

# Mad Moose Gazette

The Official Newszine of

WIS  
CON

Volume 13 Number 3

## Program Book Revisions

# Late-Breaking Program Changes

As always with an event the size of WisCon, some things don't go exactly as planned. Please change your program book accordingly.

•**Missing Persons.** Several panelists who were scheduled to appear won't be able to make it.

**Suzette Haden Elgin.** The matron saint of WisCon is actually being paid real money to appear at another conference and so has foregone her customary February visit to Madison (which she would have had to pay for).

**Buck and Juanita Coulson.** Also former WisCon guests of honor, the Coulsons will be missing this year because Juanita has recently had surgery. Phil Kaveny, who was coordinating the Coulsons' Travel Fund, has announced its conversion to the Quick Recovery Fund. Since the Coulsons are self-employed, they don't have catastrophic health insurance. Those wishing to contribute to the fund should see Phil in the huxteroom or mail a check to him c/o WisCon, Box 1624, Madison, WI, 53701-1624.

**Terry Garey.** Terry is ill and unable to attend.

**Tess Kolney.** Tess is also unable to attend due to family problems.

**Paula Lewis.** Paula, who was to coordinate the readings, won't be able to make it from Baltimore. She's experiencing painful inflammation of her joints and is hoping it's not Lyme disease.

•**Program Cancellations.** The film *Children of the Damned* was unavailable. The panel "Thoughts on SF in the Third World" has also been cancelled.

•**Performance Art.** Allusions in the last issue of the *Mad Moose Gazette* to song and dance being performed by Gardner Dozois and Howard Waldrop were greatly exaggerated. As to what they'll actu-

ally be doing instead of song and dance, you'll have to attend opening ceremonies to find out.

•**APA Twinkie Toss.** This event, which you will find listed for Sunday afternoon in your pocket program, doesn't have a description in the program book. Here's what Program Dept. Head Bill Bodden says about it:

This event is an import from MiniCon. APA teams compete for the highest average score by launching twinkies (sorry, wrapped only) at holes in a target board.

The toss is open to all members of amateur press associations (APAs).

Last year members of the *Turbo-Charged Party-Animal* APA cream-filled the competition at MiniCon, but they were unable to defend the title at Corflu.

•**Computer Games.** Just so it isn't all disappointing news, we do have an addition. The staff of the *Mad Moose Gazette* is sponsoring 2 computer-game tournaments during WisCon. The games are Tetris and Crystal Quest. The tournament will run until Saturday at 11:00 PM. The winner of each tournament will receive a copy of either *Letters from the Earth* by Mark Twain or *The True Believer* by Eric Hoffer.

To participate, just stop by Room 109 and ask to enter. If the computer isn't currently being used for publications, you'll be introduced to some of the world's most addictive games. If you get the high score, you'll be asked to enter your name. Please enter first initial and last name so we'll be able to get your prize to you.

Apologies to Hope Kiefer and Laura Spiess, previous high scorers, whose names were wiped from the roster of champions when we reset for these tournaments.

Concom members are ineligible to win.

# Secrets of the Registration Masters Revealed at Last

Kathi Scheller and her industrious crew of registration workers have divulged the secret color code for the WisCon 13 name badges. Most of them are yellow, but the con committee gets blue and pink ones. High mucky-mucks like the guests of honor and department head have red ones. (Kowtowing is not necessary but probably wouldn't do any harm.)

Some people have stars on their badges. Red stars are gophers, silver stars are badgers. (If you'd like a star of your very own, stop by Rooms 107 or 105, respectively.)

Here are the numbers on pre-registration this year:

25 free (incl. guests of honor)  
16 con committee  
40 workers  
76 program participants  
390 attending  
0 supporting  
**547 total**

And, because everyone always wants to know, here are the comparable numbers from last year:

25 free (incl. guests of honor)  
28 con committee  
50 workers  
91 program participants  
254 attending  
0 supporting  
**448 total**

When the con opened last year, we had sold 84 of the 100 available buffet tickets. This year we had sold 99 of the 150 available.

The standard charge for registration is \$15 (advance) or \$25 (at the door). However, program participants and workers are entitled to the \$7 rate. If you're one of those, and you paid more than \$7, stop by the registration desk to claim your refund. Refunds must be claimed by the end of March. Checks will be mailed out reasonably soon after getting the claim.

## Sumptuous Buffet Awaits Ravenous Fans

The Saturday evening buffet is an all-you-can eat affair, which should go over well with SF fans who have been subsisting all weekend on quick runs to the land of the golden arches.

Tickets, at \$11 each, may still be available at the registration desk. But maybe not.

Here's the menu:

baked chicken  
ham steak  
vegetarian lasagna  
whipped potatoes  
corn O'Brien  
peas with onions  
cucumber/onion salad  
3-bean salad  
fruit salad  
relish tray  
rolls and butter  
coffee, tea, or milk

Orchids, the Holiday Inn's in-house restaurant, has arranged to have the daily special be a vegetarian selection.

## Middle Earth, Cyberpunk Highlight Role-Play Games

2 16-hour role-playing games are planned to run throughout the weekend.

J. R. R. Tolkien will be featured in a Middle Earth role-playing scenario (MERPS). Richard Barton of the Dungeon Masters' Association assures us the game will be very well researched.

William Gibson, author of *Neuromancer*, will be the focus of a cyberpunk game.

The game masters will ref in rotation, to guard against premature brain death.

## Personals

STRAY DOG needs good home. Please contact Todd or Judy Voros in Room 205. (PS: We are not trying to give away Gaia.)

COA: Andi Schechter and Stu Shiffman have moved to begin a new life (it says here) at 16 Lakehill Av., Arlington, MA, 02174, 617+641-0569.

ART for the *Mad Moose Gazette* is in short supply. Yr ed. does stick figures. Help!

## How To Get Your Fix after WisCon

# Madison Fan Activities Abound

WisCon is sponsored by the Society for the Furtherance and Study of Fantasy and Science Fiction (SF<sup>3</sup>), the official organization of Madison fandom. SF<sup>3</sup> is always looking for new members and has a host of activities that SF fans (members or not) can participate in between WisCons.

For example, the Book of the Month Discussion Circle meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at people's homes and apartments. Call 233-5640 to find out where each month's discussion will be. Here are the books to be discussed in the months to come:

*Pennterra* by Judith Moffett

*Wizard of Pigeons* by Megan Lindholm

*Way of the Pilgrim* by Gordon R. Dickson

*Hellspark* by Janet Kagan

*Lives and Loves of a She-Devil* by Fay Weldon

SF<sup>3</sup> also sponsors an open program at 7:30 PM on the last Wednesday of each month at Union South on the University of Wisconsin campus. Everyone is invited to attend. Here are the upcoming programs:

Feb. 22: "Sequels and the Death of Creativity"

Mar. 29: "Writing As a Profession"

## Opening Ceremonies

Don Helley, who promises faithfully that this weekend he will learn to delegate and get some sleep, flew thru the office with these words about opening ceremonies:

Guests of Honor Pat Cadigan and Gardner Dozois will be introduced by their advocates, Spike and Nevenah Smith, respectively. Local talents Don Helley and Bill Bodden will also make appearances.

Other artists include the Oak Apple Morris Dancers, Not a Band (performing artists), Wendy Nelson, and Pam Zill.

The masquerade will be pre-judged concurrently with opening ceremonies and post-judged between OC and the mixer. Judges: Lori Isabella, costumes; Don Helley, stage presence; and Douglas Anderson, appropriateness to Tolkien theme.

with a guest speaker

Apr. 26: "Critics: What We Look for in Books"

May 31: "Science Fiction Media"

The group also congregates on non-last Wednesdays at the Brat und Brau on Regent St. for general socializing and kibitzing. There are miscellaneous parties, ride-sharing to other cons, fan-publishing, and similar activities which occur sporadically as well.

Of particular interest to those attending WisCon is the fact that we intend to do it again! If you'd like to get involved, start by attending the WisCon 13 post-mortem at 1:30 PM Sun. Mar. 5 at Union South. If you can't attend, phone Hope Kiefer at 233-5640 to find out what will be happening after that.

## Rearranging Rooms

Regardless of what you may see published elsewhere, the following information about rooms is true, factual, accurate, and absolutely the last word on such matters:

101: not a con suite, smoking or otherwise; here there be dragons

103: smoking con suite; here there be draggers

105: badger den

107: gopher hole

109: *Mad Moose Gazette* office; here there be draggings

## Safety Tip

Condoms are available in the con suite. Have a safe weekend.

Drive carefully, too.

## Personal Solicitations

We'll run your personal ad in this space in upcoming issues of the *Mad Moose Gazette*. We also just love to run party notices. Drop all such stuff (plus articles, artwork, etc.) by the MMG office in Room 109. We can make up limited numbers of signs as well. Don't forget to post your party notices on the main blackboard near the registration desk.