

Issue 3

Saturday afternoon

Bozo Bus Tribune

The Official Organ of Minicon 59

"We're all bozos on this bus!"

Brave peep stands up to pounding

During a hard-fought contest on Friday that saw sun-temples built, eggs found, and gods rescued from the underworld, the story that will be remembered and told in fire-lit halls is that of a peep that shed the anonymity of the masses and defiantly declared: "I shall not go quietly through the slot!"

After witnessing four package-siblings fall, the last remaining peep defied the odds—surviving three crushing blows of the Black Mallet of Doom. Such doughty resistance only served to infuriate the wielder to administer a mighty rage-filled blow that finally ended the heroic stand.

It is hoped that such bravery earned a place of honor in Marshmallow-Valhalla.

—Anonymous

Panel Review

Portal Fantasy & PTSD (5:30p.m. Fri.)

Pat Wrede, Kathryn Sullivan, David Lenander, Barb Jensen, and mod Lisa Freitag discussed what was considered a portal fantasy, giving examples from popular culture like Oz and Narnia. Any transition to a second world can be considered a portal fantasy, even if they're not literally stepping through a doorway. What matters is that the traveler is forced to experience a world unlike their own that will, without exception, change them. From an unequal passage of time between the worlds to varying forms of amnesia to the death and destruction caused by whatever quest they endured, these experiences can be traumatic. How they deal with these changes is usually a prominent theme in such stories. It can be vastly different depending on the characters, and can be a compelling conclusion or sequel to the original story.

Ruth Berman is SFPA's 2026 Grand Master

The Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry Association has named its 13th Grand Master. The honor goes to the multi-talented **Ruth Berman**. Berman's speculative poetry has appeared in numerous top-tier magazines and anthologies. As a translator from French, she has placed work in *Space & Time*, *Tales of the Unanticipated*, and *Fantasy Macabre*. Editing credits include working with *Mythlore* and *Pandora*, assembling a collection by past Rhysling winner Terry A. Garey, *The Middle Earth Songbook*, *The Star Trek Songbook*, and the in-house newsletter on the set of the original *Star Trek*.

See file770.com/ruth-berman-is-sfpas-2026-grand-master/ for further details.

TAFF race enters final days

Just a few days remain to vote in the 2026 Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund (TAFF) race to send a North American fan to the Eurocon in Munich, Germany. The candidates are Boston fan **Lisa Hertel** and Bay Area fan **Katrina "Kat" Templeton**. The voting deadline is Tuesday, April 7 at 5:59p.m. CDT. You can read Lisa and Kat's platforms and vote online at <https://taff.org.uk/vote.php>.

Vote for TAFF! And consider being a candidate in a future race!

—Geri Sullivan

Are Jedi Democratic obstructionists?

Aaron Vander Giessen has been added to "Are All Jedi Fascists?" (1p.m. Sun.) and is super-excited to see if people have counterpoints to his theory.

Artemis en route!

Artemis II reached halfway to the Moon at approximately 21:40 Central Time Friday.

Watch live coverage in Room 209, the **Minnesota Space Frontier** party room.

—*Blue Wizard member #342*

But what do other parties have to offer?

- At the **Happy Beholder**, you can create tiny googly-eyed beholders from foam and pipe cleaners, color a picture, or roll a giant D20 for a prize.
- The **Narrativity Party** has a registration discount for their June convention, conversation about writing, and Elvis-sandwich-flavored whiskey.
- **GPS** has baked potatoes next to the Consuite!
- The **Ephemeral Party** has heated brass typesetting to—wait, never mind. It's gone.

Klaatu Barata Oops!

A flying saucer that came in Thursday afternoon accidentally landed upside-down in the Garden Court... but had mysteriously righted itself by Friday. WHO FLIPPED IT?

—*Richard Tatge*

"Thank you for the large schedules and maps. Very handy.

And thanks to the excellent consuite crew!"

—*Jeanne Mealy*

For those curious about badge names:

"I'm 'Moon' on the day-to-day, which (as you may imagine) makes me responsible for quite a bit—the tides, NASA missions, werewolves... et cetera. So, keeping to a theme, I'll generally use one of "my own" names on the badge. I've got a whole roster to choose from, and that's only counting those in our local planetary system!

Cheers,

Ananke-of-Jupiter"

The medallion hunt is underway!

See the status board outside the BBT Office. The Cluemeister, editor and minions can take your pennies and stories and dispense prizes.

A Free Plea

PLEASE take the free-will donations!

All sorts of fabric has been donated to the Free Will Table and we moved it down there for the space.

And there's a room full of freebies in the former Nine Mile Grill, first floor. Good stuff.

—*Mark R. and Anonymous*

The pool rules

"The pool is open to only Minicon members until Sunday at noon. And the pool is open till midnight on Saturday."

—*Co-chair Stacey*

What problems?

As of 2p.m. Saturday, the con chair is thrilled to hear that the biggest problem lately is, "I accidentally turned off some lights, but 5 minutes later, we got the hotel to turn them back on."

Friday night Solo-Strait pulse check

Bar: 18 Consuite: 6 Lobby: 2(?)

Medallion administrators: 2

Suspected elsewhere: 2

Amalgamated Spleen: 3

Total: 29

Friday night warm body count:

499 (best guess)

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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@minicon59.mnstrf.org.

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The Bozo Bus Tribune

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