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# POOR RICHARDS' BIDZINE

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILADELPHIA IN 2001 WORLDCON BID  
VOLUME 1 NUMBER 2

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## Greetings, Millennium Philcon supporters!

The Philadelphia in 2001 Bid Committee proudly presents the second issue of Poor Richard's Bidzine. We've been a busy bid since you last heard from us. As many of you probably know, some pretty important things have happened in the last few months. We're now competing with a new city, but the many great features Philadelphia has to offer remain as appealing as ever.

With the voting deadline drawing ever nearer, the Fan Friendly Committee would like to gently remind you all of your most important duty now... JOIN BUCCONEER! Whether you are attending or supporting, get your votes in! Remember, voting closes early this year. We need everyone who wants to go to a Worldcon in an exciting, historical, lively, world-class city to give us their full support.

See you in Philly!



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### Newsletter Staff

Editor-in-Chief ..... Mark Trebing

Assistant Editor ..... Margaret Trebing

Contributing Editor ..... Lynne E. Cohen Koehler

recd. 6/2/98

# Philly Bid Facts

## Huge Facilities

The Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia is large enough to hold two Worldcons simultaneously.

- Brand new, clean, friendly and fresh.
- Larger than Orlando and Baltimore combined.
- 1,200 guest room Marriott Hotel **directly connected** to the convention center.
- 5,625 hotel rooms within walking distance of the convention center.
- The exhibit halls are served by 36 loading docks.

### Comparison to Competition

(sizes in square feet)

#### Exhibit Halls

<u>Philadelphia Pa.C.C.</u>	<u>Swan &amp; Dolphin</u>
A-B-C ..... 315,000	Dolphin A-B ... 51,275
D ..... 125,120	Hemispheres... 55,933
Marriott ..... 38,500	Swan B.R. .... 22,582

#### Public Space

Grand Hall ..... 55,000	7 Foyers ..... 38,195
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#### Meeting Rooms

104 rooms ..... <u>199,732</u>	49 rooms ..... <u>49,872</u>
<small>(includes Marriott)</small>	
Total Space .... 733,352	..... 217,857

## Easy Transportation

- Rail connection from the airport directly to the convention center and hotel
- Fixed price cab fare from the airport to Center City
- Blue Line Subway Stop under the Convention
- Greyhound bus terminal 2 blocks away
- Located at the junction of I-95 and I-76, drive only 4 blocks on local city streets
- From 30th Street Station, use your Amtrak ticket to ride the local trains directly to the convention
- The Phlash visitor loop bus goes to hotels, restaurants, museums and historic sites for just \$3.00 a day

## Delicious Food

- Directly under the Pennsylvania Convention Center is the Reading Terminal Market. This 100-year-old farmers market has a wealth of Amish vendors with goods ranging from farm produce to free-range geese. The market also includes ethnic eateries and groceries from Middle-Eastern to Cajun and is a great place to buy regular groceries, party food and snacks.
- Right out the door of the Convention Center is Chinatown. Sixteen square blocks of restaurants serving authentic Chinese food from dim sum to Peking duck.
- Nearby is every kind of ethnic and American restaurant, up to five-star quality, all within easy walking distance. And don't forget Philly brewpubs, cheesesteaks, hoagies and soft pretzels!

## Philadelphia Attractions

- Franklin Institute Science Museum, Futures Center and Omniverse Imax Theatre
- Academy of Natural Sciences
- Philadelphia Zoo, America's first zoo
- New Jersey State Aquarium
- Philadelphia Museum of Art
- Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell
- Betsy Ross House, Elfreth's Alley and more...

## Regional Attractions

- Pennsylvania Dutch Country
- New Jersey Shore, Atlantic City to Cape May
- Longwood Gardens and Winterthur Museum and Gardens
- Amusement Parks: Great Adventure, Hershey Park, Sesame Place and the Piers at Wildwood
- Tubing on the Delaware River

# Fan Friendly



# *A Message from the Chair*

Welcome to another issue of our presupporter mailing. As we head into the final months before the voting, I would like to let you know about some of the important events that have occurred since you last heard from us. For our recent presupporters, this is our chance to bring you up to date with our progress.

In late December of 1997, we received word that the Boston in 2001 bid had agreed it was impossible to hold a convention in that city during 2001 due to the extremely high cost of hotel rooms. However, rather than folding the bid (which we certainly would have appreciated!), they came up with a new strategy; move the entire bid to Orlando, Florida. Thus we are now competing with the Orlando bid. The Orlando committee, after discussion with its presupporters, have chosen to use the Swan and Dolphin Hotels on the Disney property. It's Ben vs. the Mouse!

We've reviewed the available information on the new bid and believe that we still have the advantage in all the important categories. Our site has more available area by far than the Disney properties, which have a total area of slightly over 200,000 square feet, counting all available meeting space, both inside and outside. In addition the two properties are separated, which will require walking back and forth between them during the heat of early September. Our main hotel and the Pennsylvania Convention Center are connected by a climate-controlled enclosed walkway, eliminating exposure to high heat and humidity. We believe that fans will appreciate the wider choice of foods around our site, which include Chinatown directly across the street from the Center and all types of cuisine within walking distance, rather than driving distance. Finally, many of the popular tourist attractions in Philadelphia have free admission, and those that do charge have modest fees.

The site selection ballot has been designed, and will be mailed to members of Bucconeer in a few weeks. A copy of the ballot has been included in this newsletter. If you are an attending member of this year's Worldcon, you can either mail back the ballot before the deadline or vote in person at the convention. A word of warning; since the dates of the convention are not the same as in past years, voting will be closed on Friday evening to allow the winning bid to be announced and have a day to sell conversions to the voters. Be sure you vote before the deadline!

If you're not able to attend Bucconeer, please join as a supporting member. This will allow you to vote in the site selection voting and will give you all other membership benefits, except admission. Supporting memberships are \$30.00, and will be available this rate until the convention. Remember, however, you will have to join before the deadline for mail voting, or have someone deliver your ballot to the convention in order for your vote to count. If you'd like the Philly bid to bring your ballot to Bucconeer, please write us at the address on the outside of this mailing. We'll make sure that your ballot is included with the others that we receive.

We will be holding parties at various conventions up until the last weekend before Worldcon. Look for us at your local convention, say hello, and be sure to pick up the latest postcard in the "Ben Franklin Through Time and Space" series. At Bucconeer, we'll be hosting attendees in the Chesapeake Ballroom of the Holiday Inn. Stop by and see us there for your postcard and some special surprises.

I'd like to again take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support of the bid throughout the past few years. It's been a long, tough race, but it's also had a great many enjoyable times as well. I've been to cons throughout the United States, Canada and Europe, and had the opportunity to meet literally thousands of fans I never would have known had it not been for the bid. All of us hope that in three more years, we'll be able to greet you again in the City of Brotherly Love for the first Worldcon of the third millennium (no matter what those ad agencies for M&M's believe!). If we win the vote, we promise to put on a Worldcon that everyone, committee and attendees, will enjoy. Please be sure to vote when you receive your ballot, and we hope that you mark that ballot for Philadelphia in 2001.

Sincerely,

Todd Dashoff  
Chair, Philadelphia in 2001 (The Millennium Philcon)

*The following article warrants some explanation. Not many fans are aware that first Hugos were awarded in Philadelphia at the 1953 Worldcon. This is Jack McKnight's narrative description of the making of the first Hugo Awards. This article was originally published in the Bidzine of the Philly in 1986 Worldcon Bid. [This editor typed that bidzine.]*

*Jack McKnight was a long-time member of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, and a member of the 1986 bid. The grammar in the article is a bit unconventional in spots, but that's the way Jack spoke.*

*Jack was the father of Peggy Rae Pavlat, the Chair of Buconneer.*

*The other fans mentioned in the article are Milt Rothman, Buconneer Fan Guest of Honor; Hal Lynch, who is still an active member of P.S.F.S.; Manny Staub, also a current member of P.S.F.S. Buddie McKnight was Jack's wife. Allison Williams (now Phillips) is a Philadelphia Fan, and mother of Assistant Editor Margaret Trebing. (Allison William's father, Jim Williams, would have chaired the 1953 Worldcon, but died a few months before.)*

## How to Build a Hugo

Jack McKnight

Set your Time Traveler to 1953—PLACE—Philadelphia PA : Time—About two weeks before Labor Day.

Next: Become Milton Rothman, Chairman Philcon World Science Fiction Convention. Also maid of all work, general headache acceptor and chief idiot.

Hal Lynch—IDIOT #2 had advanced, and been put in charge of, getting special awards for this convention, first time anyone had thought of it. What better name than HUGO, after Hugo Gernsbach, the father of that bastard literature SCIENCE FICTION.

"Fine!" says Milt. "Go ahead, Hal. Design? No problem. Routine for a trophy maker. Space Ship? Sure." and Hal is off on his Odyssey. Finally a jeweler "friend" of Hal's agrees to make the Hugos. Eleven of them. He is given the order. Date unknown, but plenty of time (at least six months) and Milt and Hal relax. (**Bad Move**)

The awards are to be presented on Labor Day. The Monday before Labor Day Hal goes to the jeweler and is given a flat **NO!** He could not do it, and was not about to try in the little time left. **NO** and **NO** and **AGAIN NO!**

Hal had already made arrangements to leave on his vacation trip, and the only thing he could think of was to dump the mess into Milt's lap. (Dr. Rothman's loss of hair started right then, and he has never recovered.)

Enter IDIOT #3. Milt knew Jack McKnight was running a machine shop. Frantic Phone Call. Could these things be made by machining? If yes, would Jack do it?

Answer—Maybe, and yes if possible. Will need a picture. Milt grabs a very crumpled envelope and sketches his (and all of our 1953) idea of a spaceship. Submarine minus conning tower and two stubby wings.

IDIOT #3 proceeds back to shop, gets the owner to allow him to make these (at full shop rates) and then the fun begins. The time is now Thursday. Convention starts Saturday. Machining bodies on lathe is not too much of a pain, except only stainless [*steel*] available is toolbusting stuff, but cutting slots in the bodies to attach fins is slightly hellacious. Cut two slots and grind cutter. Six slots in each body, and eleven bodies. Then cut pieces of stainless steel for the fins.

Next Problem: **How to fasten fins on body.**

Enter IDIOT #4. Manny Staub is a manufacturing jeweler. Has all the tools, and an electric furnace that will hold heat to 1/10th degree. Will silver solder. Fine. No sweat. Manny places body #1 and six fins in furnace, prepares silver solder and we begin. Put body in vise, fin in place, melt solder. **IT RUNS OFF, WON'T STICK!!**

Time: Friday Evening

IDIOT #5 Buddie McKnight, and IDIOT #6

Allison Williams are bringing coffee, sandwiches, bourbon, sympathy and encouragement to IDIOTS #'s 3 & 4.

Time: Saturday Morning

Get on phone. Call welding shops. Most are closed, or want nought to do with stainless steel.

Reach one in Kensington [*North Philadelphia*]. Load embryo Hugos. Dash madly up there. Explain. He makes a couple of false starts, then first ship is assembled. Wonderful. Go ahead with the rest.

**"No!!! I'm leaving on a camping trip. NO! NO!!!**  
Can't be put off. I'll sell you this silver solder and you've watched me, so you idiots can finish the rest."

Back to the Con (of which we've seen nothing). Report to Milt, whose hair loss is proceeding rapidly.

IDIOTS #'s 3 & 4 are driven, dragooned, forced by dire threat (no booze for six months) back to Manny's shop.

Time: Saturday Evening

Set up furnace and start. Preheat, juggle, burn fingers. Air is BLUE, about thirty degrees above ambient, due to profanity. Get Hugo #2 done about midnight.

Time: Sunday Noon

IDIOTS #'s 3 & 4, supported by 5 & 6, start production. Get a few Hugos assembled and about then the wooden bases arrive. Knock off and try to see a little of the Con. Spend most of the time being third degreed about the Hugos.

Time: Sunday 2pm

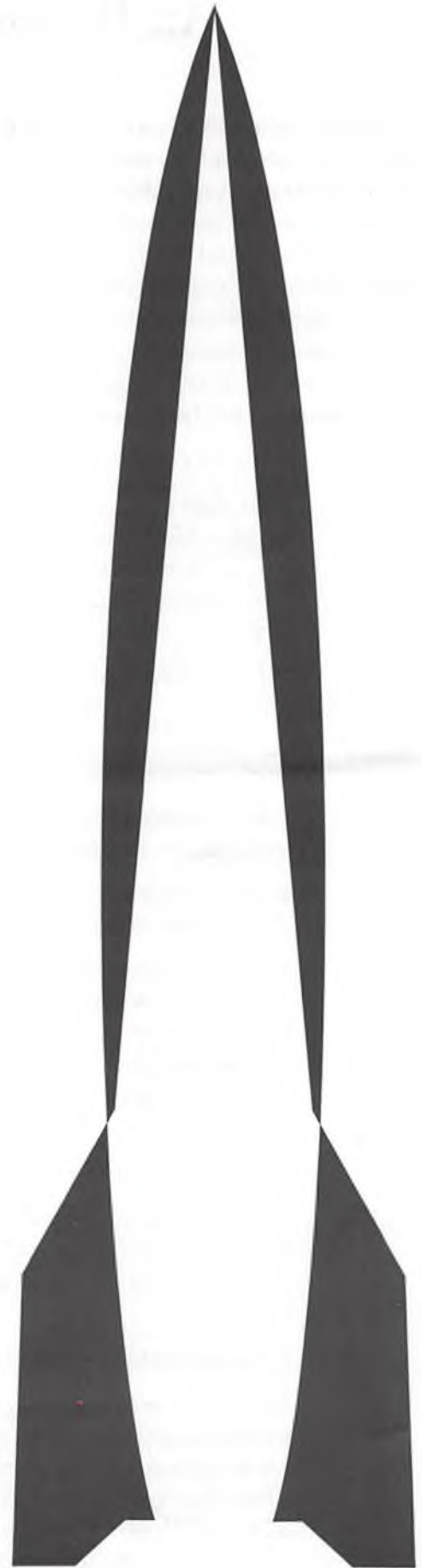
Last Hugos finished. Dump 'em in a box, stagger over to the Bellview Stratford. Give to Milt, who hands IDIOTS #'s 3 & 5 seats at the head table.

Time: Sunday 3pm

Speeches of all kinds. Tired chicken, wrinkled peas, etc. More speeches.

Time: Sunday 5pm

Hugos are presented. IDIOT #4 turns to #3 "Do you think the fins will stay on?"



# *An Interview with Milt Rothman*

Conducted by Lynn E. Cohen Koehler

In this installment in our series of interviews with well known fans and pros, we talk with Milt Rothman. A member of First Fandom, he chaired the first science fiction convention ever, helped create the Hugo Awards and chaired two World Science Fiction Conventions. He is known for his work in, among others, *Milty's Mag*, *Plenum*, *Astounding Stories* and several science books. You'll all get to meet him at *Bucconeer*, where he'll be a guest of honor.

Lynn: Why do you live in Philadelphia?

Milt: Well, first of all, I was born here, but I lived in New Jersey for twenty-five years. I couldn't wait to come back to Philadelphia because it's a civilized city.

Lynn: What do you like doing in Philadelphia?

Milt: We go to a number of concerts, several plays (we have two play subscriptions). Otherwise I go to a lot of doctors. I sit home and watch TV.

Lynn: Wait a minute. I know you've been doing some writing still!

Milt: Right now my writing has decreased to the point where all I do is a monthly newsletter for the Franklin Inn Club. I was writing a column for the *Skeptical Briefs*, but I gave up on that.

Lynn: When friends come to visit, where do you like taking them around the city?

Milt: They're usually people who already know the city pretty well. Some friends my wife likes to take to the Art Museum.

Lynn: It's a wonderful museum!!

Milt: There's current exhibits, plus the photography room. My wife's first husband was an important photographer. We're interested in photography as an art form. Otherwise, (with our friends) we like to go out to dinner.

There's a lot of good restaurants in our neighborhood (Center City Philadelphia).

Lynn: What are your favorite restaurants?

Milt: Well, the best thing in town is the Four Seasons if you want an expensive restaurant. But there's also Susanna Foo (Chinese), The Tree Tops at the Rittenhouse Hotel, Friday Saturday Sunday just around the corner from us... Oh! And a new one we just discovered... it's called Opus 251. It's in the Art Alliance building. It's a first-rate restaurant. My wife has a couple of favorite places she likes (near the Convention Center). One's called Thai Lake.

Lynn: How did you become chair of the worldcon in Philly?

Milt: Well, the first time it happened, it was 1936. When I was President of the PSFS I was sixteen years old. The club had just started the year before that. And five or six guys from New York decided to come down and visit with five or six guys from Philadelphia at my house... or more specifically, my father's house. And we decided to call it a convention. As a matter of courtesy, the New York people elected me chairman. So I was chairman of the very first convention in Philadelphia.

Lynn: You were only sixteen! Weren't most of the people older than you?

Milt: They were a couple of years older.

Lynn: And the next time...

Milt: After that, we always had an annual conference in Philadelphia. The Philcons came out of those. Those were not big affairs... maybe 30 or 50 people. They kept getting gradually bigger until the first worldcon we had

# THIS IS THE BALLOT TO SELECT THE SITE OF THE 59<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention

*The 59<sup>th</sup> Worldcon will be held in the year 2001. Each voter will become a supporting member of the selected 59<sup>th</sup> Worldcon.*

## Rules:

1. To be eligible to vote, you must be a living, natural person and either an attending or supporting member of Bucconeer. Ballots cast for memberships held by non-natural persons, such as "Guest of" memberships, Clubs, Toys etc. may only be voted as No Preference.
2. If you are not a member of Bucconeer, and wish to vote by mail, you may become a supporting or attending member by filling out the form on the reverse side of this ballot and sending a separate check for the appropriate fee made out to: **Bucconeer**. You may, if you prefer, charge your Bucconeer membership to one of the major credit cards listed overleaf. **Do not mail cash.**
3. Your ballot must be accompanied by the Site Selection fee of **US \$35** or **UK £22**. Checks should be made out to: **59<sup>th</sup> Worldcon**. You may, if you prefer, charge your Site Selection fee to one of the major credit cards listed overleaf. **Do not mail cash.**
4. Ballots may be cast either by mail or in person at Bucconeer. Ballots should be mailed to the Site Selection Administrator at either the US or UK addresses given opposite. The deadline for receipt of Mail-In ballots is **10<sup>th</sup> July, 1998**. Balloting at Bucconeer will at end 6 p.m. EDT on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> August, 1998.
5. Voting: Site Selection ballots are tallied by preferential balloting procedures. The winner is the first bid to get a majority of those ballots expressing a preference. This means that you should indicate your favorite selection with a "1", your next favorite with a "2" etc.
6. After filling out both sides of the ballot, fold the bottom edge up to the dotted line below these instructions and tape it closed to conceal your vote from casual viewing before the count.
7. All ballots must have the voter's name and address. All ballots must be signed. In addition to being used to validate the ballot, this information will be passed on to the winning bid, so that they know who their members are.

For the full details of the rules, see Section 3 of the WSFS Constitution. If you have any questions regarding the ballot or the application of these rules, please contact the Site Selection Administrator, Chris Cooper at the UK address below (preferably by e-mail). If phoning from outside the UK please remember that there may be a regional time difference.

US Address: PO Box 13164  
Baltimore MD 21203  
USA

UK Address: 20 Wheathampstead Road  
Harpenden  
Hertfordshire AL5 1ND  
United Kingdom

E-mail: [site.vote@bucconeer.worldcon.org](mailto:site.vote@bucconeer.worldcon.org)

Phone: (+ 44) 1582 715412 (UK phone no)



### Philadelphia in 2001: The Millennium Philcon

**Committee:** Chair: Todd Dashoff, Vice Chair: Gary Feldbaum, Secretary: Bridget Boyle, Treasurer: John Syms

For a complete list of members of the committee, see <http://www.netaxs.com/~phil2001>.

**Facilities:** Pennsylvania Convention Center, Marriott Philadelphia Hotel, and others.



### No Preference

A vote for No Preference means that when it becomes your first choice, you don't care which one wins.



### None of the Above

A vote for None of the Above indicates that you are opposed to all of the bids. If None of the Above wins, the site will be selected by the WSFS Business Meeting.



### Boston for Orlando in 2001

**Committee:** 44 members, including former Worldcon chairs Joe Siclari ('92), Mark Olson ('89), Leslie Turek ('80) and Tony Lewis ('71). Officers selected April 1, 1998.

For officers' names and a full committee list, see <http://www.mcfi.org>.

**Facilities:** The Swan and the Dolphin Hotels, Walt Disney World.



### Write-In:

In order to win, a Write-In bid must have filed the required paperwork with Bucconeer before the close of voting.

# Ballot to Select the 59<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention

## Voter Identification (please type or print clearly):

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature - Unsigned ballots will be considered 'No Preference' if otherwise valid.

## Voting Fee (select exactly one):

- Enclosed is a check for **US \$35** made out to: **59th Worldcon** for a supporting membership in the 59<sup>th</sup> Worldcon.
- Enclosed is a cheque for **UK £22** made out to: **59th Worldcon** for a supporting membership in the 59<sup>th</sup> Worldcon.
- Charge **US \$35** to my credit card (details in next column) for a supporting membership in the 59<sup>th</sup> Worldcon.

## Eligibility to Vote

You must be an attending or supporting member of Bucconeer to vote:

- I am a member of Bucconeer. My membership number is: \_\_\_\_\_
- I am not a member of Bucconeer. In order to be eligible to vote I am purchasing a supporting or an attending membership in Bucconeer (see details in the opposite column).

## Credit Card Details (please type or print clearly):

Card Type:  Visa  MasterCard  American Express  Discover

Name (as it appears on the card) \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Bucconeer Membership (if required):

- I wish to purchase a supporting membership for Bucconeer:  
Amount:  US \$30  UK £22
- I wish to purchase an attending membership for Bucconeer (note dates):

Attending membership options available **before 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1998:**

Amount:  US \$130  UK £94

(Ballots using this option must be **received** before 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1998.)

Attending membership options available **on or after 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1998:**

Amount:  US \$165  UK £120

- My check is enclosed.
- Charge my credit card (the US \$ amount) for a Bucconeer membership.

Polling at Bucconeer will close at 6 p.m. EDT on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> August, 1998.

Mail-in ballots must be received by **10<sup>th</sup> July, 1998.**

## Mailing Instructions:

1. Mark your vote on the other side of this sheet, fill in this side, and write any check(s) required.
2. Fold the bottom edge of the ballot up to the dotted line on the back with this side out, and tape closed.
3. Mail the ballot (and any check(s)) to the Site Selection Administrator at either the US or UK addresses overleaf.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date Processed:

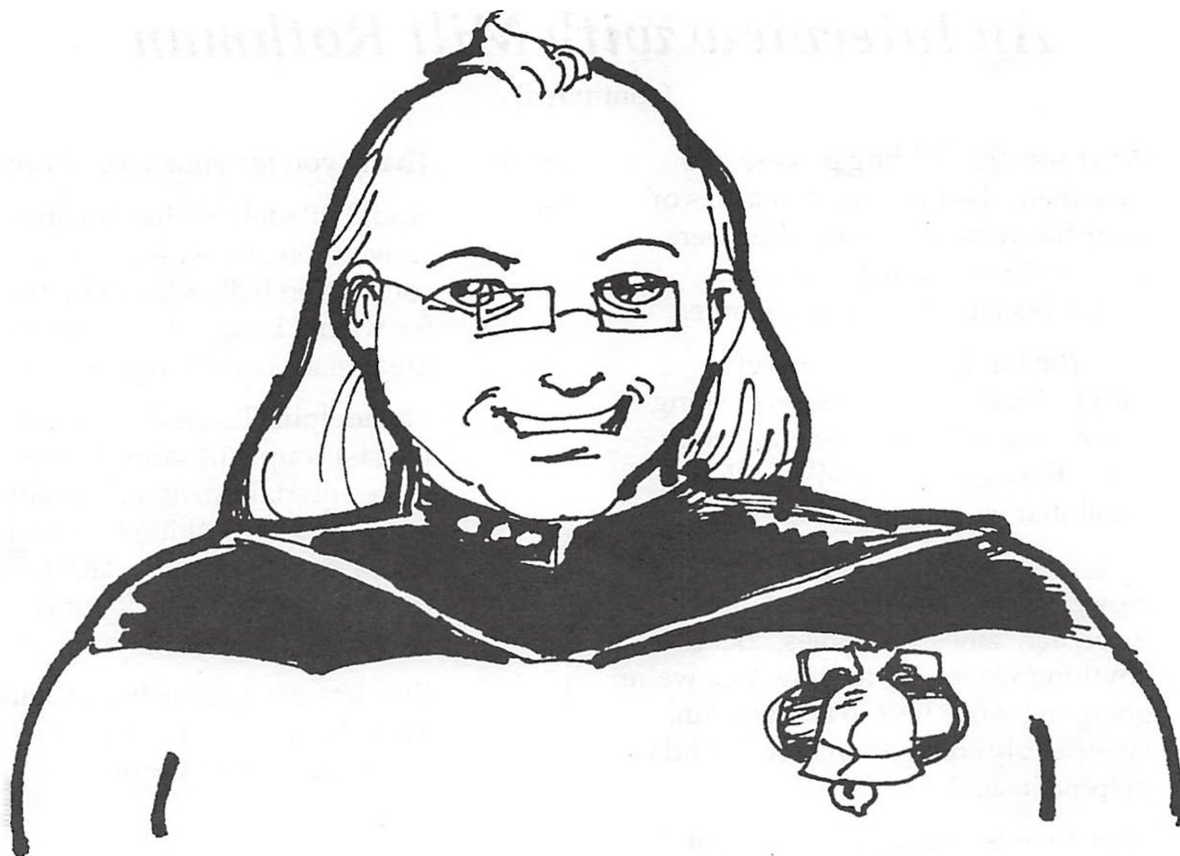
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Received:

\_\_\_\_\_

For Administrative Use Only





was in 1947. I had gone to Chicago and bid for it then. (In those days, you bid for the worldcon the year before you actually got it.) So I got to be chairman of the '47 convention where we had a couple hundred people there. We were starting to get into the big time.

And then in 1952 I went to the convention in California and bid for the convention in Philadelphia. Now, Jim Williams was supposed to be chairman of that. I was happy to let him have the chairmanship. Unfortunately, he died a couple of months before the convention. So, the club elected me chairman. And that is how I got to be chairman of two worldcons.

Lynn: Philcon, the Worldcon in '53, was the worldcon with the first Hugos and Jack McKnight making the awards. Did you help get the Hugos started?

Milt: Yes. That was the first Hugos. I essen-

tially created the design. I had the picture from the cover of Willy Ley's book *Conquest of Space* that had on it a rocket that looked exactly like the Hugo I wanted to have made. The guy we assigned to get it made fell down on the job. So Jack McKnight had to do it at the last minute.

Lynn: What was it like planning for worldcons in the '40's and '50s?

Milt: We didn't know any better. I found that doing the 1953 worldcon was very difficult. I wasn't ready for the large number of people we were going to have and the complications running the art exhibit. I didn't have any experience with running an art exhibit.

Lynn: Even though you had done it before? So even in a short time so much had changed?

Milt: We didn't have an art exhibit or a banquet...

(Continued on the next page)

# An Interview with Milt Rothman

(continued)

Lynn: What was the bidding process like back then? Did you throw parties or wear funny hats? I remember there was a PSFS (Philadelphia Science Fiction Society) movie at one time...

Milt: No. The bidding was relatively simple. During the business meeting at the convention people made their bids. They gave little talks. I don't recall that we did anything else special.

Lynn: Now, this goes on for years... party throwing, 'zines, bid tables, stickers... anything we can do to show that we're going to do our best to throw a fun, fan-friendly convention here in Philadelphia in 2001.

Milt: Now there's so many hundreds of people involved in doing the convention. It's really a big project now. I hope you guys are ready for it!

Lynn: We'd really like the opportunity! We've been waiting to have another Worldcon in Philly since 1953.

Milt: After all, PSFS was one of the first science fiction clubs in the country. We have a reputation for having a lot of interesting conferences and conventions [two previous world SF conventions - eds.] and it's time we put on a third. There are a lot of good people around here that can put on an interesting program.

Lynn: Thank you for your vote of confidence.

Milt: And, Philadelphia has become a great convention city with a beautiful new convention hall (which I helped pay for when I bought bonds for it). It's a great place to have conventions.

Philadelphia has really blossomed in the last couple of years. We have a lot more entertainment and restaurants, hotels and everything that goes with taking care of visitors. And the city is moving along. And a lot of that is due to our dear mayor.

Lynn: Errr, lets see, you've been chairman of all of them here... perhaps we'll vote you in as chair of the next one!

Milt: NO!

(Laughter)

Milt: I'll be happy if I can drag myself to the Philadelphia Worldcon.

Lynn: I expect to see you there. I really do. And who knows, maybe you'll get to chair all the Philadelphia worldcons!

I guess everyone will see you in Baltimore at Worldcon.

Milt: Yes. I'll be there a few days. They are really taking care of me down there.

Lynn: Thank you.

You can learn more about Milt Rothman in *Bucconeer Progress Reports Two and Three*.



# The "Ben Franklin Through Time & Space" Postcard Series

The Philadelphia in 2001 Bid Committee is issuing a series of collectable postcards. Collect 20 postcards (see below for full rules) and you can win a free conversion from supporting to attending membership in the Millennium Philcon (provided we win).

For our series, top science fiction and fantasy artists have captured scenes from Ben's bizarre journey as he warps through time and space on his way to the Millennium Philcon. So far, among his stops, Ben has been in the first dimension, Ancient Egypt, Earth's moon, Pern and our far future.

The full series will include about 35 postcards. In order to win the conversion you must:

- Presupport Philadelphia in 2001 and
- Collect 20 different postcards and
- Vote on site selection for 2001 (This is important to remember. Even if you have presupported and gotten your 20 cards, you still cannot qualify for the conversion if you did not vote for site selection.)

New presupporters receive the most recent card when they join up. All presupporters are entitled to receive the most recent postcard at any convention the bid attends. Pick up your free card at our bid table or parties. At each convention, you can also buy one older postcard for \$1.00 which will count towards conversion. For those who want the full set, additional cards can be purchased for \$1.00, but will receive our special kite cancellation and be ineligible for conversion.

There are two other ways to get postcards. First, we are also giving away postcards as prizes at our bid parties. And, for fans who cannot get to many conventions where we have a table or party, we will publish a list of conventions where the Philly bid did not have a presence. Show a committee member, at one of our parties or at our bid table, a badge from one of the conventions on the list (the badge must show your name), and you can buy a postcard, which will count towards conversion, for \$1.00. You may purchase postcards for up to eight different conventions this way.

Any fans who have any questions about the postcard series should contact the bid at our email or snail mail addresses.

## *Upcoming Conventions*

5/1-5/3	Marcon	Columbus, OH	6/25-6/28	MidwestCon	Cincinnati, OH
5/15-5/17	Oasis	Orlando, FL	6/26-6/28	Shore Leave	Baltimore, MD
5/22-5/24	LibertyCon	Chattanooga, TN	7/2-7/5	Westercon	San Diego, CA
5/22-5/25	WisCon	Madison, WI	7/3-7/5	Inconjunction	Indianapolis, IN
5/22-5/25	Baycon	San Jose, CA	7/10-7/12	Readercon	Westborough, MA
5/22-5/25	MediaWest	Lansing, MI	7/31-8/2	Rivercon	Louisville, KY
6/12-6/14	DeepSouthCon	Birmingham, AL	8/5-8/9	BucConeer	Baltimore, MD

# *The Pennsylvania Convention Center*

by Margaret Trebing

The Pennsylvania Convention Center is located in the heart of Philadelphia, America's most historic city. This new facility, opened in June 1993, is the second largest convention center in the Northeastern United States, covering six square blocks.

The Convention Center is two blocks from City Hall and the core business district. It is five blocks from Independence Hall and the historic district. The Convention Center is at the juncture of the city's main bus and train routes. Any part of the city is within reach by public transit. Furthermore, with hundreds of shops, businesses and restaurants (Chinatown begins across the street) within a 10-minute walk, there will be little need to drive anywhere.

The Pennsylvania Convention Center should not be confused with Philadelphia's older convention space, the Civic Center, which is on the other side of the Schuylkill River.

## THE GRAND HALL

The main entrance to the Pennsylvania Convention Center, the Grand Hall is an enormous and powerfully dramatic space. The 46,000-square-foot Hall was built within the historically certified Reading Terminal Train Shed, the only remaining single-span Victorian train shed in America. The vaulted, skylit roof soars to 90' above the floor. At the southern end, escalators rise to the marbled terrace which overlooks the entire length of the Hall. This spectacular room can accommodate events for up to 3,000 people.

## EXHIBIT SPACE

The Pennsylvania Convention Center has four exhibit halls, one at street level and three on the second level. The rooms measure: 125,120 sq. ft.; 135,000 sq. ft.; 90,000 sq. ft. and 90,000 sq. ft., totalling 440,120 sq. ft. of exhibit space. Exhibit halls A, B and C can be combined into one. The main exhibit hall is adjoined by a fully-equipped business and imaging center.

The exhibit halls are served by 36 loading docks, which are located on both levels. There are overhead doors and drive-in ramps for convenient loading and unloading.

## BALLROOM

The 32,000 sq. ft. ballroom can seat 2,000 for a banquet style event, or 3360 with theatre seating. The ballroom includes a stage and four backstage dressing rooms.

## MEETING ROOMS

The Philadelphia Convention Center has 52 meeting rooms, ranging in size from 18- to 168-person capacity. Many of these rooms can be combined.

The lecture hall features 600 fixed seats, each with recessed writing surfaces, and is equipped with a stage, teleconferencing, broadcasting and rear view projection capabilities

## FOOD

Each of the exhibit halls has its own snack bar. The third (ballroom) level of the Center features a food court and a bar on the mezzanine overlooking exhibit hall A

There are hundreds of restaurants within walking distance of the Convention Center, ranging from pizza to coffee shops to Le Bec Fin, the most famous French restaurant in America. The sixteen blocks and 50 restaurants of Chinatown are directly behind the Center.

The famous Reading Terminal Farmer's Market is downstairs from the Grand Hall. Here you can not only buy produce straight from Amish farms, but eat food ranging from Middle-Eastern to Cajun.

## HOTELS

The main convention hotel, the Philadelphia Marriot, is connected by a glass-enclosed walkway to the Convention Center. The Marriot has 1,200 rooms and is fully handicapped-accessible.

There are 5,625 hotel rooms within walking distance of the Convention Center. More hotels are planned to open in the area before 2000.



## *Lost Presupporters!*

We no longer have valid mail or email addresses for the following people. If you know where they are please have them contact us with their new address. We've listed the last known city and state for each missing fan.

Jeanette Barton	Palo Alto CA
Frank Bynum	Fairborn OH
Dawne Dela Cruz	Coventry RI
Al DeLaRosa	Palo Alto CA
Andy Dyson	Philadelphia PA
Marina Frants	New York NY
Gary Hoff	Rockingham WA
Sally Jones	Chicago IL
Arin Komins	Chicago IL
Diane Lask	Scotts Valley CA
Gaye Ludwig	La Habra CA
Richard Lyke	Enterprise AL
Laura Majerus	Belmont CA
Nathan Mehl	Cambridge MA
Larne Pekowsky	Jersey City NJ
Benjamin Rendon	Houston TX
Lawrence Sall	Philadelphia PA
Robert Taylor	Austin TX

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