
La Estrella Solitaria San Antonio, Texas

ISSUE 5

The Solitary Star

LATE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2013

So Many Parties, So Little Time

by *Party Animal*

Last night the party pickings were good, both in quantity and quality.

Take Detroit in 2014, a chilled out, laid-back bid party. Mix in some good food (especially the strawberries) and you end up with not only great way to end the day, but a general good time.

Their friendly neighbor (and competitor) party, Phoenix 2014, must have had a flux capacitor hidden somewhere. From the black light to the (working!) Philco TV, the party was completely retro, with black lights and moving stars on the ceiling. All it needed was Frazetta posters.

The Orlando 2015 party played the Disney card, from the Cars stickers to the wonderful red velvet cupcakes with tiny Oreo “ears” on them. The food was meatballs, and they were good, too.

Spokane 2015 combined candy and Legos: edible Legos. Only the unfortunate shortage of building materials kept Your Furballer from re-enacting the tale of the third pig.

Helsinki in 2015 featured tar syrup on vanilla ice cream, which tasted like a smoky cross between maple syrup and pine tar, plus odd but interesting Finnish liqueurs, and plenty of black licorice.

DC3 had a killer cheese selection, and in general some of the best food of the night.

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Program Book Correction

The list of “Special Committee Awards” on page 90 of the souvenir book leaves out the Chicon 1991 Special Committee Award for Andrew I. Porter for *Science Fiction Chronicle*. Again.

Don't Miss...

Harry Harrison Memorial Wake

Sat., 1:30 PM, one hour, Rivercenter lobby bar; hosted by his son Todd.

Ray Bradbury's Kaleidoscope

Sat., 2:30 PM; the actor & director, Eric Tozzi, will be on hand to talk about this winner of seven film festivals.

The **NASA Space Science and Exploration** schedule listing had an incorrect précis for **Engineer Your NASA Career** (Saturday at 1 PM, Room CC 103A). The correct précis is:

NASA engineer Heather Paul shares her experiences working at NASA, including a picture slideshow of some things that may change your perspective on what engineers do, where they work, and what it takes to get the job done.

Masquerade: Yes, you can!

If you build your masquerade entry at the con, you'll be eligible for a special award in each class: Novice, Journeyman, and Master. Just let Masquerade Registration (next to regular Registration) know you're interested. They'll be happy to answer all your questions, too.

— Jill Eastlake, Masquerade Director

Eat, Drink, and Be Merry

In the Marriott Riverwalk: The Cactus Flower Restaurant has extended breakfast buffet hours for Saturday and Sunday: 6:30 AM to noon.

In the Marriott Rivercenter: Sazo's has extended its breakfast buffet hours for Saturday, Sunday and Monday: 6:30 AM to 11 AM; a la carte is also available until 11 AM.

The Rivercenter Bar has drink specials in honor of LoneStarCon 3!

Green Vegetarian in the Pearl, about 2 miles north on the River Walk—vegetarian food, kosher. No alcohol, but very tasty food. Closed on Saturdays (Shabbat).

Doughboys: The coffee & donuts side is open 24 hours. The pizza/deli hours are 9 AM to 10 PM, all week. They deliver until 10 PM, too.

The Lone Star Restaurant gets a big thumbs-up. Very fine mushroom and Swiss cheese burger and Alamo ale, followed by a brownie. Great atmosphere and super service. Recommended by James Shields.

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Friday WSFS Preliminary Business Meeting

I've not mentioned the Shamrockon party up to this point, in part because of a reluctance to compare professionals with amateurs. Let's face it, God created the Irish because He knew we needed live examples of how to party. The room was so crowded the oxygen level was being depleted. Only later did the Party Animal conclude the light-headedness originated with the "lemonade."

Neat!

Need your suit and shirt pressed for the Hugos? As it turns out, the hotel does have such a service, though they use a third party. Clothes given by 9 AM return by 6 PM, and the cost is \$7.50 per item (suit, jacket, pants, shirt).

Thanks...

The Exhibits division would like to express its heartfelt thanks to all of the fans who showed up early, waited patiently while mundane foul-ups were sorted out, and then got the Art Show and the other exhibit supports put up quickly and safely while we were being distracted with new foul-ups. Everything was ready earlier than we had hoped, despite our needing to have some work redone to allow for missing pieces. Everyone who helped should be proud of their part in making these exhibits possible. A long-time fan once said that conventions run on blood, sweat, and volunteers: the greatest of these is volunteers.

No old business was passed on from last year's Chicon 7. A resolution was submitted and passed to endorse the Worldcon Heritage Organization (which is preserving items of historic interest from previous Worldcons). Endorsement would make it eligible for Worldcon pass-along funds. An amendment to the Worldcon Constitution was introduced to expand Best Fan Artist to include all types of visual and performance art. There were also amendments dealing with mandating paper publications, dealing with membership fees and voting rights, and delineating financial reporting requirements for Worldcon committees. These amendments will be considered at Saturday's Main Business Meeting.

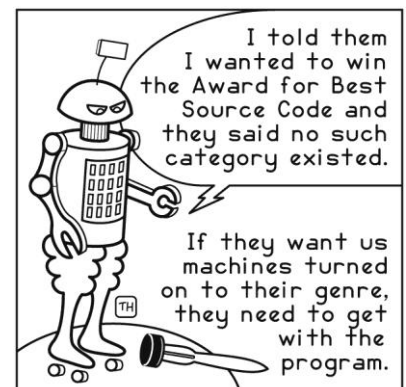
Three amendments that will not be considered at Saturday's meeting include one to create a Best Dramatic Presentation: Very Short Form Hugo (under 15 minutes); one to delete all three fan Hugos (Fanzine, Fan Writer and Fan Artist); and one to create a Young Adult (YA) Hugo category. However, a committee will be created tomorrow to study the YA Hugo and report back at Loncon 3.

Much of the meeting dealt with the Hugo Eligibility of the Rest of the World (HEROW) Committee, which deals with the granting of an additional year of eligibility for works not published initially in the United States. The Committee is not a standing Worldcon committee, so both the committee and the eligibility of current works were extended for another year. Amendments to change the requirement for granting eligibility from a 3/4 to a 2/3 vote were introduced for two sections. An amendment to the WSFS Constitution to make the HEROW Committee a standing committee was also introduced. These amendments will also be discussed at the Main Business Meeting.

Efforts to apply the HEROW exception to the Retro Hugos failed. Two resolutions that would make *The Hobbit* and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* eligible for the ballot of the 1939 Retro Hugos, which will be awarded in London next year, were also defeated.

Sunday's Business Meeting will deal primarily with Site Selection, as well as presentations from bids, leftover business, and any needed committee reports.

Finally, the WSFS Business Meeting accepted reports from the Mark Protection Committee (which protects the use of the term "Worldcon," "Hugo Awards," "World Science Fiction Convention," and the Hugo Award symbol); the Nitpicking and Flyspecking Committee (which maintains the rules), the Worldcon Runners Guide Committee (which updates said guide), and the Formalization of Long Lists Entries (FOLLE) Committee with little comment. In addition, the new members of the Mark Protection Committee will be voted on tomorrow. Financial reports from various Worldcons, past and present, were accepted. Reports were not accepted from L.A.Con and Renovation, as they did not send representatives.



Credits: Lisa Hertel, Lew Wolkoff, Gary Blog, and proofer Terry Sisk Graybill