

# Bozo Bus Tribune

**The Official Organ of Minicon 46**

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

## Scalzi slideshow draws a crowd

John Scalzi's slideshow tour of the Creation Museum, which opened in 2007 near Petersburg, Kentucky, was a highly popular event, eliciting frequent laughs, indignant comments, and wry jokes from the audience. Scalzi provided commentary and humor through around 100 photographs from his trip, often pausing to make fun of the curators' logic. Quotes follow:

"...Day 4...the *entire rest of the universe*. [...] You have to think—Day 4, Hour 12, did God invent speed?"

"This isn't about religion, this isn't about Christ—it's about people who have a Bible-shaped hole in their logical thinking."

"Creation science is the equivalent of a tofu hot dog...for science."

"It's a big pile of...of horse\*\*\*\*, but it's a really interesting, fascinating monument to horse\*\*\*\*."

Scalzi pointed out that the dates given for dinosaur fossils were contemporaneous with the rise of Egypt's pharaohs, leading to the question of why the Egyptian alphabet included no dinosaurs. One audience member raised an interesting point—if the great flood didn't kill off the dinosaurs, which supposedly speciated rapidly after being represented by fifty species on Noah's Ark, what did? "They got God pissed," Scalzi replied.

## The Mirror Maze

...is back, thanks to the PFRC! Your editor found this year's version, with only two triangular islands rather than three, significantly less disorienting,

but one con-goer said it was still sufficiently dizzying that she couldn't safely go in!

## Soma like it high

The Soma cube in the Garden Court is also back, thanks to Mark Richards, and during Saturday night it was piled not into a cube, nor into any of the other shapes on the cards accompanying the



nearby small practice cube, but into a tower fully eight levels high! The structure loomed a full block's height above the second floor balcony. Your editor has inside information that this feat was achieved through the cooperation of four people over about fifteen frenetic minutes, and that the tower was later partially collapsed and rebuilt. Reportedly, last year the pieces were stacked *ten* levels high, by the concerted efforts of five people lifting from the

bottom.

**Follow-up:** Around 11p.m. Saturday night, several of the pieces were destroyed by rowdy teenagers! The remaining blocks were subsequently untaped and unfolded for storage.

## Personals

- Carol Kennedy: You are missed!
- Thanks to Greg Larson, a henchperson, for the wonderfully wacky TV Room!
- We are looking for writers in the Sioux Falls,

SD area to join our **writer's group**. We focus on peer review with the goal of publication. Contact Dale at dalecarothers@hotmail.com.

## Poetry Additions

—Jane Yolen and Laurel Winter have been added to the Lady Poetesses from Hell line-up at 11:30a.m. Sunday.

—And then, at 12:30, Jane will be presented with the SPFA Grand Master award! Come and cheer as Jane is rewarded for her decades of being an unapologetic (and very good) poet!

—Terry Garey

“Why do people always say that writing is a lonely business? ...Because *I'm* talking to all these people in my head!”

—Jane Yolen, “Ask A Writer”

## A night of winners

### Costume contest

**Youth**—Leo Mueller, as Sir Leo, Knight of the Realm

**Beginner**—Pat Taylor

**Advanced**—Richard Tatge, in a Tie-Dyed Suit

**Judge's Choice (Joel)**—Michelle Frank, as the Goddess Belisama

**Judge's Choice (Chas)**—Linda Lounsbury, as Firefly

**Judge's Choice (Krikor)**—Ronin the Klingon

**Judge's Choice (Amy)**—Arthur, as Alexander the Great

**Poker tournament**—Team Fuzzy

**Trivia contest**—Brother Joe

## Saturday Registration Count

At the close of registration Saturday:

Total registrations: 445

Warm bodies: 416

## Worth a pretty penny

### MEDALLION TALES

2. This penny was located on the keyhole of the roof access door in the Grand Ballroom Foyer, wallpapered so as to almost blend in. The Cluemeister expected that this one would be found very quickly, so he did not anticipate the occurrence

of what in retrospect is perfectly logical—the penny was doubtless removed by a hotel staffer who needed to open the door, which was last seen with a key in the lock and no medallion to be found.

7. Another missing penny! This one was hidden on the hotel ATM, a fact indicated by *all the mysteriously italicized phrases* with those three initials. Was this penny spotted by an astute banker hoping to make a quick hundredth of a buck? The Cluemeister decided that enough time had passed, so he awarded the Dealer Dollars to Andy H., the first to look in the right place, so far as the Cluemeister is aware.

10. The list of objects used to encode this medallion's location were taken from one of Rudyard Kipling's *Just So Stories*, “How the Alphabet Was Made.” They correspond to letters of the alphabet as supposedly invented by Neolithic girl Taffimai Metallumai and her father Tegumai. The letters spell out the message: ALOHA KANANI, which is the name of a book about American Girl character Kanani Akina. There is a display case devoted to *Aloha, Kanani!* near the 1<sup>st</sup> floor elevators, and the medallion was hidden there. It was found by Lisa F., with cryptographic and Google-fu assistance from Ctein and Beth F.

**B1 – 3.** Replanted as impromptu R's! Bring 'em in!

**R.** This medallion was stowed by Clueminion Rand P. in a Random Party (like the synchronicity?) sometime during the night. Will it show up? Come to Closing Ceremonies to find out!

## CLUES: ROUND 4

8. Place the ten triplets in order to make a thirty-letter phrase.

9. This penny's location is the name of a 2007 film!

20. I–VI in some order: T803EU16J8R23I06P

**K.** Beneath an orange krese.

**Z3.** A flat face and a dainty toe are equal in our eyes.

*Come to Closing Ceremonies to hear the fates and hiding places of the remaining medallions!*

## Hours of Redemption:

The Cluemeister's last 1.5 office hours are:

11a.m. – Noon Sunday

1:30p.m. – 2p.m. Sunday

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