at one time the center of the action in Nevada.

Remember that Westercon is run completely by volunteers, and that every one of you is part of what makes Westercon special. You can think of the *Wild, Wild Westercon* as a show where every one of us is a member of the cast. I hope you'll join us in the main hall at 2 PM Friday for the convention's "Opening Titles" and the official start of the convention. And as I said in the Program Book, *On With the Show!*

--Kevin Standlee

At-Convention Newsletter: *Tonopah Telegraph*

The *Tonopah Telegraph* will be the at-convention newsletter of Westercon 74. Scheduled publication time is noon each day of the convention. Submit news by the previous evening if possible, but no later than 9 AM each day. Submit news items electronically to telegraph@westercon74.org. You can also contact the newsletter editor, Sharon Sbarsky, at the Site Selection desk in the Tonopah Convention Center lobby.

Westercon 74 BBQ Cancelled

We regret that we have had to cancel the Westercon Barbecue, originally scheduled for Saturday afternoon, due a COVID outbreak in our grill-master's family that prevents him from attending the

Membership Stats: 331 preregistered members
272 attending, 1 child, 58 supporting
Members on site will be reported in later issues.

Weather: High 87°/Low 53° Fahrenheit

Sunrise: 5:27am; **Sunset:** 8:11 pm

Moonset: 10:32pm (clear skies)

Planets rising times: Saturn: 10:57pm; Jupiter: 12:42am*;
Mars: 1:34am*; Venus: 3:44am*; Mercury: 4:34am*

(* next day)

convention. Westercon 74 apologizes for the cancellation and sends our best wishes to our grill-master and his family and our hopes for a speedy recovery.

Schedule Changes

We will be updating the online version of the program as any last minute changes are made. However, for the benefit of members at Tonopah in person, we will post any changes to the printed program schedule here.

Gulf Futurism – Sunday July 3rd, 9:30am (Virtual)

Unfortunately Cristina Jurado is no longer able to be on this panel. Cheryl Morgan will step in to moderate. We are also delighted to welcome Basma Ghalayini, editor of the critically acclaimed *Palestine +100* anthology.

Who could have Predicted? – Monday July 4th, 8:00am

Sadly Ken MacLeod is no longer able to be on this panel.

Hospitality Bar

Greetings from Andy and Kevin, your Westercon 74 mixologists!

We'll be on hand at assorted times through the weekend offering a variety of adult beverages to tantalize your taste buds:

- A selection of wines from up-and-coming vintners from around the world
- (we hope) Some featured tastes from Tonopah brewers and winemakers
- Some refreshing light cocktail variations with a desert twist

Remember the legal drinking age in Nevada is 21; you must have been born before (today's month and day in) 2001 for us to serve you.

As responsible hosts, we also reserve the right to **not** serve you alcoholic beverages. Our hospitality department will have plenty of non-alcoholic options as well.

Westercon 74 Mask Requirement

When accessing convention-controlled facilities including the Tonopah Convention Center and other programming spaces, all members are required to wear as a face covering either an authentic N95, KN95, or KF94 mask or a surgical mask that covers both their nose and mouth whenever they are not actively eating or drinking.

Please do not just drop your mask for extended times while having refreshments.

WiFi Access

Tonopah Convention Center

SSID: conventioncenter

Password: convention3558

Belvada Lobby

SSID: Belvada Cafe

Password: belvadacafe

Like a Kaffeeklatsch, But With Dice!

GoH **Kevin Andrew Murphy** will be running two RPG sessions in the Gaming room (3rd floor, Mizpah Hotel). Saturday at 12:30pm, join him for an adventure in D&D 5th edition. Sunday, also at 12:30pm, will be a Wild Cards scenario using Mutants & Masterminds. Sign-up sheets are available at Program Ops, in the main hall of the Tonopah Convention Center.

Starry, Starry night with Planets!

This week we should have lots of stargazing opportunities. This includes a rare planet alignment of Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Venus, and Mercury. Planet rising times will be listed in this newsletter so you can decide if you want to see them all, or just the start of the display. Whether you want to take a break from Filking or get up before dawn.

Hospitality Parties – Fan Socials Area in the TCC

The Utah in '24 Westercon Bid welcomes everyone to our bid-party, starting Friday evening, 8pm. Looking forward to meeting you.

Sweet Dixie Grill

Sweet Dixie Southern Grill's food truck will be serving all this week through Sunday in the parking lot between the Vanwood Variety Store and the Tonopah Liquor Company on Main Street across from the Mizpah Hotel. They are open from 11 AM *"until people stop coming to buy more food."* It's a short walk from the TCC down Brougher Street and then left on Main.

A Huge Shout-Out

Lisa Deutsch Harrigan, who, due to unforeseen circumstances, has been unable to attend Westercon 74, performed yeo-woman service by making sure we had Square in order to take new memberships. She literally dictated instructions over the phone to get it up and running. We miss you, Lisa.

Westercon 76 (2024) Site Selection

Hours

Friday 2 PM-6 PM & Saturday 1 PM-7 PM

We have a bidder! **Utah in 2024** is bidding as a write-in bid. Come to the Site Selection table in entrance of the TCC. There will be ballots to fill in the bidder (use "Utah in 2024") and indicate it as a choice. There is still a Site Selection Voting Fee of \$20 which will be a Supporting membership in whatever site gets selected. Voting continues until Saturday at 7pm. The final confirmation will be made at the Business Meeting on Sunday, July 4, 11am at the Main Stage.

For more information about the bid see the ad in the Souvenir Book, or stop by their Fan Table or Party.

The Tonopah Telegraph is the newsletter of Westercon 74. All opinions are those of the individual authors. **Editor:** Sharon Sbarsky. **Reporters:** John Hertz, Kevin Standlee. ©2022 by San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, Inc., with all rights reverting to creators upon publication. "Westercon" and "West Coast Science Fantasy Society" are service marks of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Inc., and are used under the authority of the Westercon Bylaws.