



Westercon 62

FiestaCon
www.fiestacon.org

July 2-5, 2009
Tempe, Arizona USA

Progress Report #1

Westercon 62 (FiestaCon)
c/o Leprecon Inc
PO Box 26665
Tempe AZ 85285-6665 USA

General Information

Sponsoring Organization: Leprecon Inc, an Arizona non-profit volunteer corporation, www.leprecon.org on the Web.

Contact Information Westercon 62 (FiestaCon):

Mailing: c/o Leprecon Inc, PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285-6665 USA

Web: www.fiestacon.org

Phone: +1-480-945-6890

Blog: community.livejournal.com/westercon62.

Email: Chairman – chair@fiestacon.org;

Email: Program Director – program@fiestacon.org;

Email: Information – info@fiestacon.org .

Guests-of-Honor:

Artist: Todd Lockwood (www.toddlockwood.com)

Author: Alan Dean Foster (www.alandeanfoster.com);

Editor: Stanley Schmidt (www.sfw.org/members/stanleyschmidt/index.html)

Fans: Jim & Doreen Webbert

Toastmasters: Patrick & Teresa Nielsen Hayden (www.nielsenhayden.com)

Chairman:

Mike Willmoth,
PO Box 8068, Scottsdale, AZ 85252-8068 USA

mwillmoth@cox.net or chair@fiestacon.org ;

+1-480-945-6890 (24hr home office);

mwillmoth.livejournal.com

Dates: Thursday July 2 through Sunday July 5, 2009.

Location:

Tempe Mission Palms Hotel,
Address: 60 E Fifth St, Tempe, AZ 85281 USA

Phone: 800-547-8705 or 480-894-1400.

Web: www.missionpalms.com

Hotel Rates:

US\$119.00 per night (includes resort fee) plus tax, single / double / triple / quadruple; standard king, standard double, executive king, executive double, handicap accessible and suites.

Memberships:

US\$65.00 for adults (thru 9/30/08); half rate for children ages 7-12, complimentary for children ages 0-6 (both as of the beginning of the convention), with an adult membership.

Art Credit: Todd Lockwood, used with permission.

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www.conjecture.org

PROGRAMMING

We'll have a track of panels on Military Science Fiction, as well as panels on literature, media, art, science, society, and fandom.

Our entire list of potential panel topics is up on our website at the **Rate-A-Panel**. Vote for your favorites and suggest new topics!

EVENTS

In Fiction Stadium, Chairman Conje judges **Iron Hack!**

Deranged researchers are invited to exhibit their creations in the **Mad Science Fair**.

Enter your costumes—SF military uniforms encouraged—in the **Masquerade**.

FUN

Enjoy the **Gaming Room** and **Anime Room**. Get loot in the **Dealers Room** and **Art Show**. And luxuriate in San Diego, the best shore leave location this side of the Crab Nebula!

Conjecture is sponsored by SanSFIS (www.sansfis.org).

FiestaCon Progress Report #1

Content Creation: Mike Willmoth

Layout and Design: Dawn Devine of Ibexa Press (www.ibexa.com)

Want to advertise in PR #2?

e-mail Mike for more details chair@fiestacon.org

For the most up-to-the-minute information about Fiestcon visit our website

www.fiestacon.org

Committee/Staff

Allen, Pam; Anderson, David-Glenn; Armstrong, Nadine; Bauer, Kris; Berger, Len; Cornell, Shahn; Dennis, Jane; Dennis, Scott; Devine, Dawn; DuFault, Barbara; Garcia, Chris; George, Jeff; Gieseke, Gerald; Gleason, Susan; Goddin, Jean; Green, Ed; Griffin, Mike; Hertz, John; Hooper, Edward; Hooper, Joyce; Jeppesen, David; Jeppesen, RosLyn; Manning, Sandra; Massoglia, Alice; Minsky, Marcia; Moen, Deirdre Saoirse; Mortensen, Liz; Mullican, Cathy; Rankin, Nora; Richards, Jeff; Rood, Dave; Standlee, Kevin; White, Janet; Whiteside, Lee; Willmoth, Mike; Woehrle, Sally; Yeager, Kathryn.

Guests

Foster, Alan Dean; Foster, JoAnn; Lockwood, Rita; Lockwood, Todd; Nielsen Hayden, Patrick; Nielsen Hayden, Theresa; Schmidt, Mrs; Schmidt, Stanley; Webbert, Doreen; Webbert, James.
Kids - Brown, Alexandra; Brown, Grant. Kids-in-Tow - Brown, Troy.

Supporting

Bloom, Kent; Copeland, Jeffrey; Copeland, Liz; Daugherty, Kathryn; Davidson, Howard; Hershey, Allison; Meriwether, Cary; Morman, Mary; Moseley, Craig; O'Hare, Dorothy; Schlosser, David; Schoenhuth, Spring; Silva, Joseph.

Who runs Westercon? Different non-profit groups run Westercon every year since the event moves from city to city. In 2009 it will be run by volunteers from North America and sponsored by Leprecon Inc, an Arizona non-profit volunteer corporation. Please visit www.leprecon.org for more information on the sponsoring organization for Westercon 62.

What is Westercon? Westercon is the West Coast Science Fantasy Conference and is held annually since 1948 in the western half of North America including Hawaii. It is a general interest science fiction / fantasy convention covering literature, art, science, costuming, gaming, music, television, movies, and any other topic of interest to sf/f fans. Westercon is a registered service mark of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Inc. and is used with permission. Please visit www.westercon.org for further details, bylaws, history, etc.

When is Westercon held? Westercon is traditionally held over American Independence Day Weekend, or one of the closest weekends, although this is not mandatory. In 2009 it will be Thursday July 2 through Sunday July 5.

Where is Westercon Held? It has been held from Hawaii to Spokane, from El Paso to Seattle. Next year it will be in Tempe, Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix very close to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

Why is Westercon held? Although it was started many years ago for those fans who could not afford to attend the World Science Fiction Convention, it has become an event for fans from around North America to travel to different parts of the West, to communicate with different communities and experience the flavor of the region, not only regarding sf/f, but also society at large.

How does it work? A group expresses interest in hosting a Westercon, be they in Los Angeles or Portland or wherever. They bid for the event starting about 4 years out, or 2 years prior to the vote. If they win the bid, then they have 2 years to organize it. They have to have a site, usually a hotel, a committee or team to run the event, they invite VIPs (professionals and fans) to draw in sf/f fans, they plan the program schedule, and advertise it. With help from the community it is successful.

Message from the Chair

Greetings,

As some of you receiving this progress report already know, Phoenix (Tempe, actually) won the bid to host Westercon 62 in 2009! We are calling our event FiestaCon, fiesta being Spanish for party. Our thanks go out to everyone who supported our efforts from the financial end to the staffing end. Now we are putting together our team of volunteers to help bring you a great Westercon experience. We have included some basic information in this report to give you an idea of where we are in the planning process. If you have any questions, comments, ideas, complaints, etc., please feel free to contact us using the information provided. We've also listed all current committee, staff and members. If you think the information is incorrect, let us know as soon as possible. As always check our website for regular updates. We look forward to seeing you in 2009 and hope you have a great time!

Mike Willmoth, Chair, FiestaCon, July, 2008

Advertising

DEADLINE (ad & payment): Progress Report (PR) 2 - Aug 31 2008, PR3 - Dec 31 2008, PR4 - Apr 30 2009, Program Book (PB) - Apr 30 2009; all funds are in US dollars.

Type	(Width x Height inches)	PRO	FAN
PR-Full Page	(5.0 x 8.0)	\$ 75	\$ 50
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PB-Back Cover	(7.5 x 10.0)	\$195	\$130
PB-Inside Cover	(7.5 x 10.0)	\$160	\$110

Pre-Supporters

Allwood, Paul; Anderson, Mark; Aronson, Alex; Aronson, Casceil; Aronson, Jenny; Aronson, Peter; Arthur, Daniel; Barnes, Mary; Benoun, Tony; Birdsong, Larry; Bradley, Amy R; Branson, Tim; Brice, La; Browning, Diana; Carlson, Roberta; Collier, J.; Coltrin, Steve; Curry, Bill; Dalelio II, Michael R.; Dashoff, Joni; Dashoff, Todd; Dazzo, Genny; Delorenzo, Margaret R; Dickinson, Jules; Dove, Norma; Edwards, Eli; Edwards, Vickie; Evans, Robert; Exline, Darrel; Farr, Bruce; Farr, Lea; Gold, Barry; Gold, Lee; Golla-Paszt, Diane; Griffin, Tim; Grigsby, Dawn; Hamit, Francis; Hanson, Eric; Hart, Mary; Hay, Christine; Henderson, Rita; Hiatt, David; Hiatt, Kim; Huff, Patricia; Jennings, Jeff; Johnson, Barbara; Kapschull, Ray; Kelly, Nora; Kotas, Jon; Kukuk, David; Lichtenberg, Jacqueline; Lichtenberg, Saloman L; Little, David; Mansfield, John; Marble, Beth; Marble, Chris; Marquez, Stephanie Amedeo; McAllister, Linda; McAllister, Rich; McDonald, Cynthia; McIlwaine, Terry; McKibben, Loretta; Miller, Craig; Minne, Joe; Munoz, Cherri; Nylund, Carol J; Oberg, Peggy; O'Connell, John; Oliver, John W; Ontell, Ron; Ontell, Val; Orman, Cyndi; Orman, Fran; Orman, Sheryl; Partridge, James; Paszt, Stan; Patterson, Bill; Pauley, Don; Porter, Ken; Powers, Tom; Proctor, Chuck; Raleigh Jr, Kent; Raymond, Suzanne; Reiss, Randel; Riall, Cary; Rosenblum, Tabitha; Sachter, Ruth; Schlofner, Mike; Scott, Cindy; Shibley, James; Smith, Henry Allen; Smith, Nick; Smith, Rebecca; Spero, Sarah; Spero, Steve; Strother-Vien, Leigh; Sullivan (Swanson), Andrew; Svoboda, Mary; Swanwick, Michael; Sylvester, Terri; Tang, C. Yvette; Tilghman, Rebecca; Townsend, Michael T; Tribble, Melissa; Tuerff, Jan; Tuerff, Tom; Van de Walker, Ray; Volckmann, Michael; Wallentinson, Denise; Williams, Karen; Williams, Kim; Willoughby, David; Yankovich, Catherine; Yergen-Jennings, Nola; York, Keith; Zbarschuk, Tony; Ziv, Michal

MEMBERS: (as of May 31, 2008)

Attending – Allis, Todd; Alves, Carol Ann; Alves, James; Bates, Kenn; Bell, Bernard; Bemis, Judith Carol; Benoun, Sherri; Bishop, Bill; Blars; Bradley, John M; Brainard, Carole; Braman, Marcus; Brandshaft, Richard; Breidbart, Seth; Briggs, Jim; Brown, Jordan; Brown, Kim; Carpenter, Amy; Cassady, Lois; Childress, Sandra; Clark, David; Clemens, Sarah; Cohen, Sanford; Cookson, Robin; Ctein; Curtis, S L; Daugherty, Greg; Daugherty, James Stanley; Deneroff, Linda; Duckett, Jr, Michael F.; Duckett, Sr, Michael F.; Dupree, Joseph H; Edison, Laurie; Elderkin, Jacqueline Taero; Esterson, Brian; Finch, Sheila; Finder, Jan Howard; Frazer, Cynthia A; Frazer, Donald A; Freeman, H. Denise; Gallaher, David; Glazer, Glenn; Gold, Lynn; Hanna, Michael; Hay, James H; Hay, Nancy; Hayes, Lisa; Higashi, Mike; Hyde, Barbara; Johnson, Jo; Jones, Bonnie; Jones, Mitzi J; Jones, N Lamont; Jones, Winona; Julian, Gloria; Julian, Meredith; Kovalcik, Rick; Lazar, Judy; Leibig, Ruth; Linneman, Mark; Lopata, Steven L; Manning, Jim; Manning, Kirsten; Masoglia, Benjamin; Massoglia, Marty; McAlonan, Kevin; McGuire, Christian; McNeel, Chelsea; Melder, Zane; Mesert, Edouard; Mitchell, Allison; Moen, Rick; Morman, Judith; Morman, Michael; Moulton, Fred C; Murray, Maria Ann; O'Halloran, Chris; O'Halloran, John; Palmer, Jean; Parker, Tony E; Paulsen, Joanne; Pelz, Elayne; Peshek, Jo; Phanara, Selina; Plumlee, Gary; Plummer, Jack; Rau, Marilyn; Reed, April; Rice, Pam; Robinett, Linda; Roche, Kevin; Sapienza, John T; Sapienza, Peggy Rae; Sbarsky, Sharon; Schneider, Gene; Schnulo, John Denny; Scott, Eric P.; Siladi, Michael; Slaker, Sharolyn; Stockdale, Ian; Strait, Jim; Taylor, Bill; Templeton, Katrina; Thompson, Steven; Trembley, Andrew; Tutihasi, R Lorraine; Uhlenkott, Rochelle; Veal, Tom; Watson, Kennita; Weasner, Michael; Welborn, Chris; Wiseman, Wendy; Yalow, Ben.

Art Show

Our Art Show Director is David Gish. He grew up working art shows with his parents at earlier Phoenix conventions and now runs those sponsored by Leprecon Inc., sponsor of Westercon 62. We use 4'x4' pegboard panels attached to 6' legs interconnected in a zigzag pattern throughout our show space. We also use 6'x2.5' tables for 3-dimensional art. We will have a Print Shop and we do accept mail-in art. The Art Show will share 6400 square feet of space with the Dealers Room in an L-shaped space, so each will have about 3200sf. See Palm Ballroom ABCD on the hotel's website for details. The Art Show will be accessed through the Dealers Room via ballroom A. Please contact us for Art Show rules, shipping instructions, return postage guidelines, etc.

Art Show Rates:

Panels: US\$10 per panel, 4 panels max

Tables: US\$10 per half table, US\$20 per full table

Print Shop: no fee up front

Commissions: 15% on all art sales (including Print Shop)

Charity Auction

FiestaCon will have a charity auction. Please consider donating something related to science fiction, fantasy, etc. Some ideas would be books, artwork, even Star Trek memorabilia. Catherine Book will be our Charity Auction Director. You can reach her via our contact information in this publication. The charity to receive the proceeds of donated items will be determined soon. All proceeds will go to the selected charity. Leprecon Inc, sponsor of FiestaCon, will absorb any fees for using a credit card. Donated items will be on display in the Art Show until the auction. Check our website for updates on the items already received.

Dealers Room

Liz Mortensen will be our Dealers Room Coordinator next year. She ran the DR for Westercon 61 this year in Las Vegas. As mentioned above our Dealers Room will be about 3200 square feet. Please contact us for Dealers Room contract, rules, etc.

Exhibits

Marcia Minsky will be handling our exhibits. Currently we have arranged for an art exhibit from IATSE (Locals 790 & 840). As other exhibits become known we'll put them up on our website. Exhibits will be in one of the rooms off of the Courtyard.

FAN TABLES

We will be locating fan tables in the pre-convene (aka foyer) outside the Palm Ballroom. Bobbie DuFault will be our Fan Table Coordinator. Fan tables are expected to be 6'x2.5'. If we get overwhelmed with requests, then we may only be able to give half tables to fan groups or community organizations. If you wish to reserve a fan table, please let us know. The person coordinating a fan table must have an Attending membership in FiestaCon. Other staffing for an org's fan table is not required to have memberships. However, additional memberships are greatly appreciated. Power is free per our contract, but not extension cords or power strips. If your fan table needs power, please bring your own extension cord, power strip and gaffers (or equivalent) tape to secure it to the carpeting.

FANZINE LOUNGE

Chris Garcia will handle our Fanzine Lounge next year. Chris took care of the lounge in Las Vegas this year. We expect the lounge to be located in a courtyard function room at the hotel. If you have fanzines you'd like to bring, send or just need a question asked, please contact us for details.

FILKING

Our Filk (Music) Liaison will be Gary Swaty. Gary has been filk liaison in Phoenix for many years now. Our plan is to locate late night filking in the Dolores Room. Programming will also be scheduling concerts throughout the convention. We are working on further details. Please check our website for updates.

GAMING

Phoenix is fortunate to have an experienced game master, Ivan Erickson. Ivan has been game master for several HexaCons which were very well run, then started his own gaming convention called Phoenix Con Games. We have lined him up to handle Gaming for FiestaCon next year. Gaming will be located in the Cloister next to the hotel's restaurant. Despite the error on the hotel's website this room has 2500sf of space for gamers to enjoy their addiction. We anticipate both organized and open gaming. We'll have details up on our website as things develop or just contact us directly.

GUEST-OF-HONOR BANQUET

We'll be holding a banquet on-site so fans can dine with our GoHs. This will be held on Thursday night of the convention before the Opening Ceremonies. We're planning on having a different Guest

MEMBERSHIPS

If you financially pre-supported the bid to host Phoenix in 2008 or 2009, since we ran two bids under one umbrella, you may have a credit towards a Supporting or Attending membership.

If you gave us at least US\$35 pre-vote (July 2007, excluding payments for things like voting fees in 2006 for the 2008 bid or a Supporting membership in 2006 so you could vote), then you should appear on the list of names having an Attending membership.

If you gave us less, then you should appear on the list of Pre-Supporters and you have credit. If you didn't pre-support us, but voted earlier this year, then you have a Supporting membership and can upgrade it to Attending by paying the difference between them.

If you did neither, then it will cost you more, unfortunately.

Did not pre-support, did not vote = Attending US\$65 per person 13 or older (through September 30, 2008)

Did not pre-support, did vote = Supporting, upgrade to Attending for US\$40 per person 13 or older (through September 30, 2008)

Did pre-support, did vote = Attending already

Did pre-support, did not vote = Depends on the amount of pre-support; contact us or see the chart on the website

If you see your name in error under any category, or don't see it and should, let us know so we can fix it.

Near the Hotel

Unlike the last Westercon held in Phoenix this one has lots of restaurants, bars, shopping, etc. nearby. We'll do a restaurant/area guide; the last guide there we had something like 75 entries within 1/2 mile. Tempe is a college town with Arizona State University east of the hotel less than one mile away, so there's plenty of nightlife, places to eat and drink, and interesting people wandering around (besides convention members). Do you like an Irish Pub? Sushi? Sandwiches? Microbrewery? Maybe a new bookstore? By 2009 we hope there will be a grocery store within walking distance, too. There used to be one for folks who lived downtown, but Tempe revitalized the area and pushed some old businesses away. Now that there are lofts and condos already built we expect the grocery and liquor store issues will change to benefit the convention. We'll also have folks to help you plan for your party should you choose to throw one (or two). Just outside the hotel is the new light rail station that will take you into downtown Phoenix for a baseball game with the Arizona Diamondbacks, the Heard Museum for internationally recognized southwestern art, or additional restaurant choices. There are also many things to see and do around Arizona, from the Grand Canyon to Cochise's Stronghold. We'll put up details on our website soon.

(or couple) at different tables, but past history has shown they move around and talk with everyone. Until we get closer we don't have any food choices or rates available. We'll put up details on our website as soon as possible. For those Pre-Supporters who were Cool Cats (\$100) your tickets are included in your Attending memberships. We expect around 75 to participate, but we can accommodate more.

Programming

Our Program Director is Catherine Book. Besides taking over programming for Westercon 2004 at the last minute Cathy has also programmed numerous CopperCons (also in Phoenix) and frequently handles our Charity Auctions. She has a growing team of volunteers to help with program idea generation, data entry, and implementation. If you have any program participants that you'd like to see, or ideas for the schedule, please let us know using our contact information published in this progress report. We should have a preliminary schedule up on the website shortly. That will change regularly as we get closer. As we confirm participants we'll post those as well.

Right now we plan to have: an informal GoH meet & greet Wednesday evening for pre-registered members only followed by Movie Previews with free stuff given away; the GoH Banquet Thursday evening followed by Opening Ceremonies; Regency & Modern Dances Friday evening; Masquerade Contestants Meeting Saturday afternoon with the Masquerade that evening early so everyone can enjoy the fireworks from the 2nd floor pool deck just outside of Consuite (they are launched about 1/2 mile away to the north); Art Auction and Closing Ceremonies Sunday afternoon.

Writers' Workshops

Nadine Armstrong is our Writers' Workshops Coordinator. As part of our program we will be having several writers' workshops. Young Adult fantasy writer Janni Lee Simner will be conducting an intensive 4-hour workshop on YA writing. Space will be limited to 15 participants. In addition, Emmy Award-winning screenwriter Craig Miller will be leading a screenwriting workshop. Again, participation will be limited, so check the website for details as well as biographies of the workshop leaders. We plan to hold the workshops in the Boardroom off of the courtyard. Once we've finalized the plans on registering we'll post them on the website and in the appropriate progress report.

Hotel

Our hotel will be the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in downtown Tempe, Arizona, USA. Tempe is the closest suburb to Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport and the hotel has a complimentary shuttle if you're staying at the hotel during the convention. For those of you with a wheelchair or scooter, their shuttle won't accommodate your equipment, but we've made arrangements to have us share the cost of Super Shuttle or equivalent transportation that can accommodate you with the hotel, so it is still complimentary to you. It's about 10-15 minutes from the airport to the hotel. If you're driving to the hotel, then you'll be glad to know that onsite parking is complimentary as is valet parking. Also, by 2009 the light rail system will be operational so you'll also have an opportunity to park elsewhere and stop right outside the hotel if you elect to come in that way.

The hotel rates over the convention dates, plus or minus two days, are US\$119 per night plus tax for all room types including suites. There is a Hospitality Fee included in this rate which covers various things such as wireless internet, fitness center, etc. Rooms are Standard Doubles or Standard Kings with smoking or non-smoking rooms available. There are also Executive Doubles and Executive Kings which are slightly larger including additional furniture. The suites (six of them) are all in the name of the convention per the contract. We'll be using two of them on the second floor for Con-suite and Staff Lounge. The other four will be for parties. If you're interested in hosting a party in a suite, please contact us for details on how to make that happen. You can also run a party out of a room (Standard or Executive), but you'll need to have that room located on the north side of the hotel, the party area. Since the suites are not all that large and the bedrooms are open to the living room portions, you might also want to consider getting the connecting room next door. We'll also have those reserved in our name for party control purposes.

All sleeping rooms and suites are on the second, third and fourth floors. The hotel is shaped like a square ring, so sleeping rooms face into the courtyard or out to the parking lots. Rooms on the west side of the hotel face Mill Avenue, the main drag through Tempe. These rooms will possibly be noisier due to the events held on Mill throughout the weekend, including the special Independence Day stuff mentioned later. So make your reservations accordingly.

You may make reservations by calling the hotel at 800-547-8705 or directly at 480-894-1400 or by fax at 480-968-7677. You may also use their website, www.missionpalms.com, and where appropriate use the online code 2T80CO (that's two-tee-eight-zero-see-oh). Once you book it you should receive a confirmation number. That should be used for any problems or updates to your reservation. If you have trouble using the online code for any reason, just give us a holler and we'll have the hotel look into it. They are very responsive and we've had good luck there for other events in the past, such as World Fantasy Con 2004 and SFWA's Nebulas 2006. So they're used to us by now.

Besides the lobby, lounge and gift shop on the first floor they also have their restaurant and all function space (except for three small rooms on the second floor). There's a big ballroom in the northeast portion of the hotel. The large room next to the restaurant in the north central portion is the Cloister and the large room around the corner from the restaurant is the Abbey. There are four rooms on the west side facing Mill Avenue, three rooms on the west side of the courtyard as well as three larger rooms on the east side of the courtyard. All these are reserved for convention use.

The Con-suite will open onto the pool deck and the pool is quite nice. It is in the northwest portion of the second floor and overlooks the river/lake where the fireworks will be launched on July 4th. They have a cabana bar up there along with the fitness center and tennis courts. There are two elevators just off the lobby on the south end of the hotel and two on the north end between the ballroom and restaurant. The hotel is four floors tall with 303 rooms; we have 280 reserved on the peak nights.