

Mpls in 2073 Progress Report Eleven: Nov 2022

Party Report!

We're back from our covid-hibernation! We had a rocking party at Chicon 8. To be honest, we weren't at all sure it would be well attended, what with covid and what with the first (and, we thought originally, only) party night for us being Sunday, against the Hugos. The Minneapolis crew, no joke, brought a card table so we could play games with each other in the empty room we were kinda expecting. That didn't happen. Instead, right at the advertised starting time of 6pm — ridiculously early for a party, right? — folks started rolling in. The room was often *packed*, never empty. At some times we had a *line* waiting to come to the desk and pre-support. Two people is a line, right? We were the first party to open and the last to close... at something like 5am.

We raised enough money Sunday night to support a party Monday night also, and a non-random survey seemed to suggest there'd be interest. And boy was there. Ok, Monday was the dead dog night and it wasn't quite as crowded, but it went strong from 7pm to 1am. As a scientific measurement, Sunday we went through four batches of blog, Monday two. Sunday was 10 pounds of cheese, Monday four. Oh, our party was in a regular old little sleeping room, not a suite. We gotta say, we love the Hyatt Regency's furniture. The swinging desk section at the end of the main side table/TV stand/dresser whatsit was just perfect to take pre-supports and guard/dispense vodka for removing the St Paul from St Paul blog.

One member inquired how the database is kept. The answer is sqlite3, plus an annual paper backup, plus all original paper forms are kept and the database is mostly reconstructable from them (with the main exception being that the forms are mostly undated; also some ancillary notes from memory are included in the database comments). The bid tech



is designed with the expectation that in the decades it will take the run, there may some periods where the bid lapses into inactivity. The use of sqlite3 is nice for this because the database is just a single file that can easily be passed about and revived later; the usefulness of paper backups goes without saying. To be honest, we didn't think the first such gap would be a two year pandemic period with no cons (more or less), but it worked.

Future-proofing is also why badge numbers are limited to non-negative 31 bit integers. Unless the future involves computing on 16-bit DOS boxes, it's really hard to mess those numbers up even with pretty careless dumping of one database into another. Maybe in a few decades 32-bit machines will become sufficiently ancient-seeming that we'd be comfortable assuming that 64-bit integers would survive any careless translation process, but maybe not. After all, `sizeof(int)` is still 4 (i.e. 32 bits) even on modern computers with 64-bit processors. Also, who wants to print badge numbers that are longer than 10 digits?

At Chicon, we had an upgrade from pre-opposing. This delayed database entry for several hours as we realized none of our code really properly handled pre-opposing memberships, much less higher levels thereof. We didn't even have *names* for higher levels. Now we do.

At one point, we were offered the soul of a former Worldcon chair as payment for a pre-support. Great!, we replied, let's just see that contract signed in blood. But it turned out that the soul was only available on short-term loan, not for sale. Well, hmmm, we had to turn



that down, the treasurer didn't like it. Another attempt involved trying to pay us using the soul of a former Worldcon *bid* chair, which weighed 23 grams, and a ribbon which weighed 23 grams, and, wait, we're already a bit lost here, and it turned out that the soul was only the former part of the soul because the site selection voting had completed...? Anyway, we're looking forward to a third attempt soon.

Discussions were had about when division heads would need to be lined up. Getting close to the negative-50 year mark has made people think we had better get ready to run the con. Or to run a Minneapolis Worldcon sooner as a warm-up, and so then when would we need division heads for *that* one lined up? Sadly, we already missed the opportunity to run a Worldcon in 2023. We couldn't even try for the 2023 NASFiC because Minneapolis is less than 500 miles from Chicago (WSFS Constitution section 4.7: Site Eligibility). Interest in 2033 has been floated. An existing Worldcon chair suggested division heads mostly need not be local, and mostly need not be identified until around two years before the con. So all power to Minneapolis in 2033 if a bid chair emerges.

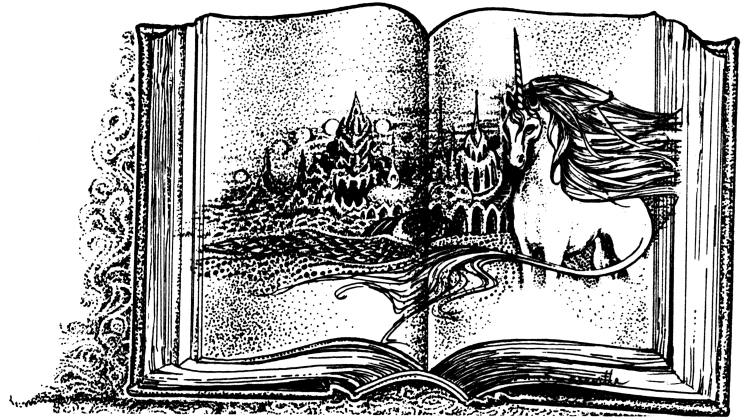
We'll do our best to have our biggest party yet at Pemmi-con, the 15th NASFiC, July 20-23, 2023. It's our negative 50th anniversary! Also, of course, the (positive) 50th anniversary of the party that really got it all going, the Minneapolis in '73 party at the 1973 Worldcon, Torcon II.

People actually ate all those Peeps. 171 of them to be precise. All of them were eaten.

Membership Report

We topped 1000 members at Chicon! At least by the order we entered them into the database, Eric Cuyler is our 1000th member, with the excellent badge number 11235. (Eric, we hope we've spelled your name right; your handwriting is a bit difficult to read.)

To be specific, as of this writing, we have 1031 members, which consist of 384 dodos, 584 standard pre-supporting, 60 bloggers, 2 peeps, and 1 troll (that's the first upgrade level for pre-opposing, you see).



New members

Since our Progress Report 10, November 2018 (yeesh), we've gotten 86 new members, 58 of them at Chicon. Welcome!

Kevin Hilly	Lee Mcremis	Dawn Murray
Bandit	Sue Burke	Valerie Kujawa
Joshua Kronengold	Katrina	Cheryl A. Kujawa
Lisa Padol	Sam Dietzmann	Louisa Krupp
Isaac Schneider	Dave Stagner	Rhiannon Taylor
Christopher Thompson	Patrick King	Nichole Giles
Kimiye Tipton	Susan Cave	David Shallcross
Frank Mango	Melody Huberfus	Valerie Santore
Mike Gasiorowski	Elizanne Gardner	Gillian Dawson
James A. Arickson	Kathy Bond	Chase Keller
Michael Kelly	Alan Bond	Jay Hartlove
George Hunt	Carol Anderson	Jenn Johansson
Ann Totusek	Jeff Berndt	Kurusu (aka Chris Willrich)
John Ridley	Eva Elsigre	David Dyer-Bennet
Linda Larson	Mickey Blake	Michael Haynes
Matthew B Alschuler	Elvi Dalgaard	Shannon Dillman
John Hall	Michele	Richard Dillman
Jason Robinson	Wade-McRoberts	Judy Newton
Katherine on Crystal Strchmeyer	Debra Lieven	Mark Furland
Luke Bretscher	Andre Lieven	Hazel Troost
Stephanie Bowne	Andy Dudak	Bruce Kaplan
Jamie AKA Sage Joyce	Craig A Cook	Laura Terhune
Mike Riley	Sam Tomaino	John Hertz
Jenn Ridley	Michael Brian Bentley	Dana Carson
Allen	Annie Shin	Eric Cuyler
Snoodles	Aaron Kashtan	Ali Çataltepe
Nathan Marya	David Guon	Melissa Gilchrist
Jill Mitchell	Michael Hagerman	Richard Fife
	Bill Hendrick	Zac Wood
	Karl Hailman	

Financial Report

Bid Revenue	Memberships	Donations	Ribbon Sales
2009	\$312.00*	\$0.00	\$0.00
2010	\$443.46†	\$39.95	\$36.50
2011	\$340.01‡	\$149.45	\$47.00
2012	\$490.74§	\$165.46	\$52.50
2013	\$87.14	\$52.81	\$67.50
2014	\$193.81¶	\$47.83	\$100.22
2015	\$314.11 [Ⓢ]	\$73.92	\$152.50
2016	\$234.68*	\$80.86	\$97.57
2017	\$78.58◊	\$39.50	\$15.50
2018	\$280.57↓	\$153.97	\$36.00
2019	\$353.70↑	\$127.51	\$19.50
2020	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2021	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2022	\$606.62↑	\$183.00	\$23.50
To date	\$2,494.15	\$649.78	\$569.29

Expenditures	Parties	Printing/mailling	Ribbons	Misc
2009	\$0.00	\$1.36	\$110.00	\$0.00
2010	\$400.09	\$55.99	\$130.00	\$21.38
2011	\$320.96	\$77.93	\$120.00	\$46.28
2012	\$355.15	\$401.06	\$0.00	\$30.00
2013	\$35.84	\$62.53	\$0.00	\$0.00
2014	\$113.75	\$62.93	\$120.00	\$0.00
2015	\$98.33	\$93.86	\$234.00	\$35.80
2016	\$245.51	\$30.71	\$0.00	\$100.09
2017	\$234.09	\$5.62	\$0.00	\$0.00
2018	\$181.02	\$115.73	\$0.00	\$0.00
2019	\$647.76	\$19.14	\$0.00	\$0.00
2020	\$0.00	\$-2.93	\$0.00	\$0.00
2021	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2022	\$474.19	\$0.00	\$508.95	\$0.77
To date	\$1,828.05	\$787.55	\$714.00	\$233.55

Total in: \$5,746.51 Total out: \$5,613.48

*Also a French Franc, a small rock, coupons with cash value 0.3 cents, 2 half dollar chocolate coins, an uncashable check for exactly \$2.073, and tuppence.

†Also a very short story on a business card, a peanut M&M, a Taiwanese dollar, a penny cut in rough thirds, and a gram of silver.

‡And 25 Iraqi Dinars. Also \$1 to be divided in thirteenths for 13 people who want to complete \$2.073. We are still holding \$4/13 of this in escrow.

§And 8.02 Shekels, 2 Pfennig, a button, and a rock from the southernmost point of Canada.

||And a Luna City or Bust medallion and a Euro cent (about 1.3€ US).

¶And a silver quarter. [Ⓢ] And a silver dime and another silver quarter.

* And about 5 g of silver wire. ◊ And ~40% of a penny and 0.20€.

↓ And five Heinlein ribbons, purported to be worth \$4 or a majority thereof

↑ And a tablet of chewing gum [↑] And 10 Turkish Lira

Other Minn-stf Events

On Easter weekend 2023, April 7–9, we will hold **Minicon 56** (mnstf.org/minicon56). Minicon is a general-purpose science fiction and fantasy convention and our biggest event of the year. Our guests of honor are author Martha Wells (of Murderbot fame), artist Sara Felix (of tiara fame) and fan Greg Ketter (of Dreamhaven Books fame).



Minicon 57 is also already in the works: March 29–31, 2024. That's also Easter weekend, and, take note, unusually *not* overlapping Passover at all. Our author and illustrator guest of honor will be Ursula Vernon.

We will very likely have a small convention in October 2023, a *fallcon* or *relaxacon*. Who should come to this con? Any fan who wants to hang out and have some fun! Check our website and future publications for details.

Besides cons, Minn-stf also holds bimonthly parties. For some reason, we call these “meetings”. They do have a 5-minute “business meeting” at which the dates of the upcoming parties are announced. (Theoretically business could be done, but in practice it never is.) In covid times, these parties have often been picnics or otherwise outdoors. For dates of upcoming meetings/parties, see the calendar on the homepage of mnstf.org or subscribe to our monthly e-mail newsletter, the Einblatt, which you can find, again, at mnstf.org.



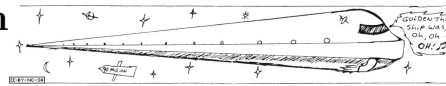
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Minneapolis in 2073 all-in-one registration form

Choose your membership level:

- Dodo: –1 ribbon (we give you a ribbon)
- Standard: \$2.073 (fudge it), 40 mg gold, or 3 g silver – you also get a ribbon
- Blogger: \$20.73, 0.4 g gold, or 30 g silver – as above+option on future t-shirt+pick badge number (integers < 2³¹)
- Peep: \$207.3, 4 g gold, or 300 g silver – as above + converts to attending membership when Minneapolis is selected



Name _____

Most useful address(es) (physical/electronic/other); We'll send progress reports here. Indicate a preference if desired.

Return to a mpls2073 representative, or Minneapolis in 2073, PO Box 8297, Minneapolis MN 55408, USA, Earth
Make checks to the Minnesota Science Fiction Society. Dodos: if you'd like a ribbon by mail, please provide a SASE.

