



APRIL  
2010

# minnicon

# 45

BRANDON SANDERSON  
DAN DOS SANTOS

JOIN US FOR THE MUSIC OF THE ESCHATON...

# MINICON 46

APRIL 22-24, 2011

AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR

**CHARLES STROSS**

MUSICIAN GUEST OF HONOR

**CHAS SOMDAHL**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: [HTTP://WWW.MNSTF.ORG/MINICON](http://www.mnstf.org/minicon)



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## From the Chairs ...

Minicon benefits, this year, from the synergy of happenstance. We chose a great author in Brandon Sanderson, and a great artist in Daniel Dos Santos. Dan, of course, did the art for Brandon's novel *Warbreaker*, and it adorns both our program book and our convention t-shirt.

We soon discovered that Dan had done the artwork for a number of Magic: The Gathering™ (MTG) cards and we realized that MTG cards signed by Dan would make great prizes in our Magic tournaments. Much later, while we were talking with Brandon at his local stop on this book-signing tour for *The Gathering Storm*, he mentioned in passing that he was an avid MTG player, and that he'd even brought decks with him on his tour! And so, a chance to play a game against Brandon became another prize in our Magic tournament.

Dan, it turns out, is a huge fan of really ancient video games. So much so, that he's bringing his own consoles, games, and projector and encouraging all comers to play with him at the *Retro Video Game Freakout*. And so, another fun event was born.

We couldn't have been happier to have Brandon and Dan as our guests of honor at Minicon 45. But truly, we had no idea that Brandon played Magic, or that Dan loved old video games. It was all just the synergy of happenstance.

Welcome to Minicon 45!

COMING  
JULY 1-4  
TO THE  
SHERATON  
HOTEL IN  
BLOOMINGTON,  
MN

# CONVERGENCE

2010:  
BRING ON THE  
BAD GUYS



JOIN US! AND OUR SCHEDULED  
GUESTS OF HONOR:

L.A. BANKS AUTHOR - VAMPIRE HUNTRESS LEGEND NOVELS

JEREMY BULLOCH ACTOR - BOBA FETT IN THE STAR WARS FILMS

PAUL CORNELL AUTHOR - DOCTOR WHO NOVELS, MARVEL COMICS

BRIDGET LANDRY JET PROPULSION LABORATORY ENGINEER

CHUCK MCCANN VETERAN COMEDIAN, ACTOR, AND CARTOON VOICE ARTIST

WALLY WINGERT VOICE ACTOR - INVADER ZIM, BLEACH, JAY LENO SHOW

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR GUESTS AND OTHER 2010 PLANS AT

[WWW.CONVERGENCE-CON.ORG](http://WWW.CONVERGENCE-CON.ORG)

# Registration

**Grand Ballroom Foyer**      **Fri 10am ~ 10pm**      **Sat 9:30am ~ 8pm**      **Sun 9:30am ~ 11am**

**Lost badges** ~ If you lose your badge, you can get a replacement for \$5 at the registration table. If the table isn't open, find a staff member (anyone wearing a distinctive concom badge) and ask them to call the Reg. folks.

**Registering for Minicon 46** ~ If you pre-register for Minicon 46 during the con, your cost is only \$35! Students (ages 13-20) pay only \$20, children (6-12) pay \$20, and children (5 and under) attend for free. Fill out the handy form you received when you signed in, put it and payment into the included envelope, and put that into the registration box. There will be a box in the consuite to deposit the registrations; there will also be a box at the registration table while it is open. You can also register at these rates online during the convention at <http://www.mnstf.org/minicon46/>

## Opening & Closing Ceremonies

**Bloomington Room**      **Opening: Fri 7pm ~ 8pm**      **Closing: Sun 5pm ~ 6pm**

Opening and Closing Ceremonies will end and begin Minicon 45, disrespectively. Opening Ceremonies will introduce the Guests of Honor, who may sing or talk as is their wont. Baron Dave Romm will preside over announcements, last-minute program changes and the various introductions. Closing Ceremonies will feature the Assassination of the MN-STF President.

## Policies

**Weapons** ~ We adhere to all pertinent Minnesota laws regarding real and replica weapons. Prop weapons or costume pieces must be secured and pose no danger to others. We reserve the right to prohibit any such items from our function rooms.

**Badges** ~ Everyone attending Minicon must register and must wear a badge. Please wear your badge at all times for admission into convention functions.

**Smoking** ~ FYI for out-of-towners ... Minnesota is smoke free in all public places. The hotel still offers private smoking rooms and there are designated smoking areas out-of-doors. Please direct further questions to the hotel.

**Help, Information, and Emergencies** ~ Need help or information? Ask at registration while it's open, or after hours at the consuite. Also look for wandering concom members wearing distinctive badges.

In case of emergency, don't look for us; contact the Sheraton Front Desk or call 911!

## Volunteering

Minicon has always been run by fen who volunteer their time to help make Minicon a success. No one is paid for helping; even the convention chairs pay full price for their memberships.

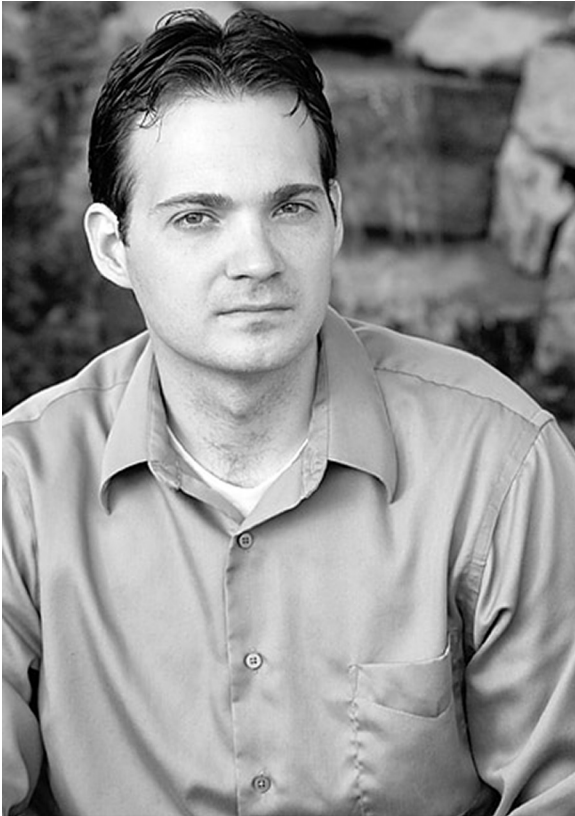
We could try claiming that those of us who put so much time into concocting Minicon do it because we're the sort of people who just live

for the opportunity to benefit humanity. We could also try claiming that we're aliens sent to study Earthlings (through fandom? /:-) Haven't you seen Galaxy Quest?!). Truth is, most of us volunteer because it's fun. Whether you badge, tend bar, or help in the art show or consuite, you'll be rewarded with loads of great conversation and great people.

We do really appreciate everyone who helps during the convention, and we invented Dealer Dollars as a way of recognizing your help. Each is worth either \$1 or \$5 in our dealers' room. We have a limited number of Dealer Dollars, and our section heads will give them out to those who go above and beyond – our way of saying Thank You!



# Guest of Honor ~ Author Brandon Sanderson



Brandon Sanderson was born in December of 1975 in Lincoln, Nebraska. As a child Brandon enjoyed reading, but he lost interest in the types of titles often suggested for him, and by junior high he never cracked a book if he could help it. This all changed in 8th grade when an astute teacher, Mrs. Reader, gave Brandon *Dragonsbane* by Barbara Hambly. Brandon thoroughly enjoyed this book, and went in search of anything similar. He discovered such authors as David Eddings, Melanie Rawn, Robert Jordan, Anne McCaffrey, and Orson Scott Card. Brandon continued to be an avid reader through junior high and high school. He liked epic fantasy so much that he even tried his hand at writing some. His first attempts, he says, were dreadful.

In 1994 Brandon enrolled at Brigham Young University as a Biochemistry major. From 1995-1997 he took time away from his studies to serve as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Brandon often says that it was during this time in Seoul, Korea that he realized that he didn't miss chemistry one bit, but he did miss writing. Upon his return to BYU Brandon became an English major, much to the dismay of his mother, who had always hoped he would become a doctor.

Brandon began writing in earnest, taking a job as the night desk clerk at a hotel because they allowed him to write while at work. During this era he went to school full time during the day, worked nights to pay for his schooling, and wrote as much as he could. He says it made for a rather dismal social life, but he finished seven novels during his undergraduate years. Brandon submitted many manuscripts for publication . . . and accumulated quite a pile of

rejection letters. In spite of this he continued to be a dedicated writer.

Volunteering for *The Leading Edge*, BYU's Sci Fi/Fantasy magazine, was a wonderful experience for Brandon. He read lots of submissions, formed some lifelong friendships, and even served as Editor in Chief during his senior year.

Brandon learned much about the business side of being a writer by taking a class from David Farland, author of the popular *Runelords* series. One piece of advice Dave gave Brandon was to attend conventions, such as WorldCon and World Fantasy, in order to connect with industry professionals. Brandon and a small group of friends who were also aspiring writers began to do so. He eventually met both his current agent and one of his editors at conventions.

It was in 2003, while Brandon was in the middle of a graduate program at BYU, that he got a call from an editor at Tor who wanted to buy one of Brandon's books. Brandon had submitted the manuscript a year and a half earlier, and had almost given up on hearing anything, so he was surprised and delighted to receive the offer. In May of 2005 Brandon held his first published novel, *Elantris*, in his hands. Tor also published Brandon's *Mistborn* trilogy, and has plans to release other Sanderson titles in the future.

In 2004 after graduating with his Master's degree in creative writing from Brigham Young University, Brandon was asked to teach the class he had taken as an undergraduate student from Dave Farland. In spite of his busy schedule, Brandon continues to teach this one section of creative writing focused on science fiction and fantasy because he enjoys helping aspiring writers. It also gets him out of the house, he says.

In July of 2006 Brandon married Emily Bushman. Emily and Brandon ran in many of the same circles at BYU during their student days, since Emily majored in English as well. They never met, however, until a mutual friend set them up on a date in 2005. Emily had spent seven years as a teacher, but chose to quit with the birth of their son Joel in October of 2007. Emily now works from home part time as Brandon's business manager.

Brandon's repertoire expanded into the children's market when Scholastic published *Alcatraz Versus the Evil Librarians*, a middle-grade novel, in October of 2007. Nancy Pearl gave this book a very favorable review on National Public Radio, which pleased Sanderson fans. Since the release of *Alcatraz* Brandon has enjoyed visiting schools and interacting with younger readers.

In December of 2007 Brandon was chosen by Harriet Rigney to complete *A Memory of Light*, book twelve in Robert Jordan's *Wheel of Time* series. Brandon is now hard at work on this epic project.

# Guest of Honor ~ Artist Dan Dos Santos

At an early age it was pretty apparent that drawing was what I was good at.

I had all the necessary skills; hands, eyes, and an incredibly compulsive personality that assured I would spend days on a single drawing until I thought it was perfect.

Growing up, I spent nearly all of my spare time drawing my favorite cartoon characters with my older sister. We would draw them on rolls of butcher paper, sometimes up to 4 feet tall, challenging ourselves with the long task of coloring the entire image. Three years my elder, my sister instigated a healthy, and sometimes obsessive, sense of competition. Forcing me to color better, faster and more “in the lines” than any person should.

By my teenage years I had moved onto comic books, a passion I still hold dear. I spent every cent of my allowance on those artists I admired so much. I would redraw all of my favorite panels, often times creating my own comic books. By this point, I was certain that I was going to be an artist when I grew up. My parents, however, took a little more convincing.

My local high school sponsored a program called “Careers in Art”. The program placed students in a weekly internship with a design company or working professional. It was through this program that I met my long time mentor. Through him I learned the basics of illustration, and thus decided to choose that as my major when I would enter college.

After convincing my parents to help me pay for art school, I attended the School of Visual Arts from 1996-2000. Having only done one painting prior, it was there that I honed those skills and came to love the traditional art of oil painting. Once again, I thrived on the competition, some of the best the country had to offer. I graduated in the top of my class with a B.F.A. degree in Illustration, and received that years “Special Achievement” award in my major.

After graduation, with some scholarship money in my pocket, I embarked on what would quickly turn into my career. I started painting portraits out of my parents basement. Eventually, I was making enough to rent a studio. I found a gallery to represent my fine arts, and starting pursuing my dream of becoming an illustrator.

Dan’s work spans a variety of genres, including novels, comics and film. He has worked for such clients as Disney, Universal Studios, Boeing Aircraft, Saatchi & Saatchi, Scholastic Books, Ace Books, The Greenwich Workshop, Penguin Books, Random House, Bantam Books, Tor books, UpperDeck, Wizards of the Coast, and Dark Horse Comics. Aside from freelance illustration, Dan also co-hosts a series of instructional demonstrations called ‘Art Out Loud’.

Dan has been the recipient of many awards. Most recently, he has received the 2007 Jack Gaughan Award for Best Emerging Artist, and was the Chesley Award winner for Best Paperback Cover of 2007. His illustrations have graced the #1 spot on the New York Times Best Seller list.

Unless otherwise noted, all non-photo art is Copyright © Dan Dos Santos and used with permission. All rights reserved.

My goodness! These two pages are *full* of mad skills. And one ridiculously adorable baby :)



# Programming

## Visualizing Magic: The Gathering

Dan Dos Santos

From card to art -- how the process works: an illustrated lecture.

Fri 4 PM

Veranda 3/4

## The Evil Librarian Panel

Eric M. Heideman (m), Laura Krentz, David Lenander, Brandon Sanderson

Brandon Sanderson has written a book called *Alcatraz vs. the Evil Librarians*, finally revealing the librarian plot to conquer and rule the world. Let's take a look at this young adult fantasy novel series and answer some of the obvious questions posed by the work. If librarians are so smart, why don't we rule the world yet? How is the role of the librarian transforming as libraries change into destinations and byways along the Information Superhighway? What opportunities will this new role provide for those among us with sights set squarely on global domination?

Fri 5:30 PM

Krushenko's

## Ask a Scientist

Mary Bertelson, Chas Somdahl (m), Matt Strait

Professional scientists answer questions about physics, engineering and pharmacology. What's new and interesting in these fields, and what's next on the horizon? What are some favorite resources for learning more? Go ahead, ask anything except "Can you tell me what this rash is?"

Fri 5:30 PM

Veranda 5/6

## The Snob in Every Fan

Rachel Kronick (m), Diane Lacey, Kelly Strait, Liza Furr

Given the common dismissal of our favorite genre, you might think that fans would be a little more accepting of others. But, let's face it - we all have (types of) books, media, activities, or even whole segments of fandom that we look down on. What kinds of fiction get ignored or marginalized by fans? Why?

Fri 5:30 PM

Veranda 3/4

## Opening Ceremony and Keynote Speech

Everything you always wanted to know about The Opening Ceremony but were afraid to ask. Thrills, Chills and a Keynote Speech by Brandon Sanderson, our author GoH!

Fri 7 PM

Bloomington

## Slide Show: Dan Dos Santos Presents

Dan Dos Santos

An illustrated lecture about the evolution of Dan Dos Santos' work from childhood on up. Presented by the artist, Dan shows examples of his artistic influences, and of course, the art itself.

Fri 8:30 PM

Veranda 3/4

## Recursiveness in Science Fiction That's About Recursiveness

Emily Stewart (m), Laramie Sasseville, Dave Romm

The first rule of Mime Club is "Don't talk about Mime Club." Enter the hall of mirrors to discuss some favorites in fiction about fiction, games about games, movies about movies and other stuff about itself. Is it the novelty of the genre that allows us to enjoy self-aware entertainment, or is it the other way round? What does it all mean? Is this postmodern, or should we discuss that tomorrow? A panel about the elusive set that contains itself.

Fri 8:30 PM

Veranda 2

## Writing Cross-Genre

Fri 8:30 PM

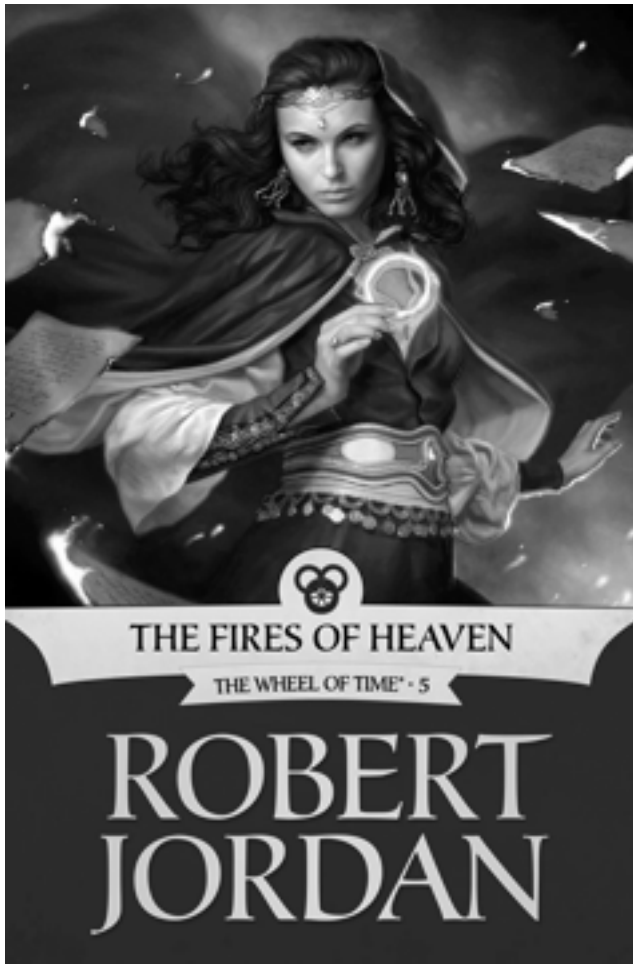
Krushenko's

Dana M. Baird, Rob Callahan (m), Michael Merriam, Lettie Prell, Caroline Stevermer

Cross-genre fiction is coming popular at the same time that many new sub-genres are being defined. What is there about SF today that calls for ever more specific categories while also inviting blurring of those boundaries? One might say the whole point of genre is to help bookstores/libraries/etc know where to shelve your book, and cross-genre books are notoriously difficult to categorize. And if no one knows what to do with your book, it probably won't sell well. So why write cross-genre fiction? What is the appeal?







**Retro Video Game Freakout** Fri 10 PM Room 219  
 Artist Guest of Honor Dan Dos Santos is a huge fan of old video games. If we're lucky, Dan may even bring his Atari. Come play some of the classics! Legacy game systems will be available -- feel free to bring your own to share as well. Kick-off happens at 10pm. Play continues throughout the con, or until there is unanimous agreement on exactly how many buttons a controller should have.

**Who Wants to Live Forever?** Sat 10 AM Krushenko's  
 Ruth Berman, Rob Callahan (m), Ricky Foos, Lettie Prell, Laramie Sasseville, Pat Scaramuzza  
 Early to bed, early to rise, makes a person healthy, wealthy and immortal. Extending the human lifespan for centuries, even to the threshold of immortality, is an eternal human dream and a popular subject for speculative fiction. But there's always a catch, isn't there? The difficult implications of extended lifespans range from boredom to loneliness to raving insanity. On the other hand...you don't have to die!

**The Wheel of Time from the Younger Point of View**  
 Sat 11:30 AM Veranda 5/6  
 Jennifer Liang (m), Jory Phillips, Brandon Sanderson, Dorf  
 The Wheel of Time series certainly was not created as Young Adult fiction, but many young people do in fact love these books. What makes this series work so well as YA fiction?

**Minn-Spec Meeting and Meetup**  
 Sat 11:30 AM Krushenko's  
 Michael Merriam, leading  
 Learn about this resource-sharing network for professional and aspiring speculative fiction writers.

**Astronomy for Children and Adults**

Michael Kauper

Sharing astronomy with kids provides kids with a great way to stimulate their natural curiosity, and encourages a life long love for science. Cultivating that interest into adulthood need not break the bank. What are some effective ways to share astronomy with kids? How can one find free astronomy events like clubs or star parties in the area? Topics will include how to create an analemma on the ground in a sunny yard or on a ceiling in a sunny room, building a safe sun viewer, how to make and use a Sky Wheel, how to find a person's real sun sign, light pollution intro for children, and a telescope buying guide.

Sat 1 PM Veranda 3/4

**The Rivendell Group Discusses Works of Brandon Sanderson**

David Lenander(host). Brandon Sanderson may attend.

The fantasy-book discussion Rivendell Group has met regularly since 1973, including Minicon meetings most years since at least 1981. This year, Rivendell will discuss the writings of Brandon Sanderson.

Sat 1 PM Krushenko's

**Oil Painting with Dan Dos Santos**

Dan Dos Santos

Our artist GOH will show us how his work happens with a live demonstration of painting. Watch this wonderful ongoing demo in the Art Show room!

Sat 1PM Art Show

**Secrets of the Sheraton Bloomington**

Karen Cooper, Emily Stewart (m), Thorin Tatge

Some of us have been attending conventions at the Sheraton Bloomington (née Raddisson South) for decades. We've played hotel tag in the stairways, made friends, gotten married, and experienced life-changing firsts. Some of our younger members may even have been conceived here. Let's celebrate this architectural fixture in our fannish lives. Remember watching the sun come up from Mr. C's on the 22nd floor? Does anybody know where the time capsule is hidden? What is the weirdest place we've ever found a sleeper?

Sat 1 PM Veranda 5/6

## Disability, Self-Care and Fandom

Sat 2:30 PM Veranda 5/6  
Peer Dudda, Magenta Griffith, Betsy Lundsten (m)  
How do you balance the demands of your disability - be it energy, medication schedules, battery life, whatever - with your desire for the Full Con Experience™? What specific modifications could fandom make to create a more accessible environment? What does fandom get right and why do we stay involved? How do you perform fan outreach in disabled communities and among your disabled friends?



## The Editors' Panel

Sat 2:30 PM Krushenko's  
Eric M. Heideman (m), Moshe Feder, Ben Bova,  
Michael Merriam  
Editors answer questions/share their thoughts about the craft of editing, particularly speculative fiction.

## Solar Eclipse in China

Sat 2:30 PM Veranda 3/4

Michael Kauper  
The longest total eclipse of the 21st century was on July 22, 2009. Despite some unfavorable weather, there are many beautiful photos of China and the eclipse. Special attention will be paid to preparing for the eclipse, choosing a super portable telescope, the equatorial drive, and camera modifications. Stories of ancient astronomy, tourism and shopping will be shared, along with some rather unusual vacation advice.

## Avatar - Cinema Event of the Year or Festival of Plagiarism?

Sat 4 PM Krushenko's

Sharon Kahn (m), Bob Blackwood, Doug Wickstrom, Sybil Smith, Kathy Sullivan  
James Cameron's high-tech sci-fi cinema baby has finally been delivered, and it's a blockbuster. Its reception among SF fans has been decidedly mixed. The plot and theme strike some as iconic and deeply moving, where others see it as trite and derivative. Cameron has been accused of plagiarizing everything from Dances With Wolves to Poul Anderson's novella Call Me Joe, and Ursula K. Le Guin's novella The Word for World is Forest. Enthusiasts have declared that this movie redefines the cinema experience so deeply that a decade from now 2D will be as retro as black and white. Detractors are less enthralled. What do you think -- cinematic breakthrough, just a big yawn, or...?

## Brandon Sanderson Talks to Authors About Writing

Sat 4 PM Veranda 5/6

Brandon Sanderson  
Brandon Sanderson is fascinated by the process of writing and he loves to talk about writing with other writers. Join him for an in-depth lecture, followed by questions, answers, and open discussion.

## Costume Workshop

Sat 4 PM

Bonnie Somdahl, Seven  
Before the evening parade, a workshop open to all ages. Create a new costume out of provided raw materials, or bring your unfinished costume for a chance to sit and work with fellow costumers. Seamstresses, sewing machines, hot-melt glue guns, a drill and other tools will be provided. All skill levels are welcome.

## Designing Your Own Game

Sat 4 PM Veranda 2

Jeremy Keller, Rachel Kronick (m), Thorin Tatge  
A lot of us can't help but house-rule and fiddle with games. Many gamers want to take the next step and design our own games. How do you get started? How can you become rich and famous designing games?

## Do I Know Enough Science to Write Science Fiction?

Sat 5:30 PM Krushenko's

Eleanor Arnason, Ben Bova, Rob Callahan, Phyllis Eisenstein, Marissa Lingen, Eric M. Heideman (m)  
What if you were never all that big on science in school, but you love the SF genre and want to break in? How do you educate yourself? Is it possible to learn how to write hard SF by reading lots of hard SF? How much science do you need for the soft stuff? Are there tricks for disguising your lack of knowledge in a way that doesn't make you look incompetent?

## Invasion of the German Games

Sat 5:30 PM Veranda 2

Brad, Matt McMillan (m), Richard Tatge  
German and European board games have become immensely popular in the past few years. What qualities do they share? Which ones are the best?

**Doctor Who and the Forest of the Timey-Wimey Monster Planet** Sat 7PM Veranda 5/6  
 Emily Stewart (m), Alieria Brust, Rob Callahan, Michael Lee, Kathy Sullivan  
 As of 2010, Doctor Who has a new production team, a new companion, high profile writers, and a new Doctor. Which of the announced changes are we most looking forward to? What other changes would we like to see? Which of the classic series episodes will be referenced in the 2010 season? Which was worse - "The End of Time" or "Daleks in Manhattan"?

**New Images of Fantasy** Sat 7pm Veranda 3/4  
 Dan Dos Santos  
 How has fantasy illustration changed over the past few years? How has digital media changed the field, and what's it like to break in as a new artist? What cool things are new artists doing?

**The Social Contract: Making It Explicit** Sat 7 PM Veranda 2  
 Beth Kinderman, Rachel Kronick (m), Aaron Vander Giessen  
 We've had a lot of discussion about the social contract -- the rules by which our gaming groups operate, whether unspoken or not. Too often, though, they remain unspoken until someone blows up, or stinks up, the game. How can we go about making sure everyone is on the same page regarding how we game together? Is such a thing even desirable?

**The Year in SF: What Should I Read Next?** Sat 7 PM Krushenko's  
 Greg L. Johnson (m), Laura Krentz, David Lenander, Russell Letson  
 Our annual confab about what's good and (mostly) new in (mostly) science fiction and fantasy.

**Fenfare Parade and Fentasia Costume Contest** Sat 8 PM  
 In your Eeeeaster bonnet, with all the squids uponnnnit... Show off your finest costume from home, or display one created at the costume workshop earlier in the day. Guests of honor Brandon Sanderson and Dan Dos Santos will be on hand to judge.

**Borges as Science Fiction** Sat 8:30 PM Veranda 5/6  
 Magenta Griffith, Beth Kinderman, Rachel Kronick (m), David Lenander  
 Jorge Luis Borges wrote some wonderful, mind-bending fiction. One of his stories was an inspiration for *2001: A Space Odyssey*. Where have his stories taken us?

**Guest of Honor Interview: Brandon Sanderson** Sat 8:30 PM Krushenko's  
 Brandon Sanderson, Moshe Feder  
 An in-depth discussion with our Author GOH.

**Lady Poetesses from Hell / Memorial for Mog** Sat 8:30 PM Veranda 3/4  
 Terry Garey, Elise Matthesen, Ruth Berman, John Rezmerski, Rebecca Korvo, KC O'Malley, Eleanor Arnason  
 Lady Poetesses From Hell is a poetry performance group. They dress very nicely and have wicked senses of humor. Their performance this year is dedicated to Mog Decarnin, who passed away in January. Mog's full name is Camilla M. Decarnin. She was a poet, essayist, and a well known fanfic/slash writer, who lived in the Twin cities several years ago.

**YA and Genre** Sun 10 AM Veranda 3/4  
 Eleanor Arnason, Dana M. Baird (m), Ruth Berman, Rob Callahan, Laura Krentz  
 In addition to the traditional genres, "young adult fiction" is often considered a genre in and of itself. But there is clearly a lot of (unlabeled) genre fiction with the YA library. Is there something about the nature of YA that makes genre fiction more acceptable/legitimate for this age group?

**The Flight of the Female SF Author** Sun 11:30 AM Veranda 3/4  
 Marissa Lingen, Betsy Lundsten, Kelly Strait (m), Joan Marie Verba  
 From Asaro to Zettel, female authors that used to stock the science fiction shelves are now almost exclusively writing fantasy. What are the reasons behind the mass migration? Are there new women coming into the genre, or will our daughters find the SF section filled solely by men?



<b>Guest of Honor Interview: Dan Dos Santos</b>	Sun 11:30 AM	Veranda 5/6
Dan Dos Santos, Matt McMillan Discussing the techniques, workflow and energy of our Artist GOH.		
<b>Playing the God Card</b>	Sun 11:30 AM	Krushenko's
Eleanor Arnason, Ruth Berman, Ricky Foos, Sharon Kahn (m), Brandon Sanderson How do you introduce gods into your work without pushing the human characters into insignificance? Does it matter if they are "real" (e.g. members of the Greco-Roman pantheon) or products of the author's imagination? Can deities play a role beyond gigantic projections of human characteristics? What makes divinities so attractive to fantasy authors? Why do readers find them so compelling?		
<b>The Fannish Community Center</b>	Sun 1PM	Veranda 2
Kevin Austin (m), Dave Benhart, Michael Lee A discussion of proposals for a fannish community center in the Twin cities. What would such a thing be used for? If the fannish community center goes forward, what are the next steps?		
<b>Game Theory - Through the Prisoner's Dilemma, and BEYOND</b>	Sun 1 PM	Veranda 3/4
Doug Shaw (m), Thorin Tatge Game theory as an approach to the study of human behavior has become a scientific metaphor for a wide range of human interaction. Forget the computer models, let's try some game theory games on unpredictable humans!		
<b>How Brandon Got the Gig: Finishing the Wheel of Time</b>	Sun 1 PM	Veranda 5/6
Elise Matthesen(m), Jennifer Liang, Brandon Sanderson Robert Jordan (James Oliver Rigney) died before completing the last part of his magnum opus, the Wheel of Time. How did Brandon Sanderson wind up being the guy to carry forward the work on the final book of the series? What were the hopes and fears of fans of the WoT when the announcement was made? What was the Minnesota fannish connection?		
<b>The Western as Fantasy</b>	Sun 1 PM	Krushenko's
Bob Blackwood, David Christenson (m), Eric M. Heideman, Patricia C. Wrede Westerns share common ingredients with traditional fantasy such as heroism/chivalry, 'magic' weapons and/or abilities, the lure of landscape/travel, comfortingly familiar settings, fun costumes, and of course, horses. The Old West was the dominant fantasy setting a couple of generations back. But is the Old West of fiction/film really so different from the Old West of reality? Sponsored by Con-Sarnit Three, a Western convention to be held Sat, June 5.		
<b>Brandon Sanderson Reading and Signing</b>	Sun 2:30 PM	Reading room
Brandon Sanderson		
<b>Including Disabled People In Fiction</b>	Sun 2:30 PM	Veranda 3/4
Peer Dudda (m), Betsy Lundsten, Elise Matthesen, Michael Merriam How is disability presented in movies, book and TV? What are some of the best examples, and what makes us change the channel or press the eject button? How can publishers and authors make media more friendly and accessible to disabled fans?		
<b>The Space Program in the Obama Years</b>	Sun 2:30 PM	Krushenko's
Ben Bova, David Buth, Ben Huset, Pat Scaramuzza, Eric M. Heideman (m) The Obama administration has recently suggested some strategic and budgetary changes for space exploration, in and out of NASA. Will these changes fly through Congress? What are the good points and the bad points?		
<b>Closing Ceremony</b>	Sun 4 PM	Bloomington
<b>Giant Soma Cube</b>	Ongoing	Garden Court
As a continuing activity throughout the con, we will be building a giant Soma Cube. You know, that puzzle where you assemble irregular 3-dimensional pieces into a giant cube? Please join in and do your part!		
<b>Blade &amp; Crown: The Bandit Map</b>	Fri, after O.C.	Gaming
GM: Rachel Kronick. Up to five players. Bandits have been plaguing the area for years. Now, you have found a scrap of paper that seems to reveal the location of their base. Whether for fame, wealth, or just to do the right thing, you resolve to journey to the highlands and stop them. An RPG, played using the Blade & Crown system.		

# DIVERSICON 18

## *“The Year We Make Contact”*

July 30-August 1, 2010

Best Western—Bandana Square

1010 W Bandana Blvd, St Paul MN 55108-5107; (651) 647-1637

### Guest of Honor: William F. Wu

Hugo/Nebula/World Fantasy-Award nominee William F. Wu has published over a dozen novels, including the six-volume YA series “Isaac Asimov’s Robots in Time” (Avon). He is best known for the science fiction-Western novel *Hong on the Range* (Walker, 1989), adapted into a comic book trilogy for Image Comics (1997). He has written over 50 short stories for such markets as *Analog SF* (with Rob Chilson), *Asimov’s SF*, *Amazing Stories*, *Omni*, *Twilight Zone Magazine*, and *Pulphouse*, and the anthology series *Borderlands*, *Wild Cards*, and *Tales from Jabba’s Palace*, and his story collection, *Wong’s Lost and Found Emporium and Other Oddities* (Pulphouse Monthly, 1992; the title story was made into a *Twilight Zone* episode). A Ph.D. in American culture, he has published the nonfiction book, *The Yellow Peril: Chinese Americans in American Fiction, 1850-1940* (1982), and essays on the “yellow peril” in SF (*Fantasy Newsletter*, 1982, 1983), and “Science Fiction in China: Producing the Model ‘A’” (*Amazing Stories*, 1984). He has taught college writing classes and led creative writing workshops for writers of all ages. His collection of Jack Hong stories from *Pulphouse* is now available as an ebook. Visit his website: [www.williamfwu.com](http://www.williamfwu.com)



### Special Guest: Rob Chilson

Rob Chilson is the author of seven novels, including *As the Curtain Falls* (1974), *The Star-Crowned Kings* (1975), *The Shores of Kansas* (1976), *Men Like Rats* (1989), *Rounded with Sleep* (1990), and *Black as Blood* (1998), and over 60 stories in such markets as *Analog* (including nine with William F. Wu), *Asimov’s*, *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, *Galaxy*, *Universe 7*, *Galileo*, *Year’s Best SF* (Gardner Dozois, ed.), and *Year’s Best SF* (David G. Hartwell, ed.). Visit him at [www.robchilson.com](http://www.robchilson.com)

### Posthumous Guests of Honor:

**Fritz Leiber (1910-1992):** Imaginative and versatile writer of science fiction, fantasy, and horror, author of *Conjure Wife*, *Gather*, *Darkness!*, *Night’s Black Agents*, *The Big Time*, *The Wanderer*, *Our Lady of Darkness*, and the Fafhrd & the Gray Mouser fantasy series.

**Sir Arthur C. Clarke (1917-2008):** Noted for SF both mystical and grounded in science, science educator in books and TV, co-creator (with Stanley Kubrick) of the novel and film, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, author of *Childhood’s End*, *Profiles of the Future*, *Rendezvous with Rama*, *The Fountains of Paradise*, and *2010*.

**“How wonderful to attend a con where the diversity of culture in speculative literature is considered a strength, not a liability!”—Brian Thao Worra**

**“People like to put labels on things. Diversicon is a convention for people who are comfortable with ambiguity.”—Martha A. Hood**

# Music

## Peggy O'Neill

**Fri 8:30 pm**

Mix together driving visions and hopeful dreams, toss in a bit of Blues, Jazz and Contemporary Folk. Peggy O'Neill is able to bring this recipe together with a beautiful voice and a lot of heart.

Peggy was a 1996 nominee for "Female Vocalist of the Year," by the Minnesota Music Academy and has been active in the Folk Alliance Midwest Region. She has opened for national acts such as Dar Williams. Her songs have been covered by Dandelion Wine and Riverfolk. Widely known in Midwest folk and folk circles, Peggy returns to Minicon to open a fine weekend of concerts.

## Graham Leathers

**Fri 9:30 pm**

Graham Leathers will make you smile; more likely than not he will make you laugh out loud. He collects and writes fun and clever songs, often with an odd twist. "Don't Swear at Machinery" and "Chocolate Is a Vegetable" will creep into your head days from now. This is not to say he can't come up with serious and poignant as well; "Nantucket Sleighride" and "Isolation," are fine examples. All of those songs are from his first CD, "Reality Check." We will be treated to songs from his latest CD, "Bears All", as well.

A longtime resident of Winnipeg, he is one of us now. He's made home in Minneapolis. We get to keep him!

## Riverfolk

**Fri 10:30 pm**

Featuring the vocal and guitar harmonies of Becca Leathers and Chas Somdahl, Riverfolk plays a mix of folk-flavored tunes old and new. This includes songs that are familiar, songs that are less than familiar and originals. They bring in a little blues, country and even a couple of showtunes. The fun they have playing together seems to be contagious and is shared by their audiences as well.

Minicon 45 marks Riverfolk's eighth consecutive appearance at Minicon. They must know somebody.

## Nate & Louie Bucklin

**Sat 7:30 pm**

After five decades of making, writing and sharing music, the greater part of it in the Twin Cities, there can't be many reading this who don't already know Nate's music. If you are one of those, you are in for a treat. So are the rest of us.

Expect cleverly crafted lyrics and outstanding music. Joined in this performance by his wife and musical partner, Louie Spooner Bucklin.

## Teresa Chandler

**Sat 8:30 pm**

We welcome Teresa Chandler back to Minicon. From reviews of her CD "Druthers" at CDBaby ...

"Teresa has a marvelous coloratura voice which she puts to good use. Druthers is listed as 'Jazz', not 'Folk', and the cuts range from Country Swing to Bluesy Torch songs."

"If you've ever seen her in concert, you know what heart and soul she pours into her songs... A versatile song writer, and amazing singer."

Come see what they are talking about, you won't be disappointed. Maybe she'll do her song about sleep.

## Adam Stemple

**Sat 9:30 pm**

Adam Stemple is another face (and voice) familiar to Minicon attendees. A twenty-year veteran of the Minneapolis music scene he has also had a connection with local fandom all that time as well. With Cats Laughing, Boiled In Lead and most recently the Tim Malloys, Adam has established himself as a master guitar player, songwriter and record producer.

Lately we have seen Adam at Minicon as an author. This year we welcome him back to our stage for what promises to be a truly outstanding, entertaining, and energetic show.

## The Long Straight Forever

**Sat 10:30 pm**

The Long Straight Forever uses songs, voices, guitars, a mandola, and a bodhran to traverse the oceanic road from the British Isles to the Americas, with echoes of the Chieftains, Warren Zevon, Richard Thompson, Stan Rogers, and Led Zeppelin in their music. Gallowglass co-founder Michael Matheny joins long-time singer/songwriter Raymond Yates and instrumentalist extraordinaire Matthew Ogden to create a sound encompassing the celtic, americana, and rock genres. Come on down, bring a drink to toast with, and 12 party with us!

# Gaming

We certainly had a blast last year! There were a variety of special events and games available, and fun was had by all. Now, we are turning it up a notch! This year, we will have something for everybody!

For the Video Gamers, we will have a fully stocked PS3 available. Games available for the system will be:

Guitar Hero: 5, World Tour, Metallica, Van Halen, Aerosmith, & Guitar Hero III; Super Street Fighter HD Remix, Soul Calibur IV, and many more to be announced. This also will include a Nintendo Wii for all ages. .Mario Party anyone?

We will also have a wireless LAN available for play, so don't be afraid to bring your laptops!

For Board Gamers, we will have a lot of esoteric and standard games to play such as: Agricola, Axis and Allies, Memoir 44, Descent: Journeys in the Dark, Battlestar Galactica, Zombies!!! vs Humans!!!, Pandemic, Twilight Imperium (3rd Edition), Talisman (4th Edition), Rune Bound (2nd Edition), Arkham Horror, Starfarers of Catan, Settlers of Catan (All expansions including a special 3-D Giant Settlers of Catan board), Vegas Showdown, Betrayal at House on the Hill, Dominion (w/expansions), and much more!

We will welcome RPG and miniatures players. Contact me at [gaming@minicon45.mnsthf.org](mailto:gaming@minicon45.mnsthf.org) if you are going to be there and want to volunteer to help out!

Finally, for CCG players we have some special events. We will have Magic the Gathering artist Don Dos Santos available. We will be hosting a special tournament in honor of him. This will be Legacy (Type 1.5) format. There will be special prizes available, including Don Dos Santos related items! One lucky winner will get the chance to play in a "Special Guest Match", to be announced later! Don't forget your Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh and other favorite CCG games. .you don't know who you'll meet!

This is only a taste of what is to come. There will be other events to be announced, as well as involvement from local retailers and game developers. There will be prizes, and fun, to share and enjoy. Between your favorite programming events, stop by and make a new gaming friend! Stay tuned for more updates!



We love MiniCon! We also love Magic the Gathering, as well as other popular card and board games. We are proud sponsors of this year's Magic the Gathering tournament. Our friend Matt McMillan will be on-hand at the convention to help you have fun. When the convention is over, however, make sure to stop on by our shop to present this coupon for a **10% discount** on your purchase, just as a thank you for coming out! (Good from April 5th to April 10th.)

Address: 120 1st Ave East, Shakopee, MN 55379

Phone: (952) 402-0291

Website: [www.phantasyhobbies.com](http://www.phantasyhobbies.com)







# Minicon: Past, Present and Future

	Dates	Members	Location	Guests of Honor	Theme/slogan/etc.
1	6.1.68, 12:30-5p	60	Coffman Union, U of M (Mpls)	Gordon R. Dickson, Charles DeVet & Clifford Simak	<i>A Strange New World of Science Fiction</i>
2	4-6.4.69	102 total	Andrews (Mpls)	Gordon R. Dickson, Charles DeVet & Clifford Simak	—
3	3-5.4.70	130	Dyckman (Mpls)	Poul Anderson, Gordon R. Dickson & Clifford Simak	<i>The Mpls in '73 Convention!</i>
4	17-19.6.71	150	Curtis (Mpls)	Lin Carter	<i>The Mpls in '73 Convention!</i>
5*	15-17.10.71	100	Andrews (Mpls)	Volsted Gridbant	<i>The Genghiskon!</i>
6	7-9.4.72	175	Hyatt Lodge (Mpls)	Ruth Berman	<i>The Stereo-opticon!</i>
7	20-22.4.73	220	Hyatt Lodge (Mpls)	Larry Niven (pro); Rusty Hevelin (fan)	<i>The Mpls in '73 Con!</i>
8	12-14.4.74	350	Dyckman (Mpls)	Kelly Freas (pro); Bob Tucker (fan)	—
9*	11-13.10.74	190	Mpls Public Library & Dyckman	Judy Lynn & Lester del Rey	<i>Made possible by a grant from Daytons! #</i>
10	18-20.4.75	510	Holiday Inn (Mpls)	Poul Anderson (pro); Gordy Dickson (fan)	—
11	16-18.4.76	500	Leamington (Mpls)	Edmond Hamilton & Leigh Brackett (pros); Leigh & Norb Couch (fans)	—
12	8-10.4.77	—?—	Leamington (Mpls)	Ben Bova (pro); Buck & Juanita Coulson (fans)	<i>The Dododecacon</i>
13	24-26.3.78	—?—	Leamington (Mpls)	Samuel R. Delany (pro); Spider Robinson (fan); Bob Tucker (artist)	<i>Nothing is as it seems</i>
15	13-15.4.79	—?—	Radisson (Mpls)	Theodore Sturgeon (pro); Tom Digby (fan); Rick Sternbach (artist)	—
16	4-6.4.80	—?—	Radisson (Mpls)	C.J. Cherryh (pro); Jon Singer (fan); Ken Fletcher (artist); Nate Bucklin (musician)	<i>Déjà Vu</i>
17	17-19.4.81	—?—	Radisson (Mpls)	Jack Vance (pro); Jerry Boyajian (fan); Kathy Marschall (artist); Reed Waller (musician)	—
14	4-6.4.82	—?—	Radisson (St. Paul)	John Varley (pro); Cliff Simak (fan); Spider Robinson (musician)	<i>Forward, Into the Past</i>
19	1-3.4.83	—?—	Radisson (St. Paul)	Larry Niven (pro); Dave Sim (artist); Spider John Koerner (musician); Pamela Dean & David Dyer-Bennet (fans); Nostradamus (proxy)	<i>Backward, Into the Future</i>
18	20-22.4.84	1,450	Leamington (Mpls)	Chelsea Quinn Yarboro (pro); Dave Wixon (fan); Steve Hickman (artist); Somtow Sucharitkul (musician); Bob Tucker (smooth)	<i>We know what we're doing and you don't. Trust us.</i>
20	5-7.4.85	1,525	Radisson South (Blmgtn)	James P Hogan (pro); Permanent Floating Riot Club (fans); Stu Shiffman (artist); Bob Berlien & the White Women (musicians)	<i>Let's you and I get normal for a change</i>
21	28-30.3.86	1,600	Radisson South (Blmgtn)	Damon Knight & Kate Wilhelm (pros); Denny Lien (fan); Ken Fletcher (artist); Ann Passovoy (musician)	<i>Now we're just immoral &amp; fattening</i>
22	17-19.4.87	1,950	Radisson South (Blmgtn)	David Brin (pro); Fred Haskell (fan); Erin McKee (artist); Jerry Stearns (musician)	<i>Still Crazy After All These Years</i>
23	1-3.4.88	—?—	Radisson South (Blmgtn)	Eleanor Arnason (author); Eric Heideman (fan); Fred Pohl (editor); Crystal Marvig (artist); Richard Feynman (science, posthumous)	<i>Spring Forward, Fall Over</i>
24	24-26.3.89	—?—	Radisson South (Blmgtn)	Harry Harrison; George "Lan" Laskowski; Fritz Leiber; Barry Longyear	<i>Zen and the Art of Fan Maintenance</i>
25	13-15.4.90	—?—	Radisson South (Blmgtn)	Jane Yolen (GoH); Kim Stanley Robinson (author); Patrick Price ("Arthur"); David Thayer a.k.a. Teddy Harvia (artist); David E Romm (fan); Earl Joseph (science)	<i>The Silver Edition</i>
26	29-31.3.91	—?—	Radisson South (Blmgtn)	GeorgeAEffinger(author); DavidCherry(artist); ALKuhfeld(science); SuzanneTompkins & JerryKaufman(fans); JonSinger(lunch)	<i>Think of it as Evolution in Action</i>

27	17-19.4.92	—?—	Radisson South (Blmgtm)	Lois McMaster Bujold (writer); Ctein (artist); Dave Van Ronk (musician)	<i>Don't Ever Be A Dodo</i>
28	9-11.4.93	—?—	Radisson South (Blmgtm)	Susan Allison (editor); Diane Duane & Peter Morwood (authors); Kathy Mar (musician); Don Fitch (bless his sweet heart); John M Ford (interesting person)	<i>Suite, Savage Minicon</i>
29	1-3.4.94	3,300	Radisson South & Wyndham (Blmgtm)	Tom Doherty (publisher); Jack Williamson (author); Rusty Hevelin (fan); Phil Foglio (artist)	<i>It seemed like a good idea at the time</i>
30	14-16.4.95	3,500	Radisson South, Wyndham & Sofitel (Blmgtm)	Vernor Vinge (author); Dr. Robert Forward (science); Jody Lee (artist); The Bhigg House (fans)	<i>Some assembly re-quired or "Would you like fries with that?"</i>
31	5-7.4.96	3,564	Radisson South, Wyndham & Sofitel (Blmgtm)	Suzette Haden Elgin (GoH); Ed Emshwiller (memorial artist); Joe Siclari & Edie Stern (fans); David Ossman (audio); James P Hogan (science)	<i>Coming to a Galaxy Near You</i>
32	28-30.3.97	—?—	Radisson South, Sofitel & Holiday Inn (Blmgtm)	Algis Budrys (author); CJ Cherryh (author); Tom Doherty (publisher); Tom Lopez (audio); Patrick & Teresa Nielsen Hayden (editors); Michael Swanwick (author)	<i>Even Chaos has a Pattern</i>
33	10-12.4.98	3,431	Radisson South, Sofitel, Holiday Inn & Wyndham (Blmgtm)	Gardner Dozois (pro); Dave Langford (fan)	<i>Heisenberg Probably Slept Here</i>
34	2-4.4.99	1,500	Hilton Mpls & Towers	Octavia E Bulter (writer); Mark & Priscilla Olson (fans); Dave Nee (bookseller)	—
35	21-23.4.00	850	Hilton Mpls & Towers	Maureen F McHugh (writer); Lenny Bailes (fan); John Berkey (artist)	—
36	13-15.4.01	604	Hilton Mpls & Towers	Ken MacLeod (writer); Jo Walton (fan); Leslie Fish (musician)	—
37	29-31.3.02	637	Hilton Mpls & Towers	Will Shetterly (writer); Emma Bull (writer); Arthur Hlavaty (fan); Rick Berry (artist)	—
38	18-20.4.03	519	Millennium (Mpls)	Robert J Sawyer (author); Carolyn Clink (poet); Sue Mason (fan); Steve Macdonald (musician)	—
39	9-11.4.04	453 prereg¶	Millennium (Mpls)	Walter John Williams (writer); Sharyn November (editor); Deb Geisler (fan)	—
40	25-27.4.05	460 prereg¶	Sheraton Blmgtm (née Raddison South)	Terry Pratchett (writer); James Young (fan); Fastner & Larson (artists)	<i>Minicon Fortean</i>
41	14-16.4.06	381 prereg¶	Sheraton Blmgtm	Harlan Ellison (writer); John Picacio (artist); Doug Friauf (fan)	<i>XLi, Robot</i>
42	6-8.4.07	308 prereg¶	Sheraton Blmgtm	Charles de Lint (writer); Charles Vess (artist)	<i>And the question was...?</i>
43	21-23.3.08	432 total 385 warm	Sheraton Blmgtm	Alastair Reynolds (author); Shawna McCarthy (editor); Nate Bucklin (fan); Wayne Barlowe (artist)	<i>Digging up the future</i>
44	10-12.4.09	422 total 395 warm	Sheraton Blmgtm	Karl Schroeder (author); Seth Shostak (scientist); Stephen Martiniere (artist)	—
45	2-4.4.10	??? prereg	Sheraton Blmgtm	Brandon Sanderson (author); Dan Dos Santos (artist)	—
46	22-24.4.11			Charles Stross (author), Chas Somdahl (music)	?

\* There were two years we had two Minicons, 1971 and 1974

† For those not in the know, this is code — dating back to at least the Minicon 10 program book — for "we didn't have a guest of honor".

‡ That's what it says on the cover of the program book, anyway. No, we don't remember why.

¶ Minicon 14 originally got skipped since the number had been reserved for a fall con (like 5 and 9) that didn't happen. Hilarity ensued.

¶¶ We've lost the count of at-the-door memberships. Probably there were about 100 for each of these years.

Locations are hotels unless otherwise specified. "Theme/slogan/etc." is the closest we could find, with some no doubt being just one-offs on a flyer or the program book cover. If in doubt, something is listed rather than nothing. As a further historical note, Minnstf itself was founded in the latter half of 1966, a little over a year before the first Minicon. Its first official recognition was as a University of Minnesota student organization, but soon thereafter converted to a Minnesota non-profit corporation.

This list by Matthew Strait, Minn-stf archivist, heavily based on a list in a previous program book by Fred A Levy Haskell. Some details are murky, so please send us corrections and/or additions! For lots more historical data, including scans of old program books that might help explain some of the odd things in the above table, see minnstf.org/minicon

# Dealers

## **Alsadu, Inc.**

Donna Waldhauser  
fair trade clothing and jewelry, green paper products

## **Artemis Leather - new this year!**

Shadia Ouma  
leather clothing, bags and accessories

## **Blues Bland**

rare DVD's, books, magazines, toys and model kits

## **Lev Bronshteyn**

Russian SF, military books, Russian comic books

## **David Christenson**

new and used books and DVD's

## **The Buccaneer of Nemaris - new this year!**

Justin Delzer  
fantasy/adventure author

## **DreamHaven Books**

Greg Ketter  
books

## **FTL Publications**

Joan Verba  
books, shoulder bags, patches

## **Funk 'n Fantasy**

Pat Taylor  
costume accessories, clothing, toys and jewelry

## **Games by Gamers Publications - new this year!**

Spin the Issues Card Game

## **Rick Gellman**

books and stuff

## **Hedgehog and Otter Books**

Philip Kaveny  
books: art, history, religion, literary criticism

## **Lady Dragon's Treasures**

Jean Mlynczak  
handcrafted beaded jewelry

## **Lioness**

Elise Matthesen  
jewelry and beads

## **Thompson Productions**

games and gaming accessories, miniatures, comics, t-shirts, Anime DVD's

## **Sam's Dot Publishing**

small press books, chapbooks, and magazines





First join us for  
The 4th Annual MarsCon  
**Masquerade Ball!**

October 30, 2010 (Halloween Eve)  
Only \$10 Admission!

Then come for the Main Event!  
March 4-6<sup>th</sup>  
**MarsCon 2011: Days of Magic!**

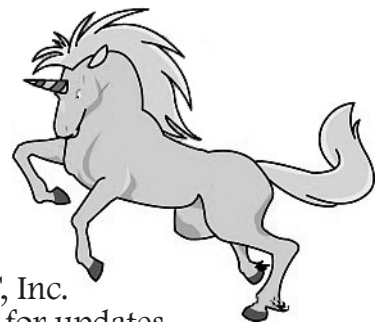
Both Events to be held at  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites,  
Bloomington, MN

With Four-time Hugo Award  
Winning Author Guest of Honor,  
Lois McMaster Bujold!

And Fan Guests of Honor,  
Bjo and John Trimble,  
famous for the "Save Star  
Trek" campaign!

More Guests to Come!

Sponsored by FenSF, Inc.  
visit [www.marscon.org](http://www.marscon.org) for updates



# Cinema Obscura

This distinctive film room returns with a full slate of international, independent and animated treasures, guilty pleasures and resurrected celluloid masterpieces for good measure.

## OUR MISSION IS SIMPLE:

To show films that you, the SF fan...

\*might not be aware of...

\*didn't know you wanted to see...

\*suddenly remembered from a distant memory...

\*heard hushed whispers of (at a con long ago...)

\*repressed the memory of.

You can buy or rent BLOCKBUSTERS anywhere! Shouldn't a science fiction convention give you the opportunity to see something different? CINEMA OBSCURA answers the question, "How do you discover something that you didn't know you wanted to see?" Indeed. How would you search the internet for a film you had no idea existed that you might like? Cinema Obscura takes that effort away & does it for you!

Since there are always scheduling conflicts at any convention, there will be ENCORE showings of some of our selections this year.

**A Note To Parents About Ratings:** CINEMA OBSCURA staff will **not** be checking IDs for admission throughout the convention. Please review the ratings of the films scheduled and their appropriateness for your children. Thank You.

## Fri 4 pm, Sat 2 pm

### EVIL HILL

The secret origin of Austin Powers' incredible nemesis is revealed here in this independently-produced short film!

### TOP CAT

"Naked Town". This 1960 prime time cartoon spoofs the 1950s gritty cop drama, "The Naked City". Despite the title, none of the characters are naked, but like most animorphic cartoon characters, neither Top Cat nor his feline pals are wearing pants!

### G-MEN FROM HELL

2000. PG-13. Comedy. Adapted by MADMAN comics creator MIKE ALLRED from his strip in Grafik Muzik. Directed by CHRISTOPHER COPPOLA.

Two hard-boiled, but wrongly condemned FBI agents (Robert Forsythe, Tate Donovan) escape from Hell with The DEVIL (Robert Goulet?! Yes, ROBERT GOULET!) in hot pursuit. With set designs, color schemes and camera angles reminiscent of the 1960s BATMAN TV show, it is truly a comic book come to life!

With Paul Rodriguez, Kari Wuhrer (SLIDERS), Vanessa Angel (TV's WEIRD SCIENCE), Bobcat Goldthwaite and GARY BUSEY (in a brief, but memorable role)

## Fri 6 pm, Sat 4 pm

### GALAXY RANGERS

It's Sci-Fi meets the Wild West in this episode of the cartoon series.

### OBLIVION

1994. PG-13. Science Fiction Action Comedy.

Imagine FIREFLY, but for laughs! This hilarious Sci-Fi version of GUNSMOKE, written by Peter David (what HASN'T he written?) will satisfy your inner fanboy to no end!

Among the cast is MARSCON 2009 GoH MUNETTA VANDER as the whip-wielding "Lash" (which they forgot to mention in their bio of her, even though she talked about it at length!), GEORGE TAKEI (the original Mr. Sulu from Star Trek) as the intoxicated "Doc" and (who else but original 1960s Catwoman) JULIE NEWMAR, as "Miss Kitty"!

Beware: "He who knows fear BURNS at the Mon-Ding's touch!"

## Fri 8 pm

COWBOY BEBOP (the movie)

2003. Anime. Action. Rated R (for violence). Japan (with an excellent English dub).

Based on the hit TV show on Cartoon Network's Adult Swim.

Cinema Obscura has CHALLENGED OUR ANIME EXPERTS to put themselves in the shoes of science fiction fans who don't "get" anime to find at least one FEATURE that would appeal to them. Out of a handful of finalists with true crossover potential, Cowboy Bebop is our selection this year as ANIME FOR THE GROWN-UP SCIENCE FICTION FAN!!!

Mars, Halloween 2071: With the offer of an astronomical reward, our favorite bounty hunters (cowboys) aboard the good ship Bebop are after their deadliest adversary ever! Snappy dialogue, brilliant state-of-the-art animation, and more kinds of action than could happen in live-action!

## Fri 10 pm

THE CINEMA OBSCURA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL - unrated

- Best-selling author Neil Gaiman in his directorial debut profiles his friend, artist John Bolton, exposing the truth behind Bolton's paintings of HOT female vampires in NEIL GAIMAN'S "A SHORT FILM ABOUT JOHN BOLTON".
- Another expose, this time on the true origins of Star Wars, in GEORGE LUCAS IN LOVE.
- Encore of the origins of Austin Powers' most nefarious nemesis, Dr. Evil in EVIL HILL.
- Preview of Peter Cook & Dudley Moore's brilliant send up of Gerry Anderson's beloved puppet shows of the 1960s, SUPERTHUNDERSTINGCAR!
- HELLRAISER: DEADER. WINTER'S LAMENT Microfilmmaker Magazine's BEST OF SHOW for December 2009 & an Official Selection of The FantasticFilmFestival. Writer/Director Jonathan S Kui's interesting character piece is a love letter to "Hellraiser" all of its legends.
- ...and MORE!

**Sat 10 am:** Puppets. Ya either love 'em or hate 'em!

SUPERCAR

Meet Mike Mercury and the Supercar team in an episode of Gerry Anderson's first Supermarionation series starring a futuristic vehicle and the puppets who command it, which eventually led to...

THUNDERBIRDS ARE GO!

1966. Rated G. Action. Science Fiction. SUPERMARIONATION.

The first of Gerry Anderson's two puppet movies about the International Rescue team, based on the hit 1960s TV show, is far superior to the 2004 live-action attempt! Here, they provide security for the first manned mission to Mars and later rescue its crew from disaster.

The late SFX maestro Derek Meddings' miniature work for Gerry Anderson in the 1960s led to his brilliant FX work for many James Bond and Superman films in the 1970s & 80s to Visual Effects Supervisor for the 1989 Batman film. Whether you love or hate Gerry Anderson's puppet shows, ya gotta respect their SFX!

\*Cinema Obscura BONUS: "SUPERTHUNDERSTINGCAR!" In the 1960s, British comedians Peter Cook & Dudley Moore's television show "Not Only...But Also" featured this hilarious send up of Gerry Anderson's shows. Not to be missed!

## Sat Noon

SPACE GHOST

This square-jawed cartoon superhero of the spaceways usually got captured by the alien bad guys when he was trying to rescue his teenage sidekicks Jan & Jase. It was usually up to their monkey Blip (I always wondered why HE needed a mask) to save the day since the shackled Space Ghost couldn't reach the buttons on his power band gauntlets to free himself. No wonder they resurrected him 30 years later as a late night talk show host on Cartoon Network. Don't Laugh! This is a SERIOUS show!

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## ROBINSON CRUSOE ON MARS

1964. Rated PG. Science Fiction.  
Directed by Byron Haskin (War of the Worlds [1953], Outer Limits [Architects of Fear; Demon with a Glass Hand]).

Astronaut Kit Draper (Paul Mantee) and his pet monkey Mona survive his commander (Adam West in a very small role) in a crash landing on Mars after their ship has a near miss with a meteor. Add to that a runaway alien slave (Victor Lundin) whose masters are bent on his destruction, that survival doesn't come easy! Great production design and special effects for it's time and based on the best scientific knowledge of the Red Planet from 1964 (virtually non-existent), this film will appeal to kids of all ages who still have the ability to ignore gaping plot holes!

### Sat 2 pm Encore

G-MEN FROM HELL. PG-13

### Sat 4 pm Encore

OBLIVION. PG

### Sat 6 pm Encore

COWBOY BEBOP the movie. R

### Sat 8pm

I ♥ DOOMSDAY

2010. UNRATED. Canada.  
Science-Fiction, Romantic Comedy.

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The lives of brilliant, but twisted scientist Maximillian von Max and his lover/assistant Tatiana are torn apart after a terrible accident involving a doomsday device leaves him horribly maimed and her with total amnesia. Max builds an android in his own image with the hope of re-igniting Tatiana's memory of their life together, but Tatiana falls in love with it, leaving a jealous, homicidal Max in the lurch, resulting in a bizarre love triangle of apocalyptic proportions. A CINEMA OBSCURA SEMI-EXCLUSIVE!

### Sat 9:30 pm

NATURAL CITY

2003. Rated R (for language, violence and brief nudity). Korean (with English subtitles) Drama. Action. SF.

If you attended the 2009 Minicon panel, WORLDS OF BLADE RUNNER, this is the film for you! Yes, its story and look is a BLATANT RIP OFF of Blade Runner, with a few elements of the MATRIX tossed in for good measure, BUT THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT from this film! It also has some great martial arts, humor and gunfights that BR didn't, along with the pathos it did. Where else could you see this, but at Cinema Obscura?

**Closed Sunday**

# SFContario

**November 19—21, 2010**

Author GoH: Michael Swanwick

Editor GoHs: Patrick and Teresa Nielsen Hayden

Fan GoH: Geri Sullivan

Filk GoH: Karen Linsley

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[con2010@sfcontario.ca](mailto:con2010@sfcontario.ca)



# Consuite & Bar

Consuite	Room 215
Opens	Fri 3pm
Closes	Well, that's a bit harder to say. It doesn't close, really, unless no semi-conscious, semi-warm fen can be found to keep chips in the bowls. Should that happen, chances are you'll be asleep.
Sat & Sun 8am	Continental Breakfast
Times at Random	Surprises Abound (meatballs, hot dogs, and other past favorites are to be watched for)
The Singularity Bar	Room 218
Serving Hours	Fri 5pm until we drop Sat 5pm until we drop Sun ... sometime



We'll be serving, at various times, Newcastle Brown Ale, Hard Cider, and other beers yet to be decided by the Kyoot One who runs this fiasco. Wine will be making a return appearance. And, of course, our world-renowned Minicon Blog will be back once again in all its dangerously delightful glory.

## Art Show

First, we're \*very\* happy this year to be featuring the fantastic work of artist Dan Dos Santos, winner of several different awards in the field of illustration. We definitely urge you not to miss a wonderful opportunity to see his work up close and personal.

The Minicon 45 Art Show features works of science fiction and fantasy art for you to view and possibly take home with you, as well as a print shop to browse through. There will be a "silent auction" once again this year, meaning that the bidder with highest written bid as of 6:00 PM on Saturday will get the piece of art desired. In the event that two or more bidders are contesting for an artwork by the close of the art show at six, an impromptu voice auction will be held until a winning bid is made.

Please do remember that a bid on a piece of art is considered a promise to purchase it. Those who make a bid and then fail to return and pay for what they bid on can expect to be contacted at 3:00 AM with a knock by Guido at your door. Guido has very deep feelings for artists, who could all use the money these days.

All art in the Art Show will remain up on display through 6:00 PM on Saturday, with pickup of art that has been purchased starting after 11:00 AM on Sunday, unless prior arrangements are made with the Head of the Art Show otherwise. Items in the Print Shop can be purchased and taken away when the Art Show is open. Minicon accepts cash, personal checks and major credit cards as payment for artwork.

As usual, with regard to any Art Show questions or disputes, the whim of the Head of the Art Show is final, mostly.



# Accoutrement of the Fentastic!

## a.k.a. Costuming

*"Jim! I'm a doctor not a tailor" ... however I \*may\* be able to sew that up :)*

The main costuming events of Minicon 45 will begin with the Fenfare Parade, pause for the Fentasia Awards, and continue on with the Fenfare Parade. As if that's not enough ...

ALL geek garb is welcomed, nay demanded! If you wear anything other than your normal street clothes, please join us for any and all costuming events. We want YOU!

Performance bits are not required for any costuming activities. These events are meant to be fun, informal, and easy. That being said, we do NOT want to discourage bits. ~~Please contact the Cos Team in advance if possible~~, otherwise let us know at the Con (Bonz or Seven). We'd like to plan ahead a little for best effect. That also being said, if you show at the parade and say "I want to do a bit!", we won't spank you. *Promise!*

### **Fenfaire Parade**

- We will gather at East Ballroom A, the kids & craft location, on Sat at 8 pm promptly! (ok really ishly).
- We will traipse Fentastically through all open fen spaces.
- The parade will be led by live music! Other implements of the noise-making variety will also be available.
- At appropriate intervals, we may stop for some performance bits, award displays, etc.
- After which ... beer! (this does not preclude the young-uns)

### **Fentasia Awards**

- Will happen at a to-be-announced stop along the parade route (to meet up with the celeb judges).
- There are a few different categories - adult costumer, adult non-street duds, and non-adult
- There will be (gasp!) prizes for the award winners, and unique wearable tokens for all participants
- On the subject of prizes ... BIG THANKS to Twin Cities Magic & Costume for sponsoring us ... woot!!!

Costuming activities are not limited to just these. We have arranged a roundtable panel where costumers of any level of experience can bring their current projects for help with hurdles or to just plain show off. It's Sat at 4pm in East Ballroom A. This is a combined kids/adults costuming activity! For the kids, there will be materials to create a costume on the spot. Of course, adults may participate if supplies are adequate and the whim stikes :)

Hall costumes are always encouraged. However much we'd like your participation in our activities, we won't harangue you more than twice (or spank).

# What Is MnStf?



For the lawyer in you, the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, variously abbreviated MnStf, Minn-SFT, MN-STF, and other variants ad infinitum, is the 501c(3) corporation that brings you Minicon. Moving on...

Each year, the MNStf board of directors approves the chairperson for the upcoming convention, looks after the continuing needs of the convention, and looks for new ways to enhance SF in the community.

The corporation consists of the following parts:

- The Board of Directors, who are responsible for guiding the organization.
- The MNStf officers, who do much of the work for the corporation: plan meetings, pool parties, picnics, and file taxes.
- The annual Minicon Concom, who do all the hard work it takes to hold the convention each year.
- The Membership, which includes anyone who has signed the Membership Book at a MNSTF meeting.

Minn-STF holds two social meetings a month, generally at members' homes. It's possible that some may find the idea of showing up at a new persons' home uninvited a little intimidating, but guess what? ... You're invited. Any and all fen - terrans, lunar natives, plutonians, M81-ians, peeps!, etc. - are most welcome. These meetings involve copious conversation, food, dinner expeditions, games, music, knitting, or all of the above. Meeting locations are published in the Einblatt! and are available online at [www.mnstf.org](http://www.mnstf.org). MnStf also puts on the annual pool party, typically held at the Sheraton, and the annual picnic. Fun times.

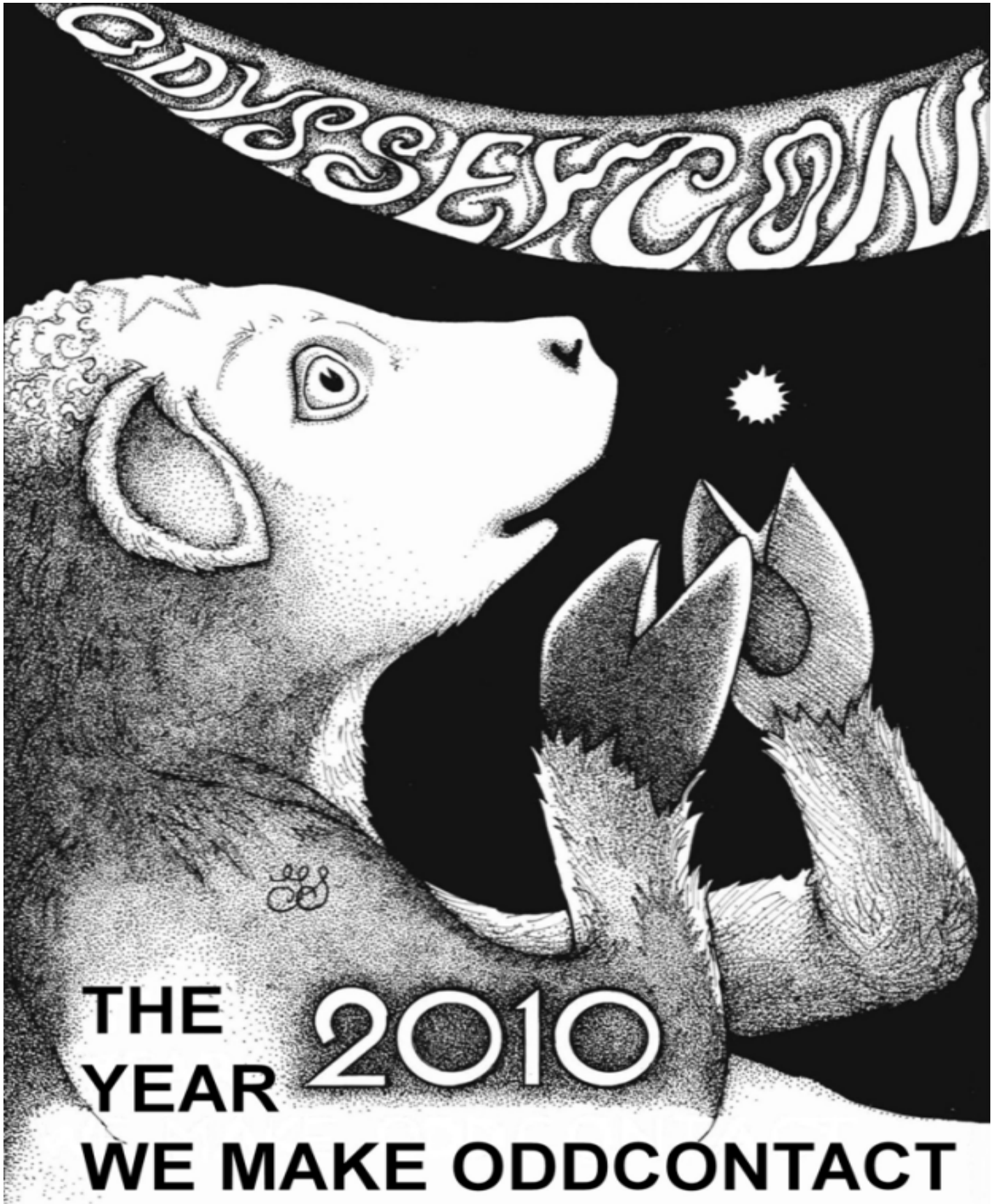
Upcoming meetings are ~

- Monday, April 5th starting at 7pm - Minicon Dessicated Dodo Party at the home of Laura Krentz & Dean Gahlon. (4323 France Ave. S., Mpls. Cats, no smoking. FFI: 612-929-2150)
- Saturday, April 10th - Minicon Devonian Ductina Party and Postmortem at the home of Kelly & Matt Strait. (1631 Selby Ave. #1, St. Paul; No smoking.)

## The MnStf Picnic

Enjoyed the convention and want more? Met new friends that you'd like to see again? Then join us in July for our summer picnic. Saturday, July 17, 2010, Mnstf will hold its annual picnic at Minnehaha Falls in Minneapolis. We have reserved picnic area #2 north of Godfrey road (X marks the spot). Join us for an afternoon cookout filled with gaming, socializing and fun. There will be a grill going throughout the day, so bring something for the grill, or a dish to pass or game to play. The picnic will start around 2:00 pm and last until dark. Hope to see you there.





**THE YEAR 2010**

**WE MAKE ODDCONTACT**

**April 16 – 18, 2010  
Madison, Wisconsin**

# Concom

Chair Fen	Keith Malgren Joel Phillips Kevin Austin
Art Show	Richard Mueller
Badge Layout	Bill Christ
Costuming	Bonnie Somdahl Seven
Dealers' Room	Lisa Freitag
Gaming Room	Matt McMillan
Film Room	Greg Larsen
Green Room	Karen Cooper
Guest Liaison	Joel Phillips
Consuite	Hershey Lima
The Singularity Bar Tarbenders	Aliera Brust "Kyoot One" Brian Diane Keith Seven
Mistress of Light	
Kids' Programming	Marian Turner
Medallion Hunt	Thorin Tatge
Music	Chas Somdahl
Programming	Sharon Kahn Rachel Kronick Emily Stewart
Publications	
Pubs Queen	Seven
Copy Editing	Carol Kennedy
Dealer Dollars	Pat Scaramuzza
Pocket Program	Rachel Kronick Matthew Strait
Minicon 46 Ad	Pat Scaramuzza
Opening & Closing Ceremonies	Baron Dave Romm
Registration	
Pre-con	Shaun Kelly & Matthew Strait
At-con	Carol Kennedy
Room Parties	Matt Weiser
Treasurer	Andra St. Arnauld
T-Shirt Design	Dan Dos Santos Pat Scaramuzza
Volunteer Wranglers	Matthew & Kelly Strait
Web Geek	Dorf





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