

The Bozo Bus Tribune

All The News That's On The Bus



Thursday, April 17, 2003

Graveyard Edition

Volume 38 No. 1

Minicon Guests on Hugo Ballot

Minicon is exceptionally pleased to announce the 2003 Hugo award nominees. We are honoured to be spending this weekend with our Writer Guest of Honour Rob Sawyer, who has been nominated in the Best Novel category for his *Hominids*. And our Fan Guest, Sue Mason, has been nominated in the Fan Artist category. Best of luck and our hearty congratulations.

We're celebrating our guests with three different chapbooks showcasing their talents. Robert Sawyer and Carolyn Clink have contributed short stories and poems, Sue Mason has done up quite a lot of smutty pictures (and some not-so-smutty ones), and for our Music Guest of Honor Steve MacDonald we've put together a huge songbook. We expect to sell out of all three publications, so buy yours early. They're available in the Constitute; ask at the Bridge.

And we're pleased for *Plokta*, attending this Minicon from the U.K. in the editorial persons of Alison Scott, Mike Scott, and Steve Davies. *Plokta* is nominated in the Best Fanzine category. We hope for rocketships galore for each and all of you!

Special Sekret Info from the Con Chairs

The NW elevator is the one with the keypad that you need a code for. It will take you to the bar. The secret code is 1973#. You need all five characters. You can also take the stairs from the consuite. We probably will, being unsure where the NW elevator is.

Thursday Set-Up A Big Blow-Up

— a combined report from Marilee Layman
and Judy Rosenberg

The Alien Inflation Squad, including Donna Steiner, Rachel Rosenberg, and Kyle and Jason Mulgren, attacked the considerable numbers of deflated inflatables with demonstrable glee and several kinds of pumps. Good job, that.

Many of the attending children could be seen playing with and torturing the small yet loveable aliens. There's an inflatable palm tree and many small inflatable balls. In further news, the dome was leaking yesterday. With any luck, there will be no rain on the night of the Time Traveler's Ball.

Minicon Volunteers — We Need You

If you've been to a convention before, you've already heard the pitch — this is a fan run convention; do your part; get involved; meet new people. These are catchy phrases, but don't quite capture the spirit of why volunteers are so essential. A couple of months ago, Lydia Nickerson wrote a beautiful summary of the role volunteers play in a fan run convention. Lydia was kind enough to allow us to reprint her comments here.

"Conventions run because of a sense of community. Actually, almost all organizations run because of a sense of civic responsibility, but conventions are a particularly striking example because we don't use much else except individual willingness to act as part of the whole. Our volunteers are unpaid, and not infrequently entirely ad hoc. The reason conventions don't go down in screaming flames is not because of the brilliant organization or the fantastic management skills of the concomm. We get by every year because random people keep on throwing themselves into the breach."

So that's the secret of a convention, we're a community and you are part of that community. Now while it's true that you won't get paid to volunteer, we do have some gifts to help us say "Thank You"!

This year there are volunteer ribbons and alien stickers to affix to your badge, as well as stuffed fruits and vegetables to celebrate Vegetology (or, for the heretics among us, the Fruitarian Heresy.) And for those of you who volunteer at least eight hours, we have some classic Minicon t-shirts from previous conventions. There are a wide variety of positions and hours for you to choose from.

PERSONALS

R.S.: I will if you will. Shall we (undecipherable — ed.) in the consuite? Say, 11:30? C.F.

Fruitarian Heresy

The BBT considers the use of "pear-shaped" on the Program to be a sinister recruitment tool of the Fruitarians, and call on the Programming Staff to explain their obvious bias.

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The Official Organ of Minicon 38

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The 2003 Hugo Nominations

Best Novel

Bones of the Earth by Michael Swanwick
Hominids by Robert J. Sawyer
Kiln People by David Brin
The Scar by China Mieville
The Years of Rice and Salt by Kim Stanley Robinson

Best Novella

A Year in the Linear City by Paul Di Filippo
Breathmoss by Ian R. MacLeod
Bronte's Egg by Richard Chwedyk
Coraline by Neil Gaiman
In Spirit by Pat Forde
The Political Officer by Charles Coleman Finlay

Best Novelette

Halo by Charles Stross
Liking What You See: A Documentary
by Ted Chiang
Presence by Maureen F. MacHugh
Slow Life by Michael Swanwick
The Wild Girls by Ursula K. LeGuin

Best Short Story

A Gift of Verse by John L. Flynn
Creation by Jeffrey Ford
Falling Onto Mars by Geoffrey A. Landis
'Hello,' Said The Stick by Michael Swanwick
The Little Cat Laughed to See Such Sport
by Michael Swanwick

Best Related Book

The Battle of the Sexes in Science Fiction,
Justine Larbalestier
Better to Have Loved: The Life of Judith Merrill,
Judith Merrill and Emily Pohl-Weary
Dragonhenge, Bob Eggleton and John Grant
Ray Bradbury: An Illustrated Life, Jerry Weist
Spectrum 9: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic
Art, Cathy Fenner and Arnie Fenner, eds.

Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form Category

Star Trek: Enterprise, *A Night in Sickbay*
Star Trek: Enterprise, *Carbon Creek*
Buffy the Vampire Slayer, *Conversations With*
Dead People
Firefly, *Serenity*
Angel, *Waiting in the Wings*

Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form Category

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers
Minority Report
Spider-Man
Spirited Away

Best Professional Editor

Ellen Datlow
Gardner Dozois
David G. Hartwell
Stanley Schmidt
Gordon van Gelder

Best Fan Artist

Brad W. Foster
Tedy Harvia
Sue Mason
Steve Stiles
Frank Wu

Best Professional Artist

Jim Burns
David A. Cherry
Bob Eggleton
Frank Kelly Freas
Donato Giancola

Best Semiprozine

Anisible, Dave Langford
Interzone, David Pringle
Locus, Charles N. Brown, Jennifer A. Hall,
Kirsten Gong-Wong
The New York Review of Science Fiction,
Kathryn Kramer, David G. Hartwell, Kevin Maroney
Spectulations, Kent Brewster

Best Fanzine

Challenger, Guy H. Lillian III
Emerald City, Cheryl Morgan
File 770, Mike Glycer
Mimosa, Rich and Nicki Lynch
Plokta, Alison Scott, Steve Davies, Mike Scott

Best Fan Writer

Bob Devney
John L. Flynn
Mike Glycer
Dave Langford
Steven H. Silver

Reporters Wanted

This paper is always looking for material — party reports, programming reviews, magic moments, out-of-context quotes, letters to the editor, personals. Contributions can be left in the Inbox on the Bridge.

Calling all junior reporters! The BBT needs you to gather news and report on events of interest to the younger members of the convention. We would especially like news about Children's Programming. Press kits are available at the BBT office and in the Kid's Programming room.

Wednesday Party Report

All the available work and some of the available food were quickly dispatched with at the Wednesday work party, which left the lot of us to sit around and talk. Foreign nationals and out-of-towners employed their various elf boy recruitment strategies. Green grapes are reported to be easiest to peel.

Easter Cookery Request

The BBT is looking for that mock apple pie recipe that you make with communion wafers. Just drop it in our Inbox if you come across it.

The Bozo Bus Tribune

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Friday, April 18, 2003

Evening Edition

Volume 38 No. 2

Parties

LiveJournal.com	1228
Krushenko's/TOTU	1208
Shannon's "Yes, She's Legal" Party	1179
Clean Out the Fridge Party	1227

An Apology and A Congratulation

We here at BBT Central would like to congratulate Campbell Award nominee and Minicon attendee David Levine, and we wish him the best of luck. In listing the Hugos in the Thursday night BBT we didn't include the Campbell award nominees. Unfortunately, we've taken home the computer with the .pdf telling us the 2003 nominees, and so we can't tell you the other listees. Perhaps someone who has a computer here at the con would be kind enough to supply us with the Campbell Award nominees. In any case, David, we didn't mean to leave you out! — *Karen.*

Parties Flyers

We have established two (2) party flyer boards:

14th Floor: on the window at the far end of the consuite, next to the Bridge

Ground Floor: on the triangular panels next to Registration

IMPORTANT

Do not take alcoholic drinks from consuite or private party down into the lobby no matter what time it is. After 1am alcohol should not leave the 13th floor. The hotel is very concerned about this.

Hotel Map Shocker

Sharp-eyed map-reading fans have been noticing that the configuration of programming rooms on the lower level does not appear to match the map in the pocket program. Specifically, the order of the Avenue Rooms along the right side is reversed. Beth Friedman, programming co-head explained the discrepancy as follows: "The map is right. I'm wrong." We think that's

much too harsh. Really, all that's happened is that the virtual reality that was employed by Programming during the room-assignment phase has been projected onto the underlying infrastructure using signage technology. Whatever you do, do not remove the signage, or reality as we know it could collapse!

The Infamous 13th Floor

— *Sharon Kahn with help from Katie Clapham & Magenta Griffith*

The other half of the consuite, the half that serves alcohol, is located on the "Penthouse" (hotel-speak for "Thirteenth") floor. It's a great space with a real bar and rooms that go on forever, but finding it is a bit of an adventure. You can get there by elevator, but only if you get in the Special Magic Elevator and immediately key in the secret code, which you would know if you read Thursday's issue (okay, it's 1973#. Don't forget the #). The Magic Elevator is #1. Or you can take the stairs. Go out the door of the main consuite past the elevators and turn right. Down at the end of the hall is a big sign with something about "Wheel Inn Tyme." Go through the doors and down the stairs. Go through the door on the landing, and don't be surprised if you find yourself in a bathroom. Just keep going and you'll get there. It will be worth it. The bar is the Well of Forgetfulness.

Children's Panels Canceled! People Saddened!

— *Judy Rosenberg*

Because of the small response to e-mail sent out by Laura Jean Fish, all of the panels for pre-teens and children were canceled. As the adult have their own trivia panel (where Andes are thrown out into the crowd when a correct answer is heard), children should be entitled to their own one. This was going to be part of the children's panels. Also was a "Aren't my Parents Geeks?" "Harry Potter and Other Fiction Novels", and TV panels galore. Maybe next year there will be enough participants to make these panels and others possible.

Hucksters Room Report

— *Doran Miller Rosenberg*

The hordes of small, ferocious children running around with inflatable devices were nowhere to be found today in the hucksters room. There were comics, Playboys, jewelry, art and most importantly,

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science fiction books. Ranging from classic Heinlein to awful children's books that Guy Montag should go to work on, there was something for everyone. Dealers came far and wide to huckster, and we, the convention-goers will inevitably be huckstered. So come on down to the lobby, and the hucksters room. There's most assuredly something there for you.

The Rachel Report — Splash in Pool

— Rachel Rosenberg

The pool party went wild the shark got a snack and a ride they had drinks and a water float rides and the rides were the shark, the caterpillar, the crocodile, and ducks for little kids. The drink flavors were lemon, lime, raspberry.

Programming Census

— Sharon Kahn

Programming was off to a great start with 2-track programming beginning at 1 pm. Your investigative reporter, who is likely to be running Programming next year, will be conducting a sporadic room census throughout the con to identify historical trends in programming attendance. Preliminary results from Friday afternoon suggest that 2 small programming rooms provide just the right amount of programming activity for this stage of the con. During each 1-hour slot, there were 50-75 people attending programming, with a comfortable number of people in each room. The most popular item was "The Year in Science," with approximately 60 people — just a little crowded for the space. I never counted a room with fewer than 17 people.

Intellectual Property Panel

Bruce Schneier and GOH Rob Sawyer unexpectedly found themselves in violent agreement. Such is not expected to be the case in tomorrow's noon panel.

Opening Ceremonies

The official vegetable of the con, as determined by a special reading from the Holy Book of Burpee (Jung Edition), is the multi-ton hybrid cabbage. In response to this revelation, the assemblage smooothed with tomato juice and vodka. Several people discovered their inner vegetable while waiting in line for communion, including some people that weren't even there. Andy Anda was determined to be corn as the congregation couldn't think of anyone cornier. Sprout be with you.

Ask Dr. Mike

This just in! The new sport of the 2008 Olympics in Kosovo will be Post-Modern Biathlon: guys riding Ski-doo's firing anti-tank missiles.

Personals

Hi from Oregon to everybody I know at the con.

— Tigger

Skip the rain! It's time for the traditional hello to our absent friends Will and Emma!

— Stephen B

Many thanks to Aiera and all the other volunteers who collated and stapled the Program Book.

— Pubs Figurehead

Food Find of the Convention

— Bruce Schneier and Karen Cooper

Big E's Soul Food is on 1831 Nicollet Avenue, just a few blocks from the hotel. The most exciting new Minneapolis restaurant in months, Big E's serves both traditional and nouveau soul food. Their jambalaya is delicious, and their etoufee alone is worth the trip. These, and their gumbo, can be ordered both as entrees and as sides. They serve blackened chicken, a fish dish whose exact ingredients escape me but was delicious, and a phenomenal pulled pork sandwich. In fact, neither we nor anyone we know has had anything less than a great meal here, ever. The restaurant has an extensive, and interesting list of vegetarian options. The restaurant is pretty but small, and many take the food out and eat it elsewhere. They open at 11:00 for lunch, and serve continuously until 11:30 at night. Big E's is going to get a great review in the Trib next Thursday, so beat the rush and go this weekend.

Alison's Restaurant reviews

— Alison Scott

People will surely have spotted Ichiban; it's next door and does teppanyaki and all you can eat sushi bar. We went for the all you can eat sushi at \$27.95 (half price for kids, but they counted our two small children as one half-price meal), and found it reasonably varied, quite delicious, and divinely quick. Eat fast; they reserve the right to throw you out after an hour. In truth, I didn't quite have all I could eat; I could probably have managed to squeeze in another couple of pieces before bursting. Just.

Last night we went to new tapas bar Solera; decor allegedly influenced by Gaudi. The bar area is noisy, which worried us, but the restaurant is quiet and comfortable. This is tapas of the expensive but exciting sort rather than the cheap and cheerful sort. Everything was delicious, and there were many things that the collection of confirmed foodies hadn't tried before. Eating as many tapas as we fancied, three bottles of wine (for 5), puddings and coffee, it came to a little under \$50 a head. And I had two not-on-my-planet restaurant experiences; when I enquired as to the whereabouts of the loos, they said 'down those stairs; or you can take the elevator'; and when I enquired as to the existence of children's portions of ice cream, they said, 'oh, the regular ice creams are already pretty small'. Recommended for greedy omnivores.

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Saturday, April 19, 2003

Afternoon Edition

Volume 38 No. 3

Parties!

Krushenko's	1208	9:00
Tor Books	1201	9:00
Convergence Party	1187	9:00
Karaoke Party	905	10:00
Coca Cola Tasting Party	893	5:30-7pm

Elevator Nightmare — Eyewitness Account

9 people spent 23 uncomfortable minutes trapped in Elevator #2 today. The elevator departed the lobby level at noon, heading up. The door closed, the elevator started up, then lurched to a stop. It then bounced up and down a few more times before becoming comatose. The nearest passenger pressed the Call button, which was answered fairly quickly by an operator asking, "Is everything all right?" Multiple voices informed her that no, we were stuck between floors, which was not all right. "I'll call the Engineer," said the voice. "Can you hold?" Raucous laughter ensued.

One of the passengers commented, "I think this is the same elevator that was broken yesterday, but it was stuck with the door open." Meanwhile, the elevator intercom had started playing recorded advertisements. Every 5 minutes or so, someone would come on the line and assure us that The Engineer would be with us in a moment. After one of these intervals the intercom did not go off immediately and the passengers could clearly hear someone say, "We're looking for Engineering. Has anyone seen him?"

Meanwhile, back in the elevator, life went on. "I'm just trying to figure out which one of us represents which archetype in the people stuck in an elevator story," someone said. There was one volunteer for spunky girl reporter, but unfortunately no superheroes. The only superpower volunteered was sarcasm, which was not particularly helpful under the circumstances.

At about 12:20 the passengers were informed that the engineer was "in transit to the 14th floor" where he would "reset" the elevator (which had evidently

blue-screened). The passengers hoped he wasn't taking an elevator to the 14th floor. Not long afterwards the elevator lurched into life again and started accelerating upwards. This wasn't as reassuring as it might have been, considering that no destination was displayed on the button panel. Just to give it a sense of direction, the passengers pushed 14. To their great relief, the car not only stopped when it reached the top, the doors opened! And there was much rejoicing.

At present, all the elevators appear to be working. However, it should be noted that other people have reported experiencing the bouncy-lurchy thing over the past 24 hours. It is not certain that all the problems have been on the same elevator, but it seems like a reasonable hypothesis.

Big Thanks From Sheepish Dad

Thanks to the Bridge staff and others who helped me search for my "not-really-missing-after-all" daughter, Meemzi. You all reacted with alacrity, clarity and the good nature necessary to quell the rising panic of an over-protective dad. — *Sheepishly yours, GOGS*

Minneapolis In '08?

or ...Why Fans Shouldn't Drink and SMOF
Minneapolis Geri Sullivan has bravely stepped forward this evening to chair a Worldcon in Minneapolis.

At the *Australia in 2010: Why Fans Shouldn't Drink Late at Night* panel the bid was launched. Fittingly. Chicago fan Mike Bentley stood up to leave early and Geri said, "First one to leave the room chairs a worldcon." Mike remained (and remained standing directly in front of your reporter which she appreciated because he has really cute ass). A few minutes later, Geri poured the last of the "coffee" and headed for the door. After she was safely gone St. Louis fan Erik Olson reminded the audience what Geri herself had so recently proclaimed. Seattle fan Marci Malinowycz said, "Let's throw twenties on her chair." Erik's \$20 was the first, followed by Seth Breidbart, Marci, Mary Kay Kare, and Sharon Sbarsky.

When Geri re-entered the room everyone began to laugh. She bolted for the door. David Schroth blocked her with Mary Kay caroling delightedly, "Geri, Remember saying first one to leave chairs a worldcon?" Geri fell on the floor and shrieked, "You bastards! I hate you!"

Members of the Minneapolis in '08 bid include

1. Erik Olson
2. Seth Breidbart
3. Marci Malinowycz

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4. Mary Kay Kare
5. Sharon Sbarsky
6. Dough Wickstrom
7. John Stanley
8. Pam Fremon
9. Jim Young
10. Jeanne Mealy
11. Vlad
12. Bonnie Jones
- 13 David W. Schrott



Moral: Fans shouldn't drink late at night because then they have to pee.

Submitted 4-19-03, 11:15 pm, *Mary Kay Kare*

Update: Matthew Michalak has kindly volunteered to be treasurer and Sue Mason, illustrator of the original Australia in 10 bid has provided the accompanying illo.

Personals

Velma Bowen says hello.

Matt — been there, done that. No need to apologize.

— *the surrogate moms and dads of Minicon.*

Krahn-Gahlon Preliminary Pulse Check

This was the warmup for the traditional Sunday morning 4 am survey of Minicon activity. As the census commenced, rumors were flying that Gahlon had *horrors* retired for the night. Since Gahlon was clearly not in evidence on the 14th floor, your editor volunteered to fill in for him, introducing the possibility that the event would have to be renamed as the barely pronounceable Kahn-Krahn Report.

The 14th floor yielded a warm body count of 36, including 11 people who were just closing down the music room. We found 8 more on the 13th floor including the missing member of our team: Dean Gahlon himself! However, from this point on, the results were spotty - a couple of people in the elevator, a couple more weaving immense pink and blue spiderwebs in the stairwell. And, of course, us. The grand title of con members still awake came to a paltry 51. Admittedly, it is only Friday night. Let's try to do a little tomorrow, okay?

Friday Night Parties Reports

— *Katie Clapham and Sharon Kahn*

1228 LiveJournal.com — Amazing collection of cakes and sweet dipping sauces. *No kidding. Yummm.*

Thanks, Rachael! I especially appreciated the bitter-sweet chocolate sauce and the chestnut buttercream.

1208 Krushenko's/TOTU — "Yummy food, good conversation." *Didn't make it to this one — maybe tomorrow.*

1179 Shannon's "Now She's Legal" Party. *Apparently Shannon has been trying for 8 years to reach the age of 21, and has finally achieved it. The birthday girl filled my glass with Tullamore Dew, and I was having a fine time until everybody suddenly stood up and filed out of the room. Was it something I said?*

1227 Clean Out the Fridge Party. Pretty lights. Orange... alien <indecipherable> ... after orange and oblong food substances... are they alien eggs or something more sinister? You be the judge. Variety of liquids.. Oddcon agitation [?] *Sorry, my fellow reviewer appears to have had a little too much fun at this party. I'll take over now. Fun party with an unusual theme and very friendly hostess. Turns out that the guests don't have to actually clean the fridge, just eat whatever dubious delicacies came out of it. All I can say is, my refrigerator rarely has leftovers like chocolate woodchucks and white-chocolate-covered oreos. The blue icicle lights were a nice addition to the refrigeration theme, but I must say that I found the strings of glowing blue and yellow Peeps a tad alarming.*

Concerning Panels That Never Were

— *Beth Friedman & Lydia Nickerson*

The list of program items in the Minicon 38 program book was turned in before the program schedule was finalized. In the press of actually putting together the schedule, a number of listed items were dropped. We apologize if anyone was particularly looking forward to one of the disappearing items. The dropped programming items are:

Dinosaurs in S.F.

DVD Commentaries: the Good, the Bad, the Ugly

Is There a Generation Gap in Fandom?

Is This the Golden Age of Animated Film?

Lady Poetesses From Hell

Make-a-Story

Manderley Again: Great Opening and Closing Lines

New Crop of Fantasy/SF TV

Self-Promotion for Writers

Value of Political Blogging

Why All These P.K. Dick Movies?

Junior Reporters' Corner

Time Machines

jason malgren

Were making timemachines out of clay. It is 11:00. It has two eyes and two eyebrows. A mouth a chin and entenas.

The Rachel Report: The Rotten Elevator

Rachel Rosenberg

Today three people [9, actually. Ed] were stuck in a elevator. We asked people how they would feel if they were stuck in a elevator some people said that it would be scary, some people said it would be fun believe it or not, and some people thoat that they would be hungry.

Historians Anticipate the Past this Evening

Meemzi

There is great anticipation regarding the Time Traveler's Ball tonight. Rumor has it historical accuracy will be taking a back seat to a sense of historical fun. Con-goer (and amateur historian) Clive Atchison says, "I'm really looking forward to reliving the past this evening, but I'm just not sure how to get there from here!" Perplexed onlookers agreed, saying, "He's confused!" Inquiring minds are looking forward to the many permutations which will be in evidence this evening.

The Bozo Bus Tribune

All The News That's On The Bus

Another Evening Edition!



Volume 38 No. 4

Saturday, April 19, 2003

Saturday Evening Music Schedule

in the music space

Sandy Andina (with Andy Anda) 8:00
Riverfolk (with Andy Anda) 9:00
Blue Dylan (with Andy Anda) 10:00

Bling Bling

featuring Andrew Bertke will perform at the Karaoke Party, 10PM, room 905.

Blender Bar Big Hit

Thanks to Sandra Childress for hosting an exotic intergalactic juice bar outside the Friday night pool party. The colorful selection of blender drinks included Moon Balls, Rocket Fuel (Unleaded) and Anti-Gravity Juice. Sandra insisted that "Good bartenders just make it up as they go," but when pressed did provide a few of the recipes that she uses as starting points for her creations. Here's my favorite:

Moon Balls

1 1/2 cups melon balls (cantaloupe and honeydew), 16 oz. Key Lime Sherbet, 16 oz. Lemon Sherbet, 2 Tbs Lime Juice Concentrate, 16 oz. 5-Alive Juice.

Winning Blog Recipe

The winner of the Blogger Contest is: Delia Ihinger! Here's the recipe for Delia's Blog: 2/3 cup Sprite, 1/4 cup Fruit Punch, 1/2 tsp. lemon juice, 1/4 cup lemonade, and 1 Tbsp mango juice. Taste the new flavor at the Time Travelers Ball. Delia also gets to take home her very own baby bottle of Grenadine.

Overheard in consuite

"The problem is, they're not perfectly matched juggling yams."

Trivia Note

11 of this year's Hugo nominees are former Minicon guests.

I think we're all Bozos...

There's a con flyer on the freebie table with a date and hotel name, but no city. D'oh!

Personal

Baggie Con: meet me at the "Whale's Tails!"

Junkyard Wars!

— Steve MacDonald

It was an extremely close and tight race Saturday afternoon as five teams vied for the bragging rights of being Minicon 38's Junkyard Wars victors.

The challenge of this year's war was to create a musical instrument from people's cast off (and notably non-musical) junk. The instruments had to be able to play a passable version of "Row, Row, Row, Your Boat"; and for extra credit produce "Do-Re-Me" in some form that didn't break the Judge's ears.

There were two Honorable Mention entries: Jim Shields and Matthew Bannerman entered their patented 'Box Guitar' (an empty checkbook box strung with rubber bands). It was able to play the Boat song in a minor key, but needed electronic reinforcement to be truly audible. It recieved the Honorable Mention Award of Best New Concept in Gerbil Beds.

Josh Haltur entered the Guitarapult- a contraption that consisted of a box, two coat-hangerish outriggers, a syringe case, and rubber bands strung between the outriggers. It was noted by the Contest Moderator that his was the only design that used sound-dampening styrofoam as an integral structural material. The Guitarapult received the Honorable Mention of Most Original Concept, Time Machine Secretly Hidden As A Musical Instrument (Or Tesseract, We Can't Make Up Our Minds Which One).

Bob and Mara DeMers received Third Place with their One String Bass- a piece of monofilament attached to a milk bottle on one end, and a sliding plastic track on the other. The One String Bass also received the accolade as Most Likely To Be Used As A Launch Vehicle.

Second Place was claimed by Laura and Wolfgang Klassen, with their Thumb Piano. It was by far the most musical use of popsicle sticks that this judge has ever heard. Get an electronic pickup for it; and you may have the big instrument invention- right up there with the ever-popular theremin.

Steve Mercer and Cally Soukup won the competition with The Evil Panpipe of Mass Destruction. It was tuneful. It was LOUD (this judge is *never* loud.. but he appreciates volume). It was a series of water-filled test tubes in a base, tastefully decorated with plastic grass. The Evil Panpipe of Mass Destruction was also

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Saturday Evening

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noted as being the most versatile instrument created in the competition. It could be used to play music. Or water your garden. Or, blow hard enough across the pipes, and the backwash from the water coming up the pipes could be used as a nose lavage. Or, replace the water with a beverage of your choice (say, vodka

or a good single malt); and it could be used as an effective medication delivery system.

All in all; the entries were musical (tho, in most cases, volume was a problem); and many original concepts were tried to deliver the most musical experience to Junkyard Wars Minicon 38!



Sue 2003
The artist is
Still drunk - but not as drunk as Geri

(Sue's illo in a larger point size)

The Bozo Bus Tribune

All The News That's On The Bus



Sunday, April 20, 2003

Farewell Edition

Volume 38 No. 5

Registration Report

Preliminary numbers: about 550 total registrations, 480 warm bodies.

Operations

The Bridge should be open well into the evening, probably until about 9pm. We're essentially out of t-shirts, but additional ones can be ordered. There are still chapbooks available! Get yours now before it's too late! If you have lost something precious to you (say, keys) check the Lost and Found. All this and more at the Bridge, which will be open until maybe 9 pm. After that, it's either gone, but you might check with MN-STF if it's valuable.

Hotel

The Hotel Department is ecstatic to report that the hotel loves us! They may have been a little dubious about us initially, but we won them over with our warm hearts and hard work. Unexpectedly making our room block helped too (and it certainly helped the Minicon bottom line — thanks to everyone who registered for a hotel room). The Hotel Department wants to remind everybody to reward every hotel staffer who made your weekend better by submitting a positive comment on the hotel comment cards. You can get the cards at the hotel front desk.

Reminder:

Skyways are closed on Sunday.

Krushenko's

Krushenko's will be open on Sunday!

Hours for room 1208 Sunday:

Noon - 4:00PM. Open House.

8:00PM Krushenko's 20th Anniversary Party

Philip K. Dick Award

Grand Winner: *The Mount*, by Carol Emshwiller

Runner Up: *The Scar*, by China Mieville

Krahn-Gahlon Pulse Check

As of 4:15am Sunday:

Music Party:	20
14th Floor Constitute:	17
Way-cool Dome:	2 (+ inflatables and ukelele)
Smoking Consuite:	8
Penthouse/13th Floor:	10

Plus: 2 roving reporters and 1 guy in an elevator for a total of 60 warm (and not-so-warm) bodies. We couldn't find any room parties that were still open. At one point there were more people hadging the consuite than were actually *in the consuite*.

At 5:30am, there were 36 people awake. Gahlon was drunk (. . . *drunk*) and all of us were beating jokes into the ground (as "usual"). There was a "Dome Jam" featuring Guest of Honor Steve Macdonald, Chas Somdahl, Bill Higgins, and a throng of a dozen or so who reclined on the floor with the plastic palm trees and sang the infamous Hockey Playing Monkey song. Meanwhile, the "regular" music party continued elsewhere.

At around 6:30am, Gahlon was nowhere to be found and only 26 people were counted, but David Perry, Andy Anda, Bill Higgins and friends were still rocking the consuite. Everyone there swears that not only is one of the Target Tower's light patterns just like Doctor Who's scarf, but the lights were synchronized to our festive little music party (or were we under its spell?).

Around the Con

We understand that Michael Burgess was observed having a great time last night. It was good to see him loosen up and enjoy himself.

Steve Macdonald

Steve Macdonald

Steve Macdonald

That's Macdonald. With an a. Small d.

Steve Macdonald

Honest, we knew that, but the spell checker kept changing it. Yeah, that's the ticket: it was a computer's fault. Yeah.

Steve Macdonald

Junkbox Wars...

The Bozo Bus Tribune Vol. 38 No. 5
Sunday April 20, 2003

The Official Organ of Minicon 38

Sharon Kahn -- Editor in Chief

Jeff Schalles -- Design & Production

Sue Mason -- Official Artist

This edition's editor's has been Dave

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A Big Thank You From Karen & Heather Johnson

A big thank you to everyone who was so kind to us after Heather's accident today [Saturday], and a very special thanks to Vicki for spending the entire afternoon with Heather in the hospital waiting room. The doctor's verdict was a broken arm and a cracked shoulder joint, but hopefully they'll start to knit right and we'll be able to continue our travels on Friday as planned. Keep your fingers crossed and thank God for travel insurance!

Strange Gravefellows Updated

After reading Denny Lien's "Politics Makes Strang Gravefellows" last night, and seeing how vague I was in answering Denny's queries, I was prompted to dig out my old Minn-Stf photo albums. First, I found a picture of me skulking around with a squirt gun in 1981, wearing my *Official Steve Brust Groupie* t-shirt. The next photo shows Jerry Stearns being carried off-stage, obviously after Steve did the dirty work for me (so I guess that means I was president for the terms 1981-1982 and 1982-1983; Dean Gahlon succeeded me). Later in the album, for 1987 bare-footed, black-hatted and black-suited Mario and Guido Baggis (a.k.a. David S. Cargo and Don Bailey) from the South of ht Shire successfully took out Beth Friedman. The final picture in the album is Beth lying in a lump on the stage floor. Ah, the memories... (And no, darn it, I still can't remember my first assassination, but I still remember Dean presenting David Schlosser to me and saying: "Here, Judy, have a stud!" and down I went!)

— *Judie A. C. Cilcain*

Gentle Soul and Former Minn-Stf President

Quotes from the con, collected by Jeanne Mealy:

At the Opening Ceremonies Vegetology Communion following Elise Matteson's Psychic Weeding, after introducing the priest-clad Larry Sanderson and the nun-garbed Laura Jean Fish, Dave Romm said, "He's the bretheren, she's the sistern, so I guess that makes me the otheren."

"No matter what goes wrong, I'd rather be at a con." — Hope Leibowitz

"Mabe we're all secretly Lebanese." — Orange Mike

A Minbari messenger handed us this note:

Thank's to the "Why fans shouldn't..." Thank You Party for serving shrimp and mini-cheesecakes at the Time Traveler's Ball.

— *Sharon Sbarsky for Geri Sullivan*

Coca-Cola from around the world!

Karen Cooper and Bruce Schneier hosted a Coke tasting party Saturday afternoon, with 23 different kinds of Coke from over a dozen countries, different sweeteners and various containers. Tasters were handed a sheet of paper on which to take notes. After most people had successfully downed all varieties, Bruce passed out The Key. There was surprising unanimaty about which ones were bad, and several people guessed the Diet Coke and the soda from the Consuite. While no one quite guessed individual countries (except Canada and UK), some picked the sugar vs. the sucrose. My personal revelation is that I'm addicted to plastic: For me, the Coke in the plastic bottles generally tasted better than the Coke in the cans, or even in the glass bottles. Ah, civilization.

— *Baron David E Romm*

The Rosie Report

Pool Time

Rosie Konkol

I saw a card key in the deep end of the pool I asked a guy if I could use his goggles he said yes I got the card key it turned out it was his.

Personals

We have been replanted! Fruitology forever!

— *Larry and Laura Jean*

It's junkBOX, dammit!

— *The Readership*

To all person or persons who are owed an apology — we're so so sorry.

— *Minicon*

(*To be read in the voice of Desk Sgt. John Cleese, first season*): It's not a proper assassination if Brust isn't in the room. You can't have doubles with five people.

Anti-Gravity Juice

2 pkg (3oz) Lime Jello

2 cup boiling H2O

4 cup cold H2O

12 oz can frozen lemonade (thawed)

2 cup pineapple juice

2 lt. Ginger ale

(*another of Sandra Childress' blender drinks!*)

Sue Mason, doodle in this space: