

Issue 3

Late Saturday night

# Bozo Bus Tribune

The Official Organ of Minicon 56

*"We're all bozos on this bus!"*

## From "Chat GPT Takes the World by Storm":

Apparently large language models really are the next big something-something, because this panel's feisty audience had no end of things to say. The panel discussed how copyright law applies to programs like ChatGPT and their works, as well as the works they draw from to build their database. Professor **Shaun Jamison** compared it to the litigated case of a monkey who took a selfie, but was found not to own its photographic 'work': "It's kind of out there in the ether."

If he suspected a student of traditional plagiarism, he said, it was possible to check. "With this, if a student's all in with AI-generated answers for a whole semester, it would be hard to tell."

"Can you ask it to give you only true answers?" asked one audience member. A decently profound query.

Poet **F.J. Bergman** rated ChatGPT's poetry skill as competitive on a middle school level, weak for high school, and far from creating anything she might select as an editor. She shared its response to her request for a poem about what lives in a ruined sand castle. It was trite, yes, but one audience member suggested that often people *like* trite and shallow poetry because it gives them comfort. "I tell you, Hallmark's never going to have to pay another person!" declared Bergman.

The panel concluded with a projection of ChatGPT's response to the classic Turing Test question, "Please write me a sonnet on the subject of the Forth Bridge." The piece it produced was surprisingly astute, nearly scanned correctly, and was generally considered much better than Scottish poet William McGonagall and his notorious "The Tay Bridge Disaster."

## Message from the chair

"Hi everyone. Nope, I did not manage to write the traditional chair message for the program book, leaving you undistracted to proceed directly to the table of contents. BUT here I am, and I want to belatedly welcome you all to Minicon 56. Now that the con is on, I know more about who I'm welcoming. So many new faces! Welcome welcome to your first Minicon. I hope you enjoy yourselves, learn new things, make new friends, and find a sense of community. Building community and connections is what we're all about. I hope to see you at the next Minicon too and our other events throughout the year."

*-Minicon 56 chair Matt Strait*

## Speaking of poetry...

A pair of haiku inspired by "Gender and AI" (8:30 Fri.):

Pronouns and robots – Constructed identity Can be binary.	Some languages have No "I" that's non-binary – Translated gender.
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*-MDG*

(Ironically, traditional haiku are not supposed to include personal pronouns. —*Ed.*)

## A downright devilish jaunt

The reading of the late **John M. Ford's** "Fellowship of the Woosters" was delayed when both participants expected the other to have brought the precious recovered manuscript. When it was eventually read, the *Jeeves and Wooster/Lord of the Rings* crossover was exquisitely seamless. "Nobody in the universe could have done that except Mike Ford," concluded reader Steve Brust.

~~ Things are getting more revelant,  
but less relevant. ~~

"Tales of the Old Gamemasters" featured tales of elaborate player betrayals, years-long derailments, duplicating dodos, inertialess swords, and the acquisition of a "new clear bomb" through skillful use of punning.

"The moral is, don't ask for anything too powerful, or the GM will find some way to \*\*\*\* you over." —Steve again

## Music in the Atrium

The Ben Lessinger Memorial Karaoke Party had a late start due to tricky equipment that spent hours "almost working." Eventually it got going and the party's music wafted out over the atrium. Meanwhile, Greg Ketter really did seem to know everyone, since his party was hopping.

## Art is plentiful!

The Art Show is full! Go and Quick-Bid on things to take them home!

## Music switch-up

Graham Leathers is ill and could not attend. Wish him well! Dave Stagner performed a solo concert in his place, after having originally ceded his spot to the Decadent Dave Clement (2:30 Sun.)

## LAST CALL

"...for great free-will donation treasures! Take your deals by 4:00 Sunday, leave your donations. Thanks to Mark Richards for coordinating this fun fundraiser." --Anonymous

### Pub Trivia results

1 <sup>st</sup> place	Allamagoosa	17 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Sketchy Bag of Celery	14 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Kobayashi Maru	13 points

## In keeping with this con's lack of a theme:

"The Invisible Man was not seen in the Bar last evening. Several patrons reported no sightings."

## And less relevant still...

## Upcoming choir show

One singer would like you to know that the Twin Cities Women's Choir, an arts non-profit whose mission is to empower the voice of women and girls, is having its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7p.m. in Roseville Lutheran Church. They will perform a program of multi-genre choral music.

Lots of people came to play Zar with Clay Friday night! Reports rage from three tables to 24 people. That's several times as many as played in the Magic tournament.

The Consuite's bathtub is running low on Dr. Pepper. At least one attendee was concerned that Clay might be upset if we ran out.

"Get well, Gamekeeper!"

"Easter egg hunt underway."

OK, enough of that. Let's finish up with some

### Saturday registration totals

At close of reg:

\* 470 warm bodies

\* 507 total membership!

## Watch for another Medallion Hunt Extra!

### The Bozo Bus Tribune

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Editor – Thorin N. Tatge

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