

All The News That's On The Bus

The Bozo Bus Tribune

Friday, March 29, 2002

Welcome to Minicon 37!

Volume 37 No. 1

Welcome, Welcome!

Contrary to the popular conceit, Spring seems to have rolled in about two days before the con. We suspect that's a special Minnesota welcome for our guests, especially those from the warmer climes. And of course, that's all of 'em. We on the BBT staff are nearly beside ourselves with glee that Arthur Hlavaty, our Fan Guest of Honor, is here. Everybody's got a one-of-a-kind mind, but Arthur is just... fascinating. Get to his program items; chat him up in the corridors. You'll neither regret nor forget meeting Arthur Hlavaty. (Pronunciation key: "HLAV-ah-tee", but says Arthur, "I answer to everything.")

Our Artist Guest is Rick Berry, a fact which causes little gasps of delight amongst everyone we know. Really. In the elevator last night, we finally said, "What IS that noise?" Rick's making a long-hoped-for return to Minneapolis fandom. The thing we learned about him last time is that he's not just a damned good artist, he's endlessly interesting to listen to. Whether you're interested in the technical details of creating astonishing images, or in the critical appreciation that adds depth and meaning to the viewer's experience, you'll look at art through clearer eyes once you've spent some time listening to Rick.

And Will Shetterly and Emma Bull, our Pro Guests. Delicate southern California hothouse flowers suddenly blooming in the glass house skyway system of downtown Minneapolis. What can we say: Old Home Week is our very favorite holiday. And you've been gone so long we hardly know ya. This is everyone's chance to find out all about what Will & Emma have been writing, and thinking about, and singing about, and how Emma's broken arms are healing, and a thousand little things. Welcome home; we're glad you're here!

Minicon A.V. Club

The BBT is pleased to announce that filmeo has tiptoed back to Minicon. Programming head Michael van Maltzen has arranged with a few intrepid fans to show video programming of their choice in their rooms. An easel or some other obvious place is available for announcements. Check these pages, too.

Will Shetterly note:

Kevin Maroney has come to the aid of Will Shetterly's biography, for which we are grateful. Will wrote or co-wrote with John M. Ford 12 issues of "Captain Confederacy" in the years 1987-1989. These were published by Will's own "Steeldragon Press".

Upcoming Fun:

Con Jose hosts a Music Party

9 pm- very late. Room 2101.

"Tales of the Unanticipated" publication party.

9 pm-2am. Krushenko's suite 701.

Huckster's Highlights

We did a quick swing through the dealers room, and found treasures galore. We asked all the dealers for "one cool thing" and all replied. Steve Salaba has some hardcover copies of "Mad Scientist's Club." We swoon. Mary Jo O'Rourke has meteorites, right from space to you. Glenn Cook has Laurell K. Hamilton hardcovers. David Christianson has Lauren Bacall's autograph. Phil Kaveny has "Romantique," early 20th century feelthy pictures (you must be 18) (we are).

Then there's boxed sets of Avengers at Fred Meine's table, dracogryphs at Kyril's Cavern, and we finally asked: say "KI-RILL." D'oh. The official and extra cool Minicon 37 t-shirt is at Off-Worlds Designs. Lioness has Kevin O'Grady's amazing galaxy marbles. Linda's Designs offers a lovely fairy moon necklace. Leo Watkins has early copies of "Famous Monsters of Filmland." DreamHaven has Rick Berry and Phil Hale's "Double Memory."

Special Botanical Update

Note: The following report was submitted to the Minn-stf Board by our club's Official Botanist, Australian fan Kim Huett. It will be immediately obvious why we keep him on staff. If you happen to be near Jon Singer as he reads this, please help him up off the floor. —ed.

TO: Minn-Stf Board

FROM: Kim Huett, Minn-Stf Botanist

REPORT #4 SENT TO BOARD 18/03/02

Greeting unto the Board. First let me tender my apologies to the Board for not submitting anything for some time. I'm afraid that the project to seed Mars by

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The Bozo Bus Tribune

Vol. 37 No. 1

Friday Afternoon

March 29, 2002

The Official Organ of Minicon 37

Sharon Kahn - Managing Editor

Jeff Schalles - Design & Production

This edition's editor has been Karen Cooper, with writerly assistance from Michael Nelson, and kibbitzing from the usual gang of idiots, the rumor mill, and anybody who wanted to.

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firing rockets full of lichen at it ran into unexpected difficulties. It appears that rather than splicing Kim Stanley Robinson DNA into the lichen the sub-contractors used some Spider Robinson material instead. So rather than just terraforming the surface of Mars the lichen has evolved and is now producing droplets of ethanol. According to the latest estimates by the time the planet is ready for colonisation it will also be well on the way to having oceans once more. They won't be of water however.

But enough of such matters. What you really want to know is what I've done for the glory of Minn-Stf since I last reported. Well as always I've been seeking ways to make the life of the average fan easier. Recently I learnt that moose glow under a black light. This is due to being semi-aquatic and having lots of shaggy hair that little aquatic creatures get caught in. Because the tiny animals are fluorescent moose glow in the right circumstances.

I found this news very interesting and immediately looked into how such an ability might be made useful. The secret I quickly learnt is to use genetically altered plankton. My version is totally inert while dry and looks very like a fine powder. Add a little water however and in the absence of light it becomes a glowing sludge. Since the plankton is visible without the need for black light the possibilities are endless. I find it especially useful rubbed into pet fur. It makes finding your pets so much easier at night. Of course cats do tend to clean themselves and get it on their tongues. That can be a disturbing look but what the hey, they're suppose to eat some greens.

At the moment the plankton only comes in a rather charming shade of lime green but I'm hoping to have electric blue, golden yellow and blood red versions ready for Christmas. Since it can be taken internally I hope to promote it as the perfect mixer for your holiday vodka. Though what people will think when they go to brush their teeth the next morning might pose a problem.

Hoping you are the same,

Kim

Tidbits

Looking for Worldcon bids?

Check out their tables in the Dealer's Room.

Looking for the Green Room?

It'll be appearing in Director's Row 1 after 5 pm today.

Special Thank You

Kevin Austin would like to thank everyone who showed up and everyone who helped out at the Minicon and Mnstf party at Marscon. Special thanks to Larry, Joyce, Laurel, Joe, and Andrew.

Wanna stay over?

The room block is open: you can get a room at the inn for \$79.

Looking for the Minicon Operations desk?

It's in the Consuite. (Volunteers is, too.)

Another Special Thank You

Publications wishes to thank those valiant and hard-working fen who performed magnificent acts of collatio last night. Special kudos are due to Dean Gahlon, Laura Krentz, and Jeff Schalles for supplying collating racks and staplers, to Dai Innes for organizing, and to Laura Krentz and Mark Richards for stapling nearly all the Program Books.

Looking for the freebie tables?

They're near the escalators.

Looking for the bar?

Rooms 2134-2138. Both Minneapolis and St. Paul blog will be available in the main third floor consuite as well.

Looking for the pocket program?

The schedule grid is on the counter at Registration.

Filking

Filking will be in the evenings in Director's Row 3.

Party Flyers

Post flyers on the kiosk by the escalators.

"Living Ships — Science Fiction or Fantasy"

is really at 10 AM on Sunday, rather than at 2:30 PM as published in the Program Book. Oh the embarrassment!

Heard Around the Con

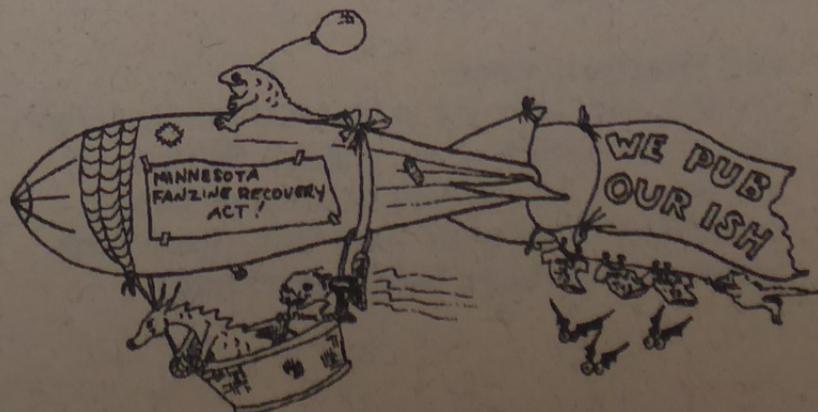
So what *is* your name now?" — Steve Brust

Seen Around the Con

A PFRC flash crowd occurred at the top of the elevator. What should we do now?

Who is "sfreader"?

The fans you see with sfreader as their badge name are paying a small tribute to local bookseller, fan, and pillar of our community Scott Imes, who passed away suddenly in December. Look for the special edition of "Rune" being published this weekend.



All The News That's On The Bus

The Bozo Bus Tribune

Saturday, March 30, 2002

Morning Edition

Volume 37 No. 2

Opening Ceremonies Shocker

Minicon's Opening Ceremonies began, surprisingly enough, with an onstage drum jam. As co-chair Erik Baker welcomed Minicon attendees and performed introductions, the drums continued to throb ominously. Still, no one suspected what lay ahead when outgoing Minnstf President-for-Life Andrew Bertke rose to speak. Andrew began outlining his ambitious plans for a revitalized club. When he raised the ever-controversial topic of a Minnstf Clubhouse, the audience grew restive. But when he went so far as to propose a Minneapolis Worldcon, the room exploded into sudden violence! The hapless president was overwhelmed by the angry mob, disappearing completely in the tangle of arms and legs. When the crowd was finally dispersed, Bertke was pronounced dead at the scene, and hauled away on a luggage cart.

This tragic turn of events leaves Minnstf (the Minnesota Scientifiction Society) in an unprecedented leaderless limbo. The annual Board elections occur shortly before Minicon each year. In their first meeting, the newly elected Board appoints the club officers, and the new slate of officers is traditionally announced at Minicon

Closing Ceremonies. The outgoing President-for-Life is formally removed from office by assassination (the traditional means for removing a President-for-Life), and his/her successor is presented to the cheering throng. Andrew's premature demise leaves the club leaderless for the next three days.

Investigation Ongoing

Investigation continues into the tragic events that brought Minicon Opening Ceremonies to an abrupt close Friday evening. Contrary to early reports suggesting that the mob violence was a spontaneous (some might even say natural) response to the Minneapolis Worldcon proposal, evidence has been uncovered that suggests that the attack may have been premeditated. Witnesses note that all of the attackers seemed to be seated together in the first row. And several witnesses claim to have heard someone on the stage, possibly one of the drummers, shout "Get him!" seconds before the mob surged forward. Reportedly, one of the drummers, a Mr. Steven Brust, was seen in close consultation with a suspicious-looking group of college students in the Mezzanine shortly before the attack.

Trivia Contest Winners

Tom Whitmore	134.5
Beth Friedman	90.0
Jordin Kare	40.0
Mary Kay Kare	38.0
Ed Dravecky	36.0
Carole Ashmore	29.0

Registration Report

As of noon Saturday the warm body count is 522. Total registration thus far is 622.

Penguins Explained

Have you seen the stars and penguins on people's membership badges? The explanation: We ran out of dinosaurs. Dinos represented ten Minicons, stars represent five and penguins represent one. So if someone has three stars and two penguins, they have been at seventeen Minicons. If we still have any left, these stickers are at Registration and have no relation to the odd stickers available in the Consuite or the stickers given out by room parties. Please welcome our single-penguin friends.

Hot Off the Presses!

Torcon 3's Progress Report #2 is available at our table in the Dealer's Room. Please drop by and pick up your copy. For those who don't have your Torcon 3 membership yet, we will be happy to sell you one.

Programming Off to an Energetic Start

This editor conducted an informal survey late last night and gathered the distinct impression that Friday night programming was a roaring success. Most events were described as "standing room only," and "lots of fun." The participants in "Jumping the Shark" refuse to describe their panel in either of those terms, but we note that they are still arguing over whether Heinlein jumped the shark with "I Will Fear No Evil," or "Friday."

Pirate Ship Sets Sail

All congoers, not just the kids, will want to take a peek at the magnificent pirate ship in Children's Programming (Rochester Room). The kids have christened her The Black Alien. Many thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who helped construct the ship, with special thanks to "GT Guy" Craig Kimmer.

The Bozo Bus Tribune

Vol. 37 No. 2

Saturday Morning

March 30, 2002

The Official Organ of Minicon 37

Sharon Kahn - Managing Editor

Jeff Schalles - Design & Production

This edition's editor has been Sharon Kahn.

This issue is printed on vintage Flambeau

Torchglow 20 lb. offset bond from the collection of Margo Bratton.

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Programming Updates:

Bill Higgins's "Planetarium Slideshow" topic on Saturday at 8:30 PM in Salon C will be "NASA's Mars Fleet: Current Missions to the Red Planet."

MOVED TO Sunday: Roundtable w/Erik Baker, Larry Sanderson, Laura Jean Fish

Krushenko's Schedule - Saturday

noon: Krushenko's open, Suite 701

1pm: Presentation/Discussion: "The Fiction of Charles Williams." Bernadette Bosky, mod. Williams was a friend and fellow Inkling to J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis. He is considered a pioneer of contemporary urban fantasy.

2:30pm: Discussion: "The Fiction of Will Shetterly," David Lenander, mod.; sponsored by The Rivendell Group. The Twin Cities branch of the International Mythopoeic Society, Rivendell, has been holding fantasy book discussions monthly since late 1973 or 1974.

4pm: Panel: "Harry Potter and Friends: What's New and Good in Children's Fantasy?" Laura Krentz (m), Ruth Berman, Peg Kerr, David Lenander.

9pm-2am: Diversicon Party. Come learn about his conversational, multi-cultural Twin Cities SF convention, to be held August 2-4.

Fan-on-the-Street Interview

— *interview conducted by Dave Romm, roving reporter*

The Carleton College Science Fiction Alliance (SFA) is well-represented at Minicon this year. SFA members Sharon Altmann, Andy Exley, Josh Ouerisman, Ethan Sonmer, Alison Capion, Mari Konkel, Eric Lewellyn, Corwin Troust, and Thorin Tatge made the 50-mile trek from Northfield, Minnesota. For all but Thorin, this is a first Minicon. Many of them live in Benton House, aka "the Sci-Fi House", on the edge of the Carleton campus. The trip was subsidized by an activities grant from their college, enough to cover about half the membership fees. Their mission: "Bring back many ideas for science fiction and fantasy events to appeal to a larger audience." A typical comment: "Where else are you going to find cybertech and nanotech panels?"

The interview was interrupted when the whole crew was apparently recruited for something by Steven K. Zoltan Brust. Has their innocence been lost already? Watch for followup interviews on Sunday when we learn whether they achieved their goals.

Pizza Places That Deliver

Dominos	1113 Hennepin Ave. South	338-3030
Pizza Luce	119 North 4th St.	333-7359
Leaning Tower of Pizza	2324 Lyndale Ave. So.	377-3532
Green Mill	2626 Hennepin Ave. So.	374-2131
Pizza Hut	2552 Central Ave.	788-9155
Pizza Hut	2313 Hennepin Ave.	374-4000
Old Chicago	508 1st Ave. North	338-8686
Papa Johns	333 Hennepin Ave. East	623-9072
Rocky Rococo	405 14th Ave. SE	378-1513
Uptown Pizza	323 W. Lake St.	823-7203
Dulonox	607 W. Lake St.	827-1726 ('till 3am)

Full Moon Over Minicon

—*Sharon Kahn*

It's big, it's yellow and it's back. No, silly, not the moon. It's the Greg Cotton Rocket Ride, back for a second Minicon visit. For those who missed the Rocket's debut at last year's Minicon, it was sighted in the hotel driveway Friday evening, and was still there at 11:55 pm Friday. Run down and have a look before the fire marshal banishes it again. It's a sight to behold even at rest, but if you get a chance to see it in action it's a something you'll never forget. "You can just strap me to the top and turn it on!" gushed one lovely and charming Minicon co-chair (who prefers to remain anonymous).

New addition to Precentennial Concom

Donald Aamondt has been added to the Mpls in 1873 Concom as Hotel Liaison, since his mother used to work at the con hotel. All room requests should be directed to him.

Will Shetterly and Emma Bull audio on the web

New on the the Shockwave Audio site,

www.romm.org/audio :

Dick Space, Space Dick, written by Will Shetterly and performed by Emma Bull and Jerry Stearns circa 1980.

PBS Liavak, the 1987 Shockwave Live Stage Show at Minicon written by Kara Dalkey, Dave Romm and Jerry Stearns and featuring many of the Liavek writers including Emma Bull.

Random Notes:

All aliens must register by April 1st.

UFO spotted in Consuite. Aliens who phone home are subject to roaming charges.

Personals

As was said in olden tymes, a toast to returnees Will and Emma from a crumb named Stephen. Too bad he's not Robert Crumb. (But he has met Roger Thornhill).



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Saturday, March 30, 2002

Evening Edition

Volume 37 No. 3

Saturday Parties

701	Diversicon Party.....	9 pm
836	Karaoke Party	9 pm
2101	Music Party..... "after the Flash Girls"	
2111	Open Door Concert by Nate & Louie .	11-midnight
2145	LA in '06.....	9 pm

Programming Changes - Sunday

Genetic Engineering, Hype vs. Hope, 1pm. Emmett O'Brien has been added

Volunteers needs help this evening.

Really, we mean it.

Especially needed:

- Bartenders (no bartenders... no booze!)
- Twinkies – Help with the Consuite
- Badgers

Volunteer for 2 hours and get a ribbon! Volunteer for 6 hours and get a mug! This is a great opportunity to meet your fellow con members. Sign up at the Volunteers table in the Consuite.

Minicon 38 (next year) is looking for minions. In fact, Minicon 37 (this one) is looking for people to help tear down at the end of the con. Check with Volunteer desk in the Consuite.

Where is Al Haig when you need him?

With the demise of MN-STF President Andrew Bertke, the club that sponsors Minicon is without a leader. Acting President Doug Wickstrom invoked the bylaws of the Roman Empire to deal with the Interregnum, but we are hampered by the lack of a Roman Senate. Chaos reigns.

The Minicon/Carleton connection goes waaaay back

I saw the note in Saturday's issue [Vol 37 No. 2] about the Carleton students here. I attended my first Minicon (in fact, my first con) as a Carleton Freshman in 1969. Back then, there were was no prospect of activities grants from the college! — Glenn McDavid

Program Book correction

In the Program Book, the Windycon XXIX ad has the wrong dates. The actual dates are Nov. 8–10, 2002.

of all the games available at the con Registration area...

What's Your Favorite Game?

- "Apples to Apples" — Colin Hinz
- "Elchfest" (in English, "Moose Race") — Sasha Walton
- "Roseköng" — Roscoe Bendtsen
- "Cosmic Encounter" — Richard Tatge
- "Dilbert (or else Go)" — Thomas Womack

RIP R.A. Lafferty

Rune 86 is nearly printed (we're doing it here!) and will hopefully be collated in the foyer tonight and tomorrow!

Tidbits

Sense of Wonder Dept.:

Aliens squeak, no matter what part you squeeze. The bacon dispensers are in the restrooms. The Mother Ship has landed. — Jeanne Mealy

What's up with the "scare quotes" on the "locations" on our "badges"? Huh? — "Anonymous"

"It's a gender-bending, slapstick-werewolf detective. It's a hard subgenre to write." — Ellen Kuhfeld

"I live for veggies!" — Jen Manna, Consuite subhead

"I have never seen so many inflatable objects in my life... outside of an adult 'toy' story!" — a one-penguin Minicon attendee

Hot Gossip Interruptus

"I have some juicy gossip... oh wait, it was for my ears only. Oh darn." — Cally Soukup, Head of the Green Room

A Tale of Two Cities, or Why I Like Minneapolis

submitted anonymously,

but we're pretty sure it's by Michael Nelson

As part of my job investigating shipments of money, two of the places I visited were the Boston and Minneapolis Federal Reserve Banks. Now, when I entered the lobby of the Boston bank, I was confronted with four armed guards in a bullet-proof cage, numerous video cameras, and two more guards manning a metal detector. But when I arrived at the Minneapolis Federal Bank, I was greeted by one elderly guard sitting at a small desk in the lobby. I said, "Hi, I'm from the BEP and I'm here to see Mr. So-and-so." And he said, "Oh, sure, eh. Joe's expecting you. He's down on the loading dock. Just take that elevator over there. You know, I really miss those wooden crates you used to pack the money in — I would take the wood home to heat the house."

I'm just trying to say that I enjoy my infrequent visits to Minneapolis and a big reason for that are the nice people and their common sense practicality. Now, if you could only do something about all that cold dirty white stuff on your sidewalks....

The Bozo Bus Tribune

Vol. 37 No. 3

Saturday Evening

March 30, 2002

The Official Organ of Minicon 37

Sharon Kahn – Managing Editor

Jeff Schalles – Design & Production

This edition's editor has been Dave Romm.

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Sunday, March 31, 2002

Afternoon Edition

Volume 37 No. 4

The Krahn-Gahlon 4 a.m. Minicon Pulse Check

— Sharon Kahn

Traditionally, 4 am Sunday morning finds Laurel Krahn and Dean Gahlon prowling around the hotel checking for ongoing signs of life, and frequently complaining about the lack thereof. Unfortunately, little effort has been made in the past to preserve the results of this survey. This year, your intrepid editor decided to accompany the census takers on their rounds and document their findings. This proved more difficult than anticipated, since both Krahn and Gahlon appeared to be having too much fun where they were. Krahn was eventually prodded into action, but Gahlon proved too much of a challenge, so the expedition departed without him. Results follow.

4 a.m. Too much Brownian Motion on 21st floor. In addition, we suspect certain individuals of running an Underground Railroad to move people from party to party ahead of the census team, resulting in the same individuals being counted multiple times. Effort abandoned after 30 minutes. Official results of 4 am tally: Too Many To Count.

5 a.m. Still a lot of people in evidence, but they have slowed down significantly. At any rate, the people still on their feet seemed to be moving more slowly than the census team. Results are as follows: a grand total of 64 people still awake and visible.

- 21st Floor: 38 total
- Music Party: 18
- Odysseycon Party 7
- Upstairs Consuite/Bar: 8
- SMOF zone by the elevators: 5
- music party in elevator: 5
- 3rd floor: 18
- NonSmoking Consuite: 8
- Poker Party outside Smoking Consuite: 8
- Scattered about: 2
- Census Takers: 2
- Suspected Underground Railroad operative: 1

Summary. Things were pretty durn lively for 5 in the morning. More than 10% of the con membership was still out and about as dawn broke, and that's not counting what might have been going on behind closed doors. Music was being made, the bar was still open, and surreal things were still happening.

Please Don't Take The Aliens — Cindy Scott

Please do not take the aliens home with you. They must stay and perform arcane rituals with the grenadine in preparation for their next visit to planet Earth. ConJose thanks Minicon 37 (and the grenadine) for sending the allens on Hawaiian Holiday. The aliens hope to see you at ConJose and at Minicon 38, too!

Registration

Warm Bodies: 565

Total Memberships (estimated): 643

Key to understanding the above: "warm bodies" is the number of badges that have been distributed. Total registrations is the number of people who pre-registered plus the number who registered at the door. Since there are always some no-shows, this number will always be greater than the warm body count.

The Rest of the Con

Minicon has the consuite on the 21st floor through Tuesday morning. Keep showing up to party until it's time to clean up. Then pitch in to help. Please! Tuesday morning volunteers will be considered candidates for sainthood.

Duly Noted

Discovered in the Bozo Bus inbox this morning. We're not sure what it means, but then, we are all bozos on this bus.

Notice of Taking of Deposition
Steven K.Z. Brust vs. Bozo Bus Tribune
Sharon Kahn, <indecipherable>

You are hereby summoned to the law offices of Robert F. Ihinger Jr to be deposed upon the allegation of defamation of the plaintiff.
Rob Ihinger, Attorney ID 132664

Personals

Thanks to Doug Friauf for helping with the "Year in Movie Reviews" panel Friday night.

Thanks for having some M's without the S's. -

Carleton Students Survive Con

Carleton students had a good time, picked up useful information. Now that they've had a chance to experience Minicon, SFA president Andy Exley observes: "It was interesting and fun. We got ideas for Science vs. Science Fiction panels. That type of program could be fun for Carleton." Corwin Troost adds that he's now more aware of science fiction fandom, which is not generally present at Gaming conventions. He liked the panel on Intellectual Property and similar subjects, and followed certain panelists such as Arthur Hlavaty, Bernadette Bosky and the Discordians. He's likely to be back next year.

The Bozo Bus Tribune Vol. 37 No. 4
 Sunday Afternoon March 31, 2002
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 Sharon Kahn — Managing Editor
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