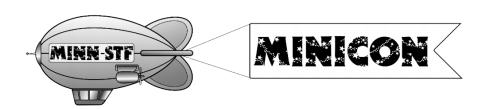


Pangolin Hammock by Ursula Vernon

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Pocket Program

Scan the QR codes to get programming info on your device.

URSULA VERNON



AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR GUEST OF HONOR

Ursula Vernon began her SF/F career as a web comic writer, winning a Hugo Award for Best Graphic Novel in 2012. Digger is a wonderful story about a female wombat engineer who maintains her solid practicality in the face of magic, gods and demons. Since then, Ursula has written and illustrated a huge assortment of stories for children, from the early-reader "Dragonbreath" series to young adult novel Castle Hangnail. She has also become an incredibly prolific writer for "older" audiences, with about a dozen books written under the pen name T. Kingfisher. As Ursula Vernon or T. Kingfisher, she has won two more Hugos and a Nebula. Presumably both of them will be at the convention, since they seem to be a single person, with enough energy, sincerity, and silliness for two.

TIM GRIFFIN



MUSICIAN GUEST OF HONOR

Tim Griffin is a retired STEM teacher; an award-winning songwriter, performer, and storyteller; and the founding director of GriffinEd, a nonprofit team of educators and musicians creating and sharing brilliant (peer reviewed!) songs about science, math, history, and other great stuff that will no-kidding, we've-got-data, make you and your kids smarter. Tim has performed to great hilarity and edification for gatherings of the National Science Teachers' Association, NASA, AAAS, MENSA, dozens of sci-fi conventions, and a few hundred schools, libraries, and other places of learning. Come laugh and learn with songs about particle physics, marine biology, and that weird thing on your lunch tray.

JEREMY BRETT



ARCHIVIST GUEST OF HONOR

Jeremy Brett is an Associate Librarian at Cushing Memorial Library & Archives at Texas A&M University, where he is both Processing Archivist and the Curator of the Science Fiction & Fantasy Research Collection. (He also serves as Interim Curator of the Area Studies and the Women's and Gender Studies Collections.) He has worked at the University of Iowa, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the National Archives and Records Administration-Pacific Region, and the Wisconsin Historical Society. He received his MLS and his MA in History from the University of Maryland-College Park in 1999. His professional interests include science fiction, fan studies, and the intersection of libraries and social justice.

JEFFREY ANGLES



FEATURED JAPANESE SCHOLAR

Jeffrey Angles is a professor of Japanese literature and translation at Western Michigan University. He has a lifelong interest in Japan, and has lived and taught in Japan numerous times. He won several awards for his translations of Japanese works of literature and poetry, and also wrote Writing the Love of Boys (Minnesota, 2011), a history of the emergence of homophobia in Japan and the resulting bishonen culture. He recently published the first ever English translation of the two original Godzilla novels by Shigeru Kayama (Minnesota, 2023). He will be speaking about translating the Godzilla books and the cultural importance of Godzilla.

REGISTRATION

Location: 2nd Floor Terrace Foyer

Friday	10:00am - 9:00pm
Saturday	9:30am - 8:00pm
Sunday	9:30am - 4:00pm

If you need help or information after hours, ask at the bar (room 227). They're up all night, and often know what's what.

LOST BADGES

If you find a badge, please bring it to the registration table. If you have lost yours, please check there. You can get a replacement for \$1.00.

MINICON MERCH

Minicon shirts for this year, shirts from previous years, and other discounted merchandise are available at the Registration desk. Sales are CASH or CHECK only, but there is an ATM on the first floor, across from the hotel restaurant.

VOLUNTEER!

Minicon is 100% volunteer-run! We have no paid staff. In fact, convention staff pay the same membership fees as everyone else.

Things happen at Minicon because someone had an idea, and figured out how to make it happen. You too can make a thing happen! We can match you with tasks of all comfort levels. Come volunteer at the desk by registration!

BUILD-A-BLINKIE

Build-A-Blinkie is an organization dedicated to the teaching of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). We currently run learn-how-to solder events in the Great Lakes area and are involved in numerous maker events, maker spaces, trade schools, libraries, universities, and area conventions.

BUILD-A-BLINKIE BADGE SOLDERING WORKSHOP

Location: Lower Atrium

Friday	5:00pm -	8:00pm
Saturday	. 10:00am -	8:00pm
Sunday	. 10:00am -	2:00pm

If you have never soldered before, this is the place to learn. You get a kit with the parts, and then at the soldering station, you build it. We will give you as much or as little assistance as you like - we never judge because we remember when we first learned to solder and we want this to be a fun and rewarding experience! You then get to show it off and take it home. If you have soldered before, this is the place to hone your skills with our more challenging kits.

\$5.00 Fee for materials.



ART SHOW & DEALERS

Location: Terrace 1-3

The Minicon art show is a non-juried show open to all artists who'd like to submit artwork on a science fiction and/or fantasy theme. Most art is for sale, although some may be just for show. Art can be bid upon or, if the artist chooses, be immediately purchased at a set price.

BOZO BUS TRIBUNE

Location: Courtyard 4

For updates and newsflashes about this year's Minicon, you can consult the Bozo Bus Tribune, our at-con newsletter, found variously seeded about in several issues from Friday to Sunday. To contribute, send a feature, -ette or otherwise, to the editor at bbt@minicon57.mnstf.org, or visit the BBT Office at Courtyard 4 and scribe your submission on a piece of paper with a writing utensil of your choice as provided by the redoubtable Submissions Box. We like programming and party reviews, write-ups of unexpected tomfoolery, and difficult-to-scrutinize personal notes. Or stop by to view the curios, attempt a puzzle, or get equipped as a BBT reporter! Note that this is also the headquarters of the 17th Annual Minicon Medallion Hunt.

MUSIC

Location: Courtyard 1-2-3

Minicon's concerts happen throughout the weekend and are prefaced with the word "Concert" in the programming section, where you can also learn more about our talented musicians, including a not-to-be-missed performance from Music Guest of Honor, Tim Griffin!

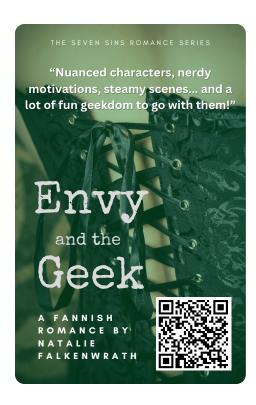


In addition to concerts, Minicon hosts a music circle in the Spring Room on Friday and Saturday nights, beginning around 9pm —or whenever the last concert has concluded. The circle continues until the last musician drops. We invite all Minicon members to join in to sing, play, jam, filk, listen, harmonize, and make a joyful noise. Performers of all styles, genres, and experience levels are welcome and encouraged to participate, as are any and all interested listeners.

SCIENCE ROOM

Location: Courtyard 5-6.

Visit the Science room! We have exhibits and models, and are transforming science fiction into science fact!



FREE WILL TABLE

Do you have a lot of stuff cluttering up your place...and life? Here is a chance to get rid of some of it!

Donate some items to the table, and maybe find something to take home.

This is for small to medium sized items, so bring your media, crafting supplies, left over computer parts, puzzles, games, t-shirts, office supplies, and whatever else you no longer need.

Any remaining items will be gathered up and donated to Goodwill.

MEDALLION HUNT

As per tradition, there will be a number of shiny 1973 pennies hidden throughout the hotel common areas and programming spaces

The rules and start time will appear in the Bozo Bus Tribune (BBT), as well as cryptic clues throughout the weekend.

Fame and glory ...and er, bragging rights go to the top penny collectors!

QUIET SPACE

Location: Mezzanine

The Mezzanine is the space over the lobby. Think of it like a library, where you can read, color, knit, put puzzles together, or just be alone with your thoughts.

The space is adjacent to sleeping rooms, so remember...QUIET!



CONSUITE

Location: Rooms 219-217

Consuite is the suite for convention members to pick up refreshments and sustenance and hang out. We cannot provide your RDA's worth of nutrients for the whole weekend, nor alcohol (that's the bar). You CAN expect to find Peeps, continental breakfast, coffee, soda pop, chips and chocolate. There will be nuts & peanut butter. We will have carbs, hard boiled eggs, and tuna-time!

We will open Friday, late afternoon and not close until after closing ceremonies.



Location: Rooms 226-227

The Minicon Bar is where everybody knows your name —or least makes an effort to remember it from last year.

Come for the party atmosphere...stay because you can't remember where your room is.

Friday...... 5pm - 'til you fall down Saturday..... 5pm - 'til we fall down Sunday......After tear-down

GAMING

Location: Summer

The main gaming area is on the first floor in the Summer room. Scheduled games or events will be posted outside the Summer room door

Main gaming will be open continuously during the convention until late Sunday night. There is plenty of space and good lighting with many games available to play. You're welcome to bring in your own games as well

There is a secondary gaming space in the lower atrium, immediately outside the restaurant, and the upper atrium. If you choose to use this space please be respectful of any diners.

Please keep all of the gaming areas clean and free of trash, and take extra care to avoid spilling any food or drink. Also, please put all games (with all their pieces!) back the way you found them when you're done.

Thank you and have a great time gaming!

TEEN ROOM

Location: Room 323

Intended for ages 13-20...the Next Generation of fans. Movies, video and tabletop games, artistic activities, socializing and more. Stop by the Teen Room for a tentative programming schedule posted outside.

Come and hang out!

GPS AUCTION

Location: Room 228

The GPS auction supports Minicon's partner, the Geek Partnership Society. Bidding is online and funds raised will go to support year round geeky community building with clubs, events, and programs like:

- Project Lighthouse
- The GPS Annual Writing Contest
- The Space Camp Scholarship Fund
- The GPS Arts Initiative.

Items up for auction have been donated by community members, dealers, and artists. Thank you all for your support!

Bidding begins online Thursday at 11:59pm and remains open until Saturday 8pm.

By bidding in the auctions each bidder agrees to the posted auction rules and to provide contact information (name, phone number, email) in the event that items that have been won have not been paid for and picked up.



Scan the QR code, visit our website at www.geekpartnership.org, or email us at info@geekpartnership.org.

RUMPUS ROOM

Location: Spring

The Rumpus Room is a kid-centered space in the Spring room, with open playtime offering a HUGE assortment of toys, games, and crafting supplies.

Let your imaginations run wild!

There are also fun, organized activities throughout the convention. See the programming schedule for planned activity times.

All ages are welcome, though very young fans should be accompanied by a responsible assistant.

Friday2:00pm - 6:00pm Saturday......10:00am - 6:00pm Sunday......10:00am - 3:00pm



PARTIES!



KARAOKE PARTY

Room 223

Ben Lessinger Memorial Karaoke Party for Margie and Ben Lessinger.

Saturday..... TBD

MINICON 58

Room 224

A party to promote Minicon 58, come find out about the future of Minicon and register for Minicon 58.

Fri-Sat-Sun...... 8pm-'til Late

HAPPY BEHOLDER

Room 225

A Beholder themed party

Hours.....TBA

NERD PAJAMAS COLLECTIVE PRESENTS: GLORY SCROLL 2, GLORIOUS MADNESS

Room 229

Magnetic poetry Mad Libs, what could go wrong?

Friday / Saturday 8pm - ?

KRUSHENKOS

Room 230

A conversational space for people who like to spend some of their time at SF cons talking about SF.

EPHEMERAL PARTY

Room 231

A quiet party for connections and good conversation. You may laugh, you may cry, you may sing, you may dance. Or not if you choose.

Friday...... 8pm - ?



CINEMA OBSCURA

Cinema Obscura's film schedule is again integrated into the main Programming Schedule and aligned with panel listings chronologically in the Program Book and Pocket Program.

Each film overlaps only a single programming block (with a few exceptions due to changes to Minicon 57's programming format), starting and ending during the half hour breaks between those blocks. One needn't worry that they'll either miss the end of the film being viewed or the start of that next panel one wants to attend on the schedule, unless there is no scheduled break between panels.

2024 continues last year's theme of CROWD PLEASERS THAT NEVER QUITE FOUND A BIG ENOUGH CROWD TO PLEASE.

I was once asked, "Why bother with a convention film room? Everything's on Streaming these days."

Even if that were true, you'd have to subscribe to multiple services to get a fraction of "everything". Then, if you want something a bit "different," but don't quite know what to look for or how to find it, you have the difficult and time-consuming task of scrolling through multiple lists.

In curating selections as a Programming alternative, Cinema Obscura strives to screen what we think YOU, THE AUDIENCE, MIGHT ENJOY, never what we want to see or what we think you should see.

That said, here's what's in store for this weekend:

Director Terry Gilliam's self-proclaimed finale of a thematic trilogy with Brazil & 12 Monkeys: THE ZERO THEOREM. You probably didn't know they were a trilogy. I'll bet Gilliam didn't know, either!

An immersive experience into the APOLLO 11 moon landing.

With a net worth of \$100M+, from his success as Harry Potter, a grown-up Daniel Radcliffe doesn't find a film's payday important, but rather the unique and challenging roles he can play, as in SWISS ARMY MAN and GUNS AKIMBO.

The most realistic view of the dangers of near-future deep space travel since 2001 and MOON, with a nod to Arthur C. Clarke, THE EUROPA REPORT.

CINEMA OBSCURA

Hammer Films' THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN with mainstay Peter Cushing (Star Wars' Grand Moff Tarkin) is truly a timeless classic. Words cannot do it justice.

A candid conversation between William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy when they were still the best of friends in MIND MELD.

A wonderful animated take on Edgar Allen Poe's EXTRAORDINARY TALES with an amazing voice cast!

The award-winning Spanish-language SLEEP DEALER redefines "working remotely" and its consequences.

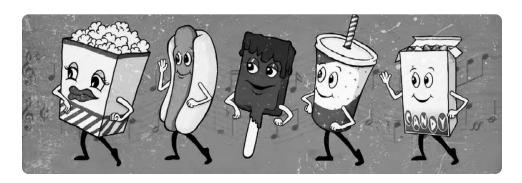
BRIGHTBURN is the "What if?" tale that flips the Superman mythos: Despite loving adoptive parents, the alien infant grows into an indestructible superhuman sociopath.

...and more TREK toons from 1973!

Happy Viewing!

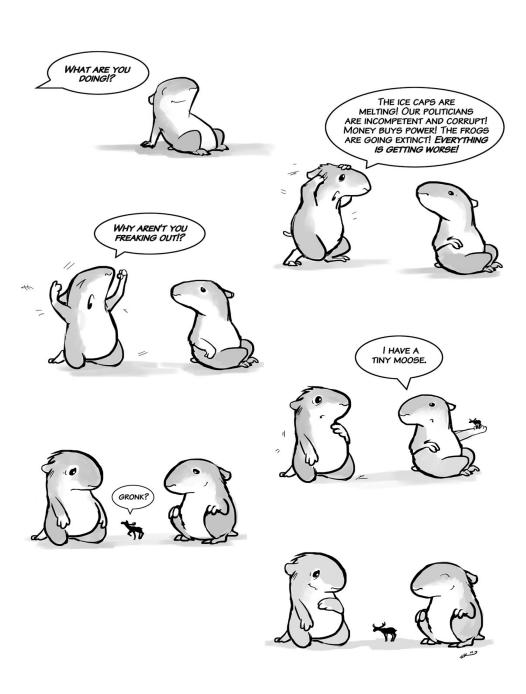
- Greg Larsen, Curator

A note to parents about RATINGS: Cinema Obscura staff does NOT check IDs for admission throughout the convention. MPA ratings appear in the Program Book next to a film's title. Some produced decades ago may also contain references and stereotypes which are products of their era. Please consider this regarding their appropriateness for your children. Thank You!



SECRETS OF CALM

by Ursula Vernon



FRIDAY

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Fri 2:00pm	Spring/Rumpus Room
Fold paper into a peacock or something.	

COOKING UP MAGIC: BAKING IN F/SF

Fri 3:00pm......Park 1

There's something magical about turning ingredients into a delectable treat or brewing up a comforting potion. Inspired by T. Kingfisher's A Wizard's Guide to Defensive Baking, let's talk about how authors have infused magic into stories of bakeries or cafes in which the bakers, the food or drink..., or the place itself is magical. And maybe we'll talk about some fun, cozy fantasies with appealing comestibles too.

Laura Krenz, Ruth Berman, Kevin Sonney, Magenta Griffith, David Lenander

'SHIPPING' LIGHT AND DARKNESS

A good deal of fan fiction forms relationships between a character who is 'good' and one who is 'evil.' Some are canon (Aziraphale and Crowley); many are not (Harry and Draco). Why are we drawn to the merging of light and dark? Does it fill a psychological need in the readers or writers? Is there a common thread that either light or darkness is seeking in these relationships? Can love (or good sex) actually lead to understanding or forgiveness?

Lyda Morehouse, Lisa Freitag, Peg Kerr, Carly Preston, Wil Bastion, Anna Waltz (M)

BALLOON ANIMALS

Fri 3:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room



John W. will demonstrate making dragons, mermaids, aliens, motorcycles, hats, and other objects and creatures using balloons. Participants will have the opportunity learn how to make their own dog.

CONCERT: FENG SHUI NINJAS

Fri 4:00pm......Courtyard 1-3

It's not a real reunion show unless it's on fire! fengshuininjas.bandcamp.com

CONCERT: MUSIC GOH TIM GRIFFIN

Fri 4:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room

A short concert for kids and their grown-ups happening in the Rumpus Room!

FILM: THE ZERO THEOREM (2013)

Fri 4:00pm (111 min) Terrace 4

Gilliam said this rounds out a thematic trilogy with BRAZIL and 12 MONKEYS. I'll get back to you all on that, once I find 7 hours to watch them all back-to-back! In the meantime, The Zero Theorem has all the cryptic quirks you expect from Gilliam. In a techno-philosophical future, an eccentric, reclusive computer genius (Christoph Waltz) plagued with existential angst, living in a burnt-out church, toils away on a top secret project personally assigned to him by "Management" (Matt Damon) to mathematically discover the meaning of life - If there IS one! And that's just the beginning. With Tilda Swinton and Melanie Thierry.

RETOLD FAIRY TALES

A surprising amount of modern fantasy is based on older tales. Why are fairy tales such rich sources? Which stories are used frequently and which are overlooked? What do old stories have to say about modern problems? Do they feel different from modern stories? Are any stories irredeemable in a modern context? What do we want to see Ursula rewrite next?

Naomi Kritzer, Ursula Vernon, Pat Wrede, Peg Kerr, Adam Stemple (M)



THE FUTURE OF BOOKS & BOOKSTORES

Fri 4:30pm......Park 2



Some of us love the feeling of a solid (good) book in our hands. But there are now plenty of other ways to consume words, and plenty of places to get them besides bookstores. Will Amazon eventually fulfill its desire to become the only source of reading material? Are books themselves going out of style?

Greg Ketter, Jeremy Brett, Eric Heideman, Dina Krause (M)

MYSTERY ACTIVITY WITH I!

Fri 5:00pm Spring/Rumpus Room

We don't have details yet, but it will be *very* mysterious, very fun, and if you don't have a great time, we will be shocked!

CONCERT: VERSATILE FLUFF

Fri 5:30pm......Courtyard 1-3

Grenevic Sharladanel Stremski and Rev. Rebecca Elfprincess have a variety of geeky songs for you, including a new one inspired by a book by Guest of Honor Ursula Vernon. Want to hear gender-neutral love songs that can span multiverses or survive the zombie apocalypse? Songs based on internet memes? New takes on *Star Trek* themes and video game music? Come listen!

FILM: APOLLO 11 (2018)

This brilliant documentary distills that first 9 day lunar landing mission into 93 minutes using newly discovered pristine 65 mm & 70 mm footage and portions of 11,000 hours of uncatalogued audio. With no narration, and only the communication between the mission astronauts and flight controllers to rely upon, it becomes a riveting, immersive experience.

Dir. Todd Douglas Miller (G) Subtitled

OPENING CEREMONIES

Fri 7:00pm	Park	()	1
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FAMOUS MONSTERS OF JAPAN

Fri 8:00pm......Park 1



From ancient myths to anime to modern movies like Godzilla Minus One, the many Japanese versions of monsters are invading Western popular culture. Let's talk about Yokai and Kappa and Kaiju (Oh! My). What are they? How did they originate? Where do they appear? How are they different from Western monsters?

Jeffrey Angles, Lyda Morehouse, Anna Waltz (M)

GAMING STORIES

Fri 8:00pm......Park 2

Gamers talk about legendary in-game adventures—epic wipes, brilliant strategies, silly but effective RPG characters or Magic decks, unexpected successes and particularly strange game scenarios. What games give the players the most choices? Which games encourage such inventiveness? What games do you want to try next?

Richard Tatge, John Sanderson, Aaron Vander Giessen, Roger Mlynczak, Jason Otting, Nico

READING: NAOMI KRITZER

Fri 8:00pm Orchard

WELCOME TO MINICON: A MEET-UP

Fri 8:00pm Con Registration

Calling all new Minicon members! Let's have a meet-up after opening ceremonies and get to know each other, tour the convention, and find the consuite.

Sharon Kahn, Jeanne Mealy, LillySong Watson

FILM: EUROPA REPORT (2013)

Fri 8:00pm (90 min) Terrace 4

If you ever read Arthur C. Clarke's 2010: ODYSSEY TWO, you may recall a small sub-plot involving the Chinese and their own mission to Jupiter that never made it into the film version. That germ of an idea has apparently been re-imagined and expanded to brilliant effect here. Space.com said it's "One of the most thrilling and realistic depictions of deep-space exploration since MOON or 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY." I agree.

Dir. Sebastian Cordero (PG-13)

READING: DANITH MCPHERSON

Fri 8:30pm Orchard

CONCERT: GENERAL SYNESTHESIA

Fri 8:30pm......Courtyard 1-3

All the way from the equator, this Antarctic sensation will wow and zow you with their soothing blend of acid funk alien jazz folk grunge —with a zesty twist!

INDIE AUTHORS SWIMMING AGAINST A TRADITIONAL PUBLISHING SEA

Fri 9:00pm.......Park 1

Independent authors share their experiences of going Indie. Hear about investing and marketing, ebooks & audiobooks, advertising, social media, convention appearances, and generating interest. What are their writing goals and their visions for the future?

Douglas Van Dyke, Michael Bernabo, Patrick Marsh, Karl Gallagher, Justin Rose

MEET-UP FOR FANS OF ASIAN DRAMAS

Fri 9:00pm......Park 2

Are you in love with live action or animated series from Korea and China? Are you interested in trying some but not sure where to start? Come meet other fans to swap recommendations, find out about newer dramas, and geek out about your own favorites.

David Paschall-Zimbel, Carly Preston, Lisa Freitag, Kathryn Sullivan

READING: KM HERKES

Fri 9:00pm......Orchard

READING: RHIANNON TAYLOR

Fri 9:30pm......Orchard

MUSIC CIRCLE



WHISKEY TASTING

Fri 9:00pm Minicon Bar

Whiskey and scotch; learn about it...talk about it...try it out! Be classy and bring a little something to share (hint: there are liquor stores within easy stumbling distance of the hotel). And, because of the variety and nuance of whiskey that will be on hand, your host requests attendees refrain from "pre-gaming" because, as our teachers used to say, "this is a tasting...not a facing."

Host: Joel Phillips

GUNS AKIMBO (2020)

Fri 9:30pm (98 min) Terrace 4

A nerdy video game designer (Daniel Radcliffe) makes snarky online comments about a real life underground live streamed death match show and the next thing you know, he's SCHIZM's next contestant! If you think surviving this is difficult, try zipping up your pants with .45 caliber automatics nailed to each hand! Great Fun, but not for the squeamish!

Dir. Jason Lei Howden (R, for hyperviolence)

SATURDAY

FAN FICTION BRIDGING THE GENERATIONS

A meet-up for fan fiction readers and writers of all ages. Let's talk about the origins of fan fiction and the emergence of *Archive of Our Own* and other current platforms. When did you start reading/writing? Have you met or joined friends on line? What are your favorite fandoms? What place does fan fiction hold in our lives?

Anna Waltz, Cat Lenander, David Paschall-Zimbel, Beth Friedman, Jules Sommer, Makayah Girmay, Lisa Freitag (M)

PRODUCTIVITY ALCHEMY: LET'S GET ORGANIZED!

Sat 10:00amPark 2

The partner of our Guest of Honor talks about his podcast, which is wrapping up its seventh year with over 333 episodes. *Productivity Alchemy* is a podcast about how "normal" (for a very BROAD definition of normal) people stay productive, what "productive" looks like (from "getting everything done" to "just staying alive"), and so on. Prior guests have included artists, stay-at-home parents, authors, pastors, air traffic controllers, and a whole lot more. We talk about how people stay productive not just in their chosen profession, but as people.

Kevin Sonney

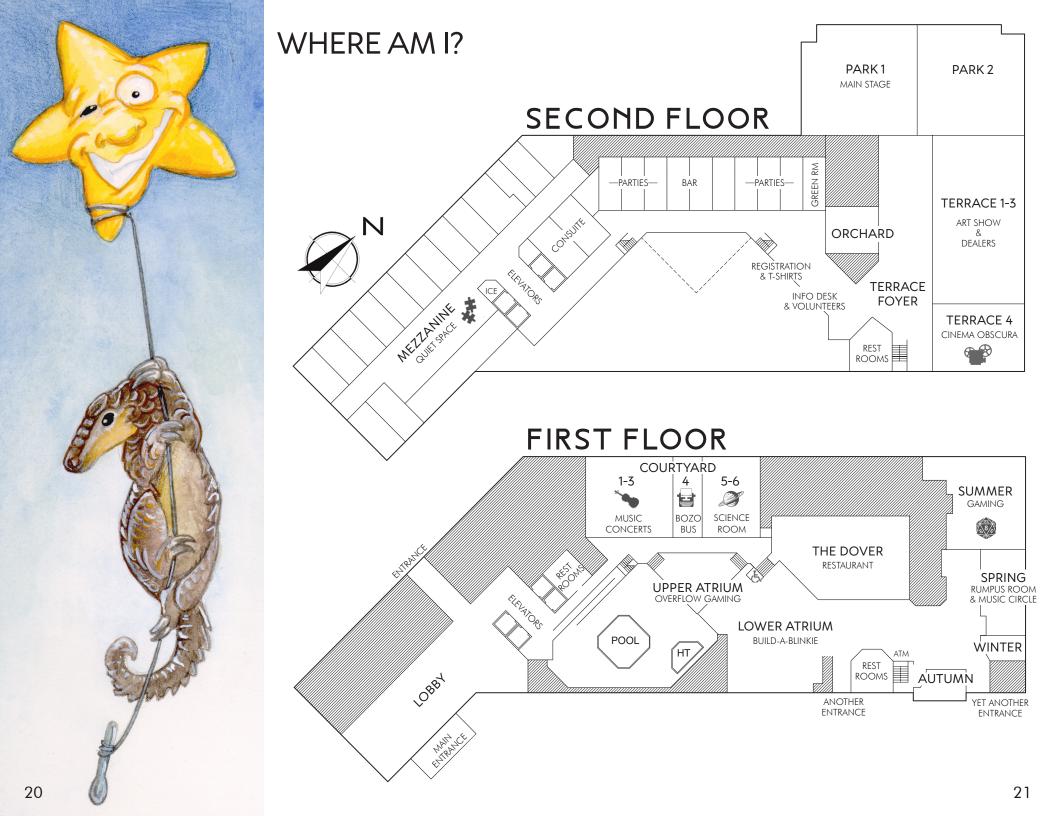
COLLECTION BIAS

Sat 10:00am Orchard

The archivist or librarian is called upon to select the material for their collections. Obviously any bias, including unconscious bias, on the part of the curator will be reflected in the collection. How does this affect the offerings available? Has this prevented important works or ideas from being seen? How can we make sure that we are presented with new works, new ideas and new viewpoints?

Jeremy Brett, David Dyer-Bennett, Magenta Griffith, Rhiannon Taylor (M)

READING: MARY VAN ALSTINE



READING: ADAM STEMPLE

book club that wants new members...?

Sat 10.30am

FOAM PROP BUILDING & 3D CRAFTING

Make toys, props, or whatever you can imagine!

Sai 10:Suam Autumn
READING: GUY STEWART Sat 11:00am
FUN WITH SCIENCE TOYS: TIME+ENERGY=CHANGE Sat 11:00am
If John gets ambitious and makes tops —or we buy some, we'll have more angular momentum options. It's funAND science!
WRITING FOR ADULTS
Sat 11:30amPark 1
Usually we assume that writers know all about writing for adults and have to twist themselves somehow to write properly for children. Our panel of children's and YA authors discuss the intricacies of writing for adults. Do you need to have a grown-up protagonist? Do you have to avoid slang? Must there be deep philosophy or a minimum of pages? Is sex required at any point? Is it that much more difficult? Ursula Vernon, Pat Wrede, Adam Stemple, Naomi Kritzer (M)
THE JOYS OF BOOK CLUBS

Laura Krentz, David Blascyk, Dina Krause, Russ Kinnard, Dave Lenander (M)

Sat 10:00amSpring/Rumpus Room

Autumn

READING: JEFFREY ANGLES

Sat 11:30am Orchard

READING: C.M. ALONGI

Sat 12:00pm Orchard

POPSICLE STICK BOMBS

Sat 12:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room

Weave popsicle sticks (and other crafty items) so they make fun, fast and flashy self-destructing shapes, creations, or devices

FILM: TREK TOONS! (1973)

Sat 12:00-2:30pm (150 min) Terrace 4



Whether it's considered canon or not, script editor and sometime teleplay author D.C. Fontana once recalled of the show, "We were hired to write *Star Trek*. Period." They must have done something right: It garnered Star Trek's very first Emmy in 1975 for Outstanding Entertainment—Children's Series. Featuring the voice talents of The Original Series cast! (G)

CONCERT: PEGGY O'NEILL

Sat 1:00pmCourtyard 1-3

Peggy has spent over 30 years songwriting and performing. She is known for her beautiful voice and mixing together driving visions and hopeful dreams with a bit of Blues, Jazz, Contemporary Folk and a lot of heart.

PUPPET MAKING WORKSHOP

Sat 1:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room

A puppet making workshop for all ages, though young children need to bring an adult helper to cut things with adult scissors.

THE ORIGINS OF GODZILLA



The translator for the first-ever English translations of the novels Godzilla and Godzilla Raids Again (just out from University of Minnesota Press) will talk about the origins of the Godzilla story and the historical events that inspired the now iconic film. Angles will talk about the role Kayama Shigeru played in creating the film, as well as its deeper social and political meanings.

Jeffrey Angles

ACCIDENTAL ROMANCE

Sat 1:30pmPark 2

It is often, but not always, obvious from the first introduction that two characters are going to fall in love. How do you tell which characters in a book are going to end up together? Is it always planned by the author? Is it different if those characters are GLBTQ+? Do the characters ever surprise the author or the reader?

Naomi Kritzer, Emma Torzs, Caroline Stevermer, Mary Van Allstine, Deb Kinnard, Peg Kerr (M)

READING: PAT WREDE

Sat 1:30pm Orchard

READING: BRIAN FARREY-LATZ

Sat 2:00pm Orchard

FANCY HAIR BRAIDING

Sat 2:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room

Braid or be braided! John W. demonstrates a variety of techniques; classic braids, round braids, French and Dutch braids...three, four and seven strands, and other styles like hearts, spirals and a pull-up-weave.

READING: KARL GALLAGHER Sat 2:30pm Orchard THE LEPRECHAUN PIRATES Sat 2:30pm......Courtyard 1-3 The Leprechaun Pirates formed in 2015 as a live Fest Band and have been performing professionally at festivals, community events, and wineries since 2016. They have recorded two albums with an eclectic mix of original Myth Punk, Celtic Punk, Americana, and Traditional tunes with more in the works. The Minnesota Renaissance Festival is their home away from home. Check them out on Youtube and at www.leprechaunpirates.com. HAMMER FILMS' THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN (1957) Despite its age, this film holds up very well. A botanist (Peter Cushing) doing research at a Tibetan monastery high in the Himalayas is convinced to use his expert climbing skills to join a dangerous expedition to search for the elusive Yeti. As the expedition slowly unravels, he concludes that the Yeti not only exist, but are far more than imagined. Story and script by Nigel Kneale. Dir. Val Guest (NR/PG)

PARENTS IN YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

Parents of child protagonists are often dead, missing, or exceedingly incompetent, supposedly because, in order for a young character to have adventures, their parents must be out of the way. Several new YA fantasy adventures are questioning this notion. What books have parents as encouraging or helpful? Can a young protagonist have enough agency to become a story, if their parents are involved?

Pat Wrede, Brian Farrey-Latz, Naomi Kritzer, C.M. Alongi, Dave Lenander (M)

GEMS FROM THE TEXAS A&M COLLECTION

Sat 3:00pmPark 2

Jeremy Brett, archivist at the Texas A&M University presents a selection of interesting stuff from their SF collection.

Jeremy Brett

QUEEN OF SWORDS PRESS

Sat 3:00pm Orchard

Queen of Swords is an independent small press based in Minneapolis, Minnesota and specializing in swashbuckling tales of derring-do, bold new adventures in time and space, mysterious stories of the occult and arcane and fantastical tales of people and lands far and near.

Michael Merriam, Catherine Lundoff

DANNY DRAGONBREATH READING BY URSULA VERNON

Sat 3:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room



Ursula Vernon reads from her Dragonbreath Series! "Danny Dragonbreath is not the best student at school. He can't breathe fire on command. But if you ever find yourself caught in the tentacles of a giant squid at the bottom of the ocean... he is just the dragon to have in your corner."

CONCERT: GOH TIM GRIFFIN

Sat 4:00pmCourtyard 1-3

Tim Griffin is a retired STEM teacher; an award-winning songwriter, performer, and storyteller; and the founding director of GriffinEd, a nonprofit team of educators and musicians creating and sharing brilliant (peer reviewed!) songs about science, math, history, and other great stuff that will no-kidding, we've-gotdata, make you and your kids smarter. Tim has performed to great hilarity and edification for gatherings of the National Science Teachers' Association, NASA, AAAS, MENSA, dozens of sci-fi conventions, and a few hundred schools, libraries, and other places of learning. Come laugh and learn with songs about particle physics, marine biology, and that weird thing on your lunch tray.

ACTION GAMES WITH THORIN!

Sat 4:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room

Wrestle to make other people's marbles go down the drain; carefully stack pieces into a delicate unsupported arch; slide mini curling irons across a table; swing a wrecking ball to knock down bowling pins! Host Thorin Tatge brings a variety of old-fashioned kid-friendly action games for your enjoyment. Quick, fun games with easy rules!

FILM: MIND MELD (2001) Sat 4:00pm (75 min) Terrace 4 In 2001, years before they fell out, William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy were the best of friends. Join them at Leonard's home as they discuss their Lives, their Universes and Everything. Dir. Peter Jaysen (NR) **Q&A WITH AUTHOR GOH URSULA VERNON** Ursula Vernon, and probably also T. Kingfisher, answer questions from the audience. This will be followed by a book signing. Ursula Vernon, T. Kingfisher, Kevin Sonney THE NEXT GENERATION Fans of various ages discuss their experiences with popular media through the "ages." What was it like encountering Star Trek, Doctor Who, Star Wars, etc for the first time? What do those shows mean to you? Is there a generation gap in media? Linda Lounsbury, Jeanne Mealy, Eleanor Arnason, Rick Snyder, Ari Stemple, Dani Sommer, Alison Sommer (M) YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU Sat 4:30pm Orchard Practical advice for being kind to the people who are expected to clean up the remains of your life. Do you have a possibly-valuable collection: manuscripts, books, magazines, letters? Does anyone know what you want to happen to it? We offer suggestions for organizing your collection, identifying the most valuable things, and planning for the inevitable. Dwayne Olson, Greg Larsen, Greg Ketter, Russ Kinnard (M) LOCK PICKING

Sat 5:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room

Learn how locks work, and how vulnerable they are.

CONCERT: TERESA CHANDLER

Sat 5:30pmCourtyard 1-3

Teresa Chandler identifies as genre fluid, playing any kind of music that speaks to her heart. She writes fearless songs about love, hope, loss, and the resilience of our human connection, and funny songs about what we long for and what we could do without. Her favorite venues are smaller, intimate places where the audience sits close and leans in to share laughter and catch those sweet musical moments before they disappear into thin air.

FILM: (EDGAR ALLEN POE'S) EXTRAORDINARY TALES (2013)

Sat 5:30pm (73 min) Terrace 4



For fans of both Poe and animation, you won't be disappointed with these Tales of Mystery & Imagination, voiced by Christopher Lee, Bela Lugosi, Julian Sands, Roger Corman and Guillermo del Toro!

Dir. Raul Garcia (G)

FILM: SLEEP DEALER (2008)

Sat 6:50pm (90 min) Terrace 4

It is said that once you master another language, you begin to think and dream in that language. This Spanish language film (with English subtitles) demonstrates that its imaginings may be unique to Espanol.

In a near future, when a bizarre tragedy strikes, Memo Cruz (Luis Peña) must go on the run, discovering a world filled with hi-tech factories which bring a new definition to the term "working remotely," memory-sellers, and killer drones hunting down "aqua terrorists" live on reality TV; a strange world so close to our own, it could easily be tomorrow's reality. Winner of 2008's Sundance Film Festival and of the Berlin Film Festival's Amnesty International Award. Dir. Alex Rivera (PG-13)

ALTERNATE GODS

Sat 7:00pmPark1

Obviously our current gods are not entirely adequate. Let's borrow or make up some new ones. Which fantasy gods or religious systems have been invented? What kind of gods would you prefer?

Ursula Vernon, Lois McMaster Bujold, Dex Greenbright, Naomi Kritzer (M)

WHAT TO WATCH NEXT

Sat 7:00pmPark 2

Our panel of experts recommends new TV series and movies to watch.

Russ Kinnard, Patrick Marsh, LillySong Watson, Sharon Kahn (M)

READING: JUSTIN ROSE

Sat 7:00pm Autumn

DECADENT DAVE CLEMENT

Sat 7:00pmCourtyard 1-3

Dave Clement, from Winnipeg, has been making music for around 70 years. He spent his first 20 or so immersed in country and bluegrass music, with family and friends. University introduced him to folk music, but he met Steven Brust and Beth Friedman and found filk music. Dave formed his band, *Dandelion Wine*, and again joined the musical world. Since then he has attended and guested at countless conventions, recorded several albums, and been inducted to the Filk Hall of Fame, and collected various filk awards. Come join him at a concert, in a circle, in a hotel room, or even a hallway, and help keep the music alive.

READING: DOUGLAS VAN DYKE

Sat 7:30pm Autumn

MEMORIAL SLIDESHOW

Sat 7:30pm Minicon Bar

A slideshow remembering our fans who have passed this year.

LIBRARIES & BOOKSTORES & MAGIC, OH MY!

Sat 8:00pmPark1

There are tons of books featuring magical bookstores and libraries: The Library of the Dead by TL Huchu, The Left-Handed Booksellers of London by Garth Nix, Ink Blood Sister Scribe by Emma Torzs. Libraries can be passive repositories of whispering books or mysteriously sentient; hidden or enormous; helpful or evil. Where are these magical places? Why do we find these places so fascinating? Emma Torzs, Jeremy Brett, Caroline Stevermer, Kathryn Sullivan, Dina Krause, Laura Krentz (M)

DIRT FROM SPACE!

Sat 8:00pmPark 2

NASA's OSIRIS-REx Mission touched down on the surface of the asteroid Bennu to grab material off its surface. A NASA spacecraft journeyed back to Earth and dropped off a capsule. Now scientists in a Houston laboratory are scrutinizing the precious samples OSIRIS-REx returned. Meanwhile, the main body of the spacecraft continues onward, aiming for a meeting with another asteroid, Apophis.

Bill Higgins

WRITING STUFF YOU CAN'T SELL

Sat 8:00pm Orchard

Sometimes it seems that creative activities have value only based on the amount of money they bring in. But fanzine writers, fan fiction writers, diarists, web comic artists, and self-published writers keep doing it anyway. Is an audience, no matter how large, required? Writers talk about why they write and other reasons to express themselves.

Peg Kerr, Jean Mealy, Thorin Tatge, Deb Kinnard, KM Herkes (M)

READING: PATRICK MARSH

Sat 8:00pm Autumn

READING: DEX GREENBRIGHT

Sat 8:00pm Autumn

Sketchbook Tour

ADAM STEMPLE

Sat 8:30pmCourtyard 1-3

Adam Stemple first played music in Minnesota in 1987 at Minicon 22. He was the music Guest of Honor at Minicon 50. In between, he played in a lot of bands, won some awards, and lost all his hair.

FILM: BRIGHTBURN (2019)

Sat 8:30pm (90 min) Terrace 4

It's the "What if?" tale that flips the Superman mythos of an alien infant crashing on Earth, but growing into an indestructible superhuman sociopath. despite having loving adoptive parents. Dir. David Yarovesky (R)

MN-STF SAVED MY LIFE! LITERALLY!!!

Greg Larsen recounts his cardiac arrest at a MNStF party, hospitalization, pitfalls of an independent lifestyle, the aftermath of his life being saved, and of those who helped to save it. Ann Totusek covers CPR, planning in advance for the unthinkable, including basic forms [Physicians Orders for Life Saving Treatment (POLST) & Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)]. Greg was lucky to be near others when tragedy struck; You might NOT!

Greg Larsen, Hershey Harris, LillySong Watson, Ann Totusek (M)

DENNY LIEN MEMORIAL

Sat 9:00pmPark 2

A video of Denny's Memorial, and the clips from Midwest Side Story that we weren't able to show at the actual event.

David Dyer-Bennet

HOW TO HANDLE SMALL PRESS PUBLISHING AS A BUSINESS

Sat 9:00pm Orchard

Professionals discuss the nuts and bolts of small press publishing: selecting editors and cover artists, choosing a publishing platform, and marketing your writing.

KM Herkes, Catherine Lundoff

MUSIC CIRCLE

The music circle continues! If you missed it Friday night, here's your chance to participate.

FILM: SWISS ARMY MAN (2019)

Sat 10:05pm (97 min) Terrace 4

Hank (Paul Dano, The Riddler in *The Batman*) is stranded on a deserted island with no hope of returning home, until a corpse named Manny (Daniel Radcliffe) washes up on shore. Despite the fact that Manny is dead (or is he?), the pair become fast friends and have the wildest adventure together (or do they?). Everything will be revealed in the end...but, will you believe it? Written & Dir. by Daniel Scheinert & Daniel Kwan (R)

TRIVIA WITH BRIAN!

Sat 11:59pm Minicon Bar

SF/F themed trivia. Gather your team and maybe win some adequate prizes.

SUNDAY

WANT TO RUN A CONVENTION?



Conventions don't just appear overnight. This is a discussion of the mechanics of starting or maintaining a fan-run convention, by people who have done it, for people who might be interested in starting their own convention or helping out with another. Topics that might come up include: finances, finding members, inviting guests, hotels, themes, activities, policies, etc.

Dina Krause, Anton Petersen, Scott Lohmann, David Lenander (M)

PRESERVING POPULAR CULTURE

Sun 10:00amPark 2

Some libraries are now accumulating and archiving things like pulp magazines, convention program books, and fanzines. What do they do with them? How are they preserved? How does the archive influence the current topics of research (and the results)? If it's not in an archive, does it exist? What things are being overlooked and lost right now?

Matt Strait, Jeremy Brett, Ctein, David Dyer-Bennet

CAMERA LENS DISASSEMBLY

Sun 10:00amSpring/Rumpus Room

Take apart old camera lenses, see how they work and play with the glass elements inside.

FILM: TREKTOONS! (1973)

It's Sunday morning. Watch some cartoons! (G)

IS THE MANGA BETTER THAN THE ANIME?

Let's talk about the anime adaptations of manga like Death Note, Fullmetal Alchemist, BLEACH, Frieren, Rise of the Shield Hero, and many others. Which version did you like best, and why?

Anna Waltz, Lisa Freitag, Scott Jamison, Lyda Morehouse (M)

SONGWRITING FOR BEGINNERS

Sun 11:30amPark 2

Join award-winning songwriter and STEM educator Tim Griffin for a fast, fun, no-talent-required songwriting workshop. Tim will share easy, proven tools and techniques for turning your ideas into songs worth sharing at the Grammy awards, or at least in your local filk circle. We will be writing to existing tunes, so no instrument is no problem. Tim has worked with first-time songwriters of ages 5 to 105, astrophysicists and juvenile delinquents; and no kidding, you can do this too.

Tim Griffin

YOUR PERSONAL COLLECTION

Sun 11:30am Orchard

People who have private collections of books, zines, or manuscripts talk about what makes them excited about collecting. What do you collect? How do you curate a personal library? Do you keep everything you read or read everything you keep? And what do you intend to happen to it in the future?

Eric Heideman, Dean Gahlon, Dwayne Olson, Patrick Marsh, Magenta Griffith

READING: IAN YOUNG

READING: WIL BASTION

FAUX STAINED GLASS

Sun 12:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room

Use markers, tissue paper, and glue to make window decorations similar to stained glass.

CONCERT: NATE BUCKLIN

Sun 1:00pmCourtyard 1-3

Nate Bucklin and his music are difficult to summarize in just a few words. It is understandable that past Minicon blurbs merely stated, "After six 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."

TOOL TIME RETURNS

Sun 1:00pmSpring/Rumpus Room

Disassemble old electronics and other devices. Learn safe and correct use of hand tools. Bring in junk electronics for *disassembly*...NOT necessarily re-assembly.

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a,

Lisa Freitag demonstrates the inadvisability of giving children piano lessons by misusing her sixty-year-old classical training to play music from video games and anime. Expect music from *The Last of Us, Skyrim, Mushi-shi, Naruto, Fullmetal Alchemist,* and Joe Hisaichi's arrangements from his Miyazaki film scores.

NON-HUMAN PROTAGONISTS AS IDENTITY EXPLORATION

Sun 3:00pmPark 1

There are lots of stories featuring non-human characters: Talking rabbits, sentient bread, wombat engineers, murderbots, and warrior cats. Where can you find non-human characters? What are they like? Are these effective ways of exploring our humanity? How can they be used to examine marginalized humans? How do they help us find ourselves?

Ursula Vernon, Blue Delliquanti, C.M. Alongi, Kathryn Sullivan, Thorin Tatge

COMFORT BOOKS

Sun 3:00pmPark 2

There are an increasing number of SF/F books that spend more time on the character's lives than on the character's adventures. TJ Klune, Becky Chambers, T. Kingfisher, and Travis Baldree are good examples. What makes a book a comfort (or cozy) book? What is the attraction of these books? Are our ideas of heroism changing? Has an ordinary morning at home become a fantasy?

Pat Wrede, Katie Clapham, Danith McPherson, Rhiannon Taylor, Catherine Lundoff (M)

CLOSING CEREMONIES

DEAD DOG



ABOUT MN-STF

WHAT IS MN-STF?

It's the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, variously abbreviated MnStf, Minn-STF, MN-STF, and other variants. It's the non-profit group that brings you Minicon.

The Minnesota Science Fiction Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to furthering the appreciation of science fiction and fantasy literature. Minn-Stf was founded in 1966 and we've been active in the worldwide community of science fiction fandom ever since. We also do other charitable/educational work.

BECOME A MEMBER!

How do you become a member of MnStF? It's easy! If you ever attend a meeting, you're a member. If you sign in at five meetings in a year, you become a voting member for that year and can help choose the Minn-Stf board

MEETINGS

The first thing you need to know, is that Minn-Stf meetings are parties, and usually happen on the first and third Saturdays of each month. They are casual social gatherings –house parties, picnics and sometimes remote.

Secondly, you're invited!

There is generally a five- or ten-minute business meeting which consists primarily of announcements of upcoming events. Expect snacks, drinks, interesting conversation, maybe some games or music. Event locations and details can be found on the google calendar at mnstf.org.

THE MN-STF PICNIC

MnStf usually has at least one summer picnic at a public park. Join us for an afternoon cookout filled with gaming, socializing, and fun. There's usually a grill going throughout the day, so bring something for the grill, a dish to share, or a game to play. Details will be announced at www.mnstf.org as soon as a location and date have been confirmed.

MNSTF POOL PARTY

Each year MnStf has a pool party held in the winter, at the Minicon hotel. Hang out in the hot tub, have a swim, or just hang out and socialize. Details will be available at www.mnstf.org.



WHERE DID MY MONEY GO?

We love transparency, so we'll tell you!

Minicon is a members-driven non-profit convention. Our goal is to bring the community together for an enjoyable and possibly even educational experience. It isn't to collect the most money or even to get the most people, although we *love* having more members. We all chip in our membership fees so that there's enough money to run this thing and to support our parent organization, Mn-Stf. In our opinion, if we end up with a profit afterwards...we've overcharged.

We have made a concerted effort in the last few years to keep registration rates low and run an affordable con, while still having great guests of honor, plenty of food & beverages, and providing a fun weekend overall. We want you to know where your money goes and welcome your feedback by contacting the Mnstf board at board@mnstf.org, and you are welcome to come chat at Minn-stf meetings (parties!). See mnstf.org for times and locations.

MINICON 56 FINANCES

Minicon 56 was directed by the MN-Stf board to bring in \$4000 more than it spent, to cover the club's anticipated expenses (which includes storing Minicon's stuff). Instead we made precisely zero dollars, which was a result of charging prepandemic prices for a 2023 con. You've noticed a jump in registration rates this year; that's why. Memberships were 89% of our income, with donations at 4%, dealer tables 4%, t-shirts 3%, and art show 1%. The most common membership rate paid was \$45. If you paid \$45, here's where your money went:

FOR MINICON 57, THE FINANCIAL GOAL IS \$4700

Hotel \$18.2	O Badges	\$1.30
Consuite & Bar \$7.6	0 Miscellaneous	\$4.50
Guests of Honor\$7.0	0 Mn-Stf	\$0.00
Publications\$6.4	O Being Most Exceller	nt Free!

YOUR CONCOM

Chair Matt Strait
Assistant chairLillySong Watson
Art Show Rachel Traynham (head)
Jacob Black
AccessibilityLeslie Perg
A/V Phoenix Stremski
Badges Bill Christ
Sharon Kahn
Build-A-Blinkie/build-a-blinkie.org
BarSusan Philbrook (head)
Brian Lundgren
Bozo Bus Thorin Tatge (head)
Jason Spitzer
Ceremonies Phoenix Stremski
Cinema Obscura Greg Larsen
ConsuiteHershey Harris (head)
Chris Weiss
Dealer's roomJean Mlynczak
Free-Will Table Mark Richards
GamingClay Harris
Green Room Lisa Foley (head)
, , ,
Rick Snyder
Guest LiaisonsLisa Freitag
Anton Petersen
Hotel Liaison Stacey Strait (head)
Aaron Vander Giessen
Info DeskMara DeMers
LogisticsJames Porter
Medallion Hunt Jason Spitzer

Meeting Minutes Beth Kinderman
MerchandisingStacey Strait
Music Beth Kinderman (head)
Dave Stagner
Party LiaisonCrystal Therese
Parties, OutreachLillySong Watson
ProgrammingLisa Freitag (head)
David Lenander
Sharon Kahn
Anna Waltz
PublicationsSusan Philbrook (head)
Grenevic Stremski
David Dyer-Bennet
Photography David Dyer-Bennet
Registration Clay Harris (pre-reg)
Ethan Sommer (at-con)
Bill Christ (forms)
Restaurant Guide Magenta Griffith
Rumpus RoomJohn Wardale (head)
Nora Strait
Science Room Ben Huset
Signs and Easels Evie Bogie
Social MediaAaron Vander Giessen
Teen RoomRebecca Strait
Dani Sommer
TreasurerLinda Lounsbury
VolunteersSybil Smith
Michael Hagerman

WANT TO JOIN THE CONCOM? COME TO A CONCOM MEETING!

See our meeting schedule at www.mnstf.org

CODE OF CONDUCT

Minn-stf acknowledges that interpersonal relationships are complex and not everyone likes everyone else, and not everyone agrees with everyone else.

Disagreements, friction, and vigorous debate are expected. However, interactions that become hostile or coercive do not have any part in a healthy social environment and Mnstf commits to addressing problem behaviors.

Harassment is difficult to define, and attempts at an exact definition are subject to rules-lawyering, so we won't attempt to do that.

However, repeated unwelcome behaviors are mostly likely to be construed as harassment. If someone asks you not to touch them, not to talk to them, or not to refer to them in a way that they find objectionable, and you persist in doing so, you may be harassing them.

Actions that are sufficiently egregious (assault, truly hateful language, and comparable actions) fall under this policy, even if only one occurrence has been noted.

In the end, harassment is judged primarily by the person who feels harassed, and actions are more important than intent.

If someone tells you to stop something they perceive as harassing behavior, stop right away. If you tell someone to stop something you see as harassing behavior and they don't, you may tell us. If you don't feel comfortable telling someone to stop harassing behavior, you may also tell us. We want to make sure everyone is heard so that together we can make Minicon a healthy, fun, enjoyable experience for everyone.

To report violations of this code, whether or not action is desired, go to the registration desk and talk to the staff there.

CREDITS

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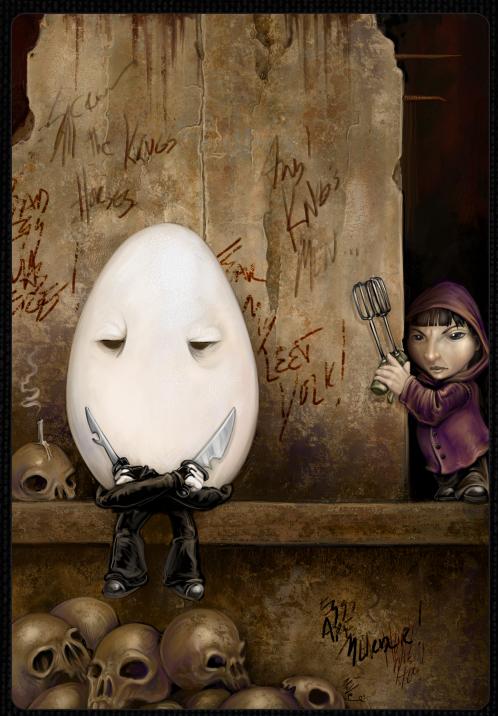
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Owl Saint by Ursula Vernon



Bad Egg by Ursula Vernon