

KANSAS CITY: — the — PRIME CHOICE in 1976!



KANSAS CITY

Many people, when they think of Kansas City, have in mind something out of *Gunsmoke*, a wide, dusty main street, long-horn cattle in the parking lot, the aroma of the stockyards, and over everything a hot, brassy sun. In fact, many people even think Kansas City is in Kansas.

WRONG! 100% WRONG!!

Kansas City, Missouri is a beautiful city, an exciting, dynamic metropolis. People who come to Kansas City with such erroneous preconceptions are pleasantly surprised by the miles of tree-lined boulevards, the multitudinous fountains (more even than in Rome—but no Cellinis, unfortunately), the 7,000 acres of parkland, the surprising Spanish influence of the Country Club Plaza, the 1870s atmosphere of the River Quay area, and the host of interesting things to see and do.

For sports fans, Kansas City has the Harry S. Truman Sports Complex, home of Kansas City's baseball Royals and football Chiefs. For music lovers, the nationally famous Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra plays to the white tie-crowd, and then wanders out to the parks to give free concerts to the jeans and tee-shirt group that comes out to hear classical and pop music played by professionals. For Jazz fanatics, there's always our oldest music institution, Kansas City Jazz, which can be experienced at many of K. C.'s nightspots. For art buffs, the Nelson Gallery of Art, the Kansas City Art Institute and the Hall's Gallery of Art are just a few of the places you can visit. If you like Disneyland and Six Flags, Kansas City's Worlds of Fun offers a gigantic amusement park featuring entertainment areas called Europa, Africa, Scandinavia, the Orient, and Americana. And this hardly begins to cover the exciting potential of our very surprising city—we've got museums, famous landmarks, numerous cinemas and theatrical playhouses, five professional dinner theatres, exciting restaurants—whatever you like.

Speaking of restaurants, we have to include a mention of Kansas City's real specialty—the Kansas City steak! It is the legend of Kansas City steak which makes people order the hammered shoe leather that passes for steak in less fortunate cities. That tender, juicy, pink connoisseur's delight is available in K. C. at places like the nationally known Colony Steak House, the Hereford House, and the Golden Ox. In fact, Jess and Jim's Steak House in Martin City, just outside Kansas City, is Playboy's choice for the best steak in the world! But K.C.'s gourmet dining doesn't start and end with steak. Kansas City also offers a large variety of exquisite cookery—pick the country, pick the restaurant, K. C. has them all!

Kansas City is truly in its Prime Time and we invite you to experience it. So why not plan to come to K.C. in '76? Find out why Lazarus Long traveled

2000 years in time and countless light years in space to come to Kansas City. Could he know something you don't know?

THE HOTEL

Although at first the K. C. in '76 Committee was dazzled in favor of the new, highly touted Crown Center Hotel as the site for our proposed World Science Fiction Convention, we were soon won over by the charm of the Hotel Muehlebach's Convention Center. Their layout more than filled our requirements, and their cordial attitude, their sincerity, and the total professional approach they took to our needs convinced us that they were the ideal choice.

The Muehlebach is situated in the heart of downtown Kansas City, Missouri and is closest of all major hotel facilities to Kansas City International Airport, which has over 400 flights daily. It is also in close proximity to three Interstate highways and to the Greyhound and Continental Trailways bus depots. Within walking distance of the hotel is the main downtown shopping area, which includes two large multiple cinemas, an antiquarian bookstore, Kansas City's largest newsstand, a Pizza Hut, two cafeterias, and a large paperback book store. Directly across the street from the Muehlebach is a large Berbiglia liquor store and the Pioneer Grill, a modestly-priced twenty-four-hour-a-day restaurant.

The interior of the Muehlebach is elegantly appointed in the style of the late 1920s, with velvets and dark woodwork, stylish mirrors, chandeliers, and fireplaces. From the moment that you step into the hotel lobby, you immediately feel you've returned to the Great Gatsby era. Recently much of the hotel underwent a multi-million dollar renovation and was redecorated in this nostalgic and graceful style. The guest rooms, too, from the suites to the singles, are something you may never have seen before. Every room is different! You won't have to check the number on the door to remember where you are.

All rooms feature double twin oversize beds, AM-FM radios, color TV, mobile telephones, guest-controlled heating and cooling, roomy baths, and vanities with instant "on" lighting and scald-proof showers. Of the 750 guest rooms, 142 are suites which convert from two to five individual rooms, which should make guest room capacity more than adequate. If the con should require an overflow facility the 370-room Phillips Hotel directly across the street will be used.

There will, naturally, be no other meetings or conventions in the hotel during the Worldcon.

The Muehlebach has a wide variety of service shops on its premises, including six airline offices, a newsstand, a sundries shop, a barber shop, a

beauty shop, a gift shop, laundry service, valet service, direct-phone auto rental, and a flower shop. The hotel also has a baby-sitting service available, and a day nursery can be arranged if desired.

There are four restaurants and one bar in the hotel. The Cafe Picardy specializes in French cuisine, and is expensive, but well worth the money. It is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, cocktails, and has entertainment nightly until the late hours. The Rendezvous is moderate to expensive and is open through the lunch and dinner hours Monday through Saturday and is closed Sunday. Le Bistro is a small bar and restaurant, moderately priced, which offers lunch in the early afternoon and cocktails and entertainment until one every morning. Finally, there is the Coffee Shop, which is open 24 hours a day (including round-the-clock room service) and features standard coffee shop food at modest prices. Art Nouveau lovers should take note of the fact that there are four Maxfield Parrish murals decorating the walls of the Coffee Shop. Incidentally, the Muehlebach has guaranteed that it will not raise its restaurant prices during the convention as some hotels have done during previous Worldcons.

The Muehlebach has the use of the immense 1500-car underground parking facilities of the Municipal Auditorium Garage which is located directly across the street in the Auditorium Plaza. The hotel is connected to the garage by an underground tunnel, and registered guests of the hotel can park there free of charge.

Currently, singles cost from \$16 to \$24 and doubles from \$24 to \$32. Triples and quads are also available at \$9.50 per person in a triple and \$8.50 per person in a quad. The management of the Muehlebach has agreed to give us a special single and double room rate, guaranteed to us one year in advance. Even if inflation should affect the above standard rates, the special rates for the con should still be within reason compared to past Worldcons.

THE CON FACILITIES

Immediately adjacent to the Muehlebach's lobby is the massive 51,000 square foot Convention Center which begins on the second floor mezzanine. The mezzanine level is easily accessible by eight high-speed passenger elevators, two high-speed escalators, eight service elevators, and nine staircases. This is the main convention floor and has a total of three large ballrooms, a spacious registration lobby and ten smaller function rooms. In addition, a cash bar can be set up right off the registration lobby.

The largest of the floor's facilities is the 13,680 square foot (120' x 114') Imperial Ballroom. This magnificent ballroom, elegantly styled in muted tones of gold and red, has a ceiling height of

18 feet. Serving as the main function room of the convention, this ballroom will accommodate 1400 people for banquet functions and 1700 when used in combination with the adjoining 3360 square foot (42' x 80') Colonial Ballroom. Theatre style seating for the combined ballrooms is approximately 2600 with reception capabilities in the neighborhood of 3000 persons.

This two-ballroom complex is equipped with the most advanced sound system and communications aids available, including wiring for both radio and television. The ultra-modern banquet kitchen servicing the two ballrooms has the most advanced high-speed food equipment available in the Kansas City area.

The last of the ballroom facilities on this floor is the 6500 square foot (78' x 81') Grand Ballroom. It will accommodate 1000 in theatre-style set-up and is ideal for the convention's film room. The Grand Ballroom also has a ceiling height of 18 feet, is completely sound-conditioned, and is equipped with a large, curtained projection screen and a built-in sound system. With the ten smaller rooms on the floor, there will be plenty of space for displays, small seminars, and meetings. Should the convention need them, there are six more conference rooms on the third and fourth floors of the Muehlebach. Also available is the 12,000 square foot Rooftop Patio on the top of the Convention Center. This area, which includes a large swimming pool, is ideal for receptions, informal gatherings, and late-night swimming parties.

On the next floor below the main convention floor is the 12,000 square foot Royal Exhibition Hall. This will serve as the Project Art Show and art show auction area and will be one of the largest areas ever offered to a Worldcon art display. The Royal Hall has high-intensity fluorescent lighting throughout, a ceiling height of 14 feet, and telephone, TV, radio and public-address capabilities. It is directly connected to the main hotel lobby by a sixteen-foot-wide foyer, and to the main convention floor by two high-speed escalators.

Immediately adjacent to the Royal Exhibition Hall, and down another flight of high-speed escalators, is the Trianon Ballroom and two smaller facilities, the Lido and Burgundy Rooms. The Burgundy is 21' x 22', or 462 square feet, and the Lido Room is 28' x 33', or 924 square feet. The Trianon Ballroom will serve as the main huckster room for the convention and is 46' x 80'—a total square footage of 3680. The two smaller rooms will serve as special book dealer or book display areas. Kansas City's specialty SF&F bookstore, Hobbit House, has expressed a serious interest in obtaining the Burgundy Room for a special bookstore set-up during the convention. Allan Wilde, Hobbit House's manager, has also offered his services as the convention's Sales Administrator. Al is an experienced dealer who has attended many conventions and is well prepared to handle this part of the convention.

THE PROGRAM

The K.C. in '76 Committee is beginning to outline a basic con program based on the assumption that we will win the bid. We're contacting prospective guests of honor, drawing up tentative lists of films, arguing in favor of the things that we've enjoyed and against the things that have bored us at past conventions and generally trying to develop a program that will be exciting and innovative without sacrificing the traditional con fare.

The banquet is an area that we hope to improve generally. We are now looking into ways to insure better service and food quality in addition to making the Hugo Awards ceremony snappier while keeping the whole proceedings more interesting without taking all evening. Some interesting proposals are under discussion and we are positive that some new slants can be given to this particular function.

The costume presentation always presents its own special set of logistical problems and the Committee is closely studying what has been done in this area at previous Worldcons. We are now working on a few approaches that should give everyone involved, participants, judges, spectators and camera fans, what they want. Study on this programming area will continue until we are assured of the best possible solution.

A basic film program of at least 50 hours is now planned and we are even considering a continuous round-the-clock film show! A film list with over 100 titles has been drawn up by the Committee and the final selections will be made at a later date when availability has been established.

The program book is one of our most enthusiastic projects. Kansas City fandom has some of the finest graphic design and layout talent available and we can guarantee the most lavish program and memory book ever done! One proposed idea under consideration is a hardcover program with a full-color dust jacket. Investigation into this area has proven that it can be done cheaply enough for the con budget without sacrificing the desired quality. A final decision has not been made on this proposal even though it is an exciting possibility.

Security of course has become an important behind-the-scenes facet of the Worldcon. We will employ a professional guard system throughout the con, especially in the hucksters' area and the Project Art Show. Special security locks will be provided by the hotel in these and any other areas requiring them.

Admittedly, Missouri's liquor laws are rather dull and haven't changed much since St. Louiscon in 1969. You still must be 21 or over to buy alcoholic beverages and liquor may not be sold by the drink or by the bottle on Sundays. However, an establishment that does 51% of its business in food (i.e., a restaurant) MAY serve liquor on Sunday. The Muehlebach's restaurants, of course, take full

advantage of this exemption. We should add, the chances are very good the age and sales restrictions will be changed for the better by 1976.

DISCON II

The Muehlebach Hotel and the K.C. in '76 Committee will be jointly hosting a hospitality suite at Discon II this year. We hope everyone will drop by and meet the members of Kansas City fandom and Bob Eager, National Sales Manager of the Muehlebach. We'll give you our song and dance and generally take a final shot at personally promoting the Kansas City bid for the 34th World Science Fiction Convention.

Discon's Site Selection Session will take place Sunday morning, September 1st, at 10:00 AM. In order to vote you must be a member of Discon II and have purchased a supporting membership or attending membership in the '76 convention. You can either vote in advance by mail or you can cast your ballot at the Site Selection Session itself. (The mail ballot will go out with Discon's fourth Progress Report.) Whether you support the K.C. bid or not, it is very important that you cast your vote if you are at all interested in the location of the '76 Worldcon. Memberships in Discon II are \$3.00 supporting and \$5.00 attending, with at-the-door memberships being \$7.00.

If you have yet to join, the address is:

DISCON II
P. O. Box 31127
Washington, D. C. 20031

THE FAN GROUP

The Kansas City in '76 Committee is made up of an experienced group of energetic and dedicated Kansas City fans. Although the Committee is a separately organized group, the bid is enthusiastically backed and supported by the entire membership of the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society. The KaCSFFS is a club of over 40 fans in the greater Kansas City area which has, like many fan organizations, a wide spectrum of professionals represented within its structure. These include computer programmers, commercial artists, students, electrical engineers, teachers, sales personnel, bookstore owners, government workers, etc. With this kind of diversity, K.C. fandom can bring a variety of abilities to bear on a World Science Fiction Convention, as well as having the necessary number of people to take care of every detail of the convention.

Since its inception the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society has been an aggressively

active fan organization. Its first major regional convention, Mid-America Con I, was highly praised for its variety and professionalism, and immediately established Kansas City, Mo., as one of the foremost fan centers in Central States fandom. Since then the KaCSFFS has successfully hosted two smaller partycons: BYOB-Con I and II. Locally, the KaCSFFS has been involved in the usual club fanac, including publishing, monthly meetings, parties, picnics, and dinners honoring both pro and fan alike. It has even helped to sponsor a Science Fiction film series with the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Individually the members of the KaCSFFS are involved in every facet of fannish interest—reading, collecting, fan publishing, convention attending, corresponding—you name it. We might add that Kansas City is also the headquarters of the Burroughs Bibliophiles, the oldest fan organization dedicated to the works of ERB. It was established by noted K. C. fan Vern Corriell, who founded Burroughs fandom in the late 1940s.

From the preceding, we hope you have come to the conclusion that K. C. fandom is indeed a highly capable and dedicated group of fans. We sincerely feel that our combined talents and experience are now ready for science fiction fandom's greatest challenge—the World Science Fiction Convention.

THE BIDDING COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Ken Keller.....	Chairman
Jim Loehr.....	Vice-Chairman
India Boone.....	Secretary
John Taylor.....	Asst. Secretary
Sarah Bailey.....	Treasurer
Ivan Boykin.....	Asst. Treasurer



THE K.C. IN '76 COMMITTEE
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