

Issue 1

Friday afternoon

Bozo Bus Tribune

The Official Organ of Minicon 47

"We're all bozos on this bus!"

Minicon nestles into Plaza Tower

Welcome to Minicon 47! If it feels like the vessel containing your convention has been picked up and tilted a bit in shipping, you're not entirely wrong. Some weeks ago, Minicon learned that the Doubletree by Hilton Bloomington, until recently the Sheraton Bloomington, was going to be renovating the entire wing of the hotel containing the pool and Garden Court, thus forcing various Minicon functions to relocate. Minicon 47 will therefore be taking place in the shorter north, or Plaza, Tower. In past years (though not recent ones), Minicon has used various function spaces in the north tower, but never has the entire convention been here.

Most notably, the Consuite and Bar have always been in the south tower. This year, the Consuite is tucked away in the posh Room 882 at the back end of the Plaza Tower's 8th floor. This former resident manager's apartment features various eye-catching *objets d'art*, mirrors, a hot tub, and a Mega-Moneyduck machine, returning from last year. (Add to the scroll of wackiness and read last year's, stretched jauntily along the wall!) Meanwhile, the Bar has found a swanky home in (and outside of) the Club Lounge, at the front of the seventh floor. It was bustling for Thursday night's meet 'n' greet, and will be opening at 5p.m. for the next three nights.

Green Room: New Location!

The Green Room—a place available for the convenience and coordination of programming participants—has long been located in the sleeping room closest to programming. This year, with programming now in the north tower, the Green Room has moved to **Room 452**. All panelists are encouraged to meet with other panelists there before their panels.

Green Room hours are approximately: **3 – 11 Friday, 9 – 11 Saturday, and 9 – 5 Sunday**. Host Karen Cooper's cell phone number will be on the door in case anyone needs to reach her after hours.

Other locations of note:

The pool will be closed throughout the weekend. The Fitness Center, however, is open—just follow the signs. Open gaming (beyond that found in Plaza 1) and jigsaw puzzles can be found at various tables scattered throughout the 1st and 2nd floors. Registration is in the middle of the north tower on the 1st floor, along with Info and Volunteers. From there, you can get a program book and pocket program with a map to help you find anything else you may need.

A message from the hotel

The following letter was distributed to Minicon guests as they checked in:

Welcome back, Minicon!

On behalf of the DoubleTree by Hilton, Bloomington-Minneapolis South we would like to thank you for your continued support through the many changes we have experienced together over the years.

We have begun a journey to improve the quality of our property which we look forward to sharing with you as our guest in the future. Please accept our apologies for the relocation of your convention and guestrooms to our Plaza Tower as we renovate the poolside & Cabana rooms. The Plaza Tower is located on the North side of the hotel near the Coffee Shop.

We understand that this weekend is more than a convention to you. This is also a time for fans to unite and create new friendships. We truly appreciate your understanding during the 2012 convention year. Thank you so much for being our guest, and if there is anything we can do to make your stay more enjoyable, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Warm Regards,
Jada Inafuku
Convention Service Manager

New Panelists!

The following panelists have been added to the schedule:

- **Ed Rom:** "Let's Play God." *FRI 4-5, Atrium 7*
- **Eleanor Arnason & Will Shetterly:** "Believable Antagonists." *SAT 11:30-12:30, Atrium 7*
- **John Rezmerski:** "The Shaping of Film Genres, 1896-1949." *SAT 2:30-3:30, Atrium 7*
- **Emma Bull:** "Young Children's and YA Science Fiction and Fantasy." *SAT 2:30-3:30, Bloomington*

MINICON MEDALLION HUNT

Lucky Seven for Lucky Pennyhunters!

The Bozo Bus Tribune is pleased to facilitate, expedite, and otherwise lord over the Minicon Medallion Hunt, now in its seventh glorious year. This year's theme, such as it is, is the use of multiple levels of encryption (such as they are [insofar, that is, as anything can be said to, indeed, *be*]). Fear not, however—not all clues adhere to the theme, and the range of difficulty, as always, spans the distance between falling off a log and logging off a fall. All readers are encouraged to participate.

To do so, simply refer to the clues below in order to ferret out the locations of sixteen shiny medallions, where by 'medal' we mean '1973', and by 'lions' we mean 'U.S. one cent pieces'. Once you find a medallion, bring it to the Bozo Bus Office (Atrium 5) when the Cluemeister is present (as is guaranteed during his scheduled Hours of Redemption), or track him down somewhere else in order to tell him your story of discovery and redeem your prize. The prizes for the numbered pennies are Dealer Dollars equal to their numbers; the H pennies carry their own prizes. Dealer Dollars, in addition to being works of art, can be spent in the Minicon 47 Dealer's Room or Art Show.

Additional clues will appear in subsequent issues of the BBT, and the stories of any medallions not found by the final issue will be told (briefly) at Closing Ceremonies, and (at length) at the Dead Dog Party. A sign outside the BBT Office will bear the status of all medallions, along with other information such as future Hours of Redemption.

All medallions are hidden within the hotel, and are not located in any shops, restaurants, restrooms, or areas off-limits to the public, nor in the Dealers' Room or Art Show. Some may be hidden in non-convention space, but when searching these areas, be considerate of hotel guests and keep noise and chaos to a minimum.

CLUES: ROUND 1

1, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10. Sorry—these won't be available until Issue 2!

2. An idea with origins in ancient India and ridiculed by Stephen Hawking.

Note: Penny 2 was hidden by Guests of Honor Frank and Brianna Spacekat Wu! Could this mean...bonus prestige?

3. Zero degrees of articulation, disguised as three, concealed beneath one.

7. This year on 7th + Let the news ring out!

8. tee-e-e-e-a-i-tee-e-e-cee-e-e-a-i-tee-tee-aitch-e-e-e-ess-ess-e-ess-ess-a-i-tee-e-e-cee-e-e-a-i-tee-tee-aitch-i-pee-e-e-e-i-e-e-en-tee-e-e-e-a-i-tee-e-e-cee-e-e-a-i-tee-tee-aitch-e-tee-e-e-e-o-e-e-en-e-e-ess-ess-e-ess-ess-u-i-tee-e-e-e-e

15. Look to the Grand Ballroom Gray for guidance.

20. (((((past tense of that which contains this)-(naught) result)+((ends of[last line of[first verse of [America the Beautiful]]]))=>(fixed solfège)))+(faces of a cube)))/(Beh. + Walt.+ Hass. + Gold. + Shep.)=>(Español))+(((what we're at)/(disadvantage)))+(warm beast cover)/(Christmas tree))+((sideways snoozing)/(- - - <--these dashes))+((Circular focus)/(equine+primate))(((delivered)/(cash value of medallion)))+(third-person singular objective feminine non-possessive pronoun)))+(opp./adj.)/(zodiac datum))

H1: Come to the BBT Office and take a shot at the redemption of your favorite stick figure!

And Speaking of Redemption:

The Cluemeister's first three office hours are:

3p.m. – 4p.m. Friday

8p.m. – 9p.m. Friday


Midnight – 1a.m. Saturday

Have an announcement, a news story, a review, a personal item, or anything else for the BBT? Drop it in the Submission Box on the chairs outside the BBT Office (Atrium 5). Pens and paper are provided.

The Bozo Bus Tribune

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