

The Official Organ of WisCon 18, March 4-6 1994, Madison Wisconsin.

Programming Changes!

#24: From Beyond the Grave (the midnight vampire panel) has been moved from Seminole to Walnut Grove. Same time, same bloody subject matter.

FILK for Saturday night has been moved from Walnut Grove to Seminole. Bring your songs, lyrics, instruments and voices (especially voices) and join in.

Illness Strikes

The Copyright Law program set for Saturday noon had to be canceled due to the illness of Ellen Kozak, our resident copyright expert. She has the flu. Let's all hope she recovers quickly.

A Fragment Found Near A Fountain

(actually the Pepsi dispenser in the Con Suite)

... at it again. Coming and going, never ceasing, eating, drinking, smoking oddly flavored cigarettes. I don't know how much longer I can last. I have now been awake for 127 hours--or is it 129 hours? I must sleep soon, or else the supply of [Pepsi] will run out. The peanut butter was good, though I began to hallucinate soon after eating. Was the grape jelly tainted? Wait! I must hide. I see one of them coming-- (here the fragment ends)

TECHNOTRIBAL COSTUME BALL

Shamanic tribes walked the songlines they found on the parquet floor last night at the Technotribal Mixer. Certain editorial assistants flashed suggestively.

Kudos to Michael Shannon and Bill Humphries for spinning the disks, Cindy Coloni for judging the costumes, and everyone who came to dance, set-up and break-down equipment.

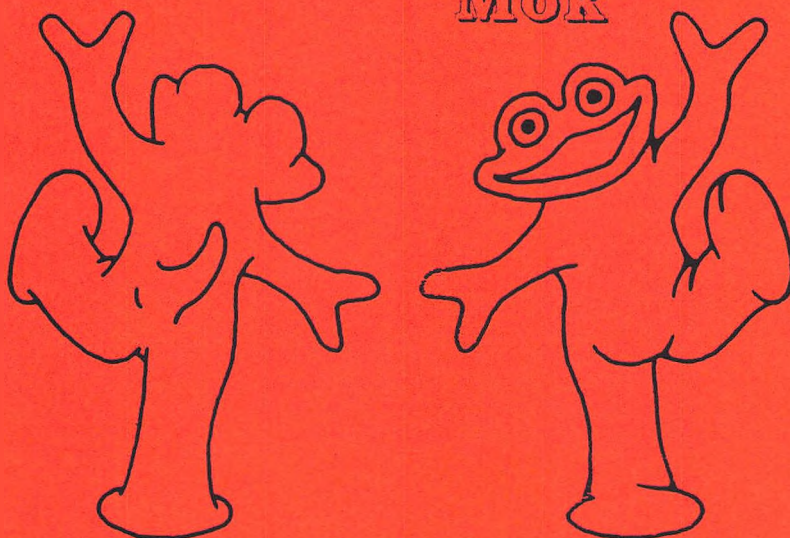
The costuming awards can be picked up in the Publications Room, Room 275.

Awards from Last night:

Most Ingenious Costume -- Anandi Gandalfi
Most Graceful -- Rena Noel
Most Unusual Combination of Materials -- C. H. Burnet
Best-lit Costume -- Nevenah Smith
Most Creative use of Scraps -- Alan Sponem
Best Ad-lib with a Computer -- Matt Raw
Most Futuristic Tribal -- Eric Corbett
Most Primitive Tribal -- Deborah Corbett
Most "Transforming" -- Ann-Marie Schmid
Most Tribal Gypsy -- Amy Schoofs
Cutest Costume -- Sandy Gazdechi
Best Creation: *Technotribal Theme* --
Henry Osier
Glen Boettcher
Mike Van de Bunt
Nancy Mildebrandt

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ALL IRATE RODENTS

The transmogrification of WISCON's official publication from the MAD MOOSE GAZETTE has provoked widespread comment and numerous suggestions. Please rest assured that our editorial tampering with tradition has been based on sound principles. Our investigation of the origins of this obscure moniker first established that the word "mad" referred not to (a) bad temper or to (b) insanity: it is a popular contraction of the placename Madison, as in MadTown.

However, the use of the MOOSE mascot proved after relentless historical research and numberless interviews to have been based merely on the alliterative properties of Mad and Moose. The moose itself is not a species found in Wisconsin for most of the twentieth century, although the promise of Mooses was hoped to be an exotic draw to WISCON, a convention located in the old Northwest Territory. [Drone of classroom lectures]

In keeping with the theme of BADGERS and GOPHERS and WOLVERINES, many other small mammals have been proposed to take the place of the moose on our masthead, stoats or ferrets in particular. Just to avoid shaking people up too much we settled finally on the MAD MOUSE. Perhaps those who easily lose their social equilibrium when faced with changes in their world would accept such a small typographic alteration.

Then the momentum of change overtook us. Hardly had we arrived at the con when another letter of the masthead demanded attention. You know that game where you transform a word by changing one letter at a time through a series of words to arrive at a completely different word with slightly different words on the way? Well, after HOUSE we got stuck with HORSE, vaguely resembling a moose but much larger, and unfortunately we had already just changed the U: a complete evolutionary deadend.

But I kind of like MAD HOUSE GAZETTE. Perhaps it is a bit of an improvement. Just to keep you guessing this time we left it the same. That's how it is with changes, sometimes they don't, and you can't count on the pace remaining constant. So much for Ancient Fannish Tradition.

GAYLAXIANS meet in Madison every fourth Sunday of each month at 7:30 pm, at the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Campus Center, 336 West Dayton Street. The Madison Third Coast GAYLAXIANS, is for queer-positive people interested in science fiction, fantasy, horror, and related genres. Call 265-3344.

REGISTRATION

Total registration for WISCON 18 as of 2:30 on Saturday afternoon was 450. This included 10 pre-registrants who had not yet collected their registrations, arrived, but does not include walk-ins still arriving.

TELL 'EM WISHCON SENT YOU...

WISHCON 18? Who the hell are they? Club VIPER, the fan club "dedicated to the new hit TV show, VIPER, its cast, crew and special effects," is offering all WISHCON members a \$1.00 discount on memberships (\$1.50 if you worked for WISHCON). Contact them at Club VIPER, PO Box 134, Sutherland, VA 23885-0134.

MORE ABOUT HOP CODES

What is a hop code? The hop code is

- a) a small friendly reptile,
- b) an error message from Windows,
- c) the secret cipher used by the secret masters of hopscotch,
- d) an ancient Korean martial art.

Actually, the hop code is that four digit number on your WisCon receipt. Registration Pooh-bah Richard S. Russell has devised it to advance civilization as he knows it, and named it to honor Grace Hopper, computer pioneer. Little known fact: Harlan Ellison's hop code is 2660. Handy tip: SMOFs can be recognized by having multiple unlisted, personalized hop codes. Unsubstantiated rumor: next year, WisCon will expect you to use the new HOP+4 system. Unanswered question: what is the hop code of the Beast? [Actually, we don't mail to the Beast; it's a trick unanswered question.]