

Issue 1

Friday noon

Bozo Bus Tribune

The Official Organ of Minicon 58

"We're all bozos on this bus!"

Welcome back to the RadiShTree!

And hey, welcome to **Minicon 58**! It's been a while since we've boppity-bopped back to this familiar haunt. Most functions are back where they were in 2017, but you may want to note the following:

- **Parties** are on the 1st floor with two entrances—one underneath the Bar and Consuite and one along the 1st floor of the Garden Court, on the left side as you face the Bar.
- **Gaming** is in the newly spawned Minnesota Room on the 1st floor, near the hotel restaurant.
- **Cinema Obscura** (Film) is in Verandas 7&8.
- **Science** is in grand ballroom East B (see page 2 for an analysis of this room's name).

A Not So Sticky Situation

- As part of our deal to return to the RadiShTree, we may not stick things to the walls with tape this year. The exception is the Garden Court area (including cabanas), where low-tack blue tape only may be used.

Rumors of a late breakfast

- Breakfast buffet is probably open in the hotel restaurant **7 – 11a.m.** (not 7 – 10 as previously advertised) Saturday & Sunday, according to a DoubleTree employee.

Gifts from the wild rumpus

"Rumpus Room (Edina) is gifting markers and crafting supplies all weekend at a table outside the Rumpus Room. (There is another Free Will table near it.)"

—Nora Strait

Be sensitive to authors and vendors

Due to chemical sensitivities, congoers are asked not to bring nuts or nut-based snacks (including peanuts) into the Author and Vendor areas. Moreover, if you are accompanied by an animal, please be sensitive to authors' & vendors' concerns.

Programming updates

- **Michael Bernabo** has a reading Friday at 4:30p.m. in Veranda 5.
- **A Wuxia Fan Meet-up** will happen at 8:30p.m. Friday in Veranda 6.
- **Bill Higgins, Dex Green Bright, and Wil Bastion** will not be attending Minicon 58. **Mara DeMers** will replace Bill Higgins on "Ask a Scientist."

A new party pops into existence! It's The Ephemeral Party!

- 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 only, starting at 8p.m., in Room 106.**
- "Music has a schedule change to announce: Due to illness, **Astrisoni** is unable to perform. We wish them well. In their place, at **4p.m. Friday** **Beth Kinderman** and **Dave Stagner** will do an hour-long song swap in which they take turns performing their own original material and songs by other songwriters that they love."

—Beth Kinderman

A dose of microfiction

Time travel test: **Minicon 324's** Time Travel Panel is using a prototype tachyonic antitelephone. After the future panelists read **GOH Wesley Chu's** *Art of Prophecy*, they strongly suggest that Minicon 58's attendees memorize the novel's chapter on whether free will exists within prophesy (and time paradoxes) before ignoring lightning forecasts.

—Time reporter Randy Holland

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Does knowledge alone of future time travel create a temporal paradox? Drop your answers in the Submission Box for Issue 2!

History and Mystery of RadiShTree Room Naming

"We had a minor panic a few weeks ago involving confusion about whether or not we had listed the location of the Science Room and one of the big programming rooms backwards. One is in **Grand Ballroom East A** and the other in **Grand Ballroom East B**.

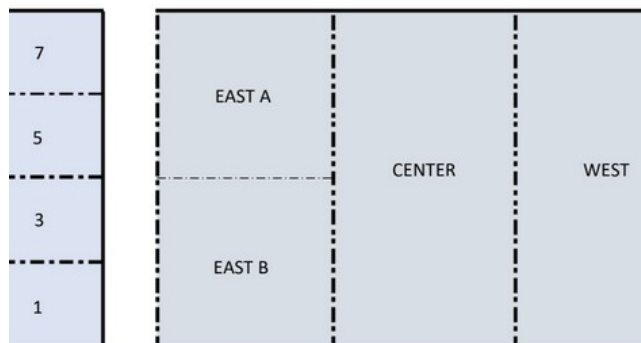
Minicon has a long history at this hotel. We were first here for Minicon 20 (1985). After 14 "big Minicons" at the then-Radisson, we became the modern "little Minicon" and moved away for six years. In 2005, we moved back for Minicon 40, at which point the RadiShTree was a Sheraton. After a 13-year stint here, during which the hotel was rebranded to a DoubleTree, we left again for 5 Minicons (7 years) and have now returned home again.

Now, which half of Grand Ballroom East is 'A' and which is 'B'? At Minicon 20 (when the room was called the "Great Hall"), we said that the front one was 'A', copying a map straight out of a hotel brochure. We used the room with A+B together on Friday (to put on 'Gateway: The Play,' among other events) and separately on Saturday and Sunday (for cartoons, a dance, a slideshow, panels, etc.).

Maps from Minicons 21-33 and 40-52 either have 'A' in front or don't break the two halves out. Often they were used together as part of the art show, dealer's room or mainstage. Minicon 49 was the last to show 'A' and 'B' individually, with 'A' still in front. Yet a map from the hotel this year has 'B' in front.

LLROOM

GRAND BALLROOM



Why would the hotel swap the labels? A tour of the hotel gives a hint. The front door to Grand Ballroom East just says "Grand Ballroom East", no letter. The door to the back half has no sign, as it seems barely intended to be used at all. So 'A' and 'B' are mostly internal labels not meant to be used by event attendees, only by event planners. We seem to probably be a rare group that uses the back half as a separate room *and* wants our membership to go find it themselves instead of being herded there.

Other room changes over the years: the Bloomington and Edina rooms, named in recognition of the former dividing line between these two cities running between them, used to be called the Boulevard and Plaza rooms. Based on the hotel brochure from the Minicon 20-era, the

current Plaza rooms on the first floor don't seem to have existed at all before (what was there?), and there were only three Atrium rooms back then: 1, 2 and 3, which are the current Atriums 8, 7 and 6, respectively. (Was the current atrium an open air courtyard in the 80's? Maybe someone remembers or can find evidence? Check out fanpa.mnsth.org. If only photographers back then had focused on architecture instead of fans. :-P)"

—Matt Strait, MinnSTF archivist

[Your editor doesn't know about the 80s, but remembers the 1st floor rooms in the north tower being called Village rooms in the 90s, with glass windows looking in.]

DD-B reception

"On **Friday** I am holding a reception in my hotel room at Minicon from **4–7p.m.** If the room number isn't here, I didn't manage to get it and convey it to the BBT in time. There should be a sign on the door to the BBT office with the information, or you could call my mobile if you've got the number.

I've been mostly absent from things for 6 months due to medical things, but I'm in pretty good shape right now (more major stuff on the schedule up through June). This is an attempt to get some of you to come to me rather than my running around so much at the convention. Hope to see you!"

—David Dyer-Bennett

Load-out reminder

"Minicon doesn't end at Closing Ceremonies. We need your help to clean up and load out. We provide pizza to volunteers! And everyone is invited to the Dead Dog party in the Bar (rooms 217 – 218) once cleanup is done."

—Con chair Matt

Have an announcement, a news story, a review, a personal item, or anything else for the BBT? Drop it in the Submission Box outside the BBT Office or write to bbs@minicon58.mnsth.org.

The Bozo Bus Tribune

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