



MINICON 55

WITH GUESTS OF HONOR

ELISE MATTHESEN

JO WALTON

Guest of Honor

JO WALTON

Jo Walton has published fifteen novels, most recently *Or What You Will*. She has also published three poetry collections, two essay collections and a short story collection. She won the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer in 2002, the World Fantasy Award for *Tooth and Claw* in 2004, the Hugo and Nebula awards for *Among Others* in 2012, and in 2014 both the Tiptree Award for *My Real Children* and the Locus Non Fiction award for *What Makes This Book So Great*. She comes from Wales but lives



in Montreal where the food and books are much better. She gets bored easily so she tends to write books that are different from each other. She also reads a lot, enjoys travel, talking about books, and eating great food. She plans to live to be ninety-nine and write a book every year.

PHOTO AND TEXT FROM JOWALTONBOOKS.COM

Guest of Honor

ELISE MATTHESEN

Elise Matthesen is an American essayist, journalist, poet, and fiction writer (primarily of science fiction and fantasy; she is an active supporter of the interstitial arts movement), an award-winning maker of art jewelry and a long time Bisexual Rights activist. For 13 years she was the companion of the late John M. Ford, until his death in September 2006. She was born in Wisconsin, lives in Minneapolis and is a member of the First Universalist Church there.

Career She is an anorexia nervosa survivor as well as a speaker, facilitator, and activist on issues of body acceptance, bisexuality, polyamory, and issues of self-esteem. She was one of the original contributors to the groundbreaking 1991 bisexual anthology *Bi Any Other Name*, has written for local GLBT magazine *Lavender*, and is an active member of science fiction fandom.

In 1993 Jane Yolen published Matthesen's short story "The Stone Girl" in the *Xanadu* anthology together with works by Tanith Lee and Ursula K. Le Guin. In 2008 Catherine Lundoff published Matthesen's short story "Focus of Desire" in an anthology of Lesbian ghost stories.

Awards In 2009, Matthesen was a World Fantasy Award nominee for the Special Award - Non-Professional "for setting out to inspire and for serving as inspiration for works of poetry, fantasy, and SF over the last decade through her jewelry-making and her 'artist's challenges'".

In 2020, she won the Hugo Award for Best Fan Artist, the first artist in a 3-D medium to do so.



PHOTO BY DAVID J THOMPSON

NOTE FROM THE CHAIRS

In early 2020, we had Minicon 55 nearly ready to go . . . and then Covid-19 hit. Minicon 55 spent 2 years in limbo, while we served as Cancellation Chairs, not knowing when we could hold or convention, creating various contingency plans and worrying about hotel contracts. Not everything we had planned for our convention survived.

The Minicon 55 that is happening now is unable to be the Minicon 55 we originally planned. We're sad about some of the things we lost. But we're happy to be able to finally hold a Minicon again, and to see you all!

We'll say again what we said at the last Minicon's Closing Ceremonies - If you're wondering why Minicon doesn't include some cool thing you think it should, usually the answer is that there wasn't a concomm member to plan it or the volunteers to run it. You could be the person that makes that difference, that makes Minicon more like the Minicon you want it to be. Think about it.

-Grenevic Sharladanel
Stremski

-Don Stremski

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REGISTRATION

Registration is located on the 2nd floor, near the programming rooms, during the following hours:

REGISTRATION / VOLUNTEER DESK HOURS:

Friday 10:00am - 9:00pm

Saturday 9:30am - 4:00pm

Sunday 9:30am - 4:00pm

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.

Registering for Minicon 56: The form to preregister can be found in your registration packet or at the Registration table. It will never be cheaper!

If you pre-registered this year, you received a form that's already filled out when you picked up your badge. Update any incorrect fields, fill in any blank ones, seal it in an envelope with your payment, and put it in the box at the registration table. Need help or information after hours? Ask at the bar in rooms 226/227 overlooking the atrium.

POLICIES

Minicon occurs in a hotel, which is part of a city, county, state, and country. All rules and laws imposed by these larger entities apply, even though being at a con may make you feel out of this world.

Weapons: Prop weapons or costume pieces must be secured and pose no danger to others. We reserve the right to prohibit any such items from our function rooms.

Smoking: Minnesota is smokefree in all public places. Designated smoking areas are outside. Please direct specific questions to the hotel.

Help and Information: Ask at the registration/volunteers/info desk while they're open, or after hours at the consuite or bar. Also look for department heads or wandering con members.

VOLUNTEERING

Did you know that Minicon is an all-volunteer convention? We don't sell tickets, we offer memberships (priced to cover con expenses). As members of a community, we all pitch in and help out. It turns out that volunteering is also a great way to make new friends, connect with old ones, and generally have a great time at the convention. We'll have 1-2 hour volunteer shifts available (depending on the department), but will also have short one-off tasks like sign-making or errand-running. **Learn more at the Volunteers Table, conveniently located in the Registration area.**

We'll be using the Discord message service again this year as a way to contact Gofers, Badgers, and other volunteers in real time. If you want to join the volunteers discord, the Volunteers Desk Staff can help you sign up at the con.

MERCHANDISE

Minicon shirts and hoodies for this year, shirts from some previous years, and various other discounted merchandise are available at the Registration/Volunteers Desk.

EMERGENCIES

In case of an emergency threatening life or limb, please call 911!

MINICON 55 CODE OF CONDUCT

Minn-stf acknowledges that interpersonal relationships in social settings are complex. 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 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 behaviour, 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.

**Code of Conduct Responders
can be reached at:**

612-584-9773

HOW'S YOUR SQUEE?

Minicon is a place to get your squee on. It's a time for strange friends and friendly strangers, marvels and wonders, interesting conversations, fascinating objects, and lots of fun. Few things destroy fun faster than having someone not take "no" for an answer. Here's the thing: you have the right to say "no." No to a conversation, no to an activity, no to a beverage, no to anything that interferes with your own, personal squee. The ability to say yes to fun includes the ability to say no to not-fun. But sometimes...sometimes people don't respect your "no," and sometimes, you feel as if you can't say "no" directly to the person harshing your squee. In those cases, we will try to help.

If you need help with a problem where someone is violating our Code of Conduct (see opposite), or not taking your "no" for an answer, PLEASE feel free to call us at 612-584-9773, and we will try to help. If we don't answer, leave a voice mail message, or text, and we will respond as soon as we can. We will work with you to find a solution that lets you go back to full-on squee.

CONSUIITE

Ride the elevator all the way up to Consuite. **14th Floor**

It's your place for Peeps, to get continental breakfast, coffee, soda, pop, snackies & chocolate!

Open from Opening Ceremonies to Closing Ceremonies!

BAR

The Bar (located in room **227**) is your cave-away-from-home and overlooks the atrium from the second floor. We will be supplying an abundant assortment of homebrew and commercial beer, cider, wine, and of course, Blog! Feel free to bring something to share; donations are always welcome.

Check the Program schedule for tastings and other special events happening in the bar throughout the convention. As always, the bar is FREE...and worth it!

HOURS:

Friday & Saturday: 5pm - Close

Sunday: Open when Dead Dog begins (after teardown is complete)

GREEN ROOM

The Green Room (Room **232**) generally opens 30 minutes before the first programming item of the day and closes at the beginning of the last programming item of the day. The Green Room is a respite for program participants. Come by and have a beverage, snack and some quiet. Meet your co-panelists.

TEEN ROOM (Room **223**)

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.

GPS CHARITY AUCTION

Room **228**, next to the Bar

The silent auction is to support Minicon's partner, the Geek Partnership Society. Funds raised will go to support year-round geeky community building with clubs and events, infrastructure for geeky non-profits like Minicon, and public programs such as Project Lighthouse (an educational grants program), the GPS Annual Writing Contest, the Space Camp Scholarship Fund, and the GPS Arts Initiative.

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

By bidding in the live or silent auctions, each bidder agrees to posted auction rules, and to release contact information (name, phone number, email) in the event that item(s) won are not paid for and picked up and/or bidder registration information is illegible or incorrect.

Stop on by or get involved. Visit our website at www.geekpartnership.org, or email us at info@geekpartnership.org.

GAMING

The main gaming area is now on the second floor in **Terrace 4**. Scheduled games or events are listed in the programming section. There are overflow gaming areas in the lower atrium and the upper atrium. Please notice that this area is immediately outside the restaurant, and the hotel would like us to be respectful of their diners. Please keep all areas clean, orderly and free of trash. Having a clean gaming area also helps out the next people who want to play. This year's Easter Brunch at the hotel will not have overflow seating in the lower Atrium.

QUIET ACTIVITY AREA

There is an area for quiet activities on the second floor overlooking the lobby. There will be tables with puzzles there that can remain in progress throughout con without interruption. You are always welcome to chill out there so long as you are quiet enough not to be heard in the nearby sleeping rooms.

SENSORY FRIENDLY SPACE

(Winter Room)

This year, we will be using the Winter Room as "Sensory Friendly Space." Feel free to use this room for silent meditation, prayer, or to avoid the sometimes overwhelming nature of conventions. Please respect others' use and only use this room only for silent activities if others are present.

ART SHOW

Located on 2nd floor, **Terrace 1-3**

The Minicon art show is a non-juried show open to all artists who'd like to submit artwork in 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.

ART SHOW AND VENDORS ROOM HOURS:

Friday 3:00pm - 7:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 7:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 3:00pm

VENDOR'S ROOM

Located on 2nd floor, **Terrace 1-3**

VENDORS

Lady Dragon's Treasures
Big Soft D
Art by Tyler Prawl
Dragon Abbey Jewelry
Jean Martin
Funk n Fantasy
DreamHaven Books
Red Bird Embroidery
Isis Designs

AUTHORS

Kathryn Sullivan
Ozgur Sahin

BOZO BUS TRIBUNE

The Bozo Bus Tribune, Minicon's at-con newsletter, returns with its office in **Courtyard 4**, on the main floor near the atrium. Throughout the con, you can expect four (or, this year, maybe just three) issues of this informative rag in splendid monochrome to appear on sundry flat surfaces in various regions of conspace. Issues include news, reviews of panels and parties, miscellany, personals, warm body updates, and so forth. Possibly even a Medallion Hunt! Want to report for the BBT? Come by the office and volunteer - you'll get a badge, a memo pad, and encouragement to go forth and make/report/become the news. Or just stop by to keep the editor company and enjoy the copious piles of pretty objects, puzzles, and curiosities.

Got something for the BBT? Write it on paper and drop it in the box outside the office, or submit it electronically to bbt@minicon55.mnstf.org!

PARTIES

323 Krushenko's Annex

324 Geek Partnership Society (GPS)

325 Envy and the Geek Book Launch

Celebrate the publication of Natalie Falkenwrath's second book, *Envy and the Geek*, a queer romance novel, which takes place at a sci-fi convention heavily inspired by Minicon! Meet Natalie (the alter-ego of Alison Sommer), enjoy some refreshments, and maybe pick up a copy of *Envy and the Geek*, or her debut novel, *Lust in the Stacks*.

326 Ensign Boimler's Hidey Closet

Do you like to comfort watch old Star Trek episodes? SO DO WE! Come hang out with us. We will have coloring and Star Trek.

327 Cake or Death

A sober party for people who like cake

SCIENCE ROOM

The Science Room exists. It is in **Courtyard 5-6** this year.

We are transforming science fiction into science fact! Visit the Science Room to view and interact with science exhibits like: International Space Station Updates (including an up-to-date scale model), Hands-on 3D Star Maps, 3D Maps of Mars and the Moon, Information on astronomical observatories in MN that you can visit, Historic & futuristic models of spacecraft and rockets, Scale Bas Relief Moon Globe.

Science exhibits are brought to Minicon, courtesy of groups like:

MN Space Frontier Society www.mnsfs.org

Mars Society www.marsociety.org

Moon Society moonsociety.org

National Space Society nss.org

MN Astronomical Society www.mnastro.org

NASA Glenn Research Center

www.nasa.gov/centers/glenn/home/index.html

HOURS:

Friday 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm

Sunday 11:00am - 3:00pm

FEEDBACK

You can contact the Minicon 55 chairs for a little while longer at chair@minicon55.mnstf.org.

You can always contact the Minnstif board at board@mnstf.org.

And you are welcome to come chat at Minnstf meetings/parties. See mnstf.org for times and locations.

RUMPUS ROOM

THE KIDS' PLACE

Located in the **Summer Room** is a fun area to play and create. It is a kid-centered space, though it is available for all ages. There are a variety of activities that are always available, as well as some scheduled activities you can see a schedule of on the mini grid and descriptions in the main programming schedule.

RUMPUS ROOM HOURS ARE APPROXIMATELY:
FRIDAY: 3:00 PM TO 6:00 PM,
SATURDAY: 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM,
SUNDAY: 10:00 AM TO 3:30 PM.

When you're done with your activities, please clean up after yourself and encourage your kids to do so as well. Let's all look out for each other!

WHAT IS MNSTF?

It's the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, abbreviated MnStf, MinnSTF, MN-STF, and other variants. It's the non-profit group that brings you Minicon. Each year, the MNStF board of directors approves the next Minicon chairperson and looks after the continuing needs of the convention. Minstf does more than just Minicon. It also runs a small convention each year in the fall, mainly for the purpose of having something like Minicon, but without all that pesky programming and stress. Ours changes name frequently. Besides running conventions, Minnstf's major activity is hosting social events through the year (officially known as "meetings"). Those events include a summer picnic, a pool party, and social events, often at members' homes. Meeting locations are published in Mnstf's monthly newsletter Einblatt, Twitter and Facebook, and the calendar on mnstf.org. The Einblatt is available at mnstf.org/einblatt. You can also sign up for our events and discussion mailing lists at mnstf.org. 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.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Minicon is a members-driven non-profit con. Our goal is to bring the community together, not to make the most money or to get the most people, although we take more people showing up as a good sign. We all chip in membership fees so that there's enough to run this thing and to support our parent organization, Mn-Stf. If we have extra after that, it means we overcharged. We make an effort to hold the rates low and run a frugal con. We want you to know where your money goes, and we want to hear your opinion on our spending.

MINICON 54 FINANCES

Minicon 54 was directed by the MN-Stf board to bring in \$2900 more than it spent, to cover the club's anticipated expenses of \$3900 (which includes storing Minicon's stuff), while spending down \$1000 of excess savings. We hit this almost exactly at \$3079. Memberships were 92% of our income, with donations, t-shirts, dealer tables and misc each making up 2%. The most common membership rate paid was \$45. If you paid \$45, here's where your money went:

HOTEL	\$14.70
CONSUIE+BAR.....	\$7.50
GUESTS OF HONOR.....	\$6.00
PUBLICATIONS	\$4.20
BADGES+CLIPS	\$1.70
MISC.....	\$4.50
MNSTF	\$6.40

For Minicon 55, the financial goal is \$3200.

MUSIC

Minicon's concerts take place in **Courtyard Ballroom 1-2-3**, facing the lower level of the hotel atrium. The music room will feature many of your returning favorite artists and bands, as well as some performers who are newer to Minicon. Read on for a detailed schedule of events.

For those who like their music participatory, **music circles** will take place in the **Spring Room** on Friday night (beginning after the opening ceremony) and Saturday night (beginning around 7 pm). 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.

FRIDAY MUSIC

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM GRAHAM LEATHERS

Graham Leathers is a battle-hardened veteran of the stage and airwaves. He writes, performs, and records his own novelty songs ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous. His song "Chocolate Is A Vegetable" won a Pegasus Award for excellence in filk music in 2017. Becca Leathers will be joining him on stage to add some extra flair.

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM SCOTT KEEVER

Scott Keever is a composer and performer who specializes in fingerstyle guitar. He works in a variety of genres, from jazz and classical to Balkan and Celtic, and a variety of guitars. In 2018, he released his "Solo Guitar: Vol. 1"; a follow-up album is in the works for 2022. He is currently a member of Orkestar Bez Ime (OBI), an award-winning ensemble that specializes in music from the Balkans and Eastern Europe. He has also been a member of Lojo Russo and Funks Grove, the Sweet Colleens, and Pirates of Dreamtime. He has also produced "El Dorado" the posthumous solo album for singer/songwriter Michael Methany (Gallowglass, Long Straight Forever) and also performed with Cats Laughing for Minicon 50. For more info, go to: www.scottkeever.com

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM ADAM STEMPLER

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.

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM LOREWEAVERS

Loreweavers, Bards of the Modern Age, focus their efforts on bringing tavern and fantasy soundtracks to a wider audience. Inspired by the tavern music represented in games such as The Witcher and Skyrim, as well as traditional Irish tunes and sea shanties, Loreweavers seek to immerse their audience in a world of wonder and adventure. Showcasing a wide variety of musical talents ranging from traditional Irish instruments such as uilleann pipes and bodhrán to guitar, accordion, and mandolin, Loreweavers are sure to grab the attention of any crowd and pull them in to ensure an experience they'll never forget.

SATURDAY MUSIC

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM LAST SATURDAY FILKERS

The Last Saturday Filkers are a small bardic circle who meet each month to share in the traditional music of science fiction fandom. Much of filk music consists of skiffy lyrics set to familiar tunes; it can also be original narrative music or silly songs. Audience participation is welcomed and lyric sheets will be provided, so come hear some classics and join in song!

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

NATE BUCKLIN

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

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

THE LEPRECHAUN PIRATES

The Leprechaun Pirates formed in 2015 as a Fest Band to play Live Music and have been performing professionally at festivals, community events, and winery shows 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, if you get a chance come see them perform! Check out their website: <http://www.leprechaunpirates.com/> and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/c/LeprechaunPirates

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

ASTRISONI

Astrisoni is a filk duo consisting of Heather Estelme and Nate Wulver, whose songs explore complex topics via sci-fi and fantasy. Expect vengeful unicorns, tragic robots, ghost pirates, and songs to hunt Bigfoot to. Their music can be found at <https://astrisoni.bandcamp.com/>

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM

TERESA CHANDLER

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. Odds are she'll be joined by Mumble Something and Adam Stemple because they have too much fun making music together.

10:00 PM - 11:00 PM

RIVERFOLK

Riverfolk is the folk duo of Becca Leathers and Chas Somdahl (Minicon 46 Musician Guest of Honor). Their beautiful harmonies, memorable songs, and intricate guitar work have graced many a Minicon stage in years past. Join them for musical magic!

SUNDAY MUSIC

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

PAUL ROBINSON

Paul put a Tolkien poem and a folk tune together before he ever knew there was a thing called filk! Since then he's collected a few more and written some of his own, ranging through fantasy, space fandom, Ringworld and Doctor Who, plus some really fun found filk.

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

BETH KINDERMAN & THE PLAYER CHARACTERS

If Lilith Fair booked a progressive rock band, it would sound like Beth Kinderman & the Player Characters. They perform original, filk-influenced folk-prog songs about myth, transformation, and video game characters who won't sleep with you. Their concert will feature music from their upcoming album, "Sisyphus (ten songs about hope)." For more information: www.bethkinderman.com or bethkinderman.bandcamp.com

ONGOING PROGRAMMING

Mask Display

In April of 2020, the evidence for masks became more widely accepted. With the federal government supply depleted, manufactured masks were nowhere to be found and we needed to make our own. Sewing skills were rusty, and not everyone even knew how. Show off what you made from the days when there was no small elastic to be found, along with a note about how it was constructed. **Display is in the grand hallway outside the art show.** Forms will be provided to describe your work, or you may choose to prepare one ahead. The form is at tinyurl.com/4mt6ubhj

THURSDAY, APRIL 14 PROGRAMMING

8:00PM Concom Meet and Greet

Minicon Bar

A chance for volunteers and concom to meet up, celebrate the accomplishment of getting everything together, and possibly meet a current or former GOH

FRIDAY 4/15 PROGRAMMING

4:00PM Concert: Graham Leathers Courtyard 1,2, 3

(see **Music** section for full description)

4:00PM Archiving Fandom

Park 1 David Dyer-Bennet, Matt Strait

Minicon's parent organization is over 50 years old and has some impressive archives. Report on state of Minn-StF archiving programs including Minneapa, Photos, Minicon and Minn-StF history, and whatever else we're archiving.

4:00PM Fancy Hair Braiding Workshop Spring John Wardale

Learn to do ropes, 4-strand "round" braids, classic (3-strand) French and (3-strand) Dutch (or inverted-French or underhand) as well as a Crown braid (technically a horizontal modified (3-strand) French braid) and other advanced ideas like 5 and 7-strand fingering techniques; as well as shapes like hearts, spirals and a pullup-weave. Tailored to the desires and abilities of the audience.

4:00PM Islands in SF

Park 2 Tom Hogan, Ruth Berman, Jo Walton, Danith McPherson, Ozgur Sahin

From Atlantis and Avalon to the Archipelago of Earthsea, islands appear frequently in speculative fiction. They are often places of magic and ritual, home to unfamiliar peoples, creatures and social structures, and worlds of isolation. They have a unique relationship with the surrounding water, which can isolate, protect, and provide. What's so great about islands?

5:30PM Concert: Scott Keever Courtyard 1,2, 3

(see **Music** section for full description)

5:30PM Artificial Intelligence - What is it really?

Park 1

Kenneth Koski, Kent Hansen, Thorin Tatge
Artificial Intelligence is different in reality than it is in fiction. What defines something as AI? What does AI do today? What will AI do in the near future? How will we interact with it?

FRIDAY 4/15 PROGRAMMING

5:30PM Recent SF Television

Orchard Room *Emily Stewart, Jeanne Mealy*

TV has been offering a number of science fiction shows recently. Let's talk about them! Possible topics: The Orville, created by Seth MacFarlane is today's Star Trek, or is it? How is the allegorical story told differently in 2022? What do we think works well in this series? How does the Orville compare to Star Trek Discovery, and is that question all apples and oranges? Does Paramount do anything besides Star Trek? Would Paramount still be in business without Star Trek? How about all of the new Star Wars Franchise shows? Other shows and worlds: Reverie, Pandora, The Flash, Supergirl, Superman and Lois, DC's Legends of Tomorrow, The Arrow.

5:30PM Lector Elise Matthesen reads while you create

Spring Room *Elise Matthesen*

In the late 1800s, many factory workers would employ a Lector to keep their minds busy and active while they worked. Lectors would share engaging topics to stimulate creativity, and to give everyone something for further discussion. During this event, GOH Elise Matthesen welcomes you to bring your works in progress and listen while you create your own project, or create with provided materials. Tables, chairs, colored pencils and coloring books will be available.

5:30PM Lois McMaster Bujold's Penric books

Park 2 *Naomi Kritzer, David Lenander, Kathryn Sullivan, Martin Summerton*

Discuss the Penric books. Lois McMaster Bujold would be more than welcome on this!

6:30PM Adam Stemple Reading Park 2

7:00PM Opening Ceremony

Park 1 *Rob Callahan, Jo Walton, Don*

Stremski, Grenevic Sharladanel Stremski, Rick Snyder, Elise Matthesen, Tom Hogan

Welcome to the convention! Meet the Guests of Honor, find out about the weekend's events, and where to get more information!

7:00PM Joel's International Whisky Zoom (featuring EasterCon)

Bar Annex *Joel Phillips*

Joel's Whisky Zoom originated from the need for social interaction —and whisky—during the pandemic. It will be up and running in the bar on Friday night in conjunction with our friends at Eastercon in London. This is a good opportunity for those who couldn't make it to Minicon, to get in on some of the action. Feel free to join in the zoom chat, or just hang back and see who shows up.

7:30PM It's not easy being Green Park 2

Scott K. Jamison, Ruth Berman, Thorin Tatge
Frogs, Martians, orcs, swamp creatures... Green skin has often been used to "other" a character, subtly or not-so-subtly, standing in for race or other differences. Let's discuss green-skinned characters in fiction, how they've been treated, and how well or poorly the metaphors have worked.

8:30PM Asteroids Galore: NASA's Missions of the 2020s

Park 1 *Bill Higgins*

A new fleet of asteroid-exploring spacecraft are, or will be, swarming across the Solar System in the 2020s. Targets of missions by NASA and other agencies include near-Earth objects, Main Belt asteroids, and members of the Trojan family out at Jupiter's distance from the Sun. Bill Higgins examines the new generation, with particular attention to Trojan-hopping Lucy and asteroid-smacking DART.

8:30PM What are you Reading?

Park 2 *David Lenander, Bill Thomasson, Kathryn Sullivan, Danith McPherson, Jacqueline Stoner*
In 30 seconds or less, state name and author of what you've recently read or are currently reading and comment on it. Start with the panel then move to the audience. After a book has been identified the panel has 1 minute to comment.

FRIDAY 4/15 PROGRAMMING

8:30PM MARVEL COMICS' SILVER AGE 1961-1970: The Myths of Mythmaking

Orchard

Irving Forbush, Greg Larsen, Steve Kempton
Marvel was not always the behemoth it is today. In 1961, Archie had a bigger presence than Marvel. And, some of the tales told about how it got to where it is, must be taken with more than a grain of salt. Books like 'Stuf Said!' reveal a behind-the-scenes perspective from remarks by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby during what many thought were the beginnings of Marvel. Pioneering the Marvel Method and the continued story not only expanded storytelling options, but revenues as well. See how the business of Marvel Comics could be as fascinating as the comics themselves.

8:30PM Concert: Adam Stemple
Courtyard 1,2, 3

(see **Music** section for full description)

8:30PM Friday Open Music Circle
Spring (see **Music** section for more info)

10:00PM Concert: Loreweavers
Courtyard 1,2,3

(see **Music** section for full description)

10:00PM Green Lantern
- An Appreciation

Park 2 *Scott K. Jamison, David Kingsley*

Which Green Lantern? All 7200+, of course! Even if none of the dozen Earth Green Lanterns stirs your fancy, there are plenty of alien space corps who might be a favorite. A discussion of Green Lantern's science fiction roots, along with some revisiting of favorite stories. What do we speculate is in store for future Green Lanterns?

11:59PM Pub Quiz Episode I:
The Trivia Menace

Bar Annex *Brian Lundgren, Susan Philbrook*

SATURDAY 4/16 PROGRAMMING

10:00AM Pendant Creation Watch Party
Park 1 *Elise Matthesen, Rick Snyder*

GOH Elise Matthesen will create one or more pendants under an overhead projector so that people can get a closeup view. She will share her commentary about materials, methods, and inspiration. It's like the DVD extras of The Pendant Movie.

10:00AM Hair Braiding
Rumpus Room

John Wardale will be on hand again this year to style the hair of our many princesses and fairies, perhaps even a wizard or warlock.

10:00AM Jo Walton
Small Group Discussion

Orchard *Jo Walton, Tom Hogan*

Jo Walton will discuss topics that come up and answer questions. Attendance limited to 12, so sign up in the lottery at registration. We will draw names Friday night, and post them on the Klatsch room door. This is not a food and drink event, masks required.

11:30AM Tissue-box Theaters
Rumpus Room

Join our puppeteer *Laura Krentz* and transform recycled materials into tabletop theaters where you can draw out your story and have the action advance by turning a handle. You may also want to create puppets to enhance your performances. Extra materials will remain in the Rumpus Room for those unable to attend the workshop.

11:30AM The Whole Entire Everything of MCU Movies

Park 2 *Bill Higgins, Beth Kinderman, Katie Clapham, Lyda Morehouse*

What are some thoughts on the entirety of this very ambitious project? Marvel has released movies, short series, and regular TV series, all within the same (well maybe) universe. What is this about? Is this the modern equivalent of Saturday serials? What were some important themes? What worked well and what didn't? How well or poorly did they deal with ethical issues?

SATURDAY 4/16 PROGRAMMING

11:30AM Growing Old As A Writer

Orchard Room *Bill Thomasson, Eleanor Arnason*
Being an elder in the field of writing and the writing community. What is wonderful and what is difficult? How do we meet the challenges?

1:00PM Perfection as the enemy of creativity: When is good enough good enough?

Park 1 *Danith McPherson, Alison Sommer, Adam Stemple, Rick Snyder, Elise Matthesen, Eleanor Arnason, Peg Kerr*

"Pobody's Nerfect!" is not just a t-shirt, it's a way of life. Where does the need to be perfect come from? Where is the balance between wanting something to be enjoyed, and wanting it to be seen?

1:00PM Concert: Last Saturday Filkers Courtyard 1,2, 3

(see **Music** section for full description)

1:00PM Utopias aren't what they used to be!

Orchard Room *Magenta Griffith, Bill Thomasson, Eric Heideman, Lyda Morehouse*
Utopias used to be authors' dreams of an ideal or perfect, or at least, better society. Sometime in the last 20 years, DYSTopia took over. Can we get back those rose-colored dreams of a better life or is it too late? What are the important utopian novels by SF authors? How have utopian visions changed over time? Utopia vs metopia! What are some past and present examples of utopia?

1:00PM Stick Bomb Session

Rumpus Room *Mark Richards*
Building and setting off stick bombs! A stick bomb is a spring-loaded device constructed out of flat sticks woven together under a bending moment. Other names for stick bombs include Cobra wave, and frame bombs.

1:00PM MARVEL COMICS' SILVER AGE 1961-1970: Creators

Spring *Irving Forbush, Greg Larsen, Steve Kempton*

Discover a bit about those who made these legendary comics and who improved upon them. Comic books were an ugly business, with roots going back to the violent Newsstand Wars of the 1920s. Fearing reprisals, some creators who got steady work from Dominant Comics publisher DC, "moonlighted" at Marvel under pseudonyms, but their styles were unmistakable. Some accepted Marvel's low rates because it was the only work they could find. Soon, the times were a' changin' and Stan Lee's cheapskate boss had to offer more money to others in order to increase quality. Then, there was Jack Kirby.

2:00PM Naomi Kritzer Reading Park 2

2:30PM Perler Bead Fun Time Autumn

Emily Stewart, Thorin Tatge, Isaac Schneider
Cheap, tiny vacuum cleaner food pellets also make excellent eight bit quality art, and sometimes they're just fun to sort. Materials provided. Please iron responsibly. This is an event for people who are 12 years and up, or are well supervised. Priority for people 12-21 Note: Perler beads will be available in this room or the Teen Room after this event, and throughout the weekend. Undrunk people outside of teen years are welcome to politely ask if they may play during teen focused events, with the understanding that beads or space may be unavailable.

SATURDAY 4/16 PROGRAMMING

**2:30PM Guest of Honor Interview -
Jo Walton and Elise Matthesen
interview each other**

Park 1 *Jo Walton, Elise Matthesen Rick Snyder,
Tom Hogan*

Our guests of honor take written questions at the start of this event, and then interview each other. Sillyness ensues.

**2:30PM Concert: Nate Bucklin
Courtyard 1,2, 3**

(see **Music** section for full description)

**4:00PM MARVEL COMICS' SILVER AGE
1961-1970: Creations**

Spring *Irving Forbush, Greg Larsen,
Steve Kempton*

Why was The Hulk gray, then green? Did you know that the original Ant-Man was verbally abusive towards The Wasp during their early days? Fantastic Four's The Thing started off as a jealous jerk before mellowing to his "ever-lovin', blue-eyed" persona, while the Invisible Girl had bouts of low self-esteem before that term became widespread. Some early issues of Thor and Iron Man were practically unreadable, yet they persisted. Was Nick Fury, Agent of SHIELD actually James Bond, Man from UNCLE? Did LSD influence the visuals of Dr. Strange? Why did Spider-Man resonate with readers, despite Ditko's creepy art? Let's not forget the many love triangles portrayed, either. Find out the answers to these and other mysteries of how Marvel's characters developed during their first decade.

4:00PM What's going on in YA?

Orchard Room *Danith McPherson,
David Lenander, Laura Krentz, Kathryn Sullivan*
What's going on recently in YA? How has YA changed in recent years? What are the trends? Why so dystopian?

**4:00PM Concert: Leprechaun Pirates
Courtyard 1,2, 3**

(see **Music** section for full description)

**4:00PM Planning the unpleasant-to-
think-about**

Park 2 *Naomi Kritzer, Magenta Griffith,
Peg Kerr, Shaun Jamison*

Health care proxies, directives, and advance planning. What sort of paperwork should a person have? How will medical professionals know who to contact? How does a person best set up their end-of-life arrangements? What components are important to a Will - Specifically, how do people make arrangements for their belongings, including the significant assets, and the errata? What are components of a good will? What is to be done with "intellectual property"? Are there issues unique to fans and their interests? Why isn't everything marked "collectible" actually worthy of collecting? Even if that hand crank nut chopper isn't important to you, what if it's important to one of your grandchildren? Bring your friends and discuss the inevitable!

**5:30PM Concert: Astrisoni
Courtyard 1,2, 3**

(see **Music** section for full description)

5:30PM Lady Poetesses From Hell

Orchard Room *Ruth Berman, Eleanor Arnason*
Lady Poetesses From Hell is a poetry performance group. They dress very nicely and have wicked senses of humor. Ladies, awe, irreverence, and wild poetry.

**5:30PM Indie Author Buffet
Spring Room**

*Ozgur Sahin, Alison Sommer, Bill Thomasson,
Laramie Sasseville, Danith McPherson*
An opportunity to try a little of this and a little of that without feeling too full. This event was designed with small press, independent, or not-yet-well known authors in mind. Each author will read 5-10 minutes of their work so that listeners will have an opportunity to hear from work that they may not otherwise have known to look for. Please do not eat the authors.

SATURDAY 4/16 PROGRAMMING

5:30PM The Great Telescope of Birr Castle: How a 19th-Century Irish Family Changed Astronomy

Park 1 *Bill Higgins*

For over 70 years, the largest telescope in the world was to be found in rural Ireland. Years of effort culminated in a night in the spring of 1845. That's when William Parsons, third Earl of Rosse, gazed into the eyepiece of his 72-inch-diameter Leviathan and glimpsed the spiral arms of distant galaxies. The remarkable scientists, inventors, and artists of the Parsons clan may seem the stuff of steampunk, but Bill Higgins—fresh from a pilgrimage to Birr Castle—will assure you that they were quite real.

5:30PM Lyda Morehouse Reading
Park 2

7:00PM Space Empires - When and Why do they make sense?

Orchard Room *Bill Higgins, Bill Thomasson, Scott Mattson, Martin Summerton*

Why are space empires so popular in fiction? Under what circumstances do they make sense? What sort of technology is necessary for a space empire to exist? How does an empire defy the laws of general relativity?

7:00PM Jo Walton
Reading and Signing

Park 2

Guest of Honor Jo Walton, winner of the Hugo and Nebula, and nominee for the world fantasy award reading.

7:00PM Costume Contest Setup
Park 1

During this time, costume participants will meet with the host and discuss their costume and how they'd like to be introduced. This event is MANDATORY for costume contest participants.

7:30PM Costume Contest
Park 1

Show off your costumes!
Who or what will you be?
Or come to watch and see
how creative we can be.

Note, in order to participate in the costume contest, you must come to the setup at 7, in the same room just before this event.

7:30PM Saturday Open Music Circle
Spring Room

8:30PM Concert: Teresa Chandler
Courtyard 1,2, 3

(see **Music** section for full description)

8:30PM Page 117

Orchard Room *Danith McPherson, Lyda Morehouse, Emily Stewart, Martin Summerton, Scott K. Jamison, Jacqueline Stoner*

Can you judge a book by a random page? Let's find out! Our panelists will take turns reading the 117th page of books that are surprises to them and the audience, followed by a discussion about what kind of book we think it is, and whether we'd want to read the rest. Then . . . the reveal!

9:00PM Scotch Tasting

Bar Annex *Joel Phillips*

The Scotch Tasting, an annual bit of fun

10:00PM Concert: Riverfolk

Courtyard 1,2, 3

(see **Music** section for full description)

11:59PM Pub Quiz II:
The Quizzening

Bar Annex

Brian Lundgren, Susan Philbrook

SF/Fantasy themed, family friendly pub trivia

SUNDAY 4/17 PROGRAMMING

10:00AM **Making History Wrong on Purpose**

Park 1

Tom Hogan, Jo Walton, Eric Heideman, Ozgur Sahin

A story set in history must be accurate to the source material, but still be its own story. How does an author stay true to historical events, but still tell their story?

11:30AM **Mentioning Unmentionables in SF/Fantasy**

Park 2

Lyda Morehouse, Adam Stemple, Katie Clapham, Naomi Kritzer

What are the things people don't talk about in SF/F? How do people use the toilet on a space station? How do women deal with their periods? What do you do with a dead body in space?

11:30AM **Balloon Swords and Animals!** **Rumpus Room**

John Wardale will demonstrate and assist you in manipulating balloons into swords. Prepare for battle! If swords aren't your thing, how about a dog or turtle?

11:30AM **Ask A Scientist!**

Park 1 *Bill Thomasson, Bill Higgins, and More*

Our yearly general science panel in which a panel of varied scientists answers questions from the audience. This is a perennially popular Minicon panel, so here it is again!

1:00PM **Inspiration and Transformation in the Fannish Arts**

Park 1 *Beth Kinderman, Rick Snyder, Elise Matthesen, Peg Kerr*

Our artist Guest of Honor has crafted jewelry by listening to beads and wire. Her work often suggests a story, a poem, or a song that has not yet been written. Many SF and fantasy writers have, in turn, written stories inspired by Elise Matthesen's art. It doesn't stop there—fandom is full of songs inspired by literature and film, visual art inspired by science, and more. Let's discuss the many ways in which creative folks in fandom have responded to each other's ideas across various artistic disciplines.

1:00PM **Concert: Paul Robinson** **Courtyard 1,2, 3**

(see **Music** section for full description)

1:00PM **Dealing with it all:** **Stress In The Modern Era**

Park 2 *Alison Sommer, Adam Stemple, Jeanne Kating, Jeanne Mealy*

Stress and grief have been a significant part of the last few years. How have we managed to cope? How to deal with stress! Financial, physical, emotional... it all takes its toll. A discussion of coping strategies, and is there a light at the end of the tunnel, or is that a train?

1:00PM **The Year(s) in SF** **Orchard Room**

David Lenander, Greg Johnson, Russell Letson
Our annual discussion of shiny new SF to be on the lookout for. Anything since 2020 is fair game.

SUNDAY 4/17 PROGRAMMING

2:30PM **Anime and Manga for Speculative Fiction Fans**

Park 2 *Lyda Morehouse, Scott Mattson,
Scott K. Jamison, Jason Otting*

What's new/good in Japanese science fiction, horror, and fantasy Anime and Manga? What are good starting points, and what are some good options for people who want to dig deeper?

2:30PM **Concert: Beth Kinderman & the Player Characters**

Courtyard 1,2, 3

(see **Music** section for full description)

2:30PM **Ladies Sewing Circle Spring**

Bring your craft project to work on and meet the members of the Sewing Circle. Discuss when we may be able to meet again more regularly. All genders welcome.

2:30PM **SF Pets and companions**

Orchard Room *Eric Heideman, Jeanne Mealy,
Katie Clapham, Kathryn Sullivan*

What are some pets and other companion creatures we love in F&SF? Will pets in the future be Aliens, genetically engineered, or some other future tech? Will we be the pets? Chewbacca had a pet human that he loved dearly, even though pet human had some behavior issues. When are pets just people?

4:00PM **Closing Ceremony**

Park 1

*Rob Callahan, Jo Walton, Don Stremski,
Grenevic Sharladanel Stremski, Rick Snyder,
Elise Matthesen, Tom Hogan*

A chance to recap and reflect on what this year's Minicon has been, including a traditional assassination.

AFTER MINICON

**Volunteers are always appreciated
for tearing down and moving out!**

DEAD DOG PARTY

The Dead Dog party is at the hotel Sunday night after teardown is complete.

This is still part of the con!

All are welcome! *Bar, Consuite, and common areas.*

DEAD DODO PARTY

Mon, April 18, 7:00pm – 11:30pm
at Dreampark:

4002 Pillsbury Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55409

The official post-Minicon party, and Richard's birthday. Full COVID vaccination required, but probably mask-optional unless there's a new surge.

EINBLATT!

Einblatt! is the monthly events calendar of Minn-StF. It attempts to inform people of conventions, meetings, and other fannish events taking place in or related to the Twin Cities fannish community.

<http://mnstf.org/einblatt/>

THE MNSTF PICNIC

MnStf usually has at least one summer picnic. Details TBA, watch mnstf.org or the Einblatt for details

MINICON HISTORY

Note 1) There were two years we had two Minicons — 1971 and 1974. Even on years with only one Minicon, it hasn't always been on Easter. Minicons 2, 7 and 8 were on Easter, then all of them starting with 11. So there were 5 Minicons that, you might say, could have been on Easter, but weren't.

Note 2) Really, yes, the numbering goes that way between 1978 and 1985. Fascinating story. Relatedly (really), and because of COVID, Minicon 1 is now in the year you would expect using ordinary subtraction, knowing when Minicon 55 is.

	Dates	Membership	Location (City)	Guests	Theme, slogan, etc.
1	January 6, 1968, 12:30–5pm	60 total	Coffman Union (Men's Lounge), University of Minnesota (Mpls)	Gordon R. Dickson, Charles De Vet, Clifford Simak	<i>A Strange New World of Science Fiction</i>
2	April 4–6, 1969	48 prereg, 115 total	Andrews Hotel (Mpls)	Gordon R. Dickson, Charles De Vet, Clifford Simak	—
3	April 3–5, 1970	130 total	Dyckman Hotel (Mpls)	Poul Anderson, Gordon R. Dickson & Clifford Simak	<i>The Minneapolis in '73 Convention!</i>
4	June 17–19, 1971	150 total	Curtis Hotel (Mpls)	GoH: Lin Carter	<i>The Minneapolis in '73 Convention!</i>
5	October 15–17, 1971	100 total		-	<i>The Genghiscon!</i>
6	April 7–9, 1972	175 total	Andrews Hotel (Mpls)	Ruth Berman	<i>The Stereo-opticon!</i>
7	April 20–22, 1973	220 total	Hyatt Lodge (Mpls)	Larry Niven, Rusty Hevelin	<i>The Minneapolis in '73 Con!</i>
8	April 12–14, 1974	350 total	Dyckman Hotel (Mpls)	Kelly Freas, Bob Tucker, Ben Bova	—
9	October 11–13, 1974	190 total	Minneapolis Public Library/Dyckman Hotel (Mpls)	Judy-Lynn del Rey, Lester del Rey	—
10	April 18–20, 1975	510 total	Holiday Inn (Mpls)	Poul Anderson, Gordy Dickson, Lester del Rey	—
11	April 16–18, 1976	325 pre-reg, 525 total		Edmond Hamilton, Leigh Brackett, Leigh Couch, Norb Couch, Jackie Franke, Rusty Hevelin	—
12	April 8–10, 1977	475 pre-reg, 625 total		Ben Bova, Buck Coulson, Juanita Coulson, Joe Haldeman	<i>The Dododecacon</i>
13	March 24–26, 1978	800 (total?)	Leamington Hotel (Mpls)	Samuel R. Delany, Spider Robinson, Bob Tucker, Krissy	<i>Nothing is as it seems</i>
15	April 13–15, 1979	830 pre-reg, 1019 total		Theodore Sturgeon, Tom Digby, Rick Sternbach, Bob Vardeman	<i>The other 10%</i>
16	April 4–6, 1980	869 pre-reg, 1170 total		C.J. Cherryh, Jon Singer, Ken Fletcher, Nate Bucklin, Wilson (Bob) Tucker	<i>Déjà Vu</i>
17	April 17–19, 1981	966 pre-reg, 1173 total	Minneapolis Radisson (Mpls)	Jack Vance, Jerry Boyajian, Kathy Marschall, Reed Waller	—
14	April 9–11, 1982	874 pre-reg, 1065 total		John Varley, Cliff Simak, Spider Robinson	<i>Forward, Into the Past</i>
19	April 1–3, 1983	881 pre-reg, 1185 total	St. Paul Radisson (St. Paul)	Larry Niven, Pamela Dean, David Dyer-Bennet, Dave Sim, Spider John Koerner, Steven K. Zoltan Brust, Nostradamus	<i>Backward, Into the Future</i>
18	April 20–22, 1984	1052 pre-reg, 1450 total, 1385 warm	Leamington Hotel (Mpls)	Chelsea Quinn Yarbro, Dave Wixon, Steve Hickman, Somtow Sucharitkul, Rusty Hevelin, Bob Tucker	<i>We know what we're doing and you don't. Trust us.</i>

	Dates	Membership	Location (City)	Guests	Theme, slogan, etc.
20	April 5–7, 1985	1072 pre-reg, 1434 total, 1378 warm	Radisson Hotel South (Bloomington), now commonly known in fannish circles as the RadishTree. Additionally there were overflow hotels for the largest Minicons (but all programming was in the Radisson): for Minicons 28–30 and 33 the Wyndham Garden, for Minicons 29–33 L'Hotel Sofitel, and for Minicons 31–33 the Holiday Inn Airport 2.	James P. Hogan, Permanent Floating Riot Club, Stu Shiffman, Bob Berlien & the White Women, Kara Dalkey, Jerry Stearns, Somtow Sucharitkul	<i>Let's you and I get normal for a change</i>
21	March 28–30, 1986	1109 pre-reg, 1533 total, 1475 warm		Damon Knight, Kate Wilhelm, Denny Lien, Ken Fletcher, Ann Passovoy, Diane Duane, Phyllis Eisenstein, Terri Windling, John M. Ford, P.C. Hodgell	<i>Now we're just immoral and fattening</i>
22	April 17–19, 1987	1566 pre-reg, 2042 total, 1950 warm		David Brin, Fred Haskell, Erin McKee, Jerry Stearns, Robert Bloch, Diane Duane, Jane Yolen, Ellen Kushner	<i>Still Crazy After All These Years</i>
23	April 1–3, 1988	1745 pre-reg (at least), 2350 total		Eleanor Amason, Eric Heideman, Frederik Pohl, Crystal Marvig, Richard Feynman, Jane Yolen, David Hartwell, Algis Budrys	<i>Spring Forward, Fall Over</i>
24	March 24–26, 1989	2025 pre-reg, 2470 total		Harry Harrison, George "Lan" Laskowski, Fritz Leiber, Barry Longyear, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, P.C. Hodgell, Larry Niven, John Sladek	<i>Zen and the Art of Fan Maintenance</i>
25	April 13–15, 1990	2425 pre-reg, 3000 total, 2800 warm		Jane Yolen, Kim Stanley Robinson, Patrick Price, David Thayer a.k.a. Teddy Harvia, David E Romm, Earl Joseph, Dave Clement, P.C. Hodgell, Dr. Joseph Romm, Art Widner	<i>The Silver Edition</i>
26	March 29–31, 1991	2080 pre-reg, 2299 total, 2150 warm		George Alec Effinger, David Cherry, Al Kuhfeld, Suzanne V. Tompkins, Jerry Kaufman, Jon Singer	<i>Think of it as Evolution in Action</i>
27	April 17–19, 1992	2491 pre-reg, 2648 total, 2502 warm		Lois McMaster Bujold, Ctein, Dave Van Ronk	<i>Don't Ever Be A Dodo</i>
28	April 9–11, 1993	2860 pre-reg, 3100 total, 2846 warm		Susan Allison, Diane Duane, Peter Morwood, Kathy Mar, Don Fitch, John M. Ford	<i>Suite, Savage Minicon</i>
29	April 1–3, 1994	3075 pre-reg, 3300 total, 3180±175 warm		Tom Doherty, Jack Williamson, Rusty Hevelin, Phil Foglio	<i>It seemed like a good idea at the time</i>
30	April 14–16, 1995	3100+ pre-reg, 3715 total, 3450 warm		Vernor Vinge, Dr. Robert Forward, Jody Lee, The Bhigg House, Glen Cook	<i>Some Assembly Required or "Would You Like Fries With That?"</i>
31	April 5–7, 1996	2957 prereg, 3619 total, 3564 warm		Suzette Haden Elgin, Ed Emshwiller, Joe Siclari, Edie Stern, David Ossman, James P. Hogan, L.A. Taylor	<i>Coming to a Galaxy Near You</i>
32	March 28–30, 1997	2957 pre-reg, 3500+ total		Algis Budrys, C.J. Cherryh, Tom Doherty, Tom Lopez, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Michael Swanwick	<i>Even Chaos has a Pattern</i>
33	April 10–12, 1998	3125 pre-reg, 3431 total, 3262 warm		Gardner Dozois, Dave Langford, John M. Ford, Phil Proctor	<i>Heisenberg Probably Slept Here</i>
34	April 2–4, 1999	~1360 prereg, 1525 total		Octavia E. Butler, Mark Olson, Priscilla Olson, Dave Nee	—
35	April 21–23, 2000	763 prereg, 844 total	Hilton Minneapolis and Towers (Mpls) Maureen F. McHugh, Lenny Bailes, John Berkey, Orson & David Ossman	—	

	Dates	Membership	Location (City)	Guests	Theme, slogan, etc.
36	April 13–15, 2001	457 prereg, 548 total	Hilton Minneapolis and Towers (Mpls)	Ken MacLeod, Jo Walton, Leslie Fish	—
37	March 29–31, 2002	643 total, 565 warm		Will Shetterly, Emma Bull, Arthur Hlavaty, Rick Berry	—
38	April 18–20, 2003	526 total, ~480 warm		Robert J. Sawyer, Carolyn Clink, Sue Mason, Steve Macdonald	—
39	April 9–11, 2004	417 pre-reg, 458 total, 396 warm	Millennium Hotel Minneapolis (Mpls)	Walter Jon Williams, Sharyn November, Deb Geisler	—
40	March 25–27, 2005	460 prereg, 630 total	The hotel in Bloomington fondly known as the RadishTree, formerly the Radisson South, calling itself the Sheraton for Minicons 40–46 and the DoubleTree for Minicons 47–52	Terry Pratchett, James Young, Fastner & Larson	<i>Minicon Fortean</i>
41	April 14–16, 2006	381 prereg, 527±10 total		Harlan Ellison, John Picacio, Doug Friauf	<i>XLi, Robot</i>
42	April 6–8, 2007	310 prereg, 430 total, 402 warm		Charles de Lint, Charles Vess	<i>And the question was...?</i>
43	March 21–23, 2008	321 prereg, 432±3 total, 385±3 warm		Alastair Reynolds, Shawna McCarthy, Nate Bucklin, Wayne Barlowe	<i>Digging up the future</i>
44	April 10–12, 2009	317 prereg, 422 total, 395 warm		Karl Schroeder, Seth Shostak, Stephen Martiniere	—
45	April 2–4, 2010	366 prereg, 450 total, 434 warm		Brandon Sanderson, Dan Dos Santos, Moshe Feder	—
46	April 22–24, 2011	372 prereg, 448 total, 425 warm		John Scalzi, Chas Somdahl	<i>Not yet dead from the neck up</i>
47	April 6–8, 2012	363 prereg, 463 total, 452 warm		Ted Chiang, Christopher J Garcia, Frank Wu, Brianna "Spacekat" Wu	<i>The minions are coming...</i>
48	March 29–31, 2013	382 prereg, 515 total, 503 warm		Julie Czerneda, Richard Tatge	<i>The Game of Life</i>
49	April 17½–20, 2014	418 prereg, 561 total, 538 warm		Catherynne Valente, Janny Wurts, Don Maitz	<i>Pirates and Airships*</i>
50	April 2–5, 2015	826 prereg, 1135 total, 1114 warm		Jane Yolen, Larry Niven, Brandon Sanderson, Tom Doherty, Adam Stemple, Michael Whelan	<i>The Gold Edition</i>
51	March 25–27, 2016	492 prereg, 647 total, 622 warm		Seanan McGuire, Sara Butcher Burrier, Lojo Russo	<i>Zombies and Fairies and Mermaids, Oh My!</i>
52	April 14–16, 2017	510 prereg, 601 total, 574 warm		Jim C. Hines, Brother Guy Consolmagno, Mark Oshiro, Jeff Lee Johnson	—
53	March 30–April 1, 2018	502 prereg, 568 total, 547 warm		Rachel Swirsky, Lyda Morehouse, Jon Arfstrom	<i>The Pedantic One</i>
54	April 19–21, 2019	424 prereg, 507 total, 483 warm		Naomi Kritzer, Dave DeVries, Tom Fleming	<i>Purple</i>
55	April 15–17, 2022		DoubleTree Saint Louis Park	Jo Walton, Elise Matthesen	<i>Green</i>

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

The convention committee (or concom) are the people that organize and run the convention. Anybody can help out on the committee as long as you're willing to put in the work to put on a great convention. If you'd like to help, please email volunteers@minicon55.mnstf.org.

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Grenevic Sharladanel
Stremski

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BADGES &

REGISTRATION FORMS

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BAR

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Brian Lundgren

BOZO BUS TRIBUNE

Thorin Tatge

CONSUIE

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Mark O'Pray

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George Richard

VENDOR'S ROOM

Jean Mlynczak

ELECTRONIC PR DELIVERY

David Dyer-Bennet

E-MAIL ADDRESS HANDLER

Matt Strait

GREEN ROOM

Rick Snyder

GUEST LIAISON

Rick Snyder (head)
Tom Hogan

HOTEL LIAISON

Aaron Vander Giessen

INSURANCE

Emily Stewart

LOGISTICS

James Porter

MEDALLION HUNT

Jason Spitzer

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