

Mad Moose Gazette

The Official Newszine of

WIS
CON™

Volume 8 Number 3

LARGEST WISCON PRE-REGISTRATION EVER

Well, it's not something that would cause a worldcon to put on extra crowd control staff, but it's Big News for our Madison Con. There are a lot more of you here than there have been in past years. Maybe it's the weather. Those of you that didn't regard the Farmer's Almanac's predictions with too much seriousness may have had no fears that WisCon would not again cause weather patterns to bend toward the improbably warm for the second year in a row. Others of you may have been taken by surprise by this balmy hint of springtime. Maybe it's the improving economy. You've all, no doubt, been trickled upon to the point of embarrassing jumps in your taxable income, and are here in an attempt to spend some of it.

Here are the statistics: 36.7% (or 155) of our pre-registrants hail from Madison. 32.4% (or 137 fans) are traveling from elsewhere in Wisconsin. 12.3% (52) are Illinois residents; 2.1% (9) are from Iowa; 7.1% (30) are from Minnesota; 8.7% (37) are from other states; and 0.7% (3) are from other countries. The grand total of pre-registrants is 423 fans.

We'll let you know in Sunday's Mad Moose Gazette what the total membership comes to.

ONE MORE CHANCE!

Banquet ticket sales do not stop at noon on Saturday. We'll keep selling them until we're sold out of tickets.

"—TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER."

So it's 3 am and you've accidentally locked your phaser on "overload" and it's starting to hum alarmingly. You really need to speak to a con com member. But it is 3 am and none are visibly conscious and are all probably pretty heavily into guarding their privacy at the moment. But now the phaser is starting to sound a little hysterical and it's not a matter of should you wake a con com member, but who to wake.

What to do?

Posted on the doors or in prominent places at registration, the green room, and the con suite, you will find posted the Person In Charge. The con com has divied up responsibilities and will take turns acting the role of "Head d'Heure", as they call it. (Leader of the moment, or something like that.) (The con com is from France. They landed in Lake Michigan.)

POTENTIAL MEDICAL PROBLEMS? LET US KNOW.

Remember to inform registration of any medical information we might need to know about you in case of an emergency. Hourly chocolate infusions are not exactly the kind of thing we've got in mind.

WHAT DO WE HAVE FOR THE MASQUERADERS, JOHNNIE?

Prize, there will be a prize. Besides the ribbons for the usual sort of categories at the masquerade, a Special Prize has been generously donated by Maureen Garrett, the fanclub director from Lucas Films, for Best Re-Creation Prize. Ms. Garrett has donated a membership in the Star Wars fanclub and a Yoda Poster (Yoda saying that he'd rather be reading).

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR NEOFAN (i.e., CHILD...)

The Madison Men's Childcare Coop (MCC, not the CCC as erroneously stated someplace in the program book: we wouldn't ask you to put your child in the hands of the Civilian Conservation Corps!) will be donating time to WisCon and helping to organize child care. The MCC has an excellent reputation in Madison: they work at most of the Fallen Women Concerts and lots of other feminist functions. They see child care as a positive contribution to the feminist movement for men: both a supportive function and (for them:) a learning experience.

The MCC has so far committed themselves to operating a childcare room on Friday evening from 6-8:30 pm (which should free parents for opening ceremonies), and 9-12 am Saturday morning. There may be more hours offered, and these times or other arrangements will be announced/planned at the meeting immediately following these childcare hours in the child care room.

The MCC will be recruiting male parents and guardians to help them staff the child care room. They will need some help. Check the program book for more details as to rooms and meeting times.

ART SHOW WINNERS

Art show winners' names will be posted in the art show by 4 pm Saturday so that you can view the winning pieces well before the show closes at 6 pm (so that the art show staff can get ready for the auction).

OOOPS...

We are not perfect. It's hard to admit it, but we'll just have to grit our teeth and come out with it. Last year it was the page one story; this year we hide it on page two. We've made mistakes. And here are some of them that we actually published in the program book:

TIME CHANGES

	<u>old</u>	<u>new</u>
<u>Friday</u>		
International SF	4 pm	
Art Show	10 am - 6 pm	10 am - 12:30 am
<u>Saturday</u>		
Role Reversal	noon	11 am
T. Garey Reading	11 am	noon
Friends of AURORA/NEW MOON	5:30 pm	4:30 pm
Buffet/Speech	5:30 pm	6:00 pm
<i>(The grid is <u>right</u>; the typing on the side of the pocket program is <u>wrong</u>.)</i>		
<u>Sunday</u>		
Going Pro	1 pm	11 am

OTHER CORRECTIONS

1. "Ecological Effects of Nuclear War" presented by Professor John C. Neess (not Neise) and Diane Eisenberg. A second half-hour will be open forum for questions and answers.
2. An addition: There will be autographing in the Huckster room: Liz Lynn will be signing on Saturday at 10:30 am. Jessica Amanda Salmonson will be signing on Saturday at 1:00 pm.
3. Did we mention anywhere that video games are available on the pool terrace?

ESTER WILLIAMS FANS, NAIADS, AND OTHER WATER FREAKS

The Concourse swimming pool, located on the second floor is open from 9:00 am to midnight. However, there are no lifeguards on duty at any time. Therefore, please be smart and always swim with a friend. (Also, we'd advise that you do not dive into the pool. The deep end is 4 feet deep...)

If an accident occurs in the pool, contact the WisCon registration desk immediately for assistance.

A NOTE FROM A GUEST OF HONOR

Jessica Amanda Salmonson says that she would rather be an immortal hunting-maid, than some kind of shake-and-bake concoction as an immortal hunting-made. The prize goes to the one who can figure out this obscure reference. (Last year we had a crosswords puzzle; this year we've got an obscure reference contest.)

CONFUSED?

Having a hard time figuring out the procedure for bidding on art? It is confusing if this is your First Time. Check

out the program book explanation. Read it carefully and then come to the auction and spend all your money!

But maybe you're confused for another reason. Maybe you'd like to know what those cryptic letter codes on your nametag mean. Well the chief registrar and beaurocrat handed me this translation:

- A Artist
- B Banquet
- C Con com member
- D Disability
- E Entertainment
- F Film Projectionist
- G Guest of Honor
- H Huckster
- J Juvenile care
- K Kid
- M Media Room staff
- P Panelist
- R Reporter
- V Volunteer worker
- W Writing contest

When asked about the other, unused, letters of the alphabet, Richard Russell (the aforementioned registrar) mumbled something about "room for expansion".

MORE BANQUET NEWS! MORE PRIZES!

As if lots of good food was not enough to make you fall over yourself getting buffet tickets, we're offering ~~byrbes~~ DOOR PRIZES. We'll be drawing for SEVEN super items, including:

- a membership to WisCon 9
- your pick of 3 GoH books from 20th Century Books
- 2 Star Trek game modules, autographed by the author
- Art! A limited edition print by Steven Vincent Johnson
- Karate lesson from Capitol City Karate
- Suzette Haden Elgin's collage, "Taste of Magic"

Tickets for this extravaganza are only \$12 and will be available until 5 pm Saturday, or at the door. Note that the GoH Reception is scheduled at 5:30, and GoH speeches at 7:30. The speeches will be presented in the same room (the State Room) and will not require a buffet ticket for admittance.

AIKIDO DEMONSTRATION AND INSTRUCTION

The Saturday Aikido demonstration (at 2 pm) will include a class. Anyone may participate. Please sign a release form at the registration desk and be sure to wear loose clothing.

WHAT DOES THE HOTEL THINK ABOUT BRINGING IN BHEER AND POP?

They think it's OK. But remember it's still illegal to carry open bottles of intoxicants on the streets, and you've still got to be 18 to drink in WisConsin: we'll be carding folks in the con suite. We'll also be re-cycling cans in the con suite. Be Politically correct! Recycle your cans!

DIRE WARNING!

Whether you are an artist with art in the show, or an art-buyer, your possessions will be available only until 1 pm Sunday. After that, vast amounts of inconvenience and postage, and a \$2.00 late fee will be required to re-unite you and your pretty pictures. This message will be repeated.

WHO IS THAT MAN AND WHY IS HE DOING ALL THAT VIDEO-TAPING?

It is 1984, yes, but really there's nothing sinister about what Peter Jacobson (he of the long, long legs and video attachments) is doing. Peter is making WisCon tapes for viewing at future WisCons and WisCon parties. He'll also be recording events for replaying at this very convention for those of you who were unable to attend an event that interested you. Watch the media room schedule for these replays.

SUZETTE HADEN ELGIN

Suzette will not make it to WisCon this year. Some of us will be chipping together to send her some flowers and a note. Inquire at the registration desk if you'd like to be included: leave your name and room number.

Here's part of her letter to us:

"Please pass it on to all the relevant individuals. I am counting on you to do this passing-it-on operation for me with overtones and undertones, add effective gestures, etc. Dear Diane and Dear One and All, I cannot come to WisCon this year, and I am so sorry. Not that I am indispensable to you, or to the success of the con, but that you people are indispensable to ME, and not to be there makes me more sad than I can say. But it's not fair to leave you thinking I will attend, and planning your program that way, when it ain't gonna happen. I've been stalling, hoping I'd turn out to be wrong, but can stall no longer. You might talk to Susie (Kinast Porter) about Neurological Diseases In Exacerbation...it was bound to happen, I suppose, that some end-of-February-beginning-of-March I would hit a bad spell that would keep me from trekking to Madison, laws of averages being what they are. And this year is It. No way, no matter how determined I might be, that I can manage the 24+ hours on the Greyhound Bus stations, in my current physical condition. I had been hoping I'd see some sort of upward trend in time to tell you I could be there, but I am getting worse each day and will just have to tough my way through this episode. ... Believe me, I'd a lot rather be in Madison than in Exacerbation, but I have no control over this yukky affliction. Enough moaning and groaning...if I must miss a year, this is a good year for me to miss. You have two very heavy duty ladies up as GoH, either one of whom could keep WisCon buzzing and humming with both hands tied, etc. My own skill at martial arts, and knowledge of same, is on a par with my knowledge of microbiology--actually I know a lot more about microbiology; mostly it is confined to covering my eyes with my hands while my sons break bricks with their foreheads in the driveway. ...I shall even see what I can do about THE WEATHER, and if roses bloom for WisCon weekend this year I expect to be given full credit."

Some of us think we owe Suzette a few roses in thanks for her intervention with the weather gods.

A MESSAGE FROM THE GOPHER CAPTAIN (LYNN MORSE) TO THE REST OF THE CON COM...

If some con member who didn't sign up originally as a gopher still contributes a substantial amount of work, please let the Gopher Captain know before the end of the con... And if you are such a samaratin, mention it to Lynn. I don't know what she's going to do to you or for you, but I shouldn't imagine that it's going to be unpleasant.



MARVIN, THE
WONDER MOOSE
SEZ:

BUY A BANQUET
TICKET!

WISCON 9 MEMBERSHIPS

Forward-looking, future conscious, future shock-resistant fans will be glad to know that they can Show Their Stuff on Sunday morning and Bet On The Future. You can buy a membership for the 1985 WisCon (#9 in the series). Tickets will be available not only for the forward-looking fans among us, but also for the penny-pinching, economical checkbook-balancers, because these special one time only memberships will be available at the same price as WisCon 8 memberships. That's right, only \$11! Prices will have to go up next year, but if you buy a membership on Sunday morning (between 10 am and 2 pm at the registration desk), you can get yours for only \$11. What a deal!

DEAD DOG PARTY

...By Sunday afternoon you may be seeing double and/or blurry too...

But we'll all meet poolside (those of us that survive, that is) and make spontaneous plans to go to a restaurant and party away the rest of our consciousness. Join us!