

Bozo Bus Tribune

The Official Organ of Minicon 45

The Story of the Mirror Maze

You may have thought the Soma cube was cool, but it was overshadowed by the huge maze of wood and Mylar at the edge of the Garden Court, enticing people (and at least one dog) with its hypnotic monotony. Where did it come from?

We can thank the Permanent Floating Riot Club, an enthusiastic society of science and tech enthusiasts from Michigan Technical College. They're been attending Minicon semi-regularly for decades, in their heyday sending a contingent of thirty members, and being honored collectively as Fan GoH for Minicon 20. One of their members, Cory H., told reporters that the club has been recently building a new amazing and ridiculous large craft project each year, and one of their number decided to construct 'a room of mirrors' (instead of a mere triangle thereof) in order to give his beloved lasers a good workout. The group labored for a week on the maze, consulting with the theater crowd on which joints to use (they went with a modified Broadway joint), and designing the maze so as to be immersive without the limitations of dead-ends, a purpose served by three triangles carefully positioned so as to block line of sight.

The club's ambitions were to set the structure's interior alight with the networked fractal program Electric Sheep, but a string of technical setbacks and triumphs left the maze ultimately un-illuminated after a valiant struggle.

The BBT was glad to lend assistance to PFRC in its efforts and looks forward to any future marvels it may produce.

Returning Guests of Honor

We were happy to have several of Minicon's previous Guests of Honor back with us this year:

Eleanor Arnason	Ruth Berman
Ben Bova	Nate Bucklin
Ctein	Pamela Dean
David Dyer-Bennet	Ken Fletcher
Eric Heideman	Dennis Lien
David E Romm	Jerry Stearns
David Wixon	Jane Yolen

Short Film Festival Encore

The film room will be reopening at 2:30p.m. on Sunday for an encore presentation of the Short Film Festival, due to popular request. *Hellraiser: Deader* will not be included in the festival due to technical difficulties.

Sunday in Krushenko's Annex (Poolside 110):

7:30p.m.–1:30a.m. A Party for Readers and Viewers

Sponsored by Second Foundation, a Twin Cities speculative fiction book discussion group that has met regularly since 1983, some of whose members are also film buffs. The party will probably combine conversation with a couple of viewers' choice films.

If it hadn't been for those meddling kids...

In the wake of the "Secrets of the Bloomington Sheraton" panel, a check was made for the time capsule, hidden lo! these 10 years somewhere in the hotel.

Even though we remember where we left it, it is missing and presumed lost forever. Immediate efforts have been undertaken to determine a more foolproof location for its successor.

—Karen Cooper and "others"

Correction to Correction

<deep breath> Okay, so. The Ladies' Sewing Circle is Sunday, 2-4p.m., in Room **205**, not 206, as opposed to the reverse. I guess the editor just really subconsciously wanted it to be in 206 for some reason. Sorry, Laura!

Panel Quotes

Recursiveness in Science Fiction That's About Recursiveness

"The funniest movie title I ever heard was *The Neverending Story...2*."

Do I Know Enough Science to Write Science Fiction?

"That implies that you need to know something to write science fiction but you don't need to know anything to write fantasy...when really fantasy is another thing altogether. Fantasy is *not* science fiction written badly because you don't know the science."

Final Registration Count

Warm bodies: 431

Total registrations: 447

PERSONALS	
On behalf of the busy Peeps, hi to Will & Emma!	<u>"Deactivate the central mystifier." - Superthunderstingcar</u>
WOMBATS SEEKING HUMANS	
Come to Melbourne! Aussie Ambassador Doug Burrows wants <i>you</i> to come to the Melbourne Worldcon in September! Visit with fans from around the Worldcon and see exotic creatures: kangaroos, koalas, echidnas, and wombats like him.	Trapped in Rath—please help! I need a reliable guide with the following qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Head screwed on at least reasonably straight ● Does not grow vampiric squash ● Must have at least <i>the faintest idea</i> how to use a pickaxe ● No bandersnatchi please

Medallion Hunt Update

Interest in the hunt was low this year, allowing those intrepid few who sought to seek hard and seek well, much like clean-up species filling an ecological niche. In particular, the Cluemeister saw very little interest in the hunt by children, its mainstay in past years. What can be done? Will the Medallion Hunt return for a sixth year? It's too soon to say.

For now, those medallions that found their way...

4. The reference to 'resistance' in the initial clue suggests the correct interpretation: the colors must be translated into numbers using the electrician's resistor code! As such, the coin was hidden—in a nifty plastic container—in the outlet box behind the escalators on the 2nd floor at precisely 10:57a.m. Saturday morning. To the Cluemeister's surprise, no one was there to pounce on it, but the prize was found later by John S., who put the pieces together.

5. The Coinmaster, one Alec Phillips, was finally identified by a few sundry individuals, who he challenged to flip a dollar coin across one hand, finger to finger. Only Andy E., on his second try, was able to match the Master's expert demonstration and win the prize.

7. This one brings John S. to a record-setting five medallions in a single hunt. It was located on the back of one of the large TV stations in the Link @ Sheraton area, with seven curving wooden slats above and seven more below.

10. This one was discovered by Will K. with help from his mother, who had discovered it earlier and thrown it back into the wild for a worthier target. The text of the solution was a string of two-letter state codes. Each city chosen to represent a state was the most populous city from that state not yet included in the list. The text read:

IDIDHIDECOINNEARCOOKINGANDLAIDIN
AKIDGAME

The medallion was in the children's strategy game Toot and Otto, which was originally placed next to the cooking area

in the consuite, and was later moved to the outside tables, to the coffee/cereal table, and then back outside before finally getting brought back to the BBT Office.

P. This late arrival in pennyspace could have stood for anything from 'Pond' to 'Pool' to 'Penny' itself, but it ended up standing for 'Pawns' and 'Party'. The missing letters to fill in the blanks were provided later in the clue. The pawns referred to were sitting in a row on the Coat Check counter near the Submission Box, designating, in order, the digits 1 through 9, while a white pawn standing alone represented 0, as a sticky note on the status sign proclaimed. Taken as such, the clue advised solvers to look for the Cluemeister in room 208—Baron Dave's Birthday Bash—at 12:24a.m. The penny, ensconced in an egg with some pencil shavings, was available for five minutes and, sadly, went unclaimed forever.

CLUES: ROUND 4

16. Think Beatles, and Rocky Horror. Think of things that come in sixteens. Remember what it is to divide by half.

A. It may not be as ingenious as some, but this one takes testosterone. And yes, there is a magnet.

B. This one is in the Puzzle Lounge. We told you it played havoc with the rules.

D. Beat the Cluemeister at Toot and Otto during his final office hour to win this penny! You get two chances.

H. It's a book, set in an unobtrusive place. And the Cluemeister can say with some degenerate certainty that the manuscript is good to the last letter.

?????: Hint: This penny's name has a double 'k' in it, is exactly one letter long, and is consistent with the transcendent pattern of this year's hunt.

To learn the fate of these last six, go to Closing Ceremony!

Final Hour of Redemption:

Last chance to (reliably) turn in your pennies!
2:45p.m. – 3:45p.m. Sunday

Krahn-Gahlon 4a.m. Pulse Check

Bar: 5 Consuite: 13 Music: 11 Hakasot: 12
Gaming: 4 Pandemic: 6 Random: 2 **Total: 53**

*** That's it for this year! May you keep your inner bozocity close to your heart until we meet again! ***

The Bozo Bus Tribune

Volume 45, Issue 4b

Editor – Thorin N. Tatge

Editor Emeritus – Sharon Kahn

© 2010 by the Minnesota Science Fiction Society. Any opinions expressed herein are those of the contributors, not necessarily anyone else's.

